

**2002
ABSTRACT
of the
MINUTES**

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

**Annual Spring Meeting
March 26-27, 2002
Grace Reformed Church
Rapid City, SD**

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**2002 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. Savage, H. Kalkman, B. Tjeerdsma, S. Powell
Publications	R. <u>Grossmann</u> , C. Henson, Savage, J. Johnson
Christian Education	H. <u>Hart</u> , S. Gross, J. Blair
Interchurch Relations	M. <u>Koerner</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> , J. Johnson, 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 D. Fagrey, D. Wilson 2 yrs C. Loucks, D. Brauning 1 yrs. R. <u>Morris</u> , A. Griess

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CHURCHES
(LISTED BY STATE BY CITY)

COLORADO

CALHAN, CO 80808
High Plains Chapel
657 7th Street
Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School 9:00 AM
Pastor: Maynard Koerner (wife, Marcia)

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 64164 (816) 420-9700
Northland RCUS

2901 N W Cookingham
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; Sunday School 9:15AM; Family Bible Study 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: 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:30 AM, Weds Bible 7:00 PM
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**

**Annual Spring Meeting
March 26-27, 2002
Grace Reformed Church
Rapid City, SD**

SERVICES

The body met for an evening worship service on March 26, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. with the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage conducting and the Reverend Mr. George Syms preaching from I Corinthians 1:18-25 with a sermon entitled "The Word of the Cross."

At 9:30 a.m., March 27, 2001 the Reverend Mr. Hans Kalkman led the body in devotions from Luke 23:44-46, the singing of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross", 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 27th, 2002 were led by Elder Spencer Gross from II Timothy 4:1-5 and prayer.

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

ORGANIZAZTION

The President of Classis, the Reverend Mr. George Syms, called the body to order March 26th, 2002, at 8:30 p.m. The sessions were well attended by all delegates, the opening roll call showing 15 Ministers and 10 Elders present and the closing roll call showing 16 Ministers and 10 Elders. Ministers of the Word who attended the sessions were the Reverend Messrs. Jon Blair, Wesley Brice, 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. Lee Blank, Roger Gallimore, Spencer Gross, Albert Haller, Charles Hensen, Jess Johnson, Harley Mehlhof, Sam Powell, Melvin Reichert, and Doug Wilson.

Seated in the Bar of the House but not delegates was Elder John Holsworth. Visiting from Pueblo, CO was Mr. Ron Lamp.

The Elder Melvin Reichert and the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood 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 Elder Doug Wilson 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 MINISTERS

The President received the Reverend Messrs. is Jon Blair, Darrell Kingswood, and Maynard Koerner.

Robert Grossmann led in a prayer of thanksgiving.

STANDING COMMITTEES

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

Benevolence	<u>H. Hart</u> , W. Brice, R. Gallimore
Education and Student Aid	<u>M. Koerner</u> , S. Powell, J. Johnson
Examination and Licensure	<u>G. Embree</u> , C.W. Powell, R. Grossmann, R. Gallimore,, C. Beilby
Finances	<u>D. Savage</u> , S. Gross, M. Reichert
Missions	<u>J. Blair</u> , R. Morris, D. Dawn, D. Wilson, A. Haller
Nominations	<u>H. Kalkman</u> , J. Blair, D. Wilson, S. Gross
Overtures	<u>D. Fagrey</u> , D. Kingswood, J. Johnson
Publications	<u>D. Kingswood</u> , H. Hart, L. Blank
Services	<u>D. Dawn</u> , W. Brice, S. Powell
Minutes of Synod	<u>C.W. Powell</u> , L. Blank
Judicial	<u>G. Sawtelle</u> , H. Kalkman, W. Embree, C. Hensen, H. Melhof
Ministerial Aid	<u>C. Loucks</u> , R. Grossmann, S. Gross

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 16 Number 1

April 12, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

A. Call to the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle, Acceptance of the Call, Resignation as Associate Pastor.

