

**2001
ABSTRACT
of the
MINUTES**

**SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS
REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Fall Meeting
Tuesday, September 26-27, 2001
Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota**

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2001 DIRECTORY SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS (RCUS)

OFFICERS OF CLASSIS

PRESIDENT	The Reverend Mr. George Syms
VICE-PRESIDENT	The Reverend Mr. Ron Morris
STATED CLERK	The Reverend Mr. Warren Embree
TREASURER	Elder Spencer Gross

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

(Underlined indicates chairman)

Missions	R. <u>Morris</u> , D. Fagrey, H. Kalkman, C. DeBoer, S. Powell
Publications	R. <u>Grossmann</u> , D. Savage, J. Johnson
Christian Education	H. <u>Hart</u> , S. Gross, B. Richards
Interchurch Relations	W. <u>Brice</u> , D. Dawn, D. Wilson
Candidates & Credentials	W. <u>Embree</u> , C.W. Powell, R. Grossmann, R. Gallimore, C. Beilby
Executive Committee	G. <u>Syms</u> , L. Griess, W. Embree
Heidelberg Youth Camp	R. <u>Gallimore</u> , C. Loucks, R. Morris
Reformed Resource Center	Administrator - H. Hart (5yr.) Curator - J. Johnson
	Board of Trustees
	3 yrs C. Loucks, D. Brauning
	2 yrs. R. <u>Morris</u> , A. Griess
	1 yr. W. Brice, R. Stetler

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CHURCHES
(LISTED BY STATE BY CITY)
COLORADO

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80918 (719) 590-1477
Trinity Covenant RCUS
3622 East Galley Road (mail: 6050 Del Paz Dr.)
Worship: 11AM
Pastor: C.W. "Bud" Powell, Jr. (wife, Penny)

GREELEY, CO 80631 (970) 336-9927
Grace RCUS
1505 10th Ave
Worship 11AM, Sunday school 10AM
Pastor: Gene Sawtelle (wife, Sharon)

KARVAL, CO 81063 (719) 446-5215
Blue Cliff Community RCUS
Blue Cliff Com Blding (mail: 2600 State Road 71, Ordway, CO 81063)
Worship: 11AM; Sunday School 12:00 noon
Pastor: Dorman Savage (wife, Kay)

MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY, MO 64116 (816) 454-1196
Northland RCUS
8002 N. Oak Traffic Way
Worship: 9:30AM; Sunday School 11:00AM; Evening Service 6:00PM
Pastor: Wesley Brice (wife, Virginia)

NEBRASKA

LINCOLN, NE 68521 (402) 477-7289
St. John's RCUS
1101 South 26th St.

Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM, Wednesday 7:00 PM
Pastor: Clif Loucks (wife, Lori)

SUTTON, NE 68979 (402) 773-4227
Emmanuel RCUS
110 South Way Ave (mail: PO Box 362)
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM
Pastor: George Syms (wife, Debbie)

SUTTON, NE 68979 (402) 773-4330
Hope RCUS
311 E. Hickory (mail: PO Box 372)
Worship:10:30AM;SundaySchool 9:15AM;FamilyBibleStudy 7:00PM
Pastor: Darrell Kingswood (wife, Lori)

SOUTH DAKOTA

MENNO, SD 57045 (605) 387-2816
Zion RCUS
220 South Pine
Worship:10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM
Pastor: Hans Kalkman (wife, Gerda)

MITCHELL, SD 57301 (605) 996-7439
Grace RCUS
1021 South Davison (mail: PO Box 252)
Worship: 10:00 AM; Sunday School 9:00 AM
Pastor: Ron Morris (wife, Sherrie)

RAPID CITY, SD 57701 (605) 399-1711
Grace RCUS
5626 North Haines Ave (2 ½ miles north of I-90 on Haines)
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM
Pastor: David Fagrey (wife, Bonnie)

SIOUX FALLS, SD 57106 (605) 339-3887
Trinity RCUS
7301 S. Louise Ave (mail: 3309 E. 31st St)
Worship: 10:00 AM; Sunday School 9:00 AM, Bible Study 6:00 PM
Pastor: David Dawn (wife,Coleen)

VERMILLION, SD 57069
(605) 624-4337
Providence RCUS
830 E. Madison
Worship
Pastor: Robert Grossmann (wife, Polly)

WYOMING

ROCK SPRINGS, WY 82901 (307) 362-5107
Providence RCUS
9th and Pearl

Worship: 11 AM, Sunday School 12:15AM
Pastor : Licentiate Jon Blair (wife, Wendy)

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES
SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS
REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

Fall Meeting
September 26-27, 2001
Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD

SERVICES

The body met for evening worship service at Trinity Reformed Church, RCUS, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Tuesday, September 26th, 2001 with the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris conducting and the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle preaching from II Timothy 2:8-13 with a sermon entitled "The Focus of Our Calling."

Licensure candidate Mr. Jon Blair conducted devotions from I Timothy 1:15-17 on Wednesday, September 27th, 2001, at 9:30 a.m.

Each session of Classis was opened and closed with prayer, including thanksgiving for our meals, and each meal was followed with an expression of appreciation to those who prepared the meals and served us.

Elder Spencer Gross, reading from Scripture and closing with prayer, led closing devotions on September 27th, 2001.

The body concluded the session by confessing the Apostles' Creed in unison, praying the Lord's Prayer in unison, the President pronouncing the apostolic benediction, and all singing the doxology.

ORGANIZATION

The President of Classis, the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage, called the body to order September 26th, 2001, at 8:15 p.m. The sessions were well attended by all delegates, the opening roll call showing 12 Ministers and 8 Elders present and the closing roll call showing 13 Ministers and 8 Elders. Ministers of the Word who attended the sessions were the Reverend Messrs. Wesley Brice, Robert Davis, David Dawn, Warren Embree, Robert Grossmann, Howard Hart, George Horner, Hans Kalkman, Clif Loucks, Ron Morris, C.W. Powell, Dorman Savage, Gene Sawtelle, and George Syms. The Reverend Mr. David Fagrey was excused from all sessions. Elder delegates were Messrs. Roger Gallimore, Ardel Griess, Spencer Gross, Charles Hensen, Michael Newman, Jean McClay, Harley Mehlhaf, and Ewald Ochsner. Elders Messrs. Mark Fisher, Larry Griess, Lyle Griess, and Bill Sander were excused from all session

Also present as Licentiate candidate Mr. Jon Blair. Seated in the Bar of the House but not delegates were Elders Messrs. Chuck DeBoer, Harvey DeGroot, Bruce Wichers, Rick Sinkraven, Craig Mehlhaff, and the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner, President of the Northern Plains Classis, RCUS.

The Reverend Mr. David Dawn was appointed as the Reformed Herald reporter.

The Reverend Messrs. Ron Morris and Robert Davis were appointed tellers.

The Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day were adopted.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees and their chairmen are as follows (same as the Spring 2000 Committees):

Benevolence	<u>R. Morris</u> , H. Hart, E. Oschner
Education and Student Aid	<u>H. Kalkman</u> , C. Hensen, A. Griess
Examination and Licensure	<u>G. Syms</u> , H. Hart, C.W. Powell, W. Embree

Finances	<u>D. Fagrey</u> , S. Gross, R. Grossmann
Ministerial Aid	<u>C. W. Powell</u> , H. Mehlhaf, M. Fisher
Missions	<u>D. Dawn</u> , W. Embree, C. Beilby, R. Morris, W. Brice
Overtures	<u>C. Loucks</u> , L. Griess, R. Gallimore
Publications	<u>C. Hensen</u>
Services	<u>H. Hart</u> , A. Griess, W. Brice
Judicial	<u>G. Syms</u> , H. Kalkman, S. Gross, W. Embree
Nominations	<u>G. Syms</u> , J. McClay, A. Griess
Minutes of Synod	<u>R. Davis</u> , L. Griess

WELCOME OF NEW MINISTERS

The President welcomed the Reverend Messrs. Robert Grossmann, Providence Reformed Chapel, Vermillion, South Dakota, and Gene Sawtelle, Grace Reformed Chapel, Greeley, Colorado.

The Reverend Mr. C.W. Powell offered a prayer of thanksgiving for these new ministers.

The Reverend Mr. Warren Embree, called as an Associate Pastor of St. John's Reformed, Lincoln, Nebraska, was placed back on the roll of active ministers. The Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

PRESENTATION OF OVERTURES, REPORTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

All pertinent overtures and materials were given to the Standing Overtures Committee.

REPORTS OF PERMANENT COMMITTEES (*Reports are not required for the Fall Classis*)

Executive Committee

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States

EXECUTIVE CIRCULAR
VOLUME 15 NUMBER 1

July 20, 2000

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,

Several matters have come before Classis and the Executive Committee is hereby circularizing them.

A. Fall Classis Meeting

The Executive Committee has set September 26th and 27, 2000 as the date for our Fall Classis meeting to be held at Trinity Reformed Church in Sioux Falls, SD. The main business on the agenda will be the ordination examination of Mr. Jon Blair, called by Providence RCUS, in Rock Springs, WY to be their pastor. Further details concerning the Fall Classis Meeting will be forthcoming in a later circular.

B. Reception of Revs. Gene Sawtelle and Robert Grossmann to the roll of South Central Classis.

1. Rev. Gene Sawtelle has accepted a call to and is now serving Grace Reformed Church in

Greeley, CO. A Classically and Synodically approved mission work within the bounds of South Central Classis. The Western Classis to the South Central Classis has officially dismissed Rev. G. Sawtelle.

Recommendation: The call to serve Grace Reformed Church and the dismissal to South Central Classis being found in order, that Rev. Gene Sawtelle be added to the roll of Ministers of the Word of South Central Classis.

2. Rev. Robert Grossmann has accepted a call to and is now serving Providence Reformed Church in Vermillion, SD, a Classically and Synodically approved mission work within the bounds of South Central Classis.

Recommendation: The call to serve Providence Reformed Church being found in order, and upon the reception of the dismissal of Rev. Robert Grossman from the Covenant East Classis to the South Central Classis, that Rev. R. Grossmann be added to the roll of Ministers of the Word of South Central Classis

C. Installation of Rev. Gene Sawtelle as Associate Pastor to serve Grace Reformed Church in Greeley, CO.

Rev. Gene Sawtelle is currently serving Grace Reformed Church in Greeley, CO, a yet non-organized congregation under the oversight of Blue Cliff RCUS in Karval, CO. Rev. G. Sawtelle therefore ought to be installed as Associate Pastor of Blue Cliff Community RCUS, serving Grace Reformed Church in Greeley, CO.

Recommendation: That a committee consisting of Rev. C. W. Powell Jr., Rev. Dorman Savage, and elder Albert Hailer be established to install Rev. Gene Sawtelle as Associate Pastor of Blue Cliff Community RCUS at Grace Reformed Church in Greeley, CO and that such installation service take place at Grace Reformed Church in Greeley, CO on August 13, 2000, time to be determined by the Committee.

D. Classis Guideline

The Classis Treasurer has informed the Executive Committee that the Classis Guideline, \$68.30 per communicant member, is not being received from the congregations in as a timely and compliant manner as needed to fulfill the approved Classical expenditures. The Clerk of Classis hereby reminds all the congregations of the following position of Classis, listed in the Classis Abstract under Index of Resolutions and Positions of the South Central Classis:

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

May the Lord richly bless all the works of our Classis.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Committee, South Central Classis

Rev. Dorman Savage
President of Classis

Rev. George Homer
Stated Clerk

Elder Kurt Schimke
Elder member

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
EXECUTIVE CIRCULAR
VOL 15, NUMBER 3 Aug 29, 2000

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES Page 15 of 59

A. Classis delegate expenses

Based on the latest Classical fiscal status report, the Executive Committee urges all the congregations to be prepared to pay the expenses of their delegates to the Fall Classis meeting. This condition of the Classis treasury is also a call for all congregations to meet the guideline for Classical giving (\$68.30 per communicant member) and to do so in a more timely manner.

B. Fall Meeting of Classis (2000)

Trinity RCUS, Sioux Falls, SD, will host the 2000 Fall Classis Meeting. Please return the enclosed housing form to Trinity ASAP. The Fall Classis meeting will begin with a supper at Trinity at 5PM on Tues Sept 26, 2000, followed by a worship service at 7PM.

C. House Keeping Issues

Enclosed you will find the following documents: Proposed Order of Business, Proposed Schedule of Services, Proposed Order of the Day, and Special Orders and the Housing request form.

