

Minutes of the Annual Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
April 3-5, 2003

Thursday, April 3, 2003, at 9:03 a.m.

Constitution of the Court

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Rich Johnston, at 9:03 a.m. on Thursday, April 3, 2003, at the Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Indiana.

The Moderator led the Court in devotions.

Devotions

The Presbytery sang Psalm 20B and the Moderator led in prayer. The Moderator read Psalm 68:17-19; John 21:15-19; and Eph. 4:1-16 and preached from the latter passage. He concluded his message with prayer and constituted the Court in prayer. Presbytery sang Psalm 21A..

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll, which is as follows.

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xxxxxxxx	Larry Bump xxxxxxxx
Bloomington	William Roberts xxxxxxxx	Wendell McBurney xxexxxx Rich Holdeman xxxxxxxx
Columbus	Andrew Schep xxxxxxxx	Robert Henning ---xxxx
Elkhart	Andrew McCracken xxxxxxxx	Joe Moore ----xxx
Hetherton	Milton Harrington xxxxxxxx	
Lafayette	David Long xxxxxxxx	Daniel Webb xxxxxxxx Jeff Kessler xxxxxxxx Tom Reid xxxxxxxx
Multiracial		
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxxxxxxx	
Orlando	Tom Forest xxxxxxxx	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xxxxxxxx Richard Johnston xxxxxxxx	Donald Cassell xxxxxxxx Russ Pulliam xxx—xx Dean Filson ---xx—(alt)
Selma	Ralph Joseph xxxxxxxx	
Southfield	Ian Wise xxxxxxxx	John Hughes xxxxxxxx John Hanson xe-xxxx Steve Sturm xxxxxxxx
Southside		
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxxxxxxx	Robert Morrow xxxxxxxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxxxxxxx	Tom Dinkledine xxx---- Robert McKissick ---xxxx(alt)
Triangle	Doug Comin xxxxxxxx	Charlie Leverett xxxxxxxx
Westminster		Jim Richart -xxxxx

Roger Adams -----
 Ray Joseph xxxxxxxx
 Rick Gamble -xxxxxxx
 Keith Magill xxxxxxxx
 Marion McFarland eeeeeee
 James McMahon xxxxxxxx
 James Wright xxexxxx
 Edwin Blackwood xxxxxxxx
 Paul Faris ---xxxx
 Garland Kincaid -----x

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Introductions

The Moderator introduced the students present: James Faris, David Hanson, Brad Johnston, and Jared Olivetti..

Rev. John Tweed was introduced as the Interim Pastor of the Southside Congregation.

Mr. Greg Cumbee was introduced by Pastor Doug Comin as one trying to work on a church planting effort in Lynchburg, VA

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows.

The clerk respectfully reports that he has carried out the assignments given to him, as far as he knows, and thanks the assistant clerk, Ralph Joseph, for his help in various ways, e.g., preparing the roll for this meeting, writing a draft report of Presbytery to Synod, and compiling the statistical report for the stated clerk of Synod, etc.

During the past year, I have responded to a number of communications and have tried to respond appropriately to each one. The Minutes of the November, 2002 meeting will be available at this meeting. All corrections or changes to the minutes should be communicated to me as soon as possible.

I have prepared a proposed agenda for this meeting, which is printed and available separately from this report. With two stated meetings of Presbytery each year I am proposing that rather than rush to hear all the congregational reports that the Presbytery hear the reports necessary for the business of this meeting and leave the others until the fall meeting. I am also proposing that a small committee be appointed by the Moderator to look at the overall division of the Presbytery's agendas to work out a way to use our two meetings to the greatest advantage.

There are five calls currently before the congregations and/or the men of the Presbytery. Three of these are coming directly before this meeting. These three are calls on James Faris (call from Second Indianapolis), David Hanson (call from Kokomo) and Martin Blocki (call from North Hills, Pittsburgh). Because of these calls I am proposing that the Moderator appoint a Special Committee of Presbytery to review these calls and make the recommendations to the Presbytery about their presentation.

The Candidates and Credentials Committee has a considerable amount of business besides examination of students. Thus there are a number of slots for the Candidates and Credentials Committee with nothing itemized in those slots and this is left to the discretion of the Committee.

I have received four papers to come before this meeting of Presbytery. Communication 2003-1 from two members of the Court (with four other members of the Court also adding their signatures) is a Petition concerning the decisions of the Ad Interim Commission in regard to Andrew Schep (call from Syracuse, NY) and Peter Smith (call from Orlando). I have scheduled the consideration of this Communication 2003-1 following the Report of the Ad Interim Commission. Communications 2003-2, -3, -4 are from Joel Finley of the Sparta Congregation and concern the interpretation of the Covenant of Church Membership. These Papers are addressed to the Synod and so have been transmitted to the Presbytery from the Sparta Session. The Sparta Session has sent the Minutes of their meeting along with these Papers. There is a recommendation for the Judicial Committee to examine these Papers and recommend the action that should be taken.

I have received two other communications that need to be dealt with at this meeting. Communication 2003-5 is the Ministerial Credentials and the Certificate of Transfer for Robert B McCracken. There is a recommendation to receive Rev. McCracken. Communication 2003-6 concerns the need for an elder(s) for the Hetherton congregation since Mr. Roby has tendered his resignation. There is a recommendation to refer this to the Hetherton Oversight Committee.

There is one other matter that I would ask the Presbytery to address. The Synod's Assistant Clerk's Report contains an item that was noted about the Presbytery Minutes by the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Review Committee. It reads:

"A possible irregularity was noted on page A60 (Minutes, April 6-8, 2001). The Presbytery granted to the Westminster session the authority to administer the Lord's Supper when a teaching elder is not present. The Directory of Church Government 3.1.C.6 allows such permission in "extraordinary circumstances", but it seems the permission is granted for a specific occasion, not an on-going practice. A ruling from the parliamentarians may be required for this, if not from a judicial committee." I recommend reference to the Judicial Committee.

I received a letter from the Clerk of the Atlantic Presbytery with the following statement:

"It is my sad duty to inform you of the suspension of the Reverend Sidney W. Van Camp from the exercise of his ministerial duties pending a trial which has been scheduled for April 5, 2003 in Ridgefield Park, NJ."

Please note that Mr. Van Camp is not eligible for ministerial duties.

I also received confirmation from the Trustees of Synod that pursuant to the decision of Presbytery of November, 2002, the monies from the Cornerstones Mission Church have been distributed as directed by the Presbytery.

I have enjoyed serving as Clerk of Presbytery and I hope that I can fulfill the duties involved. I apologize for not getting the Minutes out sooner since I indicated that I would do so at the last meeting. I pray the Lord will bless us in this meeting and that we may do all to the glory of the King and Head of the church.

Recommendations:

1. That the parliamentarians for this meeting be Tom Reid and Jon Hughes.
2. That the Nominating Committee determine the congregations to be visited this year.
3. That the proposed agenda for this meeting be accepted.
4. That Communication 2003-1, parts 1,2,and 3 be placed on the Agenda immediately after the Ad Interim Commission and Part 4 be placed on the agenda along with the Orlando Congregational Report.
5. That Communications 2003-2, -3, -4 be referred to the Judicial Committee.
6. That the ministerial credentials of Robert B. McCracken be received as per Communication 2003-5.
7. That Communication 2003-6 be referred to the Hetheron Oversight Committee.
8. That the Moderator appoint a Special Committee to review the Calls being presented to this meeting of Presbytery.
9. That a small committee be appointed by the Nominating Committee to look at the overall division of the Presbytery's agendas to work out a way to use our two meetings to the greatest advantage.
10. That the item referred to from the Synod's Assistant Clerk's Report be referred to the Judicial Committee.

Sincerely in Christ's service,

Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Recommendations 1-10 were seconded and passed.
The report of the Clerk as a whole was received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that a committee be formed to consider making an honorarium to the Clerks.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that this item be referred to the Finance Committee.

Election of Officers of the Court

Pastor Phil Pockras was nominated to be moderator. It was moved, seconded, and passed, that nominations be closed. Pastor Phil Pockras was elected moderator. Pastor Phil Pockras took the Chair.

Pastor Raymond Morton was nominated to be Clerk. It was moved, seconded, and passed, that nominations be closed. Pastor Raymond Morton was elected Clerk.

Pastor Ralph Joseph was nominated as Assistant Clerk. It was moved, seconded and passed that nominations be closed. Pastor Ralph Joseph was elected Assistant Clerk.

Call for Papers:

Communication 2003-7 was presented to the Court. The Paper comes from the Lafayette Session and concerns the administration of the sacraments in an emerging church in the Middle East.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Communication 2003-7 be referred to the Judicial Committee.

Call for Session Minute Books

The Assistant Clerk asked that Session Minute Books be submitted for examination. The Assistant Clerk circulated a sheet of statistics concerning the Presbytery and congregations.

Report of the Assistant Treasurer on Presbytery's Finances

The report on Presbytery's finances was given by Pastor William Roberts.

The Presbytery expressed its thanks to Mr. Laurence Curry for his work as Treasurer of the Presbytery.

It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Recess

Presbytery took recess at 10:28 a.m. with the Rev. Ed Blackwood leading in prayer. Presbytery arose from recess at 10:50 a.m. and was led in prayer by Elder Jon Hughes.

Report of the Ad Interim Commission

The Report of the Ad Interim Commission was presented by Rev. Robert Henning. The Former Moderator, Pastor Rich Johnston took the Chair.

AD INTERIM COMMISSION REPORT

to the April 2003 Meeting of the Great Lakes - Gulf Presbytery, RPCNA

The Ad Interim Commission met six times over the past year. Commission members are: Andrew Schep (chairman), Bob Henning (clerk), Jeff Jones, Ed Schisler, and Butch Shoop (all from Columbus RPC), and Steve Sturm of Southside Indianapolis RPC. For the first five meetings, Steve Sturm joined the Columbus session by telephone; at the last meeting all members met in person.

Below is a summary of the fourteen items that came before the Commission, and the actions taken on each. We usually handled business first by email discussion, and then by meeting for official action. Please refer to the Commission Minutes for details.

ITEM 1 (from Bill Roberts with the concurrence of Keith Magill): That Bill Roberts be relieved of service on the Westminster Visitation Team (due to his appointment as Moderator of the Southside Session), and Keith Magill be appointed to take his place.

ACTION: Request was granted

ITEM 2 (from Sam & Denise Morrow and Denise Harrington): Paper appealing the decision of presbytery (Spring 2002 meeting) to deny the signatories' petition against the Sycamore RP Session for using fermented wine in communion services.

ACTION: Appeal was forwarded to Synod 2002.

ITEM 3 (from Westminster RPC): To ordain and install Charles Brown as Pastor of Westminster RPC.

ACTION: An Edict calling Presbytery to meet for a service of Ordination and Installation of Charles Brown as Pastor of Westminster RPC, at the Westminster church building, September 20, 2002, 7:00 p.m., was written and sent to members of presbytery, and the various assignments for the service were made.

ITEM 4 (from Keith Magill, with the concurrence of the parties involved): That Barry York be added to the committee to oversee the proposed "Coordinator of Church Extension and Training", and that Dave Long replace Jim Long as the chairman of this committee.

ACTION: Requests were granted.

ITEM 5 (from Multiracial RPC): That the Rev. Stan Copeland be appointed Stated Supply of Multiracial RPC for one year, beginning January 1, 2003, and that the pastoral relationship between Multiracial RPC and the Rev. Godfrey Franklin be dissolved as of December 31, 2002.

ACTION: Requests were granted.

ITEM 6 (from Bloomington RPC): That Bloomington RPC be approved for participation in the Home Mission Board's new three-year "Residence-in-Training" program.

ACTION: Request was granted.

ITEM 7 (from Orlando session): That the dissolution of the Cornerstone Mission Station in December, 2002, and the distribution of its assets as directed by Presbytery (Fall 2002 meeting) be noted in the commission minutes.

ACTION: Note made as requested

ITEM 8 (from Sycamore RPC): That permission be given to Sycamore RPC to conduct an election of David Hanson as Associate Pastor.

ACTION: Permission was granted.

ITEM 9 (from Second Indianapolis RPC): That permission be given to Second Indianapolis RPC to conduct an election of James Faris as Associate Pastor (see Minutes).

ACTION: Permission was granted.

ITEM 10 (from Roy Blackwood & Rich Johnston): That Stan Copeland's travel expenses be covered should he attend the Spring 2003 meeting of Presbytery.

ACTION: Request was granted and Mr. Copeland was informed.

ITEM 11 (from Tom Reid and six other presbyters) : That the pastoral call from Orlando RPC to the Rev. Peter Smith be referred to the Spring 2003 meeting of Presbytery

ACTION: Request denied.

ITEM 12 (from Orlando RPC): That a pastoral call to Peter Smith be approved and passed along to his presbytery for presentation.

ACTION: The call was approved and forwarded to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies.

ITEM 13 (from Phil Pockras and ten other presbyters): That the pastoral call from Syracuse RPC to the Rev. Andrew Schep be referred to the Spring 2003 meeting of Presbytery

ACTION: Request was denied.

ITEM 14 (from St. Lawrence Presbytery): That a pastoral call from Syracuse RPC to Andrew Schep be presented.

ACTION: The call was approved and presented to Andrew Schep.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Schep, Chairman

Robert Henning, Clerk

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the question of the need of approval of Presbytery for congregations to call an associate pastor be referred to the Judicial Committee to bring in a recommendation.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Ad Interim Commission be approved and Minutes of the Commission be spread on the Minutes of Presbytery.

Communication 2003-1 (concerning some actions of the Ad Interim Commission)

Communication 2003-1 was signed by six members of the Court, Phil Pockras, Tom Reid, Rick Gamble, Charles Brown, Doug Comin, Charles Leverett. The communication is as follows:

Paper to the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
3-5 April 2003

We, the undersigned, respectfully request the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, meeting in Columbus, Indiana, 3-5 April 2003, to take the following actions:

1. To reprove the Ad Interim Commission for its action approving two pastoral calls (to Andrew Schep from the Syracuse RPC and to Peter Smith from the Orlando RPC) a mere seventeen days before a regular Presbytery meeting, *on the grounds that*, 1) a significant number of the Presbytery's elders objected, in writing, well in advance of the Commission's approval of each of these calls, to the Commission deciding on them without reference to the whole Presbytery meeting so soon afterwards; 2) the entire Presbytery's general oversight of its congregations and teaching elders is crucial and should not easily be claimed by a Commission (*Directory for Church Government*, chapter 6, para. 10, p. D-33 and para. 14, sentences 2-4, p. D-35); and 3) approval of those calls did not "need the attention of the presbytery" before the meeting, and thus the Ad Interim Commission is prohibited by the *Directory for Church Government* from taking such actions (Chapter 6, para. 16, sentence 4, p. D-35).
2. To remind the members of future Ad Interim Commissions of the Presbytery that they are not to make any decision that can be delayed to the next Presbytery meeting, *on the ground that* Presbytery reserves its rightful authority to itself (*Directory for Church Government*, chapter 6, para. 16, sentences 2,3 p. D-35).
3. To rescind the Commission's approval of the call to Andrew Schep from the Syracuse RPC, *on the grounds that*, 1) the Presbytery has this authority, as is clearly stated in the *Directory for Church Government*: "The presbytery may rescind the action of the commission" (Chapter 7, para. 16, sentence 8, p. D-35); and 2) the Presbytery should exercise its right in this case "to decline to forward the call" because of "a conviction on the presbytery's part that establishing the relationship would not be wise" (Chapter 3, section II, D, 6, 3, p. D-19), since this Presbytery cannot recommend a teaching elder with Mr. Schep's views on worship to another Reformed Presbyterian presbytery and congregation.
4. To reconsider the approval of the call to Peter Smith when the Orlando Session and Orlando Visitation Committee reports are presented, *on the grounds that*, 1) we need to have more information about this troubled Congregation and Mr. Smith's suitability to lead it out of its troubles before approving any call; and 2) proceeding with greater deliberation by the entire Presbytery is the appropriate way for the Presbytery "to maintain a faithful supervision over all the congregations ... to guard against any teaching contrary to sound doctrine and any corruption of the worship of God", especially in that "the presbytery should give special care to vacant congregations" (*Directory for Church Government*, chapter 6, para. 10, sentence 1, p. D-33).

Philip Pockras
 Thomas Reid

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Communication 2003-1 be returned to the authors.

Pastor Phil Pockras recorded his dissent and announced his intention to file a complaint. Rev. Raymond Joseph and Rev. Tom Reid recorded their dissent.

Their dissent is as follows:

"We dissent from this decision of Presbytery for the following reasons:

"1. the Ad Interim Commission did not need to consider the two calls it approved on March 17;

"2. future Ad Interim Commissions need to be reminded that they are not free to make decisions that can be delayed until the next meeting of Presbytery;

"3. it is not wise for the Presbytery to approve the Call to Andrew Schep by the Syracuse R.P. Church and so the approval of the Call should have been rescinded;

"4. the Presbytery needed to receive reports from the Orlando Session and the Orlando Visitation Committee before it approved the Call on Peter Smith."

(Signed by Tom Reid, Phil Pockras, and Raymond P. Joseph)

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

Candidates and Credentials Committee (Part A)

Pastor Keith Magill presented the report.

The recommendations of the Committee are as follows:

1. That student examinations be conducted by Presbytery according to the chart in I.A. as presented.
2. That Presbytery's voting on the written examinations of students be done orally.
3. That the definition and explanation of "An expository sermon on an assigned topic" given in the body of the report (see I.B) be approved for use by this Presbytery.

I.B is as follows:

The licensure sermon assignments

The DCG requires that the candidate be examined in the following areas:

"The preaching of an expository sermon" (Certification to preach)

"The preaching of an expository sermon on an assigned topic" (Certification to receive a call)

After researching and discussing these sermon types for several years, we are ready to propose a definition and explanation of "The preaching of an expository sermon on an assigned topic" and an explanation of the differences between these two types of sermons. We asked the RPTS professors for their input and considered their responses as we formulated this definition and explanation.

An "expository sermon on an assigned topic" (our former Expository Sermon II) is a sermon on a topic that is rooted in the exposition of an assigned text as it relates to the topic."

By "rooted in" we mean that, as you preach on the assigned topic, you use the assigned text as your first and primary material for the topic. Having first "rooted"

your sermon in that text, you can then draw in other texts to further expound, explain and illustrate the assigned topic. In contrast, an "Expository Sermon" will expound the assigned text in much more of its richness and depth on many subjects whereas an "Expository Sermon on an Assigned Topic" will cover the insights on the assigned topic that are given in that particular text. This also is in contrast to a "topical sermon" which studies a topic from texts throughout the Scripture, as you say, taking a panoramic view of Scripture with regard to that topic. We do not do "topical sermons" for Presbytery exams.

Please notice that we have changed the labels of the sermons on the student exam record sheet to clarify the two types of sermons

4. That we communicate to Rick Sutton that if he can, with a clear conscience, sustain our understanding of biblical worship by this summer's Synod meeting of Presbytery, or if he can arrange for another denomination to receive a transfer of his license by this summer's Synod meeting of Presbytery, we will not consider rescinding his license. Otherwise, the Presbytery will take up rescinding his license to receive a call at its summer meeting. If he does arrange with another denomination to receive a transfer of his license, we will send with the license, a letter informing that denomination that Rick does not hold to our standards of worship and consequently could not be ordained as a teaching elder in the RPCNA.
5. That student aid funds be granted or continued to the following students. The amount shall be \$200 per month for 12 months a year, as long as the man remains a full time student at RPTS or another Presbytery approved academic institution.
 - a. James Faris
 - b. David Hanson
 - c. Bradley Johnston
 - d. Jared Olivetti
 - e. Michael LeFebvre
 - f. Rutledge Etheridge
6. That Greg Cumbree's expenses to attend this meeting of Presbytery be paid by Presbytery.
7. That Presbytery grant 10 minutes to receive the report from Dr. Richard Gamble, our Scholar-in-Residence.
8. That Robert La May's credentials and membership be transferred to Midwest Presbytery.
9. That the status of each of the "Ordained Ministers Not in the Pastorate" be approved as given in the body of the report.
10. That Richard Johnston be reelected to the Committee for the Class of 2006, that Dean Filson be elected to the Class of 2006 and that Ken DeJong be elected to the Class of 2006
11. That Presbytery express its gratefulness to Mr. Dean Filson who serves as secretary and coordinator of details for the Committee and to Second RPC for making Dean's services available. The Committee could not function without someone doing the work which Dean has done so well.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Blackwood – Class of 2005 - Chairman

Richard Johnston – Class of 2003

Jon Hughes – Class of 2004

Keith Magill – Class of 2004

Richard Gamble – Class of 2004

Recommendations 1,2,3,4,6 were moved and passed by the Presbytery.

Recommendation 5 was sent to the Finance Committee.

Pastor Keith Magill spoke to the Presbytery concerning Part E of the Report, "Seminary Extension Planning".

E. Seminary Extension Planning

We believe there is a need for a more developed program of seminary education based in Central Indiana that will not only provide classes for our students headed for seminary, but will also reach out into the surrounding area. We believe that there is tremendous potential in offering reformed theological education. We can envision how this could attract quality pastors and elders to the RP Church as well as equip leadership for other churches. Theological education is becoming more localized every year. We are wondering if we would see a significant breakthrough by offering accredited courses as an official seminary extension. We believe this idea deserves a thorough investigation. To that end, the Church Extension and Training Committee and the Candidates and Credentials Committee have acted together to assign the responsibility for doing this investigation to Keith Magill in his new role as Coordinator for Church Extension and Training. He has begun this investigation and hopes to see some concrete proposals formulated before the end of the summer. We have begun dialoguing with RPTS President O'Neill about this idea.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the time be extended to finish this item of the Report.

Recess: Presbytery recessed in prayer at 12:40 p.m. being led in prayer by Elder James Long.

Session 2, Thursday, April 3, 2003 at 2:01 p.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 2:01 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 19A and led in prayer by Rev. John Tweed.

Roll Call

It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually in this and all remaining sessions of this meeting. The Assistant Clerk took the Roll.

Minutes

The Minutes of the morning session were read and approved as corrected.

Appointment of Committees

The Moderator announced the appointment of Committees for this meeting of Presbytery and the Review Committees of Session Minute books. They are as follows:

Committee Appointments: (first named is to be Chairman)

Nominating Committee: Doug Comin, Raymond Joseph, Milton Harrington, John Hanson, David Long

Finance Committee: William Roberts, Robert Morrow, Robert Bibby, Jay Worsham, Karl Stoichoff

Time and Place Committee: Jim Long

Resolution of Thanks Committee: James McMahon, Frank Schutz

Travel Agent: Ian Wise

Judicial Committee: Tom Reid, Charles Brown, Ed Blackwood, Barry York, Jeff Kessler

Committee to Review Calls: Andrew McCracken, Steve Sturm, Charles Leverett

Division of Presbytery Business: Raymond Morton, Phil Pockras, Ralph Joseph

Committees to inspect Session Records:

CONGREGATION	COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Belle Center	Ed Blackwood, Tom Reid
Bloomington	Robert Henning, Ian Wise
Columbus	Raymond Joseph, William Roberts
Elkhart	Butch Shoop, Charles Brown
Hetherton	Andrew McCracken, Jay Worsham
LaFayette	Jon Hughes, Milton Harrington
Multiracial	Charles Leverett, Barry York
Oakdale	Doug Comin, James McMahon
Orlando	David Long, Robert Bibby
Second Indianapolis	Frank Schutz, Jeff Kessler
Selma	James Long, Karl Stoichoff
Southfield	Andrew Schep, Jim Long
Southside Indianapolis	Robert Morrow, Frank Schutz
Sparta	Roy Blackwood, James McMahon
Sycamore	Richard Johnston, Charles Brown
Triangle	Ian Wise, Butch Shoop
Westminster	Robert Henning, Steve Sturm

It was announced that the last call for papers to be presented at this meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday.

Candidates and Credentials Committee (Part B)

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Candidates and Credentials Committee be allowed to finish the "minor" parts of their report after the examination of James Faris in Church History.

Pastor Keith Magill introduced James Faris for his "Church History Examination". The examination was conducted by Rev. Tom Reid. Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote on James Faris's Church History Examination

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill continued with the Candidates and Credentials Report on the "minor" items.

Recommendations 8,9,11 were moved and approved.

Recommendation 10 was referred to the Nominating Committee.

Congregational Reports

The Hetherton Congregational Report was presented by Pastor Milton Harrington.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Hetherton Oversight Committee Report

The Hetherton Oversight Committee Report was given by Rev. Robert Henning verbally. Recommendation: that Rev. Roger Adams be made a Provisional Elder of the Hetherton Congregation and Pastor Milton Harrington be made the Moderator of Session.

The recommendation was moved and approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Recess: Presbytery took recess at 3:31 p.m. and resumed at 3:47 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 148 and prayer by the Moderator.

Order of the Day (This Order of the Day was to give 30 minutes to consider the following report.)

The former Moderator, Rich Johnston took the Chair.

Report of the Committee to consider Paper 2000-1

The Report was given by Pastor Barry York, Chairman of the Committee. The Paper was circulated and a version of it appears earlier in the Minutes of Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the words "their ordaining body" be replaced by "their current overseeing body".

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the continuation of this Report be made the Order of the Day following recess on Friday morning. (This Report was continued in Session 4 following recess.)

Inter-church Liason Report

Pastor Andrew Schep introduced the report and called on Pastor Ralph Joseph to report on his visit to the Warrior Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of America.

Pastor Ralph Joseph reported on his visit.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report of the Interchurch Liason be received.

Congregational Reports

The Lafayette Congregational Report was given by Elder Robert Bibby.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Lafayette Visitation Committee Report

The Lafayette Visitation Committee Report was given by the Chairman of the Committee, Ed Blackwood.

The Recommendations are as follows:

1. That Presbytery rise to pray for this congregation. Specifically that God will continue their growth in grace and in numbers and in knowledge of Him, that the evil one will be bound from bringing discouragement and division, and that they will continue and grow in being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind (Philippians 2)
2. That Presbytery continue the assignment of this team for an additional year, as outlined in the *Guidelines and Procedures for Visitation Teams* and assign them during the coming year to contact the session regarding responses or subsequent actions of the congregation in light of the report of the Committee and to report in writing to next year's spring meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendations 1 and 2 were moved and approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report as a whole be received.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer:

Pastor Rich Johnston prayed for the Hetherton Congregation;

Pastor Andrew McCracken prayer for the Lafayette Congregation.

Church Extension Committee Reports

There was no report from the Ohio-Indiana and Michigan Church Extension Committees. Pastor Raymond Morton gave a verbal report for the Southern Illinois Church Extension Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Congo Committee

The Report of the Congo Committee was given by the Chairman, Doug Comin.

The Recommendation that the Committee be dismissed was moved and approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the the report as a whole be received.

Travel Vouchers were made available to members of the Court.

Recess: Following announcements Presbytery took recess at 5:31 p.m. being led in prayer by Rev. Frank Schutz.

Session 3 Thursday, April 3, at 7:03 p.m.**Call to Order**

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 7:03 p.m.

Psalm 145C was sung in praise and Karl Stoichoff led the Court in prayer.

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually

Minutes

The Clerk read the Minutes of the afternoon session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as read.

Congregational Reports

Orlando Congregational Report was given by Elder Jay Worsham. The report was received

Orlando Visitation Committee

The Orlando Visitation Committee report was given by Pastor Andrew McCracken. Recommendations 1 was received.

Recommendation 1: that Presbytery make as effort to include the Orlando congregation in any presbytery-wide activities.

Recommendation 2: that the committee be dismissed.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Recommendation 2 be laid on the table to entertain a substitute.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Orlando Visitation Committee continue for another year in order to keep on its work of encouraging the congregation.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Orlando Visitation Committee be received.

Presbytery was led in prayer by Milton Harrington for the Orlando Congregation.

Westminster Congregational Report was given by Charles Brown. The report was received.

Westminster Visitation Committee Report

The Westminster Visitation Committee Report was given by Pastor David Long.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Moderator thanked the Committee for their work.

The Presbytery was led in prayer for the Westminster congregation by Pastor David Long.

Special Committee on Pastor Calls

The Report of the Special Committee on Pastoral Calls was given by Andrew McCracken. All calls are for associate pastors. He intimated that all three calls are in order: Kokomo's call on David Hanson, Second Indianapolis call on James Faris, and North Hills (Pittsburgh) call on Martin Blocki.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the call on Martin Blocki by the North Hills congregation be passed on as a regular gospel call.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the call on David Hanson and the call on James Faris be laid on the table until the students complete their examinations.

Report of the Home Mission Board Representative

The Report of the Home Mission Board Representative was given by Pastor Barry York.
 Recommendation #1: That Presbytery appoint the HMB representative to be a standing member of the Church Extension and Training Committee.

Recommendation #2 – That Presbytery elect a HMB Representative at this meeting for a three-year term (class of 2006).

Recommendation #3 – That Presbytery rise and thank the Lord for the new laborers He is raising up, and ask Him to guide us so that we will follow His leading in the development of more new works in the years ahead.

Recommendation 1 as amended was approved.

Recommendation 2 was sent to the Nominating Committee

Recommendation 3 was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Presbytery was led in prayer by Barry York.

The Report is as follows:

Home Missions Board Representative
Report to Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Columbus, Indiana
April 3-5, 2003

Dear Fathers and Brethren,

With our nation currently being engaged in war, we are growing more accustomed to hearing “news from the front” each day. We should be reminded again by this that the church is engaged in the great battle of seeing the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ spread to the nations of the earth. In particular, the work of Home Missions concerns itself with opening up new fields of ministry here in our own land, and as your representative it is my job in part to report on what is happening. Here then is news from the “Home Missions Front” as I see it.

GREAT LAKES-GULF WORKS CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY HMB

We have two congregations nearing the end of the six-year decreasing aid program of the HMB. I rejoice that these two works, as you will see in their congregational reports, continue to prosper, though certainly it is not without struggle as they themselves testify. I would like to commend Pastors Doug Comin and Andy McCracken and their sessions for their faithfulness in persevering in their church planting efforts, in continuing to make evangelism high priorities in their works, in the emphasis they make on the purity of life and worship in the church, and their vision to become multiplying congregations. We as a Presbytery have truly been blessed to have these gifted leaders on the front lines of our church planting efforts. As one who just a few years ago went through this stage of ministry of going off HMB and Presbytery support, I would like to please call to Presbytery’s attention that this stage can be a difficult time for new works and that we should be in prayer and very watchful over Elkhart and Triangle the next few years.

<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Church Organizer</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Elkhart, IN	Andy McCracken	Organized Church	5 th year decreasing aid	\$ 8,000
Raleigh-Durham, NC	Doug Comin	Organized Church	6 th year decreasing aid	\$ 4,000
			TOTAL	\$12,000

RPCNA CHURCH PLANTING UPDATE

As I reported last year, the greater church still seems to be experiencing a bit of a “lull” in church planting. Many of our church planters have already been on the fields for a while and not many new requests are arising for HMB support at this time. However, the vision for this work still seems to be strong throughout the presbyteries, and as the reports of various congregations and the Candidates and Credentials Committee reflect here at our meeting, the next few years promise to be exciting as the Lord is raising up many new men for the ministry and many new opportunities to send forth laborers.

COORDINATOR OF CHURCH PLANTING

At last year’s Spring meeting I reported on the proposal by the HMB and Church Revitalization Committee headed for Synod regarding a national HMB Coordinator for the RPCNA. As you know, that proposal was turned down by Synod in favor of determining a plan that would be more presbytery-directed in nature. At last Fall’s meeting, with the strong support of the HMB and a generous grant from Second RP Church forming the basis, we approved the creation of a position called the Coordinator of Church Extension and Training (CCET), and called Keith Magill to that position. Keith began his new responsibilities on February 1st of this year, and he is already making positive contributions to the works and workers in our presbytery as you will hear in that committee’s report.

Given the CCET’s ability to visit church planting sites, the CCET’s financial basis being significantly provided by the HMB, and the need to coordinate the responsibilities of the HMB representative and the CCET, it would appear to be prudent for Presbytery to make the HMB representative a regular member of the CCET Committee. This leads me to my first recommendation.

Recommendation #1: That Presbytery appoint the HMB representative to be a standing member of the CCET Committee.

INVESTMENT IN CHURCH PLANTERS

I will remind you again that in recent years the HMB has moved away from financing sites and possibilities, and is instead focusing more consistently in *investing in men*. This has changed how the board makes decisions regarding grants for church planting. For instance, in years past a proposal for church planting might come to the HMB describing the households involved and the reason the site was worthy of consideration, but not yet have a specific man in mind to be the church planter. Often the HMB would go ahead and commit funds for work in that area, then find itself in an awkward position when the man chosen as the church planter did not appear to others to have the gifts needed for this job. Therefore when the HMB now receives a proposal, it requires the man to be specified who will go into the field and that he complete the following before final approval is granted:

- 1) The church planter is required to attend, at HMB expense, the Reformed Theological Seminary’s “Boot Camp,” which is an intensive, weeklong training course for church planting.

- 2) The church planter must submit a Philosophy of Ministry with the grant application that details how he will seek to be used by the Lord to plant a church in the particular community he is targeting.
- 3) The Presbytery and the church planter must each submit letters of reference attesting to the church planter's evangelistic gifts and training.

Please keep this in mind when you are considering applications for grants. The HMB is not seeking to control whom presbyteries send into church planting works, for presbyteries are free to send whomever they desire into new works. Rather, it is just stating that if a presbytery desires denominational funds to support the work, extra care must be exercised to insure that the funds are a wise investment of the greater church's resources. As I said last year, generally speaking the HMB appears to be moving away from investing money simply in *places of interest* to investing it in *men of faithfulness*.

This change in philosophy on the HMB has led to two new programs now offered by the HMB that seek to help train and prepare men for this work. Please contact the HMB Representative if you ever need application forms.

- **Church Planter Internship** – The HMB will give a grant of up to \$5,000 to have a student interested in church planting serve a short-term internship with a pastor with church planting experience. The internship should be designed to provide the intern with plenty of evangelism and church planting training and opportunities, and can be coordinated with RPTS to provide seminary credit. David Hanson did this type of internship in Kokomo last summer.
- **Church Planter Assistantship** – This is a program designed to put a man in a congregation that is mature, has a pastor who is trained and experienced in church planting, and is looking to daughter a new work. For up to three years, this program will provide up to \$12,000/year in grant money, and then match up to another \$12,000 from the congregation to help finance the assistant.

Questions have arisen regarding the availability of funds for a congregation who has used the assistantship program. In other words, is it possible for a congregation to receive funds for an assistantship, and then after the three years go back to the HMB for a six-year grant to daughter a work? Though at this point the HMB does not have an official position on this matter, I do know from board discussions there would be great hesitancy on the board to invest what could amount to almost \$200,000 and a decade of time in a single site. In my report to the HMB, which is meeting next week, I am asking that they clarify this matter.

Also, the HMB has contracted Keith Magill (and the CCET Committee granted Keith permission) to serve as the coordinator for a national church planter's conference, which the HMB tries to offer every two years. Keith has arranged for the conference, entitled "Building on a Firm Foundation," to be held at a conference center in Orlando, Florida, next week on April 10-14th. The speaker will be Dr. Rich Ganz, who will address such topics as a vision for church planting, identifying and developing leadership, and responding to adversity. The attendees will be church planters and their wives, as well as some preparing to go into church planting. The HMB and those who have attended these conferences in the past have found times like these to be an important means to provide necessary training to the men and to pull them off the "front lines" for a time of encouragement and refreshment.

NEW HMB REPRESENTATIVE

My second three-year term on the HMB expires at this meeting. Thank you for entrusting this responsibility to me the past six years. For a variety of reasons regarding personal, congregational and presbytery matters, I think it would be best for Presbytery to elect a new representative. I would encourage us to elect someone who has been involved in church planting in some capacity if at all possible, as this is invaluable to the HMB as it makes decisions on how to best encourage church planting and church planters. I will gladly work with the new representative to help him adjust to this role if he needs help. Also, if he has the freedom, he could have an all-expense paid trip to Orlando next week for the board meeting and conference!

Recommendation #2 – That Presbytery elect a HMB Representative at this meeting for a three-year term (class of 2006).

CONCLUSION

The Lord is building His church, and granting further wisdom to the RPCNA so that we are building new works carefully on proper foundations. The "news from the front" is encouraging, as we are making slow but sure progress. Let us continue to pray to the Lord of hosts for His further provision and guidance in the battle.

Recommendation #3 – That Presbytery rise and thank the Lord for the new laborers He is raising up, and ask Him to guide us so that we will follow His leading in the development of more new works in the years ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barry York

Motion: that for those commuting to this meeting of Presbytery their travel cost be paid. Seconded and passed.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned at 9:04 p.m. being led in prayer Elder Rich Holdeman.

Session 4, Friday, April 4, 2003 at 8:37 a.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery met at the call of the Moderator, Phil Pockras, on Friday, April 4, 2003, at 8:37 a.m. at the Columbus RP Church, Columbus, IN

Constitution

The Moderator led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer. Presbytery sang Psalm 5B.

Candidates and Credentials Committee (Part)

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti who will preach his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Jared Olivetti preached God's Word from Lamentations 1:13-17. He concluded his message with prayer.
Presbytery sang Psalm 149.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk

Minutes

The Clerk read the Minutes of the previous session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected.

Roll Call Vote on Jared Olivetti's Evidence of Progress Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Pastor Ian Wise who would report on the review of David Hanson's Greek Exegesis Paper. The paper was also reviewed by Barry York.

Ian Wise reported on the Greek Exegesis Paper and recommended that the paper be sustained.

The recommendation was approved.

The previous Moderator, Pastor Rich Johnston took the chair.

Pastor Keith Magill introduced David Hanson for his examination in Church History.

Pastor Phil Pockras conducted the examination.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

The Moderator resumed the Chair

Pastor Keith Magill introduced David Hanson as having met the requirements for being licensed to receive a call.

Elder Robert Bibby read the queries for licensure to receive a call. David Hanson answered all the queries in the affirmative and indicated the following exceptions:

1. he does not agree with the Church's position on women deacons;
2. he holds that people can only leave the church by dying, transferring or excommunication.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the Presbytery unanimously sustained his answers to the Queries for Licensure to Receive a Call.

David Hanson signed the Queries for Licensure to receive a call.

Elder John Hanson led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Receive a call.

Pastor Barry York gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure

Motion: that the time be extended to complete the presentation of the call to David Hanson.

Pastor Andrew McCracken (Chairman of the Special Committee on Pastoral Calls) reported concerning the call being in order.

Motion: that the call on David Hanson by the Sycamore Congregation be presented as a regular gospel call. Seconded and passed.

The call was presented to David Hanson assuring him of the prayers of the Presbytery as he considers the call.

Recess:

Presbytery took recess at 10:50 a.m.

Presbytery arose from recess at 11:07 a.m. being led in prayer by Jeff Kessler.

The Moderator welcomed Rev. Paul Faris, David Faris and Walt Zebrun to the meeting of Presbytery.

The Former Moderator, Rich Johnston took the Chair.

Report of the Committee to Review Paper 2000-1 (Order of the Day)

This order of the day was taken up and Barry York presented the Report.

Recommendation 3 as amended was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that recommendations 4 and 5 be sent back to the Committee for revision and that this report be taken up immediately after the break on Friday afternoon.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

Congregational Reports

The Sycamore Congregational Report was introduced by Pastor Barry York.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Rev. Paul Faris led the Court in prayer for the Sycamore Congregation.

The Selma Congregational Report was given by Pastor Ralph Joseph,

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the time be extended to complete the Selma Congregation Report and to take up the Report of the Church Extension and Training Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Selma Congregational Report be received.

Report of the Church Extension and Training Committee

Pastor David Long presented the Report.

Recommendation 1 was approved.

In keeping with this recommendation Keith Magill, Coordinator of Church Extension and Training addressed the Presbytery.

Recommendation 2 that the current Committee be reappointed for another year was approved.

The current committee is: James Long, Robert McKissick, Andrew Schep, Daniel Webb, Barry York, and David Long, Chairman.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Presbytery was led in prayer by Charles Leverett for the Selma Congregation and Jay Worsham led in prayer dismissing the Court for recess.

Session 6, Friday, April 4, 2003, at 2:05 p.m.**Call to Order**

Moderator called Presbytery to order at 2:05 p.m. Presbytery was led in prayer by Robert Bibby.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the morning session were read by the Clerk. It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced James Faris who preached his Expository Sermon on an assigned topic.

James Faris preached God's Word from Genesis 38:1-30. He concluded his message with prayer.

Presbytery sang Psalm 78:1.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Pastor Keith Magill introduced James Faris as having met the requirements for being licensed to receive a call. James Faris informed the Presbytery that he took exception to the church's position on women deacons.

Elder Jeff Kessler read the queries for licensure to receive a call. James Faris answered all the queries in the affirmative.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and Presbytery unanimously agreed that James Faris be accepted for Licensure to receive a call.

James Faris signed the Queries for Licensure to receive a call.

Rev. Paul Faris led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Receive a Call.

Pastor Rich Johnston gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure.

Congregational Reports

The Second Indianapolis Congregational Report was given by Elder Russ Pulliam.

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Presbytery reconsider the above approval.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the two recommendations of the Second Indianapolis Congregational Report be stricken.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report as a whole be received.

Motion: that the time be extended to complete the business necessary to present the call on James Faris.

Pastor Andrew McCracken (Chairman of the Special Committee on Pastoral Calls) reported that the call on James Faris from the Second Indianapolis congregation was in order.

Motion: that the call on James Faris by the Second Indianapolis Congregation be presented as a regular gospel call. Seconded and passed.
The call was presented to James Faris assuring him of the prayers of the Presbytery as he considers the call.

Recess: Presbytery took recess at 3:36 p.m.

Presbytery arose from recess at 3:56 p.m. with Jon Hughes leading in prayer.

The Former Moderator, Rich Johnston, took the Chair.

Report of the Committee to Review Paper 2000-1

Pastor Barry York presented the Report.

Committee to Review Paper 00-1

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

April 3...5th 2003

ADDENDUM

Based on the deliberations of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery at its meetings in Columbus, the Committee to Review Paper 00-1 would make the motions:

Motion 1: Replace Recommendation #3, which was passed earlier, with the following in

order to clear up the ambiguity in the wording and add the words "and have their exceptions recorded in the minutes," so that it would now read as:

NEW Recommendation #3: That Presbytery charge all officers within its bounds to declare to their overseeing body any exceptions they may take to the system of doctrine and manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and that such exceptions be recorded** En the minutes.

Motion 2: That we replace current Recommendations 4 and 5 with a new Recommendation #4 that would read as follows:

NEW Recommendation #4: That the overseeing body, when they deem it necessary, appoint a special committee to counsel those who have declared their exception, in order to seek to persuade them of our system of doctrine and manner of worship, and to report back on the progress or lack thereof that is being made.

Motion 3: That we replace the current Recommendation #6 with the slightly modified new Recommendation #5:

NEW Recommendation #5: That the Presbytery send the four recommendations to Synod with the further recommendation that they be enacted in all the Presbyteries of the RPCNA, and that the Triangle Paper and the body of this report be sent as well for reference.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phil Pockras Andrew Schep Barry York

Motions 1,2 and 3 (as above) were moved, seconded and passed.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report as a whole be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Committee be dismissed.

The concluded and finalized Report On Paper 2000-1 is recorded in the Appendix to these Minutes.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Moderator and Clerk send a letter to the Sessions of the Presbytery informing them of these decisions of the Presbytery.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Rev. Keith Magill introduced the report on Jared Olivetti's Paper on Church History. The Paper was reviewed by Dr. Riek Gamble and Pastor Roy Blackwood.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Jared Olivetti's Paper on Church History be sustained.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Jared Olivetti be certified for a further year of seminary training.

Report on English Bible Examinations

Pastor Rich Johnston reported on the examinations of Dean Filson and Rutledge Etheridge.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Dean Filson's English Bible examination be sustained.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Rutledge Etheridge's English Bible Examination be sustained.

Congregational Reports

The Sparta Congregational Report was presented by Rev. Robert Morrow.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report be received.
Rev. James McMahon led in prayer for the Sparta Congregation.

The Former Moderator, Rich Johnston, took the Chair.

The Belle Center Congregational Report was given by Pastor Phil Pockras.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report be received.
The Moderator resumed the Chair.
Rev. Robert Morrow led in prayer for the Belle Center Congregation.

Report of Presbytery's Representative on Geneva College's Board of Corporators

Pastor Ralph Joseph, Presbytery's Representative, gave the Report.

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

Recess

After announcements Presbytery took recess at 5:45 p.m. being led in prayer by Elder Greg Fisher.

Session 6, Friday, April 4, 2003 at 7:06 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called the Presbytery to order at 7:06 p.m. Presbytery sang Psalm 84B and Elder Tom Dinkledine led the Court in prayer.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes:

The Clerk read the Minutes of the afternoon session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected.

Youth Leadership Team

Pastor Rich Johnston introduced the Youth Leadership Team report. Katie Long, (Lafayette RPC), president, introduced the members of the team: Bethany Fisher, (Kokomo RPC), Emily Sturm, (Southside RPC), Elliott Judd, (Second RPC), and Ben Roberts, (Bloomington RPC). Each briefly and generally reported on their work. These members spoke in turn about different aspects of the youth work of the Presbytery. John Hanson spoke about the ECHO trips and their value in developing the young people who went on these trips. Rich Johnston also reported on the youth work and on the college and career age ministry. Pastor Andrew McCracken reported on the Foundations for Youth Program.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Youth Leadership Team Report be received.