The Executive Committee has received a call to the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle from Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, Colorado, his acceptance of the call, and his resignation as Associate Pastor of Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church, Karval, Colorado.

Recommendation:

That the call, acceptance, and resignation of the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle be in order and that a committee to install him consist of the Reverend Messrs. Dorman Savage (Chairman), C.W. Powell, Jr., and the Spiritual Council of the Greeley congregation on a date and time agreeable to the consistory of the Greeley congregation.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 2

April 26 , 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

A. Complaint against the Stated Clerk.

A complaint has been received against the Stated Clerk which states that: "That the defendant [Stated Clerk] of said Classis did not forward a certified copy of the disposition of said complaint to this petitioner according to the duties defined in Article 92 of the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States."

While complaints against an officer of Classis are to be handled by the Classis, the Executive Committee believes that this should be referred to the 255th Synod for consideration because:

- 1) It involves an interpretation of the Constitution which would affect all the Classical Stated Clerks and possibly require a constitutional amendment;
- 2) Synod is meeting in May while the Classis may not meet until next Spring;
- 3) In matters of reference, the Classis delegates would still vote on the complaint (Articles 146, 147, 148, and 149);
- 4) Neither the petitioner nor the Stated Clerk is opposed to referring it to Synod.

Recommendation:

That the Complaint against the Stated Clerk be referred to the 255th Annual Meeting of Synod.

B. Additions to the Committee to Work with the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis.

The Executive Committee has received a request that Elder Roland Schnabel and the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris be added to the committee. This is in order to allow more on-site support to Pastor Davis and the consistory of Bethlehem Reformed Church.

Recommendation:

That Elder Roland Schnabel and the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris be added to the Committee to Work with the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis.

C. Information.

The Candidates and Credentials Committee will attempt to carve out an hour to examine the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood in orthodoxy and intent at the Synod meeting. This will not be a Classical meeting, but the meeting of the Committee. However, all South Central delegates are encouraged to attend.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 3

May 22, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are three (3) matters that require our attention.

Examination of the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood.

The Candidates and Credentials Committee examined the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood during Synod. His examination was sustained. He has received a call from Hope Reformed Church, Sutton, NE and has resigned from his charge at Eureka.

Recommendation 1:

That the call from Hope Reformed Church, Sutton, NE be declared in order and, upon receipt of a Letter of Dismission from the Northern Plains Classis, RCUS, that the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood be placed on the rolls of South Central Classis.

Action of Synod regarding the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner.

The 255th Synod approved funding for the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner to labor in Colorado Springs, CO for the remainder of the Synodical year (January 31, 2002). Since Pastor Koerner's resignation from Watertown is effective July 1, 2001, it is necessary to get the paperwork underway. The Candidates & Credentials Committee will examine Pastor Koerner in orthodoxy and intent before the two-week period is over for this circular and, should there be any problems, will notify the Executive Committee.

Recommendation 2:

That, upon the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner receiving and accepting a call from a congregation in the South Central Classis and, upon receiving a Letter of Dismission from the Northern Plains Classis, RCUS, that the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner be placed on the rolls of South Central Classis.

Information

The President has appointed the Reverend Messrs. Ron Morris (Chairman), Jon Blair, and Elder Bill Richards (Hope Reformed, Sutton) as the committee to confer with the Northland consistory concerning its desire to leave the South Central Classis and unite with Covenant East Classis. The committee will have some latitude to help the consistory of Northland resolve any outstanding issues that may need to be addressed.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 4

June 14, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Call to the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner

The Candidates and Credentials Committee examined the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner in orthodoxy and intent, which was satisfactory. (This report has been sent to all delegates). The Executive Committee has also received a copy of a call to Pastor Koerner from the Trinity, RCUS, Colorado Springs, CO consistory to be an Associate Pastor and Pastor Koerner's acceptance of the call. The funds for this position will come from Synod.

Recommendation:

That the call to the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner from Trinity Reformed Church, Colorado Springs, CO and his acceptance of the call be declared in order and, upon receipt of a Letter of Dismission from the Northern Plains Classis, RCUS, that the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner be placed on the rolls of South Central Classis.

Information

The Executive Committee has contacted Elder Clayton Greiman and informed him of the call to Pastor Koerner.

The clerk has received a Letter of Dismission from the Northern Plains Classis for Pastor Kingswood.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 5

July 14, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Call to the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood

The Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood will be installed on Sunday, July 15th, 7:00 p.m. (tomorrow), at Hope Reformed Church, Sutton, NE. The Committee consists of the Reverend Mr. George Syms, chairman and presenting the charge to the pastor, the Reverend Mr. Warren Embree giving the charge to the congregation, and the elders of Hope Reformed Church.

I apologize for not getting this out sooner so that those who wish to attend would know. The call has been approved, but the members of the installation committee appointment of the committee had been left of the circular.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 6

September 7, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Installation of the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner

The President has appointed the Reverend Mr. Gene Sawtelle (Chairman), the Reverend Dr. C.W. Powell, and the elders of Trinity Covenant Reformed Church, Colorado Springs, CO as a committee to install The Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner at a time and place to be determined by the committee.

Recommendation:

That the committee to install the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner be approved.

Abstract of the Spring 2000 Meeting of Classis—A word from the Clerk.

I apologize that you have not received this Abstract yet. The members of the roll have settled down, but I moved the first part of June, have been finishing the basement, and am just getting everything unpacked.

I will be getting this out sometime in the next two weeks.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 7

October 20, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are two matters for your consideration: 1) a report from the Committee to Confer with the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis and the Consistory of Bethlehem Reformed Church and, 2) the resignation of Pastor Davis from the Bethlehem Charge and the Consistory's Acceptance.

Report from the Committee to Confer with the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis and the Consistory of Bethlehem Reformed Church

COMMITTEE TO CONFER WITH REV. BOB DAVIS AND THE CONSISTORY
OF FREEMAN, SD, REFORMED CHURCH
OCTOBER 19, 2001

Honorable South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States

Esteemed Brothers,

Classis members will remember that our mandate was continued and that Rev. Ron Morris and Mr. Roland Schnabel were added to the Committee.

The Committee met with Rev. Davis and the Freeman Consistory shortly after the Spring Meeting of Classis to monitor the situation. The Consistory reported that Rev. Davis had improved his work in pastoral visiting and in preaching (the Committee members were working with him on sermons via email) but that there was no real change in the plan to end Mr. Davis' pastorate there at a convenient time. We

were informed later that the Consistory was pursuing membership for their congregation in the OPC and that there was no desire to meet with our Committee on their part.

As the summer wore on, the Consistory decided to send another questionnaire to the Congregation in order to gauge opinion on several matters, including future denominational affiliation and the acceptance of Rev. Davis' ministry. About 35% favored retaining Mr. Davis, and the rest favored his leaving. Your Committee met with Mr. Davis early in October to discuss the situation. He informed us that the Consistory was not ready to put the question of OPC affiliation to the Congregation, and so the fall Presbytery meeting of the OPC had no request from Freeman. Thus things would remain as at present, with Rev. Davis hanging on in a lame duck situation for another six months. We urged Rev. Davis to consider looking for options before the six months would expire.

A week later, on October 11, the Committee met with Rev. Davis and the Consistory of Freeman for a general discussion and update. It seemed that the Consistory was content to have Rev. Davis stay on until they could join the OPC and obtain an OPC pastor. Since the Consistory, following the poll taken, was not ready to have Mr. Davis stay on indefinitely, and at the same time were slowly moving toward the OPC, we urged both parties to consider a scenario in which Rev. Davis would not be left hanging when that did happen.

After the Consistory left, the Committee held a further discussion with Rev. Davis. Since his performance as a pastor and preacher are still somewhat questionable in the view of the Committee, and as reported by the Consistory, the committee discussed with Rev. Davis the possibility of laboring as an assistant pastor in order to progress farther along the road to more competent ministry. Mr. Davis had asked the Committee about a plan to move to a house in the neighborhood of Freeman where he could live while working at another job, but still be able to supply the pulpit there. The Committee urged him not to locate in or near Freeman outside of the parsonage. This would undoubtedly end up in two moves and misunderstanding in the church and community.

The week following the October 11 meeting, the chairman of the Committee and Rev. Embree, Stated Clerk of Classis and Committee member, received copies of a resignation from Freeman by Mr. Davis, effective November 11, and the acceptance of that resignation by the Consistory of Freeman. Rev. Davis also informed members of the Committee that he was indeed planning to locate in the home in the Freeman area. This was all a surprise to the Committee since the resignation was not mentioned by Rev. Davis or the Consistory during our meetings. It seems to have been a precipitous act since to our knowledge Rev. Davis has no other job offers and one might have expected him to locate employment elsewhere before resigning at Freeman. Nevertheless the Consistory has accepted his resignation and there seems no other course for Classis to pursue at this time than to declare Rev. Davis as a minister without charge.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Robert Grossmann, chairman; Rev. Warren Embree, Rev. Ron Morris,
Spencer Gross, Roland Schnabel.

The resignation of Pastor Davis from the Bethlehem Charge and the Consistory's Acceptance.

The Stated Clerk has received the resignation of the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis as pastor of Bethlehem Reformed Church, Freeman, South Dakota and the acceptance of the Consistory from that charge.

Recommendation:

That the resignation of the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis and the acceptance of the resignation from the Bethlehem Reformed congregation be declared in order.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 8

November 3, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

The Reverend Mr. Bob Davis has requested \$2000 per month diaconal aid for a three-month period. He is vigorously seeking employment in Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Minneapolis. He is also willing to see what sort of aid the state can offer, and he is willing to reimburse any money receive from Classis-- should Classis so desire.

Our Treasurer, Elder Spencer Gross, says we do not have the money, but we could afford \$500 per month.

The Executive Committee therefore recommends the following:

That 1) the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis receive diaconal aid in the amount of \$2000.00 for three months or until he has a full-time job, whichever is first and, 2) that Classis provide \$500.00 a month and overture Synod to provide \$1500.00 per month to fund this \$2000.00.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 9

December 12, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

AID TO THE REVEREND MR. BOB DAVIS.

The Executive Committee has received the following overture:

December 12, 2001

To: The South Central Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States

The Consistory of Zion Reformed Church of Menno, South Dakota requests financial assistance from the South Central Classis of the RCUS.

The reason for this request is that it has come to our knowledge that Rev. Davis has been without any source of income since the first of December 2001. Reverend Robert Davis and his family have been faithfully attending our worship Services and have expressed their desire to place themselves under the oversight of the Consistory, by becoming members of Zion Reformed Church. Some members of the Consistory have visited with the family Davis and have made an assessment of their financial needs.

Based upon this the Consistory requests that that South Central Classis financially assists Zion Reformed Church with the sum of \$1,800 per month until Rev. Davis has found employment, or until the 31st of March 2002.

To give you an idea of how zealous Rev. Davis has been in finding work, below you can see a list of job applications and job interviews.

In behalf of the Consistory of Zion Reformed Church of Menno

Rev. Hans Kalkman

Jobs Applied For by Robert Davis. His last day in Bethlehem Reformed Church in Freeman was Nov. 11, 2001

Wells Dairy December 12, 2001

Racom (electronics) November 13

ABC Electronics

Donlan's Food and variety store

Director of Education and Congregational Life Sioux Falls

UCC Scotland church

Delaware Reformed Church

Morningside Reformed Church Sioux City November 9

Chaplain Hastings Nebraska

Religious Coordinator II Lincoln, NE State Penitentiary

Electronic Specialist/Aviation Aids Kearney (had Interview)

Dakota CB Inc

G & L Electronics

Sioux Falls 2 Way Radio

Prairie Communications

Tom's Two Way Radio Clinic

Good News Reformed Church Sioux Falls, SD

Grace Reformed Church Corsica, SD

First Reformed Church Platte, SD

Valley Springs Reformed Church Valley Springs, SD

Calvary Reformed Church Monroe, SD

Dordt College Sioux Center, IA Theological Position

Lincoln City Libraries will be opening 2 new branch libraries February 2, 2002

Library/ Bennett Martin/Administration/Heritage Room (Part time) interview set up

DAS State Personnel (Library Science Media Teacher position)

DAS State Personnel (Electronic Design Specialist)

Broadcast Maintenance Technician III South Dakota PBS

North American Baptist Seminary (Library)

Electronics Technician, Job Order # IA0113739..

Biomedical Equipment Specialist Avera

CEC Entertainment, Inc (Sioux Falls)

Master Control Operator KTTW Fox 17

Library Director City of Creston

Circulation Coordinator Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN

position of Director/Pastoral Care Mercy Medical Center Des Moines, Iowa

City of Ralston Hollis & Helen Baright Public Library

Library Director City of Sidney

Library Assistant for Public Services Hamline University Saint Paul, MN
Library Director for Pierce Library Pierce South Dakota
Young Adult Librarian for North Platte Public Library
CHAPLAIN/SPIRITUAL SERVICES MERCY MEDICAL CENTER OSHKOSH, WI
Chaplain ST MARY CORWIN HOSPITAL PUEBLO, CO
Heartland Reformed Church Pella, IA
Chaplain TABITHA INC. LINCOLN, NE
Chaplain MERCY MEDICAL CENTER SIOUX CITY, IA
Library Supervisor I Lincoln Neb
Library Assistant II University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Library Cataloger College of Saint Mary Omaha, NE
Chaplain Bryan LGH Medical Center Lincoln, Neb
Chaplain Bryan LGH Medical Center Lincoln, Neb another position
PRAIRIE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY APPLETON, MN (Had Interview)
Chaplain MERITCARE MEDICAL FARGO, ND
(End of overture).

Our Treasurer, Elder Spencer Gross, says we do not have the money, but we could afford \$500 per month.

The Executive Committee therefore recommends the following:

That 1) the Consistory of Zion Reformed Church, RCUS, Menno, SD receive diaconal aid in the amount of \$1800.00 until the Reverend Mr. Bob Davis has acquired job or until the Annual Meeting of Classis in March, whichever is first and,
2) That Classis provides \$500.00 a month and overture Synod to provide \$1300.00 per month to fund this \$1800.00.

REMINDER.

The Classis passed a motion, which added to 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.” and “adjourned to the 2002 Spring Classis meeting at Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, South Dakota.” Therefore, the Annual Meeting will be held at Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, South Dakota, starting March 26th, 2002 with a worship service at 7:00 p.m. Please mark your calendars.

Necessary reminders concerning reports and such will be coming out next month. However, it is recommended that thought be given to electing Elders Delegates. The forms from Synod have not yet been received, but are expected at the end of this month or next month sometime.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 10

January 29, 2001

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are three matters that require our attention.

A. The Stated Clerk has received a Thank-You note from the Reverend Mr. Robert Davis and family.

“Thank you for the financial aid you have granted to our family through Zion Reformed Church of Menno, SD. This has allowed us to not feel such a financial burden.

We are now staying with Vicki’s parents at 901 N. 202nd Street, Eagle, NE 68347 with phone number of 402 781-2268. We will be here until we locate a house.

Bob started work as an electronic tech. yesterday (January 21, 2002) with Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad in Lincoln, NE. The children began their studies at Lincoln Christian School today.

Thank you, once again, for your concern, support, and prayers.”

B. A Committee to confer with the Sioux Falls Consistory.

The President has appointed a committee to confer with the Sioux Falls Consistory consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Warren Embree (Chairman), Hans Kalkman, Maynard Koerner, George Syms, and Elder Spencer Gross. The committee will report at the Spring Meeting of Classis.

C. 2002 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis.

a. Date and Time.

In accordance with the action of the 2001 Spring Meeting of the South Central Classis the 2002 Spring Meeting of the South Central Classis of the RCUS is to be held at Grace Reformed Church, RCUS, Rapid City, South Dakota. The Standing Rules have been changed to read that the Spring Meeting of Classis begins on the 4th Tuesday of March, opening with a worship service at 7:00 p.m. Therefore, the Classis will be March 26-27, 2002, starting with a worship service at 7:00 p.m., March 27, 2002

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. Those who are without charge or are Associates, you have received a set of Credentials. Please fill them out and have the Clerk of the Consistory with which you are associated sign it. 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 12, 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 12, 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 26th, 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 requests should be sent for each delegate to:
The Reverend Mr. David Fagrey
5626 N. Haines Ave.
Rapid City, SD 57701.

Please include anyone who may need accommodations.

f. Miscellaneous.

The Schedule of Services, Order of the Day, Agenda, and Abstract(s) are enclosed.

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
Executive Circular
Volume 16 Number 11

February 27, 2002

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

According to Standing Rule 21, overtures received 4 weeks prior to the Classis meeting are to be circularized.

The following overtures have been received:

A request for Ministerial Aid from the Consistory of Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD in the amount of \$1250.00 for the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart.

A request for Benevolent Aid from the Consistory of Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD in the amount of \$800.00 for Mrs. Amy Stevens.

If there are any others, I have not received them.

Overtures can be submitted at anytime, so remember the widows and all other requests that need to be made.

Missions

(referred to Standing Missions)

February 21, 2002
South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States,

Esteemed Brethren

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

The following reports and recommendations are submitted for your consideration.

Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, Colorado

On the evening of January 4, 2002, the chairman met with the Rev. Gene Sawtelle along with Phil Kennedy (former member of the RPCNA), Phil Tallman, Deacon Warren Nuss, Daniel Thomas, Dean McElroy, and Elder Albert Haller in Greeley, Colorado. All the men present expressed great appreciation for the ministry of the RCUS in Greeley and are optimistic about the work the Lord is doing in their midst.

Currently there are 13 families in worship consisting of 19 communicants and 13 baptized children. The work had somewhat of a difficult start in that two families had to be disciplined and ultimately excommunicated early on. Yet, the Lord has strengthened the group and there seems to be no negative repercussions from this unfortunate incident. The congregation currently conducts Sunday School classes for all ages and a Sunday Morning worship service each week. Their women had a ladies Bible study on Wednesdays and the men have a study on Thursdays. At the time of the visitation, Rev. Sawtelle was preaching through the book of Acts. They have conducted family visitation and have quarterly communion. Currently, there are no controversies in the congregation. In regard to outreach, they are relying mainly on word of mouth, but they also have an advertisement in the yellow pages which has generated some interest.

Presently the congregation is meeting in a building which is owned by the RPCNA. They are paying \$800 per month with utilities which covers the building as well as the parsonage next door. The pastor reports that the parsonage is more than adequate, yet both buildings could use some repair. The group expressed thankfulness to the RPCNA for the generous use of the buildings for a reasonable rent, but the future is unknown regarding this property. Perhaps the RPCNA would sell the property, but the congregation wonders if they could afford it. The property is not that far from the University of Northern Colorado and could have uses other than as a church building. The group stated that they do not feel overly tied to that location and that if the Lord were to move them to a different place, that would certainly be fine. Wisdom is needed in this regard. The congregation currently has \$4000 in a building fund and is under the impression that it is next in line to receive the annual missions offering.

Regarding finances, the monthly income is \$2500 in offerings but they have monthly expenses of \$5200. They believe that they need full mission support for the remainder of 2002 as well as 2003.

Providence Reformed Church - Vermillion, South Dakota

On the evening of February 7th, 2002, Rev. Hans Kalkman and the chairman of the classis home missions committee met with Rev. Robert Grossmann, pastor of Providence Reformed Church, Vermillion, SD. