

OFFICERS OF CLASSIS

PRESIDENT Reverend Mr. Ron Morris
 VICE-PRESIDENT Reverend Mr. Jon Blair
 STATED CLERK Reverend Mr. David Fagrey
 TREASURER Elder Spencer Gross
 723 E. 2nd Ave.
 Mitchell, SD 57301

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

(Underlined indicates chairman)

Missions: S. Henry, H. Hart, G. Syms, S. Gross, S. Heinbigner.

Publications: J. Vusich, M. Powell, T. Schieffelin.

Christian Education: J. Blair, C.W. Powell, D. Kingswood, J. Connelly,
 D. DeGroot.

Interchurch Relations: M. Powell, B. Grossmann, E. Starks, D. Griess.

Candidates & Credentials: M. Koerner, C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, D. Mettler,
 J. Savage, G. Van Holland.

Executive Committee: R. Morris, D. Fagrey, G. Maassen.

***Heidelberg Youth Camp:** R. Gallimore, S. Henry, L. Johnson, B. Freeman,
 L. Dewald.

***Dan Rogers:** D. Kingswood, Elders of Hope Sutton, F. Hofman, L. Johnson.
 *Special Committee

2010 CLASSIS GUIDELINE FOR GIVING

	Guideline	per Communicants 1054
Classical Expense Fund	\$8,000.00	\$7.59
Missions	\$30,080	\$28.54
Heidelberg Seminary	\$5,310	\$5.00
New Geneva Seminary	\$4,248	\$4.00
Reserve Fund	\$2,108	\$2.00
Total	\$49,674	\$47.13

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COLORADO

COLORADO SPRINGS (www.trinityrcus.com)

Trinity Covenant RCUS. Phone: **(719) 590-1477**.
Mail: 6050 Del Paz Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80918.
Location: Grace Presbyterian Church, 2511 N. Logan Ave.
Worship: 11:30AM. Sunday school: 1:00PM.
Pastor: C.W. "Bud" Powell, Jr. (wife, Penny)

GREELEY (www.reformedgreeley.org)

Grace RCUS. Phone: **(970) 336-9927**.
Mail: 1505 10th Ave. Greeley, CO 80631.
Location: 1501 10th Ave.
Worship 10:00 AM.
Pastor: Jon Blair (wife, Wendy)

LIMON

Providence RCUS. Phone: **(719) 775-8842**.
Mail: PO Box 848, Limon, CO 80828.
Location: 725 Michigan.
Worship: 10:00AM. Sunday school: 11:30AM.
Pastor: Matthew Powell (wife, Andrea)

NEBRASKA

LINCOLN (www.stjohnsrcus.com)

St. John's RCUS. Phone: **(402) 477-7289**
Mail and location: 1101 South 26th St. Lincoln, NE 68502
Worship:10:30 AM; SS: 9:30 AM. July & August: 10AM. No SS.
Pastor: Lee Johnson (wife, Jenny Jo)

SUTTON

Emmanuel RCUS. Phone: **(402) 773-4218**
Mail: PO Box 362, Sutton, NE 68979. Location: 110 South Way.
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM
Pastor: Joe Vusich (wife, Gioia, pronounced JOY-uh)

SUTTON

Hope RCUS. Phone: **(402) 773-4330**. dlkingswood@altell.net
Mail: PO Box 372, Sutton, NE 68979. Location: 311 E. Hickory.
Worship:10:30AM; SS: 9:00AM; B. Study 6:30PM (2nd & 4th Sun.)
Pastor: Darrell Kingswood (wife, Lori).

SOUTH DAKOTA

MENNO

Zion RCUS. Phone: **(605) 387-2816**

Mail: P.O. Box 387. Menno, SD 57045.

Location: 220 South Pine.

Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM

Pastor: Scott Henry (wife, Maria).

MITCHELL (www.gracereformed.com)

Grace RCUS. Phone: **(605) 996-7439**.

Mail: PO Box 252, Mitchell, SD 57301.

Location: 1021 S. Davison.

Worship: 10:00 AM; Sunday School 9:00 AM.

Pastor: George Syms (wife, Debbie)

RAPID CITY (www.rcusrapidcity.com)

Grace RCUS. Phone: **(605) 399-1711**.

5626 North Haines Ave. Rapid City, SD 57701

Worship: 10:30 AM; SS: 9:00 AM; Bible Study Sunday 6:00 PM

Pastor: David Fagrey (wife, Bonnie)

SIOUX FALLS (www.trinityrcus.org)

Trinity RCUS. Phone: **(605) 331-0500**.

Mail: 415 N. Joseph. Tea, SD 57064.

Location: 7301 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls, SD

Worship: 10:00 AM.

Pastor: Ron Morris (wife, Sheri)

VERMILLION (www.providencereformed.com)

Providence RCUS. Phone: **(605) 624-4337**.

Mail and location: 830 E. Madison. Vermillion, SD 57069.

Worship: 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:30 AM.

Pastor: Robert Grossmann (wife, Polly)

WYOMING

ROCK SPRINGS

Providence RCUS. Phone: (307) 362-5107.

1007 9th St. Rock Springs, WY 82901.

Worship: 10AM, Sunday School 11:30AM

Pastor: George Horner (wife, Mary Jo)

SERVICES

The body met for worship on Monday, March 22 at 6:45 p.m. with Rev. Joe Vusich, candidate for licensure, conducting and preaching from 1 Peter 1:3-8, with a sermon dealing with Christian joy. Candidates for Licensure are "required to preach a sermon before Classis" (RCUS Constitution, article 70).

At 9:45 a.m., Tuesday, March 23, Rev. Matthew Powell gave a devotion from John 13 and 1 Corinthians 13 and led the body in prayer.

Closing devotions on Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m. were led by Elder Myron Koerner who read from the book of Job and led the body in prayer.

ORGANIZATION

The President of Classis, Rev. Ron Morris, called the body to order on Monday, March 22nd 2010, at 3:05 p.m. The body had business until 5:30 p.m. After the evening worship service the body continued its business until 9:25 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President

Vice-President

Stated Clerk

Treasurer

The Reverend Mr. Ron Morris

The Reverend Mr. Jon Blair

The Reverend Mr. David Fagrey

Elder Mr. Spencer Gross

The President appointed Rev. Lee Johnson to be Reformed Herald reporter.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Benevolence

Education and Student Aid

Examination and Licensure

Finances

Ministerial Aid

Missions

Overtures

Publications

Services

Judicial

Nominations

Minutes of Synod

D. Kingswood, Myron Koerner, D. Griess.

H. Van Stedum, H. Hart, F. Hofmann.

M. Koerner, C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, S.

Heinbigner, D.Mettler, G. Maassen.

J. Blair, L. Dewald, J. McClay.

T. Schieffelin, J. Connelly, G. Maassen.

S. Henry, G. Syms, D. McPherson.

M. Powell, S. Henry, E. Starks.

C.W. Powell, G. Van Holland.

H. Hart, H. Van Stedum, F. Hofmann.

G. Syms, G. Van Holland.

R. Grossmann, L. Johnson, D. Griess

J. Blair, D. Fagrey, E. Starks.

PRESENTATION OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee (*Referred to Overtures*)

Executive Circulars Volume 24, Numbers 1-6

Number 1

March 30, 2009

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There are two items that need your attention:

- A. The Constitutional Questions to elders from Providence Reformed Church in Rock Springs, WY and Grace Reformed Church in Rapid City, SD.

The elder delegates from Rock Springs and Rapid City were not able to attend the spring meeting of Classis in Sioux Falls, and they did not forward their answers to the Constitutional Questions to elders. Therefore, their answers need to be circularized. Their answers are as follows. Earl Starks, elder *primarius* from the charge in Rock Springs, answers “yes” to all the questions. Dave McPherson, elder *primarius* from the Rapid City charge, answers “yes” to all the questions.

- B. A request from elder Earl Starks for travel reimbursement.

The executive committee received the following request from Earl Starks, elder delegate from Providence Reformed Church in Rock Springs, WY:

Esteemed Treasurer and Delegates of the South Central Classis – Reformed Church in the United States: I, Earl Starks, humbly ask for reimbursement for the cost of travel expenses incurred in the amount of \$ 973.00 for airfare for both myself and the Rev. Paul Henderson. Although we were providentially hindered from attending the Classis meeting, the cost was charged to my (Mr. Earl Stark’s) credit card. There was not a recoup provision for these tickets.

Thank you for considering this request,
Your humble servant in the Lord, Mr. Earl Starks

RECOMMENDATION: That Classis grant Earl Stark’s request for travel reimbursement in the amount of \$973.00.

Number 2

June 1, 2009

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There are three items that need your attention:

- C. The Call, Acceptance, Resignation, and Dismissal of Rev. Paul Henderson.

The executive committee has received the following documents and has found them to be in order:

- (1) Call of a minister from Ebenezer Reformed Church, Shafter, CA, dated April 26, 2009, to Rev. Paul Henderson, Rock Springs, WY.
- (2) Letter from Rev. Paul Henderson, stating his acceptance of the call from Ebenezer Reformed Church, Shafter CA, May 4, 2009.
- (3) Resignation of Rev. Paul Henderson from Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, dated May 4, 2009, effective June 21, 2009.
- (4) Acceptance of the resignation of Rev. Paul Henderson from the Consistory of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, dated May 2009.
- (5) A request from Rev. Paul Henderson to be dismissed to the Western Classis, dated May 22, 2009.

- D. The Call, Acceptance, and Installation of Rev. Maynard Koerner as an associate pastor of Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD.

The executive committee has received the following documents and has found them to be in order:

- a. Call of an Associate Pastor from Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD, to Rev. Maynard Koerner, dated May 3, 2009, to teach at Heidelberg Theological Seminary as instructed by the Board of Trustees of said Seminary.
- b. Letter from Rev. Maynard Koerner, stating his Acceptance of the Call from Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD, no date.

- c. A request from the Consistory of Trinity Reformed Church, that the installation committee of Rev. Maynard Koerner consist of the Rev. Robert Grossmann along with the elders of Trinity Reformed Church in Sioux Falls, and that it take place on Sunday, June 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

- E. A request from Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY concerning Rev. Neale Riffert as stated supply.

The Executive Committee received a letter (dated May 27, 2009) from Elder Earl Starks on behalf of the Consistory of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, requesting Classis approval for Rev. Neale Riffert to be stated supply from July through September, 2009. Rev. Riffert has agreed to serve in this capacity with the approval of the South Central Classis.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation #1: that the resignation of Rev. Paul Henderson be approved, that he be dismissed to the Western Classis, and that the pulpit of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY be declared vacant as of June 21, 2009.

Recommendation #2: that the call of Rev. Maynard Koerner be approved, that his installation committee consist of the Rev. Robert Grossmann along with the elders of Trinity Reformed Church in Sioux Falls, and that his installation take place on Sunday, June 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Recommendation #3: that Classis grant the request of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY to have Rev. Neal Riffert as their stated supply from July to September, 2009

Number 3
June 17, 2009

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention:

- F. The Call, Acceptance, Resignation, and Dismissal of Rev. Lee Johnson, Herreid, SD.

The executive committee has received the following documents and has found them to be in order:

- a. Call of a minister from St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE., dated May 10, 2009, to Rev. Lee Johnson, Herreid, SD.
- b. Letter from Rev. Lee Johnson, stating his Acceptance of the Call from St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE, no date.
- c. Resignation of Rev. Lee Johnson from First Reformed Church, Herreid, SD, effective July 6, 2009.
- d. Acceptance of the resignation of Rev. Lee Johnson from the Consistory of First Reformed Church, Herreid, SD, no date
- e. Request from Rev. Lee Johnson to be dismissed from the Northern Plains Classis to the South Central Classis, no date.

RECOMMENDATION: the executive committee recommends that Classis approve the call of Rev. Lee Johnson to St. John's RCUS, and that he be added to the roll of our Classis as soon as we receive his letter of dismissal from the Northern Plains Classis.

Number 4
July 15, 2009

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention.

- A. The Installation of Rev. Lee Johnson.

Rev. Lee Johnson has requested that his installation committee consist of Rev. Maynard Koerner, Rev. Warren Embree, along with the elders of St. John's Reformed Church in Lincoln, NE, and that it take place on Sunday, August 16, 2009.

RECOMMENDATION: That a committee, consisting of Rev. Maynard Koerner (Chairman), Warren Embree, and the elders of St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE, install Rev. Lee Johnson as pastor of St. John's Reformed Church on Sunday, August 16, 2009; and that said committee report back to the executive committee after the installation has taken place.

Number 5

September 24, 2009

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention.

- A. 2009 Special Classis Meeting of South Central Classis on Monday, October 12 in Ogallala, NE.

According to article 90 of our Constitution, "A special meeting of Classis may be called at any time by the President, ... specifying the particular business to be transacted.... At least two weeks before the time of such meeting the Stated Clerk shall notify the members by circular of the time and date of meeting, and the items of business properly before the body."

President Ron Morris is hereby calling a special Classis meeting to take place on Monday, October 12, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Grey Goose Motel in Ogallala, Nebraska. A conference room will be reserved for business from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The business to be transacted will consist of dealing with Rev. Dan Roger's resignation from Emmanuel Reformed Church, Sutton, NE.

The Executive Committee received the following report, which contains a recommendation that Classis convene as soon as possible to consider Rev. Dan Roger's resignation.

To the Executive Committee of the South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States

September 22, 2009

Esteemed Brethren:

On July 17, 2009, the Executive Committee of Classis was contacted by the elders of Emmanuel RCUS, Sutton, NE, with the report that their pastor, Rev. Dan Rogers, has a very serious drinking problem that was affecting his marriage, family, and ministry at Emmanuel RCUS, and that he was temporarily prevented by the Emmanuel Spiritual Council from exercising his ministerial functions. Therefore, in keeping with Articles 120 & 121 of the RCUS Constitution, the President of Classis, Rev. Ron Morris, appointed a special committee to investigate the scandalous report concerning Rev. Dan Rogers. The special committee consisted of Rev. Ron Morris, Rev. Scott Henry & Rev. Darrell Kingswood.

On Thursday, September 10, 2009, the special committee members met at Hope RCUS, Sutton, NE, with Emmanuel RCUS elders Fred Hofmann, Curt Griess & Delary Hofmann to investigate the scandalous report concerning Rev. Dan Rogers. The committee met with the elders from 11:00 AM until 1:30 PM and heard numerous reports regarding Rev. Dan Roger's serious drinking problem and all the attendant consequences of such sinful activity. The special committee, along with the Emmanuel elders, then met with Rev. Dan Rogers from 1:30 PM until approximately 3:30 PM to inquire about the scandalous reports communicated to Classis. The meeting affirmed many of the reports communicated to the special committee by the Emmanuel elders. The special committee then met with the Emmanuel elders for an additional 45 minutes to recap the meeting. Subsequent to the special committee meeting with Rev. Dan Rogers and the Emmanuel elders, Rev. Dan Rogers tendered his resignation to the Consistory of Emmanuel RCUS effective September 17, 2009.

As a result of this investigation and the resignation of Rev. Dan Rogers, your committee presents the following recommendation:

1. That Classis convenes as soon as possible, in accordance with Article 30 of the RCUS Constitution, in order to consider the matter of Rev. Dan Roger's resignation from Emmanuel RCUS.

Respectfully submitted: Rev. Ron Morris, Scott Henry & Darrell Kingswood

The Executive Committee concurs with the recommendation of this report; accordingly, the President of Classis has called a special meeting, with the following proposals concerning the order of business and the order of the day.

PROPOSED ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. Services.
- II. Organization.
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Defining the Bar of the House
- III. Adoption of Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day.
- IV. The Resignation of Rev. Dan Rogers

PROPOSED ORDER OF THE DAY

- 1:00 p.m. Business
- 3:25-3:45 p.m. Recess if necessary
- 3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Business if necessary

Number 6

February 2, 2010

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention:

A. 2010 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis at Zion Reformed Church, Menno, SD.

1. Date and Time: The spring meeting of Classis will commence on Monday, March 22, at 3:00 p.m. in order to give us more time for Classis business, in light of a licensure examination.
2. The Schedule of Services, Order of the Day, and Agenda: see attachments.
3. Statistics and Credentials: You will find attached with this mailing one set of forms consisting of Membership and Financial Statistics and Credentials of Elders to Classis. According to the Standing Rules of Classis (#2 & #3) these are to be forwarded to the Stated Clerk no later than **two weeks** before the Classis meets. This means they must be in the Clerk's hands by **March 8, 2010**. It would, however, be appreciated by the Clerk if these documents can get to him as early as possible. One of you has already done this, shattering the previous record!
4. Parochial Reports: According to Standing Rule #2 Parochial Reports are to be **sent to the President** (NOT THE CLERK) **two weeks** before Classis (by **March 8, 2010**). It would, however, be appreciated by the PRESIDENT if these reports can get to him as early as possible.
5. Reports and Recommendations of Permanent and Special Committees: According to Standing Rule #17 the Reports of the Permanent and Special Committees are to be completed and **mailed to all the Consistories** of all the Churches **four weeks** prior to the Classis Meeting, thus by **February 22, 2010** with **one copy** to be sent **to the Stated Clerk**. Excuses for this requirement are to be made only on written request to the Executive Committee.
6. PLEASE SEND AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF ALL REPORTS TO THE CLERK.
7. Accommodations: Please email Rev. Scott Henry (Shenry3@goldenwest.net) and let him know whether you want him to arrange your lodging or whether you prefer to find your own lodging. The Menno church will assume that all delegates will be arriving in time for supper at 5:30 p.m. unless they communicate otherwise.
8. Licensure Exam for Joe Vusich.

Piety and Intent	15 minutes	Savage
English Bible	15 minutes	C.W. Powell
Historical Philosophy & Ethics	15 minutes	Fagrey
Apologetics	15 minutes	Koerner
Church History	15 minutes	Koerner
Hermeneutics	15 minutes	Fagrey
Prolegomena-doctrine of Scripture	15 minutes	Fagrey
Theology proper-doctrine of God	15 minutes	C.W. Powell
Anthropology	15 minutes	C.W. Powell
Christology	15 minutes	Fagrey
Soteriology	15 minutes	C.W. Powell
Ecclesiology	15 minutes	Koerner
Eschatology	15 minutes	Koerner
Creeds	15 minutes	Mettler
Practica	15 minutes	Heinbigner

Joe is prepared to submit a theological paper and an exegetical paper. Rev. Fagrey is working with Joe in Greek and Hebrew. Koerner is examining Joe in the RCUS Constitution.

9. Committees:

- Missions:** [G. Syms](#), S. Henry, S. Gross, L. Huber.
- Publications** [J. Blair](#), A. Greiss.
- Christian Education** [D. Kingswood](#), C.W. Powell, J. Connelly, D. DeGroot.
- Interchurch Relations** [B. Grossmann](#), M. Powell, D. DeGroot, E. Starks.
- Candidates & Credentials** [M. Koerner](#), D. Fagrey, C.W. Powell, D. Mettler, S. Heinbigner, J. Savage.
- Executive Committee** [R. Morris](#), D. Fagrey, S. Bindert.
- *Heidelberg Youth Camp** [R. Gallimore](#), M. Powell, S. Henry, B. Freeman.
- *Oversee Dan Rogers:** [R. Morris](#), B. Grossmann, S. Gross.
- *Special Committee

Respectfully submitted on all circulars,

President Rev. Ron Morris, Stated Clerk Rev. David Fagrey, Elder Shane Bindert.

MISSIONS

(Referred to Standing Missions)

February 22, 2010

The Honorable South Central Classis
Menno, South Dakota

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Your chairman assumed this role on the vote of the committee in the Fall of 2009. It has been somewhat of a challenge to get up to speed, however, the members of the committee have been kind in their assistance to accomplish our responsibilities and mandates in good order.

Your committee has made attempt to pursue the work of Home Missions and interest in the same with appropriate activity.

The first item of business when your chairman was appointed, was to secure a meeting with contacts in Omaha through a couple who were members of St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE. Rev. Maynard Koerner also encouraged the committee in this, putting us in touch with Mr. and Mrs. Travis Lockyer of Omaha. Our meeting was basically set up to make a presentation to the Omaha group, which had already had a presentation from the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. It seems as though an unofficial presentation had been made for the RCUS, which did not fulfill the expectations of the Omaha group. The report of that meeting follows immediately. Your committee chairman has also been in telephone contact with Rev. Neale Riffert, presently of Sherman, Texas, who has been working with a group in that area to encourage and instruct them in the Reformed doctrine and practice. There is much to be encouraged about in this development. The Committee also desired to fulfill its mandate to visit the Home Mission works in the bounds of the South Central Classis at Limon, CO, Greeley, CO, and Vermillion, SD. The meetings were conducted *via* conference call to eliminate cost to the Classis treasury. This was a decision made with the knowledge that an *in-person* visitation by at least two committee members was the standard procedure. Time constraints and weather issues, as well as the chairman's health figured into the decision to conduct these contact meetings *via* conference call.

Omaha, NE

Esteemed Fathers & Brothers,

On Monday, October 19, 2009, SCC Home Missions Committee members: Rev. George Syms, Rev. Scott Henry and Elder Spencer Gross, traveled to Omaha, NE,

to meet with a number of men regarding their desire to start a Reformed congregation in the Omaha area. The committee members first met with Travis & Megan Lockyer, former members of St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE. After a nice meal and a brief conversation regarding the particulars of our meeting, your committee members then drove to the meeting place, which was a rented room at a local hospital. Those present from the Omaha group were: Travis Lockyer, Bill Goodwin, Steve Veeneman, Mike Haijman and Bob Cabell. We were told by those present that three other members of the group could not be in attendance at our meeting.

Our meeting began with introductions, and then Rev. Syms prayed for the Lord's blessing upon our meeting. Rev. Syms then presented a one hour power point overview of the RCUS, which covered the early beginnings of the RCUS up until the present time, and it also included all the major distinctions of the Reformed Faith in general and the RCUS in particular. It was a well prepared presentation, and all those present commented on the clarity, thoroughness, and practicality of the presentation.

After the presentation, the Omaha group asked a number of questions regarding the RCUS position on the following areas:

- § Infant Baptism
- § Children's place in the church
- § Male Headship
- § Education of children
- § Number of worship services on the Lord's Day
- § Women voting
- § Administration of the Lord's Supper
- § Financial support of mission works
- § Church discipline
- § Confessional Standards & Subscriptionism

A few of the questions stem from what one member of the Omaha group called "inconsistencies within the RCUS" because a few of our churches allow women to vote, and one congregation resists subscribing to the Belgic Confession and the Canons of Dort. Because of these issues, some of the Omaha men questioned the sincerity and commitment of the RCUS regarding church discipline. However, the Home Missions Committee members fielded the questions to the satisfaction of the Omaha group.

Overall the meeting went very well and the Omaha group was well pleased with what they heard and saw from the SCC Home Missions Committee members regarding the RCUS. May the Lord be pleased to begin an RCUS home mission work in the Omaha area for His honor, glory and praise!

Respectfully submitted, Rev. George Syms (Chairman), Rev. Scott Henry, Elder Spencer Gross & Elder Loren Huber

Limon, Colorado

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,

On Friday, February 5th, at 7PM Mountain time, after reading of Scripture by the chairman and prayer led by Rev. S. Henry, your committee conducted an interview via conference call with the Consistory of the church in Limon, CO. Participants in the call included members of the Classis Home Missions Committee, Elders Loren Huber and Spencer Gross, Pastors S. Henry and G. Syms. Consistory members participating were Rev. M. Powell, Elder Ted Schieffelin, Elder Harold Yoder, and Deacon David Logan.

The chairman initiated the discussion with a request for information concerning the number of families, communicants and unconfirmed children in the congregation. Br. Powell reported that there were 17-18 families, with 39 communicant members, and 19 unconfirmed covenant children. He also reported at the present time there were 4 families who were attending that are not yet members of the church, on the average there were 10-12 visitors who are not members in regular attendance. The average attendance at the Lord's Day morning worship service is from the mid to high 50's.

The Pastor informed the committee that there were presently six covenant young people in Catechism Class, and that later in the year they hoped to confirm one of the youth.

Matt Powell also reported that the Classical and Synodical guidelines were paid. The intention of the Consistory was to pay off the outstanding debt to the Synod of the RCUS as soon as possible. He also noted that later in the month a meeting would be held to determine what reduction would be taken in the Classis support in the coming year. When asked whether Limon would like to request Synod participation in support, br. Powell indicated that the congregation had no intention of using the full ten-year period of Home Mission status for support. hat their desire was to move from Home Mission status as soon as possible. They were not seeking Synod Home Mission support.

Pastor Powell reported that he conducts three Bible Studies during the week, one on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. These studies are each located in areas where the members are concentrated: some to the North, some in town, and some to the South. The chairman asked the Consistory if they could describe the life of the congregation as it functioned, and also what a typical Sunday looked like in terms of the conduct of worship and the ministry of the Word. Worship is

conducted each Sunday at ten o'clock in the morning, with the services lasting anywhere from an hour to an hour and twenty minutes. Following that the congregation fellowships for about thirty minutes over coffee. Then during the Sunday school hour there is a discussion on the sermon of the morning including Questions and Answers on the same. The Sunday school class lasts for an hour. The congregation holds a pot-luck fellowship meal on the first Sunday of each month after the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Elder Harold Yoder gave his hearty impression that the fellowship of the church was very good, and that the attendance on the services and meetings was strong numerically. This was important in light of the fact that the members live at distances from their meeting place ranging from locally to as much as 40 to 70 miles away.

David Logan, deacon, said that the offerings were good, and that after the building loan is retired they can begin saving for the expansion of the building as in due time this would be necessary. Mr. Logan told us the amount that was about to be paid off was \$5,000 dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. G. Syms, chairman, *on behalf of the SCC Home Missions Committee.*

Greeley, Colorado

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,

On Friday, February 5th, at 8:15PM Mountain time, your committee conducted an interview via conference call with the Consistory of the church in Greeley, CO.

After reading of Scripture by the chairman and prayer led by Rev. S. Henry, your committee members, Elders Loren Huber and Spencer Gross, Pastors S. Henry and G. Syms began gathering information from the Greeley Consistory. Consistory members participating were Pastor Jon Blair, Elders Jim Connelly, Ewald Ochsner, and Albert Haller, and Deacon Daniel Thomas.

Rev. Blair reported that the church had good growth and communication of the Gospel. In the last two years there were added 24 new members, and on the average there were 15 visitors in regular attendance. The church now has 70-75 communicant and baptized members.

Pastor Blair also spoke of the positive spiritual growth which was marked by a commitment to the Reformed faith, a solid commitment to the truth of God's Word. Not unrelated is a definite financial progress of the congregation, with a genuine

thankfulness for the funding of Classis and Synod over the years. The \$300,000 loan is about to be retired.

When asked about the typical Lord's Day ministries Pastor Blair informed us that Sunday School begins at 9:45am with about fifteen minutes of opening exercises. The classes begin at 10am. The Adult Class has been studying the Belgic Confession of Faith. There are three children's SS classes using covenant materials for study and instruction. There is one worship service on the Lord's Day which begins at 11AM.

The Church also holds a mid-week prayer service and Bible Study which has focused on the book of Proverbs. Catechism classes are held on Tuesdays with 2 classes and a total of eight students. Some are being prepared for confirmation. The pastor also conducts classes for new members and for those seeking pre-marital instruction and counseling.

Membership classes are presently conducted with one young woman, and there are two families in regular attendance who are strong possibilities for taking membership instruction. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is observed four times a year. The brethren indicated that the fellowship of the church is great. The interest in and support of the RCUS is strong and the church hopes to host the South Central Classis meeting next year.

The outstanding balance on the loan is about 10 thousand dollars, and it is hoped that it will be retired in the very near future.

It was noted that the church has members who suffer from Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinsons' Disease, and is therefore looking at installing a wheelchair lift in order to facilitate a greater ease of participation in the ministry for these members.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. G. Syms, chairman, *on behalf of the SCC Home Missions Committee.*

Vermillion, South Dakota

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,

On the evening of Monday, February 22nd, 2010, at 7PM Central time, your committee conducted an interview *via* conference call with the Consistory of the Providence Reformed Church in Vermillion, SD.

The chairman opened with the reading of Colossians 4:2-6, and we were led in prayer by Rev. Scott Henry. Committee members participating were Rev. G. Syms, Rev. S. Henry, and Elder Spencer Gross. Providence Reformed Consistory

members on the call were Rev. Robert Grossmann, and Elders Jim Rydell and Greg Van Holland.

The Consistory was asked to give the committee a review of progress and growth over the last few years, numerically and spiritually. The brethren explained that the congregation was very welcoming toward visitors, and that hospitality was commonly extended on occasions when visitors were present. There are four university students in regular attendance, only one of whom is from the RCUS, and the church is very thankful for these youthful attenders. They are well cared for by the congregation. The brethren also report a blessing in the joining to the congregation of a new family from north of Yankton, SD. At present they report a membership consisting of twenty-four communicants and seven non-communicants, for a total of thirty-one baptized members.

Pastor Grossman explained that the home visitation of all the member families is carried out early in the year, with other visiting as needed. The other item brought to our attention is that all of the communicants except one have partaken of the Lord's Supper in 2009. The member in neglect is a young woman with whom they are seeking to work to see if discipline is necessary. One family departed with no obvious reason, with no request for dismissal, which was disappointing, and are now members of the Lutheran Church where they reside in Missouri. The elders explained that the Vermillion area is a particularly difficult field. Liberalism, general spiritual indifference, and having a personal agenda are the norm for many. This makes for difficulty in evangelizing, and yet the congregation is not reluctant to speak to others about Christ and the Gospel. The men noted that probably close to 35 families have passed through the congregation in the last ten years but do not make the commitment to join. It seems as though they want a form of Christianity 'LITE,' but not the genuine article. The members of the congregation stay engaged with the community in every possible way, and desire to have contact with those around them. One of the elders said that the evangelistic efforts could always be improved.

The ministry of the Word is carried on through the services of the church, and *via* a radio program which has a good response. Pastor Grossmann continues to conduct the ministry of the Word in area Nursing Homes, in the jail, and *via* a Pastor's column in the local newspaper.

The congregation now has two covenant youth in catechism class with a view toward confirmation in approximately three years. The Pastor and the Elders were in agreement that the church has a solid core of committed people, that the congregation is spiritually strong, and that the giving is also strong. They report that the physical plant is in good shape, and the members do much of any work that needs to be done on an ongoing basis. The brethren report that the church has no debt. The parsonage was paid for in full some years back, and the contract with Classis Iokota of the CRC regarding the church building and property is in its final

year. The contract will be fulfilled in July of 2010, at which time the deed for the property should be passed to the Providence congregation.

The Providence Consistory expressed its sincere gratitude to the RCUS for its support over the years, and is looking forward to proclaiming the Gospel as a faithful church of Christ for years to come.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. G. Syms, chairman, *on behalf of the SCC Home Missions Committee.*

Recommendations:

1. That Providence Reformed Church of Limon, CO, be supported by SCC Home Missions in the amount of \$9,000 for 2011.
2. That SCC set aside \$20 per Communicant member in 2010 for future Home Mission works.
3. That the SCC Home Missions Committee continue to monitor the developments in Sherman, Texas, and seek to assist the group forming there (and Rev. N. Riffert) in whatever way possible.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. G. Syms, *chairman*, Rev. S. Henry, Spencer Gross, Loren Huber.

PUBLICATIONS
(Referred to Standing Publications)

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your Permanent Publications Committee had no business brought before it during the past year, and therefore did not meet and has no business to report.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Jon Blair (chairman), D. Rogers, A. Griess.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
(Referred to Education and Student Aid)

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your Permanent Christian Education Committee had no business brought before it during the past year, and therefore did not meet and did no business.

There is one note of information. The “Norman Hoeflinger Library” will be moved this coming summer when the Heidelberg Seminary relocates to the Trinity Reformed Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. D. Kingswood (chairman), C.W. Powell, J. Connelly, D. De Groot.

INTERCHURCH RELATIONS
(Referred to Overtures)

March 5, 2010

Honorable South Central Classis, RCUS

Your Interchurch Relations Committee has been active during the year, providing fraternal delegates to Classis and Presbytery meetings as we have been able to do so on the dates involved. We will have reports from delegates to the Classis South Central of the URC from both their Fall and Spring meetings.

We have also sent invitations to the OPC and RPCNA (Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America) Presbyteries, and to the Classis South Central of the URC inviting them to send fraternal delegates to our Spring meeting at Menno later this month.

Respectfully submitted, R. Grossmann, Chairman, M. Powell, D. DeGroot, E. Starks

Classis Action: Classis took note of this report when it was read on the floor.

CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS
(referred to Examination and Licensure)

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Your Committee presents the following report along with one recommendation for your consideration.

Examination

Your committee interviewed Mr. Joe Vusich on Orthodoxy and Intent and approved him to candidate at Emmanuel RCUS, Sutton, NE. Subsequently Mr. Vusich received a call from Emmanuel, Sutton which he has accepted. A full exam will be

conducted at the upcoming classis meeting. For your information a portion of his resume is included here.

These developments, and a growing desire in my heart to serve Christ in full-time ministry, eventually convinced me that I should attend seminary to get the necessary training and instruction. I moved to Los Angeles in 1990 to attend The Master's Seminary, and received my M.Div. (with highest honors) in May of 1993. After serving as an intern that summer, I was examined and ordained to Gospel Ministry by the Baptist General Conference in October, 1993. I was subsequently called to serve as pastor of two different baptistic churches over a four year period. By the end, I had become fully convinced of the Reformed faith (paedobaptism was the final piece), and so resigned my pastorate and moved to Kansas City to fulfill some family obligations. We joined the local OPC church, and I was ordained as a Ruling Elder the following year. During my service in the OPC, I filled the pulpit numerous times, taught Sunday School, developed and taught a new members class, taught an introductory class on parenting, and served on the Session for seven years. I also served a two year term as moderator of the Presbytery of the Central U.S. My family and I eventually left the church (amicably) in October 2006, and transferred our membership to Redeemer Presbyterian in Overland Park KS. Since then, and especially in the past year, I have had a growing desire to return to full-time pulpit ministry, a desire that I believe is from the Lord. God willing, I am committed to serving and glorifying Him in that capacity (as He directs and as the church approves), wherever it takes us.

The schedule for the exam has been included in the Classis circular, Vol. 12, No. 6.

Student Under Care

Mr. Jim Connelley continues as a student under care. He has been engaged in self-study this past year. The committee will be meeting with him during the Classis meeting.

Your committee makes the following recommendation:

That the South Central Classis recognize the ordination of Mr. Joe Vusich and proceed to examine him according to Article 35 of the RCUS constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Maynard Koerner, Rev. David Fagrey, Rev. C.W. Powell, Elder Daniel Mettler, Elder John Savage, and Elder Steve Heinbinger

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President's Report on the State of the Church

Dearly Beloved,

As we stand here today, we find ourselves in a time of economic and political uncertainty. Our government is trillions of dollars in debt, we have a high unemployment rate, and a political undercurrent of discontent among many citizens that I have rarely, if ever, seen. Yet I am reminded of the words of the prophet Habakkuk who was also facing difficult political and economic times. He wrote, "Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls — Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills" (3:17-19). Ultimately, it does not matter who is in political control or how the economy is doing. Our hope comes from knowing the Lord. The Church of Jesus Christ must remain faithful to Him.

But, as we note the difficult times in our country, I have to say that things in our Classis seem to be going relatively well. As I read the parochial reports, I see many positive things. As we work our way around the Classis starting out west, we see that Rock Springs, Wyoming, although currently without a pastor, is seriously considering Rev. George Horner. Rev. Horner has been serving in another denomination as interim pastor. This move to Rock Springs has been put on hold due to a serious health concern from Rev. Horner's wife, Mary Jo. Let us pray for Mary Jo and for the Horner family.

In Greeley, Colorado, Rev. Jon Blair reports good growth of some 24 new members and 6 new households. The mortgage on their facility has been paid off and this will be their last year of mission support.

In Colorado Springs, Rev. C. W. Powell reports that technology is being wisely used there. They have had some 60,000 sermon hits on the Internet this past year as well as hundreds of gospel tracts taken from their church rack. Rev. Powell is still receiving radiation for his cancer but reports that his energy level is high and we will continue to pray for his complete recovery.

In Limon, Colorado, Rev. Matt Powell reports that they have had a good year. Attendance is up and they have been able to pay off the loan on their building. We should be in prayer for them in that if they continue to grow, they will soon outgrow their facility. We praise God for this and we should note that Limon could soon be our only active Classis mission work. (More will be said about Missions later in this report.)

Moving on to Rapid City, South Dakota, Rev. David Fagrey also reports numerical and spiritual growth in that congregation last year. In addition to preaching in the pulpit, Rev. Fagrey broadcasts a radio program for 30 minutes each Lord's Day as well as posting his sermons on line.

Going east down I 90 to Mitchell, South Dakota, Rev. George Syms also is faithfully preaching the Word in that area and also broadcasts a weekly radio program. Rev. Syms had some health concerns last year and spent some time in the hospital. But he has resumed his duties and the Elders, as well as his family, are taking steps to assist him toward better health.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the status of Rev. Howard Hart. He retired to Mitchell about twelve years ago. For many years now, he has taught in the Bible department of Mitchell Christian School. Having taught along with him for many years, I can testify of the love and respect the students there have for him. He has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and will be undergoing treatment. Because of this, he has decided to retire from teaching. He has become somewhat of an institution at Mitchell Christian and will be sorely missed by students and administration alike.

In Sioux Falls, South Dakota, your servant reports that there has also been growth in that congregation. In addition to numerical growth, we are also in the midst of an expansion project on our facility that will add offices, classrooms and a library. The board of Heidelberg Theological Seminary has voted to relocate to our facility and has already started conducting some classes there.

In Menno, South Dakota, Rev. Scott Henry is faithfully preaching the Word. The Menno congregation has served as the “mother” church for other congregations in our Classis. Although she is growing older, her legacy will live on for years to come. It is a fact that over the many years, the Menno congregation has never wavered in faithfulness to the Lord Jesus and the Reformed Faith.

In Vermillion, South Dakota, Rev. Robert Grossmann reports excellent attendance from the congregation. In addition to preaching the Word on Sunday mornings from the pulpit, there are also mid-week Bible studies as well as catechism instruction for the youth. Rev. Grossmann also conducts a weekly radio program which broadcasts over 5 states in the region. Vermillion will be coming off mission support this year.

Going down to Lincoln, Nebraska, Rev. Lee Johnson is the “new kid on the block.” He has only been there for 6 months but reports that things are going well in Lincoln. They have a strong Sunday School with many younger children which bodes well for the future of the congregation. He also commends the leadership of the congregation as they underwent a pastor change yet suffered no ill-effects during that transition. This is a sign of a strong Consistory and a stable congregation.

Moving over to Sutton, Nebraska, the saints in Sutton have had a difficult year. Rev. Dan Rogers had to resign his charge at Emmanuel and was suspended from the pulpit. A Special Committee Report will be given during this Classis with more details. But we are thankful that, in God’s Providence, the Rogers family seems to have landed on their feet and are now worshiping down the road with the saints at Hope. Emmanuel has called Mr. Joe Vusich and he is undergoing his exam during this Classis meeting.

Moving on from the parochial reports, there is one other issue that should be mentioned. That is missions. As reported earlier, Greeley is in its last year of

mission support and Vermillion is going off of mission support this year. This leaves us with Limon as the only ongoing mission work in our Classis. However, there are some possibilities. As the Home Missions report indicates, there is a possibility of starting a work in Omaha. I would remind the delegates that Omaha and Denver were two cities that we have somewhat “targeted” as major metropolitan cities in our Classis without a RCUS congregation in which we would like to start mission works. We also have learned of a Bible study in Sherman, Texas, with which Rev. Neil Riffert is working. Also, the Rapid City congregation has indicated that they would be desirous of starting a work in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Rapid City has a family from their congregation which has relocated to that area and is currently conducting a weekly Bible study. We should pray for these possibilities and should budget monies for them in our upcoming budget.

All in all, I would say that things are going well in the South Central Classis. There is always room for improvement and we should continue to work and to pray for growth. But, in all things, may God receive glory and honor, for it is His Classis and it is His work.

Sincerely, Rev. Ron Morris

Classis Action: The report is to be spread in the minutes, printed in the Abstract, and sent to the Reformed Herald.

Stated Clerk’s Report on the Minutes

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

March 22, 2010

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The following items refer to duties performed by myself, which include reference either to the spring 2009 Abstract or Circulars that have been sent since the spring 2009 meeting.

1. At the 2009 spring meeting of Classis the clerk was instructed to inform Rev. George Horner that he is required to submit a parochial report to the President of Classis. A letter via e-mail was sent on March 30, 2009.
2. At the 2009 spring meeting of Classis the following motion carried: “That the Emmanuel American Reformed Church, Denver, Co., be informed that the Rev. Mr. George Horner is in his present capacity “in service to the church” per Article 32 of the Constitution of the RCUS; therefore, in light of

our ecclesiastical relationship his status continues until such time as that service ceases plus three years." A letter was sent on March 30, 2009.

3. On August 17, 2009, I sent a reception of minister (Rev. Lee Johnson) to Northern Plains Classis.
4. I sent Rev. Paul Henderson's letter of dismissal, dated June 14, 2009, to the Western Classis.
5. Page 31 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of Standing Benevolence, requesting benevolent aid from Synod for Mrs. Amy Stevens, a letter was sent March 30, 2009.
6. Page 28 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Benevolence, requesting benevolent aid from Synod in the amount of \$725 per month for Trinity Covenant, RCUS, Colorado Springs, CO, a letter was sent March 30, 2009.
7. Page 32 of the Abstract, Recommendations #1-5, of Standing Ministerial Aid, requesting aid from Synod for Rev. Howard Hart, Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, Mrs. Kay Savage, Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, and Rev. Herman Van Stedum, a letter was sent March 30, 2009.
8. Page 32 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Missions, requesting from Synod \$9,928 for 2010 for Grace Reformed Church of Greeley, CO, a letter was sent March 30, 2009.
9. Page 32 of the Abstract, Recommendation #4, of Standing Missions, requesting from Synod \$5,000 for 2010 for Providence Reformed Church of Vermillion, SD, a letter was sent March 30, 2009.

Respectfully submitted, David P. Fagrey

Classis Action: The report was adopted

Executive Committee's Report of Synod

The clerk read the report.

Classis Action: Take Note

Executive Committee's Report on Their Minutes

The clerk read the report.

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Com.#	Guidelines	Received
South Central Classis	1062	\$43,287.12	\$43,330.25
Trinity Covenant Colorado Springs	53	\$2,160.28	\$2,161.34
St. Johns RCUS Lincoln, NE	96	\$3,912.56	\$3,912.56
Emmanuel RCUS Sutton, NE	130	\$5,298.80	\$5,897.50
Hope RCUS Sutton, NE	210	\$8,559.60	\$8,557.50
Zion RCUS Menno, SD	166	\$6,766.16	\$6,769.48
Grace Reformed Mitchell, SD	77	\$3,138.52	\$3,138.52
Grace Reformed Rapid City, SD	66	\$2,690.16	\$2,691.16
Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls, SD	127	\$5,176.52	\$5,306.90
Providence Reformed * Rock Springs, SD	35	\$1,304.32	\$1,304.96
Grace Reformed Greeley, CO	43	\$1,752.68	\$1,752.68
Providence Reformed Vermillion, SD	25	\$1,019.00	\$1,019.63
Providence Reformed ** Limon, CO	34	\$1,385.84	\$1,427.30
Totals of all Income	1062	\$43,287.12	\$43,330.25
<Budget based on 1062 Members			
Special offering for Providence Reformed Limon:			
			\$2,000.00
			\$375.00
			\$1,495.16
			\$431.25
Total		\$43,287.12	\$47,631.66

Guidelines 2009

	Budget	Paid	Over/Short
Special Collection		\$4,301.43	
Providence Reformed			
Providence Reformed, Limon	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	
Grace Reformed, Greeley	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	
Providence Reformed, Vermillion	\$5,720.00	\$5,720.00	
Heidelberg Reformed Seminary	\$5,310.00	\$5,310.00	
NEW GENEVA SEMINARY	\$4,248.00	\$4,248.00	
Classis Expense	\$8,000.00		
Mileage		\$5,633.56	
Honorarium		\$400.00	
Printing		\$132.45	
Benevolence		\$7,500.00	
Room Rent		\$48.15	
Telephone		\$19.63	
Fund Balance		\$13,733.79	(\$5,733.79)
Total	\$43,287.12	\$53,313.30	(\$5,724.75)
Special Collection	\$4,301.43		
Total	\$47,588.55	\$53,313.30	(\$5,724.75)

	Budget	Received	Over	Short
Classical Dues	\$8,000.00	\$7,993.85		6.15
Missions	\$25,732.26	\$25,723.23		
Heidelberg	\$5,310.00	\$5,389.25	\$79.25	
New Geneva	\$4,248.00	\$4,237.00		11.00
Total	\$43,287.12	\$43,330.25	\$53.13	
Special Offering		\$4,301.41		
Total Income		\$47,631.66		
(Based on 1062 Communicant Members)				

Checkbook

Beginning Balance	\$22,770.03
Interest Income	\$36.29
Bank Charges	\$100.00
Deposits	\$47,631.66
Checks	(\$53,313.30)
Total Checking	<u>\$17,024.68</u>

Classis Action: The report was referred to Finances

PAROCHIAL REPORTS OF MINISTERS

The Ministers of the Word individually read their reports.

Classis Action: On all the reports – take note, except the report of Dan Rogers, which was referred to Standing Benevolence and Standing Services.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO ELDERS (Article 81, RCUS Constitution)

The President addressed the Questions of Article 81 of the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States to the Elder Delegates of each congregation.

The following answers were given:

1. *Are the doctrines of the Gospel preached in your charge in their purity, agreeably to the Word of God?* All answered, "Yes."

2. *Is careful attention given to the instruction of the youth for confirmation, the reception of members into the Church, and the Christian nurture of the members?* All answered, "Yes."
3. *In providing spiritual nurture for the congregation*
 - a. *Is visitation faithfully performed?* All answered, "Yes."
 - b. *Is Christian discipline exercised according to the constitution?* All answered, "Yes."
4. *Are the sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper properly administered in accordance with the constitution?* All answered, "Yes."
5. *In providing for the furtherance of Christian stewardship:*
 - a. *Are the apportionments for the Classis paid according to the Guidelines for Giving?* All Answered, "Yes."
 - b. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Classis treasurer?* All answered, "Yes."
 - c. *Are the apportionments for the Synod paid according to the Guideline for Giving?* All answered, "Yes."
 - d. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Synod treasurer?* All answered, "Yes."
6. *Are the church records properly kept?* All answered, "Yes."
- 7a. *Is the temporal contract between minister and people fulfilled in your charge?* All answered, "Yes."
- 7b. *Is the temporal contract between minister and people adequate to meet his temporal needs?* All answered, "Yes."

REPORT OF NUMERICAL AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS

The Stated Clerk handed out the report of the statistics as they were sent to him. This report appears in the Appendix to this Abstract.

Classis Action: The report was adopted as will be corrected.

REPORTS FROM CLASSIS' FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Rev. Maynard Koerner reported as fraternal delegate to Classis Central US Spring Meeting, URCNA.

Rev. Herman Van Stedum reported as fraternal delegate to Classis Central US Fall meeting, URCNA.

Classis Action: Take note.

Addresses by delegates from other Reformed Churches and visitors

- Rev. Spencer Aalsburg, fraternal delegate from Classis Central US, URCNA, addressed the body.
- Rev. Ken Honken, fraternal delegate from Presbytery of the Dakotas, OPC, addressed the body.
- Rev. Maynard Koerner addressed the body as a representative of Heidelberg Theological Seminary.
- Rev. C.W. Powell addressed the body as a representative of New Geneva Theological Seminary.

EXAMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES

The body gave a licensure exam to Rev. Joe Vusich. His exam was sustained.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS Heidelberg Youth Camp

Heidelberg Youth Camp Report February 16, 2009

A meeting of the Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee was held February 9th, 2010 via conference call. Committee members present were Rev. Mike McGee, chair; Rev. Richard Stetler; Elder Ron Abbink and Elder Justin Goehring from the Northern Plains Classis, and Rev. Scott Henry; Elder Brian Freeman and Elder Roger Gallimore from the South Central Classis. Rev. McGee opened the meeting with the reading of 2 Timothy 3:10-17 and asked Rev. Stetler to pray for the business of the committee.

The activities of Heidelberg Youth Camp 2009 were reviewed. It was noted that the evaluation results were very positive, with all areas except one scoring above 90% in the good to excellent category. Although camp has continued to be successful, there are still ways in which it can be improved. The following changes for HYC 2010 will be implemented:

Concerning the Talent Show, Elder Gallimore will continue to screen the acts and enforce a time limit on each act, limiting the musical performances to only one song.

The amount of time spent on the evening activities will be watched more carefully in order to follow the schedule for HYC. This is also for the benefit of the campers so that the Jr. campers can spend time at the campfire and Sr. campers can have the opportunity for free time prior to cabin devotions.

Those who are giving lectures should provide outlines and/or handouts that will enhance their lectures and make it easier for the listeners to follow the lectures. Speakers are also encouraged to provide discussion questions that can be used by the counselors during cabin discussions.

Awards will be handed out for the games, but no medals or awards will be dispensed for an individual's character or service performed during the week of camp.

The 2009 finance report was reviewed, which showed a net gain of \$1,133.61. The camp account remains in the black with a balance of \$4,628.38. Camp fees will remain at \$149 per camper, provided the registration form and fee is submitted by June 1st. However, the registration fee will be \$179, an increase of \$10, if it is submitted after June 1st. This increase was made in order to encourage families to submit their information in a timely manner so that the preliminary work for HYC can occur.

It was noted that there is a need for a new pellet gun and rifle. By common consent, the committee decided to purchase these items for camp. There is still a need for a wireless microphone and sound system for the Jr. Hall and Sr. Hall. Congregations are asked to contribute a sound system that could be used for the week or raise money that could be used to purchase better equipment. All responses can be directed to Rev. McGee.

The theme for HYC 2010 will be *Soli Deo Gloria*. This theme recognizes that God will be glorified by all His creation. The believer, as the height of God's creation, must fulfill the biblical mandate to glorify God in all that he does. Lessons will be given on the following topics: Why is God's glory so important; How do we glorify God at Church; How do we glorify God in our Relationships; How do we glorify God at Work; How do we glorify God at School and How do we glorify God at Play. One slight change will be made to the worship service this year, which is to choose topics for the sermons. This year's sermon topics will be: How do we glorify God in Thought, How do we glorify God in Word and How do we glorify God in Deed.

Rev. Henry volunteered to recruit speakers for each of the lessons and worship services. Those that had volunteered to take on tasks are reminded of their duties for 2010.

The worship offering was discussed. The amount given in 2009 was \$1,619.28. This offering was designated for hymnals for the saints in Kenya, however after talking with Rev. Mayville, it was learned that there is no longer a need for hymnals. Rev. Mayville expressed that there are other books that are needed and it was decided to apply the offering toward the purchase of those books. The worship offering for 2010 was discussed. It was decided that the worship offering for HYC 2010 would go toward the needs of the saints in the United Covenant Reformed Churches in the Philippines.

Rev. Scott Henry closed the meeting with prayer.

Heidelberg Youth Camp is scheduled for the last full week of July and will be held July 26-30, 2010 at Camp Bob Marshall in the Black Hills.

One further note about the committee meeting should be mentioned. A comment made by one of the counselors was brought before the committee for discussion. The counselor made the following observation:

Campers on the night hike talked about how great camp was for them. Not one mentioned Christ. Camp seemed to be their Savior. They repeatedly said they did not know what they would do without camp. I think this means we have failed. The point of camp should be to train them to live without camp and to live for Christ. This needs to be seriously discussed at both Classes.

The committee spent some time discussing this matter and made the following conclusion:

Although Heidelberg Youth Camp is a labor of love and instruction for the covenant youth of the Northern Plains Classis and the South Central Classis, it is not the primary means of discipleship used to instruct our covenant youth in the faith. Therefore any deficiencies observed in our young people are not necessarily a reflection of the failures of camp. Furthermore, we would encourage the parents, elders and ministers of the churches of our respective Classes to continue to foster ways in which our covenant youth will be instructed in the home and church to grow in their faith and understanding of the Word of God, so that we might see continued growth in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and improvement in the ways in which our young people would articulate their hope in Christ alone.

Heidelberg Youth Camp Budget for 2010

Balance Forward \$3494.77

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Actual 2009</u>	<u>Budget 2010</u>
Camp Fees	\$20,618.00	\$20,115.00
Gifts	\$ 365.00	\$ -----
Worship Offering	\$ 1,619.28	\$ 1,000.00
Interest	\$ 3.56	\$ -----
Camp Store Sales	\$ 609.00	\$ 660.00
T-Shirt Sales	\$ 5.00	\$ -----
Total Revenue	\$23,219.84	\$21,775.00
<u>Expenses</u>		
Facility Use	\$12,364.00	\$12,400.00
Food	\$ 3,444.53	\$ 4,000.00
T-Shirts	\$ 2,576.10	\$ 2,600.00
Crafts	\$ 563.55	\$ -----
Supplies & Equipment	\$ 763.93	\$ 800.00
Promotion	\$ 86.81	\$ 200.00
Custer State Park Fees	\$ -----	\$ 175.00
Administration	\$ 60.48	\$ 200.00
Camp Store Supplies	\$ 607.55	\$ 400.00
Worship Offering	\$ 1,619.28	\$ 1,000.00
Total Expenses	\$22,086.23	\$21,775.00
Revenue Less Expense	\$1,133.61	\$ -----
Ending Balance	\$4,628.38	

Proposed 2010 fees are \$149 per camper provided both the registration fee and form are received by June 1st. After June 1st, the fee will be \$179 per camper. Adult volunteers continue to be free. Fees are based on 135 campers and 38 adults.

Your committee proposes the following recommendations:

Recommendation #1 – That Classis approve the 2010 Heidelberg Youth Camp proposed budget and campers fees.

Recommendation #2 – That Classis approve the report as a whole of the Heidelberg Youth Camp.

Recommendation #3 – That Classis take note of the need for a sound system and wireless microphone

Recommendation #4 – That Classis take note of the importance of submitting registration forms, payments and volunteer lists in a timely manner.

Recommendation #5 – That Classis take note of the following statement: *Although Heidelberg Youth Camp is a labor of love and instruction for the covenant youth of the Northern Plains Classis and the South Central Classis, it is not the primary means of discipleship used to instruct our covenant youth in the faith. Therefore any deficiencies observed in our young people are not necessarily a reflection of the failures of camp. Furthermore, we would encourage the parents, elders and ministers of the churches of our respective Classes to continue to foster ways in which our covenant youth will be instructed in the home and church to grow in their faith and understanding of the Word of God, so that we might see continued growth in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and improvement in the ways in which our young people would articulate their hope in Christ alone.*

Respectfully Submitted

Classis Action: Recommendations 1-2 carried. Take note on Recommendations 3-4. On recommendation 5, the motion carried that the camp committee be directed to examine the biblical nature and effectiveness of camp.

Committee to oversee Dan Rogers

On September 1, 2009, the Executive Committee was contacted by the Elders of Emmanuel RCUS regarding their pastor, Rev. Dan Rogers. They reported that they had conclusive evidence of a very serious drinking problem on the part of their pastor. The Executive Committee of Classis, in accordance with Articles 120 and 121 of the RCUS Constitution, erected a Special Committee to investigate these serious allegations. The Special Committee consisted of Reverends Ron Morris, Scott Henry and Darrell Kingswood. The Special Committee met with Rev. Rogers as well as with the Elders of Emmanuel. In that meeting, Rev. Rogers confessed that he had a drinking problem and was seeking help to overcome it. He subsequently resigned from Emmanuel effective on September 17, 2009.

According to Article 30 of the Constitution, a pastor's resignation "shall then as soon as possible be laid before the Classis for action." Typically, a pastor's resignation is a fairly routine thing and is "laid before the Classis" via circular. However, the Executive Committee believed that this matter was certainly not routine and needed the counsel of the entire Classis to deal with this situation. Therefore, the Executive Committee called for a Special Classis meeting to deal with the resignation of Rev. Rogers on October 12 in Ogalalla, NE.

During the Special Classis meeting, Rev. Rogers confessed that he has had a drinking problem but that he believes that he is overcoming it. His resignation was approved by the Classis and the pulpit of Emmanuel was declared vacant.

The next issue was what to do with Rev. Roger's ordination. A motion was made that he be "suspended." An amendment was made to that motion that the term "suspended" be changed to "deposed." After some debate, that motion to amend was defeated. Classis then voted to suspend Rev. Rogers from the pulpit.

Having been suspended and without a job, the question was where the Rogers family would go next. It was suggested that he move to a place where he could get a job and still attend a RCUS congregation. Also, Classis agreed that there would be some financial assistance to Rev. Rogers until he got re-settled.

The Executive Committee erected another Special Committee to assist Rev. Rogers in the transformation process. These members included Rev. Ron Morris of the Executive Committee, Elder Spencer Gross who is also the Classis Treasurer and would be involved in financial issues regarding the Rogers family and Classis, and also Rev. Robert Grossmann who expressed a desire to work with Rev. Rogers during this time. The Special Committee has been in contact with Rev. Rogers over the phone and through emails. Over the course of time, Rev. Rogers got a job working for a company that sub-contracts with the state of Nebraska dealing with families with abused children. The Rogers family has purchased a house in Sutton and their children continue to attend Sutton Christian School. They have transferred their membership to Hope RCUS in Sutton. Rev. Rogers has said repeatedly to members of the Special Committee that he has been sober since the events leading up to the Special Classis meeting.

Since Rev. Rogers has stayed in Sutton and Classis still maintains his ordination under suspension, Classis still has an obligation to watch over him in the Lord. Geographically, this could best be served by the Spiritual Council of Hope as well as a Committee of Classis whose members live closer to Sutton.

Recommendation:

Your Committee recommends that a Special Committee whose members live close enough to Sutton as to have meaningful consultations with Rev. Rogers be erected and report back at the next Classis.

Respectfully Submitted, Rev. Ron Morris, Rev. Robert Grossmann, Elder Spencer Gross

Classis Action: The recommendation and the report were adopted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Overtures

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That items 1-5 and 14 be referred to Ministerial Aid.
2. Regarding the Interchurch Relations Committee Report: Take Note.
3. That items 7 and 11 be referred to Services.
4. That item 8 be referred to Finances.
5. That items 9, 10, 12, 13, and 15 be referred to Judicial.
6. That item 16 referred to Services.
7. That Classis take note there are no irregularities in the Executive Circulars from 2009.

Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

Examination and Licensure

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That the recommended of the permanent committee be adopted.
2. That the examination of Joe Vusich be sustained.
3. That Rev. Darrell Kingswood be available as an advisor to Joe Vusich in his adjustment as an RCUS pastor and in regard to further study.

Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

Benevolence

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis overture Synod on behalf of Mrs. Amy Stevens for benevolent aid in the amount of \$1,200.00 per month.
2. That Classis overture Synod to provide benevolent aid in the amount of \$725 per month to Trinity Reformed Church of Colorado Springs, CO, for the next synodical year for salary support for teaching at New Geneva Seminary.

Classis Action: Both recommendations and the report were adopted. A motion from the floor was approved to direct the clerk to send a letter to each of the consistories of the South Central Classis informing them of the diaconal need of Rev. Dan Rogers' family, and any monies collected are to be sent to Hope Reformed Church through the Classis treasurer.

Education and Student Aid

The committee had no business brought no recommendations.

Classis Action: the report was adopted.

Home Missions

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Providence Reformed Church of Limon, CO be supported by SCC Home Missions in the amount of \$9,000 for 2011.
2. That SCC set aside \$20 per communicant member in 2011 for future Home Mission works.
3. That the SCC Home Missions Committee commit to the development of the mission work in Sherman, Texas, should the group request Classis oversight; and also that Rev. Neale Riffert be designated as mission liaison.

Classis Action: The recommendations and the report were adopted.

Ministerial Aid

The committee brought the following recommendations for requesting Ministerial Aid from Synod:

1. Mrs. Kay Savage, \$1,000 per month.
2. Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, \$1,000 per month.
3. Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, \$1,200 per month.
4. Rev. Howard Hart, \$1,550 per month.
5. Rev. Herman Van Stedum, \$1,500 per month.

Classis Action: The recommendations and the report were adopted.

Publications

The committee had no business and brought no recommendations:

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

Minutes of Synod

After reviewing the 2009 Synodical Abstract, the Synodical Executive Committee's Report to the Classes, and the Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes, the committee found no discrepancies or omissions, nor any matters to deal with.

Classis Action: the report was adopted

Nominations

Missions:

S. Henry, H. Hart, G. Syms, S. Gross, S. Heinbigner.

Publications

J. Vusich, M. Powell, T. Schieffelin.

Christian Education

J. Blair, C.W. Powell, D. Kingswood, J. Connelly, D. DeGroot.

Interchurch Relations

M. Powell, B. Grossmann, E. Starks, D. Griess.

Candidates & Credentials

M. Koerner, C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, D. Mettler, J. Savage, G. Van Holland.

Executive Committee

R. Morris, D. Fagrey, G. Maassen.

***Heidelberg Youth Camp**

R. Gallimore, S. Henry, L. Johnson, B. Freeman, L. Dewald.

***Dan Rogers**

D. Kingswood, Elders of Hope Sutton, F. Hofman, L. Johnson.

*Special Committee

Classis Action: the report was adopted

Judicial

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis take note of Rev. Embree's parochial report.
2. That Classis approve Rev. Embree's request to be honorably retired from the ministry and placed on the roll of retired ministers.
3. That Classis approve St. John's RCUS' acceptance of Rev. Embree's resignation.
4. That Classis approve Rev. Embree's resignation as Associate Pastor of St. John's RCUS.
5. [From overture #15, a request from St. John's Reformed church for advice: If a man desires church membership but on account of past alcohol abuse professes his desire to refrain from the Lord's Supper in perpetuity may he still be received into church membership?] That the man in question be further instructed regarding the use of wine in the Holy Supper; and that the church demonstrate a willingness to receive him based on his confession of faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. There is reason to demonstrate the importance of responding to the Lord's invitation to the Supper by partaking of the elements He has ordained for it.
6. The committee finds the call of Emmanuel RCUS to Mr. Joe Vusich in order, as well as his acceptance of the same, and recommends approval.

Classis Action: On recommendation #1: Take note. All other recommendations and the report were adopted.

Services

The following referrals and recommendations were brought to the committee's attention:

1. That the request for excuse from all sessions of Classis of Pastor George Horner be granted.
2. That the request of an excuse from all sessions of Classis of Dr. Warren Embree be granted.
3. That the invitation of Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, CO to hold the 2011 Spring Meeting of Classis South Central be accepted.
4. That the request of an excuse from all sessions of Classis of Rev. Dan Rogers be granted.
5. That Classis South Central express its deep appreciation for the great hospitality given to us by the brothers and sisters and officers of Zion Reformed Church of Menno, SD. Well done Zion church!

Classis Action: The recommendations and the report were adopted.

Finances

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That travel for delegates be reimbursed:

Jim Connelly	396.00
Steve Heinbigner	132.00
Rev. George Horner	414.00
Rev. Maynard Koerner	39.60
Jean McClay	436.26
Dave McPherson	238.26
Rev C.W. Powell	46.20
Rev. Mat Powell	419.10
Rev. Neal Riffert	533.94
Earl Starks	495.00
Rev. George Syms	39.60

2. That the Classis Expense Fund be set at \$8,000 for 2010.
3. That a Reserve Fund be set at \$2 per communicant member for 2010.
4. That the guideline for Heidelberg Theological Seminary be set at \$5 per communicant member.
5. That the guideline for New Geneva Theological Seminary be set at \$4 per communicant member.
6. That total dues and guidelines be set for \$49,674 @ 47.13 per communicant member.

Classis Action: The recommendations and the report were adopted. A motion from the floor was approved to pay lodging expenses for C.W. Powell (\$107), Matthew Powell (\$110), and Earl Starks (\$72).

ADJOURNMENT

The body adjourned to the 2011 spring Session of Classis to meet at Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, CO.

APPENDICES
MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2009

	Colorado Springs, CO Trinity Covenant	Greeley, CO Grace Reformed	Providence Reformed Limon, CO	Lincoln, NE St John's Reformed	Emmanuel Reformed Sutton, NE	Hope Reformed Sutton, NE
Number of Elders	3	3	3	4	3	4
Number of Deacons	2	2	2	4	3	4
Communicant Members Last Year	53	44	35	96	130	210
Received by Confirmation	0	1	1	1	1	0
Received by Letter of Transfer	0	3	0	2	0	3
Received by Profession of Faith	0	7	3	1	0	1
Total Members Received	0	11	4	4	1	4
Total Old/New Members	53	55	39	100	131	214
Lost by Dismissal	11	0	0	2	3	1
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	1	1	0	0	4	6
Lost by Death	0	0	0	0	3	0
Total Members Lost	12	1	0	2	10	7
Communicant Members This Year	41	54	39	98	121	207
Unconfirmed Members	17	24	19	35	24	56
Total Baptized Members	58	78	58	133	145	263
Number of Families	16	32	16	53	74	96
Number of Children in SS	21	14	15	25	15	42
Number of Adults Baptized	0	0	1	0	0	0
Number of Infants Baptized	1	10	3	3	0	1
Total Number of Baptism	1	10	4	3	0	1
Number Received Lord's Supper	44	52	N/A	81	113	157
Times Lord's Supper Served	12	4	12	6	6	6
Financial Statistics						
Receipts from Regular Offerings	64,925	103,061	54,084	75,840	90,427	153,920
Receipts from Special Offerings	1,524	1,572	0	773	55,468	11,138
Receipts from other sources	8,700	43,174	6,940	23,064	1,769	667
Total Receipts	75,149	147,807	61,539	99,677	147,664	165,725
Budgeted Synodical Funds	11,408	9,742	396	21,875	29,368	46,985
Budgeted Classical Funds	2,161	1,753	1,010	3,912	5,298	8,558
Giving to Non-Guideline Causes	623	1,495	0	0	0	359
Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes	0	0	645	150	2,416	10,598
Other General Expenses	52,083	132,425	54,963	69,301	52,722	98,097
Total Disbursements	66,275	145,415	57,023	95,238	89,804	164,597
Value of Church Building	0	192,000	40,000	110,000	522,000	800,000

Value of Parsonage	0	158,000	0	99,100	157,000	70,000
Improvements on Church Property	0	23,346	1,114	7,794	5,332	5,671
Present Property Debts	0	10,877	1,154	0	0	0
Debt Payments in the Past Year	0	19,158	3,600	0	0	0
Giving to Synod Per Communicant	215	221	11	228	226	224
Giving to Classis Per Communicant	41	40	29	41	41	41
Total Giving to RCUS	256	295	40	269	267	266

	Memo, SD Zion Reformed Church	Mitchell, SD Grace Reformed	Rapid City, SD Grace Reformed	Sioux Falls, SD Trinity Reformed	Vermillion, SD Providence Reformed	Rock Springs, WY Providence Reformed	TOTAL 2009
Number of Elders	4	3	2	5	2	2	38
Number of Deacons	4	2	2	5	1	2	33
Communicant Members Last Year	166	72	66	127	25	36	1064
Received by Confirmation	3	0	2	0	0	2	11
Received by Letter of Transfer	0	2	0	12	0	4	26
Received by Profession of Faith	0	0	0	6	0	2	20
Total Members Received	3	2	2	18	0	8	57
Total Old/New Members	169	74	68	145	25	44	1117
Lost by Dismissal	2	5	4	0	0	2	30
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	4	0	1	5	2	1	25
Lost by Death	2	0	0	1	0	0	6
Total Members Lost	8	5	5	6	2	3	61
Communicant Members This Year	161	69	63	139	23	39	1054
Unconfirmed Members	27	24	36	73	12	12	359
Total Baptized Members	188	93	99	189	35	51	1390
Number of Families	82	29	35	71	11	20	535
Number of Children in SS	22	17	24	63	7	5	270
Number of Adults Baptized	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Number of Infants Baptized	1	0	3	2	0	3	27
Total Number of Baptism	1	0	3	2	0	3	28
Number Received Lord's Supper	150	68	63	132	25	36	921
Times Lord's Supper Served	4	5	6	6	4	11	82

Financial Statistics

Receipts from Regular Offerings	117,838	101,693	153,850	200,425	68,079	76,890	1261032
Receipts from Special Offerings	19,016	540	0	11,501	2,046	19,035	122613
Receipts from other sources	6,227	18,888	0	3,442	11,786	0	124657
Total Receipts	143,081	121,121	153,850	215,368	81,911	95,925	1508817

Budgeted Synodical Funds	35,732	15,713	14,801	27,260	5,561	7,194	226035
Budgeted Classical Funds	10,855	3,139	2,691	5,307	1,020	1,305	47009
Giving to Non-Guideline Causes	20,780	1,125	6,711	2,193	2,000	530	35816
Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes	4,170	0	0	5,100	172	0	23251
Other General Expenses	97,791	92,517	140,557	106,392	65,038	74,017	1035903
Total Disbursements	169,328	112,494	164,850	146,252	73,619	83,046	1367941
Value of Church Building	500000	275,000	515,000	590,946	300,000	170,000	3666771
Value of Parsonage	75,000	155,225	185,000	0	125,000	included	1024325
Improvements on Church Property	19,986	6,561	20,538	123,473	100	0	213915
Present Property Debts	0	38,979	39,267	0	0	13,876	104153
Debt Payments in the Past Year	0	935	26,101	0	0	26,584	76378
Giving to Synod Per Communicant	222	215	226	215	222	200	212
Giving to Classis Per Communicant	67	43	41	42	41	36	44
Total Giving to RCUS	418	274	368	274	343	251	290

STANDING RULES

1. Classical dues shall be due on the first of December and are to be paid not later than the Thirty-First of December of the current year (1960, '64, '68, '87).
2. The Parochial Reports and Statistics shall be forwarded two weeks before the Spring Meeting of Classis; the Parochial Reports to the President of the Executive Committee and the statistics to the Stated Clerk (1976, '77, '87).
3. The writ of certification for delegate elders for the Classical year shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk two weeks before the Spring Meeting of Classis.
4. All congregations shall present an accurate report on confirmation instruction, Sunday School and weekday school. The period of instruction shall, if possible, be so extended that the pupils memorize and are able to recite the entire Catechism before confirmation. The course of instruction shall include Bible history, Catechism, Bible readings and the study of books and contents of the Bible; also singing, and preferably, Psalm-hymns.
5. The Standing Rules shall be read during the second session of the Spring Meeting (1932, '87).
6. If pastors, elders, and members of congregations request information from the Executive Committee of Classis concerning constitutional matters and procedures, as provided in Article 91, the answer shall, if the request is in order and in written form, be presented to the parties concerned only in written form and relevant only to the item in question (1933).
7. Delegate travel to Classis meetings shall be paid at the rate of thirty-three cents (.33) per running mile to each charge, if travel is by automobile. When distance and time require delegates to use public transportation to Classis, they shall be granted full fare (1965, '74, '80, '83, '94, 2006).
8. The Treasurer shall reimburse travel in behalf of Classis at thirty-three cents (.33) per running mile, also if several ride together in one car; or if by public transportation, the actual fare (1936, '54, '74, '80, '94, 2006).
9. Travel reimbursement shall be paid only those delegates to Classis whose congregations have paid the Classical dues in full to the Classis Treasurer, and those delegates who have attended all sessions of Classis or have been properly excused by Classis (1937, '67).

NECROLOGIES

None were submitted

10. The President of the Executive Committee of Classis shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00), the Stated Clerk shall receive two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00), and the Treasurer shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the Classical year (1960, '61, '65, '78, '84, '87, '90, 2003).

11. The monies sent to the Treasurer shall be made out in check form and designated for which fund and how much for each fund (1957).

12. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to advance the actual fare for public transportation to qualified candidates preaching trial sermons in our vacancies (1958, '87).

13. The Stated Clerk shall prepare for publication an abstract of the Classis minutes. The Spring Abstract shall include a cumulative index of resolutions and positions taken by Classis (1959, '87, '90).

14. The Classis shall have Permanent Committees as follows: Executive, Missions, Christian Education, Candidates and Credentials, Interchurch Relations, and Publications; and the Standing Committee of Nominations each year is to nominate men to serve on these committees (1961, '80, '85, '87, '91).

15. Nominations for all officers of Classis shall be made by secret ballot. All names appearing on the nominating ballot shall be candidates and, if there is no election on the first electing ballot, on each succeeding ballot the two candidates with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped until there is an election. (1962, '80, '87, '88).

16. Every charge that will not have an elder delegate at the Spring Meeting of Classis shall, before the date of the meeting, send in the answers to the questions placed before the elders according to Article 81 of the constitution. This copy shall be signed by all the elders of the charge and sent to the Stated Clerk (1963, '87).

17. The reports and recommendations of the Permanent and Special Committees of Classis shall be completed and mailed to all the Consistories of all the churches, with two copies to be sent to the Stated Clerk, four weeks prior to the meeting of Classis to which these reports and recommendations are to be presented. Excuses for this requirement are to be made only on written request to the Executive Committee of Classis by the chairman of the committee involved, at least two weeks before the meeting of Classis (1963, '70, '79, '82, '87, '90).

18. The services of Classis shall be prepared by the Executive Committee and these proposed services shall be circularized before Classis (1966, '72).

19. Students that are under the care of Classis shall be urged to attend only such seminaries approved by Classis. Only students who attend approved institutions shall be eligible for student aid while preparing for the Christian Ministry (1978, '87).

20. Classis shall require candidates for the ministry to complete an eight-month internship before his ordination exam. The internship shall be spent with a pastor who has served at least 5 years in the RCUS. The pastor shall provide a written evaluation of the candidate to the Candidates and Credentials committee. During this internship particular emphasis shall be placed on learning the peculiarities and practices of the RCUS. This internship requirement may be fulfilled either before or after the candidate has received a call or is licensed (1979, '87, '95).

21. Overtures sent to the Stated Clerk of Classis four weeks in advance of the Classis meeting shall be circularized, but overtures may be submitted to Classis at anytime (1986, '87).

22. The Spring Meeting of Classis shall be held at least one month before the annual meeting of Synod and shall start the 4th Monday of March opening with a worship service at 7:00 p.m., but if the 4th Monday is in the week before Easter, Classis shall meet the 3rd Monday of March (1987, 2001, 2002, 2009).

23. Members of Classis submitting reports, overtures, and correspondence to Classis which will either be circularized or printed in Classis Minutes and Abstracts and which express personal opinions potentially offensive or slanderous against another brother or sister or to other members of Classis, shall govern themselves by I Peter 4:8 (1991).

24. All requests for reimbursement of expenses be made on the standard reimbursement form. Letters of explanation may be appended but do not substitute for reimbursement forms. Receipts must be attached (1997).

INDEX OF RESOLUTIONS AND POSITIONS

(Spring 1986, Abstract p. 110)

The body voted "South Central Classis" as the official name for Classis.

(Spring 1987, Abstract p. 5)

The following guidelines were adopted by Classis for delegates from the Classis to corresponding bodies:

1. ATTENDANCE: Be present at as many of the sessions as possible, register arrival with the Stated Clerk, hold private conversations with as many delegates as possible, and try to establish good relations between the Classis and the church which is being visited.
2. PREPARATION: Request reports, agendas, etc. from the Church which is being visited, be prepared to address actions taken by Classis or Synod, and take the current Abstract.
3. ADDRESSING THE BODY: Have a prepared address to present, seek to commend the body in the spirit of Philippians 4:8, inform the body of significant developments in the Classis and Synod, keep personal remarks to a minimum, and make clear which remarks are personal, and try to avoid negative criticisms. If a rebuke is needed refer the matter to the Interchurch Relations Committee.
4. STANDING COMMITTEES: Attend as many Standing Committee meetings as possible.
5. DECISIONS: Get as many copies of reports as possible and report any significant actions taken by the body.
6. REPORT: The report is to be sent to the Interchurch Relations Committee within one month of the meeting and is to include all actions taken by the body as well as any comments which the delegate thinks would be helpful to the Committee and Classis.
7. EXPENSES: Travel expenses are to be paid by the Classis and should be submitted to the Interchurch Relations Committee and the Classis Treasurer.

(Fall 1987, Abstract p. 5)

That all reports from the Permanent Committee's be on 8 1/2" by 11" paper in order to better fit the Minutes.

(Fall 1987, Abstract p.9)

That as soon as it is conveniently possible after each meeting of the South Central Classis, the Clerk of Classis send an Abstract of the Classis minutes to each Classis delegate. This Abstract does not have to be in a formally published form.

(Spring 1988, Abstract p. 23)

The Classis does not see any theological problem with using one or many cups for communion; in light of the uncertainties concerning the transmission of AIDS, it may be advisable to use individual cups.

(Spring 1989, Abstract p. 25)

That the Classis use a double entry ledger for Classis records.

(Spring 1989, Abstract pp. 27-28)

The following procedures be used in calling an organizing pastor to a new mission work:

- a. The Consistory overseeing the mission work shall select a pastoral candidate in consultation with the members of the mission work and the Classis Home Missions Committee.
- b. The members of the proposed mission work, under the supervision of the Consistory, shall vote on calling the candidate.
- c. The Consistory shall extend the call.
- d. The organizing pastor shall work under the oversight of the Consistory as long as the work is unorganized.
- e. The mission work shall be under the oversight of the Classis Home Missions Committee as long as it has the status of a Mission Church.

(Spring 1990, Abstract p. 27)

That all congregations - new and old - should see themselves as actively involved in the whole ministry of the church and should strive to meet the annual guidelines for giving.

(Spring 1991, Abstract p. 20)

That a congregation requiring voting members to sign the constitution of a local congregation is not contradictory with the Constitution of the RCUS or Scripture.

(Spring 1991, Abstract p. 21)

That the Permanent Home Missions Committee of Classis and the Permanent Foreign Missions Committee of Classis be combined into one Permanent Missions Committee, allowing either interest to be addressed by Classis.

(Fall 1991, Abstract p. 22)

That no official stance be taken on the matter of fundraising.

That no constitutional impediment is found regarding using the word "Presbyterian" in the name of one of our churches.

(Spring 1992, Abstract p. 41)

All bills submitted to the Treasurer must be signed by the one submitting the bill.

The Treasurer should inform the Finance Committee of those churches that have failed to pay their Classical dues.

(Spring 1997, Abstract p. 33)

That the position papers of the Reformed Church in the United States be declared to be pastoral and advisory, giving the present consensus of the RCUS regarding the teaching of Scripture, and are of lesser authority than the Three Forms of Unity and the Constitution. Recommendations which make judicial decisions in connection with such papers are binding.

(Spring 2007, Abstract)

That Classis nominations Committee regularly consider the workload borne by Classical delegates during the year and refrain from recommending that Executive Committee members be appointed as chairman of a permanent or special committee of Classis.

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CLASSIS MEETING

Special Meeting of Classis

October 12, 2009

Grey Goose Lodge, Ogallala, NE

Minutes of the Sessions

I. Services.

The President, Rev. Ron Morris, called the body to order at 1:10 p.m. on October 12, 2009.

Rev. Morris read from Galatians 6:1-5 and led the body in prayer.

IV. The Resignation of Rev. Dan Rogers

Fagrey moved that Classis approve the resignation of Rev. Dan Rogers from Emmanuel Reformed Church, Sutton, NE, and that the pulpit of Emmanuel Reformed Church be declared vacant as of today, October 12, 2009. Seconded and carried.

Fagrey moved that Classis resolve into a committee of the whole to consider what action needs to be taken with respect to Rev. Dan Rogers. Seconded and carried.

The President appointed Rev. Jon Blair as chairman of this committee.

The body discussed the matter at hand.

Elder Spencer Gross moved to rise out of a committee of the whole. Seconded and carried. Chairman Blair reported that no action was taken.

Rev. Robert Grossmann asked the chair to rule whether or not we are at the point of sentencing.

The chair ruled that in effect a trial has already taken place and a guilty plea has been entered into the record by virtue of Rev. Rogers' letter of resignation, and that we are at the point of sentencing.

The President called the order of the day at 3:25 p.m.

The President called the body to order at 3:45 p.m.

Fagrey moved to suspend Rev. Dan Rogers from the office of minister based on his admission of “alcoholism” in his resignation letter, and that this suspension be in effect until trustworthy evidence of repentance and reformation appear. Seconded

Rev. Lee Johnson moved to amend by substituting the word “depose” for the word “suspend.” Seconded and defeated.

Division was called. Division showed 7 yes and 13 no. The chair’s ruling was upheld.

On the main motion: carried.

Matthew Powell moved that the Executive Committee appoint a committee to oversee Dan Rogers and report back to Classis. Seconded and carried.

Rev. George Syms moved that Classis make financial provision for Dan Rogers for two months according to his previous salary. Seconded and carried.

VI. Adjournment.

Grossmann moved to adjourn. Seconded and carried.

A. Roll Call (Document #1).

The Clerk read the roll. Final Roll Call showed 13 ministers and 9 elders present. The President declared a quorum.

B. Apostles’ Creed, Lord’s Prayer, Benediction.

The body confessed the Apostles’ Creed in unison.

The body prayed the Lord’s Prayer in unison.

The President pronounced the apostolic benediction.

The body sang the doxology in unison.