Please note that the elders credentialed for the 2000 Spring Classis Meeting will be considered credentialed for the Fall Meeting of Classis. If you send an elder not so credentialed, please be prepared to provide appropriate credentials to the Stated Clerk at the beginning of the first session of business.

Please note that the Standing Committees appointed for the 2000 Spring Classis will be the Standing Committees for this Fall Classis Meeting, as needed. The committees and their respective membership are as follows, the first name being the chairman.

Benevolence	R. Morris, H. Hart, J. Johnson
Education and Student Aid	H. Kalkman, C. Hensen, B. Richards
Examination and Licensure	W. Embree, C.W Powell, C. Hensen
Finances	R. Dawn, W. Embree, C. Beilby, R. Morris, W. Brice
Nominations	R. Syms, J. McClay, B. Richards
Overtures	C. Loucks, K. Schimke, L. Griess
Publications	T. Jorgensen, C. Hensen, J. McClay
Services	H. Hart, B. Richards, M. Fisher
Minutes of Synod	R. Davis, L. Griess
Judicial	G. Syms, H. Kalkman, S. Gross, W. Embree
Ministerial Aid	C. W. Powell, H. Mehlhaf, M. Fisher

Please Remember: If you have a necrology to write, spend some time preparing it properly and have it written prior to the Classis meeting. Since it is the duty of the Stated Clerk to report the death of pastors and elders, it makes sense to have this information to the clerk before the meeting.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Fall Meeting of Classis
September 26-27, 2000

Proposed Schedule of Services

Tuesday, Sept 26, 2000

Opening Service, 7:00 p.m.

Preaching: The Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle
Conducting: The Reverend

Devotion, Sept. 27, 9:30 a.m.
Preaching: Mr. Jon Blair

Devotion, Sept 26, 9:30 a.m. (if still meeting)
Preaching: The Reverend Mr. George Horner

Proposed Order of the Day

8:00 a.m.	Business	1:00 p.m.	Business
9:15 a.m.	Recess	3:15 p.m.	Recess
9:30 a.m.	Devotion	3:30 p.m.	Business
9:45 a.m.	Business	5:30 p.m.	Supper
12:00 noon	Lunch	7:00 p.m.	Business (or Committee work)

Proposed Special Orders

1. Call to order and business, Tuesday Sept 26, 2000, 8:30 pm
2. Examination of Mr. Jon Blair, Wednesday Sept 27, 2000, 9:45 am

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Fall Meeting of Classis
September 26-27, 2000

Proposed Agenda

- I. Services
- II. Organization
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Defining the Bar of the House
 - C. Appointment of Reformed Herald Reporter
- III. Adoption of Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day
- IV. Welcome and Seating of Fraternal Delegates; Welcome of Visitors.
- V. Reception of Ministers
- VI. Reception of New Churches
- VII. Announcement of Standing Committees (same as Spring Classis 2000)
- VIII. Presentation of Overtures, Reports, and Communications
- IX. Presentation and Referral of Permanent Committee Reports
 - A. Executive (refer to Overtures)
 - B. Missions (refer to Missions)
 - C. Publications (refer to Publications)
 - D. Christian Education (refer to Education & Student Aid)
 - E. Candidates & Credentials (refer to Examination & Licensure)
 - F. Interchurch Relations (refer to Overtures)
 - G. Liaison to Synodical Ministerial Aid (refer to Ministerial Aid)
- X. Reports of Officers
 - A. President's Report on the State of the Church (if presented)
 - B. Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes (including Necrologies) (if presented)
 - C. Reading of Executive Committee Report of Synod (if presented)
 - D. Executive Committee's Report on Their Minutes (if presented)

- E. Treasurer's Report and Auditor's Report (if presented)
 - XI. Reports from Classis' Fraternal Delegates
 - XII. Addresses by Delegates from Other Reformed Churches and Visitors
 - XIII. Examination of Candidates
 - XIV. Reports of Special Committees
 - A. Committee to Install Rev. D. Dawn
 - B. Committee to Install Rev. G. Sawtelle
 - C. Committee of Oversight over Rev. T. Jorgensen
 - XV. Reports of Standing Committees
 - A. Benevolences
 - B. Education and Student Aid
 - C. Examination and Licensure
 - D. Finances
 - E. Judicial
 - F. Ministerial Aid
 - G. Missions
 - H. Nominations
 - I. Overtures
 - J. Publications
 - K. Services
 - L. Minutes of Synod
 - XX. Miscellaneous Reports and Other Business
 - A. Expression of Appreciation to Host congregation
 - B. Adoption of Stated Clerk's Reports, Executive Committee's Minutes, and Overture
- Committee Report. (if presented)
- XXI. Reading of Minutes (after each Business Day)
 - XXII. Adjournment
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Devotions
 - C. Apostle's Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction
- Respectfully submitted,
The Executive Committee

Classis action: The report was adopted as a whole

Candidates and Credentials
(referred to Examination and Licensure)

Esteemed Brethren:

The report of our activities since the last meeting of Classis is as follows:

Your committee conducted an examination of the Rev. Messrs. Robert Grossmann and Gene Sawtelle on the evening of May 8th, 2000, after the opening worship service of Synod Hamburg. Rev. Dr. C. W. Powell examined Rev. R. Grossmann and Rev. G. Sawtelle in orthodoxy. Rev. G. Syms examined Rev. R. Grossmann and Rev. G. Sawtelle in Intent. The examinations of both brethren were sustained.

The committee conducted some of its business by means of e-mail since the Spring Meeting of Classis. With respect to the licensure examination of Mr. Jon Blair, the agenda for examination as well as examiners is as follows:

Intent	(5-10) G. Syms
Apologetics and Philosophy	(20) H. Hart
Prolegomena	(20) C. W. Powell
Theology Proper--Doctrine of God	(20) C. W. Powell
Anthropology	(20) H. Hart
Christology	(20) G. Syms

Soteriology	(20) W. Embree
Ecclesiology	(20) G. Syms
Eschatology--Individual and world	(20) W. Embree
English Bible	(20) Chris Beilby
Practica	(20) Larry Griess
Creeds--Heidelberg, Belgic, and Canons	(20) Larry Griess
Constitution	(10) Chris Beilby

Questions from the floor will be entertained after each locus or section.

Respectfully submitted

REPORTS OF OFFICERS
(Reports are not required for the Fall Classis)

Treasurer

The Treasurer reported that the congregational guideline giving is behind schedule. The President urged the delegates to encourage compliance with the Classical Guidelines for the congregations.

Action of the Classis – Take Note

REPORT OF CLASSIS' FRATERNAL DELEGATES

The Reverend Mr. David Dawn gave an oral report as the delegate to the Classis Central US of the URC held in Sanborn, Iowa.

Action of the Classis – Take Note

EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY

The Reverend Mr. David Dawn introduced Mr. Jon Blair, graduate of Mid-America Reformed Seminary, as a candidate for the gospel ministry. Mr. Blair was given written examinations in Greek, Hebrew, & Church History. He submitted a written sermon, a theological paper, and an exegetical paper. He was examined on the floor in Intent, Apologetics, Philosophy, Prolegomena, Doctrine of God, Anthropology, Christology, Soteriology, Ecclesiology, Eschatology, English Bible, Creeds, Confessions, Practica, and the Constitution.

Action of the Classis – The examination was sustained.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Report of the Committee to install the Reverend Mr. David Dawn

Brethren,

Your Installation Committee composed of the Reverend Messrs. Hans Kalkman, Ron Morris, Dorman Savage and the consistory of Trinity RCUS, Sioux Falls, SD, met there May 14th, 2000 for the purpose of installing the Reverend Mr. David Dawn to that charge. The Reverend Mr. Ron Morris brought the charge to the Minister, the Reverend Mr. Hans Kalkman brought the charge to the congregation, and the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage conducted and performed the installation.

Respectfully Submitted

Action of the Classis – Take Note

Report of the Committee to install the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle

Brethren,

On August 14th, your Installation Committee made up of the Reverend Messrs. C.W. Powell, Dorman Savage and Elder Albert Haller, met at Greeley, Colorado in the facility of Grace Reformed Church (unorganized), for the purpose of installing the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle as Associate Pastor of Blue Cliff RCUS. The Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage brought the charge to the minister, preaching a sermon titled “Preaching the Word” from II Timothy 3:16-4:5. The Reverend Mr. C.W. Powell brought the charge to the congregation preaching a sermon titled “Watching for Souls” from Hebrews 13:17-18. Elder Albert Haller conducted and the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage performed the installation.

Respectfully Submitted

Action of the Classis – Take Note

Report of the Committee to meet with the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen and Family

Your committee met with Terry and Mary Carol August 17, 2000 in Lincoln, Nebraska.

We expressed that we had understood there might be some misunderstanding in the position the Committee had taken regarding the encouragement we gave that he seek a church elsewhere, in essence, encouraging them to move from the Sutton area.

We carefully explained it was not an attempt to have him leave the RCUS, rather a sincere hope that he might find an available pulpit in one of the churches of our Synod.

Terry responded that he has been and remains open to any call in the RCUS however he explained that to date none had been available to him.

He reported that he had been faithfully preaching the Word of God at the Sutton Christian Church and that the ministry in the congregation has been fruitful in that several have acknowledge the doctrines of the Reformed faith to be in agreement with Holy Scripture. In fact he reported that one elder in the church expressed it this way, “the Bible, finally, is beginning to make sense.” Any who has come new to the Reformed faith from another position understands that wording.

During the course of the meeting we were made aware of an issue which is being handled by the committee members in a proper Biblical manner.

We also advised Terry that his 6 month period would be coming to an end and that if he desired to ask for an extension that it would be his responsibility to make that request to Classis however it would be entirely up to Classis and that we would not make any recommendation either way.

Your Committee presents the following conclusions:

- 1.The Reverend Terry Jorgensen is willing to consider a call from one of our churches.
- 2.He is available to any call that may be presented.
- 3.However, at this time he has not received a call to any vacant church in the RCUS

Recommendation: Your committee simply feels they can only report the above to the Classis and trust that as Classis we will continue to help Terry to be able to serve in the RCUS and bring this to a conclusion.

Action of the Classis – Referred to the Standing Judicial Committee

Report of the Board of Trustees Reformed Resource Center

The Reverend Mr. Howard Hart, Administrator

Brothers:

Your Administrator would report the same information found in the '2000 Abstract of the Minutes, South Central Classis, RC US, Spring Meeting, March 20-21, 2000, (pages 38-41) held at Emmanuel Reformed Church of Sutton, Nebraska with the following additions.

Your servant held two seminars for the Training in Ministry (TIM) program. The first was held at the Spring Classis (A clinic on Biblical Preaching. The Rev. David Fagrey rendered valuable service to enhance the presentation. The lectures are on video.). The second was held at New Geneva Seminary at the end of August (Lectures on the RCUS Constitution, Biblical Preaching in the tradition of the RCUS, Apologetics, RCUS History, and the RCUS Directory of Worship. I was ably assisted by the Rev. Dorman Savage, and the Rev. Robert Grossmann). I participated in the Ministerial Retreat for the Midwest RCUS Ministers meeting in Watertown, SD, the early Part of September 2000. Videos were made on topic of the covenant.

A video tape on "How to Preach On Contemporary Issues" by Pastor Fagrey is now available. I hope to have a series on eschatology ("The Good News About Doomsday") completed on video by Classis time. TIM may be serving with the new Seminary that is being formed in Lincoln, Nebraska and the new Seminary in Sacramento, California.

The City Seminary of Sacramento has requested the use of the Reformed Resource Center's Library. This seminary is run by Covenant Reformed Church of Sacramento (RC US). The first two professors will be Pastor West and Pastor Walker. They want to get started by September, if possible.

The seminary will pay for the packing and shipment of the library to Sacramento.

As your Administrator of the RRC, I highly recommend that we make the library available to the City Seminary of Sacramento.

My reasons are as follows:

- 1) Presently the library is not used that much.
- 2) The library would get almost full use by the new seminary.
- 3) This has always been the intention for the greater use of the library.
- 4) The City Seminary of Sacramento will establish a complete computerized catalogue for the library.
- 5) Though there has been talk over the years for the establishment of a seminary in Lincoln, I believe this may not happen. The library will best be used for an existing cause.
- 6) If the new seminary goes under, they will give back the library.
- 7) At present this is just a loan on a grand scale.

Well, the bottom line is,

Recommendation # 1: that the Reformed Resource Center Board of Trustees grant the request of the City Seminary of Sacramento the use of the Reformed Resource Center Library.

Recommendation #2: that the City Seminary of Sacramento pay for the packing and shipping of the RRC Library.

Recommendation # 3: that the City Seminary of Sacramento appoint a librarian for the RRC Library.

Recommendation # 4: that in the event of the failure of the City Seminary of Sacramento, they are to return the library to its present location at their expense.

Recommendation # 5: that in the event the City Seminary of Sacramento is still thriving in the year of our

Lord 2010, that the RRC donate the library to them.

Recommendation # 6: that Classis South Central of the Reformed Church in the United States approve recommendations 2-5 cited above by circular letter.

Gentlemen, we have a rare opportunity to serve the church in this manner. We should be joyful that we can help our brothers at the Sacramento church.

Respectfully Submitted

Action of the Classis – Take Note

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Ministerial Aid

No Business

Examination and Licensure

The following recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the licensure examination of Mr. Jon Blair be declared satisfactory.
2. That the Reverend Mr. David Fagrey oversee Jon Blair's internship, beginning October 1st, 2000.
3. That Mr. Warren Embree be allowed to come out of retirement and be placed again on the role of active ministers.
4. Take note of the overture from the Reverend Mr. David Dawn concerning clarification of those allowed to preach or exhort in our churches.

Action of Classis: All the recommendations were adopted, except 4, which was Take Note.

Overtures

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. A request for an overture to Synod concerning the conduct of the Reverend Mr. Archie Allison (OPC) from Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church be referred to **Services**.
2. An overture from the Reverend Mr. David Dawn for clarification of those allowed to preach or exhort in our churches be referred to **Examination and Licensure**.
3. A request from Mr. Warren Embree to investigate rumors of misconduct be referred to **Judicial**.
4. A request from St. John's Reformed Church, RCUS to host the Spring 2001 meeting of Classis to **Services**.
5. A request from Zion Reformed Church for the installation of the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann to **Judicial**
6. A request for an examination in Orthodoxy and Intent from Mr. Warren Embree to **Examination and Licensure**.
7. A request from the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen for an extension to continue preaching outside the bounds of Classis to **Judicial**.
8. A request for excuse from the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen to **Services**.
9. A request for excuse from Elder Larry Griess to **Services**.
10. An overture from the Reverend Mr. Robert Davis to establish an oversight committee for ministers laboring outside the bounds of Classis to **Judicial**.
11. A request for excuse from Elders Messrs. Mark Fisher and Bill Sanders to **Services**.
12. An overture from Northland Reformed Church, RCUS to limit the term of office for President of Classis and President of Synod to **Judicial**

13. A request for excuse from the Reverend Messrs. George Syms, Hans Kalkman, and Elder Harley Mehlhaf for be tardy to Wednesday's session to **Services**
14. A request for excuse from the Reverend Mr. C.W. Powell and Elder Jean McClay for the first 45 minutes of the afternoon of the September 27th session to **Services**
15. A request for excuse from the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann to leave after the September 27th, 5:00 p.m. recess due to a congregational meeting at 6:00 p.m. to **Services**

Classis action : All the recommendations were adopted

Standing Missions

No Business

Education and Student Aid

No Business

Standing Finances

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That all congregations that have not paid toward their Classical Guidelines are urged to begin to do so as soon as possible.
2. That the congregations are urged to send in their contributions to Classical Guidelines as promptly as possible.
3. That the congregations that will not be able to meet the Classical Guidelines this year are requested to inform the Treasurer of the amount of their shortfall.

Classis Action: All recommendations were adopted

Standing Publications

No Business

Benevolences

No Business

Judicial

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That a Special Committee of Classis be erected to investigate whether charges should be brought against the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen for his continued attacks against the Spiritual Council of Emmanuel Church, the South Central Classis, and work with the Spiritual Council of Emmanuel Reformed Church in this investigation according to Article 125 of our Constitution. This committee is to consist of the Reverend Messrs. Hans Kalkman (Chairman), George Syms, Ron Morris, Warren Embree, and Elder Spencer Gross.
2. [Ruled Out of Order]
3. That a committee consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Ron Morris (Chairman), Hans Kalkman, and Elders Messrs. Harley Mehlhaf, Myron Koerner, Charley Mehlhaf, and Alten Mettler be appointed to install the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann as Associate Pastor of Zion Reformed Church, Menno, South Dakota, for the mission work at Providence Reformed Chapel in Vermillion, South Dakota.

4. That according to Standing Rule #15 of the By-Laws, nominations for officers are to be by secret ballot and all that are nominated shall be candidates and therefore the term of office cannot be limited.
5. That according to Article 82 of the Constitution, the jurisdiction of Classis is restricted to those charges organically united to the RCUS. However, according to Article 91, a minister of the RCUS can ask for advise from the Executive Committee of Classis about such matters as pertain to the charge.

Classis Action: Recommendations 1 & 3 were adopted, 4 & 5 were Take Note, 2 was ruled out of order.

Services

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the overture from Blue Cliff RCUS concerning the actions of the Reverend Mr. Archie Allison be referred to the Permanent Interchurch Relations Committee.
2. The invitation from St. John's Reformed Church to host the Spring 2001 meeting of Classis be granted and that the Classis meet at the call of the Executive Committee.
3. That, because of the special situation of Pastor Jorgensen, his request for excuse not be granted.
4. The a request for excuse from Elder Larry Griess be granted.
5. That the South Central Classis express its deepest appreciation to Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD for the fine hospitality, restful night, delicious food, and warm surroundings and that our words of appreciation be published in this Lord's Day bulletin.
6. That the request for excuse from Messrs. Hans Kalkman and Elder Harley Mehlhaf along with George Syms for being late 20 minutes for the Wednesday morning meeting of Classis be granted.
7. That the request for excuse for Elders Mark Fisher (Primarius) and Bill Sander from all sessions of Classis be granted.
8. That the request for excuse from the Reverend Mr. C.W. Powell for the first 45 minutes of the afternoon session be granted.
9. That the request for excuse from the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann for the remainder of the session after 5 p.m. be granted.

* Elder Lyle Griess and the Reverend Mr. David Fagrey were excused by a motion from the floor.

Classis Action: All recommendations were adopted, except 3, which was defeated.

Minutes of Synod

No recommendations were given

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes were read at the beginning of business on Tuesday and at the end of business on Tuesday night.

Classis Action: All corrections were made and final approval was given.

ADJOURNMENT

The Classis adjourned to 2001 Spring Classis meeting at St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, at the call of the Executive Committee.

Apostle's Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction, Doxology

The President led the body in reciting the Apostle's Creed and the Lord's Prayer. He pronounced the benediction and the body sang the Doxology .

**ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES
SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS
REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Annual Spring Meeting
March 20-21, 2001
St. John's Reformed Church
Lincoln, NE**

SERVICES

The body met for an evening worship service on March 20, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. with the Reverend Mr. Warren Embree conducting and the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart preaching from II Chronicles 7:11-22 with a sermon entitled "Being Reformational."

At 9:35 a.m., March 21st, 2001 Licentiate Jon Blair led the body in devotions from Hebrews 11:8-16, singing, and prayer.

Each session of Classis was opened and closed with prayer, including thanksgiving for our meals, and each meal was followed with an expression of appreciation to those who prepared the meals and served us.

Closing devotions on March 21st, 2001 were led by Elder Spencer Gross who read from Scripture and Elder Doug Wilson who closed with prayer.

The body concluded the session by confessing the Apostles' Creed in unison, praying the Lord's Prayer in unison, the President pronouncing the apostolic benediction, and all singing the doxology.

ORGANIZATION

The President of Classis, the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage, called the body to order September 26th, 2001, at 8:15 p.m. The sessions were well attended by all delegates, the opening roll call showing 14 Ministers and 10 Elders present and the closing roll call showing 13 Ministers and 10 Elders. Ministers of the Word who attended the sessions were the Reverend Messrs. Wesley Brice, Robert Davis, David Dawn, Warren Embree, David Fagrey, Robert Grossmann, Howard Hart, Hans Kalkman, Clif Loucks, Ron Morris, C.W. Powell, Dorman Savage, Gene Sawtelle, and George Syms. Elder delegates were Messrs. Chris Beilby, David Brauning, Chuck DeBoer, Roger Gallimore, Spencer Gross, Albert Haller, Harley Mehlhaf, Samuel Powell, John Savage, and Doug Wilson. Excused from all sessions were Elders Messrs. Mark Fisher and Bill Sander.

Also present was Licentiate candidate Mr. Jon Blair. Seated in the Bar of the House but not delegates were Elders Messrs. Jess Johnson, Charles Mehlhaff, Bill Richards, Ewald Ochsner, Eugene Ulmer, and E. Zane Wood.

The Elder Messrs. John Savage and Samuel Powell were appointed tellers.

Election of Officers

President	The Reverend Mr. George Syms
Vice-President	The Reverend Mr. Ron Morris
Stated Clerk	The Reverend Mr. Warren Embree
Treasurer	Elder Mr. Spencer Gross

The President appointed the Reverend Mr. David Fagrey to be the Reformed Herald reporter.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA, SERVICES AND ORDER OF THE DAY

The Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day were adopted by the Classis

RECEPTION OF NEW CHURCHES

The President received Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, Colorado as an organic member of the RCUS established in the South Central Classis.

C.W. Powell led in a prayer of thanksgiving.

STANDING COMMITTEES

The President appointed the following Standing Committees (the chairman's name is underlined):

Benevolence	<u>H. Kalkman</u> , H. Hart, D. Brauning
Education and Student Aid	<u>C. Loucks</u> , C. DeBoer, D. Wilson
Examination and Licensure	<u>G. Syms</u> , C.W. Powell, W. Embree, H. Hart, L. Griess, C. Beilby
Finances	<u>R. Grossmann</u> , C.W. Powell, S. Gross
Missions	<u>R. Morris</u> , D. Fagrey, J. Savage
Nominations	<u>D. Fagrey</u> , S. Powell, C. Beilby
Overtures	<u>R. Loucks</u> , L. Griess, R. Gallimore
Publications	<u>D. Dawn</u> , M. Fisher, D. Brauning
Services	<u>H. Hart</u> , D. Wilson
Minutes of Synod	<u>R. Davis</u> , D. Wilson
Judicial	<u>D. Savage</u> , H. Kalkman, G. Sawtelle, R. Gallimore
Ministerial Aid	<u>W. Brice</u> , S. Powell, H. Mehlhaf

PRESENTATION AND REFERRAL OF OVERTURES REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

All pertinent overtures and materials were given to the Overtures Committee for dispersal to the appropriate Standing Committees. The Permanent Committee reports were referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

PRESENTATION OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee (referred to Overtures)

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 15 Number 4

Dec 6, 2000

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

The following matters are being circularized by the Executive Committee:

A. Resignation of a Minister

The Rev. George Horner has received and accepted a call to serve the Grace Reformed Church in Bakersfield CA. The Stated Clerk has received the resignation of the Rev. George Horner, to be effective February 19th, 2000, of his pastorate at Hope Reformed Church, Sutton, NE, as well as the approval of his resignation by the Consistory of Hope Reformed Church

Recommendation:

1. That the documents relating to the dismissal of Rev. George Horner be found in order.
2. That Rev. George Horner be dismissed from the roll of ministers of the South Central Classis upon his reception by the Western Classis.
3. That the pulpit of the Hope Reformed Church of Sutton, NE be declared vacant as of 19 February, 2001.

B. Appointment of Stated Clerk pro-tem

Due to Rev. Horner's dismissal to the Western Classis prior to the annual spring meeting of the South Central Classis, there is a need to appoint a Stated Clerk pro-tem to serve until the 2001 Spring Classis meeting .

The Rev. Warren Embree has agreed to serve as Stated Clerk pro-tem of the South Central Classis as of Jan 1, 2001.

Recommendation:

That the Rev. Warren Embree be appointed as Stated Clerk pro-tem of the South Central Classis effective Jan 1, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 15 Number 5

January 1, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

The following matters are being circularized by the Executive Committee for your consideration:

A. Call of a Minister

The Reverend Mr. Warren Embree has received and accepted a call to serve St. John's Reformed Church, RCUS, Lincoln, Nebraska, as an Associate Pastor with responsibilities to teach at the newly formed Heidelberg Theological Seminary.

Recommendation:

1. That the documents relating to the call of Reverend Embree and his acceptance of the call be found in order.
2. That Reverend Embree be installed by a committee to consist of The Reverend Messrs. Robert Grossmann (Chairman), Roy Miller (OPC), Clif Loucks and the Spiritual Council of St. John's Reformed Church, at a date and time to be determined by the Consistory of St. John's Reformed Church.

B. Information

Documents will be coming out shortly for the Spring Meeting of Classis. Please be prepared for these documents.

Respectfully submitted

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States

Executive Circular
Volume 15 Number 6

January 30, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Please note the following carefully. There are two (2) matters below:

- 1) Concerning the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen;
- 2) Concerning the Spring Classis Meeting.

A. Report of the Committee to Investigate the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen

The Committee has asked the Executive Committee to recommend and circularize the following:

1. That charges against the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen are warranted;
2. That charges and specifications be preferred by Classis and that he be served immediately;
3. That, on behalf of Classis, the committee draw up charges and specifications, which it has determined during its investigation.

Recommendation: That the above action be taken.

B. 2001 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis.

a. Date and Time.

In accordance with the action of the 2000 Fall Meeting of the South Central Classis the 2001 Spring Meeting of the South Central Classis of the RCUS is to be held at St. John's Reformed Church, RCUS, Lincoln, Nebraska. The Executive Committee has set the time and dates: March 20-21, 2001, starting with a worship service at 7:00 p.m., March 20, 2001

b. Statistics and Credentials.

You will find enclosed with this mailing one set of forms consisting of Membership and Financial Statistics and Credentials of Elders to Classis. The set is to be completed and returned to the Stated Clerk of Classis. Please photocopy the set before sending if you would like a copy for church records. 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 6, 2001**. It would, however, be appreciated by the Clerk if these documents can get to him as early as possible.

c. Parochial Reports.

According to Standing Rule #2 Parochial Reports are to be sent to the President two weeks before Classis (by **March 6, 2001**).

d. Reports and Recommendations of Permanent and Special Committees.

According to Standing Rule #17 the Reports and Recommendations 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 20th, 2001** with **two copies** to be sent to the Stated Clerk. Excuses for this requirement are to be made only on written request to the Executive Committee.

e. Accommodations.

Lodging request forms are enclosed. One should be sent for each delegate to:

The Reverend Mr. Clif Loucks
1101 South 26th Street
Lincoln, NE 68521

f. Miscellaneous.

The Schedule of Services, Order of the Day, and Agenda are enclosed.

Respectfully

Classis Action: The Report was approved

Missions

(referred to Standing Missions)

February 20, 2001

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Lincoln, NE

Esteemed Brothers,

Greetings in the name of Christ our Lord!

The following report and recommendations are submitted for consideration at the Classis meeting scheduled for March 20-21.

Providence Reformed Church, Vermillion, SD

On January 9, 2001, two members of the South Central Classis Home Missions Committee, Rev. G. Syms, Chairman, and Rev. H Kalkman, as well as Synod HMC member Elder R. Schnable, met with Rev. R. Grossmann and members of the Providence Reformed Church in Vermillion, SD.

Our meeting covered areas of interest to the Classis HMC, especially as to the progress of the work in its initial stages. Pastor Grossmann reported that he has preached every Lord's Day except two (Missionfests) since arriving in Vermillion in early July, 2000. The Lord's Supper has been observed twice, and one baptism administered, with the presence and assistance of an elder from the Menno congregation on these occasions. An adult Sunday School Class has been conducted each Sunday on the History of Redemption. Br. Grossmann reports that he has been preaching from the Gospel of Matthew beginning in chapter 9, and is presently in chapter 12. Two covenant young people are receiving catechetical instruction. There are two Bible studies, a bi-weekly one for the ladies, which has attracted women from outside the congregation, as well as a bi-weekly fellowship-Bible study on alternate Wednesdays. The report of the men is that attendance at these events is good. From our discussions we noted that enthusiasm for and commitment to the Reformed faith is very high. Giving to the Lord's work by members of the church is excellent. The men expressed much joy that their families are now members of the RCUS.

By the time this report is submitted there will be seven families gathered thus far into membership. The prospects for membership include several families that have visited, two of them regularly. There are sporadic visits by students from USD during the school year. Average attendance reported is 28 per Sunday. At times there are a number of visitors, but normally attendance is 21-25 on a Sunday.

Outreach is certainly on the minds of the pastor and people, with efforts to get a radio broadcast established finally coming to fruition. This program is scheduled for 8:45 AM each Lord's Day on WNAX 570 AM. This should prove helpful in making the congregation known in the community as the Gospel message is proclaimed via this medium.

On a more practical level, the members, as well as Pastor Grossmann, have expended much energy in making needed improvements to the church building and parsonage. Both buildings are attractive in appearance, and it is a blessing that these were so kindly made available to the congregation in God's providence.

The good relationship between Rev. Grossmann and the members of the congregation was evident to us. They have expressed an earnest desire to see the Lord gather his people into the church at Vermillion. As Br. Grossmann stated, "the members of the congregation have maintained a strong support and enthusiasm for the work and outreach of the church. My estimate is that God will bless this enthusiasm for his kingdom with good fruit."

The Vermillion budget for the last half of 2000 and projections for the next three years (2001-2003) are attached.

Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, CO

On the evening of January 10, 2001, the chairman met with Rev. Gene Sawtelle and nine members of the Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, CO.

The members indicated an appreciation for the presence of the RCUS in Greeley, and for the fact that Rev. Sawtelle had come to work in their midst. In our discussions a genuine love for the Reformed faith was expressed. The members were also grateful that a building and parsonage were available to them at a reasonable cost through the kindness of the RPCNA.

The morale of the group is good, even though there was a need for discipline of two members in the recent past. This has caused a slight decrease in numbers attending. The group reports that presently there are 16 communicant and 10 non-communicant members, with seven families. There are those who are still members of the RPCNA who attend on a regular basis, and approximately 23 people receive the Lord's Supper when it is observed. Attendance upon worship has been as high as 47, with an average of 26-28 each Lord's Day. On January 7th, 32 people were in attendance. Sunday School is held at 10 AM with worship at 11 AM. A Ladies Bible Study is conducted on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM. A Men's Bible Study is conducted on Thursday evenings at 7:30. After this study the men take time to pray specifically for the needs of the church. Three young people are currently receiving catechetical instruction. Giving by the congregation averages \$425.00 each Sunday. This is a high average for seven families, and indicates a real commitment to the work on the part of the members.

Opportunities for fellowship are scheduled regularly, one of them being fellowship lunches after worship. A Reformation Party was enjoyed in October. At Christmastime, a group of members traveled a one-hundred mile circuit in order to go caroling.

The congregation is seeking ways to develop outreach into the community. They have sponsored events which have given them media attention (TV). They hope to use advertising effectively, and until now have not had much funding for this. There is also an interest in possibly doing the "Faith in Focus" telephone ministry. The members recognize that most people will come through personal invitation. Pastor Sawtelle noted that "friendship Sundays" are planned when members are encouraged to bring their neighbors and friends to the worship service. There is one visiting family that has good interest in the church, and it is hopeful that they will seek membership.

One area of concern to the members is the outside appearance of the buildings. The RP's have been very good about using the funds remitted for rent to do repairs, etc. The greatest need is cosmetic. The buildings need painting, and perhaps a team of workers from Blue Cliff and Sutton, for example, could help the brethren with this. The inside of the church and parsonage are in very good repair and the auditorium is very conducive to worship. The people are very grateful to have the use of these buildings.

Several practical needs brought to our attention are: 1. a cassette machine for the recording of sermons to make them available, 2. a cassette duplicator, 3. a photocopier, 4. pamphlets/materials for distribution, and 5. Sunday School materials.

Your chairman worked with the men on compiling the Greeley budget information for the last half of 2000, and on the projections for 2001-2003. The budget for Grace Reformed Church is also attached. It appears that the entire amounts earmarked for the Greeley work have not been remitted. According to the budget records, \$3,041.96 has not yet been sent from Classis, and \$3,962.50 has not yet been sent from Synod for 2000. It would seem that these amounts would be due the Greeley mission work, since they were designated for that purpose.

Regional Home Missionary

Rev. Dorman Savage continues to labor in Limon, CO, as well as in Pueblo and Calhan. The momentum is increasing with the Pueblo group and Rev. Savage hopes to see a numerical growth in the Bible Study there. Now that Greeley is organized and has a pastor he is able to give more attention to that region. The Providence Reformed Chapel is also making progress in getting the word out to the people in Limon. There is a new family in attendance and a youth league has been formed jointly between Blue Cliff and Limon. The town of Calhan is forty miles east of Colorado Springs, and Brother Savage is teaching a group of about seventeen on a regular basis in the doctrine of the covenant. This has been well received thus far. While it remains to be seen what will come of this instruction, he is encouraged by the opportunity to proclaim God's Word in this rapidly growing area.

While Rev. Savage continues to deal with various health problems, he is nonetheless thankful that he can still fulfill his calling as Regional Home Missionary. We are thankful for his labors and should continue to pray for blessing in the Lord's work along the Front Range.

Our recommendations:

1. Request that the Synod of the RCUS provide Vermillion \$16,406.50 for 2002
2. Request that South Central Classis provide Vermillion \$16,406.50 for 2002
3. Request that Synod of the RCUS provide Greeley \$16,350.40 for 2002
4. Request that South Central Classis provide Greeley \$16,350.40 for 2002
5. Request that South Central Classis provide \$28,500 for the work of the RHM for 2002
6. Request that South Central Classis allocate \$5,000 for travel costs for the RHM in 2002, with the mileage being reimbursed at the rate of \$.30 per mile (due to increased fuel expenses).

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. G. Syms, Chairman
Rev. H. Kalkman
Rev. D. Fagrey
Elder B. Richards
Elder C. Henson

Publications

(referred to Standing Publications)

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your committee did not meet and did not conduct any business during the 2000 Classical Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. David A. Dawn, Chairman

Christian Education

(referred to Education and Student Aid)

Classis South Central
Reformed Church in the U. S.
Spring Meeting 2001
Sutton, Nebraska
March 20-21, 2001

Dear Brothers,

The Permanent Christian Education Committee of South Central Class had no business come before it. therefore, your committee did not meet and did no business.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Howard E. Hart, chairman

Candidates and Credentials
(referred to Examination and Licensure)

February 20, 2001

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Lincoln, NE

Esteemed Brethren:

The committee conducted some of its business by means of e-mail and telephone since the Fall Meeting of Classis.

God willing, your committee is to examine Licentiate Jon Blair for ordination at the Spring Meeting of South Central Classis, March 20-21, 2001. The agenda and examiners for the ordination examination of Mr. Jon Blair are as follows:

Heidelberg Catechism (20), The Rev. Mr. H. Hart
Belgic Confession of Faith (20), The Rev. Mr. W. Embree
Canons of Dordt (20), The Rev. Dr. C. W. Powell

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. G. Syms, Chairman
Rev. W. Embree
Rev. H. Hart
Rev. Dr. C. W. Powell
Elder C. Beilby
Elder L. Griess

Interchurch Relations
(referred to Overtures)

Spring Report of the Permanent Interchurch Relations Committee.

Brethren:

Re: Request from The Consistory of Blue Cliff RCUS, meeting in regular session at Karval , CO 9/22/00, voted to overture the South Central Classis to overture Synod to request that the Permanent Interchurch of the RCUS complain to the appropriate committee of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church against the actions of Rev. Archie Allison of Fort Collins, CO.

Your committee met by telephone and sent the request from the Karval Consistory to the Rev. Edward Eppinger, Stated Clerk of the OPC Presbytery of the Dakotas asking that proper action be taken. He responded that he would give the information to the proper committee of their Presbytery.

We were not able to attend the Presbytery of the RPCNA meeting in Minneola, Kansas, but did send a greeting by way of e-mail to which they most graciously responded.

Also we extended an invitation to the Reverend Mart T. Harrington, OPC to the Spring Classis meeting in Lincoln.

At this time there is no further business transacted. We do hope to extend an invitation to a representative from the RPCNA.

Yours in Christ,

Permanent Interchurch Relations Committee,
Wesley Brice, Chairman
Ewald Oschner

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President's Report on the State of the Church

Esteemed Brothers:

³⁹For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off as many as the Lord our God will call." ⁴⁰And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." ⁴¹Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. ⁴²And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Acts 2:39-42

The constitution provides that this State of the Church report be based upon the parochial and statistical information provided by each congregation. It is evident from the passage just read, that at the very beginning of the New Testament Church there was concern for the numerical and spiritual condition of the fledgling Church. Therefore, I make no apology for our fathers who approved our constitution, or for our present practice arising from it. As officers of the Church, we need to know these things in order that we may properly govern to the glory of God.

It is also plain from the Book of Acts that the growth of the Church from Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria to the surrounding regions was not because of the charismatic personality of the apostles, or the outstanding musical program they provided, nor the drama or liturgical dance, but only because of the preaching of the word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through the word. The living Word of God healed men's bodies, delivered them from demons and saved their souls.

As I read the parochial reports I was pleased at the continuing conviction on the part of our ministers and elders that the methods have not changed. It is still the preaching and teaching of the word of God that makes disciples for Jesus Christ. That this is the conviction of our officers is evident, since every report speaks of the preaching of the gospel from the pulpit and everywhere else the opportunity presents itself. Also, the children are being taught in Sunday School and prepared for confirmation with catechism training. Many congregations have adult bible studies and youth groups as well.

We are also thankful that a new Seminary is being established in our Classis. Under the leadership of the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann and the Reverend Dr. Warren Embree, Heidelberg Seminary will be diligently training our young men for the gospel ministry.

In addition to the preaching of God's word, the sacraments have also been faithfully administered in our congregations over the past year and Church discipline has been carried out as needed.

With regard to evangelism, some of our congregations sponsor radio broadcasts, with varying results, the Heidelberg camp continues to impact the lives of our young people and the visitors they invite, and the Regional Home Missionary continues his work along the front range of the Rockies.

The general health of our Classis congregations appears to be good. Only one congregation is vacant at this time, that being Hope Reformed of Sutton, NE. We have two new missions works, Greeley, CO and Vermilion, SD, up and running so to speak. One long standing conflict between a minister and a congregation has apparently been resolved, and we will be considering another such conflict at this Classical meeting.

The statistics are also an indication of our general health. The number of elders and deacons in our Classis congregations have increased by 3%. And, even though the members received by confirmation, letter of transfer, profession of faith and baptism was down, the members lost by dismissal was also down so that we actually had a net gain both in numbers of confirmant and baptized members.

Financially, the picture is not so bright. Receipts from regular and special offerings were down, and the only reason that total receipts were up by 7% was that receipts from other sources were up 227%. Giving to non-budgeted RCUS causes was up and to non-RCUS causes was down. Giving to Synod guidelines was down and giving to Classis guidelines was up. Nevertheless, the guideline for giving for South Central Classis was not met which means we have a significant financial shortfall.

In my report last year, I quoted from Psalm 40:1 these words of David. "I waited patiently for the Lord; And He inclined to me...". It is good to be reminded again that we must wait patiently upon the Lord. It is good to be reminded that we must trust in the Lord and not in anything else, otherwise we will never recognize the wonderful works of God in our lives for what they are. God has certainly blessed us, individually and corporately. For this we must give him all the praise and glory.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dorman Savage

Classis Action: The report was approved

Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes

March 20, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The following items refer to duties performed by either myself or the Reverend George Horner.

1. At the Fall Meeting of Classis, meeting at Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the clerk was instructed to send a letter informing the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen that his request for an extension in his work with the Sutton Christian congregation had been refused by the Classis and that a Special Committee had been erected to investigate whether charges should be brought: a letter, dated September 28, 2000 was mailed to Reverend Jorgensen.
2. At the Fall Meeting of Classis, meeting at Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the clerk was instructed to send a letter advising the consistory of St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, to seriously consider granting their pastor two (2) weeks of vacation plus two (2) Missionfest Sundays: a letter, date September 28, 2000 was mailed to the consistory of St. John's Reformed Church.
3. Executive Circular, Volume 15, Number 4, approved the dismissal of the Reverend Mr. George Horner to the Western Classis, RCUS: a letter of dismissal, dated January 30, 2001, was sent to the Stated Clerk of the Western Classis (the Western Classis received Reverend Horner at their Spring

Meeting, during the week of March 12, 2001—a letter of reception has been sent by the Stated Clerk of the Western Classis).

Respectfully submitted,
Warren C. Embree, Stated Clerk ProTemp

Classis Action: The report was approved

Execute Committee's Report on its Minutes

March 20, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The Executive Circulars Volume 15, Numbers 4 through 6, constitute the primary minutes of the Executive Committee. However, a few matters arose which require further attention.

1) The Executive Committee received a letter from the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen requesting that his name be removed from the Roll of Ministers. He was informed that the Executive Committee would recommend that his credentials be revoked and he acknowledged that he understood. The Executive Committee therefore recommends that the Classis receive the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen's request to be removed from the Roll of Ministers, that he be deposed from office, and that his name be erased from the Roll of Ministers.

2) At the request of the consistory of Bethlehem Reformed Church, independent, Freeman, South Dakota, the Executive Committee appointed a Special Committee consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Robert Grossmann (Chairman), Warren Embree, and Elder Spencer Gross to meet with the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis and with the consistory to consider concerns they had with Pastor Davis' performance and the future of the congregation. The Executive Committee therefore recommends that the Agenda be amended to include the report of this Special Committee during the time assigned for Special Committees to report.

3) The President of Classis has been approached by the Federation of Reformed Churches concerning Mr. Steven Schlei. The Executive Committee therefore recommends that, during the time assigned for Special Committees to report, Classis decide what is our Biblical, moral, and constitutional responsibilities concerning Mr. Schlei.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren C. Embree
Stated Clerk, ProTemp

Classis Action: The report was approved

Executive Committee of Synod's Report

REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

Office of the Stated Clerk

6121 Pine Vista Way. a Elk Grove, CA 95758 a Ph. (916) 683-9597

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SYNOD TO THE CLASSES

February 28, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Each year the Executive Committee of Synod reports to the Classes on matters requiring the attention of the Classes. This year our report consists of three recommendations (on two matters) adopted by the 254th Synod of the RCUS, which met at St. Paul's Ev. Reformed Church, Hamburg, MN, during the week of May 8-11, 2000. The items are as follows:

1. That the Synod urge each Classis to designate an individual or individuals who will travel to congregations in each respective Classis, at the request of the congregations within the Classis, to explain the benefits of and funding options for the Ministerial Aid Fund;

and, That the traveling expenses of individuals traveling in behalf of Classis to explain the benefits of and funding options for the Ministerial Aid Fund be reimbursed by the congregations inviting these individuals (2000 Abstract, pp. 56-7).

2. That the Classes recommend to the Synod Nominations Committee possible candidates from the Missions Committee of Classis to serve coinciding terms on the Synod Home Missions Committee (2000 Abstract, p. 57).

In behalf of the Executive Committee of Synod,
 Rev. Frank H. Walker, Th.M.

Classis Action: Take Note

Treasurer's Report and Auditor's Opinion

(referred to Standing Finances)

Guidelines

	Budgeted	Received	Short
Reformed Resource Center (\$3.21 per communicant member)	\$3500.00	\$2620.24	\$879.79
Benevolence (\$18.86 per communicant member)	\$20,592.00	\$17426.39	\$3165.61
Missions (\$41.65 per communicant member)	\$45,471.91	\$40,869.55	\$4602.36
Classis Meetings (\$4.58 per communicant member)	\$5000.00	\$4344.87	\$655.13
Totals (\$68.30 per communicant member)	=====	=====	=====
	\$74,563.9	\$65,261.05	\$9302.86

CheckBook

Beginning Balance	\$3558.80
Ending Balance	\$2818.57
Accumulated Interest	\$ 165.85

Parochial Reports of Ministers

The Ministers of the Word individually read their reports, giving an account of their labors and the status of their charges.

Classis Action : On all the reports – take note. The Request of Brice's report was referred to Judicial.

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" except Gallimore who answered "Yes, room for improvement," Northland Reformed Consistory (via letter) which answered "Not each was visited, but the needs of all families are noted and have been met with careful oversight," and J. Savage who answered "No".
- 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" except DeBoer who answered "Not Completely," Elder Larry Griess who answered "No," and Northland which answered which answered "No."
- b. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Classis treasurer?* All answered "Yes" except for DeBoer who answered "No".
- c. *Are the apportionments for the Synod paid according to the Guideline for Giving?* : All answered "Yes" except Brauning, DeBoer, and Griess which three answered "No".
- d. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Synod treasurer?* : All answered "Yes" except for DeBoer who answered "No" and Griess who answered "No, due to an oversight."

6. *Are the church records properly kept?* All answered "Yes"

7.a *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.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee

Members present: Elder Roger Gallimore, Rev. Clif Loucks, Rev. Ron Morris, and Rev. Darrell Kingswood.

- 1 .Highlights of the 2000 finance report showed a net loss of \$356.11. This is the first loss since 1994 and was primarily caused by a lower anticipated enrollment. There was also revenue received from the camp store, which was previously received by the host youth group. The ending balance is \$3,184.20, which is sufficient operating capital for taking care of expenses leading up to camp.
2. The proposed 2000 budget includes an increase in camper fees. This is following a decrease in fees a year ago. The primary reasons for the increase are budgeting for the same number of campers as a year ago, Heidelberg Youth Camp paying for the HYC publication (as opposed to Classis) and Heidelberg Youth Camp paying for the committee meeting (as opposed to Classis).
3. Several positive comments continue to be received regarding the HYC Fire. It is still the goal to one day expand the publication to include all covenant youth in the denomination. It is also the goal to this year begin a semi-annual publication titled FPO (For Parents Only). This publication will detail the upcoming camp and the associated lessons in the first issue, then followed with an issue that tells about what happened at camp. Also, several positive comments were received regarding the lesson videos. All congregations are encouraged to view the lessons presented on video.
4. The committee reviewed a draft of the camp leadership manual and gave approval of the content.
5. The theme for the 2001 camp is *Rebel with A Holy Cause*. HYC is now established as a vehicle that focuses on supporting and teaching a Christian Worldview for our covenant youth. *Rebel With A Holy Cause* and the associated lessons are intended to strengthen the concept that Christians are to live out a worldview that is contrary to that of the world. With assistance from a camper focus group, the following lessons were presented to the committee for approval. Please note that according to evaluations from camp a year ago, it was decided that the lessons for juniors and the lessons for seniors be split entirely. Previously, the same presenter gave the same lesson to each group. Now each presenter will prepare a lesson specifically for the appropriate age group.

Junior Lessons

- ~*Are you a rebel with a cause?* - This lesson helps the campers to examine their own lifestyle to see if they are truly different from the world.
- ~*Friends and Friendships* - Basketball player A.C. Green once said, "Show me your friends and I'll show you your future." This lesson will teach the campers how to choose friends and be a friend according to Biblical principles.
- ~*Entertainment Today* - Never before in the entire history of the world has there been so much entertainment. What is the Christian's response to entertainment in general and how to determine what entertainment may be appropriate?
- ~*How much is too much?* - Marketing studies show that the single most influential group in consumer choices are middle school age students. From expensive name brands to the latest fashions and toys, what is the Biblical perspective?
- ~*Respect - Get Real!* - Contemporary television shows, books, movies and music commonly depict parents, particularly fathers, as doodling morons who don't know what real life is about. This lesson issues practical principles from Scripture on honoring parents and all those in authority.
- ~*Dating & Courtship* - In the world the typical age for starting the boyfriend and girlfriend thing is in the sixth grade. Many of the dating norms are already passed on in these formative years. This lesson introduces the concept of Biblical courtship under the father's authority and supervision. This is

definitely an area that rebels against the world!

~*Growing Up to be Godly* -This concluding lesson will tie everything together and lay out a pattern for building a godly life into adulthood for the service of God.

Senior Lessons

~ *The Life of the Party* – Keggers and other parties are a normal part of teenage life in America. Should it be though? This lesson will take an honest look at the Biblical response toward attending parties that may include alcohol or other controlled substances.

~*Criminal Justice* Prisons, the death penalty, and other forms of punishment will be examined from a Biblical perspective. This lesson will help prepare the campers to articulate what is true criminal justice.

~*Dating and Courtship* - Our teens are told not to be unequally yoked. But, how do we get there? Finding a spouse should not be the result of trying out many different broken relationships. Rather, it should come about through purposeful courtship under the supervision of the girl's father. Campers will be challenged to throw out many of the world's ideas about dating.

~*Straight Talk* - Ladies and gentlemen! What does it mean to be a lady or a gentleman? This lesson give practical counsel from Scripture on proper behavior that is specific to each gender; which of course smacks against the world's view that there is no difference.

~*Always Ready* - Feeling tongue-tied whenever the faith is challenged? This lesson will help give the campers tools that are needed to always give a reason for the hope that lies within them.

~*Get a Job!* For too long mediocrity has ruled the workforce, particularly for Christians. What is the cultural mandate and why should the Christian set the standard for excellence in all things are questions that are answered in this lesson.

~*Are You a Rebel With a Cause?* - This lesson helps the campers to examine their own lifesty~ to see if they are truly different from the world.

6. The worship service was discussed. The format worked well last year with 10-15 minutes of praise, hymn, and Psalms sung prior to the worship service followed by the Order of Worship as suggested in the Directory of Worship and including the Apostle's Creed in the first service, reading of the Law in the second service, and the Nicene Creed in the final service. Sermon topics will include:

- Meaning of Discipleship
- Path of Discipleship
- Cost of Discipleship

This year the offering will be for the radio program for Vermillion.

7. Rev. Ron Morris was appointed as the junior camp coordinator and Rev. Darrell Kingswood was appointed as the senior camp coordinator. Rev. Clif Loucks was appointed as the worship service coordinator.

8. The camp will again meet at Camp Bob Marshall. The dates are July 23-27. Camp Bob Marshall has also been reserved in 2002 for July 29-August 2. Future organizers of the triennial family camp are asked to please take note of future dates in that HYC is always scheduled at least 5 years in advance.

The Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee recommends the following:

1. Classis approve the 2001 Heidelberg Youth Camp proposed budget and camper fees.
2. Classis approve the report of the Heidelberg Youth Camp committee.

**Heidelberg Youth Camp
Proposed Budget 2001**

Balance Forward	\$3,540.31	
(115 Campers - 32 adults)	(115 Campers - 32 adults)	
<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Actual2000</u>	<u>Budget2001</u>
Camp Fees	\$10,694.12	\$12,305.00
Gifts	\$666.00	\$300.00
Interest	\$8.58	\$10.00
T-Shirts Sold	\$40.00	\$50.00
Camp Store Sales	\$840.44	\$500.00
	-----	-----
Total Revenue	\$12,249.14	\$13,165.00

Expense

Facility Use	\$7,700.00	\$7,700.00
Food	\$2,121.39	\$2,180.00
T-Shirts	\$1,539.00	\$1,600.00
Supplies	\$151.45	\$150.00
Promotion	\$268.60	\$275.00
Custer State Park Fees	\$100.00	\$100.00
Postage	\$59.40	\$60.00
Administration	\$33.12	\$250.00
Equipment	\$114.34	\$100.00
HYC Fire	\$472.95	\$500.00
Camp Store Supplies	\$45.00	\$250.00
	-----	-----
Total Expense	\$12,605.25	\$13,165.00
	-----	-----
Revenue - Expense	(\$356.11)	\$0.00

Summary

Balance Forward	\$3,540.31	\$3,184.20
Total Revenue	\$12,249.14	\$13,165.00
Total Expense	\$12,605.25	\$13,165.00
Ending Balance	\$3,184.20	\$3,184.20

Proposed 2001 fees @ \$107 per camper. Adult volunteers continue to be free. \$50 per child not attending as campers. Each non-participating congregation in Northern Plains and South Central Classis to set out a plate for contributions to the camp.

Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

Board of Trustees, Reformed Resource Center

Report of the Administrator of the Reformed Resource Center

A. **ACTIVITIES:** Your servant was involved in the following activities this Classical year.

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES Page 41 of 59

1. The Hoeflinger Memorial Library is available on floppy disk.. These disc. are available to member, of the denomination. Dr. Jell Johnson continues to do a yeoman's job on the Library.
2. The program "Training in Ministry" was implemented on two occasions.
 - At New Geneva Seminary where lectures on the topics of Apologetics, RCUS Constitution, The Directory of Worship of the RCUS, The History of the RCUS, and Biblical Preaching in the Tradition of the RCUS. Graciously assisting in this seminar were the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage (President of the Executive Committee of Classis South Central), the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann (lecturer), and the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris (camera man). Videos of these presentations are available.
 - At the Ministerial Retreat for the Midwest RCUS Ministers meeting at Watertown, South Dakota. I lectured on the "Definition of the Covenant." Other lecturers were the Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann and the Reverend Mr. George Syms. Videos of these lectures are on video.
3. I made several study videos.

B. VIDEOS: The following videos are available:

1. "Apologetics - What We Think Before We Think" This is a four Part lecture course by Pastor H. Grossmann and Pastor H. Hart. Pastor Hart wrote a workbook to be used with the four lectures. Three copies of the originals are available to the churches and individuals. We sold one copy. The other two are now being used by a church and an individual. Pastor Grossmann's book on this subject is also available.
2. "Hermeneutics - How To Study The Bible" by Pastor Hart. This five lecture series that shows people what the principles of Biblical interpretation are and how to use them. Pastor Hart produced a workbook to be used with the lectures. Two copies of the original were made and both are in use at this time.
3. "Theological Basis of Confirmation and Catechetical Instruction" by Rev. R. Grossmann. This is an hour lecture. There is also an audio cassette available. This talk appears in a recent Reformed Herald. (In use.)
4. "Reasons and Methodology of Catechetical Instruction" by Rev. H. Hart. This is an hour lecture that was given at a minister's retreat. There is an audio cassette available. (In use.)
5. "The Seeker Sensitive Movement" by Rev. G. Homer. This is an hour lecture given at a minister's retreat. There is an audio cassette available.
6. "Studies in the Book of Daniel" by Pastor Hart. This is a twelve lecture nuns. video with a workbook. (Just Completed)
7. "Kohlbrugge" by Rev. N Hoeflinger. This is a lecture given at an October 3, 1996 minister's retreat. (In use.)
8. "A Conversation with Chester and Grace Ploeger." The Ploegers reflect on their many years in the RCUS. (Taped February 18, 1997)
9. "Reformed Hermeneutics" by The Rev. Robert Grossmann. There are three lectures in this video which gives a Reformed perspective on our approach to Scripture.
10. "Homiletics" is a video study by the Rev. Howard Hart with David Fagrey that gives ministers of the Word a way to analyze their sermons. Pastor Hart gives the essential parts to a sermon and Pastor Fagrey give a sermon presentation that underlines the method of structuring sermons.
11. "A Pastor's Approach to His Congregation - Puritan/Covenantal" by the Rev George Syms. This lecture was delivered at the RCUS Ministerial Retreat in Watertown, SD September 6, 1999.
12. "Answering The Dilemmas Facing The Reformed In Bearing Witness" by the Rev. Jim Sawtelle. This is a lecture given at the RCUS Minister's Retreat in Watertown SD September 6, 1999.
13. "RCUS History" by the Rev Robert Grossmann and the Rev. Howard Hart. This 7 lecture video covers the history of our denomination in this country and surveys our roots in Germany. There is introductory material on why we are to study Church History.
14. "Classis South Central of the RCUS Opening Worship Service and Opening Session at Rock Springs, WY on October 11, 1999." This video has the Rev. C.W. Powell leading the worship service, and the Rev. Howard Hart preaching on John 1:14. The session of Classis South Central is opened by the Rev. Dorman Savage with the Rev. George Horner Stated Clerk. Some of the opening business is recorded.

15. "Lectures on Daniel" by the Rev. Howard Hart
16. "Hallowed Be Thy Names" a video on the Old Testament names of God. This is a 13 lecture presentation on the basic names of God by the Rev. Hart.
17. Lectures on the Constitution of the RCUS by Pastor Hart given at a seminar at New Geneva Seminary in 2000.
18. Lectures on the RCUS Directory of Worship by Pastor Savage made at New Geneva Seminary in 2000.
19. "Definition of the Covenant" by Pastor Hart. A lecture that was given at the 2000 Minister's Retreat in Watertown, SD.
20. "The Covenant" A lecture that was given by Pastor George Syms at the 2000 Minister's Retreat at Watertown, SD.
21. "The Covenant and the Canons of Dordt" A lecture given by Pastor Grossmann at the 2000 Minister's Retreat at Watertown, SD.

C. **LECTURES:** Your servant has the following lectures presentations available for the churches of Classis:

1. Moses in Egypt. This is a one hour lecture with slides and work sheets for the students.
2. Jerusalem - City of God/ City of Blood/City of Peace. This is a one hour lecture with slides and worksheets for the students
3. How To Study The Bible. This is a 4 or 5 session seminar that use slide., overhead outlines and work sheets.
4. Covenant/Kingdom. This is a 4 or 5 session study with overhead outlines and work sheets.
5. Teacher Training Course. This is a 3 to 4 sessions study with work book and outlines.
6. Studies on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. This is a 2 to 5 lecture series with a work book.
7. Angels. A five lecture series on good and evil angels.
8. Hallowed be Thy Names . A lecture series on the basic names of God in the Old Testament.

D. **FUTURE PLANS:**

1. Your servant finishes his five years as your first Administrator of the RRC and the Training in Ministry (TIM) program. You will need to replace him. He believes that his work of establishing this center is completed. With the springing up of a new seminary in our area it might be prudent to elect one of the professors or a board member of the seminary to be Administrator of the Reformed Resource Center.
2. There is need to publicize our library and videos more than we do. We do publish a list of what is available each year in our Abstract of the Minutes of South Central Classis and advertise in the Reformed Herald each year. Apparently people do not read these documents because I get questions on what is available from folks in SCC.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Dr. Jess Johnson continue to be curator of the Hoeflinger Memorial Library.
2. That Dr. Jess Johnson be given an honorarium of \$200.00.
3. Take note that the treasurer of Classis be aware that Mrs. Hoeflinger is to receive a check of \$500.00 each January. Classis determined at the 2000 Spring Meeting to keep this yearly honorarium without a termination date.
4. That Classis elect an Administrator for the RRC, the TIM and the Hoeflinger Memorial Library. (The Administrator is elected for a 5 year term.)
5. That the Administrator seek ways to publicize the book and video libraries of the RRC
6. That the Administrator of the RRC and the TIM program work closely with the new seminary in Vermillion, SD.

*Adopted from the floor: "That Classis appoint a committee of two to review the contents of the library of the Reverend Mr. Norm Jones with the view to purchase the library and report to the next meeting of Classis; at least one of the members of the committee is to be on the faculty of Heidelberg Theological Seminary.

Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

Special Report of Heidelberg Theological Seminary

HEIDELBERG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AN INTRODUCTION

HISTORY

While Heidelberg Theological Seminary is not yet a year old, its founding principles and history are of importance because they explain what this Seminary is all about. Heidelberg Seminary began in the minds of several Reformed Church in the U.S. pastors and elders as "Nebraska Theological Seminary." These men from the Sutton and Lincoln, NE, RCUS Churches realized that there is no Bible-centered or Reformed Seminary in the whole state of Nebraska. They also reasoned that since the Bible teaches that theological education preparing men for the gospel ministry is the work of the Church (2 Tim. 2:2), this is a work in which the RCUS as an enthusiastically biblical Church should engage (the example of our Sacramento Covenant Reformed Church in founding City Seminary of Sacramento also gave impetus to acting on this conviction). The availability of two prospective professors, Rev. Robert Grossmann and Dr. Warren Embree, also made founding a new seminary a real possibility. As a result, several ministers and elders from Sutton and Lincoln formed a board and moved forward with the necessary organizational planning. Dr. Warren Embree thoroughly researched the academic and administrative requirements and plans were finalized to begin a seminary. As these plans developed, the availability of facilities in Lincoln, NE, upon which the Board was counting became less than favorable. As a result, the Board decided to request the use of the facilities of Providence Reformed Church in Vermillion, SD, which request was readily granted. Since the Seminary would no longer be in Nebraska, the name "Heidelberg Theological Seminary" was chosen by the Board. The change in location does not change the fact that our Seminary is located in an area where little in the way of theological education is available.

PURPOSE

The purpose of Heidelberg Theological Seminary is to provide a full fledged seminary curriculum in which preaching and pastoral work are emphasized as the final use of all the academic work. The theological position is to be utterly Reformed with no deviations whatsoever from the teachings of the Reformed Creeds, particularly the Three Forms of Unity, but also the Westminster Standards Heidelberg Theological Seminary is also solidly committed to the conservative biblical positions that have concerned the biblically Reformed Churches in recent years. Commitment to six-day creation, anti-abortion, male leadership in home and church, and the importance of the nuclear family are a matter of course. Heidelberg Seminary also aims to pass on to the next generation of pastors the full-orbed Reformed position that came out of the combination of "old Westminster" in Philadelphia with the traditional strengths of the RCUS, such as commitment to biblical worship and the serious covenant up-bringing of the children of the Christian home, as well as a thoroughly pre-suppositional apologetic.

ADMINISTRATION

Heidelberg Theological Seminary is committed to the idea that the only excuse for advanced theological education is an educated ministry for the church. Therefore only men committed to the Reformed ministry will be admitted as students. Even more, the Seminary will and does consciously submit itself to the oversight of the elders of a particular congregation of the RCUS. The Consistory of Zion Reformed Church at Menno, SD, has taken this responsibility for Heidelberg Seminary. While this is a change from "traditional" denominational seminary practice, we believe that it will also short-circuit the usual progression of the seminary becoming the tail that wags the denominational dog. At the same time, since the Consistories are under the oversight of the Classes and the Synod of the RCUS, we are fully ready to submit to any requirements that the South Central Classis and the RCUS Synod may place upon our operation. While a church judicatory should exercise oversight of theological education, a seminary ought to be operated by a Board of Trustees who are capable of the academic and theological administration necessary to its prosperity. The Board of Heidelberg Seminary consists of ministers and elders of the RCUS, plus one minister from the OPC. Its members are not only committed to the task they have taken

on, they are capable of running the seminary. Elder Ted Griess, an attorney, is Chairman of the Board. Our first professors are Rev Robert Grossmann and Dr. Warren Embree, both men with years of pastoral experience, who have also proven themselves capable of sound academic work.

FINANCES

Heidelberg Theological Seminary is designed to operate with funds derived from the offerings of God's people and the tuition of its students. Of the \$5000 needed for startup, \$3000 has been received. With a minimum of five students, the Seminary will be able to operate for its first year. Costs will be low during the first years since the Seminary will use the facilities of Providence Reformed Church for a small rental, and the professors will at first be paid only for out-of-pocket and travel expenses. The Seminary is in the process of filing not-for-profit articles of Incorporation in the State of South Dakota and an application for 501 3(C) status with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Heidelberg Theological Seminary respectfully requests permission to seek donations from among the Churches and members of South Central Classis.

ACCREDITATION

Heidelberg Theological Seminary has been in contact with the Transnational Association of Christian Schools (TRACS), a conservative Christian accreditation society approved by the United States Department of Education. The Seminary will seek accreditation through this Association. Heidelberg Theological Seminary requests gifts of books for its library. We particularly urge retired ministers to consider such a gift.

Classis Action: All the recommendations were adopted. The report was adopted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Benevolence

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the guideline of \$2.00 per communicant member be continued for the Safe Harbor Light House.
2. That Classis South Central overture Synod on behalf of Mrs. Amy Stevens for aid in the amount of \$650.00 per month.
3. That Classis overture Synod to provide benevolent aid in the amount of \$12,408.00 for the Reverend Dr. C.W. Powell, Jr.

Classis Action: All the recommendations and report were adopted.

Examination and Licensure

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the ordination examination of Licentiate Jon Blair be sustained.
2. That the internship requirement of Licentiate Jon Blair be declared fulfilled, as he has completed six (6) months internship under the Reverend Mr. David Fagrey after licensure and two and one-half months (2 ½) under the Reverend Mr. Don Vance before licensure.
3. That Licentiate Jon Blair be ordained and installed by a committee consisting of the Reverend Messrs. George Syms (Chairman) and David Fagrey and the elders of Providence Reformed Church, RCUS, Rock Springs, WY on a date and time to be determined by the Consistory of Providence Reformed Church.
4. Take Note that the overture from Trinity Reformed Church, RCUS, Sioux Falls, SD cannot be forwarded because the Classis never adopted guidelines of who can and who cannot preach or exhort in its congregations.

Classis Action: All the recommendations were adopted, except 4, which was take note. The report was adopted.

Minutes of Synod

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

Besides the matters already taken up by the Executive Committee Report of Synod.

1. Take Note that the Minutes of the South Central Classis were approved with the following exceptions a) the minutes are not organized in a side-post binder and b) the appendix does not have an index for its contents.
2. Take Note that the chairman of each Home Missions Committee of Classis be encouraged in his obligation to observe the policies outlined in the Synodical Home Missions Manual for assessing new works and reporting the committee's activities to the SHMC at least two weeks before the annual meeting in February.

Classis Action: Take Note. The report was adopted.

Publications

Take note of the Permanent Publications Committee Report.

Ministerial Aid

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That Classis overture Synod for aid for Virginia Hoeflinger in the amount of \$900.00 per month.
2. That Classis overture Synod for aid for Phyllis Grossmann in the amount of \$1000.00 per month.
3. That Classis overture Synod for aid for the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart in the amount of \$1200.00 per month.
4. That the Standing Nominations Committee appoint a special Permanent Committee to present the ministerial aid fund and to answer the requests of the congregations and, if necessary, to appoint a delegate to visit the congregations.

Classis Action: All the recommendations were adopted, except 4, which was defeated. The report was adopted.

Judicial

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the duties of the Special Committee of Classis assigned to mediate the conflict between Bethlehem Reformed Church and Rev. Robert Davis be extended through the next Classical year for the purpose of providing oversight over Davis and continuing mediation. Oversight is to include training in homiletics and pastoral care.
2. That according to Articles 150, 151, and 153, the complaint from Kevin Strickler fails to meet Constitutional requirements and is therefore deemed out of order.
3. That Classis receive the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen's request to be removed from the Roll of Ministers, that he be deposed from office, and that his name be erased from the Roll of Ministers.
4. Take note of the documents from the Special Committee to meet with the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen.
5. That the overture from Northland Reformed Church of Kansas City be approved and that they be moved to the Classis Covenant East. Also, that South Central Classis overture Synod to move the Classical boundary to the Missouri state line.

6. Take note of the Interchurch Relations report concerning a complaint from Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church and the related minutes from the Dakota Presbytery of the OPC.
7. That upon written receipt from the Federation of Reformed Churches, we are to inform them that Mr. Schlei had been found guilty of contumacy and schism and if there is to be reconciliation, Mr. Schlei needs to contact the South Central Classis.
8. That the Constitution of Grace Reformed Church of Greeley, CO, having been duly examined by the Judicial Committee, be approved by the South Central Classis. A memorial has been signed and the congregation has been duly organized by the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage, regional home missionary to the Front Range, acting by authority of the South Central Classis as per Section 2, Article 8 of the RCUS Constitution. We therefore recommend reception of Grace Reformed Church of Greeley, Colorado and that they be added to the Roll of South Central Classis.
9. Take note of the fact that the Reverend Mr. David Dawn's parochial report has been read and that counsel was requested and subsequently given by the Judicial Committee.
10. Take note of the Heidelberg Theological Seminary report.

Classis Action: Recommendations 1 & 3 were adopted from the floor, prior to the report, 2,7, & 8 were adopted, 5 was defeated, and 4,6,9, & 10 were Take Note.

Home Missions

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That we overture Synod to pay 60% for the Greeley 2001 obligation.
2. That Classis pay 40% for the Greeley 2001 obligation.
3. That we overture Synod to pay 60% for the Vermillion 2001 obligation.
4. That Classis pay 40% for the Vermillion 2001 obligation.
5. That the Regional Home Missionary be provided \$26,500.00 for the 2001 obligation.
6. That the Regional Home Missionary be provided \$3000.00 for mileage in 2001.
7. That a request for Synod to provide Vermillion 50% for 2002 be sent to the HMC.
8. That a request for South Central Classis to provide 50% for Vermillion in 2002 be granted.
9. That a request for Synod to provide Greeley 50% for 2002 be sent to the HMC.
10. That a request for South Central Classis to provide 50% for Greeley in 2002 be granted.
11. That a request for South Central Classis to provide \$28,500.00 for the Regional Home Missionary in 2002 be granted.
12. That Classis provide \$3000.00 for the Regional Home Missionary for travel in 2002.
13. That an overture from Blue Cliff RCUS to analyze RCUS mission endeavors in Kenya be forwarded to the Synod FMC.
14. That Classis South Central recommend the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris and Elder Bill Richards as men capable to serve on the Synod HMC to Synod HMC.

Classis Action. All the recommendations and the report were adopted.

Education and Student Aid

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That Classis overture Synod for \$3680.00 in student aid for Kyle Sorensen.
2. That Classis overture Synod for \$2710.00 in student aid for Richard Stetler.
3. That Classis overture Synod for \$3220.00 in student aid for Andrew McIntyre.
4. That Classis overture Synod for \$2000.00 in student aid for Matt Powell.
5. That Heidelberg Theological Seminary be given permission to seek donations from among the churches and members of the South Central Classis.
6. Take Note that the Permanent Christian Education Committee of South Central Classis report not business performed.

Classis Action : All the recommendations were adopted, except 6, which was Take Note. The report was adopted.

Services

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the invitation of Grace Reformed Church of Rapid City, SD to hold the 2002 Spring Meeting of Classis South Central be accepted.
2. That Elders Messrs. Jay Liesveld and Mark Fisher be excused from these sessions of South Central Classis.
3. That the correspondence from the Presbytery of the Dakotas OPC and from the United Reformed Church be submitted to the Standing Overtures Committee of Classis and that the Permanent Interchurch Relations Committee continue to contact these churches and encourage them to send Fraternal Delegates and Observers to our Classis meetings.
4. That Classis South Central express its deepest appreciation for the kind and gracious hospitality provided us by the members of St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, and that our words of appreciation be printed in this Sunday's bulletin.

* From the floor: That the request for excuse from Elder Chuck DeBoer and the Reverend Mr. David Fagrey be approved.

Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

Finances

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. That the following mileage be approved:

Elder Harley Mehlhaf	430 miles @ .22	94.60
Elder Charles DeBoer	504 miles @ .22	110.88
The Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage	1100 miles @ .22	242.00
Elder Chris Beilby	1440 miles @ .22	316.80
The Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle	1000 miles @ .22	220.00
The Reverend Mr. George Syms	170 miles @ .22	37.40
The Reverend Mr. Wes Brice	360 miles @ .22	79.20

		1100.88
2. That the Treasurer's records are well kept and accurate that the Treasurer's records be deemed to have passed the committee's audit.
3. That the Treasurer be commended for a job well done under difficult circumstances.
4. Take note of the fact that our receipts fell \$9012.00 short of our guidelines for the year 2000.
5. That the following budget and guideline be adopted:

	2000 Budget	2001 Budget
Greeley Home Mission	\$18,580	\$14,864
Vermillion Home Mission	\$18,080	\$14,454
Colorado Springs	\$12,408	(pass to Synod)
Regional Home Missionary	\$26,500	\$26,500
RHM Mileage	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
Reformed Resource Center	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,500
Classical Dues	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Lighthouse Harbor	\$ 2,180	\$ 2,180
Reserve	\$ 2,755	\$ 2,755
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Total	\$94,003	\$71,253

The guideline per communicant member remain at \$68.30 per communicant member which would make the actual \$75,266.60 if all guidelines were met.

Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

Nominations

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

Missions	R. <u>Morris</u> , D. Fagrey, H. Kalkman, C. DeBoer, S. Powell
Publications	R. <u>Grossmann</u> , D. Savage, J. Johnson
Christian Education	H. <u>Hart</u> , S. Gross, B. Richards
Interchurch Relations	W. <u>Brice</u> , D. Dawn, D. Wilson
Candidates & Credentials	W. <u>Embree</u> , C.W. Powell, R. Grossmann, R. Gallimore, C. Beilby
Executive Committee	G. <u>Syms</u> , L. Griess, W. Embree
Heidelberg Youth Camp	R. <u>Gallimore</u> , C. Loucks, R. Morris
Reformed Resource Center	Administrator - H. Hart (5yr.) Curator - J. Johnson Board of Trustees 3 yrs C. Loucks, D. Brauning 2 yrs. R. <u>Morris</u> , A. Griess 1 yr. W. Brice, R. Stetler
Investigate the Jones Library	J. <u>Johnson</u> , W. Embree

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole

Overtures

The following referrals and recommendations were brought by the committee:

1. Invitation of Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, SD to host the 2002 Spring Meeting of Classis to Services.
2. Request of Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, SD for ministerial aid for Phyllis Grossmann for \$1000.00 per month to Ministerial Aid.
3. Request of Blue Cliff Reformed Church to petition Synod for an analysis of the mission work in Kenya to Missions.
4. Overture of Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD to discuss consistory oversight of the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis to Judicial.
5. Complaint of Kevin Strickler concerning the action of the consistory of Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD to Judicial.
6. Executive Circular Volume 15 Number 4 to Overtures.
7. Executive Circular Volume 15 number 5 to Overtures.
8. Executive Circular Volume 15 number 6 to Overtures.
9. Accusative against the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen to Judicial.
10. Form of Citation to Judicial.
11. Permanent Interchurch Relations Committee Report to Judicial.
12. Minutes of the October 2000 meeting of the OPC Presbytery of the Dakotas to Judicial.
13. Resignation of the Reverend Mr. Terry Jorgensen to Judicial.
14. Request of Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD to evaluate standardized requirements of ministerial examinations to Examination and Licensure.
15. Request for student aid from Kyle Sorensen to Education and Student Aid.
16. Northland Reformed Church, Kansas City, MO answers to the Article 81 Constitutional questions to the Stated Clerk.
17. Request for excuses from Northland Reformed Church, Kansas City, MO for Elder Messrs. Jay Liesveld and Mark Fisher to Services.
18. Request from Northland Reformed Church, Kansas City, MO to be moved to the Covenant East Classis to Judicial.
19. Letter of thanks concerning support from Safe Harbor Lighthouse to Benevolence.
20. Request for student aid from Richard Stetler to Education and Student Aid.

21. Request for benevolent aid from Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD in behalf of Mrs. Amy Stevens to Benevolence.
22. Request for ministerial aid from Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD in behalf of the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart to Ministerial Aid.
23. Invitation from the Presbytery of the Dakotas OPC to send a fraternal delegate to the Spring meeting to Services.
24. Request for student aid from Andrew McIntyre to Education and Student Aid.
25. Request for student aid from Matthew Powell to Education and Student Aid.
26. URCNA Classis report to Services.
27. Request from URCNA to arrange publication of agenda and minutes to Services.
28. Request to be enrolled as a regular congregation together with all paperwork from Grace Reformed Chapel, Greeley, CO to Judicial.
29. Response from St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE concerning pastor vacation and missionfest to Judicial.
30. Request for ministerial aid from St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE in behalf of Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger to Ministerial Aid.
31. Request from Trinity Covenant Church, Colorado Springs, CO for benevolent aid to Benevolence.
32. Request for excuse from the Reverend Mr. David Fagrey and Elder Chuck DeBoer to Services.

Classis Action- All the recommendations were and the report were adopted.

READING OF THE MINUTES

The minutes were read at the beginning of business on Tuesday and at the end of business on Tuesday night.

Classis Action: All corrections were made and final approval was given.

ADJOURNMENT

The body voted to change the Standing Rules to always hold the annual Spring Classis Meeting on the 4th Tuesday of March, opening with a worship service at 7:00 p.m.

The body adjourned to the 2002 Spring Classis meeting at Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, South Dakota.

Apostle's Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction, Doxology

The President led the body in reciting the Apostle's Creed and the Lord's Prayer. He pronounced the benediction and the body sang the Doxology .

APPENDICES

STATISTICS

ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES Page 51 of 59

2001 Member/Financial Statistics South Central Classis Reformed Church in the United States	Colorado Springs, CO Trinity Covenant	Grace Reformed Greeley, CO	Blue Cliff Comm Ref Karval, CO	Providence Reformed Limon, CO	Kansas City, MO Northland Reformed	Lincoln, NE St. John's Reformed	
Number of Elders	3	1	3	0	3	4	
Number of Deacons	3	0	2	0	2	4	
Communicant Members Last Year	35	11	22	6	49	80	
Received by Confirmation	0	0	1	1	0	0	
Received by Letter of Transfer	4	5	0	0	3	0	
Received by Profession of Faith	4	3	0	0	0	0	
Total Members Received	8	8	1	1	3	0	
Total Old/New Members	43	19	23	7	52	80	
Lost by Dismissal	0	2	0	0	7	1	
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	2	0	2	0	0	0	
Lost by Death	0	0	0	0	1	1	
Total Members Lost	2	2	2	0	8	2	
Communicant Members This Year	41	17	21	7	44	78	
Unconfirmed Members	13	9	14	7	34	35	
Total Baptized Members	54	26	35	14	78	113	
Number of Families	24	7	12	3	26	38	
Number of Children in SS	26	11	13	7	44	25	
Number of Adults Baptized	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Number of Infants Baptized	4	2	1	0	2	3	
Total Number of Baptism	5	2	1	0	2	3	
Number Received the Lord's Supper	32	17	19	7	44	72	
Times Lord's Supper Served	12	3	6	6	6	6	
2001 Financial Statistics							
Receipts from Regular Offerings	60771	20338	25308	32577	124682	57612	
Receipts from Special Offerings	0	334	422	0	2500	3119	
Receipts from Other Sources	18408	28875	30376	0	1600	618	
Total Receipts	79179	49547	56106	32577	128782	61349	

2001 Member/Financial Statistics South Central Classis Reformed Church in the United States	Sutton, NE Emmanuel Reformed	Sutton, NE Hope Reformed	Mennon, SD Zion Reformed	Mitchell, SD Grace Reformed	Rapid City, SD Grace Reformed	Sioux Falls, SD Trinity Reformed
Number of Elders	4	4	4	3	2	5
Number of Deacons	4	4	4	2	2	4
Communicant Members Last Year	191	216	228	70	36	105
Received by Confirmation	3	8	4	3	0	0
Received by Letter of Transfer	1	1	3	4	3	6
Received by Profession of Faith	0	1	1	2	5	3
Total Members Received	4	10	8	9	8	9
Total Old/New Members	195	226	236	79	44	114
Lost by Dismissal	1	3	5	0	1	4
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	7	2	3	0	1	4
Lost by Death	2	3	4	2	0	0
Total Members Lost	10	8	12	2	2	8
Communicant Members This Year	185	218	224	77	42	106
Unconfirmed Members	62	60	42	28	32	56
Total Baptized Members	247	278	266	105	74	162
Number of Families	105	94	114	38	20	47
Number of Children in SS	44	70	53	26	25	47
Number of Adults Baptized	0	0	0	0	2	1
Number of Infants Baptized	1	3	3	3	3	2
Total Number of Baptism	1	3	3	3	5	3
Number Received the Lord's Supper	168	203	205	78	42	103
Times Lord's Supper Served	6	6	4	4	6	5
2001 Financial Statistics						
Receipts from Regular Offerings	47238	114853	92371	52722	73109	0
Receipts from Special Offerings	5115	6060	300	1829	0	0
Receipts from Other Sources	324	3878	18055	415	842	0
Total Receipts	52677	124791	110726	54966	73951	0

2001 Member/Financial Statistics South Central Classis Reformed Church in the United States	Vermillion, SD Providence Reformed	Rock Springs, WY Providence Reformed	Totals 2001	Totals 2000	Percent Change
Number of Elders	0	3	3	38	-92%
Number of Deacons	0	0	0	30	-100%
Communicant Members Last Year	10	26	36	1055	-97%
Received by Confirmation	0	0	0	25	-100%
Received by Letter of Transfer	5	2	7	39	-82%
Received by Profession of Faith	0	1	1	34	-97%
Total Members Received	5	3	8	98	-92%
Total Old/New Members	15	29	44	1153	-96%
Lost by Dismissal	0	2	2	36	-94%
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	0	0	0	17	-100%
Lost by Death	0	0	0	10	-100%
Total Members Lost	0	2	2	63	-97%
Communicant Members This Year	15	27	42	1090	-96%
Unconfirmed Members	4	13	17	395	-96%
Total Baptized Members	19	40	59	1485	-96%
Number of Families	7	12	19	562	-97%
Number of Children in SS	2	10	12	376	-97%
Number of Adults Baptized	0	0	0	4	-100%
Number of Infants Baptized	1	2	3	39	-92%
Total Number of Baptism	1	2	3	43	-93%
Number Received the Lord's Supper	14	28	42	1008	-96%
Times Lord's Supper Served	2	7	9	70	-87%
2001 Financial Statistics					
Receipts from Regular Offerings	14824	50698	65522	829118	-92%
Receipts from Special Offerings	12950	1416	14366	48799	-71%
Receipts from Other Sources	21363	83831	105194	63782	65%
Total Receipts	49137	135945	185082	941699	-80%

- 1) St. John's, Lincoln, NE reports that the Communicant Members Last Year should have been 80, not 90
- 2) St. John's, Lincoln, NE reports that they gave an additional \$1400.41 Synod and \$2281.19 Classis in 2001
- 3) Grace Reformed Chapel, Greeley, CO reports that the Communicant Members Last Year should have been 11, not 14
- 4) Emmanuel Reformed, Sutton, NE reports that \$6,197.15 was not sent to Synod for 2000
- 5) Providence Reformed Chapel, Vermillion, SD reports that \$12,950 in the RCUS non-Budgeted Items represents a special offerings for the downpayment on the parsonage, which is shown as expended in line 29.

NECROLOGIES

Norman Dale Ackerman

Ackerman, Norman Dale (1932-2000) was born on July 12, 1932 to Herman and Theresa (nee Bauer) Ackerman in Edgar, NE. He received his elementary education in Clay and Fillmore counties in Nebraska. He graduated from Sutton High School in 1950. In 1951 to 1953, he served in the U. S. Army. On July 15 1956 he married Elaine Spomer in Hurley, S.D. He was the loving father to two sons and one daughter. Mr. Ackerman was a farmer in Nebraska from 1956 to 1979, where they were members of Hope RCUS Sutton. In 1979, the family moved to Longmont, CO. where he worked for I.B.M., retiring in 1996. He served faithfully as an elder and deacon of the former Peace RCUS in Loveland, CO. In 1999, he, his wife Elaine, and their daughter Peggy became members of Grace R.C.I.S. in Greeley, CO. Shortly before his death, he embraced the Three Forms of Unity, and considered the Greeley work a blessing. Norman was called home to be with the Lord on Dec. 15, 2000. Services were held in Longmont at the Ahlburg Funeral Chapel with the Rev. Gene Sawtelle officiating, and in Sutton at Hope Reformed Church with Rev. George Horner officiating with interment at the Sutton Cemetery with full military honors.

Edgar R. Dewald

Dewald, Edgar R (1925 - 2000) was born on January 20, 1925, near Delmont, SD, to Samuel and Emma Dewald. He was baptized at one of the rural Reformed churches in the Tripp, SD area. He was confirmed in the Scotland, SD Reformed church by Rev. Zogg. Edgar married Clara Reimann on March 13, 1947 at Emory, SD. He farmed in the Spencer and Alexandria area for 35 years before retiring and moving to Mitchell. He worked at Thune's Hardware in Mitchell for 15 years. Edgar was always involved in the Reformed Church, serving as a Sunday School teacher and trustee of the Reformed Church in rural Emory. He was a charter member of Grace Reformed Church in Mitchell and served as an elder there. In addition to his church work, Edgar served his community. He was a past member of the board of directors of the Fulton-Farmer (SD) Elevator, as well as the Hanson County Farm Mutual Insurance Company for 33 years. He also served on the Cenex board in Alexandria and was a past board member of the FmHA in Mitchell. In addition to his wife Clara, Edgar was blessed with two sons: Lyle and wife Dorothy, Alexandria; and Richard and wife Lavonne, Canova; seven grandchildren. Edgar Dewald went to be with the Lord on Monday, May 15, 2000, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He was 75 years old.

STANDING RULES OF SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS

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 twenty-two cents (.22) 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).
8. The Treasurer shall reimburse travel in behalf of Classis at twenty cents (.20) per running mile, also if several ride together in one car; or if by public transportation, the actual fare (1936, '54, '74, '80, '94).
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).
10. The President of the Executive Committee of Classis shall receive fifty dollars (\$50.00), the Stated Clerk shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00), and the Treasurer shall receive fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the Classical year (1960, '61, '65, '78, '84, '87, '90).
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 Tuesday of March opening with a worship service at 7:00 p.m. (1987, 2001).

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
OF THE
SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS**

(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.