Covfamikio Conference Report

The Covfamikoi Conference Report was given by Jim Long. Brochures for the 2003 Covfamikoi Conference were passed out.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Covfamikoi Conference Report be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rutledge Etheridge for his examination in Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles I.

The examination was conducted by Andy McCracken.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Pastor Keith Magill introduced James Faris. James Faris announced that he was accepting the Pastoral Call from the Second Indianapolis Congregation.

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee as a man to be taken under care of the Presbytery. Mr. Cumbee has already been Certified to Preach by the Presbytery of the Alleghenies. Mr. Cumbee spoke to the Court.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Greg Cumbee be taken under the care of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery as a student of theology.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to extend the time to take up the reports of the Disability Concerns Representative and of the Location of the Synod 2004.

Pastor Andrew McCracken asked for personal privilege and he announced that Rev. Robert McCracken's installation as a ruling elder of the Elkhart Congregation is to take place on June 1, 2003.

Report of the Committee concerning the Location of Synod 2004

Rev. Ed Blackwood presented the Report. Their recommendation that Synod 2004 be held at Taylor University, Upland, IN has been sent on to the Business of Synod Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report be received.

Report of the Representative on the Disability Concerns Committee

Pastor David Long reported on behalf of Mrs. Daniel Webb the Representative on the Synod Disability Concerns Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report be received.

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer being led by Rev. Keith Magill and Rev. Raymond Joseph who adjourned the Court at 9:20 p.m.

SESSION 7, Saturday, April 5, 2003 at 8:30 a.m.**Call to Order**

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 8:30 a.m.

Presbytery sang Psalm 65A.

Dr. Rick Gamble led in prayer and constituted the Court.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

The Moderator introduced Bradley Johnston for his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Mr. Johnston asked Presbytery to sing Psalm 126A. Psalm 126A was sung in praise to God following which Mr. Bradley read Job 19:23-27 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-23 and led in prayer. He preached God's Word on "Christ's Resurrection, The First Fruits of a Great Harvest". He closed his message with prayer and announced Psalm 89A which was sung.

Roll:

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Minutes:

The Clerk read the Minutes of the previous session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the Minutes as amended.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the Evidence of Progress Sermon by Bradley Johnston was unanimously sustained.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Bradley Johnston be certified to continue his seminary training for another year.

Dr. Rick Gamble was welcomed to the Court by the Moderator.

Rev. Keith Magill introduced Recommendation 7 of the Candidates and Credential Report.

Recommendation 7 was approved.

In keeping with Recommendation 7, Dr. Gamble addressed the Court.

A Report from the Scholar-in-Residence Program was presented to the Court.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Candidates and Credentials Report as a whole be received with special thanks to Rev. Keith Magill for all his work.

Congregational Reports

The Multiracial Congregational Report was presented by Rev. Tom Reid. He reported that Rev. Stan Copeland had arrived in the church and city and was getting settled into the work there. He also thanked the Pensacola Commission for their work.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report be received. Pastor Raymond Morton led in prayer for the Multiracial congregation.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee Report was presented by Pastor Doug Comin. (The Report of the Nominating Committee is in the Appendix of these Minutes.)

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to adopt the Report of the Nominating Committee as a whole.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 10:17 to 10:33 following which Presbytery sang Psalm 90C stanzas 5-8.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to recognize Rev. Robert Morrow on the celebration of his 70th Birthday today by a rising vote.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the usual congregational privileges be granted by the Presbytery as per the Nominating Committee Report.

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee Report was given by Pastor William Roberts.

The Recommendations are as follows:

1. that the Clerk receive an honorarium of \$750 per year and the Assistant Clerk \$250.
2. that the Presbytery continue its support of Triangle for 1 additional year (2004).
3. that the 2003 Revised Budget and the 2004 Budget be adopted.
4. that the congregations in the Presbytery are directed to designate an amount for the housing allowance greater than the anticipated housing expense for their pastor(s).
5. that a yearly audit of the books of Presbytery, to be coordinated by the Finance Committee Chairman, be conducted.

Recommendations 1,2,3,4,and 5 were approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to adopt the Finance Committee Report.

The Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Pastor Doug Comin, on behalf of the Triangle Congregation, expressed their thanks for the financial grants awarded by the Presbytery.

Judicial Committee Report

The Judicial Committee Report was given by Rev. Tom Reid. The Report is as follows:

*Judicial Committee Report
Great Lakes - Gulf Presbytery
April 3-5, 2003*

There were four issues before the Judicial Committee:

1. Three papers (2003-2, 2003-3, 2003-4) from Mr. Joel Finley of the Sparta congregation;
2. A request from the Lafayette session (Paper 2003-7) for permission, in extraordinary circumstances, for ruling elder Scott McCullough to occasionally perform baptisms and marriages, and administer the Lord's Supper;
3. A question raised in the Clerk's report, whether congregations are required to seek the permission of Presbytery in order to call an associate pastor; and
4. A report from the Assistant Clerk of Synod raising a possible irregularity from our April, 2001, minutes, when we granted the Westminster session the privilege of administering the Lord's Supper without a teaching elder.

1. Papers 2003-2, 2003-3, 2003-4

Mr. Joel Finley, a baptized member of the Sparta congregation, transmitted, through the Sparta Session, three papers dealing with church membership and membership vows, asking that his papers be sent to Synod for study.

We believe that if we were to simply forward these papers to Synod that they would be returned to us to deal with first. Therefore, we feel that it would be wise and proper for Presbytery to seek to deal with them first.

Recommendation 1. That Presbytery establish a committee consisting of Pastor Charles Brown and Ruling Elder Jim Ritchhart to counsel Mr. Finley, seeking to encourage him to take the covenant of church membership as the church understands it, rather than as he believes it should be interpreted. This committee will report back to Presbytery at the Synod meeting.

2. Paper 2003-7

The committee agrees with the recommendations of the Lafayette session, believing that Scott McCullough is ministering in "extraordinary circumstances" and so the burden of their first two requests should be granted while the third needs to be reformulated.

Recommendation 2. That Presbytery grant permission for Scott McCullough to administer baptism on a limited basis, under the oversight of the Lafayette session, as outlined in this paper, while he is in the Middle East.

Recommendation 3. That Presbytery grant permission for Scott McCullough to perform marriages on a limited basis, when it would bring together a Christian man and woman from the Middle East country in which the McCulloughs serve. Again, this would take place under the oversight of the Lafayette session, as outlined in this paper.

Recommendation 4. That Presbytery encourage the Lafayette session to seek the counsel of the Foreign Mission Board about the administration of the Lord's Supper on the mission field. We

also encourage them to consider the formation of a mission church, with the Lafayette Session as the Temporary Governing Body, before the observance of the Lord's Supper begins.

3. *Calls to an Associate Pastor*

The issue is: does the *Directory for Church Government* require the approval of Presbytery before a session calls a congregational meeting to elect an associate pastor? We acknowledge that the *Directory* does not mention the position of an "associate pastor". However, the *Directory* speaks generally of "a teaching elder" in such a way that would cover an associate pastor and any other ministry position occupied by a teaching elder: "The initiative for an election of a teaching elder must include one or more of the following: 1) An appeal from the congregation through the session to hold an election or an appeal directly from the session to the presbytery. 2) A directive by presbytery for a session to hold an election under extraordinary circumstances." (DCG 3, II, D, 1, p. D-17).

Recommendation 5. That Presbytery rule that congregations which desire to make out a call to any teaching elder, regardless of the title attached to their position, do need to request from the presbytery the privilege of making out a pastoral call before meeting to make that call.

Recommendation 6. That Presbytery cease to approve calls to teaching elders which have been made without the privilege to make out the call having been requested of and granted by the Presbytery beforehand.

4. *A Possible Irregularity*

In the Assistant Clerk's report to Synod 2002, the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Review Committee states, "A possible irregularity was noted on page A60 (Minutes, April 6-8, 2001). The Presbytery granted to the Westminster session the authority to administer the Lord's Supper when a teaching elder is not present. The *Directory for Church Government* 3, I, C, 6, p. D-9, allows such permission in 'extraordinary circumstances', but it seems the permission is granted for a specific occasion, not an on-going practice. A ruling from the parliamentarians may be required for this, if not from a judicial committee."

The Committee agrees with the concern of the Review Committee, as the DCG seems clear: A ruling elder may "under extraordinary circumstances, to administer the sacraments when specifically appointed to do so on a given occasion by the presbytery." Therefore, we bring the following recommendation.

Recommendation 7. That Presbytery admits our error in granting, in April, 2001, as an ongoing practice, permission to Westminster session to administer the Lord's Supper when a teaching elder is not present. We promise not to take such an action again.

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin Blackwood,
Charles Brown,
Jeff Kessler,
Tom Reid, Chairman,
Barry York

Recommendations 1,2,3,4,5, and 7 were approved.

Recommendation 6 was approved by a 13-11 vote.

Motion: it was moved seconded and passed to receive the Report of the Judicial Committee.

Arising from the decisions of the Judicial Committee Report, the following motions were made:

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Bloomington Congregation be granted the privilege of calling an associate pastor.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Bloomington Congregation request for the Home Mission Board's Church Planter Resident-in-Training Program for David Hanson be approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Lafayette Session be granted permission to make application to the Home Mission Board for the Associate Pastor grant program in the name of Jared Olivetti.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that in the absence of our newly elected Home Mission Board representative, Keith Magill represent the Presbytery to the Home Mission Board's meeting next week with regard to the Bloomington and Lafayette proposals.

Southern Church Extension Committee Report

The Southern Church Extension Committee Report was given verbally by Pastor Ralph Joseph.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report be received.

Report of Presbytery's Representative on Geneva College's Board of Corporators

Pastor Ralph Joseph gave the Report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report be received.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time be extended in order to finish the business for this meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery's Report to Synod

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, introduced this Report.

The Assistant Clerk spoke concerning this Report to Synod.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assistant Clerk circulate a draft Report to the members of Presbytery by e-mail and that any changes to this be sent to the Assistant Clerk by May 10; following this the Assistant Clerk will revise the Report and then submit it to the Ad Interim Commission for approval and forwarding to the Clerk of Synod.

Time and Place Committee Report

The Time and Place Committee Report was given by Elder James Long.

Recommendation 1 that the Fall 2003 Meeting of Presbytery be held November 6-8 at Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Recommendation 2 that the Spring 2004 Meeting of Presbytery be held April 1-3 at the Lafayette Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Recommendations 1 and 2 were approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report be received.

Assistant Clerk's Report

The Assistant Clerk reported concerning the reading of Session Minute Books. The sessional records were present from all the congregations of the presbytery. While there were occasional matters of a housekeeping nature found, such as missing signatures and minutes not approved, nothing was found contrary to the law and order of the church.

However some reviewers raised questions as how well some persons who were admitted to the sacrament of the Lord's Supper were known by the session. The questions were raised on the basis that no one who is a casual visitor is to be invited to commune (Dir. of Worship, 3:10b). It might be helpful for future reviewers for them to know how much information in this regard should be included in the sessional minutes.

Recommendation:

1. That future reviewers need not worry about the matter referred to in paragraph two above and the sessions be presumed to have adequately screened those desiring to commune unless there is something to indicate something to the contrary.

The Recommendation was approved.

Pastor Phil Poekras registered his dissent to the above action.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Assistant Clerk be received.

Resolution of Thanks Committee Report

The Report was given by Rev. Frank Schutz.

The Report is as follows:

The Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery of April 2003 is grateful to God for the hospitality of the Columbus Congregation. We appreciate the free use of their facilities. The meals provided and the gracious serving of the congregation were a delight and certainly eased our labor. We thank those who opened their homes to many of us.

We also thank The Lord for all the work done behind the scenes and we pray for God's richest blessings on this congregation of God's people.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Frank Schutz

Rev. James McMahon

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report be received. There was a rising vote of thanks by the Presbytery.

Minutes

The Clerk read the Minutes of this Session of the Presbytery meeting.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes as amended be approved. There was a rising vote of thanks for the Moderator.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Presbytery adjourn.

Pastor David Long led in prayer for Scott McCullough and his family. Presbytery was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Andrew Sehep at 12:29 p.m. Presbytery closed by singing Psalm 122A st. 1-3.

Appendix to the Minutes

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery April 11-13th, 2002

Committee to Review Paper 00-1

"Can two walk together, unless they be agreed?"
Amos 3:3

History

At the Spring 2000 meeting of presbytery, the Triangle Session from Raleigh-Durham, NC, brought in Paper 00-1, "Paper to Great Lakes - Gulf Presbytery Regarding the Enforcement of Ordination Query #4," asking the presbytery to 1) reaffirm its commitment to our worship practices as described in the Constitution, 2) remind sessions that men who take Vow #4 at ordination must believe and accept these practices as what the Scriptures teach, and 3) to institute a plan for dealing with officers of the church who did not believe and accept these practices. This paper was also asking Presbytery to send it to Synod for other presbyteries to enact.

Paper 00-1 was assigned to this committee, which submitted a paper, entitled "Committee to Review Paper 00-1," at the Fall 2000 meeting. This committee's paper basically upheld the understanding and direction of the Triangle paper and was approved. However, because several men were not at this meeting and many members of presbytery who were there became confused over the implications of the actions outlined in this paper, both the Orlando session and a group of men from presbytery asked that this paper be reconsidered at our Spring 2001 meeting. It was brought back on the floor, but lack of time delayed discussion of it until our Summer 2001 meeting. At Synod, the discussion basically centered on the meaning of some of the wording in Vow #4, and then this issue was resubmitted to our committee, which was also restructured for several reasons.

Thus it is important for Presbytery to remember that since Triangle's Paper 00-1 was first assigned to this committee, and the original response was returned to us, the assignment of this committee continued to be to review Paper 00-1 and to counsel

Presbytery on how to respond to its set of recommendations. That was the limit of our assignment.

"Presbytery took up the Report of the Committee to Review Paper 2000-1 (regarding the Enforcement of Ordination Query #4). Pastor Barry York presented the Majority Report for this paper...Pastor Andrew Schep presented the Minority Report." (*Minutes of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, Fourth Session, Friday, April 12th, 2002*)

Committee Work

Following this discussion at the Synod meeting of Presbytery, your committee believed there were three basic sets of questions that were raised on the floor that needed to be addressed by us in order to give Presbytery some clarification as to how to best approach this difficult issue. We raise these questions and offer our responses below.

Question I. When we take the vow "Do you believe in and accept...the manner of worship as set forth (in our documents)...as being agreeable to, and founded upon the Scriptures?" what exactly does the word "agreeable" mean? In other words, is this vow saying that the RPCNA manner of worship is one form that agrees with Scripture, but there are other forms that may be legitimate also (an Inclusive view)? Or are we saying that the RPCNA manner of worship is the only form that the Scriptures teach (an Exclusive view)? Or are there other possibilities?

We would note that as we heard at the Synod meeting and found among our committee members, both views are present in our Presbytery. In discussing this particular point, some clarification needs to be made to help each side understand the other so that we can rightfully discuss this issue and make the decisions necessary for its resolution.

- Though issues of worship necessarily involve *matters of orthodoxy*, the issue under question should not be understood as the *essence of orthodoxy*. In other words, though we are not trying to lessen the importance of this issue, both sides need to understand that we are not discussing a matter of heresy. Rather, this debate must be seen as a *matter of purity* in worship and *consistency in practice*. We would note that this understanding is reflected in the paper from the Triangle Session, as even though it calls for strong measures to be taken, it is not calling for a heresy trial to be conducted. Our denomination recognizes and enjoys deep fellowship with reformed brethren in other bodies who differ with us on certain worship practices. Thus we should be careful to avoid enflaming and accusatory language in our discussions, and treat one another with patience and gentleness even as we discuss this issue of grave concern. On the other hand, we would note that some of the language of the Triangle Paper, such as the inferences that could be taken from the opening quote or references regarding particular parties, created a heightened tension and should be avoided unless substantiated charges are brought forth.

- How can we be agreed until we understand what "agreeable" means in our vow? As Amos 3:3 asks, "Can two walk together, unless they be *agreed*?" To assist in this, note that agree literally means "with pleasure" or "willingly," and can be further explained as a word meaning "being pleasing to the mind," "in consent with," or "being in harmony." The word "agreeable" in Vow #4, taken on the occasion of ordination in the context of worship and the pledging of responsibility for Christ's church before God, must be understood in its most solemn sense. In other words, "being agreeable to" must mean that the manner of worship expressed in the *Westminster Confession of Faith* and other subordinate documents "pleasingly harmonizes with" or "consents with" the teaching of Scripture. Furthermore, to vow that a practice is "founded" on the Scriptures means that it "expresses" what the Scriptures teach on that subject. Otherwise it renders the vow meaningless, for why would subordinate standards teach, and one say they believe and vow, that this manner of worship expresses or harmonizes with Scripture if they believe other forms would be more in harmony with God's Word?
- As we heard expressed at Presbytery, at least some of the brethren were ordained with the understanding that the *Inclusive* view was permissible according to Ordination Vow #4, whereas other presbyters were surprised this could be so, given that our Testimony makes what appears to be exclusive statements (see Question II. below for example). This confusion needs to be addressed by the court of the Presbytery. Presbytery needs to give a ruling as to what the word "agreeable" means as used in this vow. Again, believing our responsibility as a committee is to aid Presbytery in the handling of Paper 00-1, we would like to counsel Presbytery to vote again on the first two recommendations of Paper 00-1. The first two recommendations of Paper 00-1, especially the second one because it states this question in terms of belief and acceptance versus just a mere understanding, will clarify what is meant in Vow #4 and provide this ruling. However, believing Triangle had the *Exclusive* view in mind in their paper, we added the final phrase in *italics* to make this clearer. Thus, the second recommendation adopts the *Exclusive* view. A vote for or against it will show what we believe as a Presbytery this vow means.

Recommendation 1: That Presbytery re-affirm its commitment to the manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, the **Larger and Shorter Catechisms**, and the **Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church**, as being agreeable to, and founded upon, the Scriptures.

"Recommendation #1 was approved." (*Minutes of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, Fourth Session, Friday, April 12th, 2002*)

Recommendation 2: That Presbytery remind the sessions that Ordination Query #4 requires them not only to understand the manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, the **Larger and Shorter Catechisms**, and the

Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, but to believe in and accept them *as the only manner the Scriptures teach*.

"Recommendation #2 was approved." (*Minutes of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, Fourth Session, Friday, April 12th, 2002*)

Question II. *Can one make this ordination vow in good conscience and remain under it, and yet disagree with certain statements in our Testimony, such as "The Book of Psalms, consisting of inspired psalms, hymns, and songs, is the divinely authorized manual of praise. The use of other songs in worship is not authorized in the Scriptures" (Testimony 21.5)? Why or why not?*

In answering what seems like a simple question, several issues must be addressed:

- First we would note that at the heart of the answer to this question is the fine balance that must be maintained between the liberty of conscience, growth in grace and errors church courts can make on the one hand, and the need for doctrinal clarity, clerical integrity and confessional Christianity on the other. The church must be sure in her reforming efforts she is acting with both wisdom and grace.
- Next it is important to recognize that men making ordination vows will come into their offices with differing levels of understanding, and that is to be expected. Without implying anything degrading in these comments, a man ordained as a teaching elder usually has three years of seminary training under his belt where he should have spent much time in understanding more of the intricacies of our positions, whereas a ruling elder and even perhaps more so a deacon may not be as well read. We are aware of ruling elders who are wonderful shepherds and deacons who are tremendous servants of the church that have taken Ordination Vow #4 in good conscience, but may not be adept at defending some of our distinctive principles or may not have all their questions answered on these subjects. In other words, when it comes to believing and maintaining the doctrines of the church, though all officers are responsible are not the teaching elders *even more so?* They are given the additional duty of "proclaiming God's Word in worship" (*Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, Section II.B.1.*) and vow distinct from the other officers in Ordination Vow #9 to "bring to your congregation the fruits of earnest study of the Word." It is primarily through the preaching and teaching of the minister that local congregations, including the ruling elders and deacons of that congregation, receive and are led into doctrinal instruction.
- Thirdly then, if Presbytery decides this matter does need to be addressed, we believe rather than attempting to address all officers of the church as Paper 00-1 calls for, it would be more wise to begin with the teaching elders. Since it is at a constituted Presbytery that pastors are ordained, whereas it is at a constituted Session that ruling elders and deacons are ordained, we believe this would make it even more prudent for Presbytery to act in this fashion at this time. Thus, we have reflected this by changing Triangle's original Recommendation #3 as seen below. This would not prevent other officers from declaring exceptions; it would just not charge them in an official manner at this point to do so.
- With all this in mind, the key word in the question above is "disagree." If a man, especially a teaching elder, has come to disagree with our manner of worship, what is he then to do? We believe those who have brought their concerns through the court of the church in recent years have expressed openly and in the righteous means available to them their disagreements. Now that the changes they were seeking were not made, what should those with disagreements do? If the elders of the church have ruled against a man, this person should first re-examine his position and see if he cannot come to agree with the church's current standards. If not, then it would seem the brotherly thing to do for him to seek help from others who could try to assist him in his understanding. On the other hand, if one holds to the church's current standards and have concerns that men will continue to work to change the positions he holds dear until they have made them, then it seems reasonable that he would call on Presbytery to address these concerns.

Since this appears to be the spirit behind the third and fourth recommendations of Paper 00-1, we offer these to Presbytery below with one final word of caution.

- If these recommendations pass, then the members of Presbytery should not assume that certain people will begin stepping forward. Love demands that we think the best of our brothers (1 Corinthians 13:5), and assume that those who do not declare exceptions have come to have none. These recommendations have no time limit, but really are setting forth policy that should be applicable to other situations. If a presbyter believes a fellow officer is guilty of violating his vows or doctrinal standards, then he has an obligation to exercise church discipline and substantiate this by bringing forth charges.

Recommendation 3: That Presbytery charge any ~~officers teaching elders~~ within its bounds (~~teaching elders, ruling elders, or deacons~~) who do not believe in and accept the manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church** to declare their exception to the ordination vow they have taken.

"The report on this paper was given by Barry York. He reviewed the progress on this paper thus far. Recommendation #3 was taken up..."

Motion: Recommendation #3 was laid on the table to entertain a substitute.

Motion: The substitute motion was moved and seconded - "That Presbytery charge any officers within its bounds (teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons) who do not believe in and accept the system of doctrine and the manner of worship set forth in the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church to declare their exception to the ordination vow they have taken."

...The mover and the seconder of the substitute motion agreed to the insertion of the words "to their ordaining body" after the words "to declare" and before "their exception."...This report was referred to unfinished business...This report was taken up again.

Motion: That this report be referred to the Spring meeting of presbytery. **Seconded and passed.** (*Minutes of Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, Fourth Business Session, Friday, November 8th, 2002*)

Substitute Motion for Recommendation #3: That Presbytery charge any officers within its bounds (teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons) who do not believe in and accept the system of doctrine and the manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church** to declare to their ordaining body their exception to the ordination vow they have taken.

Recommendation 4: That Presbytery appoint a special committee to counsel any who take exception to ordination query #4 in order to seek to persuade them of the biblical manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church**.

Question III. *Triangle was prompted to bring this to Presbytery by men bringing papers through the courts of the church seeking to question and change some of our current worship*

practices. The men who brought these papers believed they were handling their concerns in a righteous manner. This raises the question: At what point, if any, does the debate of an issue become impermissible in the courts of the church?

Many attempts at setting forth an *objective measure* (i.e., establishing certain issues that were non-debatable) to answer this question were given. Some believe that certain issues should never be debatable in church courts. For instance, probably none of us would tolerate a paper promoting the church adopting Arian teachings. However, remember at one point in church history this was very much the concern of church councils. Attempts were made to show how certain subjects because of their lofty nature were not open for debate, but lesser topics were, in essence ranking subjects by their importance. An example would be to say that worship, because of its centrality in the church's relationship to God, is closed for debate, but other issues, like whether the church should have women deacons, is still debatable. Yet in the history of this committee when it came to determining where to draw the line at the subjects that should be debatable and which ones are non-debatable, much debate ensued! Finally, a quick glance at another Presbyterian denomination will show that issues that would never have been discussed in church courts just a few years ago (and should never be!) are now front and center. It reminds us that the church cannot idly rest on her standards, but must be faithful from generation to generation to reform and uphold truth (Psalm 22:30-31).

Perhaps the best answer then that was given to the question "At what point does an issue become impermissible in the courts of the church?" was the terse but truthful "When the courts so decide." Though the courts of the church have to protect and shepherd those under its care and protect the balance of reform explained above, the church can come to believe for the sake of the peace and purity of the church that the time has come to end debate. This is a fulfillment of our last vow of ordination:

Do you promise subjection in the Lord to the courts of this church, and engage to follow no divisive courses from the doctrine and order which the church has solemnly recognized and adopted; and do you promise to submit to all the brotherly counsel which your brethren may tender you in the Lord?

In essence, this is what the last two recommendations of Paper 00-1 are seeking to ascertain. If voted affirmatively upon, they move the Presbytery, and seek to move the entire denomination, to end the debate, first in our presbytery then others. These recommendations provide judicial action in handling those who maintain a disagreement with our standards in the area of worship. We submit these recommendations to Presbytery for your judgment on this matter, with the slight change indicated in *italics* made in the last recommendation.

Finally, it would appear from the debate on the floor of Presbytery that the intention of Recommendation 5 is that the judicial committee would not necessarily exist to depose teaching elders from their ordination. Rather, it would work with them patiently to see if they could not serve in another branch of Christ's church where they would be

more in agreement with their doctrinal positions. The intent of any committee's assignment in this regard should be clearly delineated by the Presbytery.

Recommendation 5: That Presbytery appoint a special judicial committee to address any cases in which those who have declared an exception to the manner of worship set forth in the **Westminster Confession of Faith**, the **Larger and Shorter Catechisms**, and the **Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church** are unwilling or unable to fulfill their ordination vow.

Recommendation 6: That Presbytery adopt this paper and send it on to Synod *with Paper 00-1 as a reference* with the recommendation that it be enacted in all of the Presbyteries in the RPCNA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Bishop

Phil Pockras

Dan Webb

Barry York, Chairman

(Note: Andrew Schep was also on this committee but asked that his signature not be attached to this report).

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, April 3-5, 2003**

Ad Interim Commission

Sycamore Session
Larry Bump

**Church Extension
Committees**

Michigan

Ian Wise (Ch.)
Southfield Session

Southern Illinois

Ray Morton (Ch.)
Bob Morrow
Dale Musselman

Southern

Doug Comin (Ch.)
Ralph Joseph
Charles Leverett
Tom Reid

Ohio-Illinois

Dave Long (Ch.)
Karl Stoicheff
Andy McCracken
Phil Pockras
Barry York

**Candidates & Credentials
Committee**

Class of '04 -

Keith Magill, Jon Hughes,
Rick Gamble

Class of '05 -

Roy Blackwood, Dean Filson

Class of '06 -

Rich Johnston,
Bob McCracken

Financial Officers

Treasurer - Lawrence Curry
Asst. - Bill Roberts

Visitation Committees

Belle Center

Keith Magill (Ch.)
Frank Schutz
John Hanson

Columbus

Rich Johnston (Ch.)
Charles Brown
Greg Fisher

Home Mission Board Rep.

Class of '06 - Ian Wise

Committee to Oversee

Hetherton

Bob Henning
Bill Roberts
Jon Hughes

Covfamiko Conference

Director - Jim Long
Manager - Shane Shoop

Interchurch Liaison

Phil Pockras

Youth Coordinators

Rich Johnston
John Hanson (YMCS Rep.)

Board of Corporators of

Geneva College

Class of '06 - Ralph Joseph

Committee on Presbytery

Agendas

Phil Pockras
Ray Morton
Ralph Joseph

Moderators of Vacant

Congregations*

Hetherton, Milton Harrington
Southside, Bill Roberts
Multiracial, Stan Copeland
Orlando, Tom Forrest

*Motion: That these vacant congregations be granted the privileges of administration of the sacraments and the making out of calls.

Provisional Elder to
Hetherton:
Roger Adams

Provisional Elder to
Multiracial:
Godfrey Franklin

Richard Johnston
Moderator

Raymond E. Johnston
Clerk

**02-1 Ad Interim Commission Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
May 20, 2002**

The Commission met by conference call. Andrew Schep constituted the meeting with prayer at 8:15 p.m. Bob Henning was chosen as clerk. Present: Bob Henning, Jeff Jones, Andrew Schep, Butch Shoop, and Steve Sturm. Absent: Ed Schisler.

By motion, Keith Magill was appointed to the Westminster Visitation Team to replace Bill Roberts who had asked to be relieved of this responsibility because he had been appointed moderator of the Southside Session. (Note: Ed Schisler concurred with this action by email).

By motion the court was adjourned in prayer by Jeff Jones at 8:30 p.m.

Andrew Schep
Andrew Schep, Moderator

Robert Henning, Clerk

**02-2 Ad Interim Commission Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
June 30, 2002**

The Commission met at the Columbus R.P. Church. Present: Andrew Schep, Butch Shoop, Ed Schisler, Jeff Jones, and Steve Sturm who joined us by telephone. Andrew constituted the court at 4:30 p.m., praying for the churches throughout the presbytery. By common consent, Jeff Jones was appointed clerk *pro tem* in the absence of Bob Henning.

It was moved (Butch Shoop), seconded (Jeff Jones), and passed, that the minutes of our May 20, 2002, meeting be approved as amended.

It was moved (Butch Shoop), seconded (Ed Schisler), and passed, to receive the Appeal of Sam and Denise Morrow and Diane Harrington (regarding how the Presbytery at its Spring 2002 meeting handled the Kokomo Session's defense of its use of real wine in communion), and pass it along to Synod without endorsement.

It was moved (Butch Shoop), seconded (Ed Schisler), and passed, to adjourn. Jeff Jones read the minutes of this meeting. It was moved (Butch Shoop), seconded (Ed Schisler), and passed, to approve the minutes as read. Butch Shoop adjourned the meeting in prayer at 4:35 p.m.

Andrew Schep
Andrew Schep, Moderator

Jeff Jones, Clerk *pro tem*


**02-3 Ad Interim Commission Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
August 4, 2002**

The Commission met at the Columbus R.P. Church. Present: Bob Henning, Jeff Jones, Andrew Schep, and Steve Sturm who joined us by telephone. The meeting was called to order by Andrew Schep and was constituted in prayer by Jeff Jones at 11:45 a.m.

By motion, seconded and passed, the presbytery is called to meet September 20, 2002, at 7 p.m. at the Westminster R.P. Church, Prairie View, IL, for the ordination and installation of Charles

Brown as pastor. The following appointments for the service were made: Richard Johnston (Moderator of Presbytery) will conduct the service; Thomas Reid will preach the ordination sermon; Roy Blackwood will pose the queries; Keith Magill will give the charge to the congregation; David Long will give the charge to Charles Brown. These actions were approved before the meeting by Ed Schisler who is in Japan.

The commission was adjourned in prayer by Andrew Schep at 11:55 a.m.


Andrew Schep, Moderator

Robert Henning, Clerk

**02-4 Ad Interim Commission Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
December 11, 2002**

The Gulf/Lakes Ad Interim Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Columbus R.P. Church and was constituted in prayer by Andrew.

Present: Bob Henning, Jeff Jones, Andrew Schep, Ed Schisler, Butch Shoop, and Steve Sturm, by phone.

Presbytery Church Planting Coordinator Committee was discussed. At the request of the committee Barry York was added to the committee with the recommendation that if someone drops off the committee that the committee would continue as a five man committee. At the request of Keith Magill and with the endorsement of David Long, Jim Long and Barry York, David Long was made chairman of the committee replacing Jim Long.

By motion, approval was given to the following requests received from the Multiracial RPC of Pensacola, Florida:

- *The Congregation requests the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery to appoint pastor Stanley Copeland as Stated Supply of the Multiracial Congregation, for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2003, with the understanding that the Congregation may renew this position or proceed to issuing a pastoral call to Pastor Copeland sometime in 2003. If Pastor Copeland becomes Stated Supply, the Congregation offers him a remuneration package as follows: \$8,200 for salary, \$16,400 housing, \$1,982 in lieu of Social Security, and \$1,200 for dental and supplemental medical insurance, payable in twelve installments of \$2,231.84 on the first Sabbath of each month, and \$2,700 for Synod's pension program, payable quarterly. We also offer four weeks of paid vacation per year and one additional paid week to attend the annual meeting of Synod. To cover his business expenses, we also offer Synod's mileage allowance for travel, \$50 per month for office expenses, \$20 per month for books and periodicals, and \$50 per month for hospitality, to be paid at the end of each month on the basis of actual expenditure. We promise to review the terms of this remuneration package on a regular basis, since we recognize that its terms are low.*
- *If Pastor Copeland accepts the call to be Stated Supply, the Congregation asks the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship between it and Pastor Godfrey Franklin as of December 31, 2002, and to appoint Pastor Copeland as Moderator of the Session and as a Provisional Elder of the Session.*

The court was adjourned in prayer by Jeff at 7:45 PM.

Andrew Schep, Moderator


Robert Henning, Clerk

**03-1 Ad Interim Commission Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
January 23, 2003**

At 7 PM the meeting was called to order at the Columbus R.P. Church with Steve Strum on the phone. Andrew constituted the court in prayer. Present: Bob Henning, Jeff Jones, Andrew Schep, Butch Shoop, Steve Strum.

By motion the Bloomington congregation was approved to apply for participation in the Residence in Training three year Program. The congregation has a 12 year pattern of growth.

By motion the court was adjourned in prayer by Butch Shoop at 7:10 PM


Andrew Schep, Moderator

Robert Henning, Clerk

**03-2 Ad Interim Commission Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
March 17, 2003**

The meeting was called to order by Andrew Schep at 6:10 PM. He read Ephesians 3 and Jeff Jones constituted the court with prayer. Present: Bob Henning, Jeff Jones, Andrew Schep, Butch Shoop, and Steve Sturm. Ed Schisler was in Japan.

The minutes of August 4, 2002, December 11, 2002, and January 23, 2003, were read and approved.

The session of the Orlando R. P. Church informed the commission that it took action as instructed by Presbytery (November 2002 meeting) regarding the Cornerstone Mission Church and asked that the action be recorded in our minutes. This report was sent to the commission on January 24, 2003 and is as follows:

The session of the Orlando R. P. Church officially disorganized Cornerstone as a Mission church. All the funds have been distributed. 50% went to the Scholar in Residence program. 25% went to the Foreign Mission Board and 25% went to the Orlando Congregation. A letter of transfer has been issued for the Gamble family transferring their membership to the 2nd RP Church in Indianapolis. All operations of the Cornerstone Mission church have ceased. This was all done by December 11, 2002.

By motion this matter was recorded.

By motion the commission ratified the informal approval of the Sycamore RP Church to hold an election of David Hanson as an associate pastor.

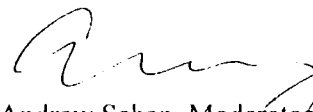
By motion the commission ratified the informal approval of the 2nd RP Church to hold an election of James Faris as an associate pastor.

At the suggestion of Roy Blackwood and Rich Johnston approval was given to cover Stan Copeland's travel expenses to attend the Spring meeting of Presbytery since he is the Stated Supply of the Multiracial RP Church.

The Petition regarding the call to Peter Smith by the Orlando Congregation to refer it to the Spring meeting of Presbytery was considered. The Petition was denied because insufficient reasons were provided. By motion the call on Peter Smith by the Orlando Congregation was approved and passed on to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies Ad Interim Commission.

Andrew Schep absented himself from the meeting and Steve Sturm was asked to act as moderator. The Petition regarding the call to Andrew Schep by the Syracuse Congregation to refer it to the Spring Meeting of Presbytery was considered. The Petition was denied because insufficient reasons were provided. By motion the call of the Syracuse Congregation on Andrew Schep was approved. Andrew Schep returned to the meeting and the call of the Syracuse congregation was presented to him.

Andrew returned to the position of moderator. The minutes of the meeting were read and approved. By motion the meeting was adjourned in prayer by Butch Shoop at 8:05 PM.


 Andrew Schep, Moderator

Robert Henning, Clerk

**Minutes of the Special Meeting
 of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
 Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
 May 29, 2003**

1. Call to Order

The special meeting of the Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery was called to order by the moderator, Phil Pockras, Thursday, May 29, 2003, in the sanctuary of the Second Reformed Presbyterian Church for the purpose of examining James Faris for ordination to the gospel ministry.

2. Constitution of the Court: The Moderator constituted the court in prayer.

3. Candidates and Credentials Committee – Ordination Sermon

James Faris preached God's Word from Psalm 136 on the topic "His Mercy Endures Forever

4. Roll Call: The assistant clerk called the roll, which showed that a quorum was present and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras x	Larry Bump x
Bloomington	William Roberts x	Wendell McBurney x
Columbus	Andrew Schep x	
Elkhart	Andrew McCracken x	
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long -x	Dan Webb
		David Carr(alt) x
Multiracial		
Oakdale	Raymond Morton E	
Orlando		
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood x	Ram Rao x
	Richard Johnston x	Russ Pulliam
		Dean Filson(alt)
		Jim Long(alt)-x
Selma	Ralph Joseph x	
Southfield	Ian Wise x	James Curtis x
		Jon Hughes(alt)
Southside		Steve Sturm x
Sparta	Raymond Morton E	
Sycamore	Barry York E	
Triangle	Doug Comin E	
Westminster	Charles Brown x	Charles Leverett E

Ministers without pastorates:

Roger Adams -
 Edwin Blackwood x
 Paul Faris -

Godfrey Franklin E
Rick Gamble x
Milton Harrington -
Robert Henning -
Ray Joseph -E
Garland Kineaid -
Keith Magill x
Robert McCracken x
Marion McFarland -
James McMahan -
Robert Morrow -
Tom Reid E
James Wright --

5. Appointment of Clerk Pro Tem

The moderator appointed the assistant clerk as Clerk pro-tem.

6. Organizational Motions:

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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

7. Agenda:

The agenda as presented by the Clerk pro-tem was approved.

8. Roll Call Vote: The Clerk pro-tem called the roll. The Ordination Sermon of James Faris was unanimously sustained.

9. Examination in Personal Godliness

Pastor David Long conducted the examination of James Faris in Personal Godliness. Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

10. Roll Call Vote: The Clerk pro-tem called the roll. The examination of James Faris in Personal Godliness was unanimously sustained.

11. Examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony

Dr. Rick Gamble examined James Faris in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony.

By motion the time for the examination was extended to give opportunity for any presbyters who had questions to ask them and receive answers.

12. Roll Call Vote: The Clerk pro-tem called the roll. The examination was unanimously sustained.

13. Ordination and Installation Date

The date of June 20 at 7 P.M., as set by the Ad Interim Commission was noted as the date for the ordination and installation of James Faris as Associate Pastor in the Second Indianapolis Congregation.

14. Ordination Examinations for Mr. David Hanson

It was noted that David Hanson had indicated his acceptance of the call of the Bloomington Congregation. By motion presbytery decided to meet at 3 P.M., June 20 for the purpose of conducting the ordination examinations of Mr. Hanson.

15. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting were read and approved with any necessary corrections.

16. Vote of Thanks

The moderator thanked the Second Reformed Presbyterian Church congregation on behalf of presbytery for hosting this meeting.

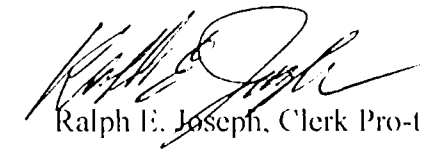
17. Adjournment

By motion the meeting was adjourned. Larry Bump led in the prayer of adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



Phil Pockras, Moderator



Ralph E. Joseph, Clerk Pro-tem

**Minutes of the Special Meeting
of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
June 20, 2003**

1. Call to Order: The Moderator, Phil Pockras, called the Presbytery to order at 3:05 p.m. on Friday, June 20, 2003, at the Second Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, for the purpose of, mainly, ordination exams for David Hanson, and the ordination and installation of James Faris.

2. Constitution of the Court: The Moderator constituted the court in prayer.

3. Candidates and Credentials Committee – Ordination Sermon

David Hanson preached God's Word from Exodus 17:1-7 on the topic "The Lord will Provide". He concluded by leading in prayer and announced Psalm 145C st. 9-13. Presbytery sang Psalm 145C

4. Roll Call: The clerk called the roll, which showed that a quorum was present and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xx	
Bloomington	William Roberts xx	Kenneth DeJong xx
Columbus		Robert Henning xx
Elkhart		
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long -x	Robert Bibby -x
		Jeff Kessler xx
Multiracial		
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xx	
Orlando		
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xx	Dean Filson x-
	Richard Johnston xx	Terry Magnunson x-
		Russ Pulliam -x
		Ram Rao -x
Selma	Ralph Joseph ee	
Southfield		James Curtis xx
Southside		John Hanson e-
		Steve Sturm xx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xx	Robert Morrow ee
Sycamore	Barry York xx	
Triangle		
Westminster	Charles Brown xx	
Roger Adams --		
Edwin Blackwood xx		
Paul Faris ex		
Rick Gamble --		
Milton Harrington --		
Ray Joseph ee		
Garland Kineaid --		
Keith Magill xx		
Marion McFarland --		
James McMahon --		
Tom Reid ee		
James Wright --		

5. Organizational Motions:

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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

It was noted that all elders in good standing in the denomination be invited to participate in the laying on of hands.

6. Introductions of First-Time Delegates

Pastor Rich Johnston introduced Terry Magnunson as a first-time elder delegate from the Second Indianapolis R.P. Church.

Rev. John Tweed was introduced as the interim pastor at the Southside Indianapolis congregation.

7. Agenda:

The agenda as presented by the Clerk was approved.

8. Roll Call Vote: The clerk called the roll. The Ordination Sermon of David Hanson was unanimously sustained.

Pastor Barry York reported that Martin Blocki was doing a good work in the North Hills (Pittsburgh) congregation and had been installed as an associate pastor there.

9. Examination in Personal Godliness

Pastor Rich Johnston conducted the examination of David Hanson in Personal Godliness. Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

10. Roll Call Vote: The clerk called the roll. The Examination in Personal Godliness of David Hanson was unanimously sustained.

11. Examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony

Pastor William Roberts examined David Hanson in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony. Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

12. Roll Call Vote: The clerk called the roll. The Examination was unanimously sustained.

13. Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Ordination and Installation of David Hanson to the Bloomington congregation be held on Wednesday, August 27, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. The service will be preceded by a dinner at 5:30 p.m.

14. Resolution of Thanks

The Moderator appointed a Resolution of Thanks Committee, consisting of James Curtis and Robert Henning. They will write a letter on behalf of the Presbytery to the Second Indianapolis congregation expressing the thanks of the Presbytery for the congregation's hosting of this meeting of Presbytery.

15. Travel Vouchers were passed out.

16. Minutes

The Minutes of this session of the meeting of Presbytery were read.

17. **Motion:** it was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as read.

18. **Recess**

Following announcements, Presbytery took recess at 5:15 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 145C st. 9 and prayer by Terry Magnunson.

Session 2 Friday, June 20, 2003, at 7:03 p.m.

19. **Reconvening**

Pastor Rich Johnston welcomed the congregation present and made some announcements. The Moderator, Pastor Phil Pockras called Presbytery to order at 7:03 p.m.

20. **Praise:** Psalm 8B st. 1-3 was sung in praise to God.

21. **Prayer:** the Moderator reconvened the Court of Presbytery by prayer.

The Moderator explained purpose of the meeting and its Biblical basis.

22. **Roll:**

The Clerk called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

23. **Narrative of the Steps:** Raymond Morton narrated the steps leading up to this service.

24. **Reading of the Edict:** For the last time, Raymond Morton, Clerk, read the Edict for the Ordination and Installation of James Isaac Faris.

25. **Adherence to the Call:** The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by rising, which they did.

26. **Acceptance of the Call:** The moderator asked James Faris to indicate if he accepted the call of the Second Indianapolis Congregation, which James did.

27. **Queries for Ordination:** Pastor Rich Johnston asked James Faris the Queries for Ordination, and James Faris replied in the affirmative to all of them. James Faris signed the Queries in Presbytery's Minute book.

28. **Worship:** The congregation sang Psalm 61 st. 1-4. Pastor Barry York read I Timothy 1:1-7, and preached God's Word on the subject of "Heart Preaching", and concluded in prayer. Psalm 24A st. 1-5 was sung.

29. **Ordination and Installation:** Rev. Paul Faris let the prayer of ordination and installation of James Faris setting him apart to the gospel ministry while the members of Presbytery and other elders present laid their hands on James Faris. Following prayer they extended the right hand of fellowship to him.

30. **Charge to the New Pastor:** Pastor Roy Blackwood read verses from II Timothy 4:1,2. He

spoke of well-rounded preaching and other pastoral responsibilities in giving the charge to James Faris.

31. **Charge to the Congregation:** Pastor David Long read passages from the book of Nehemiah and gave a charge to the Second Indianapolis congregation to support their pastor and challenged the members to take personal responsibility, live and work in faith, and respond to God's Word, and especially to follow the Chief Shepherd.

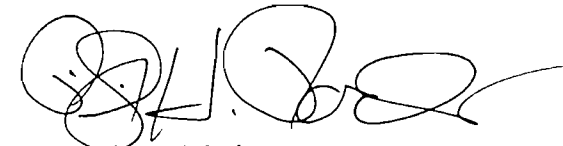
32. **Minutes:** The minutes of this special meeting were read and approved as read.

33. **Adjournment:** It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn. The Presbytery was adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

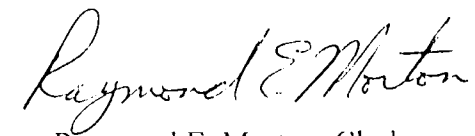
34. **PRAISE:** Psalm 136A st. 1-13 was sung.

35. The Moderator led in prayer and adjourned the Court and the new Pastor, James Faris, pronounced the Benediction.

The congregation sang Psalm 72C st. 11,12.



Phil Pockras, Moderator



Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

**Minutes of the Synod Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
June 28 to July 1, 2003**

Saturday June 28, 2003, at 9:57 a.m.

Constitution of the Court

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Phil Pockras, at 9:57 a.m. on Saturday June 28, 2003, at Room 111, Northwood Hall, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA. The Moderator read Psalm 119: 97-104 and led in a meditation on this portion of this Psalm. Presbytery sang Psalm 119M and the Moderator constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll, which is as follows.

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xxx	Larry Bump xxx
Bloomington	William Roberts xex	
Columbus	Andrew Schep -e	

Elkhart	Andrew McCracken xxx	Robert McCracken xxx
Hetherton		Milton Harrington eee
Lafayette	David Long xxx	Daniel Webb xxx
Multiracial		Tom Reid xxx
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxx	
Orlando	Tom Forest -xx	Jay Worsham xxx
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood eee	Jack Baumgardner xxx
	Richard Johnston xxx	Karl Stoicheff -xx
	James Faris -xx	
Selma	Ralph Joseph xxx	
Southfield	Ian Wise xxx	Jim Curtis xxx
Southside		Steve Sturm xxx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxx	Robert Morrow xxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxx	Robert McKissick xxx
Triangle	Doug Comin eee	Charlie Leverett eee
Westminster	Charles Brown xxx	Robert Koch xxx

Roger Adams ---
 Ray Joseph eee
 Riek Gamble xxx
 Robert Henning ---
 Keith Magill xex
 Marion McFarland eee
 Robert Morrow xxx
 James McMahon ---
 James Wright ---
 Edwin Blackwood xxx
 Paul Faris ---
 Garland Kineaid ---

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Introduction of First Time Delegates

Pastor Andrew McCracken introduced his father, Rev. Robert McCracken as elder delegate from the Elkhart congregation for the first time.

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows:

**Report of the Clerk
 To the Meeting of Presbytery on**

June 28, 2003

The Clerk would respectfully report that he has done his best to carry out the assignments given to him as far as he knows. A number of items have been dealt with since the meeting in April.

I have received several items of correspondence, mostly by e-mail, and I have mostly replied by the same way. I made out the forms for transferring Martin Blocki to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies.

I sent the two communications passed for transfer to the Synod. You will see them in the Docket and Digest of Synod.

I received notice that Rev. Robert LaMay had been received by the Mid-West Presbytery. The Clerk of the Atlantic Presbytery wrote, "This letter is sent to inform you that the ordination of Dr. Sidney Van Camp has been terminated at his own request. (DCG, Chapter 3, II, E, 7, b. Page D-23).

I received a request for the approval of the Presbytery to have Prof. Dennis Prutow give the sermon at the Ordination and Installation of David Hanson. A recommendation about this is below.

I have prepared the Proposed Agenda for this meeting which is printed and available separately from this report.

I thank you for the opportunity of serving as your Clerk and trust the Lord will bless us in this meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendations:

1. That the Parliamentarians for this meeting of Presbytery be Tom Reid and Barry York.
2. That the Proposed Agenda for this meeting be accepted.
3. That the Presbytery give approval to having Prof. Dennis Prutow preach at the ordination and installation of David Hanson and that his travel expenses be paid by the Presbytery.
4. That the Clerk's Report be received.

Respectfully submitted,
 Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Actions on the Recommendations:

Recommendations 1 through 4 were approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report as a whole be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill presented the report.

He introduced Jared Olivetti who has three exams to be taken/reported with a view to his being licensed to preach. The exams are: Expository Sermon, Systematic Theology II and Exegesis Paper.

Mr. Olivetti preached God's Word on Psalm 45:1-7 as his Expository Sermon and closed his message with prayer.

Report on Jared Olivetti's Exegesis Paper

Pastor Ian Wise, on behalf of himself and Pastor Doug Comin, reported on Jared Olivetti's Exegesis Paper on Psalm 45. He reported that the paper was excellent and recommended that it be sustained.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll. Presbytery unanimously agreed to sustain Jared Olivetti's Expository Sermon.

Voice Vote on Jared Olivetti's Exegesis Paper

On the vote the examination was sustained.

Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles Exam of Jared Olivetti

The examination was conducted by Dr. Rick Gamble. Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll. Presbytery unanimously agreed to sustain the Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles II examination.

Licensure Certification

Elder Dan Webb asked Jared Olivetti the Queries for Certification to Preach. Jared Olivetti answered positively all the Queries without reservations.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll. Presbytery unanimously sustained his Licensure to Preach.

Jared Olivetti signed the Queries in the Presbytery Minute Book.

Pastor David Long led in the prayer of Licensure to Preach.

Pastor David Long counseled Jared Olivetti as to his duties and the limitations as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C. 2, i.

Assistant Treasurer's Report

The Assistant Treasurer, Pastor William Roberts, gave a verbal report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report be received.

Travel Agent

The Travel Agent, Pastor Ian Wise, reported on the availability of travel vouchers.

Ad Interim Commission Report

The Ad Interim Commission Report was given by the Commission Moderator, Barry York. The Report was received by common consent.

There were no communications brought to this Presbytery meeting.

Covfamikoi Family Conference Report

Pastor Rich Johnston gave the report. The Report was received by common consent.

Permission to Sell Triangle R.P. Church Property

Rev. Keith Magill introduced this business on behalf of the Triangle congregation. The request is in the communication below:

Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church
1326 Sedwick Drive
Durham, NC 27713

June 27, 2003

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Meeting at Geneva College
Beaver Falls, PA

Re: sale of land owned by Triangle RPCNA

Dear Brethren:

A local developer Olde South Homes, Inc. has presented a contract proposal to purchase approximately 93 acres of land owned by the Leverett / Wilson family and approximately 13 acres owned by Triangle RPCNA. The 13 acres was recently donated to the Church by Chuck Leverett, a member of the congregation, on June 6, and was filed June 10 with the Register of Deeds, Book 3944, page 590, instrument # 2003035822. All the legal work, which has stretched over the last several months, for donating the land to the Church was handled by the Leverett family lawyer Paul Stain of the law firm, Stain, Fordham & Danchi, P.A. of Apex, North Carolina. Paul is a personal friend of the Leverett family, a man of excellent Christian character, and a member of the NC House of Representatives.

The extended family's legal counsel is Brinton Wright of the law firm Stern, Klepfer, & Wright, PLLC of Greensboro, NC. Brinton is very active in doing legal work for adoptions. He has advised Triangle RP to adhere to its by-laws prior to signing the contract, which requires the prior approval of the sale by Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery. The contract signing will probably be early in the week of July 1, since most issues have been resolved between all parties involved, so we ask you for a quick response.

The Church's property is part of a 26 acre tract of land located on Chin Page Road, Morrisville, NC, which is co-owned with the Wilson family, relatives of the Leveretts. They have their half interest in the property under the name of Chin Page Road Limited Partnership, and are for the sale. The Church owns the other half interest in the 26 acre tract, which means each party owns approximately 13 acres. The approximate 26 acre tract has road frontage with a 60 road easement, which under general rules of sale is given to the Buyer at no cost, and is the contract

provision in this case. The actual purchased acreage will be closer to 25.155 as determined by Buyer's survey, of which the Church has half interest.

The property was rezoned for industrial use (I-2) on April 21, 2003, and real estate professionals told us to expect to sit on the property for ten years, since at this time there is no market for industrial property in our area at all. That's what makes the present proposal appear to be an even greater provision from the Lord. The Buyer is a Christian of sound reputation, which has made negotiations go very well and created trust and respect between the parties.

The important contract conditions that would be of interest to the brethren include: the purchase price is \$55,000 per acre, a 150 day examination period to determine feasibility for the Buyer's development in which the Buyer may choose not to pursue the deal for any reason, closing within 60 days following, which makes closing to be in January, 2004, though the contract does allow for time extensions, and \$50,000 earnest money held in escrow non-refundable only after the 150 day examination period if Buyer defaults. Chuck Leverett is paying all legal fees.

Please pray that the State and Durham City/County will not create any barriers to developing the property for the Buyer, like making expensive road improvements from Page Road to I-40, and for the sale to proceed to closing.

The Session of Triangle RPCNA, being in favor of the sale of the approximate 13 acres, officially requests approval by Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery of the sale of the parcel owned by Triangle RPCNA. If approved, both Doug Comm and Charles Leverett will sign the contract.

May the Lord be glorified.

Douglas W. Comm Moderator
Charles T. Leverett Clerk

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery approve the sale of the Triangle R.P. Church property.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time for business be extended to 12:15 p.m.

Special Committee Report on the Meeting with Joel Finley

Pastor Charles Brown gave an initial report on his and Mr. Ritchhart's meeting with Joel Finley.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that there be a restricted distributed of Papers 2003-2, 2003-3, and 2003-4.

Adjournment

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery adjourn.

Pastors Barry York and Andrew McCracken led the Court in prayer and adjourned the Court at 12:16 p.m.

Session 2, Monday, June 30, 2003, at 4:16 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 4:16 p.m., on Monday, June 30, 2003, in Room 111, Northwood Hall, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA.

Constitution

The Moderator led in prayer and constituted the Court.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

The Moderator introduced Brad Johnston for his Expository Sermon examination.

Brad Johnston read Hebrews 6:11-18 and Psalm 138:1-6 and led in prayer. He preached God's Word from Psalm 138:1-5. He closed his message with prayer.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the Expository Sermon was unanimously sustained.

Report on Church History Paper

Pastor Ian Wise (on behalf of himself and Phil Pockras) reported on Brad Johnston's Church History Paper and recommended that it be sustained.

Voice Vote on Brad Johnston's Church History Paper

By a voice vote the examination was sustained.

Certification of Licensure to Preach

Pastor Rich Johnston asked Brad Johnston the Queries for Licensure to preach.

He answered all the queries positively without reservation.

He signed the Queries for the "Certification to Preach" in the Presbytery Minute Book.

The Assistant Clerk called the roll. Presbytery unanimously agreed to sustain the "Certification to Preach".

Dr. Rick Gamble led in the prayer of "Certification to Preach".

Pastor Barry York counseled Brad Johnston as to his duties and the limitations as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C, 2, i.

Robert Koch reported on the situation with Rick Sutton. Mr. Sutton has resigned from the eldership and membership at Westminster R.P. Church, Prairie View, IL.

Recess:

Presbytery took recess being led in prayer by Rev. Robert Morrow at 5:17 p.m.

Session 3, Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at 4:12 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 4:12 p.m. on Tuesday, July 1, 2003, in Room 111, Northwood Hall, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA.

Constitution

The Moderator read Psalm 122.

Rev. Tom Reid led in prayer and reconvened the Court.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Report of the Committee to Counsel Joel Finley

Pastor Charles Brown reported on the meeting with Joel and presented the report the Committee had prepared.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Recommendation 1 be laid on the table to entertain a substitute motion.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to recommit Papers 2003-2, 2003-3, and 2003-4 to the Sparta Session for a reply in writing to Joel Finley giving further counsel and that there be a report brought to the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendation 2 was approved.

Report of the Committee to Counsel Mr. Joel Finley (regarding Papers 2003-2, 2003-3, 2003-4)

At its Spring 2003 meeting, the presbytery charged this committee "to counsel Mr. Finley, seeking to encourage him to take the covenant of church membership as the church understands it, rather than as he believes it should be interpreted." The committee met with Mr. Finley on Saturday, 10 May 2003, at the manse of the Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church (Prairie View, IL). The meeting lasted approximately four hours.

The committee was encouraged by Mr. Finley's willingness to travel from St. Louis to Chicago for the meeting. It was hoped that Mr. Finley would be receptive to the committee's counsel. However, it became apparent during the meeting that this was not the case. Mr. Finley expressed that he has no desire to reconsider his opposition to the covenant of church membership. He stated that, by God's grace, he will *never* take the covenant of church membership, as it is currently formulated.

The majority of our time together was spent working through the COCM. Mr. Finley pointed out statements within the COCM to which he could not assent. In each of these cases, it was evident that Mr. Finley was misreading and/or misinterpreting the COCM. The committee sought to correct Mr. Finley's mistaken notions, and at one point in the meeting it appeared as though progress was being made. In the end, though, Mr. Finley maintained his objections to the COCM.

Most frustrating to the committee was Mr. Finley's attitude during the meeting. He entered the meeting with very little interest in listening to the committee. It seemed, instead, that his primary intent was to persuade the committee of his position. At times, some of his comments to the committee were rather condescending. Thus far, Mr. Finley seems to be

showing contempt for the courts of Christ's church. He is disregarding the counsel of the session and the presbytery, wanting only to hear from the synod.

Mr. Finley cried frequently during the meeting, making it even more difficult for the committee to reason with him. The committee noticed that Mr. Finley has a strong desire to be a "martyr" for his cause. It appears, in a strange way, that he would like for the church to "kick him out."

Furthermore, Mr. Finley has been discussing this issue with many pastors and elders, both within and without this presbytery. The various answers he has received seem to have exacerbated the problem and have caused much confusion for him. We counseled Mr. Finley, at length, regarding the importance of listening to the wisdom of his session at Sparta.

The committee did not discuss with Mr. Finley all of the issues raised in his papers. However, the committee did counsel Mr. Finley as directed by the presbytery. Mr. Finley was clearly encouraged to take the COCM. He was encouraged to heed the explanation given to him by both this committee and the Sparta session.

Another issue raised by Mr. Finley's situation, an issue which this presbytery may want to discuss, is whether a non-communicant member may submit papers to the church courts.

Recommendations:

1. That presbytery issue a written exhortation to Joel Finley to take the Covenant of Church Membership.
2. That the committee be dismissed.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Brown

James J. Ritchhart

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Rev. Keith Magill reported on the reply received from Rick Sutton, Licentiate under the care of Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to forward Rick Sutton's Licensure and an appropriate covering letter to the Northern Illinois Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of America.

The report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee as a whole was received.

Minutes

The whole of the Minutes of this meeting of Presbytery, June 28 to July 1, were read by the Clerk.


Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to approve the Minutes.

Pastor Rich Johnston introduced Pastor James Faris who was attending Presbytery for the first time as the newly ordained and installed associate pastor of the Second Indianapolis R.P. Church.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery adjourn. Elder Tom Forest led Presbytery in the prayer of adjournment.

Presbytery stood adjourned at 5:32 p.m.


Phil Pockras, Moderator


Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

**Minutes of the Special Meeting
of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
August 27, 2003**

Pastor William Roberts welcomed the congregation present and made some announcements.

1. Call to Order: The moderator, Phil Pockras, called the Presbytery to order at 7:09 p.m. on Wednesday, August 27, 2003, at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, Indiana, for the purpose of the ordination and installation of David Hanson.

2. Praise: Psalm 99C st. 1-4

3. Constitution of the Court: The Moderator led in prayer and constituted the court in prayer.

4. Roll Call: The clerk called the roll, which showed that a quorum was present and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center Bloomington	Philip Pockras x William Roberts x David Hanson x	Kenneth DeJong x Rich Holdeman x Robert Henning x Robert McCracken x
Columbus Elkhart Hetherton Lafayette Multiracial Oakdale Orlando Second Indianapolis	Andrew McCracken x David Long x Raymond Morton x Roy Blackwood x Richard Johnston x James Faris x Ralph Joseph e Ian Wise x	David Carr x Dean Filson x Jim Long x
Selma Southfield Southside		John Hanson x William Sheldrake x James Bishop x

Sparta Raymond Morton x
Sycamore Barry York x Robert McKissock x
Triangle
Westminster

Roger Adams -
Edwin Blackwood x
Paul Faris x
Richard Gamble x
Milton Harrington -
Raymond Joseph -
Garland Kincaid -
Keith Magill x
Marion McFarland -
James McMahan -
Tom Reid -
James Wright -

5. Organizational Motions:

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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

It was noted that all elders in good standing in the denomination be invited to participate in the laying on of hands.

6. Narrative of the Steps: Raymond Morton narrated the steps leading up to this service.

7. Reading of the Edict: For the last time, Raymond Morton, Clerk, read the Edict for the Ordination and Installation of David William Hanson. The edict had been read in the congregation the previous two Lord's Days. No objections have been received by the Presbytery to David Hanson's ordination and installation

8. Adherence to the Call: The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by rising, which they did.

9. Acceptance of the Call: The moderator asked David Hanson to indicate if he accepted the call of the Bloomington R.P. Congregation, which David did.

10. Queries for Ordination: Pastor Keith Magill asked David Hanson the Queries for Ordination, and David Hanson replied in the affirmative to all of them. David Hanson signed the Queries in Presbytery's Minute book.

11. Worship: The congregation sang Psalm 40C st. 5-8. Prof. Denny Prutow (of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh) read

Leviticus 18:1-5 and Luke 10:25-29, led in prayer, and preached God's Word on the subject of "Jesus Christ is Life", and concluded in prayer. Psalm 73C st. 9-11 was sung.

12. Ordination and Installation: Pastor David Long led the prayer of ordination and installation of David Hanson setting him apart to the gospel ministry while the members of Presbytery and other elders present laid their hands on David Hanson. Following prayer they extended the right hand of fellowship to him.

13. Charge to the New Pastor: Dr. Rick Gamble read verses from I Chron. 29:17-19 and other passages of scripture. He spoke of David as shepherd, king and provider. He challenged David Hanson to serve the Lord with a devoted and loyal heart in his ministry for the Lord.

14. Charge to the Congregation: Elder William Sheldrake (Southside R.P. Church) gave a charge to the Bloomington congregation to support their new associate pastor by seeing him, and appropriating him, as a gift from God.

15. Introductions: The new pastor and his family and the wider family circle were introduced to the congregation present.

16. Beginning of Employment

David Hanson began his work in the Bloomington congregation on July 15, 2003.

17. Minutes:

The minutes of this special meeting were read.

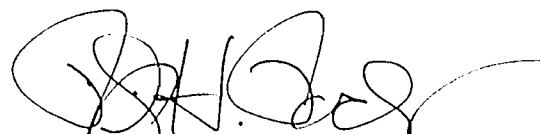
Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Minutes be approved as read.

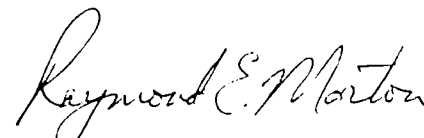
18. Adjournment: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn. The Presbytery was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

19. PRAISE: Psalm 133A st. 1-3 was sung.

20. The Moderator led in prayer and adjourned the Court, and the new Pastor, David Hanson, pronounced the Benediction.

The congregation sang Psalm 72C st. 11,12.


Phil Pockras, Moderator


Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Minutes of the Fall Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
November 6-8, 2003

Thursday, November 6, 2003, at 10:08 a.m.

Call to Order

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Philip Pockras at 10:08 a.m. on Thursday, November 6, 2003, at the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church in Elkhart, Indiana.

Devotions

The Moderator led in prayer and then read Psalm 36:1-12 and drew Presbyters attention to verse 9, "In Your light we shall see light."

Constitution

The Moderator constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll, which is as follows.

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xxxxxx	
Bloomington	William Roberts xxxxxx	Wendell McBurney ceexxx
	David Hanson xxxxxx	
Columbus		Jeff Jones ----x
Elkhart	Andrew McCracken xxxxxx	Robert McCracken xxxxxx
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long xxxxxx	Robert Bibby xxxxxx
		Jeff Kessler xxxxxx
Multiracial		Tom Reid xxxxxx
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxxxxx	
Orlando		
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xxxxxx	Dean Filson xxxxxx
	Richard Johnston xxxxxx	Ram Rao xxxxxx
	James Faris xxxxxx	
Selma	Ralph Joseph xxxxxx	
Southfield	Ian Wise xxxxxx	John Hughes xxxxxx
Southside		John Hanson ----xx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxxxxx	Robert Morrow xxxxxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxxxxx	Robert McKissick xxxxxx
Triangle	Doug Comin xxxxxx	Charlie Leverett xxxxxx
Westminster	Charles Brown -xxxxx	Jim Ritchhart -xxxxx
	Roger Adams -----	
	Ray Joseph xxxxxx	

Rick Gamble eeeee
 Keith Magill xxxxxx
 Marion McFarland eeeee
 James McMahon -----
 James Wright -----
 Edwin Blackwood eeeee
 Paul Faris -----
 Garland Kincaid -----
 Frank Schutz -----
 Robert Henning -----

The Assistant Clerk declared 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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

Introductions

Pastor Andrew McCracken introduced Pastor Peter Wallace from the Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church as a fraternal delegate to this meeting.
 Pastor William Roberts introduced Associate Pastor David Hanson as this is his first time at a Presbytery meeting in that capacity.
 Pastor Richard Johnston introduced Mr. Michael Weathers as a guest to the Presbytery; he is taking seminary level classes in Indianapolis.

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows.

**Report of the Clerk
 To the Meeting of Presbytery on November, 6-8, 2003**

The Clerk would respectfully report that he has done his best to carry out the assignments given to him as far as he knows. The Minutes of the April, 2003 Meeting to the Minutes of the August 27, 2003 meeting are available except that in the April meeting Minutes there is one report that I am awaiting so that it can be inserted. You can request a hard copy or an electronic copy by e-mail attachment. I have made a few copies and these are available. If more copies are needed they can be made.

In the April, 2003 Minutes there was a direction to me (and the Moderator) to distribute to the Sessions the decisions regarding Ordination Query 4 (Paper 2000-1). We express our sincere apologies that that directive was not carried out. Now the Clerk would like some direction as to what should be circulated to the Sessions in light of the decisions made by the Synod.

I have received several items of correspondence, some by e-mail, to which I have, mostly, replied by the same route; also some correspondence came by hard copy. I am introducing the items below.

Several congregational reports are coming before this meeting. If you need a congregational report let the Clerk know during the time of consideration of this report.

I have prepared the Proposed Agenda for this meeting which is printed and available separately from this report.

Communications:

1. A request for the Transfer of Andrew Schep's credentials to the St. Lawrence Presbytery.
2. The transmission of the Southside RP Church call on Pastor Kit Schwart to the St. Lawrence Presbytery for presentation to Pastor Schwartz.
3. A request for direction to the Columbus Visitation Committee.
4. A letter from the Audit Committee concerning keeping of financial records.

I thank you for the opportunity of serving as your Clerk and trust the Lord will bless us in this meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendations:

1. That the Parliamentarians for this meeting of Presbytery be Thomas Reid and Jon Hughes.
2. That the Proposed Agenda for this meeting be accepted as amended.
3. That Andrew Schep's credentials be transferred to the St. Lawrence Presbytery.
4. That the Call on Pastor Kit Schwartz be reviewed by a Committee of two, to be appointed by the Moderator, and this Committee report to Presbytery on Friday morning.
5. That there not be a regular visitation to the Columbus congregation while the pulpit is vacant.
6. That the Moderator appoint a committee, of not more than four, to consider the points mentioned by the Audit Committee and bring recommendations to the Presbytery at this or the Spring Meeting of Presbytery.
7. That the Clerk's Report be received.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the matter raised in paragraph 2 of the Clerk's Report be referred to the Judicial Committee.

Recommendations:

- Recommendation 1 was approved.
- Recommendation 2 was approved as amended.
- Recommendation 3 was approved. Phil Pockras, Tom Reid, and Ray Joseph recorded their dissent to this action.
- Recommendations 4 and 5 were approved as amended.
- Recommendation 6 was approved.
- Recommendation 7, the report as a whole, was received.

Call for Papers:

No other papers were presented.

Report of the Ad Interim Commission

The Report of the Ad Interim Commission was presented by Pastor Barry York.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report of the Ad Interim Commission be approved.

Report of the Assistant Treasurer on Presbytery's Finances

The report on Presbytery's finances was given by Pastor William Roberts.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Presbytery pay to the Brethren Retreat Center \$250.00 for their provision of accommodations to a number of the men of the Presbytery.

Pastor James Paris was appointed Travel Agent by common consent.

Presbytery expressed its thanks to Mr. Laurence Curry for his diligent work as Presbytery's Treasurer by a rising vote.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Finance Committee at the Spring Meeting of Presbytery consider paying an honorarium to Mr. Curry.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Assistant Treasurer's Report be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee. He introduced Brad Johnston for his examination in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts. The examination was conducted by Pastor David Long.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time be extended until the questions from the floor be answered.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination of Brad Johnston in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts was unanimously sustained.

Keith Magill continued to present the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee and referred to various points in the written report.

The recommendation are:

Recommendation 1, that student examinations be conducted according to the schedule presented by the Committee.

Recommendation 2, that Presbytery's voting on the written examinations of students be done orally.

Recommendation 3, that Pastor David Long be heard for up to 15 minutes on his recent trip to Yemen to visit licentiate Scott McCullough.

Recommendation 4, that Ben Larson be taken under care of Presbytery as a student of theology.

Recommendation 5, that, effective January 1, 2004, student aid grants be increased from \$200 to \$300 per month. The amount of \$300 per month shall be for 12 months a year, as long as the man remains a full time student at RPTS or another Presbytery approved academic institution. The following students are now receiving aid:

- a. Rich Holdeman
- b. Bradley Johnston
- c. Michael LeFabvre
- d. Jared Olivetti

Recommendations 1 and 2 were approved.

Recommendations 3 was approved, with David Long being scheduled for Thursday afternoon after the Report on Brad Johnston's Exegesis Paper.

Recess

Following announcements the Moderator led in prayer and recessed the Presbytery at 12:31 p.m.

Session 2, Thursday, November 6, 2003 at 2:02 p.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 2:02 p.m. and was led in prayer by Robert Bibby.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Bradley Johnston for his Expository Sermon on an Assigned Topic.

Bradley Johnston announced Psalm 45A st. 1-5, which was sung in praise.

He read Isaiah 10:32-11:11, led in prayer, preached God's Word on the topic of "The Branch of Jessie and the Rising Tide", and concluded his message with prayer. He announced Psalm 98B stanzas 1-3,7, which Presbytery sang in praise to God.

Roll

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually in this and all succeeding sessions of this meeting.

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday morning Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Committee Appointments

The Moderator announced the following committee appointments.

Judicial Committee

Ian Wise
Robert Bibby
Jim Ritchhart

Committee on the Call from Southside RPC

Robert McKissock
Charles Brown

Audit Committee

David Hanson
Ram Rao
Jon Hughes

Resolution of Thanks Committee

Ray Joseph
Barry York

Roll Call Vote on Bradley Johnston's Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and Brad Johnston's Sermon on an Assigned Topic was unanimously sustained.

Report on Brad Johnston's Exegesis Paper

The Exegesis Paper was reviewed by Pastor Charles Brown and Dr. Rick Gamble. Pastor Charles Brown presented their report on the review.

Voice Vote on the Exegesis Paper

On the vote, the examination was sustained.

After reporting as above, Mr. Brown announced that he is to be married in January 2004 to Miriam Shofstahl.

Report by David Long on his trip to the Middle East

In keeping with Recommendation 3 of the Candidates and Credentials Report, Pastor David Long reported on his recent trip to the Middle East and his visit with Scott and Anna McCullough and their family. (Pastor Harry Metzger accompanied him on this trip.) Pastor Long asked for prayer for the McCulloughs and for the Foreign Mission Board as it decides about mission work in the Middle East on November 14 and 15.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 3:30 to 3:46 p.m.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti for his examination in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts.

The examination was conducted by Pastor Richard Johnston. Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination of Jared Olivetti was sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Keith Magill continued to present the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee, taking up Recommendation 5.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Recommendation 5 be referred to the Finance Committee meeting at the Spring Meeting of Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery increase the grant to the students under care from \$200.00 to \$300.00 per month for the months of January to April 2004.

Motion: It was moved, and seconded, that the License to Preach of Licentiate Greg Cumbee by the Presbytery of the Alleghenies be received by the Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time be extended for up to 10 minutes to finish the discussion of this question.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery move the previous question.

Result: On the vote the motion passed.

Recess:

Following announcements, Presbytery was recessed in prayer by Dr. Ram Rao at 5:41 p.m.

Session 3, Thursday, November 6, 2003 at 7:04 p.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 7:04 p.m., being led in prayer by Rev. Robert Morrow.

Roll Call

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Minutes

The Minutes of the afternoon session were read and approved.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Bradley Johnston for his examination in Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles II. The examination was conducted by Pastor Barry York.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll, and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti for his examination in Church History. The examination was conducted by Pastor Phil Pockras. The former Moderator took the Chair.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll, and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Congregational Reports

Bloomington, the Bloomington Congregational Report was given by Pastor William Roberts.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Elkhart, the Elkhart Congregational Report was given by Pastor Andrew McCracken.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Oakdale, the Oakdale Congregational Report was given by Pastor Raymond Morton.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Southfield, the Southfield Congregational Report was given by Elder Jon Hughes.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer. Rev. Robert McCracken prayed for the Bloomington Congregation, Rev. Keith Magill for the Elkhart Congregation, Pastor Ralph Joseph for the Oakdale Congregation, and Rev. Raymond Joseph for the Southfield Congregation.

Adjournment

The Moderator brought the prayer time to a close by adjourning the Court in prayer at 9:10 p.m.

Presbytery sang Psalm 122A st. 1-3 as the closing praise.

Session 4, Friday, November 7, 2003 at 8:32 a.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 8:32 a.m.

Psalm 97A was sung in praise and Pastor Rich Johnston led in prayer constituting the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti who will present his Expository Sermon on an assigned topic.

Jared Olivetti read Revelation 5:1-14 and preached God's Word on verses 6-14, on the subject of "The Supremacy of Christ."

He concluded his message with prayer and announced Psalm 18A st. 1-4, which was sung.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday evening Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Minutes be approved as read.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination of Jared Olivetti for his Expository Sermon on an assigned topic was unanimously sustained.

Certification to Receive a Call

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti as having met the requirements for being licensed to receive a call.

Elder Robert Bibby read the queries for licensure to receive a call.

Jared Olivetti answered all the queries in the affirmative and indicated the following exception by stating that he believes that to ordain women to the office of deacon is unbiblical. He agreed to uphold the law and order of the church.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the Presbytery sustained his answers to the Queries for Licensure to Receive a Call.

Jared Olivetti signed in the Minute Book the Queries for Licensure to receive a call.

Elder Jeff Kessler, after reading a few verses from Nehemiah 8, led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Receive a Call.

Pastor David Long gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C, 2, i.

Candidates and Credentials Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Bradley Johnston for his examination in Church History. The examination was conducted by Rev. Tom Reid.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll, and the examination was sustained.

Certification to Receive a Call

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Bradley Johnston as having met the requirements for being licensed to receive a call.

Pastor James Faris read the queries for licensure to receive a call.

Bradley Johnston answered all the queries in the affirmative and indicated the following exception that he believes that to ordain women to the office of deacon is unbiblical. He agreed to practice the law and order of the church.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the Presbytery unanimously sustained his answers to the Queries for Licensure to Receive a Call.

Bradley Johnston signed the Queries for Licensure to receive a call.

Pastor Rich Johnston led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Receive a call.

Pastor Barry York gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C, 2, i.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 10:36 to 10:53 a.m.

Sparta Session Report re. Joel Finley

Pastor Raymond Morton gave an oral report as an interim report on the situation as it currently stands. He said that the Session would be reporting to the Spring meeting of Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received as a progress report.

Congregational Reports

Triangle: the Triangle Congregational Report was given by Elder Charles Leverett.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Report of the Triangle Visitation Committee

Rev. Keith Magill gave the report. Other members of the Committee also spoke.

Pastor Doug Comin spoke concerning his resignation from the Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery receive his resignation and release Pastor Doug Comin from his pastoral relationship with the Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church effective December 14, 2003.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the pulpit be declared vacant on December 21, 2003.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report of the Triangle Visitation Committee be laid on the table until the Committee can bring in further recommendations.

Pastor Barry York led Presbytery in prayer for the Comins and the Triangle Congregation and dissolved the pastoral tie in prayer.

Prayer Time

Rev. Robert Morrow led in prayer concerning the Sparta situation about Joel Finley and Elder Jeff Kessler recessed Presbytery in prayer.

Recess

Presbytery recessed at 12:30 p.m.

Session 5, Friday, November 7, 2003 at 2:01 p.m.**Call to Order**

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 2:01 p.m.

Psalm 80B st. 1-5 was sung in praise and Pastor James Faris led in prayer reconvening the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rutledge Etheridge who will present his Expository Sermon.

Rutledge Etheridge read John 12:1-8 and preached God's Word on "Worship Approved by Christ".

He concluded his message with prayer and announced Psalm 5A st. 1-5, which was sung.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday evening Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination of Rutledge Etheridge for his Expository Sermon was sustained.

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rutledge Etheridge's written Church History paper. The paper was reviewed by Dr. Roy Blackwood and Dr. Rick Gamble. Both of the reviewers recommended acceptance of the paper.

Voice Vote

On the vote, Presbytery sustained the Church History paper.

Certification to Preach

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rutledge Etheridge as having met the requirements for being licensed to preach.

Pastor Rich Johnston read the queries for licensure to preach.
Rutledge Etheridge answered all the queries in the affirmative with no exceptions.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll, and the Presbytery unanimously sustained his answers to the Queries for Licensure to Preach.
Rutledge Etheridge signed the Queries for Licensure to preach.

Dr. Roy Blackwood led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Preach.
Pastor Keith Magill gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure. He used verses from I Timothy 4 and The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C. 2, i.

Committee of Church Extension and Training

Pastor David Long gave the Report of the Church Extension and Training Committee.
Rev. Keith Magill, the Coordinator of Church Extension and Training, addressed the Court concerning his work

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 3:31 to 3:49 p.m.

Following recess, Rev. Keith Magill continued his report. He also provided the Presbytery with a financial report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report of the Triangle Visitation Committee be lifted from the table.

Rev. Keith Magill continued to present the Report of the Triangle Visitation Committee. Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 were approved.

Recommendations:

1. That Presbytery appoint the current Triangle Visitation Committee as a Commission to assist the Triangle Session in shepherding the congregation through its transition until a new pastor is installed.
2. That the Chairman of the Visitation Committee be appointed the Moderator of the Commission.
3. That the Commission be given responsibility for appointing the Moderator of the Triangle Session.

The granting of privileges, i.e., filling the pulpit, administration of the sacraments, and calling a pastor, was given to the new Commission, to work out with the Triangle Session and congregation.

Pastor Barry York presented to Pastor Doug Comin a letter, signed by all the members present at this Presbytery meeting, expressing the love, support, and prayers of the Presbytery for Doug and his family. The letter is as follows:


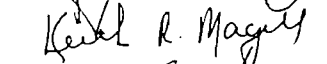
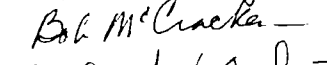
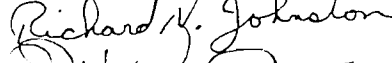
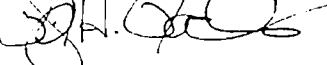
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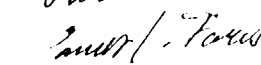



Our dear brother Doug,

On this sad occasion of receiving your resignation from the pastorate of the Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church, we desire to express our thankfulness to God for your faithful shepherding of this congregation during its planting and establishment, our gratefulness for the bonds of fellowship we enjoy with you, and our deep admiration for your loving decision to put the care of your family at the forefront of your ministry.

Please know that you and Amy and your children have our love, support, and prayers as you enter into this new stage of your life and ministry. Though these events have brought to you and others many tears, we join with you in remembering the hope of the gospel, "He who goes to and fro weeping, carrying his bag of seed, shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:6).

In the love of our Lord,


 Richard V. Johnston

 Keith R. Magill

 Bob McCracken

 Pastor Barry York

 Pastor Doug Comin


 Robert W. Watson

 Ram Rao

 Dean Filson

 Roy Blackwood

 Barry York

Raymond E. Morton
 Steve [unclear]
 Dave Long
 Tom [unclear]
 David Hanson
 Jan & wife
 Jon Hughes
 Jon Reid
 Chab Brown

William H. Roberts
 [unclear]
 [unclear]
 [unclear]
 [unclear]
 Charles T. [unclear]

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report of the Triangle Visitation Committee as a whole be received.

Congregational Reports

Southside The Southside (Indianapolis) Congregational Report was give by Elder John Hanson.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Report of the Committee concerning the Call on Pastor Kit Schwartz

The Report was given by Robert McKissock. The Call of the Southside Congregation on pastor Kit Schwartz is in order as a regular gospel call.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report be received.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Call on Pastor Kit Schwartz be sustained as a regular gospel call and forwarded to the St. Lawrence Presbytery for presentation.

Report of the Committee to Review Financial Audit Suggestions

The Report of this Committee was given by Pastor David Hanson. Recommendations 1 to 4 were approved.

The Report and its recommendations are as follows:

Committee to Review Financial Audit Suggestions
 Great Lakes — Gulf Presbytery
 November 6-8, 2003

We were asked to review and make recommendations to the Presbytery regarding recent suggestions received from the committee that recently audited the financial records of the Great Lakes — Gulf Presbytery. The suggestions were:

1. To have a written policy and schedule for assistance to seminary students (a list of who is to be paid, how much and for how long).
2. To have a written policy for giving support to Home Mission churches (which congregations, how much they are to receive, how often and for how long).
3. To require receipts for all reimbursements (even though the IRS doesn't require one for expenses less than \$25).
4. That travel forms should state odometer readings not just miles traveled.

We felt it necessary to carefully consider both the need to have financial accountability and to also not become a burden to pastors, elders and others.

Since receipts are not required by the IRS for expenses under \$25 we see no need to burden pastors with retaining receipts for small customary expenses. We certainly feel that anyone incurring unusual expenses of any amount (primarily other than meals while traveling) should retain copies of receipts and submit those receipts to the Presbytery Treasurer.

In order for mileage expenses to be deductible expenses on income tax forms they must be accounted for by the person claiming the deduction. These are not required by the Presbytery or its Treasurer. If a person being reimbursed for these expenses (especially large amounts) is audited and has no substantiating records (dates and odometer readings) then they may not be deductible and the person would be liable for any tax consequences.

We recommend the following:

1. The Candidates and Credentials Committee be asked to include in their yearly report both the name and amounts authorized by Presbytery to be paid to each student as well as the starting and ending dates.
2. That the Finance Committee (which is appointed during each Spring meeting of Presbytery) be asked to include in their report both the names and amounts authorized by Presbytery to be paid to each Home Mission Church as well as the starting and ending dates.
3. That suggestion 3 be rejected.
4. That suggestion 4 be rejected.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hanson, Chairman
 Jon Hughes
 Ram Rao

Report of the Presbytery's Representative on Geneva College Board of Corporators

Pastor Ralph Joseph reported on the College, especially noting that a new President has been appointed to succeed current President Jack White. The new President is Ken A. Smith.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Report of the Judicial Committee

Pastor Ian Wise presented the Report of the Judicial Committee.

The Report and its recommendation are as follows:

**Report of the Judicial Committee
To Great Lakes — Gulf Presbytery
Fall Meeting 2003**

Your committee has been called upon to determine whether the decisions of Synod 2003 (Communication 03-4) in regard to the recommendations of Great Lakes — Gulf Presbytery's Paper 2000-1, annuls the action that our presbytery took at our Spring 2003 meeting, regarding the fulfilling of those directives within our own presbytery.

In looking to the *Directory Church Government* for guidance, the only paragraph that came close to helping us was the following:

The presbytery is subordinate to the Synod, is bound by its action, and is under obligation to carry out its decrees. It is the right and privilege of the presbytery to petition Synod. (6.15)

But in discussing the matter, it was opinion that Synod's action was not a 'decree', but merely a refusal to enact across the entire Synod what we had recommended.

Thus, we do not believe that Synod's actions forbid the carrying out of this presbytery's decisions within its own jurisdiction.

Our recommendation, then, is this:

1.) That the decisions of Great Lakes — Gulf Presbytery, as found in its Committee to Review Paper 2000-1, continue to be carried out in the way previously specified.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bibby
Jim Ritchhart
Ian Wise, chmn.

The recommendation of the report was approved
Raymond Morton recorded his dissent because of the differences and confusion between the Presbytery and the Synod.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Permission was granted to William Roberts to report to the Spring meeting of Presbytery his two exceptions to the system of doctrine and the manner of worship.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that all teaching elders report any undocumented exceptions to that specified in Vow 4 to the Clerk of Presbytery by the Spring 2004 meeting of Presbytery.

The Clerk is to remind presbyters of this action in March, before the Spring meeting.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to extend the time to 5:50 p.m.

Covfamikoi Conference Report

Pastor Rich Johnston reported on the Covfamikoi Conference in the summer of 2003.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Youth Leadership Report

Pastor Rich Johnston gave a verbal report about the youth program of the Presbytery concerning past and future activities.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Church Extension Committee Report
Southern Church Extension Committee

Pastor Doug Comin, Chairman, gave a progress report of the activities and contacts of the Committee. Because of his having resigned the pastorate and moving to the area of another Presbytery, he said that Presbytery needed to appoint a new chairman.

By common consent the appointment of a new chairman was referred to the Ad Interim Commission.

Recess

Presbytery took recess at 5:53 p.m.

Session 6, Friday, November 7, 2003 at 7:03 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 7:03 p.m.
Psalm 5B st. 1-5 was sung in praise and Elder Jon Hughes led in prayer reconvening the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Dean Filson who will present his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Dean Filson read Psalm 5:1-12 and preached on this Psalm.
He concluded his message with prayer and announced Psalm 101 st. 1-4, which was sung.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Friday afternoon Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Presbytery appoint Pastor Ralph Joseph as the Chairman of the Southern Church Extension Committee.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination of Dean Filson for his Evidence of Progress Sermon was sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill called on Pastor David Long to introduce Ben Larson as a candidate to be taken under the care of Presbytery as a student of theology.

Pastor David Long introduced Ben Larson to the Court, giving some information of Ben's relationship with the Lafayette congregation and Session. Ben Larson is presented to the Presbytery with the endorsement of the Lafayette Session.

Ben Larson spoke to the Court about his testimony and his spiritual journey thus far.

Recommendation:

The recommendation of the Candidates and Credentials Committee to take Ben Larson under the care of Presbytery as a student of theology was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee as a whole be received.

Congregational Reports

Columbus The Columbus Congregational Report was given by Elder Jeff Jones.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the report be received.

Resolution of Thanks Committee Report

The Resolution of Thanks was presented by Rev. Raymond Joseph and is as follows:

We, the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, as our meetings held at the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church testify that He indeed does bless His people with every spiritual blessing from the heavenly places in Christ.

We thank the Lord for the hospitality shown by the saints at Elkhart to the Presbytery. Through their "Fresh Lunch Thursday" ministry, they have demonstrated true hospitality by showing love to strangers through offering both good food and the good news to the workers in factories around their facility. We commend them for their outreach, and testify they have shown that same love to us by providing to us a warm welcome seen through their excellent meals, open homes, comfortable accommodations, ready service and cheerful faces. We praise the Lord for the growth of the congregation, and the leadership provided to the Elkhart congregation through

Pastor Andy McCracken and elders Bob McCracken, Fikre Menbere, Joe Moore, and Don Spencer. The Presbytery also offers thanksgiving to God for the fine meeting facility He has provided to the congregation. May He fill this church and its facility to overflowing.

The Presbytery also wants to thank You, O Lord, for Your evident blessings on our meetings. The resurrected and ascended Lord has indeed given gifts to His church, seen in the young and knowledgeable men now licensed to preach in our Presbytery (Greg Cumbee and Rutledge Etheridge), the ones now eligible to receive a call (Brad Johnston and Jared Olivetti), and the others progressing in their preparation for service in the church. We hear reports of You using us to take the gospel near and far, even into the nation of Yemen, and we bow before You in awe. You have blessed us with the peace and hope of the Spirit of grace even as we struggled with such things as accepting the resignation of a talented pastor, debating sensitive issues, and facing the fact that several of our congregations are without pastoral leadership. You gave our clerks and moderators wisdom to lead the meetings in an orderly and timely fashion. Many and varied are Your blessings.

Our God and Father, indeed the psalmist says truly, "Many O LORD my God, are the wonders which You have done, and Your thoughts toward us; there is none to compare with You. If I would declare and speak of them, they would be too numerous to count" (Psalm 40:5).

(Signed)
Barry York
Ray Joseph (Chairman)

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adopt the report and that a copy be given to the Elkhart Session for sharing with the Elkhart congregation.

Minutes

The Minutes of this Session of the meeting were read.

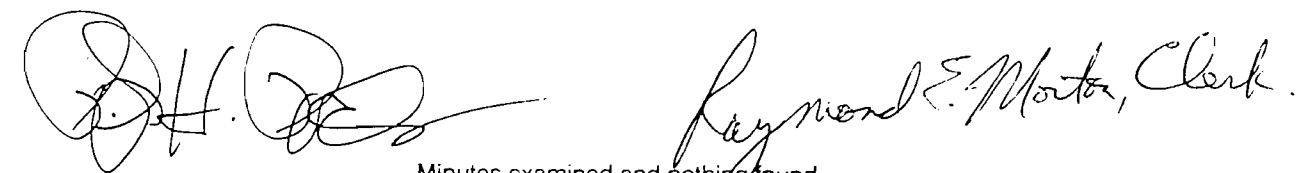
Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, to approve the Minutes as read.

Adjournment

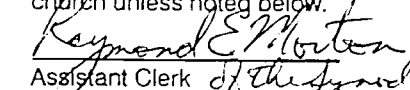
Dr. Roy Blackwood led in prayer for the Southside and Columbus congregations and adjourned the Presbytery with prayer.

The Moderator led Presbytery in closing worship. Presbytery sang Psalm 128A st. 1-4. The Moderator read Proverbs 18:22 and commented briefly on it. Presbytery sang Psalm 133A st. 1-3.

Presbytery adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



Minutes examined and nothing found contrary to the law and order of the church unless noted below.


Raymond E. Morton
Assistant Clerk of the Synod

June 23, 2004

**Minutes of the Special Meeting
of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
January 30, 2004**

Call to Order: The moderator, Phil Pockras, called the Presbytery to order at 2:04 p.m. on Friday, January 20, 2003, at the Second Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, for the purpose of ordination exams for David Smith.

Constitution of the Court: The Moderator constituted the court in prayer.

Roll Call: The clerk called the roll, which showed that a quorum was present and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras x	
Bloomington	William Roberts x David Hanson e	Wendell McBurney x
Columbus		Robert Henning e
Elkhart	Andrw McCracken e	
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long x	David Carr x
Multiracial		
Oakdale	Raymond Morton x	
Orlando		Tom Forest x Jay Worsham x
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood x Richard Johnston x James Faris x	Dean Filson x Ram Rao x
Selma	Ralph Joseph e	
Southfield	Ian Wise e	
Southside		Jerry Porter x Steve Sturm x
Sparta	Raymond Morton x	Robert Morrow x
Sycamore	Barry York x	
Triangle		
Westminster		
Roger Adams		
Edwin Blackwood x		
Paul Faris		
Rick Gamble x		
Milton Harrington		
Ray Joseph		
Garland Kincaid		
Keith Magill x		
Marion McFarland		

James McMahon
Tom Reid
James Wright x

Agenda:

The agenda as presented by the Clerk was amended and approved.

Candidates and Credentials Committee – Ordination Sermon

David Smith preached God’s Word from Mark 5:21-34 on the topic, “The Woman with the Issue of Blood”, and concluded by leading in prayer. Presbytery sang Psalm 130A.

Organizational Motions:

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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

Roll Call Vote:

The clerk called the roll. The Ordination Sermon of David Smith was unanimously sustained.

Examination in Personal Godliness

Pastor James Faris conducted the examination of David Smith in Personal Godliness. Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time for questions be extended by up to 15 minutes.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time for questions be ended.

Roll Call Vote:

The clerk called the roll. The Examination in Personal Godliness of David Smith was unanimously sustained.

Examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony

Pastor William Roberts examined David Smith in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the examiner be given a further 5 minutes to examine Mr. Smith.

Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the time for questions be extended by up to 15 minutes.

Roll Call Vote: The clerk called the roll. The Examination was sustained.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Ordination and Installation of David Smith to the, Orlando congregation be held during the Spring Meeting of Presbytery as arranged by the Clerk and the

Orlando Session.

Travel Agent

Elder David Carr was appointed Travel Agent for this meeting of Presbytery.

Call on Jared Olivetti by the Lafayette Congregation

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, by more than two-thirds vote that this item of business be taken up by the Presbytery.

Pastor David Long spoke concerning the Call on Jared Olivetti.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the Presbytery sustain this Call as a regular gospel call and present it to Jared Olivetti for his consideration and response.

Resolution of Thanks

The Presbytery expresses its thanks to the Second Indianapolis Reformed Presbyterian Church for their hosting of this meeting of Presbytery. We appreciate their making their facility available to us. May the Lord continue to bless and prosper the Session and the congregation here.

Adjournment

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery adjourn.

Pastor Rich Johnston adjourned Presbytery in prayer at 4:33 p.m.

Phil Poekras, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes of the Annual Spring Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
March 31 to April 2, 2004
held at the Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church

Session 1, Wednesday, March 31, 2004, at 6:35 p.m.

Constitution of the Court

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Phil Poekras, at 6:35 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31, 2004, at the Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church in Orlando, Florida.

The Moderator led the Court in devotions.

Devotions

The Presbytery sang Psalm 116A st. 1-3. The Moderator read Romans 11:30-12:21 and preached from Romans 11:36-12:1, 2. He concluded his message with prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Presbytery sang Psalm 116B st. 4-7.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll, which is as follows for all Sessions of this meeting:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Poekras xxxxx	
Bloomington	William Roberts xxxxx	Wendell McBurney xxxxx
	David Hanson xxxxx	
Columbus		
Elkhart	Andrew McCracken xxxxx	
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long xxxxx	Robert Bibby xxxxx
Multiracial		Tom Reid xxxxx
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxxxx	
Orlando	David Smith ----x	Tom Forest exxxx
		Jay Worsham xxxxx
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xxxxx	Terry Magnuson xxxxx
	Richard Johnston xxxxx	Donald Cassell xxxxx
	James Faris xxxxx	
Selma	Ralph Joseph xxxxx	
Southfield	Ian Wise xxxxx	Jon Hughes xxxxx
Southside		Steve Sturm xxxxx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxxxx	Robert Morrow xxxxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxxxx	Robert McKissick xxxxx
Triangle		Charles Leverett xxxxx
Westminster	Charles Brown -----	

Ministers Under Appointment by the Presbytery

Rick Gamble xxxxx

Keith Magill xxxxx

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams -----

Edwin Blackwood xxxxx

Frank Schutz xxxxx

James Wright xxxxx

Ministers Retired

Milton Harrington -----

Robert Henning -----

Ray Joseph xxxxx

Robert McCracken eeeee

Marion McFarland eeeee

James McMahan xxxxx

Paul Faris -----

Garland Kincaid -----

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Introductions

Rev. Raymond Joseph introduced Mr. Robert and Mrs. Susanne Jones who are visiting this meeting of Presbytery.

Memorials

Mrs. Sandy Joseph and Elder Mel Rutherford were remembered for their services to the Lord and their memorials will appear in the Appendix to these Minutes.

Rev. Raymond Joseph was appointed to write the memorial for Mrs. Sandy Joseph.

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows.

Report of the Clerk of Presbytery

The clerk respectfully reports that he has carried out the assignments given to him, as far as he knows, and thanks the assistant clerk, Ralph Joseph, for his help in various ways, e.g., preparing the roll for this meeting, writing a draft report of Presbytery to Synod, and compiling the statistical report for the stated clerk of Synod, etc.

During the past year, I have responded to a number of communications and have tried to respond appropriately to each one. The Minutes of the Presbytery meetings in 2003 were circulated by e-mail to members of Presbytery, especially to all those who had requested them. The Minutes of the November, 2003, and January, 2004, have also been sent out by e-mail but I will have copies available at this meeting if anyone should desire a hard copy. All corrections or changes to the minutes should be communicated to me as soon as possible.

I have prepared a proposed agenda for this meeting, which is printed and available separately from this report. The agenda follows the proposed order of business as worked out by the Business of Presbytery Committee. As usual there are slots for the Candidates and Credentials Committee to fill with student exams, etc., and mostly I leave to their discretion the order in which they wish to take up their items of business.

There are two items from the November, 2003, meeting referred to the Finance Committee of the Spring meeting. I am including a reference to them here so that they will not be missed. One concerns Presbytery giving an honorarium to Mr. Laurence Curry, Presbytery's Treasurer, and the other concerns the recommendation of the Candidates and Credentials Committee concerning student of theology grants.

A verbal communication from the Chairman of the Business of Synod Committee asked that a coordinator be appointed by the Presbytery who will make the arrangements for the Synod Sabbath worship times and be able to announce these to the Synod

At the end of the January, 2004, meeting, the Minutes of that meeting were not read and approved. There is an item in the recommendations to approve these Minutes.

I have enjoyed serving as Clerk of Presbytery and I hope that I can fulfill the duties involved. I pray the Lord will bless us in this meeting and that we may do all to the glory of the King and Head of the church.

Recommendations:

1. That the parliamentarians for this meeting be Rev. Tom Reid and Elder Jon Hughes.
2. That the Nominating Committee determine the congregations to be visited this year.
3. That the Minutes of the January, 2004 meeting be approved.
4. That the proposed agenda for this meeting be accepted.
5. That the Presbytery appoint a Synod Sabbath Coordinator.

Sincerely in Christ's service,
Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Recommendations:

Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 5 were approved.
Recommendation 4 was approved as amended.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the exceptions to the Constitution that have been filed with the Clerk be referred to the Judicial Committee.

Travel Agent

Pastor David Hanson was appointed as the Travel Agent.

The report of the Clerk as a whole was received.

Election of Officers of the Court

Moderator: Pastor Ian Wise was nominated.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that nominations be closed.

Pastor Ian Wise was elected as Moderator.

The new Moderator was welcomed to the Chair by the out-going Moderator.

Clerks

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the present clerks, Raymond Morton, Clerk, and Ralph Joseph, Assistant Clerk, be re-elected.

Call for Session Minute Books

The Assistant Clerk asked that Session Minute Books be submitted for examination.

Call for Papers:

No papers were brought to this meeting of Presbytery.

Report of the Business of Presbytery Committee

The Report was presented by the Clerk of the Committee, Ralph Joseph and is as follows:

Report of the Business of Presbytery Committee
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Spring 2004

Your committee, composed of the 2003 officers of the court met once at the 2003 fall meeting of presbytery and twice via telephone conference calls. The following matters were discussed and subsequently proposed to the presbytery for approval.

1. A division of the business of the presbytery between the spring and fall meetings so that adequate time will be given to each report, especially those being made by the congregations without our bounds. It is understood adjustments may be made to the schedule at any time.

2. All congregational reports are to be available at the spring meeting even though approximately half of the congregations will not actually report until the fall. Those reporting at that time are encouraged to update their report as warranted.

3. At the direction of the Ad Interim Commission, it was decided to begin the spring meeting of presbytery on Wednesday evening and conclude Friday noon in order for the delegates to take advantage of the lowest air fares available.

Recommendations:

1. That the division of the business of presbytery as proposed by the committee be adopted.
2. That the proposal for the distribution of congregational reports as proposed by the committee be adopted.
3. That this committee be discharged and any future needs associated with the business of presbytery be entrusted to an ad hoc committee composed of the sitting moderator, clerk and assistant clerk.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Pockras
Ralph Joseph
Ray Morton, Chr.

Recommendations:

Recommendations 1, 2 and 3 were approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Finance Committee Report in the above report be moved to the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

The Report as a whole was received.

The division of business as approved is as follows:

Business Items (General List)

Constitution of the court
 Making up the roll
 Determination of quorum
 Election of officers
 Memorials for elders/wives
 Introduction of new members
 introduction of cons. mbrs.
 and guests
 Approval of previous minutes
 Clerk's report
 Call for papers/communications
 Call for session books
 Treasurer's report
 Ad Interim Commission report
 Candidates and Credentials
 Congregational reports
 Belle Center
 Bloomington
 Columbus
 Elkhart
 Hetherton
 Lafayette
 Multiracial
 Oakdale
 Orlando
 Second Indianapolis
 Selma
 Southfield
 Southside Indianapolis
 Sparta
 Sycamore
 Triangle
 Westminster
 Committee to oversee Hetherton
 Presbytery visitation committees
 Interchurch liaison
 Home Mission Board Rep.
 Geneva Corporators Rep.
 Church extension committees
 Southern
 Ohio-Indiana
 Michigan
 Southern Illinois
 Youth leadership
 Disability concerns
 Granting of privileges
 Finance committee
 Nominating committee
 Judicial committee
 Resolution of thanks committee
 Triangle oversight committee
 Hetherton oversight committee
 Ch. ext. and training committee

Spring Meeting Agenda

Constitution of the court
 Making up the roll
 Determination of quorum
 Election of officers
 Memorial for elders/wives
 Introduction of new members
 Introduction of Consultative
 members. and guests

 Clerk's report
 Call for papers/communications
 Call for session books
 Treasurer's report
 Ad Interim Commission report
 Candidates and Credentials
 comm. Congregational reports
 Belle Center
 Bloomington
 Columbus
 Elkhart
 Hetherton
 Lafayette
 Multiracial
 Oakdale
 Orlando
 Hetherton oversight committee
 Presbytery visitation committee
 Interchurch liaison
 Home Mission Board rep.
 Church extension committees
 Youth leadership
 Granting of privileges
 Finance committee
 Nominating committee
 Judicial committee
 Resolution of thanks committee
 Triangle oversight committee
 Church ext. and training

Fall Meeting Agenda

Constitution of the court Making
 up the roll Determination of
 Quorum

 Introduction of new members
 Introduction of Consultative
 mbrs. and guests

 Clerk's report
 Call for papers/communications

 Treasurer's report
 Ad Interim Commission report
 Candidates and Credentials
 committee Congregational
 reports
 Second Indianapolis
 Selma
 Southfield
 Southside Indianapolis
 Sparta
 Sycamore
 Triangle
 Westminster

 Disability concerns
 Presbytery visitation committee
 Geneva Corporators rep. (if
 needed)
 Home Mission Board rep. (if
 needed)
 Church extension committees (if
 needed)
 Youth leadership (if needed)
 Granting of privileges (if
 needed)
 Judicial committee (if needed)
 Resolution of thanks committee

Report of the Assistant Treasurer on Presbytery's Finances

The report on Presbytery's finances was given by Pastor William Roberts.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Ad Interim Commission

The Report of the Ad Interim Commission was presented by Pastor Barry York.
 The Report is as follows:

Ad Interim Commission Report

Dear Presbyters,

Since our Fall meeting of Presbytery when we last gave you a report, the Ad Interim Commission, which consists of the Sycamore Session and Elder Larry Bump, has met four additional times. Below is a summary of our actions.

January 4, 2004

- Sustained the Orlando RPC call on David Smith and forwarded it to the Midwest Presbytery.

January 11, 2004

- Arranged the meeting for the ordination exams for David Smith.

February 8, 2004

- At the request of the Presbytery Officers, set the travel fund limit for this meeting.

March 3, 2004

- At Doug Comin's request, transferred his ministerial credentials to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies.
- Sustained the Southside Indianapolis RPC call on Gordon Keddie and forwarded it to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies.
- Invited Stan Copeland to attend this meeting and participate in the travel fund.

The minutes of our activities of the past year have been given to the Clerk and we trust they are in good order. We note that one highlight of our service is that we approved and forwarded four pastoral calls this year.

In Christ's Service,

Larry Bump
 Barry York, Moderator

Tom Dinkledine

Greg Fisher, Clerk

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Ad Interim Commission be approved and Minutes of the Commission be spread on the Minutes of Presbytery.

Report of the Inter Church Liaison

The Inter Church Liaison, Pastor Phil Pockras, gave an oral report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill intimated that the written report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee would be ready on Thursday morning, Pastor Magill reviewed the examination schedule for this meeting of Presbytery.

Congregational Reports

The Belle Center Congregational Report was given by Pastor Phil Pockras.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Bloomington Congregational Report was given by Pastor David Hanson.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Columbus Congregational Report was introduced by the Assistant Clerk by a letter received by the Clerks.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the letter as a partial report of the Columbus Congregation and that the three requests of the Report be referred to the Nominating Committee and that the congregation bring a report to the Fall Meeting of Presbytery.

The Elkhart Congregational Report was given by Pastor Andrew McCracken,

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer. Jon Hughes prayed for the Belle Center congregation, Roy Blackwood for Bloomington, Bill Roberts for Columbus, Ray Joseph for Elkhart, and Ray Joseph also led in the prayer of adjournment.

Adjournment

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Presbytery adjourn.

Presbytery adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Session 2, Thursday, April 1, 2004 at 8:32 a.m.

Call to Order and Constitution

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 8:32 a.m. with the singing of Psalm 15 and being led in prayer by Rev. Tom Reid including the Constitution of the Court.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti who will preach his Sermon on an Assigned Portion of Scripture.

Jared Olivetti preached God's Word from Matthew 4:1-11 on "The Temptation of Jesus". He concluded his message with prayer. Presbytery sang Psalm 33A st. 1-4

Roll:

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually in this and all remaining sessions of this meeting. The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk

Minutes

The Clerk read the Minutes of the previous session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Appointment of Committees

The Moderator announced the appointment of Committees for this meeting of Presbytery and the Review Committees of Session Minute books. They are as follows:

- Committee Appointments: (first named is to be Chairman)
- Nominating Committee: David Long, Raymond Joseph, Edwin Blackwood, Steve Sturm, Robert McKissick
- Finance Committee: William Roberts, Terry Magnuson, Wendell McBurney, Tom Reid, Donald Cassell
- Time and Place Committee: Barry York, Charlie Leverett
- Resolution of Thanks Committee: Robert Morrow, James Faris
- Travel Agent: David Hanson
- Judicial Committee: James Wright, Robert Bibby, Andrew McCracken, Phil Pockras

Committees to inspect Session Records:

CONGREGATION	COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Belle Center	James McMahan, Raymond Joseph
Bloomington	
Columbus	Rick Gamble, David Hanson
Elkhart	Charles Leverett, James Faris
Hetherton	
LaFayette	Terry Magnuson, Wendell McBurney
Multiracial	Keith Magill, Robert McKissick
Oakdale	Robert Bibby, Andrew McCracken
Orlando	Phil Pockras, Frank Schutz
Second Indianapolis	Tom Reid, James McMahan
Selma	James Wright, Rich Johnston
Southfield	Roy Blackwood, Jay Worsham
Southside Indianapolis	James Faris, Terry Magnuson

Sparta David Hanson, Barry York
Sycamore Jon Hughes, Donald Cassell
Triangle Frank Schutz, Edwin Blackwood
Westminster

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the congregational Minute books of Bloomington, Hetherton, and Westminster, which are not present at this meeting, be brought and reviewed at the Synod Meeting of Presbytery.

Introductions

Rev. Raymond Joseph introduced Rev. and Mrs. Geoffrey Donan of Reformation Christian Ministries.

Roll Call Vote on Jared Olivetti's Sermon on an Assigned Portion of Scripture

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Rev. Keith Magill spoke concerning the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee. The recommendations are as follows:

1. That student examinations be conducted by Presbytery according to the chart in I.A above.
2. That student aid funds be granted or continued for the following students. The amount shall be \$300 per month for 12 months a year, as long as the man remains a full time student at RPTS or another Presbytery approved academic institution.
 - i. Bradley Johnston – through May 2004
 - ii. Jared Olivetti - through May 2004
 - iii. Michael Lefebvre - at least through March 2005
 - iv. Rich Holdeman - through May 2004
 - v. Rutledge Etheridge - beginning September 1, 2004
 - vi. Ben Larson - beginning September 1, 2004
3. That Presbytery grant 10 minutes to receive a report from Dr. Richard Gamble, our Scholar-in-Residence.
4. That Presbytery authorize and encourage Dr. Gamble to accept the appointment by Kobe Theological Hall in Kobe, Japan as Adjunct Professor.
5. That Presbytery extend Dr. Gamble's call as "Scholar-in-Residence" for another two years, to begin on September 1, 2004.
6. That the status of Paul Mathews be changed from "inactive" to "retired".
7. That the status of each of the other "Ordained Ministers Not in the Pastorate" be approved as given in the body of the report.
8. That Richard Gamble, Jon Hughes and Keith Magill be reelected to the Committee for the Class of 2007.

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Rev. Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee who has asked to be taken under care as a student for the ministry. Rev. Tom Reid conducted the interview. Members of Presbytery also asked questions and received answers.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Greg Cumbee be taken under care as a student for the ministry.

Recess and Reconvening

Presbytery took recess at 10:28 a.m. and reconvened at 10:47 a.m. with the singing of Psalm 47A.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jared Olivetti for his examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the Reformed Presbyterian Testimony. The examination was conducted by Pastor Barry York.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Congregational Reports

Hetherton: A written report was presented to Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Lafayette: The report of the Lafayette congregation was given by Elder Robert Bibby.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette Visitation Committee

Rev. Edwin Blackwood reported verbally on behalf of the Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the verbal report in lieu of a written report be received as fulfillment of Presbytery's recommendation and that the Committee be dismissed.

Multiracial: The report of the Multiracial congregation was given by Rev. Stan Copeland, Stated Supply of the congregation.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The appointment of Rev. Godfrey Franklin as an elder of the congregation and of Rev. Stan Copeland as the Interim Pastor was referred to the Nominating Committee.

Oakdale: The report of the Oakdale congregation was deferred until the written report has been distributed.

Orlando: The report of the Orlando congregation was given by Elder Tom Forest.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Orlando Session report to the Synod meeting of Presbytery their response to the Orlando Visitation Committee's recommendations.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended for a time of prayer before recess.

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer: Keith Magill prayed for the Hetherton congregation, John Tweed for the Lafayette congregation, James Wright for the Multiracial congregation, Charles Leverett for the Orlando congregation, and Robert Morrow led the memorial prayer and recessed the Court.

Recess: Presbytery took recess at 12:47 p.m.

Session 3, Thursday, April 1, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Moderator called Presbytery to order at 2:00 p.m.

Presbytery sang Psalm 108A st. 1-5.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the morning session were read by the Clerk. It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

The Moderator called forward Greg Cumbee for his Church History examination. Mr. Cumbee was examined by Pastor Roy Blackwood.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that Pastor Blackwood be given a further 10 minutes to continue with his questions.

Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill continued to present the Candidates and Credentials Committee Report.

Recommendation 3 was approved.

In keeping with this recommendation, Dr. Gamble addressed the Court and gave his report as Presbytery's Scholar-in-Residence. The report was received.

Recommendation 4 was approved.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 3:32 to 3:54 p.m.

Rev. Jeff Donan was invited to address the Court. He spoke of his membership with Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church and of his work with Reformation Ministries.

The Travel Agent, Pastor David Hanson, gave some information about travel reimbursement.

Elder Jon Hughes presented an arrangement of flowers to the Moderator from the Southfield congregation.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

The Moderator called forward Jared Olivetti for his Personal Godliness examination. Mr. Olivetti was examined by Rev. James Wright.

Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Rev. Keith Magill continued to present Recommendation 5.

Recommendation 5 was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that Recommendation 6 be recommitted to the Committee for re-consideration and that it be brought to the Synod meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendation 7 was approved.

Recommendation 8 was referred to the Nominating Committee.

Recommendation 2 was referred to the Finance Committee.

Congregational Report

The Sparta Congregational Report was given by Elder Robert Morrow.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the time be extended to complete this report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that a visitation to the Sparta Congregation be a priority and that this be referred to the Nominating Committee.

Prayer Time

Pastor Rich Johnston led Presbytery in prayer for the Sparta congregation and recessed Presbytery.

Recess

Presbytery was recessed at 5:23 p.m.

Session 4, Thursday, April 1, 2004, at 7:08 p.m.

Elder Tom Forest welcomed everyone present and made some announcements.

Call to Order

Moderator called Presbytery to order at 7:08 p.m. He extended greetings to everyone present.

Psalm 96A st. 1-3 was sung in praise to God following which the Moderator led in prayer.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that all elders who are members of churches who have fraternal relations with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America be invited to participate in the laying on of hands during the ordination service of David Smith.

A letter of greetings from the Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church was read expressing the desire that there would be much blessing in David Smith's ministry in the Orlando congregation.

Roll:

The Roll was taken by the Assistant Clerk. Each person called stood and was recognized.

Narration of Steps

The Clerk read the narration of steps leading up to this ordination and installation service.

Final Reading of the Edict and Responses to it

Session Clerk, Tom Forest, read the edict for the last time.

Adherence to the Call: The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by rising, which they did.

Acceptance of the Call: The moderator asked David Smith to indicate if he accepted the call of the Orlando R.P. Congregation, which David did.

Queries for Ordination: Rev. Raymond Joseph asked David Smith the Queries for

Ordination, and David Smith replied in the affirmative to all of them. David Smith signed the Queries in Presbytery's Minute book.

Worship:

The congregation sang Psalm 65A st. 1-3. Dr. Duncan read Genesis 27:41-45; 31:21-24, 41, 42, 55; 32:1-32, and preached God's Word on chapter 32. Psalm 15 st. 1-3 was sung.

Ordination and Installation: Pastor Keith Magill led the prayer of ordination and installation of David Smith setting him apart to the gospel ministry while the members of Presbytery and other elders present laid their hands on David Smith. Following prayer they extended the right hand of fellowship to him. David Smith's name was added to the Roll of Presbytery and to the Roll of the Orlando Congregation.

Charge to the New Pastor: Pastor Robert Hemphill (Westminster R.P. Congregation of Westminster CO) spoke of the necessity of prayer, preaching, people, and planning in his work of the ministry. He challenged David to serve the Lord in each of these areas with a devoted and loyal heart in his ministry for the Lord.

Charge to the Congregation: Rev. James Wright, using such passages as 1 Thessalonians 5:13 and Romans 12:1, 2 urged the congregation to diligently pray for and encourage David as their new pastor.

Introductions: The new pastor and his family and the wider family circle were introduced to the congregation present.

Beginning of Employment

David Hanson began his work in the Bloomington congregation on February 1, 2004.

Praise: Psalm 86B st. 6-9 was sung.

Adjournment: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn. The Presbytery was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

The Moderator led in prayer and adjourned the Court, and the new Pastor, David Smith, pronounced the Benediction.

The congregation sang Psalm 72D

Session 5, Friday, April 2, 2004 at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called the Presbytery to order at 8:30 a.m. at the Orlando R.P. Church. Presbytery sang Psalm 24C st. 1-5. Rev. Edwin Blackwood led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Mr. Greg Cumbee was introduced for his examination on an expository sermon on an assigned topic.

Mr. Cumbee read Genesis 31:1-7 and preached God's Word on "Temptation". He concluded by announcing Psalm 19B which was sung.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Roll Call

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of Thursday afternoon's session were approved.

The Minutes of Thursday evening's session were approved.

Presbytery agreed to have the morning break at 10:15 to 10:30 a.m.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Rev. Keith Magill introduced Recommendation 5 of the Candidates and Credentials Committee Report concerning the Call on Dr. Rick Gamble.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Call on Dr. Gamble be approved as a regular gospel call and that it be presented to Dr. Gamble.

The Call was presented to Dr. Gamble. Dr. Gamble accepted the Call.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee as a whole be received.

Rev. Keith Magill reported that the Candidates and Credentials Committee had met with Rev. Jones but the Committee had not come to any conclusions at this time.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the matters concerning Rev. Jones be re-directed to the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Congregational Report

The Oakdale Congregational Report was given by Pastor Raymond Morton.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Presbytery's Triangle R.P. Church Commission**Triangle Commission**

Report to Presbytery - March 31 - April 2, 2004

On Nov. 7, 2003 to Presbytery took the following action:

That the Presbytery appoint the current Triangle Visitation Committee as a Commission to assist the Triangle Session in shepherding the congregation through its transition until a new pastor is installed.

That the chairman of the Visitation Committee be appointed the Moderator of the Commission.

That the Commission be given responsibility for appointing the Moderator of the Triangle Session.

The commission has met on two occasions by conference call. The minutes of those meetings are attached.

The commission appointed Ian Wise as the interim moderator of the Triangle Session effective December 19, 2003.

The Commission received a communication from Triangle Session indicating that the ministry that they thought might necessitate a Presbytery commission, was now able to be handled by the expanded Session. They requested that the Session be given full responsibility again and that the Presbytery appoint Ian Wise to continue being the interim moderator.

The Commission concurred with all of the requests of the Triangle Session.

We're grateful to God for the progress in the work at Triangle during this interim period. Let us all join in prayer for the Lord's provision for a pastor who can shepherd their flock.

Recommendations:

1. That the pastoral work of the Commission be returned to the Triangle Session.
2. That the Commission be dismissed.
3. That Presbytery appoint Ian Wise as Interim Moderator of the Triangle Session.

Respectively submitted,

Keith Magill, Moderator

Ian Wise

Robert McCracken

Recommendations 1, and 2 were approved.

Recommendation 3 was sent to the Nominating Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report of the Triangle Commission be approved and that the Minutes of the Commission be spread on the Minutes of Presbytery.

(These Minutes are at the end of these Presbytery Minutes.)

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 10:17 to 10:34 a.m.

Memorial

Rev. Raymond Joseph read a memorial tribute for Mrs. Sandy Joseph which he had prepared.

Nominating Committee Report

Pastor David Long gave the initial report of the Nominating Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be re-committed to the Nominating Committee.

Finance Committee Report

Pastor William Roberts presented the Finance Committee Report. The recommendations are as follows: (with special attention to our current financial circumstances)

1. that the Presbytery express its thanks to our Treasurer by a yearly gift (e.g., fruit basket) and not a monetary gift.
2. that the members of Presbytery, commissions, and committees exercise fiscal restraint and good stewardship related to all decisions, especially travel costs.
3. that the financial aid for seminary students be established at \$250 per month effective May 1, 2004.
4. that when congregational assessments are made, (e.g., receipts that include a sale of a building), only the actual profit beyond expenses, and not merely money received, be considered.

Recommendations 1 to 4 were approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report as a whole be received.

Nominating Committee Report

Pastor David Long presented the report.

Motion: The motion written in the report was moved, seconded, and passed.

Ad Interim Commission

Belle Center Session
Jim Richhart
Ralph Joseph

Church Extension Committees

Michigan
Ian Wise (Ch.)
Southfield Session

Southern Illinois

Ray Morton (ch)
Bob Morrow
Dale Mussehnan

Southern

Ralph Joseph (ch)
Charles Leverett
Greg Cumbee
Tom Reid

Ohio-Illinois

Dave Long (ch)
Karl Stoicheff
Andy McCracken
Phil Pockras
Barry York

Committee for Church Extension and Training

Dave Long (ch)
Jim Long
Bob McKissick
Barry York
Dan Webb
Ian Wise, ex officio

Candidates & Credentials**Class of 05—**

Roy Blackwood, Dean
Filson, Rick Gamble

Class of 06 -

Rich Johnston,
Bob McCracken

Class of 07—

Keith Magill, Jon
Hughes, Charles Brown

Financial Officers

Treasurer Laurence
Curry
Asst. Bill Roberts

Visitation Committee

Belle Center
Keith Magill (Ch.)
Frank Schutz
John Hanson

Sparta

Bob McKissick (Ch.)
Rich Johnston
David Hanson

Sycamore

Jim Wright (Ch.)
Wendell McBurney
Ed Blackwood

Home Mission Board Rep.

Class of '06 Ian Wise

Committee to Oversee Hetherton

Bob Henning
Bill Roberts
Jon Hughes

Covfamiko Conference

Director Jim Long
Manager Shane
Shoop

Interchurch Liaison

Phil Pockras

Youth Coordinators

Rich Johnston
John Hanson (YMCS
rep.)

Board of Corporators of Geneva College

Class of '06 Ralph Joseph

Synod Sabbath Arrangements

Barry York (ch)
Joe Holderman

Moderators of Vacant Congregations

Triangle - Ian Wise
Hetherton, Milt
Harrington
Southside, Bill Roberts
Multiracial, Stan
Copeland
Columbus, Bob
Henning

*Motion That these vacant congregations be granted the privileges of administration of the sacraments and the making out of calls.

Provisional Elders

Hetherton Roger
Adams
Multiracial - Godfrey
Franklin

Respectfully submitted:

Dave Long (Ch.)
Steve Sturm
Bob McKissick
Ray Joseph
Ed Blackwood

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Judicial Committee Report

The report of the Judicial Committee was presented by Rev. James Wright, Chairman.

The report is as follows:

The Judicial Committee received statements of dissent from some of the teachings in the Westminster Standards, the Testimony, or the manner of worship of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. The Committee believes the dissents from the Testimony and Standards are all within the "system of doctrine" promised in Ordination Query #4. The expressed dissent from the worship practice does not seem at this point to us, to be truly a substantive matter.

We, therefore, recommend:

1. that these dissents be entered into Presbytery's Minutes;
2. that Teaching Elders presently members of this Court who dissent present their scruples, as Presbytery has instructed, by the time of the Fall Meeting of Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Bibby	Andrew McCracken
Phillip Pockras	James Wright, Chairman

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Recommendation 2 was approved as amended.

Dissensions that have been received appear in the Appendix to these Minutes.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Presbytery Report to the Synod

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, introduced this Report.

The Assistant Clerk spoke concerning this Report to Synod.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assistant Clerk circulate a draft Report to the members of Presbytery by e-mail and that any changes to this be sent to the Assistant Clerk by April 30; following this the Assistant Clerk will revise the Report and then submit it to the Ad Interim Commission for approval and forwarding to the Clerk of Synod.

Time and Place Committee Report

The Time and Place Committee Report was given by Pastor Barry York and is as follows:

Time and Place Committee Report

Dear Presbyters,

We would like to recommend the following dates and locations for Presbytery meetings over the course of the next year.

Ordination and Installation of Jared Olivetti
Hosted by Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette
Lafayette, Indiana

June 18th, 2004
7:00 p.m.

Fall Meeting of Presbytery
Hosted by Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette
Lafayette, Indiana
November 11 - 13th, 2004

Spring Meeting of Presbytery
Hosted By Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church
Bloomington, Indiana
March 31-April 2nd, 2005
(Date to be confirmed by Session at Synod Meeting)

The service for the Olivetti ordination would be the night before the beginning of Synod's meetings, meaning we could hopefully lessen our travel costs and time away from our homes. The Lafayette congregation was scheduled to host this meeting of Presbytery until the ordination here changed that, so they would like to have us this fall. Though we had originally hoped to have a meeting at Triangle, the Presbytery's budget would be helped by not having to foot the extra travel costs at this time. The Bloomington representatives think Rich Holdeman may be ready to be ordained next spring. However, the Triangle representatives would hope that if a pastoral ordination occurs in 2005, Presbytery would change plans and ask them to host one of the meetings for this occasion.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Leverett and Barry York

Assistant Clerk's Report

The Assistant Clerk reported concerning the reading of Session Minute Books. His report is as follows:

Report of the Assistant Clerk

All the minute books of the congregations within the presbytery were presented with the exception of those of the Bloomington, Hetherton and Westminster sessions. By motion, those three sessions were asked to submit their minutes for review at the Synod meeting of the presbytery.

Reviewers determined the minutes to be according to the law and order of the church except as noted below:

1. General: Some minutes were found to have housekeeping errors which were noted by the reviewers and are included in the record books.

2. Specific exceptions noted by the reviewers.

Elkhart: Received a member without noting whether it was by certificate or profession of faith.

Second Reformed Presbyterian: Reviewers declined to approve the minutes based on these considerations:

- (1) There are blank pages and blank partial pages, and
- (2) The pages are not number consecutively.

Sparta: No letter of transfer apparently was received for two members who were received into membership.

Recommendations:

1. Sessions be careful to record the basis upon which a person is received into membership.

2. Since there have been questions raised about the manner of record keeping in the case of the Second Indianapolis Session, and there have been other questions in the past on the same subject, for example, the use of loose leaf notebooks, the officers of the presbytery be appointed to look into the matter and report at the fall meeting of presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph Joseph, Assist. Clerk

The recommendations were approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the time be extended to complete the business of this meeting.

Pastor Phil Pockras was granted permission until Monday, April 5, to record his dissent.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Resolution of Thanks Committee Report

Rev. Robert Morrow presented the Report which is as follows:

Resolution of Thanks to the Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Great Lakes Gulf Presbytery of the Reformed Presbyterian Church gives thanks to Almighty God for the blessings the Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church has showered upon us during these days, March 31-April 2, 2004.

As a congregation, you have provided for our needs and wants by efficiently getting us to and from the airport, by providing comfortable lodging, by opening your homes to us, by your warm fellowship and nourishing meals - and for most of us, you have afforded the opportunity to experience eighty degree sunshine for the first time in many months!
Thank you!

We also thank God for being able to be here for the ordination and installation of your new pastor, David Smith.

We pray that God will bless your congregation in the days ahead and that you will grow in Christ-likeness. May God bless you and be near to you and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Morrow
James Faris

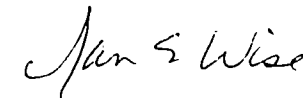
Minutes

The Minutes of this session of the meeting were read and approved.

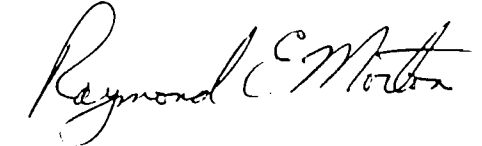
Adjournment

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Presbytery adjourn. Pastor Phil Pockras led in the prayer of adjournment and included prayer for the Oakdale congregation.

Presbytery adjourned at 12:20 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 133A.



Ian Wise, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery



Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes of the TRIANGLE COMMISSION
Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
December 19, 2003

The Triangle Commission met by Conference Phone Call at 9:30 A.M. on December 19, 2003 and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Keith Magill. Members present were Keith Magill, Ian Wise, and Bob McCracken.

Keith referred to Psalm 139 and reminded us that God knows everything about us, which to some is a cause of fear, but to us is a source of blessing and great comfort.

An agenda was presented, and the following actions were taken:

1. Keith was asked to check with Presbytery's Clerk to see if official notice had been sent to Triangle Congregation of Presbytery's action of Declaring the Pulpit Vacant.
2. On motion, Ian Wise was appointed as the Interim Moderator of the Triangle Session beginning immediately. Pastor Wise was the choice of the Triangle Session for this assignment.
3. On motion, it was decided to request the Triangle congregation to pay the travel expenses incurred by the Interim Moderator in his services to them, and if he fills Triangle's pulpit, to reimburse the Southfield congregation for his replacement.

Other matters were discussed relating to the Interim Moderator's responsibilities, and he was asked to counsel the Triangle Session regarding the observance of the Lord's Supper inasmuch as they have no settled Pastor.

Bob McCracken adjourned the court in prayer at 10:28 A.M.

Minutes of the TRIANGLE COMMISSION
Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery
March 30, 2004

The Triangle Commission met by conference call at 8:40 P.M. on March 30, 2004 and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Keith Magill. Members present were Keith Magill and Ian Wise. Bob McCracken was in Cyprus and unavailable.

A letter from the Triangle Session to the Commission has been received which states that, with the election and installation of two additional elders, the particular situation for which they thought a Presbytery commission could be needed, can now be handled by their session. They believe that a Presbytery commission is no longer needed. They requested that "the pastoral work of the Commission be returned to the Triangle Session, that the Commission be dismissed with thanks, and that Presbytery appoint Ian Wise to remain as Interim Session Moderator."

Bob McCracken has received the letter and emailed us endorsing Triangle Session's requests.

On motion, it was decided to concur with the Triangle Session's requests and recommend their desired actions to Presbytery with our endorsement.

On motion, the report to Presbytery was approved.

On motion, the minutes of December 19, 2003 and March 30, 2004 meetings were approved.

On motion, the Commission was adjourned in prayer by Ian Wise at 8:55 PM.

Keith R Magill
Keith Magill, Moderator

Ian E Wise
Ian Wise, Clerk

APPENDIX

The following dissent is by Rev. Tom Reid:

"I was ordained in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland in August, 1980, and took no exceptions to its Constitution.

When I transferred to the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America in 1984, I was unanimously accepted by the Presbytery of the Alleghenies, although I took four exceptions to the Constitution of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America.

1. One, the Testimony and Vows teaching on total abstinence, is no longer relevant. The others remain.
2. the office of deacons open to women.
3. affirmation of a common grace, and
4. statements on the offer of the gospel which would seem to teach universalism.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) Thomas G. Reid, Jr.
4-1-2004

The following dissent was by Pastor William Roberts:

EXCEPTIONS TO
THE SYSTEM OF DOCTRINE AND MANNER OF WORSHIP
BY WILLIAM L. ROBERTS FOR THE MEETING OF
THE GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
MARCH 31-APRIL 2, 2004

Dear Fathers and Brothers,

Since, at the fall meeting of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery it was required of all teaching elders to state undocumented exceptions to the system of doctrine and manner of worship, it is incumbent upon me to state my two exceptions.

First, I disagree with the Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 26, paragraph 6, where it states that "(the Pope of Rome) is that Antichrist, that man of sin, and son of perdition, that exalteth himself, in the Church, against Christ and all that is called God." I understand the historical reasons why many of the Reformers and the Westminster Assembly took this position, but it seems to me they erred in doing so. While there is indeed much that is gravely wrong with the Church of Rome, I do not think it proper to equate the Papacy with the Antichrist. My understanding is the Scriptures are speaking about a particular person and not an institution when the Bible speaks of "the Antichrist." I did mention this position to a couple of the men of presbytery before my ordination and was counseled by them to proceed. I did not, however, make the matter generally know to the presbytery. If I have sinned in this, please forgive me.

Second, although at the time of ordination I had no other exception, I now find that I have a second one. Since before my ordination and continuing until today, I have firmly held to the following teachings:

(A) "Worship is to be offered only in accordance with God's appointment, and in harmony with the scriptural principle that whatsoever is not commanded in the worship of God, by precept or example, is forbidden." (Testimony, ch. 21, paragraph 3)

(B) "The Book of Psalms, consisting of inspired psalms, hymns, and songs, is the divinely authorized manual of praise. The use of other songs in the worship is not authorized in the Scriptures." (Testimony, ch 21, paragraph 5)

(C) "The Psalms are to be sung without the accompaniment of instruments, which are not part of the New Testament worship." (Testimony, ch. 21, para. 6).

Therefore, when called upon at my ordination in July of 1983, I could take vow 4 that I "believe in and accept ... the manner of worship set forth..." wholeheartedly and without reservation.

However, the additional understanding given by the Presbytery to the vow "as the only manner the Scriptures teach" significantly changes the scope of the vow in my mind. Previously, we were making a positive declaration about our manner of worship, with which I still agree and have agreed with in the past and taught over the years. Now, in addition, we are in effect saying that all other worship must be not in accordance with Scripture. There are a number of questions regarding the worship, for which I feel I do not have the definitive answers but which I would need to have answered to affirm the addition "as the only manner the Scriptures teach." For example, would changing the wording of Psalm 2 from "Messiah's sway" to "Christ's sway" or even to "Jesus Christ's sway" mean that we now singing a hymn instead of a Psalm? Would it be wrong in Psalm 45 to replace "to speak about the king" with "to speak about King Jesus?" Is it proper in worship to recite together the Lord's Prayer? How about to chant it? What about to sing it? I am not advocating change in our position at all, but trying to illustrate in my mind what are some of questions I would need to answer in order to affirm "as the only manner."

I also have a further question with regard to wording of the testimony in the three places mentioned above. The sentences use the verbs "is" and "are" and not the normal verbs of "must" or "shall" or even "should." Is the testimony trying to say that in an ideal situation psalms are to be sung without musical accompaniment, but there may be times when you find yourself in worship when that is not the case? Is there more flexibility allowed in those cases (for instance, when you are worshipping in another denomination) than if the words "shall" or "must" had been used?

In summary, I can take wholeheartedly and without reservation the ordination query "Do you believe in and accept the system of doctrine and the manner of worship set forth in the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, as being agreeable to, and founded upon, the Scriptures?" I cannot do so with the addition "as the only manner the Scriptures teach" to the understanding of the query.

There are a number of practical implications to these issues:

- Does our stand on the Papacy being the Antichrist present an unnecessary stumbling block for those who are coming out of the Roman Catholic Church?
- Should not the denomination or the elders in it be, at least, rebuking those who are employed by the Antichrist, i.e. by Roman Catholic institutions? I am aware of one elder and one elder's wife who would fall into this category.
- Should a visiting RPCNA pastor refrain from singing Psalms in a congregation of a different denomination because of the use of musical accompaniment, even if those Psalms were especially chosen on that occasion because of his presence in opening the Word to them?

- Should an elder who as husband and father is the spiritual head of his house rebuke his wife or children if they worship in a manner different from that proscribed in the Testimony of the RPCNA (e.g. if they sing hymns while visiting in a congregation of another denomination)?
- Am I correct in understanding that I could never be installed as a pastor in another congregation in the presbytery (but could perhaps be in other presbyteries) because I am no longer able to affirm vow #4, given the new explanation of the presbytery to its meaning?
- Should a pastor going into a new work situation with one or two other families ever be counseled to get involved in the community, establish some Bible studies, make contacts, worship in another Reformed denomination, and only start worship services after a nucleus of interested persons has been developed or should they always be counseled to begin worship services immediately?

Finally, it is my opinion that this emphasis on stating exceptions as we are starting to do as a Presbytery will ultimately undermine and weaken the corporate testimony of the church. As more and more exceptions are sought and **if any of them are allowed, de facto** there becomes a list of "approved" exceptions. For instance, if the Presbytery allows Bill Roberts an exception on the issue of the Papacy being the Antichrist, it will hard-pressed in the future not to allow it for anyone else who would state the same exception. At best, the presbytery might end up with a list of half a dozen "approved" exceptions, but more likely is an ever increasing list of exceptions as someone comes along with a new exception. Ultimately, in effect, we will be left with only the certain fundamentals to which the elders must hold and many areas become "gray areas." These "gray areas" would be places in our standards where we would like agreement, but are not really required in order to be ordained.

The following is from Pastor Ian Wise:

**Exceptions to the RPCNA Testimony
Ian E Wise 3/30/04**

Testimony XXIV. 21-22. I agree with the original statement of the WCF.

Testimony XXV. 8. I believe the office of deacon may only be held by men.

Testimony XXV. 8-9. I hold the offices of minister and ruling elder to be two distinct offices, and that the office of ruling elder does not include the responsibility of public teaching.

Testimony XXVI. 5-6. I believe these statements to constitute unscriptural binding of conscience.

Memorials

Memorial for Mrs. Sandy Joseph: (written by Rev. Raymond P. Joseph)

IN MEMORIAM

Sandra German Joseph

Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

meeting at Orlando RPC March 31-April 2, 2004

Sandra German Joseph, now known, loved and remembered as "Sandy" Joseph, the wife of Ralph Joseph, pastor of the Selma Alabama RPC, was born November 7, 1940, the daughter of the late Ed and Sophia (Sherosky) German. Sandy passed away on Tuesday, July 8, 2003.

Ralph and Sandy were married June 1, 1963, at the Central Pittsburgh Reformed Presbyterian Church, following Ralph's graduation from the Reformed Presbyterian Church Seminary. Ralph and Sandy were blessed with two sons, Paul Edward, and Timothy Lyle Joseph. Paul and Timothy are both married, Paul to Sherie; Timothy to Stacey. Paul and Sherie brought two grandchildren into the world: Allison and Abby.

Ralph and Sandy entered the ministry when Ralph accepted the call to the Sparta Illinois Reformed Presbyterian Church and was ordained and installed as pastor of two congregations.

Ralph accepted the call in 1973 to begin a church planting ministry in Easton, PA; the work closed in 1981.

From Easton the family moved to Superior, Nebraska, after Ralph accepted a call from the Reformed Presbyterian Church there. In 1992, Ralph accepted the call of the Selma, Alabama, congregation, moving the family to Selma in October of that year.

Sandy had graduated from Pennsylvania elementary and secondary schools and South Union High School and after attending Allegheny General Hospital School of Nursing, Sandy had been licensed as a registered nurse.

So, while in Sparta, Sandy was a staff nurse of the Sparta Community Hospital in Illinois. She worked professionally with two doctors in Easton, PA, and later worked as a full-time staff nurse at Brodstone Memorial Hospital in Nebraska. During this time, Sandy never shirked her duties as a full-time wife to Ralph and mother to Paul and Timothy.

At Selma, Alabama, Sandy worked faithfully in the Selma Kindergarten, often posting prayer requests to Cove-Net, frequently asking for prayers for parents and children of the school. She would post the important details, and often gave thanks when prayers were answered.

Sandy was taken to her heavenly rest quite suddenly, and without any advance indication to husband Ralph, to her children and grandchildren, or to the Selma Kindergarten or congregation. Funeral services were held at the Selma Reformed Presbyterian Church on July 12. Burial followed the next Monday in Lafayette Memorial Park near Briar Hill, Pennsylvania.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." "Her children rise up and call her blessed."

"And he showed me a pure river of water of life clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads ..."

"... Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:1-4, 14.)

**IN MEMORIAM
JAMES MELVILLE RUTHERFORD**

James Melville Rutherford, known to most as Mel, was born on Feb. 18, 1913, to John and Golda (Patterson) Rutherford, near Northwood, Ohio, in the vicinity of Belle Center. He was baptized as an infant at United Miami RPC by his great-uncle, the Rev. Dr. Ruther Hargrave.

Mel graduated from Belle Center High School in 1931 and began farming. His life was harder than some due to a couple of difficulties. His family was poorer than many, and he had to work hard to supplement his father's meager income to help support his mother, younger brother Lowell, and sisters Mary (Berry) and Dorothy (Ace). The other affliction he had was a terrible stammer. Both of these troubles the Lord removed in marvelous ways later in life. He and his wife were able to be very generous to the Belle Center, Ohio, RPC and to other Christian people and organizations, including the RP Home and RP Seminary. To his delight, his clarity of speech improved astonishingly in his last 10 years. After he retired from farming, he devoted much of his time to church work and to driving for the "new order" Amish community, greatly enjoying the friendship and Christian fellowship of his Amish neighbors.

In the late 1940s, Mel met a nice, young lady from the Old Bethel RPC (now part of our Sparta, Ill., RPC)

named Geneva Patterson. Geneva was working at the Sandy Hook, KY, mission, along with Rev. and Mrs. Ray Hemphill, Rose Huston, and Lillian McCracken. Mel and Geneva were married on Sept. 3, 1948. They had two daughters, Melba Grace (DeGoines) and Rose Mary (Weir).

During this time, Mel had been a member of United Miami and then Belle Center RPC after the two congregations merged in 1941. Yet, he testified that it was not until the pastorate of Dr. M. K. Carson (1951-1966) that he came to a saving knowledge of Christ. Prior to that, he had been terribly tempted to be skeptical toward several of the basic tenets of the faith, but the striking fulfillment of prophecy in Scripture got his attention. He then became moralistic and harsh in his self—righteousness. It was at some later time, during Dr. Carson's ministry that Mel came to a deep conviction of personal sin, a saving trust in Jesus, and a real, growing, and lasting repentance from his past. He remembered Dr. Carson's ministry as being one that was truly evangelical in the faithful and clear preaching of the true gospel. Mel, as a redeemed sinner, was always zealous to tell other sinners of free grace in Jesus.

Mel served the Belle Center, Ohio, RPC as a deacon, treasurer, and a valued elder. The session misses him and Wilbur Keys very deeply. Mel was always by God's grace, a man with most valuable and wise counsel, learned by long and sanctified experience. He and Wilbur, who left us in 1998, were good trainers. His prayers, like Wilbur's, prevailed before the throne of grace. He could be depended on to encourage or to admonish, firmly and kindly, whenever there was cause. Seemingly reserved and almost gruff on first impression (due in large part to his speech difficulty), Mel showed everyone that he had been changed into a most loving and humble person. He firmly testified that it was God's grace working within him (Phil 2:13). He remains a shining example of faithfulness as an elder.

In the summer of 2003, after a couple of years of failing strength and health, Mel, along with Geneva, moved to the RP Home. The remaining sin in his life, that he so hated, was removed on Feb. 27, and he now dwells with the One who rescued him by almighty and sovereign grace. His funeral was in Belle Center on Mar. 2, and he was buried at the old Covenanter cemetery in Northwood, near the original site of Geneva College. A memorial service followed on Mar. 5 at the RP Home led by Rev Jerry O'Neill. "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes" (Ps. 119:71). "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Tim. 1:15).

Belle Center, Ohio, RPC Session

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
May 7, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his input and support for the following actions.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Bob prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 8:15 p.m.

BLOOMINGTON RPC CALL ON DAVID HANSON

The commission received a call by the Bloomington congregation on David Hanson for the position of Associate Pastor and determined that the call was made in accordance with the law and order of the church. Motion carried to sustain the call on David Hanson for the position of Associate Pastor of the Bloomington RP Church as a regular gospel call and forward it to David.

SECOND RPC REQUEST FOR ORDINATION DATES FOR JAMES FARIS

The Second RPC session requested the Ad Interim Commission to arrange for the examination and ordination of James Faris as a teaching elder of their congregation. The following actions were taken:

- Motion carried to set Thursday, May 29, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. at the Second RPC of Indianapolis as the time for the ordination examinations of James Faris.
- Since the clerk will be unable to attend this meeting due to a prior arrangement, given the distance of travel for the associate clerk, and having received an indication of willingness to serve by Keith Magill, motion carried to appoint Keith Magill clerk *pro tem* of the May 29th meeting and have him arrange with the moderator of Presbytery the agenda for the meeting.
- Motion carried to request the Candidates and Credentials Committee to handle the ordination exams by appointing examiners in the areas of "Personal Godliness" and "Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the *Testimony of the RPCNA*," and for the committee to assign a text for a sermon James should preach.
- Motion carried to set Friday, June 20, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. at the Second RPC of Indianapolis for James Faris' ordination and installation.
- Motion carried to issue an edict (*Directory of Church Government*, Chapter III, Section II E. 2.a. page D-20) for James Faris' ordination and installation and to direct the Second RPC Session to read it on the two preceding Lord's Days.

A letter along with these minutes will be sent to presbyters notifying them of these actions.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

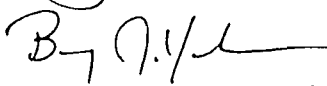
Motion carried to approve the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. The moderator adjourned the court in prayer at 8:25 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission



GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
May 18, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his input and support for the following actions.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Tom prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 2:55 p.m.

ASSISTANT CLERK'S REPORT TO SYNOD

Motion carried to approve the "Report of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery" to Synod written by the Assistant Clerk of Presbytery as reviewed this past week.

REAPPOINTMENT OF CLERK PRO TEM

Motion carried to nullify our action of last meeting of appointing Keith Magill clerk *pro tem* for the May 29th meeting of Presbytery in view of the fact that Ralph Joseph, Assistant Clerk, will be at the meeting and will assume this duty.

RESCHEDULING THE TIME FOR JUNE 20TH MEETING

- Motion carried to change the time of the Presbytery meeting on Friday, June 20, 2003, at the Second RPC of Indianapolis for James Faris' ordination and installation from 7:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting the ordination exams of David Hanson.
- Motion carried to request the Candidates and Credentials Committee to handle the ordination exams of David Hanson by appointing examiners in the areas of "Personal Godliness" and "Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the *Testimony of the RPCNA*," and for the committee to assign a text for a sermon David should preach.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

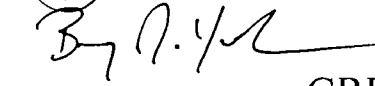
Motion carried to approve the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. The moderator adjourned the court in prayer at 3:02 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission



GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
July 16, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Also present was Brad Johnston, Pastoral Intern. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his input and support for the following actions.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Tom prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 9:15 p.m.

DECLARING THE COLUMBUS RPC PULPIT VACANT

The Ad Interim Commission has received a letter from Pastor Andrew Schep requesting that Presbytery would release him from the Columbus pastorate as of July 31, 2003, as he has accepted the call from the Syracuse congregation. The session has accepted Andrew's resignation and no objection has been received. Motion carried to release Pastor Andrew Schep from his relationship with the Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church effective July 31, 2003.

APPOINTING A MODERATOR OF THE COLUMBUS SESSION

The Commission has also been asked by the Columbus Session to appoint Bob Henning as the moderator. Motion carried to appoint Pastor Bob Henning as the moderator of the Columbus Session effective July 31, 2003.

OFFERING THE PRAYER OF DISSOLUTION

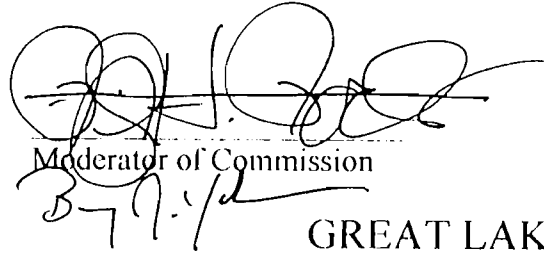
The moderator prayed, asking the Lord of the church to authorize these changes on the given date. A letter to the clerk of the Columbus Session notifying them of these actions was then signed and sent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion carried to approve the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Greg adjourned the court in prayer at 9:25 p.m.



Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
Sieberling Mansion, Kokomo, IN
July 23, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Tom Dinkledine was excused as he was attending the Covfamikoi Conference. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his input and support for the following action.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Greg prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 7:10 p.m.

BLOOMINGTON RPC REQUEST FOR EDICT FOR DAVID HANSON

At its meeting at Synod, the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery set the date for the ordination and installation of David Hanson for August 27th at 7:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Motion carried to issue an edict (*Directory of Church Government*, Chapter III, Section II E. 2.a. page D-20) for David Hanson's ordination and installation and to direct the Bloomington RPC Session to read it on the two preceding Lord's Days.

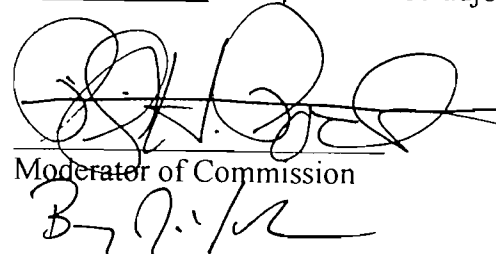
A letter along with these minutes will be sent to presbyters notifying them of this action. The moderator has already contacted the desired participants for the service on behalf of the Bloomington Session.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion carried to approve the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Bob adjourned the court in prayer at 7:20 p.m.



Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
August 6, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Brad Johnston, Pastoral Intern; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Greg Fisher was excused as he had a prior family arrangement. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his input regarding the following.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Tom prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 6:40 p.m. Tom was appointed as the Clerk *pro tem*.

TRIANGLE RPC SESSION REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

The moderator received a correspondence dated August 3rd asking that the Ad Interim Commission send a committee to Raleigh-Durham to "follow up on the pastoral labors of Doug Comin and Charlie Leverett, to deal with certain serious issues" regarding prominent members in the congregation. The Triangle Session has been discouraged by their meetings with these members, and because "some of the offenses in question directly concern the elders and/or their immediate families," they believe outside help is needed.

The moderator also shared further input he had received from the Triangle Session and Keith Magill, the Coordinator of Church Extension & Training who has recently visited the Triangle work on two occasions and concurs with the need for a committee such as this. After a lengthy discussion and several unsuccessful attempts to contact the family with which the Triangle Session is concerned, the Ad Interim Commission decided to take the following course of action:

- 1) No judicial action has been taken by the Triangle session against this family, and the Session has communicated that they are asking for a committee to seek reconciliation and to make sure there is no "conflict of interest" in their position. Therefore, the moderator will contact the family concerned to explain the Triangle request and see if they would be willing to meet with a committee appointed by Presbytery for the sake of reconciliation, and ask them about potential candidates for the committee to better insure their cooperation.
- 2) Several names of potential candidates were given. The moderator will contact them to see about their willingness to serve and availability to go by the end of the month.
- 3) The Ad Interim Commission will then meet briefly this weekend to officially form this committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Bob adjourned the court in prayer at 8:10 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk *pro tem* of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
August 10, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Greg Fisher was again excused as he had a prior family arrangement. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his support regarding the following actions.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Tom prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 1:00 p.m. Tom was appointed as the Clerk *pro tem*.

APPOINTMENT OF THE TRIANGLE RPC VISITATION COMMITTEE

The moderator reported on the various communications he had regarding the Triangle request for a visitation committee. He has spoken or written e-mails to both the Triangle Session and the family of concern, and both parties have agreed to make every effort to meet and have agreed upon the following committee. The men appointed to this committee were also willing to serve and available to go to North Carolina by the end of the month.

Motion carried to appoint a three-member Triangle Visitation Committee consisting of Keith Magill (chairman), Bob McCracken and Ian Wise to respond as quickly as possible to the Triangle Session's request to help resolve the conflict that exists in the congregation.

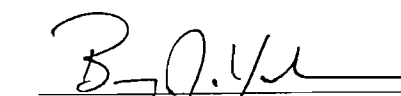
Motion carried to request that the Triangle Visitation Committee report to the Fall meeting of Presbytery to give a progress report.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion carried to approve the minutes of the August 6th meeting as well as the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Bob adjourned the court in prayer at 1:10 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk *pro tem* of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
January 4, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his support regarding the following actions.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Bob prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 3:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE ORLANDO RPC CALL TO DAVID SMITH

The Orlando Session sent a Pastoral Call, issuing from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Orlando to David Smith dated November 30th, 2003, for the Ad Interim Commission to process. The Ad Interim Commission reviewed the call and determined it was made in accordance with the law and order of the church. Motion carried to sustain the Pastoral Call by the RPC of Orlando to David Smith as a regular gospel call and to forward it to the Midwest Presbytery.

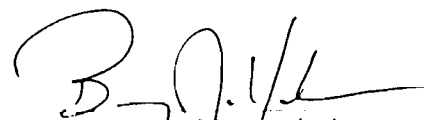
The moderator will contact the Orlando Session and David Smith to let them know of our action.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion carried to approve the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Tom adjourned the court in prayer at 3:40 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
January 11, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his support regarding the following actions. The Officers of Presbytery were also consulted.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Barry prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 8:25 p.m.

SETTING THE MEETING FOR THE ORDINATION EXAMS FOR DAVID SMITH

Given David Smith's acceptance of the call to Orlando, motion carried to call for a special meeting of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery for the purpose of examining David Smith for the position of teaching elder on Friday, January 30th, at 2:00 at Second RPC of Indianapolis.

Motion carried to request the following men to give the ordination exams and to grant the moderator authority to ask others if any of these men are unavailable:

- Keith Magill to assign a portion of Scripture for David's Ordination Sermon, and as a member of the Candidates & Credentials Committee to help introduce David to the presbytery.
- James Faris to examine him in Personal Godliness.
- Bill Roberts to examine David in Soundness in the Faith & Commitment to the *Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church*.

The moderator is in contact with the Orlando Session, David Smith, and the officers of the Presbytery regarding the arrangements for the ordination and installation. He will request that this be on the agenda for the January 30th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Tom adjourned the court in prayer at 8:35 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
February 8, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his support regarding the following actions. The Officers of Presbytery were also consulted.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Bob prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 8:25 p.m.

SETTING TRAVEL FUND LIMIT

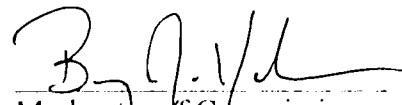
Given the decision by Presbytery at the January 30th meeting to move the spring meeting of Presbytery to Orlando to accommodate the ordination and installation of David Smith, motion carried to set the limit at \$250 per person for those wishing to participate in Presbytery's travel fund for the spring meeting in Orlando being held April 1-3. Special circumstances that lead to travel costs that exceed this limit will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the court.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion carried to approve the minutes of this meeting and the minutes of the January 11th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Tom adjourned the court in prayer at 9:20 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission

GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY
Ad Interim Commission Minutes
SRPC Building, Kokomo, IN
March 3, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Dinkledine; Greg Fisher, Clerk; Bob McKissick; Barry York, Moderator. Larry Bump, also a member of the Commission, was contacted via e-mail and gave his support regarding the following actions.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

Bob prayed and constituted the court in prayer at 9:05 p.m.

TRANSFER OF DOUG COMIN'S CREDENTIALS

Doug Comin contacted the moderator asking that his ministerial credentials be transferred to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies. Motion carried to send a certificate of transfer of Doug Comin's ministerial credentials to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies. The moderator will request that the Clerk of Presbytery send the record of Pastor Comin's credentials to the Alleghenies Presbytery.

APPROVAL OF THE SOUTHSIDE RPC CALL ON GORDON KEDDIE

The commission received a call by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Southside Indianapolis on Pastor Gordon Keddie of the Grace Presbyterian Church of State College, PA, for the position of Pastor and determined that the call was made in accordance with the law and order of the church. Motion carried to sustain the Southside Reformed Presbyterian Church's call on Gordon Keddie as a regular gospel call and forward it to the Presbytery of the Alleghenies for their approval and presentation to Pastor Keddie.

INVITATION TO STAN COPELAND

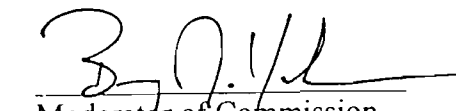
Tom Reid has requested that Stan Copeland, who is serving as stated supply for the Multiracial congregation in Pensacola, be invited to come to Presbytery and have access to the travel fund. Motion carried to invite Stan Copeland to attend Presbytery's meetings in Orlando and to participate in the travel fund.

APPROVAL OF REPORT AND MINUTES

The moderator distributed a brief report to be given to Presbytery later this month of our actions. Motion carried to approve this report as well as the minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried to adjourn. Tom adjourned the court in prayer at 9:10 p.m.


Moderator of Commission

Clerk of Commission

**Friday, June 18, 2004
Lafayette, Indiana**

Call to Order and Constitution

The Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery met pursuant to adjournment in the Lafayette Reformed Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m., and, after singing Psalm 32 A, was constituted in prayer by the moderator, TE Ian Wise, for the purpose of ordaining and installing Jared Olivetti as associate pastor of the Lafayette Congregation.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll which is as follows: (the Roll here includes attendance at the Saturday morning Session which was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk)

Belle Center	Philip Pockras xx	Larry Bump ee
Bloomington	William Roberts xe	Rich Holdeman xx
	David Hanson xx	
Columbus		Robert Henning xx
		Jeff Jones xx
Elkhart	Andrew McCracken xx	Joe Moore xx
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long xe	Daniel Webb x-
	Jared Olivetti -x	David Carr xx
		Robert Bibby -x
Multiracial		Tom Reid ee
	Stanley Copeland (Consultative) ee	
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xx	
Orlando	David Smith xx	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xx	Jack Baumgardner xx
	Richard Johnston xx	Ram Rao xx
	James Faris xx	
Selma	Ralph Joseph xx	
Southfield	Ian Wise xx	James Curtis xx
Southside		Steve Sturm x-
		James Bishop xx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xx	Robert Morrow ee
Sycamore	Barry York xx	Robert McKissick xx
Triangle		
Westminster	Charles Brown xx	

Ministers Under Appointment by the Presbytery

Rick Gamble ee
Keith Magill xx

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams --

Edwin Blackwood x-
Frank Schutz ee
James Wright --

Ministers Retired

Milton Harrington --
Ray Joseph ee
Robert McCracken xx
Marion McFarland --
James McMahan --
Paul Faris x-
Garland Kincaid --

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

Organizational motions

1. By motion all elders who are delegates but without certificates were seated as members of the court.
2. By motion all elders present who are not members of the court were seated as consultative members of the court.
3. By motion it was agreed the presbytery would reconvene tomorrow at 9:30 and adjourn at noon.
4. By motion the agenda as proposed was adopted.
5. By motion all elders of denominations with whom the RPCNA has fraternal relations were invited to participate in the laying on of hands tonight.

Ralph Joseph narrated the steps leading up the beginning of Jared Olivetti's ministry June 1 and his ordination and installation tonight.

The moderator inquired as to whether the edict had been read in the hearing of the congregation after which Dan Webb, clerk of the Lafayette session, read it for the third and final time.

The congregation indicated their adherence to the call by rising.

Mr. Olivetti was asked if he still adhered to his acceptance of the call which was answered in the affirmative.

RE Scott McCullough asked Mr. Olivetti the Queries for Ordination which were answered in the affirmative. He then signed the Queries.

The congregation sang together Psalm 65A after which Dr. Dennis Prutow preached God's Word from Jeremiah 23:1-6 .

Jared Patrick Olivetti was ordained as a teaching elder and installed as associate pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette by the laying on of hands of the presbytery along with other Reformed Presbyterian elders and elders of congregations with

whom the RPCNA has fraternal relations. Following the ordination prayer by TE David Long, the right hand of fellowship was extended to Mr. Olivetti by the elders assembled.

TE David Hanson gave the charge to the new pastor and TE James Faris gave the charge to the congregation.

The parents of Mr. And Mrs. Olivetti were introduced.

A letter of greeting from TE Ray Joseph was read.

Following the singing of Psalm 100 C, the Presbytery was adjourned by the Moderator with the new pastor pronouncing the benediction. Psalm 72 D was sung following the benediction.

Session 2, Saturday, June 19, 2004

Constitution of the Court

Call to Order

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Ian Wise, at 9:38 a.m. Saturday, June 19, 2004, at the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette.

Devotions

The Presbytery sang Psalm 96A st. 1-3 and the Moderator led in prayer. The Moderator preached God's Word from I Kings 17:1

Constitution of the Court

The Moderator led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

Introductions to the Court

Pastor Barry York introduced Jason Camery from the Kokomo congregation. Pastor Roy Blackwood introduced Andrew Stewart, pastor of the Geelong, Australia R. P. Church of the Presbytery of Australia. Robert Bibby introduced Jared Olivetti as a first time delegate to the Presbytery. Rich Johnston introduced Rev. Jerry O'Neil, R.P.T.S. President, and Prof. Dennis Prutow, of R.P.T.S. as visitors to this meeting of Presbytery.

Minutes from the Ordination and Installation Service

The Minutes of the Ordination and Installation Service were read by the Assistant Clerk. The Minutes were approved.

Report of the Clerk

**To the Meeting of Presbytery
June 18, 2004**

The Clerk would respectfully report that he has done his best to carry out the assignments given to him as far as he knows. A number of items have been dealt with since the meeting in April, mainly by e-mail and mostly concerning this meeting and/or answering various questions.

I prepared the Proposed Agenda for the meeting to ordain and install Jared Olivetti to the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette. I have prepared the Proposed Agenda for this meeting and a recommendation about it appears below.

Since our last meeting, Pastor Gordon Keddie has accepted the Call from the Southside (Indianapolis) Reformed Presbyterian Church and I am proposing that he be received into the Presbytery by a recommendation below. I am glad to welcome Gordon as we had a couple of years in close proximity in Scotland and enjoyed working together regarding the Wishaw congregation.

I have received one communication which I think most of you have also received by e-mail. It comes from Pastor Charles Brown and is signed by several members of the Court. I am proposing that the Moderator appoint a committee of three to determine how best to deal with this communication. This communication will be numbered 2004-1.

I thank you for the opportunity of serving as your Clerk and trust the Lord will bless us in this meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendations:

1. That the Parliamentarians for this meeting of Presbytery be Phil Pockras and Andrew McCracken.
2. That the Proposed Agenda for this meeting be accepted.
3. That the Presbytery receive Pastor Gordon Keddie as a member of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery and welcome him among us.
4. That the Clerk's Report be received.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Recommendation 1 and 3 were approved

Recommendation 2 was amended by adding "with a 1:00 p.m. adjournment".

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Recommendation 4 be laid on the table to be taken up after the examinations of Rich Holdeman.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that in light of the Clerk's responsibilities at Synod that he be excused from this meeting at 12 noon and the Assistant Clerk will take the Minutes.

Pastoral Call on Andrew McCracken

Motion: it was moved and seconded that the Presbytery receive the Call on Andrew McCracken from the Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church as a regular gospel call and transmit the same to Andrew McCracken for his consideration.

The motion was passed and the Call was given to Pastor McCracken for his consideration with the assurance that the members of Presbytery will pray for God's guidance to be given to him.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Rev. Keith Magill introduced the report.

Recommendation: the schedule of examinations as outlined in the Report was approved.

Rev. Magill spoke concerning the rest of the Report.

Rev. Magill was granted an excused absence from 11:30 a.m. onwards to allow him to attend the Synod Finance Committee meeting at Taylor University at 2:00 p.m.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

The examination of Rich Holdeman in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts was conducted by Rich Johnston.

Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

The examination of Rich Holdeman in Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles II was conducted by Barry York.

Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report was taken up again.

Recommendation 4 was approved.

The Clerk's Report as a whole was approved.

Communication 2004-1

Communication 2004-1 was presented to the Court with the following recommendation: "that the Synod erect a study committee of five (5) to critique the teaching of the 'New Perspective on Paul', the 'Federal Vision',

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Communication 2004-1 be approved and sent on to Synod.

Committee to Review Bloomington Session Minutes

The following were appointed: Jared Olivetti, Robert McKissick.

Travel Agent

Pastor David Smith was appointed Travel Agent for this meeting and the Synod meeting of Presbytery.

Report of the Ad Intrim Commission

An updated report was given by the Moderator, Phil Pockras.

The verbal Report was received.

A memorial for Elder Melville Rutherford was presented by Pastor Pockras.

Minutes:

The Minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

Presbytery requested that the Moderator write a thank letter to the Lafayette congregation thanking them for the use of their facilities and for the hospitality provided.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery adjourn.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned by being led in prayer by Pastor Roy Blackwood at 12:59 p.m.

Ian Wise, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes of the Synod Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
June 21 to 22, 2004

Monday, June 21, 2004, at 9:52 a.m.

Constitution of the Court

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Ian Wise, at 9:52 a.m. Monday, June 21, 2004, at the Isley Room in the Hodson Dining Commons at Taylor University, Upland, IN.

Devotions

The Moderator led the Court in devotions.
The Presbytery sang Psalm 103A st. 1-4.
The Moderator led in prayer and included the Constitution of the Court.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Keith Magill presented the Report for the Committee and reviewed its work. He introduced Scott McCullough who is scheduled for three examinations and also Jason Camery who would be presented in order to be taken under care of the Presbytery.

Recommendation 1 that the schedule of exams as outlined in Part 1 of the Report was approved.

Expository Sermon on an Assigned Subject

Scott McCullough preached God's Word from Numbers 20:1-13 on the subject of "Persevering in Sanctification".

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll which is as follows.

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xx	Larry Bump ee
Bloomington	William Roberts xx	Rich Holdeman xx
	David Hanson xx	
Columbus		
Elkhart	Andrew McCracken xx	
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long xx	David Carr xx
	Jared Olivetti xx	Jeff Kessler -x
Multiracial		Tom Reid xx
	Stanley Copeland (Consultative) ee	
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xx	
Orlando	David Smith xx	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xx	Jack Baumgardner x-
	Richard Johnston ex	James Long -x

	James Faris xx	
Selma	Ralph Joseph xx	
Southfield	Ian Wise xx	James Curtis xx
Southside		James Bishop xx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xx	Robert Morrow xx
Sycamore	Barry York xx	Robert McKissick ee
Triangle		
Westminster	Charles Brown xx	

Ministers Under Appointment by the Presbytery

Rick Gamble ee
Keith Magill x-

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams --
Edwin Blackwood e-
Frank Schutz ee
James Wright -

Ministers Retired

Milton Harrington --
Ray Joseph ee
Robert McCracken xx
Marion McFarland --
James McMahan xx
Paul Faris --
Garland Kincaid --

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Agenda

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed to adopt the agenda as amended.

Permission was granted to circulate the Report of the Church Extension and Training.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the expository sermon presented by Scott McCullough was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Scott McCullough was presented for his examination in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts. The examination was conducted by Robert McCracken. Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Barry York introduced Jason Camery as a member of the Kokomo R.P. Church, endorsed by the Session and asking to be taken under care of the Presbytery.

Mr. Camery addressed the Court speaking of his conversion and his progress in the faith. Members of Presbytery asked further questions and received answers.

Recommendation 2 of the Candidates and Credentials Committee Report that Mr. Jason Camery be taken under care of the Presbytery was approved.

The Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee as a whole was received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Scott McCullough was presented for his examination in Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles II.

The examination was conducted by Roy Blackwood.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Presbytery recess to meet on Tuesday, June 22, at 3:45 p.m.

Recess: Presbytery took recess at 12:15 p.m. being led in prayer by David Hanson.

Session 2, Tuesday, June 22, 2004**Call to Order**

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 3:45 p.m. in the Alspaugh Hall of the Hodson Dining Commons of Taylor University at Upland, IN on Tuesday, June 22, 2004.

Prayer and Constitution

Pastor Rich Johnston led in prayer and reconvened the Court in prayer.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually.

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll.

Arrangements for Gordon Keddie's Installation to the Southside Congregation

Gordon Keddie is to be released from the Grace R.P. Church at State College, PA on June 30, 2004.

It was agreed that the installation of Pastor Gordon Keddie to the Southside Congregation be held on September 17, 2004 at a time to be arranged between the Clerk and the Session. Further the Clerk is to issue the edict for the installation service.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that members of the Presbytery may be delegated to attend the Presbytery meeting.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Pastor Gordon Keddie become the Provisional Moderator of the Southside Session from July 1, 2004.

The Presbytery expressed its thanks to Pastor William Roberts for his services to the Southside congregation.

Orlando Session's Response to the Orlando Visitation Committee's**Recommendations**

Pastor David Smith gave a verbal report on behalf of the Session.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the verbal report be received.

Inter Church Liaison Report

Pastor Phil Pockras introduced Rev. Harvey Opp, minister of the Peace Reformed Church (RCUS), Napoleon, OH, and welcomed him to the Court.

Treasurer's Report

Pastor William Robert gave a verbal report on the state of the Presbytery's finances.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Presbytery's Home Mission Board Representative

Pastor Phil Pockras, the former Moderator, took the chair.

Pastor Ian Wise gave the report.

The Report was approved.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

One-year Evaluation Report on David Hanson's Work in Bloomington

Pastor William Roberts presented the report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Assistant Clerk's Report on Session Minute Books

The minutes of Bloomington Session were presented and reviewed. Nothing was found contrary to the law and order of the church.

The minutes of the Westminster Session were not presented, but the assistant clerk has contacted Charles Brown on the matter and has been assured the minutes will be made available at the fall meeting of the presbytery.

The minutes from the Hetherton Session were not presented because no one from Hetherton was present at this meeting. The assistant clerk will communicate with the Hetherton Session on the matter.

Ralph E. Joseph, Assist. Clerk.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Committee for Church Extension and Training

A written report was presented to the Presbytery and received with a full report to come to the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

Minutes

The Minutes of this whole meeting were read, corrected and approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery adjourn.

Adjournment

Pastor Jared Olivetti adjourned the Court in prayer at 4:55 p.m.

Ian Wise, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

**Minutes of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Special Meeting and Installation Service
of Pastor-elect Gordon James Keddie
at Southside Reformed Presbyterian Church
September 17, 2004**

Special Meeting of Presbytery, Friday, September 17, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Constitution

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Ian Wise, at 3:11 p.m., Friday, September 17, 2004, at the Southside Reformed Presbyterian Church, 6969 S. Meridian Road, Indianapolis, IN 46217

Devotions

The Moderator led the Court in devotions.
The Presbytery sang Psalm 100A st. 1-4.
The Moderator read Psalm 102:1-28
The Moderator led in prayer and included the Constitution of the Court.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll which is as follows.

Congregations	Teaching Elders	Ruling Elders
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xx	
Bloomington	William Roberts -x David Hanson xx	
Columbus		Robert Henning xx
Elkhart		Robert McCracken xx
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long xx Jared Olivetti xx	David Carr -x Robert Bibby -x Tom Reid ee
Multiracial		
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xx	
Orlando	David Smith xx	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xx Richard Johnston ex James Faris xx	Ram Rao xx Terry Magnuson xx
Selma	Ralph Joseph ee	
Southfield	Ian Wise xx	
Southside		John Hanson x Jerry Porter xx Robert Morrow xx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xx	
Sycamore	Barry York xx	
Triangle		
Westminster	Charles Brown ex	James Richhart xx

Ministers Under Appointment by the Presbytery

Rick Gamble xx
Keith Magill xx

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams --
Edwin Blackwood ex
Frank Schutz --
James Wright --
Andrew McCracken xx
Gordon Keddie xx

Ministers Retired

Milton Harrington --
Ray Joseph --
Marion McFarland --
James McMahan ce
Paul Faris -x
Garland Kincaid --

The Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Agenda

The Clerk gave an oral report concerning the agenda. The agenda has two items of business for the special meeting part and the usual order of business for the installation service part. The two items for the special meeting part are (1) a written report from the Pensacola Session and (2) items concerning the installation of Andrew McCracken to the Columbus Congregation.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed to adopt the agenda as presented.

Report from the Multiracial Session

A written report from the Multiracial Session was presented to the Court which is as follows:

The Multiracial (Pensacola) Session makes this special report to the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery with great sadness.

We regret that no representative of the Session will be present at the special meeting to make this report in person, which is why it is being sent out by e-mail in advance of the meeting. We are both willing to interact with any members of Presbytery who desire further information before considering this report. We plan to submit a further report to the regular Presbytery meeting in November.

As you know, the Congregation in Pensacola has experienced extremely difficult circumstances for the past four or five years, ones that would long ago have destroyed most congregations. The

size, attendance, commitment, and giving of the Church have all declined dramatically. Two of our three ruling elders have resigned. However, because of the successful sale of our church building, we could afford to call Pastor Stan Copeland as stated supply, beginning in January 2003. While we may not have said so in so many words, we believed at the beginning of his ministry that it was a make-or-break one for the Church, and so did most, if not all, the active members.

During the nineteen months of Stan's ministry among us, attendance and giving increased somewhat, Mrs. Jean Carr returned to us, and many efforts were made to reach out into the community. With the exception of a quarterly visit from twenty-to-thirty women in a halfway house, nobody ever attended any of our activities (classes, worship, or Bible study) as a result of these efforts.

In July, we received a visit from Keith Magill, whose analysis of the work was not entirely pessimistic, although Presbytery will no doubt want to hear from him about his conclusions. We thank Keith for making the effort to come among us and help us.

In mid-July, Stan Copeland sent an e-mail to the Presbytery and Congregation informing us of his departure from the work in Pensacola to which he had devoted himself since January 2003. (Stan used the word "termination" in this e-mail, but, despite its connotation, we want to make clear that there was no effort on the part of anyone in the Congregation to terminate his ministry among us.) The effective date was August 15, although his wife Marilyn stayed on in Pensacola to arrange for the sale of their home there on August 28. We give thanks to God that, so soon after purchasing it, the Copelands were able to quickly sell their home and realize a small profit in doing so. We want to record here our thanks to both Stan and Marilyn for their efforts in a small, struggling, and isolated outpost of the RPCNA. Such is their sense of duty that the Copelands would like to help in similar places in the future.

Stan arranged for an informal congregational gathering on August 11 to discuss what the Congregation wanted to do in light of his resignation. (Because Tom Reid was on vacation in France until July 28 and Godfrey was quite ill, it was impossible for the Session to meet and call a formal congregational meeting before Stan's effective date of resignation.) The conclusion of the group present (which did not include Godfrey, still not feeling well) was that they wanted the Session to grant all of them their letters of standing to join other churches. These members also suggested appropriate ways that the remaining assets of the Congregation could be used.

The Session, meeting the next day, approved the granting of these letters (four went to founding member of the Church), but postponed action on the other matters until greater clarification could be obtained about the future of the congregation and the nature of the Synod's ownership of the Congregation's assets. Since one of the members granted a letter has been serving as congregational treasurer (Felecia Jackson), we chose Tom Reid to function as her successor. Tom is currently working with her to bring about the transfer of all the records of the Church in her possession, at which time her letter (already prepared) will be given to her. We have roughly \$24,000 left, as well as some chairs, tables, Bibles, Psalters, and other items.

In subsequent contacts with the Ad Interim Commission and the office of the Treasurer of

Synod, we have been told that we can dispose of the non-financial assets, since they are so limited, as we see fit. We can also request, as the members suggested, how the \$24,000 is divvied up. We are working on this process now. Most of the non-financial assets have been placed in a storage facility; a few are in individual homes, mostly Dr. Franklin's.

The Session is now reduced to Godfrey Franklin and Tom Reid once again; the Ad Interim Commission named the former as moderator and the latter continues as clerk of Session.

The Congregation has ceased meeting, as all but a few members have determined to leave us. The Session recommends that the Presbytery dissolve the Congregation, and we suggest the date of November 30, 2004. Waiting until that time will permit us to: 1) clean up the roll of the Congregation before it becomes the responsibility of the Presbytery; 2) dispose of the non-financial assets in Pensacola; 3) complete the transfer of the financial records from the former to the present treasurer; 4) arrange to send the balance of our financial assets to Pittsburgh; and 5) give us time to tie up a number of loose ends.

Dr. Franklin is still in Pensacola, where he works full-time as a professor and administrator at the University of West Florida. The Session would like to know the mind of the Presbytery concerning the gospel ministry in Pensacola in the future. We look to the King and Head of the Church to re-establish a Reformed Presbyterian congregation in Pensacola, should He so will.

Respectfully submitted,
Godfrey Franklin, moderator
Tom Reid, clerk

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the proposals and business of the Multiracial Congregation be brought to the November meeting of Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery request the Multiracial Session not to transfer funds to the Synod Trustees until Presbytery has time to counsel them about the needs in our own Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Moderator write a letter to Rev. Godfrey Franklin expressing Presbytery's concern and inviting him to the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

Installation of Andrew McCracken to the Columbus R. P. Church

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that an Installation Commission of at least four men to be appointed by the Moderator and Clerk be given the responsibility to determine the date, time and other details of the installation in consultation with the Columbus Session

Members of the Installation Commission

William Roberts, Moderator
Robert McCracken Gordon Keddie
Kenneth DeJong Steve Sturm
The date was set for October 22, 2004.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery declare the Elkhart R. P. Church pulpit vacant as of August 29, 2004, and that Rev. Edwin Blackwood convey this to the congregation in September 19, 2004.

Travel Agent

Pastor William Roberts was appointed as travel agent for this meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery expressed its thanks to the Southside Session and Congregation for hosting this meeting of Presbytery.

It was agreed that no minutes would be read at the end of the installation service and that the Minutes for this meeting would be included in the Clerk's Report for the November Presbytery Meeting.

Recess:

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery recess following a time of prayer to meet at 7:00 p.m. for the Installation Service.

Prayer Time

A number of the Presbyters gave items to be included in the prayer time. Presbytery engaged in a lengthy time of prayer with several of the Court leading in prayer. The time of prayer was brought to a close by Keith Magill and Robert Morrow leading the Court in prayer including prayer for the time of recess.

Presbytery sang Psalm 4B
Presbytery recessed at 4:48 p.m.

Session 2, Installation Service for Gordon Keddie at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the Call of the Moderator at 7:01 p.m.
The Moderator welcomed the large congregation present.
Presbytery sang Psalm 8B in praise to God.
The Moderator led in prayer and reconvened the Court.

Roll

The Clerk called the Roll and each presbyter was introduced to those present.
It was announced that a quorum was present.

Elder John Hanson of the Southside Session made presentations to John Tweed, Kenneth G. Smith, William Roberts and Edwin Blackwood, all of whom had assisted the congregation in various ways during its pastoral vacancy. (Kenneth Smith will be sent his gift since he was not able to be present for the installation.)

The Moderator introduced the agenda for the evening.

Narrative of the Steps: The Clerk narrated the steps leading up to this service.

Reading of the Edict: For the last time, the Clerk read the Edict for the Installation of Gordon Keddie to the Reformed Presbytery Church of Southside Indianapolis.

Adherence to the Call: The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by rising, which they did.

Acceptance of the Call: The moderator asked Gordon Keddie to indicate his acceptance of the call of the Southside Church, which Gordon did.

Queries for Installation: John Tweed asked Gordon Keddie the Queries for Installation, and Gordon replied in the affirmative to all of them. Gordon Keddie signed the Queries in the Minute Book.

Worship: The moderator called the assembly to worship. Psalm 61 was sung and Pastor Phil Pockras led in the invocation. Pastor Pockras read Matthew 16:1-28 and preached God's Word especially centered on Matthew 16:18. Psalm 19B st. 5-9 was sung in praise.

Installation Prayer: Moderator Ian Wise led in the prayer of installation of Gordon Keddie and the members of Presbytery and other elders present extended the right hand of fellowship to Gordon.

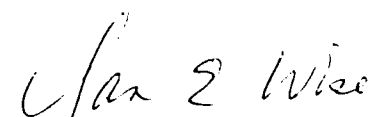
Charge to the Pastor: R.E. James Richhart read Matthew 16:13-19 and gave the charge to Gordon Keddie to build and protect Christ's church

Charge to the Congregation: Pastor Charles Brown read Romans 15:30 and gave a charge to the Southside Church to support and pray for their new pastor.

Introductions and greetings were given to Pastor and Mrs. Gordon and Jane Keddie.

Praise:
Psalm 136A was sung in praise to God.

Adjournment: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn. The Presbytery was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. in prayer by the moderator and Gordon Keddie pronounced the benediction. Psalm 72C st. 11,12 was sung following the Benediction.



Ian Wise, Moderator



Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

COMMISSION TO INSTALL ANDREW McCracken
Conference call – October 4, 2004 – 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Members present: Kenneth deJong; Gordon Keddie; Robert McCracken; William Roberts, moderator; Steve Sturm

Constitution of the Court: The court was constituted in prayer by the moderator at 7:45 p.m.

Election of a Clerk: Motion carried to elect Kenneth deJong clerk of the commission.

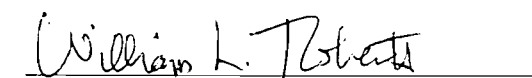
Edict: Motion Carried to issue an edict for the Installation of Andrew McCracken as Pastor of the Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church. The installation will take on Friday, October 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbus RPC building.

Responsibilities: The responsibilities for the installation service are as follows:

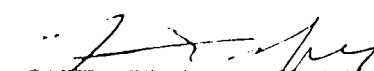
- Sermon: Gordon Keddie
- Charge to Pastor: William Roberts
- Charge to Congregation: Kenneth deJong
- Giving of queries: and Prayer of Installation: Robert McCracken
- Narration of steps: Columbus Clerk of Session

Minutes: The minutes were approved as read.

Adjournment: The court was adjourned in prayer at 7:55 p.m. by Steve Sturm.



William L. Roberts, moderator



Kenneth deJong, clerk

COMMISSION TO INSTALL ANDREW McCracken
Installation Service – Columbus Reformed Presbyterian Church
October 22, 2004 – 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members present: Kenneth deJong, clerk; Gordon Keddie; Robert McCracken; William Roberts, moderator; Steve Sturm

Minutes of the Fall Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
November 11-13, 2004

Constitution of the Court: The court was constituted in prayer by the moderator at 7:00 p.m., followed by the singing of Psalm 67A.

Narration of Steps: Jeff Jones, clerk of the Columbus Session narrated the steps.

Final Reading of Edict: Ken deJong, clerk of the commission, read the edict for the third and final time.

Adherence to the Call: Both the Columbus congregation and the pastor-elect signified their adherence to the call by a standing vote.

Queries: Robert McCracken asked the pastor-elect the queries for installation. After answering the queries in the affirmation, the pastor-elect signed the queries.

Preaching: Following the singing of Psalm 221, Gordon Keddie read from Luke 13:22-30 and preached on the theme, "Are There Few Who Are Saved?", which was followed by the singing of Psalm 72C.

Prayer of Installation: The prayer of installation was given by Robert McCracken installing Andrew Robert McCracken as pastor of the Columbus, Indiana, Reformed Presbyterian Church. The members of presbytery then extended to him the right hand of fellowship.

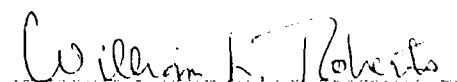
Charges: The charge to the pastor was given by William Roberts while the charge to the congregation was given by Ken deJong.

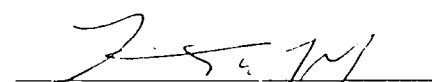
Recess in Prayer: Following the singing of Psalm 133A, the court was recessed in prayer by Steve Sturm at 8:18 p.m., which was then followed by the giving of the benediction by Andrew McCracken and the singing of Psalm 100C.

Reconvening: The court was reconvened in prayer by Robert McCracken at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes were approved as read.

Adjournment: The court was adjourned in prayer by Ken deJong at 8:30 p.m.


William L. Roberts, moderator


Kenneth deJong, clerk

Session 1, Thursday, November 11, 2004, at 2:07 p.m.

Call to Order

The Presbytery was called to order by the Former Moderator, Philip Pockras at 2:07 p.m. on Thursday, November 11, 2004, at the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette, Lafayette, IN.

Devotions

The Former Moderator read 1 Timothy 1:1-20 and drew Presbyters attention to verse 15, "This a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.....". Presbytery sang Psalm 130A st. 1-4. The Moderator, Pastor Ian Wise took the Chair.

Constitution

The Moderator constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll

The Clerk called the roll, which is as follows.

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xxxxxx	
Bloomington	William Roberts xxxxxx	Wendell McBurney xxxxc
	David Hanson xxxxxx	Kenneth DeJong cxxxx
Columbus	Andrew McCracken xxxxxx	
Elkhart		Robert McCracken xxxxxx
Hetherton	Milton Harrington eeeee	
Lafayette	David Long xxxxxx	Jeff Kessler xxxxxx
	Jared Olivetti xxxxex	Robert Bibby xxxxxx
Multiracial		Tom Reid xxxxxx
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxxxxx	
Orlando	David Smith eeeee	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xxxxee	Jim Long xxxx-x
	Richard Johnston xxxxxx	Russ Pulliam xxx--x
	James Faris xxxxxx	
Selma	Ralph Joseph exxxxx	Averette Woodson exxxxx
Southfield	Ian Wise xxxxxx	John Hughes xxxxxx
Southside	Gordon Keddie xxxxxx	Steve Sturm xxxxxx
		George Shopp xxxx-x
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxxxxx	Robert Morrow xxxxxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxxxxx	Greg Fisher --x--x
		Tom Dinkledine ----x-
Triangle		Charlie Leverett xxxxxx

Westminster Charles Brown xxxxx- Jim Richhart xxxxx-

Roger Adams -----
 Ray Joseph eeeee
 Rick Gamble xxxxx-
 Keith Magill xxxxxx
 Marion McFarland -----
 James McMahan -----
 James Wright -----
 Edwin Blackwood -xxxxx
 Paul Faris -----
 Garland Kincaid -----
 Frank Schutz --xxxx
 Robert Henning -----

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows.

Report of the Clerk To the Meeting of Presbytery on November 11-13, 2004

The Clerk would respectfully report that he has done his best to carry out the assignments given to him as far as he knows. The Minutes of the March-April, 2004 Meeting, the Minutes of the June 18-19, 2004 meeting, and the Minutes of the Synod, 2004 Meeting have been circulated by e-mail. If you have not received your copy you can request a hard copy or an electronic copy by e-mail attachment. If you wish a hard copy I shall try to have it available before the end of this meeting.

I have received several items of correspondence, some by e-mail, to which I have, mostly, replied by the same route; also some correspondence came by hard copy. I am introducing the items below.

Several congregational reports are coming before this meeting. If you need a congregational report let the Clerk know before the time for consideration of this report.

A letter from Synod's Finance Committee was received and I have copied it for each Session/Congregation.

I have received an "In Memoriam" for Preston Adams Carson from Oakdale. A recommendation below suggests the handling of this item.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting and Installation of Gordon Keddie Meeting on September 17, 2004, were not read at that meeting. These Minutes have now been prepared and should be approved at this meeting.

I have prepared the Proposed Agenda for this meeting which was circulated by e-mail and some copies printed and available separately from this report.

I thank you for the opportunity of serving as your Clerk and trust the Lord will bless us in this meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendations:

1. That the Parliamentarians for this meeting of Presbytery be Tom Reid and Jon Hughes..
2. That the Proposed Agenda for this meeting be accepted.
3. That the "In Memoriam" for Preston Carson be received and read at this meeting and that it be added as an appendix to the Minutes of this Meeting.
4. That the Minutes of the September 17, 2004, meeting be approved.
5. That the Clerk's Report be received.

Respectfully submitted,
 Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Recommendations:

Recommendations 1 to 5 were approved.

Call for Papers:

Two Communications have been received by the Clerk. The Clerk introduced Communications 2004-2 and 2004-3.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that these Communications be sent to the Judicial Committee to determine their disposition.

Report of the Ad Interim Commission

The Report of the Ad Interim Commission was presented by Pastor Phil Pockras.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Ad Interim Commission be approved.

Travel Agent

Pastor Jared Olivetti was appointed Travel Agent by common consent.

Report of the Interchurch Liaison

Pastor Phil Pockras verbally reported on some communications with other churches but no one was able to attend this meeting of our Presbytery.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Recommendations:

1. That student examinations be conducted by Presbytery according to the chart in I.A. above.
2. That Presbytery take up to 30 minutes to hear a report from Michael LeFebvre on Friday morning, Nov 12.
3. That Robert Jones be taken under care as a Student of Theology.
4. That Walt Zebrun be appointed to this Committee
5. That the Job Description of "Administrator of Theological Education" be received for information and comment.
6. That Walt Zebrun be appointed as "Administrator of Theological Education"
7. That Paul Mathews' status remain as "Inactive".

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 3:25 to 3:45 p.m.

Keith Magill continued to present the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Recommendations 2, 5 and 6 were approved.

Candidations and Credentials Committee

Keith Magill introduced Rich Holdeman for his examination in Church History II. The examination was conducted by Pastor Phil Pockras. Members of Presbytery asked further questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Keith Magill called on Charles Brown and Gordon Keddie to report on Rich Holdeman's Exegesis Paper on 1 Peter 3:13-17, "Sanctify Christ as Lord in Your Hearts" Charles Brown and Gordon Keddie both recommended that Presbytery sustain the examination.

Vote on the Examination

On the vote the examination was sustained.

Keith Magill reported on the evaluation of Rich Holdeman received from the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Congregational Report

The Columbus Congregational Report was given by Pastor Andrew McCracken. Pastor McCracken spoke of Robert Henning's excellent service during the vacancy.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Second Indianapolis Congregational report was given by Russ Pulliam. Pastor James Faris reported on the work on the west side of the city.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the members of the Judicial Committee. They are as follows: David Long, Chairman, James Faris, Robert Morrow, and Steve Sturm. (On Friday morning David Long was replaced by Edwin Blackwood.)

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer: Barry York prayed for the Columbus Congregation, Phil Pockras for the Second Indianapolis congregation, and Phil recessed the Court.

Recess

Presbytery took recess at 5:30 p.m.

Session 2, Thursday, November 11, 2003 at 7:06 p.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 7:06 p.m. and following the singing of Psalm 104A st. 1-4, was led in prayer by Robert McCracken.

First Time Delegates

Pastor Ralph Joseph introduced Ruling Elder Averette Woodson of the Selma Congregation.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rich Holdeman for his Expository Sermon on an Assigned Topic.

Rich Holdeman preached God's Word on Genesis 2:4-9 on the topic "The Creation Account". Rich Holdeman closed his time with prayer.

Roll

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually in this and all succeeding sessions of this meeting. The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday afternoon Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved.

Appointment of Resolution of Thanks Committee

The Moderator appointed Charles Leverett and Andrew McCracken to this Committee.

Roll Call Vote on Rich Holdeman's Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and Rich Holdeman's Sermon on an Assigned Topic was unanimously sustained.

Certification to Receive a Call

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rich Holdeman as having met the requirements for being licensed to receive a call.

Pastor William Roberts read the queries for licensure to receive a call.
Rich Holdeman answered all the queries in the affirmative with no exceptions.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and by more than 2/3s the Presbytery certified Mr. Holdeman as a candidate to receive a call.

Rich Holdeman signed in the Minute Book the Queries for Licensure to receive a call.

Pastor William Roberts led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Receive a Call.
Pastor William Roberts gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C, 2, i.

Pastoral Call on Rich Holdeman from the Bloomington Congregation

The Clerk introduced the call on Rich Holdeman.
Members of Presbytery asked for copies of the call to be made.

Covfamikoi Conference Report

Jim Long gave an oral report concerning the Conference to be held on July 9-14, 2005.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received

Pastoral Call on Rich Holdeman from the Bloomington Congregation (continued)

Pastor William Roberts informed Presbytery that the Call was a unanimous Call.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Call be sustained as a regular gospel call and that it be transmitted to Rich Holdeman.

Rich Holdeman indicated his acceptance of the Call from the Bloomington Congregation.

C.Y.P.U. Activities Report

Pastor Richard Johnston gave an oral report on the activities of the youth of the Presbytery.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the time be extended to take up the Disability Concerns Report and to have a time of prayer.

Disability Concerns Report

Mrs. Joanne Webb presented the Disability Concerns Report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Committee Appointment

The Moderator announced the Committee to review the Westminster R.P. Church Session Minute Book. This Committee will be Tom Reid and John Hanson.

Announcements**Prayer Time**

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer. Pastor James Faris prayed for Rev. Ray Joseph and Disabilities Concerns, Andrew McCracken for the Bloomington Congregation and Rich Holdeman, and Roy Blackwood prayed for Rich Gantz and then recessed the Court.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Session 3, Friday, November 12, 2004 at 8:40 a.m.**Call to Order**

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 8:40 a.m.
Presbytery sang Psalm 124B.

Constitution and Devotions

The Moderator led the Court in prayer and then preached God's Word from 1 Kings 19:1-18 on "God's Care for His Servants".

Presbytery sang Psalm 29A.

The Moderator led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll Call

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday evening session were read and approved.

Committee Appointment

The Moderator announced a change in the Judicial Committee. Edwin Blackwood will replace David Long as a member and chairman.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee for his examination in Systematic Theology and Distinctive Principles II.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Dr. Gamble be allowed up to 30 minutes for his part of the examination and that there follow up to 15 minutes for questions from the floor.

The examination was conducted by Dr. Rick Gamble.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time for Dr. Gamble's questions be extended by 10 minutes.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended to finish the present question which was in the process of being answered.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 10:30 to 10:51 a.m.

Presbytery resumed with information being announced about health needs for Art Fawthorpe, Milton Harrington, and Jim and Diane (Harrington) Thurlkill and their baby Sierra. Pastor Raymond Morton prayed for Art and Milton, and Robert Morrow prayed for Diane and her baby.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jason Camery for his examination in Personal Godliness. The examination was conducted by Pastor Barry York.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Roy Blackwood introduced Michael LeFebvre in order for him to give a report on his time in Scotland and his studies at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

Michael LeFebvre spoke to the Court and, as well as reporting regarding himself, he brought greetings from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Prayer Time

Rev. John Tweed and Pastor Gordon Keddie led the Court in prayer and Gordon also recessed the Court in prayer.

Recess

Presbytery took recess at 12:30 p.m.

Session 4, Friday, November 12, 2004 at 2:05 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 2:05 p.m.

Psalm 65A st. 1-3 was sung in praise and Pastor David Hanson led in prayer reconvening the Court in prayer.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Friday morning Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Presbytery remind the congregations that congregations are to get permission from Presbytery before making out a call for a pastor.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Robert Jones who is to be taken under care as a Student of Theology.

Keith Magill and Barry York conducted the interview.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Robert Jones be taken under care as a Student of Theology.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee for his examination in Personal and Evangelistic Gifts.

Robert McCracken conducted the examination.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended for 10 minutes to allow Robert McCracken to continue his questions.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended 10 minutes for questions.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was sustained.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 3:30 to 3:49 p.m.

Certification to Receive a Call

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee as having met the requirements for being Licensed to Receive a Call.

Moderator Ian Wise read the queries for Licensure to Receive a Call.

Greg Cumbee answered all the queries in the affirmative and indicated the following exception that he believes that to ordain women to the office of deacon is unbiblical.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the Presbytery unanimously certified Mr. Cumbee as a candidate to Receive a Call.

Greg Cumbee signed the Queries for Licensure to Receive a Call.

Moderator Ian Wise led Presbytery in the prayer of Certification to Receive a Call. The Moderator gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C, 2, i.

Report of the Multiracial Session

Rev. Tom Reid introduced the Report which is as follows:

Multiracial (Pensacola) Reformed Presbyterian Church Session Report to the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery Meeting 11-13 November 2004

We appreciate the support of the brethren within the Presbytery since the first efforts to create a Reformed Presbyterian congregation in Pensacola, Florida, began back in the spring of 1990. You have devoted a lot of time and effort, especially in the past five years, to our life and ministry. And we remember appreciatively as well the specific financial support granted during the early years.

As we reported in September to the special meeting of Presbytery at Southside Indianapolis, almost all of the active members of the Multiracial RP Church met informally in mid-August, when they asked for their letters of standing and recommended that the Church be disorganized. The session subsequently acquiesced to these requests, and Presbytery approved the projected disorganization date of November 30, 2004. The Congregation has not met for public worship since August 15.

The Session has been working for some time on the membership roll and can report that we expect no more than six people, all communicant members, to remain on the roll on November 30. They are Godfrey Franklin, Irina Franklin, Jared Franklin, Bessie Reed, Cy C. Reed, and Thomas Reid. Their contact information will be supplied to the Clerk of Presbytery.

Recommendation 1: that all remaining members of the Congregation on November 30, 2004, be added to Presbytery's roll.

Two members of the Church, Godfrey Franklin and Tom Reid, are ordained teaching elders. Although we have discussed the subject on several occasions, neither of us has been able to decide on a congregation to join. In addition, Tom Reid lives outside the bounds of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery, but has remained a minister on its roll in order 1) to help in the southern churches of the Presbytery (the future Gulf Presbytery) and 2) to provide a direct contact for the Presbytery at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh.

Recommendation 2: That the Presbytery consider whether it wants to advise Godfrey Franklin and Tom Reid about their future membership status.

Tom Reid has taken over the responsibility of treasurer of the Congregation until its financial affairs have been concluded. He has received the financial records of the Congregation from the last treasurer, Felecia Jackson, although nothing is available from 1999 to 2002, when Lucretia Lee was Treasurer. Felecia prepared a financial statement for 2004, up through September, but it is not balanced (although it is in a credit situation) and will have to be clarified. After consultation with the Treasurer's Office of Synod, Tom has shredded all financial records that do not need to be maintained. Presbytery and Synod assessments have been paid through 2004, as was Stan Copeland's January-September 2004 pension. We anticipate a final balance in the

accounts of over \$20,000, which will be promptly sent to the Treasurer of Synod when the accounts are closed. Concerning the disposition of the remaining financial assets, the Session has a different recommendation than did the informal congregation gathering of August 11, one that seems to us more consistent with the work we have been doing these past fourteen years in Pensacola.

Recommendation 3: that Presbytery recommend to Synod that all remaining financial assets be given to the Home Mission Board for use in church-planting in the Deep South, with priority given to a new work in Pensacola.

The remaining possessions of the Church are largely in a rented storage unit, which we plan to empty by the end of November, when the few remaining items will be transferred to a shed on Godfrey's property. We hope to sell the forty-four chairs to another Church in Pensacola. Most of what remains is not valuable enough to bother shipping anywhere, so we have hesitated to follow the recommendations of the informal gathering about their disposition.

Godfrey Franklin is responsible for contacting the State of Florida to close down the corporation, of which he is a trustee. Tom Reid will inform the State of Florida of our disorganization in relation to our tax exempt status.

Tom Reid is our representative to the November 11-13 meeting of Presbytery. Godfrey Franklin is leaving November 12 for Mexico, due to University of West Florida responsibilities there, and so he will not be able to attend. We are grateful to the Moderator of Presbytery, Pastor Ian Wise, for writing a gracious, personal letter to Godfrey to encourage him to attend this particular meeting of Presbytery. Godfrey's health, we can happily report, is better, although he still tires easily.

We anticipate submitting the Session minutes for final approval at the spring meeting of Presbytery, after which they will be lodged with the Clerk of Synod. Archival materials will be given to the R.P. Archives at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

We have been informed that most of the former active members of the Church have been attending the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Pensacola (until a few years ago, a PCA congregation), which is probably the best option for them. This congregation sings one or two psalms in each worship service.

We submit this report with sadness but still believing the words of our Lord, "I will build my church."

Recommendation 4: that the Presbytery declare the Multiracial Reformed Presbyterian Church, Pensacola, Florida, disorganized on Tuesday, November 30, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

Godfrey Franklin, Moderator
Thomas G. Reid Jr., Clerk

Action on the Recommendations:
Recommendation 1 was approved.

Recommendation 2:

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Recommendation 2 be laid on the table to entertain a substitute motion.

Substitute Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Moderator appoint a committee to consult with Godfrey Fanklin.

The substitute stands and Recommendation 2 fails.

The Moderator appointed the Committee consisting of Gordon Keddie, Chairman, Robert Morrow and John Tweed.

Recommendation 3 was amended as follows:

“that the Presbytery recommends to the Trustees of Synod that all remaining financial assets of the Multiracial R.P. Church be held in trust for five years for use in church planting work within the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery with priority being given to work in the South.”

Motion: The amendment was moved, seconded, and passed and becomes new Recommendation 3 which is approved.
Recommendation 4 was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended to pray for the dissolution of the Multiracial congregation, the new committee’s communication with Godfrey Franklin, prayer to recess this session.

Prayer Time

Rev. Robert Morrow led the Court in the prayer of dissolution and for the congregation and Raymond Morton also prayed closing with the prayer of recess.

Recess

Presbytery took recess at 5:36 p.m.

Session 5, Friday, November 12, 2004 at 7:08 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 7:08 p.m.

Psalm 68A st. 1-4 was sung in praise and Pastor Charles Brown led in prayer reconvening the Court in prayer.

The Moderator outlined the order of business for this session.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Friday afternoon Session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as amended.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Robert Jones for his Personal Godliness examination.

Pastor David Long conducted the examination

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Committee of Church Extension and Training

Pastor David Long gave the Report of the Church Extension and Training Committee. Rev. Keith Magill, the Coordinator of Church Extension and Training addressed the Court concerning his work.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Commission to Install Andrew McCracken to the Columbus R.P. Church

The report was given by Pastor William Roberts, Moderator of the Commission. The installation took place on October 22, 2004.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the Report of the Commission, that the Minutes of the Commission be spread on the Minutes of Presbytery, and the Commission be dissolved.

Church Extension Committees’ Reports

The Southern Church Extension Committee Report was given orally by Pastor Ralph Joseph.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Phil Pockras introduced a request from Ron Posvar to give the Psalters remaining from the Charlotte work to the local Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the request be granted.

The Southern Illinois Church Extension Committee Report was given orally by Pastor Raymond Morton.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

There was no report from the Michigan nor the Ohio-Indiana Church Extension Committees.

Belle Center Visitation Committee Report

The report was given by Keith Magill.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Report of the Presbytery’s Representative on Geneva College’s Board of Corporators

Pastor Ralph Joseph gave the Report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Congregational Reports

The Westminster congregational report was given by Elder Jim Richhart.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery adjourn following a time of prayer.

Prayer Time

Jon Hughes prayed for the Westminster congregation; John Hanson prayed for the Belle Center congregation; and David Long prayed for the work of Church Extension and Training, and then adjourned the Court in prayer.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Session 6, Saturday, November 13, 2004 at 8:37 a.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 8:37 a.m.
Presbytery sang Psalm 5A st. 1-3

Constitution

Pastor Phil Pockras led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Robert Jones for his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Robert Jones read I John 1:1-4 and led in prayer.

He went on to preach God's Word under the title "The Message Continues" from the Scripture which he had just read. He closed his message with prayer and announced Psalm 100B which was sung.

Roll Call

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Friday evening session were read and approved.

Roll Call Vote on Robert Jones's Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Rich Johnston informed the Court that the Candidates and Credentials Committee will wait until the Spring 2005 meeting to recommend that Michael Weathers be taken under care.

Pastor Keith Magill updated the Presbytery concerning the Scholar-in-Residence program.

Recommendation 7 was approved. (See page 4)

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report as a whole be received.

Pastor William Roberts announced that Rich Holdeman's examinations for becoming a teaching elder will take place on Saturday, February 5 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bloomington R.P. Church in Bloomington, IN

Congregational Reports

Selma, the Selma Congregational Report was given by Elder Averette Woodson.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Southfield, the Southfield Congregational Report was given by Elder Jon Hughes.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Southside Indianapolis, the Southside Indianapolis Congregational Report was given by Elder Steve Sturm.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Sparta, the Sparta Congregational Report was given by Rev. Robert Morrow

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Sycamore, the Sycamore Congregational Report was given by Pastor Barry York.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 10:21 to 10:42 a.m.

Presbytery resumed by taking up the Triangle Congregational Report.

Triangle, the Triangle Congregational Report was given by Elder Charles Leverett.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Presbytery receive by special resolution a motion from the Triangle Session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Rev. John Tweed be appointed as Interim Moderator of the Triangle Session as long as he is at Triangle; that Pastor Ian Wise be thanked for his faithful, invaluable service; and, that the Southfield congregation and her elders be thanked for loaning Ian to us.

Elder Charles Leverett asked for prayer for Greg Cumbce who needs to have a cornea transplant and no organ is available at the present time, and for himself as he is suffering from vermiculites.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Judicial Committee Report was distributed to the members of Presbytery for consideration at a later time in this meeting.

Committee Concerning the Keeping of Records

Pastor Raymond Morton gave an oral report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Assistant Clerk's Report

The Assistant Clerk reported that the Minutes of the Westminster Session were reviewed and that nothing was found contrary to the law and order of the church.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Judicial Committee Report

Rev. Edwin Blackwood gave the report of the Judicial Committee. It is as follows:

Report of the Judicial Committee
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Fall Meeting, November 2004

Paper 2004-2, submitted by the Bloomington Session, requests: "*That the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery rescind its recent action of requiring officers to state in writing all exceptions to the doctrinal standards of the church.*"

Recommendation #1: That paper 2004-2 should be returned to the authors.

Ground:

The paper and its recommendation are too ambiguous.

A few of the most significant ambiguities that the judicial committee wrested with, in order to know how best to dispose of the paper, follow:

1. Does the paper oppose Synod's ruling in response to Presbytery's 2000-4 paper? The 2003 Synod declared that: "Synod remind all officers of the church that if they find themselves out of accord with the Confessional Standards of the church, their beliefs and commitments having changed, it is their duty to declare their scruples and differences with the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, the *Larger and Shorter Catechism*, or the *Testimony the Reformed Presbyterian Church* to their Presbytery if a Teaching Elder, or to their Session if a Ruling Elder or Deacon" (*Minutes of Synod, 2003*, p. 86).
2. Is the primary objection to the "in writing" portion of Presbytery's action?
3. Which "last action" is the paper asking to be rescinded? Or are there, as it seems to our committee, references to multiple "recent actions" and if so which of these are to be rescinded?
4. Is the primary objection to Presbytery's "procedure" (each of the paper's 4 points refer to the procedure)? If so, there is no alternative procedure presented.

Paper 2004-3, submitted by the Bloomington Session, requests "*That the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery rescind its additional interpretation to query #4.*"

Recommendation #2: That paper 2004-3 should be returned to the authors.

Grounds:

1. We disagree with the paper's ground #1 – that "only the Synod has the right to declare the interpretation of denominational oaths." We as a Presbytery have recently declared

the interpretation of other denominational oaths. Sessions declare their interpretation of these oaths as well.

2. The paper's ground #2 does not present any new rational for overturning Presbytery's ruling. Rather it simply restates arguments for the inclusive view of query #4 that Presbytery decided against.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Faris
Robert Morrow
Steve Sturm
Edwin Blackwood, Chairman

Action taken on the recommendations:

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Raymond Morton recorded his dissent.

The Bloomington Session gave notification of intent to appeal to the Synod of the R.P.C.N.A. with the request that the Session be given one week to lodge the appeal. This request was granted.

Recommendation 2 was approved.

The Bloomington Session asked leave to appeal to the Synod.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be adopted.

Report of the Resolution of Thanks Committee

Pastor Andrew McCracken reported on behalf of the Committee. The report is as follows:

Resolution of Thanks

The Fall 2004 gathering of the Great Lakes - Gulf Presbytery would like to thank the Lord, our King and Redeemer for the rich privilege it is to serve in His kingdom work. We rejoice in the measure of cooperation and unity experienced in our meetings and for the continued evidences of His loving care for this branch of His church. We thank Him for safety in travel, for the counsel of our brothers, for the encouraging reports of those laboring throughout the various congregations, for His raising up new men to be trained in ministry, for His wisdom and guidance showered upon those who seek Him, for His compassion evidenced in His carrying various ones through times of difficulty and for the certainty of His victory over our final enemy.

We thank Him too, for the rich fellowship and ministry of the saints in Lafayette as they served us and met our physical needs of delicious food and comfortable housing. Truly they have been "kindly affectionate to us with brotherly love;" they have "not lacked in diligence" and they have been "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." [Romans 12:10-11] For these gracious gifts we give Him thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Leverett
Andy McCracken

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the above report be printed and a copy be given to the Lafayette congregation for posting in a prominent place.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer: Ian Wise prayed for the Selma congregation; Jared Olivetti for Southfield; Kenneth deJong for Southside; Jim Long for Sparta; Robert McCracken for Sycamore; and, Robert McKissick for Triangle.

Motion: It was moved, seconded that congregational reports be brought to the meeting to which they are to report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to refer this item to the Ad Interim Commission.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended to finish the business as outlined by the Moderator.

The Moderator conveyed the greetings of Rev. Raymond Joseph to the Court.

Minutes

The Minutes of this session were read.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery adjourn.

The Moderator adjourned this meeting of Presbytery with prayer at 12:05 p.m.

Presbytery closed with the singing of Psalm 133A.

Ian Wise, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes of the Special Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
February 5, 2005

Saturday, February 5, 2005, at 10:05 a.m.

Call to Order

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Ian Wise at 10:05 a.m. on Saturday, February 5, 2005, at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, IN.

Devotions

Presbytery sang Psalm 113A st. 1-5.

The Moderator, Pastor Ian Wise led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll:

The Roll was called by the Clerk and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center Bloomington	Philip Pockras x William Roberts x David Hanson x	Wendell McBurney x Kenneth DeJong x
Columbus Elkhart Hetherton Lafayette	Andrew McCracken x David Long x Jared Olivetti x Raymond Morton x	Robert Henning x
Oakdale Orlando Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood x Richard Johnston x James Faris x	Donald Cassell x
Selma Southfield Southside Sparta Sycamore Triangle Westminster	Ian Wise x Gordon Keddie x Raymond Morton x Barry York x	Robert Morrow x
Roger Adams - Ray Joseph - Rick Gamble - Keith Magill - Marion McFarland - James McMahan - James Wright -		

Edwin Blackwood e
 Paul Faris -
 Garland Kincaid -
 Frank Schutz -
 Robert McCracken e
 Tom Reid -

The Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Introductions

Rich Holdeman introduced his parents Mr. And Mrs. Dick Holdeman.
 Pastor Barry York introduced Mr. Robert Jones as an intern in the Sycamore congregation.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Roy Blackwood introduced Rich Holdeman for his ordination examinations including the sermon on an assigned portion of Scripture, followed by the examinations in Personal Godliness, and, Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the Testimony of the R.P. Church.

Rich Holdeman read Isaiah 2:1-5 and preached God's Word on "The Glorious Kingdom of Christ."
 He concluded his message with prayer.

Roll Call Vote

The Clerk called the Roll and the sermon by Rich Holdeman on an assigned portion of Scripture was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

The Moderator called for the examination in Personal Godliness.
 The examination was conducted by Pastor David Long.
 Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Clerk called the Roll and the examination of Rich Holdeman in Personal Godliness was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

The Moderator called for the examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the Testimony of the R.P. Church.
 The examination was conducted by Pastor Andrew McCracken.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Clerk called the Roll and the examination of Rich Holdeman in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the Testimony of the R.P. Church was unanimously sustained.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the Installation as teaching elder of Rich Holdeman to the Bloomington congregation be held during the Spring Meeting of Presbytery as arranged by the Clerk and the Bloomington Session in consultation with the Ad Interim Commission.

Travel Agent

Pastor William Roberts is the Travel Agent for this meeting of Presbytery.

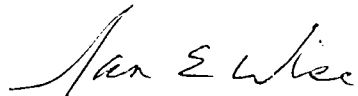
Reading of the Minutes

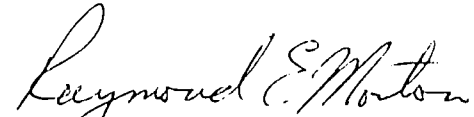
The Clerk read the Minutes of this meeting.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected.

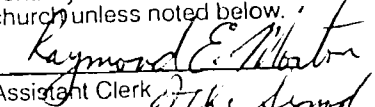
Adjournment and Prayer

Presbytery sang Psalm 87 st. 1-5 and the Moderator led in the prayer of adjournment.
 The Moderator pronounced the meeting adjourned.


 Ian Wise, Moderator
 Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery


 Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
 Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes examined and nothing found
 contrary to the law and order of the
 church unless noted below.


 Assistant Clerk of the Synod

June 29, 2005

Minutes of the Annual Spring Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
March 31 to April 2, 2005
held at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church

Session 1, Thursday, March 31, 2005, at 2:03 p.m.

Constitution of the Court

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, Ian Wise, at 2:03 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2005, at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church in Bloomington, Indiana.

The Moderator led the Court in devotions.

Devotions

The Presbytery sang Psalm 8A st. 1-7. The Moderator read Galatians 4:8-20 and preached from verse 19 on "The Cost and Goal of Ministry". He concluded his message with prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll, which is as follows for all Sessions of this meeting:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xxxxxx	Larry Bump xxxxxx
Bloomington	William Roberts xxxxxx	Wendell McBurney Axxxx-
	David Hanson xxxxxx	Ken deJong xxxxxx
		Rich Holdeman A----x
Columbus	Andrew McCracken xxxxxx	Ed Schilser AAxxxx
Elkhart		Robert McCracken xxxxxx
		Fik Menbere Axxx--
Hetherton		Milton Harrington xxxxxx
Lafayette	David Long xxxxxx	David Carr xxxxxx
	Jared Olivetti cxxxx-	Dan Webb xxxxxx
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxxxxx	
Orlando	David Smith xxxxxx	Jay Worsham xxxxxx
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood Axxxxx	Terry Magnuson xxxxxx
	Richard Johnston xxxxxx	Russ Pulliam xxxx--
	James Faris xxxxxx	Dean Filson alt ----x-
		Ram Rao alt -----x
Selma	Ralph Joseph xxxxxx	Averette Woodson xxxxxx
Southfield	Ian Wise xxxxxx	Jon Hughes xxxxxx
Southside	Gordon Keddie	Steve Sturm xxxxxx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxxxxx	Robert Morrow xxxxxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxxxxx	Robert McKissick xxxx-x
Triangle		Greg Cumbee xxxx-x

Westminster Charles Brown eeeee Jim Richhart AAxxxx

Ministers Under Appointment by the Presbytery

Rick Gamble xx----
Keith Magill xxxxxx

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams -----
Edwin Blackwood eeeee
Tom Reid xxxxxxx
Frank Schutz -----
James Wright -----

Ministers Retired

Robert Henning -----
Ray Joseph eeeee
Marion McFarland eeeee
James McMahan xxxxxx
Paul Faris ----x-
Garland Kincaid -----

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Introductions

There were no first time delegates to this meeting.

Memorials

Elder Kenneth Thompsom was remembered for his service to the Lord and a memorial was read by Pastor Rich Johnston. The memorial is printed in the Appendix to these Minutes.

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows.

**Report of the Clerk of Presbytery
to the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
March 31 to April 2, 2005**

The clerk respectfully reports that he has carried out the assignments given to him, as far as he knows, and thanks the assistant clerk, Ralph Joseph, for his help in

various ways. Ralph has prepared the rolls for this meeting, written a draft report of Presbytery to Synod, and compiled the statistical report for the stated clerk of Synod.

During the past year, I have responded to a number of communications hopefully in a helpful and worthwhile way. I have written the minutes for each meeting of Presbytery and circulated them by e-mail. All corrections or changes to the minutes should be communicated to me as soon as possible as I will soon be printing them into the permanent record of Presbytery.

The Business of Synod Committee has written that there will be no time during the coming Synod meeting for Presbyteries to meet. Meeting immediately before or after the Synod meeting does not seem feasible. Furthermore, presbyteries are not allowed to meet outside the bounds of their own presbytery without the permission of Synod. Thus I am recommending that the Time and Place Committee look at the need/arrangements for a Synod meeting.

Also for the Time and Place Committee is the matter of Presbytery meetings in regard to ordination and/or installation meetings. There is a recommendation to refer this to this Committee.

The Committee of the Officers of Presbytery concerning Record Keeping has not met and the recommendation below asks for the continuance of this committee.

I have prepared the agenda for this meeting. There are a lot of student examinations at this meeting. I am asking that the examinations be done as in the agenda. Several of the students are only available at the times arranged. If necessary, I will propose that the examinations be orders of the day as printed in the Proposed Agenda. Also, times before meals have been reduced to 15 minutes or less. The finishing time on Thursday evening has been extended by 15 minutes. This means extensions of time will be very limited. Items not dealt with will have to go to "unfinished business".

I have one item that I will recommend as an Order of the Day. It is the Youth Leadership Team Report which will be taken immediately after the break on Saturday morning.

The Visitation to the Sycamore Congregation did not take place this year. I am recommending that this assignment be reassigned by the Nominating Committee.

Because of the Installation Service on Friday evening, I am proposing that the minutes of the afternoon and evening sessions be read during the Saturday morning session.

The edict for the Installation of Rich Holdeman has been issued. I sent it out to Pastor Bill Roberts on Tuesday, March 22 after a few corrections were made. Pastor Roberts circulated it to the congregation on Wednesday, March 23. Pastor Roberts on the Lord's Day, March 27 announced various aspects about the installation service to the

congregation but he forgot to read the actual edict although the announcement was printed in the church bulletin. I don't believe that this should give reason to delay the installation. However, I am including a recommendation for the Installation Service to go ahead as planned.

The Ad Interim Commission Report has taken action in regard to James Wright. In their Minutes they took action as follows, "the Commission act to suspend Jim Wright from the exercise and privileges of the office of Teaching Elder until the matter can be dealt with by Presbytery at the Spring 2005 meeting. I have received a letter from Jim asking for the forgiveness of the Presbytery and outlining the counsel he is currently receiving. Because of the nature of this matter, I am recommending that the Moderator appoint a commission of Presbytery to map out the way forward and bring recommendations to this meeting and subsequent meetings of Presbytery.

I have enjoyed serving as Clerk of Presbytery and appreciate the trust you have placed in me. I pray the Lord will bless us in this meeting and that we may do all 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 Jon Hughes and Tom Reid.
2. That the Nominating Committee determine the congregations to be visited this year.
3. That the Nominating Committee appoint a new visitation committee for the visitation to the Sycamore congregation.
4. That the proposed agenda for this meeting be accepted.
5. That the matter concerning the Presbytery meeting at Synod be referred to the Time and Place Committee.
6. That the arrangements for the ordination/installation services be referred to the Time and Place Committee.
7. That the re-appointment of the Committee of the Officers of Presbytery concerning Record Keeping be referred to the Nominating Committee.
8. That the Installation Service for Rich Holdeman be held as announced in the edict.
9. That the Minutes for the Friday afternoon and evening sessions be read at the Saturday morning session.
10. That the Moderator appoint a Commission of three to map out the way forward for Presbytery to deal Biblically and lovingly with Jim Wright and to carry out whatever counsel the Presbytery may wish to communicate to Jim Wright in the future.

Recommendations:

Recommendations 1 through 9 were approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the consideration of Recommendation 10 be postponed until after the Presbytery can consult with the delegates of the Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church and until the Clerk in personal consultation with the members of the Court can review and refine the scope of the proposed commission's work.

Recommendation 11: that the Youth Leadership Report be made the Order of the Day after the break on Saturday morning. The recommendation was approved.

Election of Officers of the Court

Moderator: Pastor James Faris was nominated.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that nominations be closed.

Pastor James Faris was elected as Moderator.

The new Moderator was welcomed to the Chair by the out-going Moderator.

Clerks

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the present clerks, Raymond Morton, Clerk, and Ralph Joseph, Assistant Clerk, be re-elected.

Call for Session Minute Books

The Assistant Clerk asked that Session Minute Books be submitted for examination.

Call for Papers:

Two Communications from the Bloomington Session were brought to this meeting of Presbytery.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that these be referred to the Judicial Committee.

Edwin Blackwood and Jared Olivetti were granted excused absences.

Report of the Assistant Treasurer on Presbytery's Finances

The report on Presbytery's finances was given by Pastor William Roberts.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed the report be received.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed the Presbytery budget be kept the same this year as last year.

Report of the Ad Interim Commission

The Report of the Ad Interim Commission was presented by Pastor Phil Pockras.

The Report is as follows:

Ad Interim Commission, Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
2004-2005

Dear Brethren:

During the last year we have sought to fulfill the tasks laid upon us by the Presbytery. We report the Ad Interim Commission took the following actions:

- On April 29th, 2004 the 2003 Presbytery Report to the Synod was adopted.
- On May 27th, 2004 we made preparations for the ordination of Jared Olivetti, sustained and forwarded the call from the Walton congregation upon Brad Johnston, and approved the request by Phil Joseph for funds to provide scholarships to the Family Conference.
- On August 17th, 2004 we approved the request from the Elkhart congregation to appoint a provisional Moderator of Session, and appointed Barry York to this role. We also appointed a commission to deal with other issues in the Elkhart congregation. We accepted the resignation of Stanley Copeland as Stated Supply at the Multiracial congregation, appointed Godfrey Franklin as provisional Moderator of the Session, and approved the disposition of some of the property at Multiracial. At this meeting we also made assignments for the installation service for Gordon Keddie as Pastor to the Southside congregation, and called for a special meeting of Presbytery on September 17th.
- On September 19th, 2004 we transferred the license and credentials of Bradley Johnston to the St. Lawrence Presbytery, and made changes to the assignments for Gordon Keddie's installation service.
- On January 20th, 2005 we approved the request of the Second RP of Indianapolis congregation to call an Associate Pastor. We also set the Presbytery Assessment as requested by the Asst. Treasurer of Presbytery.
- On February 21st, 2005 we approved the suggested process for Congregational Reporting. We also dealt with the matter of the communication from the Orlando congregation, ratifying their actions and suspending Jim Wright from the exercise and privileges of the office of Teaching Elder.
- On March 07th, 2005 we took up, sustained, and forwarded the following calls; Ian Wise by Triangle, Greg Cumbee by Triangle, David Hanson by Elkhart, and Michael LeFebvre by Second RP. We also asked that the matter of vacation allotments be considered by the next meeting of Presbytery to help congregations decide what is a sufficient amount.

We thank God for the opportunity He has given us to serve the Church, and pray that our actions will meet with His approval, and yours.

Recommendation #1: That the minutes of this Commission be approved and that they be spread upon the minutes of Presbytery.

Philip H. Pockras, Moderator,
Jim Richhart, Ruling Elder

Larry Bump, Clerk
Ralph Joseph, Teaching Elder

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Ad Interim Commission be approved and Minutes of the Commission be spread on the Minutes of Presbytery.

Elder Steve Sturm led in prayer for Edwin Blackwood, Jared Olivetti and for Pastor and Mrs. Charles Brown for the baby born to them today.

Recess: Presbytery took recess from 3:34 p.m. to 3:46 p.m. Presbytery resumed with the singing of Psalm 84A st. 1-3.

Report of the Inter Church Liaison

The Inter Church Liaison, Pastor Phil Pockras, gave an oral report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced the report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee. The Presbytery took up the Recommendations.

The recommendations are as follows:

1. That student examinations be conducted by Presbytery according to the chart in I.A.
2. That Greg Cumbee's examinations for becoming a teaching elder be conducted according to the chart in I.A. above.
3. That Presbytery grant 10 minutes to receive a report from Dr. Richard Gamble, our Scholar-in-Residence.
4. That Michael Weathers be taken under care as a student of theology
5. That the examination of Ruling Elder Larry Bump to qualify for "more regular occasional preaching" be conducted according to the chart in I.A. above.
6. That student aid funds be continued for the following students. The amount shall be \$250 per month for 12 months a year, as long as the man remains a full time student at RPTS or another Presbytery approved academic institution.
 - Michael Lefebvre at least through July 2005
 - Rutledge Etheridge
7. That the status of each of the other "Ordained Ministers Not in the Pastorate" be approved as given in the body of the report.
8. That Roy Blackwood, Dean Filson and Richard Gamble be reelected to the Committee for the Class of 2008.

Action on the Recommendations:

Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 were approved. Recommendation 8 was referred to the Nominating Committee.

In keeping with Recommendation 3, Dr. Gamble addressed the Court. Pastor David Long was appointed to pray for Dr. Gamble at the prayer time before recess.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rutledge Etheridge for his examination in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts. The examination was conducted by Robert McCracken. Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Prayer Time

Presbytery gathered in small groups for prayer and closed the time with the singing of Psalm 23A: 1-5.

Congregational Reports

The Belle Center Congregational Report was given by R.E. Larry Bump.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Bloomington Congregational Report was given by R.E. Kenneth deJong.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Columbus Congregational Report was introduced by Pastor Andrew McCracken.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

The Hetherton Congregational Report was given by Rev. Milton Harrington.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer. Keith Magill prayed for the Belle Center congregation, Robert McCracken for Bloomington, Jerry O'Neill for Columbus, Rich Johnston for Hetherton and David Long led in prayer for Dr. Gamble and also led in the prayer of recess.

Recess

Following announcements Presbytery took recess at 5:55 p.m.

Session 2, Thursday, March 31, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Reconvening

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 7:00 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 65A and being led in prayer by the Moderator.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Jason Camrey for his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Jason Camrey preached God's Word from I John 2:1-6 on "Jesus Christ the Righteous" and concluded his message with prayer.

Presbytery sang Psalm 72A st. 1-4

Roll:

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually in this and all remaining sessions of this meeting.
The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk

Minutes

The Clerk read the Minutes of the previous session.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Minutes be approved.

Roll Call Vote on Jason Camrey's Evidence of Progress Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Appointment of Committees

The Moderator announced the appointment of Committees for this meeting of Presbytery and the Review Committees of Session Minute books. They are as follows:

Committee Appointments: (first named is to be Chairman)

Nominating Committee: Robert McKissick, Jon Hughes, David Hanson

Time and Place Committee: Barry York, David Smith

Resolution of Thanks Committee: David Carr, Gordon Keddie

Travel Agent: Greg Cumbee

Judicial Committee: Steve Sturm, Phil Pockras, Ian Wise

Committees to inspect Session Records:

CONGREGATION

Belle Center

Bloomington

Columbus

Elkhart

Hetherton

Lafayette

Multiracial

Oakdale

Orlando

Second Indianapolis

Selma

Southfield

Southside Indianapolis

Sparta

Sycamore

Triangle

Westminster

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gordon Keddie, Robert McCracken

Robert Morrow, James McMahon

Averette Woodson, Ken deJong

Keith Magill, Terry Magnuson

Fikre Membre, Roy Blackwood

David Carr, Jon Hughes

David Long, Greg Cumbee

Larry Bump, Steve Sturm

Ian Wise, Andrew McCracken

Jared Olivetti, Phil Pockras

Tom Reid, Barry York

Wendell McBurney, David Carr

Rich Johnston, Milton Harrington

Russ Pulliam Dan Webb

Jay Worsham, William Roberts

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Rutledge Etheridge for his examination in Systematic Theology II. The examination was conducted by Dr. Rick Gamble. Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Congregational Reports

The report of the Lafayette congregation was given by Elder Dan Webb.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The report of the Oakdale congregation was given by Pastor Raymond Morton.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Prayer: Presbytery was led in prayer for the Lafayette Congregation by Rev. Tom Reid and for the Oakdale congregation by Pastor David Smith.

Report of Presbytery's Representative to the Home Mission Board

Pastor Ian Wise presented the report.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Reports of the Church Extension Committees

Ralph Joseph gave an oral Report of the Southern Church Extension Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Pastor David Long gave an oral Report of the Indiana Ohio Church Extension Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

There was no Report of the Michigan Church Extension Committee.

Pastor Raymond Morton gave an oral Report of the Southern Illinois Church Extension Committee.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Sparta Visitation Committee

The Report was given by Robert McKissick, Chairman. He introduced Recommendation 1 and spoke to it.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed to lay this report on the table until later in this meeting of Presbytery.

Prayer Time: Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer: David Hanson and Ralph Joseph prayed for the various efforts of church extension in the Presbytery; Jon Hughes prayed for the nation in the light of the Terry Schivo decision; Dan Webb prayed for the R.P.

Church in Scotland; and Jay Worsham prayed for the Sparta Visitation Committee and adjourned the Court.

Adjournment: Presbytery sang Psalm 4B st. 4 and adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Session 3, Friday, April 1, 2005 at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Moderator called Presbytery to order at 8:30 a.m.
Presbytery sang Psalm 119Q st. 1-4.

Constitution

Rev. Robert Morrow led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Larry Bump for his sermon required for more regular occasional preaching.

Larry Bump read Romans 9:30 to 10:21 and preached God's Word from Romans 10:4 on "Everyone Who Believes" and concluded his message with prayer.
Presbytery sang Psalm 36B st. 5-7.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk

Minutes

The Clerk read the Minutes of the previous session.
Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected.

Roll Call Vote on Larry Bump's Regular Occasional Preaching Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

The Assistant Clerk announced the last call for Communications. No further communications were introduced.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Michael Weathers who is to be interviewed for to be taken under the care of the Presbytery. The interview was conducted by Pastors Roy Blackwood and Rich Johnston. Members of Presbytery also asked questions and received answers.

Recommendation 4 of the Candidates and Credentials Committee was approved.

Clerk's Report (continued)

The Clerk introduced Recommendation 10 as drafted by Phil Pockras and the Clerk.

Recommendation 10: That Presbytery appoint a Judicial Commission of three elders who, Biblically, lovingly, and in full dependence upon the guidance of the Spirit of God, will:

1. Impose whatever censure is required;
2. In conjunction with the Orlando Session, work toward Elder Wright's repentance, restoration, and growth in holiness.

This Commission is authorized to involve elders from other Presbyteries whose ministry in Elder Wright's life could be beneficial.

The censure of suspension from the exercise and privileges of the office of Teaching Elder imposed by the Ad Interim Commission on Elder Wright on February 21, 2005 will remain in effect unless changed by this Commission.

Thanks was expressed to the members of the Orlando Session who are here, and Keith Magill and Bob McKissick for their help in drafting this resolution.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Recommendation 10 be approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Clerk's Report as a whole be approved.

Congregational Report

The Elkhart Congregational Report was given by Interim Moderator of Session, Barry York.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Orlando Congregational Report was given by Elder Jay Worsham.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Clerk introduced the following motion:

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the suspension of James Wright as a Ruling and Teaching Elder be notified to the Presbytery Clerks and the Stated Clerk of Synod." (Reference is made to The Book of Discipline 4.1.d.)

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer:

- Jared Olivetti prayed for the Elkhart congregation;
- Robert McKissick prayed for the Orlando congregation and James Wright and for the time of recess.

Recess

Presbytery took recess from 10:32 to 10:48 a.m.

Presbytery reconvened with the singing of Psalm 81B

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee for his Sermon on an assigned portion of Scripture.

Greg Cumbee led the Court in prayer, read Ephesians 4:11-13, and preached God's Word on "The Threefold Calling of Pastors and Teachers". He finished his message with prayer and announced Psalm 29A st. 1-6.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Michael Weathers for his examination in Personal Godliness.

Pastor Rich Johnston conducted the examination.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Prayer Time

Elder Kenneth de Jong led in prayer for the business of the Presbytery and recessed the Court at 12:48 a.m.

Session 4, Friday, April 1, 2005, at 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Reconvening

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 2:00 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 100A and being led in prayer by Pastor Greg Cumbee.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Michael Weathers for his Evidence of Progress Sermon.

Michael Weathers preached God's Word from Isaiah 53:1-6. He asked the Presbytery to stand for the reading of Scripture and prayer. The title of his sermon was "An Undesirable Substitute". He concluded with prayer and announced Psalm 146A which was sung.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk

Minutes

The Moderator declared that the Minutes stand approved as read.

Roll Call Vote on Michael Weather's Evidence of Progress Sermon

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was sustained.

Declaration of Suspension of James Wright

The Moderator indicated to the Presbytery that the declaration of suspension concerning James Wright had not yet been read to the Court.

The Moderator read this Declaration which is as follows:

"You, James Wright, have been found guilty before this Court of the Church of Christ of the sin of drunkenness. This Court, therefore, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, suspends you from the office of teaching and ruling elder and forbids you to perform any of the duties belonging to it. This censure shall continue in effect until you have given satisfactory evidence of true repentance, and have been restored to good standing by this Court."

Prayer: Pastor Raymond Morton led the Court in prayer seeking God's help and blessing for James Wright for his repentance and restoration, for the Wright Commission, and for the Orlando congregation.

Church Extension and Training Committee Report

Pastor David Long presented the report.

Pastor Keith Magill, Coordinator of Church Extension and Training addressed the Court concerning his work and activities over the past year.

Elder Russ Pulliam spoke to the Report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended to allow Russ Pulliam to complete his comments.

Recess

Russ Pulliam led the Court in prayer before the recess.

Presbytery recessed from 3:37 to 3:46 p.m.

Presbytery returned from recess with the singing of Psalm 150B.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Presbytery assemble in two groups in order to hear two student examinations.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Group A-L examined Greg Cumbee in Personal Godliness.

The examination was conducted by Elder Robert McKissick.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Group M-Z examined Robert Jones in Systematic Theology I.

The examination was conducted by Pastor Gordon Keddie.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was sustained.

Church Extension and Training Committee Report

Pastor David Long continued to present the report.

Recommendation: that the Presbytery grant the Church Extension and Training Committee permission to petition the Home Mission Board for money to continue the Committee's program for a further three years.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that this recommendation be laid on the table to entertain a substitute.

Substitute Motion: it was moved, seconded that Presbytery grant its approval to the continuing Church Extension and Training position for three years if the money becomes available.

The motion passed on a paper ballot, 23-Yes and 13-No.

The Recommendation was approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report as a whole be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Rich Johnston reported on Robert Jones written English Bible examination and recommended that the examination be sustained.

On the voice vote Presbytery sustained the examination.

Prayer

Elder Averette Woodson led the Court in prayer for the business of the Presbytery and recessed the Court.

Recess

Presbytery recessed at 5:22 p.m.

Session 5, Friday, April 1, 2005, at 7:31 p.m.

Pastor William Roberts welcomed the assembled congregation in the sanctuary and made some announcements.

Call to Order and Reconvening

The Moderator, James Faris called the meeting to order led in prayer.

Psalm 67A was sung in praise.

Roll:

The Roll was taken by the Assistant Clerk. Each person called stood and was recognized.

The moderator invited all elders who are members of churches who have fraternal relations with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America be invited to participate in the laying on of hands at the appropriate time during the service.

Narration of Steps

Elder Wendell McBurney read the narration of steps leading up to this installation service.

Final Reading of the Edict and Responses to it

The Clerk of Presbytery read the edict for the last time.

Adherence to the Call: The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by rising, which they did.

Acceptance of the Call: The moderator asked Richard Holdeman to indicate if he accepted the call of the Bloomington R.P. Congregation, which Rich did.

Queries for Ordination: Elder Kenneth deJong asked David Smith the Queries for Installation, and Rich Holdeman replied in the affirmative to all of them without exception.

Rich Holdeman signed the Queries in Presbytery's Minute book.

Worship: The congregation sang Psalm 78A st. 1-3.

Dr. Jerry O'Neill of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary read Acts 20:17-32 and preached God's Word on verses 26-27. He concluded his message with prayer.

Psalm 40C st. 5-8 was sung.

Installation: Pastor William Roberts led the prayer of installation of Richard Holdeman while the members of Presbytery and other elders present laid their hands on him.

Following prayer they extended the right hand of fellowship to him.

Charge to the New Pastor: Dr. Dennis Prutow of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary used I Timothy 1:1-7 in his charge to the new pastor.

Charge to the Congregation: Pastor Andrew McCracken, using such passages as Hebrews 13:17, Numbers 27:15 and I Thessalonians 5:12-13, urged the congregation to diligently pray for and encourage Rich as their new pastor.

Beginning of Employment

Rich Holdeman began his work in the Bloomington congregation on February 1, 2005.

Praise: Psalm 133A st. 1-3 was sung.

Adjournment: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn.

The Moderator led in prayer and adjourned the Court, and the new Pastor, Rich Holdeman, pronounced the Benediction. The Presbytery was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

The congregation sang Psalm 100C.

Session 6, Saturday, April 2, 2005 at 8:00 a.m.**Call to Order**

The Moderator called the Presbytery to order at 8:00 a.m. at the Bloomington R.P. Church. Presbytery sang Psalm 106A st. 1-5.
Elder Terry Magnuson led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Mr. Robert Jones was introduced for his examination on an expository sermon on an assigned topic.

Mr. Jones read Isaiah 65:1-12 and preached God's Word on "There is a Blessing In It". He concluded by announcing Psalm 40C which was sung.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Moderator be sustained in changing the start time of this session.

Roll Call

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Moderator declared the Minutes of Friday afternoon's session stand approved. The Moderator declared that the Minutes of Friday evening's session stand approved as corrected.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination on Robert Jones's sermon was sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill introduced Greg Cumbee for his examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the Testimony.

Pastor Barry York conducted the examination. He asked Greg Cumbee if he had exceptions to report. Mr. Cumbee said he had two:

1. that the Testimony is not more important or above the Confession of Faith;
2. that he does not agree with the Church's position on women deacons.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was sustained.

Time and Place Committee Report

The Time and Place Committee Report was given by Pastor David Smith and the recommendations are as follows:

Recommendations:

1. The Installation of Ian Wise to the Triangle R.P. Church and the Ordination and Installation of Greg Cumbee to the Lynchburg R.P. Fellowship to be held on Friday, May 20, 2005 at the meeting place of the Triangle R.P. Church in Raleigh, NC.
The Clerk is to issue the edict for this meeting at a time agreed with the congregation.

2. **The Fall Meeting of Presbytery** is to be held at the Southside R.P. Church in Indianapolis, IN, on November 10-12, 2005.

3. **The Spring Meeting of Presbytery** is to be held on March 30 to April 1, 2006 at Westminster R.P. Church pending approval of the Westminster Session and to be reported at the next meeting.

The Recommendation 1-3 were approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Sparta Visitation Committee Reprot

The Report was presented by Elder Robert McKissick.

Recommendations:

1. Presbytery affirm that Vow #4 of the Covenant of Communicant Membership should not be interpreted as requiring agreement and obedience to every statement in the Constitution, but rather to submit to the teachings of the church as they are summarized in the Constitution to the extent that they are biblically faithful.
2. Presbytery dismiss the committee.

Neither Recommendation 1 or 2 were approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery allow a special resolution.

Special Resolution: Presbytery affirm that vow #4 of the Covenant of Communicant Membership should not be interpreted as requiring agreement at every point with the Constitution of the RPCNA but rather a willing submission to the teaching and authority of the church as summarized therein so far as it does not bind the conscience.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Special Resolution be approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report of the Visitation Committee be received and the thanks of the Presbytery be extended to the Committee.

Prayer

Pastor Rich Johnston led the Court in prayer for the Sparta congregation, for the R.P. Theological Seminary, and recessed the Court.

Recess and Reconvening

Presbytery took recess from 10:23 to 10:35 a.m.

Presbytery reconvened with the singing of Psalm 84B.

Presbytery's Youth Committee Report

Pastor Rich Johnston presented the report. Kevin Mauser, President and Patrick Hart, Vice President, spoke about some of the youth activities.

Recommendation: that the Presbytery establish, for Presbytery youth events, the minimum age of 14 years old by August 15 of the school year of the coming youth events.

The Recommendation was approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Moderator thanked the Youth Committee and the C.Y.P.U. leaders for their work with the youth of the Presbytery. They also received an ovation from the members of Presbytery.

Pensacola (former Multiracial R.P. C.) Report

Elder (of the former Session) Tom Reid presented the report and explained about the winding up of the former congregation.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Committee to Visit Pensacola

Pastor Gordon Keddie presented the report and spoke of their visiting Pensacola in January and meeting with Godfrey Franklin (former pastor), Ken Epps, Jean Carr and other former members.

Recommendations:

1. That Presbytery and her members accept that they must do a better job of communicating with Dr. Franklin, and other isolated members, by phone calls, e-mails, letters and personal visits when possible.
2. That Presbytery s Candidates and Credentials Committee take especial care to make contact annually with those Teaching Elders who are without a pastoral charge and are engaged in other avenues of employment and service.
3. That Presbytery enjoin Dr. Franklin to worship and fellowship regularly with the Lord's people, if possible in a congregation of one of our Reformed (NAPARC) sister churches.
4. That Presbytery express the hope that Dr. Franklin will establish a living connection with a local session and congregation of the RPCNA, and that the Triangle congregation be encouraged to communicate with him toward that goal.
5. That Presbytery rise for prayer that the Lord may bless our brother Godfrey in his life and service to the Lord and give a repentant and reconciling spirit to the Presbytery and to Godfrey, all to the end that the Lord would heal all the wounds that have marred our relationships in the past and to the present time.

All five Recommendations were voted on together and approved.

In keeping with Recommendation 5 Rev. Robert Morrow led the Court in prayer.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that that the Report as a whole be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Pastor Keith Magill continued to present this report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Rutledge Etheridge be certified for a second year at the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report as a whole be received.

Judicial Committee Report

Elder Steve Sturm presented the Report.

The Recommendation of the Report was approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report as a whole be received.

Judicial Committee Report

Presbytery referred papers 2005-1 and 2005-2 to the Judicial Committee. These papers from the Bloomington Session request that Presbytery reexamine decisions made at the Spring 2002 and Fall 2003 meetings concerning Ordination Query #4 and examine unintended consequences of these decisions.

Recommendation: That presbytery refer papers 2005-1 and 2005-2 to a five-member study committee to be appointed by the Nominating Committee and that the presbytery ask the committee to report its findings at the Spring 2006 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Poekras
Ian Wise
Steve Sturm, chairman

Report of the Nominating Committee

Elder Robert McKissick, Chairman, presented the Report.

(The Report is on the next page of the Minute book.)

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the vacant congregations of the Presbytery be granted the privileges of securing pulpit supply, administration of the sacraments and the making out of calls.

The slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee was approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report as a whole was received.

Nominating Committee Report – Spring, 2005**Ad Interim Commission**

Gordon Keddie (Ch.)
Southside Session
Ram Rao

Church Extension Committees**Michigan**

Jon Hughes (Ch.)
Southfield Session

Southern Illinois

Ray Morton (Ch.)
Bob Morrow
Dale Mussehnan

Southern

Ian Wise (Ch.)
Charles Saunders
Greg Cumbee
Tom Reid

Ohio-Illinois

Dave Long (Ch.)
Karl Stoicheff
Andy McCracken
Rich Holdeman
Barry York
Phil Pockras

Committee for Church Extension and Training

Dave Long (Ch.)
Jim Long
Barry York
Dan Webb
Ian Wise, *ex officio*

Candidates & Credentials Committee**Class of '06:**

Rich Johnston,
Bob McCracken

Class of '07:

Keith Magill
Jon Hughes
Charles Brown

Class of '08:

Roy Blackwood (Ch.)
Dean Filson
Rick Gamble
Jared Olivetti

Financial Officers

Treasurer – Laurence
Curry
Asst. – Bill Roberts

Visitation Committee**Second RP**

Andy McCracken (Ch.)
Dave Long
Jim Richart

Columbus

David Hanson (Ch.)
David Smith
Jeff Kessler

Sycamore

Ed Blackwood (Ch.)
Jared Olivetti
Ed Schisler

Home Mission Board Rep.

Class of '06: Ian Wise

Committee to Oversee**Hetherton**

Bob Henning
Bill Roberts
Jon Hughes

COVFAMIKOI**Conference**

Director: Jim Long
Manager: Shane Shoop

Interchurch Liaison

Phil Pockras

Youth Coordinators

Rich Johnston
John Hanson (YMCS
rep.)

Board of Corporators of Geneva College

Class of '06: Ralph Joseph

Elkhart Special**Visitation Committee**

Keith Magill (Ch.)
Dave Long
Barry York

Moderators of Vacant Congregations *

Southfield – Phil
Pockras
Hetherton – Milton
Harrington
Elkhart – Barry York
Selma – Tom Reid

*Motion – That these vacant congregations be granted the privileges of administration of the sacraments and the making out of calls.

Provisional Elders

Hetherton – Roger
Adams

Wright Commission

Rich Holdeman (Ch.)
Bob Bibby
Wendell McBurney
Ken G. Smith
(Consultant)

Papers 05-1 & 05-2**Study Committee**

Gordon Keddie (Ch.)
Greg Cumbee
Dan Webb
Jim Richart
Donald Cassell

Respectfully submitted:

Bob McKissick (Ch.)
David Hanson
Jon Hughes

Presbytery Report to the Synod

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, introduced this Report.

The Assistant Clerk spoke concerning this Report to Synod.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assistant Clerk circulate a draft Report to the members of Presbytery by e-mail and that any changes to this be sent to the Assistant Clerk by April 30; following this the Assistant Clerk will revise the Report and then submit it to the Ad Interim Commission for approval and forwarding to the Clerk of Synod.

Report of the Assistant Clerk on Sessional Records

Pastor Ralph Joseph presented the report which is as follows:

Report of the Assistant Clerk

The minute books of all the Sessions, including those of the former Multiracial Session, were presented for review with the exception of Elkhart and Westminster. There were a quite a few housekeeping items all of which are noted in each of the respective minute books. The reviewers found only four items which might qualify as a deviation from the law and order of the church and are as follows:

1. The grounds for excommunication of two members in the Southfield congregation was not stated.
2. There were a significant number of minutes for which there is no record that they were approved in the Bloomington minutes.
3. The Triangle session took the following action which appears to be contrary to the law and order of the church. "It was agreed upon by common consent that this statement is to be communicated to the congregation: "the Constitution of the RPCNA gives the right to speak as well as to vote to each communicant member of our congregation, but those with covenantal convictions about the issue, should only have their heads of household speak. The resident elders of this Session hold to the covenantal view as being the view of Scripture, but the Constitution allows for all members to speak" (Page 35, Minute 10). If the Session feels this strongly about this issue, the established procedure for change is to petition presbytery and through the presbytery the Synod to make the desired change rather than take the matter in their own hands.
4. Also from the records of the Triangle Session, three families were "released" from the membership but are not named (Page 53, Minute 7). It should be noted this terminology does not correlate to that used in the Constitution.

There have been several changes made in membership section of the statistical report draft. These are as follows:

1. Line 8-Baptized Members should be 74.
2. Line 15-Total Membership is 192 and Communicant Membership is 122.
3. Line 17-2003 Membership should be 78.
4. Line 37-Total Membership is 1599,
Total Communicant Membership is 1066 and Total Baptized Membership is 539.

Recommendations:

1. The session record books of the Elkhart and Westminster Sessions be presented at the fall meeting of the Presbytery for review.

2. The Presbytery appoint a special committee to address the issues raised by the Triangle Session regarding speaking (and perhaps voting) in congregational meetings. This committee is report at the fall meeting of the Presbytery.

3. The Presbytery authorize the Ad Interim Commission to consider the appointment of an assistant clerk-elect in order to provide for a time of training so there can be an orderly transfer of responsibilities for whenever the present assistant clerk leaves the Presbytery.

4. Sessional moderators and clerks be reminded to take great care to maintain their records in an orderly manner.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ralph Joseph, Assistant Clerk

Actions regarding the Recommendations:

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Recommendation 2: **Motion:** it was moved, seconded, and passed that this

Recommendation be referred to the Ad Interim Commission.

Recommendations 3 and 4 were approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Assistant Clerk's Report as a whole be received.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the time be extended to finish the agenda of this meeting.

Resolution of Thanks Committee

Pastor Gordon Keddie presented the report which is as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

It is good to thank the LORD,
And to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
To declare your lovingkindness in the morning,
And your faithfulness every night.
(Psalm 92:1-2)

This has surely been an exciting and productive meeting of Presbytery. For this we give thanks to the Lord with wholeheartedness. Even the difficulties and challenges that have confronted us in these days can only lead us to seek the Lord's gracious dealings with us in a thankful anticipation of further blessing from his hand.

We are particularly grateful to the officers of Presbytery for their gentle and effective conduct of our proceedings, and to all of those whose work has been presented to us for our deliberation and action.

Not least, we bless the Lord for the ministrations of the dear people of the Bloomington congregation, for the provision of a hospitable and comfortable place of meeting, and for so many excellent meals and refreshments day by day. We praise God for the body of Christ and, above all, for the Christ who is the Savior and Head of his body, his church.

The Lord is good in all his ways and we give thanks for his faithfulness in these days of assembly together as a Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted

David J. Carr
Gordon J. Keddie

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be adopted and circulated to the Bloomington congregation.

Minutes

The Minutes of this session of the meeting were read..

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Minutes be approved as corrected

Adjournment

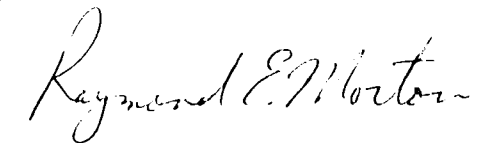
Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Presbytery adjourn.

The Moderator, James Faris led the Court in the prayer of adjournment.

Presbytery adjourned at 12:18 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 133A.



James Faris, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery



Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Memorials***“Oh How I Love Thy Law...”*****A Personal Biography of Elder Kenneth Thompson
Second Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, IN**

Kenneth L. Thompson, 80 years of age, went to be with his Lord on Monday morning, October 11, 2004. He was born in Terre Haute, Indiana on July 14, 1924 to Berlin and Pearl Thompson. He met his wife to be, Anna Kennedy, when they were children. Ken served as a machinist in the Navy during World War II in the Pacific. They married during his Navy years on May 26, 1945, a few months before the end of the war. God gave them three wonderful children Joe (1947), Michael (1950), and Nancy (1952). He worked most of his life as a manufacturers' representative for many metal-fabricating companies. With Ann's help in the office, God gave Ken great success in business.

In the fall of 1959 Ken began memorizing Scripture to be a counselor at an Indianapolis evangelistic crusade. Ken wrote, "It is strange how a man can be active in church for years not having any concept of Jesus Christ, the Gospel, the Bible or other vital truths. And yet, years later I saw that God was behind the scenes bringing me to salvation." Over a period of five weeks of Bible memory work Ken was convinced of the Gospel. Through the Scriptures Ken memorized, he learned he was a sinner and that Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for his sin. One verse, John 1:12, cut deep into his heart. Late one night Ken trusted in Christ as his Saviour. Ken wrote, "My confidence in salvation was strengthened by another verse I had memorized, 1 John 5:11, 12. My life took on a marvelous change and has continued to be strengthened through the years by that very same Word, the Bible. Now I see that many circumstances of my life were ordered by God to bring me to Himself."

Ken's witness for Christ was lived out through his active involvement in Christian Business Men's Committee, Young Life and in his daily contacts with others. Ken was most known by many as the portrayer of the Apostle Peter. In this role his love to memorize and quote Scripture shined brightly.

Ken and his family were active in the life and ministry of Second Reformed Presbyterian Church for almost 40 years. Ken was an active elder, and later the moderator of the Great Lakes/Gulf Presbytery. Ken was an avid fisherman, and a Master Gardner. He loved working with the youth of the church caring for the church grounds. Ken's Crew continues today as a vital service to the church and an important ministry to young people.

He is survived by his loving wife, Anna (Kennedy); his two sons, Joe (and Roseanne) and Mike (and Deb); daughter, Nancy (and Doug) Jesch; 16 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and sister, Joy Myers, and two brothers, Norman and Charles. He was preceded in death by his older brother, Eugene.

Ad Interim Commission Meeting 04-29-2004 @ 10:00 a.m. at the Belle Center Church Building

In attendance for the meeting were elders Phil Pockras, Larry Bump.

The Ad Interim commission was constituted in prayer.

The 2003 Presbytery report to Synod was adopted. Members Ralph Joseph and Jim Ritchhart have previously given their assent to this action.

The minutes of this meeting were approved as read.

Ad Interim commission was adjourned in prayer.

Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Commission Meeting 05-27-2004 @ 10:00 a.m. at the Belle Center Manse

In attendance for the meeting were elders Phil Pockras, Larry Bump.

The Ad Interim commission was constituted in prayer.

The matter of setting up the Ordination of Jared Olivetti was taken up. The assignments requested by Mr. Olivetti and forwarded by the session of the Lafayette congregation were approved. Members Ralph Joseph and Jim Ritchhart have previously given their assent to this action.

The matter of the call of Walton congregation upon Lic. Bradley Johnston as forwarded through St. Lawrence Presbytery was taken up. The Ad Interim commission sustains this call as a regular gospel call and we hereby forward it to Mr. Johnston for his prayerful consideration.

Phil Joseph's request for the release of funds from the Atlanta new work account for the purposes of providing scholarships for up to four people from the Little River church to attend the National Conference in 2004 was taken up and approved. Members Ralph Joseph and Jim Ritchhart have previously given their assent to this action.

The minutes were read and approved as read.

The Ad Interim commission was adjourned in prayer by Larry Bump.

Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Commission 5/6/2004 10:20 A.M., By Telephone

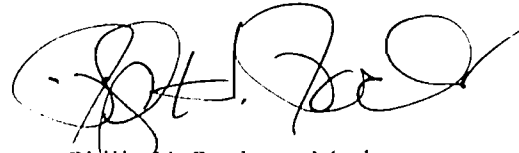
The Commission was constituted in prayer by Phil Pockras

By consensus the report of the GL-G Presbytery to the Synod of the RPCNA was adopted and is to be forwarded to the Clerk of Synod. The Ad Interim Commission has the advised consent of Ralph Joseph. The Commission members have not been able to contact Jim Richhart for this purpose.

The minutes of were read and approved.

By consensus the Commission was adjourned.

The Commission was adjourned in prayer by Larry Bump



Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Meeting 08/17/2004 9:30 p.m. By Telephone

Present for the meeting were Phil Pockras (moderator), Larry Bump (clerk), Ralph Joseph and Jim Richhart.

The court was constituted in prayer by Phil.

The matter of the Elkhart Congregation regarding the request of the session to appoint a provisional moderator was taken up. A motion was made by Ralph to approve this appointment, seconded by Jim R. The motion passed unanimously.

Larry B. nominated Barry York for provisional moderator, seconded by Rich. Motion to close nominations made by Ralph, seconded by Larry B. Motion passed. Session voted on Barry York to be the provisional Moderator and it was unanimously approved.

Ralph Joseph moved that the Elkhart session be given permission to make out a call, administer the sacraments, and secure pulpit supply, seconded by Jim Richhart. The motion was unanimously approved.

The matter of the Elkhart Congregation regarding the request of the session to approve a advisory committee to address conflict between two elders and to address matters of significance to members was taken up. The session respectfully requested that the following teaching elders be appointed to the committee: Rev. Keith Magill, Chair, Rev. David Long and Rev. Barry York. Larry B. moved that these men and Ruling Elder Jim Richhart be appointed to a committee for these stated purposes. The motion was seconded by Ralph Joseph and passed unanimously.

The matter of the request of Stanley Copeland to resign the position of stated supply at Multiracial was taken up. Ralph Joseph moved that the resignation by Rev Copeland as stated supply be accepted effective August 15 with our thanks for his work. Jim R. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim moved that Godfrey Franklin be appointed provisional moderator of the Multiracial session at the request of the session members. Larry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ralph Joseph moved, after our consultation with the Office of Synod's Trustees, that we approve the following recommendations of the congregation:

- That the "Magee and Me" videos should be given to Felecia for her use in youth work. R.C. Sproul videos should be sent to the Copeland's for use in Gila, NM and in rural Colorado.
- Some of the women intend to continue doing some Psalm ministry with the "Waterfront Rescue Mission's Women's Recovery Center" at the corner of Baylen and Cervantes streets. As part of that continuing ministry, the congregation's electronic keyboard should be given to Barbara so she can practice some Psalm tunes in order to help the Women learn to sing Psalms.
- The congregation's archaic old computer died and is no longer serviceable, so should just be written off the books.
- Some individuals will keep a few extra Psalters, to carry down to the Women's Recovery Center each third Sabbath afternoon. Additionally, Copelands distributed many personal copies of Psalm-selection booklets to all who were present.
- Bibles should be donated to the Women's Recovery Center.
- The stackable chairs: should offer them thru Lornetta Epps-Riley to the African-American Heritage Center. The remaining chairs should be donated to the Waterfront Rescue Mission.
- Other Psalters, books, other literature and assets, the offering-box and the offering-basket, and the Communion-ware should be sent to the Springs Reformed congregation for use in their impending church-planting work in Pueblo, CO. Shipping should be paid by MRPC.

Jim Richhart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ralph Joseph moved that the Multiracial congregation be reminded that when/if the congregation is dissolved that the money is the property of the Board of Trustees of Synod and must be sent to them for final disposition. The Commission also notes that the congregation has the privilege to make suggestions regarding the disposition of these funds. Jim Richhart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ad Interim took up the matter of the Installation as Pastor of Gordon Keddie to the Southside Indianapolis congregation. The following assignments were made:

- Ralph Joseph (Moderator of Synod) – Installation Sermon
- Ian Wise (Moderator of Presbytery) – Vows of Installation
- Jim Richhart - Charge to the New Pastor
- Charlie Leverett (Charles Brown alternate) - Charge to Congregation
- Rich Johnston (Phil Pockras alternate) - Installation Prayer

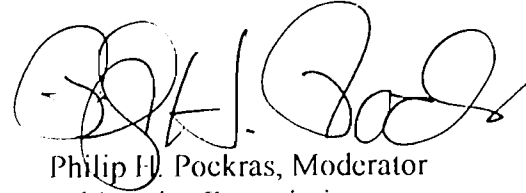
Ralph Joseph moved this be approved, Larry Bump seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to call the Presbytery to a special meeting at 3:00pm September 17, 2004 at Southside Indy church building for the purpose of reviewing the situation at Multiracial congregation and setting the time for the installation of Andy McCracken as Pastor to Columbus congregation was made Ralph Joseph. Larry seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The minutes of this meeting were read. Jim moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Ralph seconded the motion which passed.

Larry moved to adjourn; Ralph seconded the motion which passed.

The Commission was adjourned in prayer by Jim.



Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Meeting 9-10-2004 10:00 am at the Bump home

In attendance for the meeting were Phil Pockras and Larry Bump. The meeting was constituted in prayer by Phil.

Larry moved that the Ad Interim Commission authorize the transfer of license and credentials of Bradley Johnston to St. Lawrence Presbytery. Members of the commission Jim Richhart and Ralph Joseph have indicated by email their concurrence to this action. The motion was adopted.

Ad Interim has made the following changes to the assignments for the installation service of Gordon Keddie:

- John Tweed will ask the Installation Queries;
- Ian Wise will lead in the Installation Prayer.

Members of the commission Jim Richhart and Ralph Joseph have indicated by email their concurrence to this action. The motion was adopted.

Minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

Larry moved to adjourn, motion adopted.

The Commission was adjourned in prayer by Larry.

Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Commission Meeting, 01-20-2005 10:45 a.m. At the Bump Home.

In attendance for the meeting were Phil Pockras, Moderator and Larry Bump, Clerk.

The court was constituted in prayer by Larry.

The Commission took up the matter of the request by Second RP of Indianapolis for permission to call a man for the purpose of Church Extension on the west side of Indianapolis. Larry moved this be approved, the Moderator agreed.

Mr. Joseph and Mr. Richhart have signified their concurrence with this decision previously in communications.

The Commission took up the matter of the Presbytery Assessment that had not been dealt with at the regular meeting of Presbytery. The Asst. Treasurer of the Presbytery (Bill Roberts) suggests that the Assessment be set at the same level as the 2004 assessment, ie general assessment of \$27,500 and a new works assessment of \$5,000. By consensus this is ordered to be set as such.

Mr. Joseph and Mr. Richhart have signified their concurrence with this decision previously in communications.

The minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

The Commission was adjourned by consensus in prayer by Phil.



Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Commission Minutes 02-21-2005, Telephone Conference 9:00 p.m.

The Commission was constituted in prayer by Ralph Joseph. In attendance for the meeting were Phil Pockras, Moderator; Larry Bump, Clerk, Ralph Joseph, teaching Elder, and Jim Richhart, Ruling Elder.

The Commission took up the matter of the congregational reporting to Presbytery. The suggestions from Ralph Joseph are as follows:

1. That the schedule of congregational reporting remain the same as originally set forth and adopted by the Presbytery at the spring 2004 meeting in Orlando. However any of the several congregations shall be free to bring a report to any regular meeting of the Presbytery should the need arise or should the Presbytery determine such a report is necessary.
2. The congregations which do not report until the fall will be expected to present to the assistant clerk a two or three paragraph summary of congregational activities during the preceding year at the Spring meeting of presbytery in order for him to report accurately the status of congregations within our bounds to the Synod at its annual meeting.
3. The report compiled by the assistant clerk will be submitted to the Sessions of the presbytery for proofing by mid-April and to the Ad Interim Commission for approval no later than April 30 each year. Once approved, the report would be forwarded on to

the Clerk of Synod for publication in the Digest of Reports for the upcoming Synod meeting.

Jim Richhart moved that the suggested process for Congregational Reporting be approved as above, and that the Clerk distribute this action to the Sessions of the Presbytery. Larry Bump seconded the motion, which passed.

The Commission took up the matter of the communication from the Orlando Session regarding Jim Wright.

The Orlando Reformed Presbyterian Church Session met in constituted court at 4:55 PM at the home of Jim and Judy Wright. Present were Pastor David Smith, moderator, elders Tom Forest, Ed Forest, Jim Wright, and Jay Worsham. Also present was Judy Wright. Rev. Smith constituted the court in Prayer.

The sole purpose of the meeting was to address information that had come to the session's attention regarding the possible abuse of alcoholic beverages by former pastor and ruling elder Jim Wright. Jim openly confessed to the session that he had used alcohol to excess, especially during the past year, beginning around the mid 1980's while Brian was in High School.

Jim expressed repentance and asked forgiveness from the members of session. Each elder expressed his personal forgiveness to Jim.

Questioning by the session determined that Jim was guilty of inappropriate use of alcohol and drunkenness, and that sin had been committed against the session and the congregation while Jim was active as pastor and as ruling elder. In accordance with the Book of Discipline, Session found Jim Wright guilty of drunkenness and suspended him as a ruling elder until such time as repentance, confession and forgiveness are complete. Pastor Smith pronounced the following suspension:

"Whereas you, Jim Wright, have been convicted before this court of the sin of drunkenness, this court, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, suspends you from the office of ruling elder until you have given satisfactory evidence of true repentance, and have been restored to regular standing by this court."

Each elder prayed for Jim, Judy, and family and for the church. Jim and Judy also prayed for recovery and for the church. Pastor Smith led in prayer and the Session adjourned at 6:30 PM in the name of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Worsham, Clerk of Session

David Smith, Moderator

Larry Bump moved that we ratify the action by the Orlando Session to suspend Jim Wright from the exercise and privileges of the office of Ruling Elder. Ralph Joseph seconded the motion, which passed.

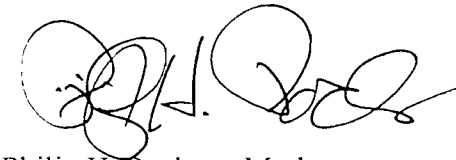
Larry Bump moved that the Commission act to suspend Jim Wright from the exercise and privileges of the office of Teaching Elder until the matter can be dealt with by Presbytery at the Spring 2005 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ralph Joseph, which passed.

Larry Bump moved that the Moderator make the needed notifications to the Sessions and members of the Presbytery. Ralph Joseph seconded the motion, which passed.

Minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

Larry Bump moved to adjourn. Jim Richhart seconded the motion, which passed.

The Commission was adjourned in prayer by Jim Richhart.



Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Commission Minutes 03-07-2005, Telephone Conference 9:00 p.m.

In attendance for the meeting were Phil Pockras, Moderator; Larry Bump, Clerk, Ralph Joseph, teaching Elder.

The commission was constituted in prayer by Larry Bump.

The Commission took up the matter of the call of the Triangle Congregation upon Ian Wise to the office of Pastor. Larry Bump moved that the call be sustained as a regular gospel call and forwarded to the men involved, the motion was seconded by Ralph Joseph and passed.

The Commission took up the matter of the call of the Triangle Congregation upon Greg Cumbee to the office of Associate Pastor. Ralph Joseph moved that the call be sustained as a regular gospel call and forwarded to the men involved, the motion was seconded by Larry Bump and passed.

The Commission took up the matter of the call of the Elkhart Congregation upon David Hanson to the office of Pastor. Ralph Joseph moved that the call be sustained as a proper gospel call and forwarded to the men involved, the motion was seconded by Larry Bump and passed.

The Commission took up the matter of the call of the Second R. P. of Indianapolis Congregation upon Michael LeFebvre to the office of Associate Pastor to lead the West Side Ministry. Larry Bump moved that the call be sustained as a proper gospel call and forwarded to the men involved, the motion was seconded by Ralph Joseph and passed.

Ralph Joseph moved that the Moderator contact the Session of the Second R. P. of Indianapolis Congregation regarding the vacation allotment for Michael LeFebvre in relation to the vacation allotment of the other pastors there and report back to the Ad Interim Commission. Larry Bump seconded the motion which passed.

Larry Bump moved that the Ad Interim commission ask the regular meeting of Presbytery to consider the matter of fair and sufficient vacation allotments for new Pastors and attempt to gain an idea of the mind of Presbytery on the matter. Ralph Joseph seconded the motion, which passed.

Minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

Larry Bump moved to adjourn. Ralph Joseph seconded the motion, which passed.

The Commission was adjourned in prayer by Ralph Joseph.



Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Ad Interim Commission Meeting, 03-21-2005 2:15 p.m. by telephone

In attendance for the meeting were Phil Pockras, Moderator and Larry Bump, Clerk.

The court was constituted in prayer by Larry Bump.

The Commission took up the matter of the assignments for the installation of Rich Holdeman.

The Bloomington session requests that the following be asked to participate in Rich's installation on April 1:

- Jerry O'Neill - sermon
- Denny Prutow - charge to the pastor
- Andy McCracken - charge to the congregation
- Bill Roberts - "installation" prayer
- Ken deJong - asking of queries

The Ad Interim Commission approved this list of assignments by consensus, having consulted with the other members of the Commission.

Larry moved that Ad Interim authorize the participation and travel costs of Jerry O'Neil and Dennis Prutow. This was approved by consensus, having consulted with the other members of the Commission.

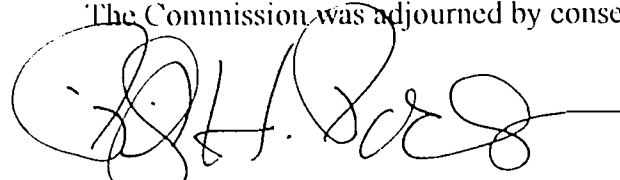
Though this is only an installation, the Commission authorizes by consensus the session's request for the laying of hands as part of this ceremony on the basis of Acts 13:1-3.

The Commission took up the proposed Ad Interim Report. The report was approved by consensus.

We on behalf of this Commission thank the presbytery for this opportunity to serve the brethren.

The minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

The Commission was adjourned by consensus in prayer by Phil Pockras.



Philip H. Pockras, Moderator
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Larry M. Bump, Clerk
Ad Interim Commission
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church
Special Meeting for Installation
of Pastors-elect Ian Wise and Greg Cumbee
May 20, 2005

Special Meeting of Presbytery, Friday, May 20, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Constitution

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, James Faris, at 7:07 p.m., Friday, May 20, 2005, at the Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church, meeting at the Comfort Suites, 5219 Page Road, Durham, NC.

Pastor Elect, Ian Wise welcomed the people present and introduced the members of Triangle R.P. Church and Greg Cumbee introduced the those who worshipped at Lynchburg, VA.

Devotions

The Moderator welcomed all present and called everyone to worship by reading Isaiah 12:1ff.

The Presbytery sang Psalm 145A st. 1-4.

The Moderator led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll

The Assistant Clerk, Ralph Joseph, called the roll which is as follows.

<u>Congregations</u>	<u>Teaching Elders</u>	<u>Ruling Elders</u>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras x	
Bloomington	William Roberts e	
	David Hanson x	
	Rich Holdeman e	
Columbus	Andrew McCracken x	Ed Schisler x
Elkhart		Robert McCracken x
Hetherton		
Lafayette		
Oakdale	Raymond Morton x	
Orlando	David Smith x	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood e	
	Richard Johnston x	
	James Faris x	
Selma	Ralph Joseph x	
Southfield		
Southside	Gordon Keddie x	Jerry Porter xx
Sparta	Raymond Morton x	Robert Morrow e
Sycamore	Barry York e	Robert McKissick x
Triangle	Ian Wise x	Charles Saunders x
Westminster		James Richhart x

Ministers Under Appointment by the Presbytery

Rick Gamble
Keith Magill x

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams
Edwin Blackwood
Tom Reid e
Frank Schutz
James Wright

Ministers Retired

Milton Harrington
Robert Henning
Ray Joseph e-
Marion McFarland
James McMahan
Paul Faris
Garland Kincaid

The Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Narrative of the Steps: Elder Charles Saunders narrated the steps leading up to this service.

Reading of the Edict: For the last time, the Clerk read the Edict for the Installation of Ian Wise and Greg Cumbee to the Triangle Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Adherence to the Call: The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by rising, which they did.

Acceptance of the Call: The moderator asked Ian Wise and Greg Cumbee, separately, to indicate their acceptance of the call of the Triangle R.P. Church which they did.

Queries for Installation: The Moderator asked Ian Wise and Greg Cumbee the Queries for Installation, and Ian and Greg replied in the affirmative to all of them. Ian Wise and Greg Cumbee signed the Queries in the Minute Book.

Worship: The Presbytery sang Psalm 22:1 st. 9-11.
Pastor Gordon Keddie read Acts 17: 1-15 and preached God's Word on "The World Turned Upside Down". Gordon led in prayer following his message.

Presbytery sang Psalm 19B st. 5-9.

Installation Prayer:

The Moderator invited elders in NAPARC to participate in the Installation Prayer.

Elder Robert McKissick led in the prayer of installation of Greg Cumbee while elders laid their hands on him and Andrew McCracken led in the prayer of installation of Ian Wise. Following the prayers the members of Presbytery and other elders present extended the right hand of fellowship to Ian and Greg.

Charge to the Pastors: Rev. Robert McCracken read Malachi 2:1-9 and gave the charge to the Pastors to maintain a strong heart for God and develop a deep love for the people of God.

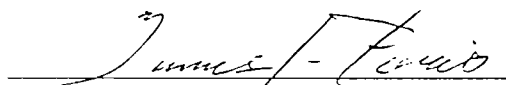
Charge to the Congregation: Pastor Phil Pockras read Malachi 3:13-18 and gave a charge to the Triangle Church to be encouraged in God and to support and pray for their new pastors.

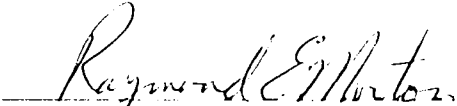
Praise:

Psalm 68E st. 18-21 was sung praise to God.

Reading of the Minutes: The Clerk read the Minutes of this meeting which were approved by a voice vote.

Adjournment: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn. The Presbytery was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. in prayer by the Moderator and Greg Cumbee pronounced the benediction.


James Faris, Moderator,
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery


Raymond E. Morton, Clerk,
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes of the Fall Meeting
Of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
November 10-11, 2005

Session 1, Thursday, November 10, 2005, at 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order

The Presbytery was called to order by the Moderator, James Faris at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2005, at the Southside Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, IN.

Devotions

Presbytery sang Psalm 115B st. 3-6.
The Moderator led the Court in prayer.
The Moderator preached God's Word from 1 Peter 4:12 – 5:11 on "Focus on Christ not on Sufferings".

Constitution

The Moderator constituted the Court in prayer.
Presbytery sang Psalm 23A.

Roll

The Clerk called the roll, which is as follows.

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras xxxx	Larry Bump eeee
Bloomington	William Roberts xxxx	Kenneth DeJong xxxx
	Rich Holdeman xxxx	
Columbus	Andrew McCracken xxxx	Butch Schoop eeee
Elkhart	Keith Magill eee	
Hetherton	Milton Harrington eeeee	
Lafayette	David Long xxxx	Jeff Kessler eeee
	Jared Olivetti xxxx	Dan Webb xxxx
Oakdale	Raymond Morton xxxx	
Orlando	David Smith eeee	
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood xxxx	Dean Filson xxxx
	Richard Johnston xxxx	Jim Long xxxx
	James Faris xxxx	
Selma		John Hughes xxxx
Southfield		George Shopp xxxx
Southside	Gordon Keddie xexx	John Hanson ---x
		Steve Sturm xxxx
Sparta	Raymond Morton xxxx	Robert Morrow xxxx
Sycamore	Barry York xxxx	Robert McKissick xxxx
Triangle	Ian Wise xxxx	Greg Cumbee xxxx
Westminster	Charles Brown xxxx	Jim Richhart eexx

Ministers under appointment by the Presbytery/Synod:

Rick Gamble eeee
Tom Reid xxxx

Ministers without Pastorates

Roger Adams ----
Milton Harrington eeee
Ray Joseph eeee
Ralph Joseph xxxx
Keith Magill xxxxxx
Robert McCracken xxxx
Marion McFarland ----
James McMahan ----
Edwin Blackwood xexx
Paul Faris ----
Garland Kincaid ----
Frank Schutz --xxxx
Robert Henning ----

Other Ministers

Paul Mathews (inactive)
James Wright (Judicial Censure)

The Assistant Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

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

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

Introductions

Mr. Graham Hart from the Geelong, Australia, and a student under the care of the Presbytery, was introduced to the Court. He is a pastoral intern working with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette

Clerk's Report

The clerk, Raymond Morton, presented his report, which is as follows:

**Report of the Clerk
To the Meeting of Presbytery on November, 10-12, 2005**

The Clerk would respectfully report that he has done his best to carry out the assignments given to him as far as he knows. I have received several items of correspondence, some by e-mail, to which I have, mostly, replied by the same route; also some correspondence came by hard copy. I am introducing the items below.

Eight congregational reports are coming before this meeting. If you need a congregational report let the Clerk know, if possible, before the time of consideration of the report so copies can be made.

I have prepared the Proposed Agenda for this meeting which is printed and available separately from this report.

Communications:

1. There is no need for a report from the Disabilities Concerns Representative. I have received the following: "the committee has pulled back a bit because they consider that the information on disabilities and resources have been made known to the congregations. Consequently, there is nothing new to report."

2. There is a communication coming from a member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette. This will be presented by the Assistant Clerk at the time of the Call for Papers.

3. Pastor Keith Magill is being granted an excused absence. He writes: "I would like to request that I be excused from the upcoming Presbytery meeting. This week we are moving my 83 year old widowed mother from Rochester, NY to stay with us in Elkhart. She has been diagnosed with advanced breast cancer and began chemotherapy in Rochester last week. We will arrive in Elkhart on Wednesday and begin interviewing cancer doctors and a regular doctor for her on Thursday.

There is a slight possibility that I may be down for part of Friday and Saturday, but I won't know until later Thursday.

I hope the meeting goes well. Give my greetings to all."

Let us keep Keith and his family members in our prayers.

4. Edwin Blackwood has requested a time to speak of his forthcoming move and work in Australia. The Moderator will bring this in at a suitable time in the agenda.

5. The following comes from the Moderator of the Commission to Counsel James Wright: "The Commission to counsel James Wright has been meeting regularly (including meetings by phone and in person with Orlando Session members, Jim and Judy Wright as well as others involved with the situation in Orlando). We hope to have a plan in place for Jim by the end of the calendar year. We will give a full report at the spring meeting as none of our representatives are able to be at Presbytery this fall.

Please encourage the men to continue praying for the situation."

6. Ralph Joseph, who has been Presbytery's Representative on the Board of Corporators of Geneva College, has been appointed to a position on that Board and is no longer the Great Lakes-Gulf Representative. There a replacement of Presbytery's Representative needs to be made.

7. Michael LeFebvre has accepted the pastoral call from the Second Indianapolis R.P. Church. There will need to be meetings scheduled for his ordination exams and then for his ordination and installation. This may also be reported in either or both the Candidates

and Credential Committee Report and the Second Indianapolis R.P. Congregational Report.

I thank you for the opportunity of serving as your Clerk and trust the Lord will bless us in this meeting of Presbytery.

Recommendations:

1. That the Parliamentarians for this meeting of Presbytery be Tom Reid and Phil Pockras.
2. That the Proposed Agenda for this meeting be accepted.
3. That the Moderator appoint a committee of three to bring recommendations to the Presbytery in regard to points 6 and 7 above.
4. That the Clerk's Report be received.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond E. Morton, Clerk

Recommendations:

Recommendations 1 to 4 were approved.
The Report as a whole was approved.

Call for Papers:

(Any other communications are to be presented by the break time on Friday morning.)
One Communications has been received by the Clerk. The Clerk introduced Communications 2005-F1 submitted by David Faris of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Lafayette.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that this Communication be sent to the Judicial Committee. The Moderator is to appoint a Judicial Committee.

Report of the Ad Interim Commission

The Report of the Ad Interim Commission was presented by Pastor Gordon Keddie.
The Report is as follows:

**REPORT OF THE AD INTERIM COMMISSION
OF GREAT LAKES-GULF PRESBYTERY,
meeting in Indianapolis on November 10-12, 2005**

Fathers and Brethren

The Ad Interim Commission has met seven times since the Spring meeting of Presbytery. The Minutes of these meetings are herewith attached.

I. The principal actions taken were:

1. Appointment of men to minister at the installation of Ian Wise and the ordination of Greg Cumbee at Triangle RPC on May 20, 2005.
2. Approval of pastoral calls on Keith R. Magill to Elkhart RPC (May 22) and David Hanson to Grace RPC, State College, PA (June 5)

3. Appointment of the date of installation of Keith R. Magill as pastor in Elkhart and of a Commission to conduct the installation, consisting of Roy Blackwood; James Faris (Moderator); Dave Long; Fik Menbere (Clerk); and Barry York.
4. Recording the retirement of Ralph Joseph from Selma RPC, for the purposes of reimbursement of his moving expenses by the Trustees of Synod.

II. One matter which we would like to bring before Presbytery for adjudication concerns the appointment of provisional elders to Elkhart session. The request from Elkhart session was for the Ad Interim Commission to appoint one position for a provisional elder, and appoint two men (Dave Long and Barry York) to fill it -- the intention being that this would allow greater flexibility for everyone involved. The commission is of the opinion, however, that the RP Constitution (DCG 4.1) provides for the appointment of men, not positions. The Commission accordingly appointed the two men. Since then one has resigned, for the reason that the addition of two provisional elders raises the quorum to three, which means that the resident session (two men) could never meet for any business without at least one provisional elder present. **The Commission would recommend reference of this question to the Judicial Committee of Presbytery.**

III. The following appointments have yet to be made:

1. A Chairman to replace David Hanson on the Committee to visit Columbus congregation.
2. An Assistant Clerk of Presbytery in succession to Ralph Joseph.

Respectfully submitted:

Jim Bishop (Clerk)
 John Hanson
 Jerry Porter
 Don Prichard
 Ram Rao
 Bill Shelldrake
 George Shopp
 Gordon Keddie (Moderator)

Concerning the Recommendation above, it was referenced to the Judicial Committee.

Concerning the replacement of David Hanson on the Committee to visit Columbus congregation this was referred to the Miscellaneous Committee to be appointed by the Moderator.

Concerning an Assistant Clerk of Presbytery to replace Ralph Joseph, this was referred to the Spring meeting of the Presbytery.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of the Ad Interim Commission as a whole be approved.

Report of the Finance Committee

Pastor William Roberts gave an oral Report.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Report of the Interchurch Liaison

Pastor Phil Pockras reported orally.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Report be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Rich Johnston introduced the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Recommendations:

1. That student examinations be conducted by Presbytery according to the amended chart in I.A. above.
2. That for student examinations instead of going directly to the roll call vote with each man's comments given during the vote, Presbyters have an open discussion for a defined period of time [10 minutes] immediately after the questioning is completed, and then take the roll call vote without comment and that this approach be tried for several student exams and then evaluated.
3. That Michael Lefebvre [1] takes his Ordination exams on Tuesday, January 10 at 1:30 pm. and [2] that the Ordination & Installation Service for Michael Lefebvre be scheduled for Friday, Jan. 27, 2006.
4. To extend the Licensure to Receive a Call for Donald Cassell, Fik Menbere, and Jack Baumgardner for another 5 year term.
5. That Presbytery [1] discontinue the Scholar-In-Residence program and [2] liquidate its fund by returning \$10,000 to the Second RP congregation (the origin of the funds) and establish a student scholarship fund with the remaining \$3,000.
6. That Jim McMahon's credentials be transferred from the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery to St. Lawrence Presbytery

Recommendations 1 to 3 were approved.

Recess

Pastor Roy Blackwood led Presbytery in prayer following which Presbytery took recess from 3:36 to 3:50 p.m.

Presbytery resumed with the singing of Psalm 32D st. 4-5.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Rich Johnston introduced Dean Filson for his examination in Systematic Theology I.

The examination was conducted by Pastor William Roberts.

Members of Presbytery asked further questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote

The Clerk called the Roll and the result of the examination was referred to the Parliamentarians.

Committee Assignments by the Moderator

The Moderator made the following assignments:

Judicial Committee: Barry York, Jon Hughes, Steve Sturm, Tom Reid

Travel Agent: Andrew McCracken

Finance Committee: William Roberts, Robert Morrow, Robert McKissick

Committee to Review the Session Records of Westminster R.P. Church: James Long, David Long
Time and Place and Miscellaneous Committee: Phil Pockras, Jared Olivetti, Dan Webb
Resolution of Thanks Committee: Robert McCracken, Greg Cumbee.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

Presbytery resumed the consideration of Recommendation 4 with Rich Johnston presenting the Report.

Recommendation 4 was approved.

Recommendation 5:

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that this Recommendation be referred to the Finance Committee.

Report of the Parliamentarians on Dean Filson's Examination

Pastor Phil Pockras reported for the Parliamentarians.

"Your Parliamentarian respectfully report that we find, concerning the vote necessary to sustain a candidate:

1. that the Directory for Church Government (DGC), chapter 3, section II, part C, paragraph 2, subparagraph e (3.II.c.2.e) says, 'If the discourse and examinations are sustained by a two-thirds vote, an appointed elder shall ask the appropriate Queries for Certification to Preach'. This demonstrates there are several votes toward Certification, each of which must be sustained by a two-thirds vote.
2. that the DGC, 3. II. C. 2. q says, 'If a candidate is approved by a two-thirds vote he shall sign the appropriate Queries for Certification'. This immediately follows the subparagraph (f) that mandates a roll call vote on the candidates certification. This is a different matter than the examinations addressed in subparagraph (e).

Thus we rule that each examination for licensure requires a two-thirds vote to sustain.

Thomas G. Reid, Jr.
 Phil Pockras, Chairman.

The examination is not sustained.

Congregational Report

The Second Indianapolis Congregational Report was given by Elder James Long. The Former Moderator, Ian Wise, took the Chair to allow James Faris to comment on the Congregational Report. The Moderator resumed the Chair.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

It was announced [1] that Rev. Raymond Hemphill was very seriously ill and near the end of his earthly life; [2] that the Belle Center Congregation had received a gift of \$100,000.00 from the estate of Mel and Geneva Rutherford.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer: Phil Pockras for the Second Indianapolis congregation, and Ralph Joseph [1] thanksgiving for the gift for Belle Center; [2] for Raymond Hemphill; [3] for Jim and Judy Wright; and [4] to recess the Court.

Recess

Presbytery took recess at 5:33 p.m.

Session 2, Thursday, November 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 7:00 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 72C, was led in prayer by Andrew McCracken.

Roll

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the Assistant Clerk take the Roll visually in this and all succeeding sessions of this meeting.

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday afternoon Session were read and declared approved by the Moderator.

C.Y.P.U. Activities Report

Pastor Rich Johnston reported orally. He reported that Ben and Anna Larson will be the leaders for the Winter Conference to be held December 27 to 30.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received

Home Mission Board Representative's Report.

Pastor Ian Wise, Presbytery's Representative, reported on the work of the Home Mission Board and on the changes taking place in the Board.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received

Congregational Reports

The Selma Congregational Report was given by Tom Reid, the Interim Moderator of the Selma Session.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received

The Southfield Congregational Report was given by Elder Jon Hughes.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received

The Southside Indianapolis Congregational Report was given by Steve Sturm.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received

Rev. Edwin Blackwood reported on his and his family's immanent move to Australia where he will be serving the church there.

Prayer Time

Presbytery engaged in a time of prayer. Pastor Rich Johnston for the Selma congregation; Ian Wise for the Southfield Congregation; and Robert McKissick prayed for the Southside congregation, and the Blackwoods move to Australia.

Presbytery sang Psalm 22H.

Congregational Reports (continued)

The Sparta Congregational Report was given by Rev. Robert Morrow. He also reported on the recent situation with Joel Finley and presented a letter from Session which appears in the Appendix.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received. Rev. Robert McCracken led the Court in prayer for the Sparta Congregation.

Covfamikoi Conference Report

Jim Long gave the report concerning the Conference to be held on July 8-13, 2006 at Asbury College. The speaker is Pastor Edward Donnelly.

Recommendations:

1. that Presbytery increase the Covfamikoi line item in the Presbytery 2006 budget to \$2500 (\$2000 in subsequent on-cycle years);
2. that Presbytery approve Elder Jeff Kessler as Conference Program Director for a four year term.

Recommendation 1 was referred to the Finance Committee.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the Recommendation 2.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Report of the Commission to Install Pastor Keith Magill

Pastor Ian Wise, former Moderator, took the Chair.

Pastor James Faris, Moderator of the Commission, gave the report concerning the installation of Pastor Keith Magill to the Elkhart R.P. Church.

Motion: it was moved and seconded that Presbytery reimburse Presbytery members for attendance at Keith Magill's installation.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed to extend the time to complete this item of business and to adjourn the Court.

The motion concerning reimbursement was passed.

Motion: it was moved, seconded and passed that the Report of this Commission be approved and the Minutes spread on the Minutes of Presbytery. These Minutes appear in the Appendix.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

Presbytery sang Psalm 4A st. 8.

Prayer and Adjournment

Pastor David Long led the Court in the prayer of adjournment.

Presbytery adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Session 3, Friday, November 11, 2005 at 8:30 a.m.**Call to Order**

Presbytery reconvened at the call of the Moderator at 8:30 a.m.
Presbytery sang Psalm 19A.

Constitution and Devotions

The Moderator had asked Pastor Jared Olivetti to preach God's Word this morning. Jared Olivetti led the Court by reading several passages from the book of Proverbs and preached about speech being used to praise God and edify those made in His image. He concluded his message with prayer.

Presbytery sang Psalm 19B.

Jared Olivetti led in prayer and constituted the Court in prayer.

Roll Call

The Assistant Clerk took the Roll visually.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Thursday evening session were read, corrected and declared approved by the Moderator.

Congregational Reports**Sycamore Visitation Committee Report**

The Report was given by Pastor Jared Olivetti for the Committee.

Recommendation: that the Presbytery rise to pray for this congregation. Specifically that God will continue their growth in grace and in numbers and in the knowledge of Him, that the evil one will be bound from bringing discouragement and division, and that they will continue and grow in being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind (Philippians 2).

Recommendation of the report was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Report of the Sycamore Congregation was given by Pastor Barry York.
This report was continued later in this meeting after the morning break

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Richard Johnston continued to present the Report.

Report on Robert Jones' Church History Paper

Pastor Roy Blackwood presented the Report and its recommendation which is that the Church History Paper on "The Covenants and Covenanting" be sustained.

The Moderator called for the voice vote on the Church History Paper.
On the vote the examination was sustained.

Disabilities Concern Representative

The Clerk read the report from the representative, Mrs. Joanne G. Webb.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Robert Jones was asked the Queries for the Certification to Preach by Pastor Barry York. Robert answered all the queries affirmatively with no reservations.

Roll Call Vote for Certification to Preach

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and Robert Jones' Certification to Preach was unanimously sustained.

Pastor Rich Johnston led in the prayer of Certification to Preach.

Pastor Roy Blackwood gave the words of counsel as to the duties and limitations of his licensure as per The Directory of Church Government, Chapter 3, II, C, 2, i.

Prayer and Recess

Robert McCracken led in prayer and recessed the Court at 10:35 a.m.

Reconvening

Presbytery reconvened at 10:52 a.m. with the singing of Psalm 8B.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Michael Weathers was presented for his examination in Systematic Theology I. The examination was conducted by Pastor Charles Brown.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Members of Presbytery made a number of comments on the examination.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was not sustained. (The result of the vote was 12-yes and 15-no.)

Congregational Reports

Presbytery returned to the consideration of the Sycamore Congregation.

Recommendation: that Presbytery lend its prayers and support to Sycamore RPC's plan to offer the Robert Jones Family to the Airdrie RPC in the capacity of Robert serving as a non-ordained assistant to Pastor Quigley for a year and continuing in his pastoral preparations.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that this recommendation be approved.

Motion: that the Report of the Sycamore congregation be received.

Prayer

Pastor William Roberts led the Court in prayer for the Sycamore Congregation.

Report of the Assistant Clerk on Session's Records

The Assistant Clerk reported that the Minutes of the Westminster Session were read and nothing was found contrary to the law and order of the church.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Congregational Reports

The Report of the Triangle Congregation was given by Pastor Ian Wise.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

The Report of the Westminster Congregation was given by Pastor Charles Brown.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Prayer and Recess

R.E. Steve Sturm led in prayer for the Triangle congregation and Pastor Greg Cumbee led in prayer for the Westminster congregation and led in the prayer of recess.

Presbytery took recess at 12:25 p.m.

Session 4, Friday, November 11, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order

The Moderator called Presbytery to order at 2:00 p.m.

Psalm 78C st. 1-3 was sung in praise and R.E. Jon Hughes led in prayer reconvening the Court in prayer.

Roll:

The Roll was taken visually by the Assistant Clerk.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Friday morning Session were read and declared approved by the Moderator.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Rutledge Etheridge was examined in Church History by Pastor Roy Blackwood.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Comments on the examination were made by members of the Court.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Rich Johnston continued to present the Report of the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Recommendation 5 was divided:

[1]. was approved

[2]. was referred to the Finance Committee.

Recommendation 6 was approved.

Report of the Committee of Time and Place and Miscellaneous Items

Pastor Phil Pockras presented the Report. The Recommendations are as follows:

1. that the Stated Spring Meeting of Presbytery be from 2:00 p.m. 30th March through noon, 1st April at the Sycamore meeting house in Kokomo, IN.
2. that Andrew McCracken be the new representative from our Presbytery to the Geneva College Board of Corporators to complete Ralph Joseph's term, and then his own four-year term.
3. that Robert Morrow be the Chairman of the Visitation Committee to Columbus R.P. Church.
4. that 10 January be fixed as the date for the ordination exams for Michael LeFebvre, with time and other arrangements to be made by the Candidates and Credentials Committee.
5. that, if Mr. LeFebvre sustains his exams, the date for his ordination and installation be fixed for January 27, 2006 with the time and other arrangements to be made by the Candidates and Credentials Committee in consultation with the Session of the Second Indianapolis church and Mr. LeFebvre.

Recommendations 1 through 5 were approved.

Motion: that the report of the Committee be received.

Finance Committee Report

Pastor William Roberts presented the Report of the Finance Committee.

Recommendations:

1. that the 2005 and the 2006 Budget be adopted.
2. that the congregations in the Presbytery are directed to designate an amount for the housing allowance greater than the anticipated housing expense for their pastor(s).
3. that the mileage reimbursement be raised from \$.30/mile to \$.40/mile starting immediately.
4. that, upon discontinuing of the Scholar-in-Residence program, \$10,000 be returned to the Second Indianapolis R.P. Church, and the remained be used to establish a scholarship fund.

Recommendations 1-4 were approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report be received.

Church Extension Committee Reports

There was no report from the four Church extension Committees of the Presbytery to this meeting.

Resolution of Thanks Committee Report**RESOLUTION OF THANKS**

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever." (Ps. 106:1) As we come to the end of our Fall Presbytery meetings, we express our thanks to the Lord for His blessings, and for the guidance, protection, and provisions that He has made for us here.

We thank God for the work done in the congregations as it was reported to us, and for the evident hand of God in bringing increase, strengthening, and new life in many of our various ministries. We especially praise our Sovereign Lord for the birthing of a new congregation in Avon, and for providing an under-shepherd who is ready, qualified, and eager to take up this work.

We are grateful for the students under care that have taken further steps in their examinations as they prepare for future ministry. We are thankful for God's call upon their lives and for the gifts that He has given for His service, and we pray for more laborers for the Kingdom harvest.

We express our thanks to God who has made us comfortable and provided for our physical needs through the members of the Southside Congregation, and we thank them for their gracious hospitality and wonderful care during our visit here.

We acknowledge with thanksgiving the good leadership of our Moderator, and the careful work of our Clerks in expediting the business before us, and for the spirit of harmony and brotherhood which we enjoy as laborers together with God.

May the thanksgiving we express here bring much glory and praise to our God in heaven as we go forth from here in continued service to Him.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob McCracken
Greg Cumbee

Report of The Judicial Committee

The Judicial Committee Report was given by the Chairman, Pastor Barry York.

The Report and its recommendations appear below. (Page 15)

Recommendation 1 was approved.

Recommendation 2 was taken up.

Prayer Time

Presbytery was led in prayer by Pastor Ian Wise and R.E. Dan Webb.

Recess and Reconvening

Presbytery took recess at 3:35 p.m. and reconvened at 3:51 p.m. with the singing of Psalm 221.

Rev. Edwin Blackwood spoke to the Court concerning his and his family's move to Australia to serve in the Reformed Presbytery of Australia.

Pastor David Long led the Court in prayer for the Blackwoods thanking God for their service in the Presbytery and the R.P.C.N.A. and petitioning God for His blessing on them as Edwin takes up his work in Australia.

Candidates and Credentials Committee Report

The Moderator introduced Robert Jones for his examination in Pastoral and Evangelistic Gifts.

The examination was conducted by Pastor Ian Wise.

Members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers,

Prior to the Roll Call Vote, members of the Court made their comments on the examination.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Judicial Committee Report (continued)

Pastor Barry York, Chairman, presented the Report as the Presbytery returned to Recommendation 2.

Recommendation 2 was approved.

The Report as a whole was received.

Judicial Committee Report

Dear Fathers and Brethren,

Your committee was assigned two matters for judicial review outlined below.

1) Appointment of men to provisional eldership – The Ad Interim Commission requested a ruling that came to them from the Elkhart congregation. The session there asked the Commission to appoint two men to share a position of provisional elder. Believing the *Constitution* supports the appointing of men to particular positions and does not permit the sharing of positions, the Commission believed they needed to deny the Elkhart session's request.

The Elkhart session based their request on the precedent often employed in church planting when a temporary governing body is composed from a pool of men serving on an overseeing commission. However, we believe appealing to this precedent is not valid, for it is not a similar situation. A temporary governing body remains completely under the authority of and entirely consists of men from the greater commission who have full shepherding responsibilities; a session with a provisional elder position filled by more than one man would have two men with "on-again, off-again" authority. We agree with the Ad Interim Commission that men are to be assigned to a position on a session, not just that a position is to be created on a session for a man or men to fill. Having only "half-time" elders in caring for the sheep of the Lord could set an unwanted precedent, as it could give the appearance to the congregation of a man sitting in a position rather than a man shepherding the people of God.

Recommendation 1: That Presbytery uphold the wisdom of the Ad Interim Commission in the Elkhart decision.

2) Paper 2005-F1 on the issue of open session meetings – David Paris, a member of the Lafayette congregation, submitted a sixteen-page, single-spaced paper addressing the issue of open session meetings. In this paper, he believes the action of Presbytery in 2001, which made a ruling in support of the Lafayette's session interpretation and practice of conducting their session meetings, was not Biblically supported. The thesis of Mr. Paris' paper is that the Scriptures show that any meeting of the elders of God's people is to be public and worshiping assemblies to which the entire congregation is invited to attend. He also briefly appeals to Synod's decision in 2003 not to remove the statement regarding open session meetings from the *Directory of Church Government* in support of his appeal. In addition, we reviewed a three-page response to Paper 2005-F1 by the Lafayette session pointing out three areas of deficiency of the paper. Finally, we also received a letter from two other

households of the Lafayette congregation simply supporting the idea of appealing Presbytery's 2001 decision.

Though we appreciate Mr. Paris' passion for this issue and his desire to see the church always to be reforming, this committee was not persuaded by his arguments and believes that the ruling of the 2001 Presbytery should stand. In particular, we agree with the Lafayette Session's response, that Paper 2005-F1 contains many exegetical errors regarding the treatment of the Scripture's use of "courts" and "gates," leads to confusion between public worship and the courts of the church, and wrongly implies that sessions following the ruling of the 2001 Presbytery are operating in secret. In addition, his appeal to Synod's 2003 ruling does not invalidate Lafayette's practice, as Synod's ruling can be honestly read to permit their practice.

Recommendation 2: That the appeal of Paper 2005-F1 be denied and the paper returned to its author.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jon Hughes
Steve Sturm
Tom Reid
Barry York, Chairman

Report of Presbytery's Representative on the Board of Corporators of Geneva College

Rev. Ralph Joseph, Presbytery's Representative, presented this Report.

The Report was received.

Rev. Ralph Joseph was acknowledged for his 11+ years of representing Presbytery on this Board.

Report of the Committee of Church Extension and Training

Pastor David Long gave the Report of the Church Extension and Training Committee.

The Report appears below.

Recommendation: that The Presbytery approve the proposal for a part-time Coordinator of Church Extension and appoint Pastor Keith Magill to fill a one year term beginning on September 1, 2005.

The Recommendation was approved.

Motion: It was moved, seconded and passed that the report be received.

Coordinator of Church Extension (CCE)

Job Description for a Part-time Position

Approved by Committee for Church Extension and Training - September 16, 2005

I. The Opportunity

A. Since its inception nearly 3 years ago, the role of Coordinator for Church Extension and Training has proven to be helpful to our Presbytery in:

1. Developing of new ministries in our Presbytery (*Westside Indianapolis*), -
2. Helping with the development of potential new areas for ministry (*Marion, Lafayette, Louisville, Atlanta, Columbus, OH, Madison, WI*)
3. Furthering the work of training men for the ministry (*Candidates and Credentials work, Gamble classes*),
4. Helping several congregations who faced particular needs that were best addressed by an "outside consultant" (*Triangle, Elkhart*), and
5. Helping Sessions of both newer (*Pensacola*,) and older works (*Columbus, Hetherton, Orlando*) evaluate their progress and plan for their future.

B. There are more new ministries in various stages of development that could benefit from Presbytery's help.

C. The Church Extension Planning Day held on June 11 showed that there is a will to continue reaching out and there are potentially fruitful opportunities with available resources to do it. Progress could be enhanced if someone continued to be officially tasked by the Presbytery with giving attention to church extension and evangelism. We do this for youth ministries (Youth Director), Covfamikoi (Conference Director) and administration (Ad Interim Commission). Why not make the same kind of provision for one of the most important ministries we ought to be doing — evangelism and church extension beyond our own congregations?

II. A Solution

A. A Coordinator for Church Extension be employed by the Presbytery on a part time basis to continue the work that was begun in February 2003.

B. The general guideline for ministry time would be 1 week/month. This is an overall average, realizing that the work may come in larger or shorter blocks of time over the course of a year.

C. The responsibilities for training, which were part of the former role, would not be included in this new position.

III. Job Description

(Drawn from the present Coordinator of Church Extension and Training's Job Description)

1. Visit the churches of the Presbytery to promote the work of home missions through preaching, presentations and seminars (Acts 14:21-28; 15: 3-4), helping congregations to develop a vision for daughtering congregations and for evangelism.
2. Assist current Presbytery church planting efforts and HMB aid receiving congregations
 - a. Help develop and implement strategies and programs
 - b. Help evaluate their ministries and implement agreed upon changes

- c. Review and recommend resources that will assist them
3. Assist with future church planting efforts
 - a. Help identify potential sites and groups for new works in the Presbytery
 - b. Follow up contacts with persons and groups interested in the Reformed Presbyterian Church.
 - c. Identify and coordinate nearby resources to develop new ministries
4. Develop a training program for "seed families", ruling elders, deacons and others who could be equipped for service in a church plant. -
5. Develop and coordinate opportunities for people and congregations in the presbytery to help one another in the work of evangelism and church planting, e.g. short term home missions teams, coordinating prayer, work days at new ministries, etc.
6. By invitation, assist local congregations in the tasks of evangelism and outreach. For example, offer teaching and training in evangelistic preaching, neighborhood calling, and other evangelistic methods. (Acts 13:19-26)

IV. Focus of Ministry

A. To begin with, the main geographical focus of the Coordinator's ministry would be the Ohio-Indiana region of our Presbytery.

B. The Coordinator would be available for ministry in the other Church Extension regions of the Presbytery (Michigan, Southern Illinois and the South) as time and opportunities permit.

V. Immediate Projects

- A. Support for the new ministry on the Westside of Indianapolis (2-3 days/month)
- B. Help with the emerging works in Marion & Lafayette
- C. Help with the exploration work in Louisville
- D. Begin the investigative work for possible new ministry in Columbus, OH
- E. Follow-up with other contacts and possibilities in the Ohio-Indiana region
- F. Do the staff work of the Ohio-Indiana Church Extension Committee

VI. Oversight

A. Primary oversight and coordination on behalf of the Presbytery would be by the Ohio-Indiana Church Extension Committee. The present Church Extension and Training Committee would be dismissed with thanks.

B. The Ohio-Indiana Church Extension Committee would work closely with the Elkhart Session.

C. This would not be a "called" position as the present Coordinator of Church Extension and Training has been. Rather it would be a position in the Presbytery to which a man would be appointed/elected by the Presbytery in a similar way that the Youth and Conference Directors are appointed/elected. The difference would be that since the time requirement is much greater, the Coordinator would be compensated and his ministry expenses paid by the Presbytery.

VII. Finances

A. 1/4 of the current budget = \$15,000/year

B. Possible sources of income

1. HMB - 4,800/year (400/month)
2. Second RP - 7,500/year
3. Presbytery — 3,050/year in the form of contributions and/or from Presbytery's regular budget -

C. Handling funds - Income would come to the Presbytery. The funds would then be transferred to the Elkhart RPC. Distribution to the Coordinator would be by the Elkhart RPC.

VIII. Person and Term of Office

A. Keith Magill would be appointed/elected as the Presbytery's Coordinator for Church Extension to begin September 1, 2005 for an initial term of 12 months.

Minutes

The Minutes of this session were read, corrected, and declared approved by the Moderator.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed to extend the time to hear Rutledge Etheridge's sermon and to complete Presbytery's business for this meeting.

Prayer

Robert McKissick led the Court in prayer concerning the issues of Papers 05-1 and 05-2; Phil Pockras for Geneva College; and Barry York for Keith Magill and his work as Coordinator of Church Extension.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

The Moderator introduced Rutledge Etheridge for his Expository Sermon on a assigned topic.

Presbytery sang Psalm 57A.

Rutledge Etheridge read Phil. 1:1-11, led in prayer, and preached God's Word on "Perseverance" from Phil. 1:6.

He closed his message with prayer.

Presbytery sang Psalm 138A.

Prior to the Roll Call Vote, members of the Court made their comments on the examination/sermon.

Roll Call Vote

The Assistant Clerk called the Roll and the examination was unanimously sustained.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that the Candidates and Credentials Committee Report as a whole be received.

Minutes

The final section of the Minutes were read and approved.

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed that Presbytery adjourn.

Presbytery was led in prayer by the Moderator, sang Psalm 133A and adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

APPENDIX

Sparta Session Report to the Presbytery re. Joel Finley.

Attached is the letter (including the actions of the Presbytery at its Spring meeting) that was sent to Joel, Bob and Jeanne Finley with a request to meet with them. They have chosen not to meet with the Session although Session has asked on a number of occasions to meet with them. At our Session meeting on September 9 and at an informal meeting since then it was noted that we still had not met with the Finleys.

On Lord's Day evening, October 30, Pastor Morton asked Joel what response could the Session convey to the Presbytery at its meeting November 10-12? Joel replied that the report sent from Presbytery had not changed his thinking and he still was unable to take the Covenant of Communicant Membership.

The main thing he keeps bringing up is he feels that Presbytery has not passed his papers on to Synod. He still insists that Presbytery and Session are not granting him his right to due process according to church law.

Respectfully submitted,

The Sparta Session

The following is the letter mentioned above:

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Letter to Bob, Jeanne and Joel Finley,

This is the list of actions in regard to the Report of the Visitation Committee to Sparta:

Here are the recommendations from visitation team.

1. Presbytery affirm that Vow #4 of the Covenant of Communicant Membership should not be interpreted as requiring agreement and obedience to every statement in the Constitution, but rather to submit to the teachings of the church as they are summarized in the Constitution to the extent that they are biblically faithful.
2. Presbytery dismiss the committee.

The Visitation team withdrew this first recommendation and presented a new recommendation which is as follows:

1. Presbytery affirm that Vow #4 of the Covenant of Communicant Membership should not be interpreted as requiring adherence to anything that the candidate for communicant membership is not fully persuaded is good, just, and true. (Note Westminster Confession 22:3,7).

This new recommendation failed.

Recommendation 2 failed.

Session would like to share with you why these did not pass.

Then there was presented a Special Resolution which did pass and is as follows:

Special Resolution: Presbytery affirm that vow #4 of the Covenant of Communicant Membership should not be interpreted as requiring agreement at every point with the Constitution of the RPCNA but rather a willing submission to the teaching and authority of the church as summarized therein so far as it does not bind the conscience.

This is what was passed and we would like to meet with you concerning it and go over it with you. We also want to share our concerns for you Joel, your parents and your family. Would you please be open to us so we can work together to come to an understanding? We are very much in prayer for you all and we feel many share sincere concern for you Joel. We praise God for that.

Sincerely in Christ,

Sparta Session

Commission to Install Keith Magill as Pastor of the Elkhart, Indiana RPC

September 16, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.

Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church
2323 17th Street
Elkhart, IN 46517

A Special Commission of Presbytery was appointed by Presbytery's Ad Interim Commission to install Rev. Keith Magill as Pastor of the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church. Members of the Commission present were: James Faris, Moderator, Barry York, Clerk, David Long, Roy Blackwood and Fikre Menbere.

The Commission was constituted in prayer by James at 6:55 PM.

Fik Menbere asked to be relieved of the duties of Clerk of the Commission due to his heavy responsibilities as host for the installation service and as the only resident ruling elder.

Motion carried to receive the resignation of Fik Menbere as Clerk of the Commission and to appoint Barry York to replace him.

Motion carried to invite Pastor Bob Amon to participate in the prayer of installation for Keith.

The moderator recessed us until the installation service.

At 7:05 PM Fik Menbere welcomed the congregation and guests to this service of installation, after which Moderator James Faris called the service to begin by reading from Isaiah. After singing Psalm 84A, the Commission was reconvened in prayer by the Moderator at 7:10 p.m.

The members of the Commission, other members of Presbytery and Pastor Bob Amon were introduced by James.

The Clerk narrated the steps that lead to this service:

- Keith Magill, after serving as pastoral intern for a year, was first ordained to the Gospel ministry and installed as the pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Southside Indianapolis on September 5, 1980.
- He completed more than 22 years of ministry there on April 1, 2002.
- On November 8, 2002 the Presbytery called him to be its Coordinator of Church Extension and Training. He began that ministry on February 1, 2003.
- On September 1, 2004, the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church found itself without a pastor. Its first pastor, Andrew McCracken, had accepted a call from the Columbus, IN Reformed Presbyterian Church after 6 years of church planting ministry in Elkhart, for which there is much remaining good fruit.
- On May 4, 2005, the congregation of the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church made out a call to Rev. Keith Magill, which was sustained as a regular Gospel call by the Presbytery's Ad Interim Commission.
- On June 12, 2005 Pastor Magill announced to the congregation his acceptance of the call, and his plan to move to Elkhart in September to begin what all hope will be a long and fruitful ministry.
- At the request of the Elkhart Session, Presbytery's Ad Interim Commission set September 16, 2005 as the date for the installation and appointed a Commission to carry out the installation.

Clerk Barry York read the edict for the final time. The Congregation was asked to stand and indicate its adherence to the call, which it did unanimously. The Pastor-elect was asked to stand and indicate his adherence to the call which he did. Ed Blackwood proposed the queries for installation, all of which Pastor-elect Magill responded to in the affirmative.

The Congregation praised God by singing Psalm 71C.

Dr. Roy Blackwood read the Scripture from Matthew 6:33, Matthew 16:18 and Philippians 2:5-11 and preached on the topic "I Will Build My Church". He emphasized the need for us to seek the kingdom by having the mind of Christ who will build His church. Following Dr. Blackwood's sermon the Congregation sang praise to God from Psalm 84B and Dr. Blackwood prayed for Keith and the church.

Moderator Faris called all the Elders forward. Pastor-elect Magill knelt in prayer surrounded by the Elders of the Church who laid their hands on him, and Pastor Faris then led in the prayer of installation installing Rev. Keith Richard Magill as the Pastor of the Elkhart Reformed Presbyterian Church. The elders then extended to Keith the right hand of fellowship.

Following the prayer of installation Pastor David Long gave the charge to the newly installed Pastor from a variety of texts. He charged Keith to enjoy preaching the word, to make his work

focused by training laborers and avoiding distractions, and to pay close attention to himself by resting in the Lord.

Then Pastor Barry York gave the charge to the congregation from Romans 15:30-33. He called upon them to pray for their pastor.

Following these charges Pastor Magill responded.

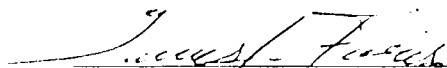
Guests and congregants were introduced and a greeting from Andy and Susan McCracken was read. The minutes were then read.

Motion carried to approve the minutes of the Commission. Keith then acknowledged fellow pastor Bob Amon whose friendship in prayer in Indianapolis was a wonderful encouragement. He also acknowledged Pastor Peter Wallace and members from the nearby Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

Motion carried to adjourn.

In closing, the congregation sang Psalm 73C. The Commission was adjourned in prayer by Moderator Faris at 8:55 PM followed by the benediction pronounced by Pastor Magill.

The congregation sang Psalm 72C:11, 12.


James Faris, Moderator


Barry York, Clerk

**Minutes of the Special Meeting
of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
January 10, 2006**

Call to Order: The moderator, James Faris, called the Presbytery to order at 1:34 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2006, at the Second Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, for the purpose of ordination exams for Michael LeFebvre.

Praise: Presbytery sang Psalm 149 st. 1-4

Constitution of the Court: The Moderator constituted the court in prayer.

Roll Call: The clerk called the roll, which showed that a quorum was present and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras x	
Bloomington		Wendell McBurney x
Columbus	Andrew McCracken x	Robert Henning x
Elkhart	Keith Magill x	
Hetherton		
Lafayette	David Long x Jared Olivetti x	
Oakdale	Raymond Morton x	
Orlando		
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood x Richard Johnston x James Faris x	Dean Filson x Jack Baumgardner x
Selma		
Southfield		
Southside	Gordon Keddie x	Steve Sturm x
Sparta	Raymond Morton x	
Sycamore	Barry York x	
Triangle	Ian Wise x	
Westminster		
Roger Adams		
Edwin Blackwood x		
Paul Faris		
Rick Gamble		
Milton Harrington		
Ray Joseph		
Garland Kincaid		
Keith Magill x		
Marion McFarland		
James McMahan		

Tom Reid
James Wright

Agenda:

The agenda as presented by the Clerk was amended and approved.

Organizational Motions:

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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.

Travel Agent: Pastor Andrew McCracken was appointed Travel Agent.

Candidates and Credentials Committee

Pastor Roy Blackwood introduced Michael LeFebvre for his ordination examinations. Michael LeFebvre, after leading the Court in prayer, preached God's Word from I Chronicles 25:1-7. He concluded by leading in prayer. Presbytery sang Psalm 84B st. 4-7.

Roll Call Vote:

The clerk called the roll. The Ordination Sermon of Michael LeFebvre was unanimously sustained.

Examination in Personal Godliness

Pastor David Long conducted the examination of Michael LeFebvre in Personal Godliness. Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote:

The clerk called the roll. The Examination was unanimously sustained.

Examination in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony

Pastor Keith Magill conducted the examination of Michael LeFebvre in Soundness in the Faith and Commitment to the R.P. Testimony. Other members of Presbytery asked questions and received answers.

Roll Call Vote:

The clerk called the roll. The Examination was unanimously sustained.

This completed the examinations of Michael LeFebvre.

Edwin Blackwood addressed the Court, at its request, about the Lord's leading him and his family concerning their move to Australia. They are to leave on January 24, traveling to Los Angeles, and then fly to Australia on January 26th.

Pastor Robert McCracken led the Court in prayer for Ed Blackwood and his family and for some further requests asked from the floor of the Presbytery.

Resolution of Thanks

The Presbytery expresses its thanks to the Second Indianapolis Reformed Presbyterian Church for their hosting of this meeting of Presbytery. We appreciate their making their facility available to us. May the Lord continue to bless and prosper the Session and the congregation here.

Minutes

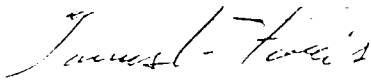
The Clerk read the Minutes and the Moderator declared the Minutes approved as amended.

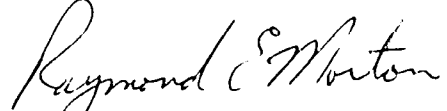
Adjournment

Motion: it was moved, seconded, and passed, that Presbytery adjourn.

Pastor Roy Blackwood adjourned Presbytery in prayer at 4:03 p.m.

Presbytery sang Psalm 133A


James Faris, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery


Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

**Minutes of the Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America
January 27, 2006**

Pastor James Faris welcomed the congregation present and made some announcements.

Call to Order: The moderator, James Faris, called the Presbytery to order at 7:03 p.m. on Friday, January 27, 2006, at the Second Indianapolis Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, for the purpose of the ordination and installation of Michael LeFebvre.

Praise: Presbytery sang Psalm 29A st. 1-6

Constitution of the Court: The Moderator constituted the court in prayer.

Roll Call: The clerk called the roll, which showed that a quorum was present and is as follows:

<i>Congregations</i>	<i>Teaching Elders</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>
Belle Center	Philip Pockras e	
Bloomington	William Roberts x	Kenneth DeJong x
Columbus		Robert Henning x
Elkhart	Keith Magill x	
Hetherton		

Lafayette	David Long x Jared Olivetti x	Robert Bibby x David Carr x
Oakdale	Raymond Morton x	
Orlando		
Second Indianapolis	Roy Blackwood x Richard Johnston x James Faris x	Jack Baumgardner x Ram Rao x Alt. Dean Filson x
Selma		
Southfield		
Southside	Gordon Keddie e	Elders e
Sparta	Raymond Morton x	
Sycamore	Barry York x	Robert McKissick x
Triangle		
Westminster		

Roger Adams -
Paul Faris e
Rick Gamble -
Milton Harrington -e
Garland Kincaid -
Marion McFarland -
Tom Reid e
James Wright -

Organizational Motions:

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 all elders present who are not delegates be made consultative members of the court.
It was noted that all elders in good standing in the denomination be invited to participate in the laying on of hands.

Agenda:

The agenda as presented by the Clerk was approved.

Narrative of the Steps: Raymond Morton narrated the steps leading up to this service.

Reading of the Edict: For the last time, Raymond Morton, Clerk, read the Edict for the Ordination and Installation of Michael Lowell LeFebvre.

Adherence to the Call: The moderator asked the Congregation to indicate their continuing adherence to the call by standing, which they did.

Acceptance of the Call: The moderator asked Michael LeFebvre to indicate if he accepted the call of the Second Indianapolis R.P. Congregation, which Michael did.

Queries for Ordination: Pastor James Faris asked Michael Lefebvre the Queries for Ordination,

and Michael LeFebvre replied in the affirmative to all of them.
Michael LeFebvre signed the Queries in Presbytery's Minute book.

Worship: The congregation sang Psalm 115A st. 1-5
Pastor Roy Blackwood read Matthew 16:13-19, and preached God's Word on the subject of "I Will Build My Church", and announced Psalm 102B st. 6-10 which was sung in praise.

Ordination and Installation: Pastor Rich Johnston let the prayer of ordination and installation of Michael LeFebvre setting him apart to the gospel ministry while the members of Presbytery and other elders present laid their hands on Michael LeFebvre. Following prayer they extended the right hand of fellowship to him.

Charge to the New Pastor: Pastor Keith Magill read from Hebrews 13:7 and spoke of the preaching and other pastoral responsibilities in giving the charge to Michael LeFebvre.

Charge to the Congregation: Pastor David Long gave the charge to the Second Indianapolis congregation to embrace the vision of the kingdom and to live and walk in faith as seen in Hebrews 11 with its privileges and costs.

Presbytery sang Psalm 150B

Introductions and Greetings to the new pastor.

Michael LeFebvre and his family were introduced to those present.
Those involved in the Westside ministry at Avon stood and were recognized.
The Moderator read a letter from the Belle Center Session expressing their desire for the Lord's blessing on the new church planting work.

Pastor Michael LeFebvre began work in the Second Indianapolis R.P. Church on January 1, 2006.

Minutes: The minutes of this special meeting were read and approved as read.

Adjournment: It was moved, seconded, and passed, to adjourn.

The Moderator led in prayer and adjourned the Court and the new Pastor, Michael LeFebvre, pronounced the Benediction. The Presbytery was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

The congregation sang Psalm 134A st. 1, 2.

James Faris

James Faris, Moderator
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Raymond E. Morton

Raymond E. Morton, Clerk
Great Lakes-Gulf Presbytery

Minutes examined and nothing found contrary to the law and order of the church unless noted below.

Raymond E. Morton
Assistant Clerk
J. Lynn RICNA
June 28/2006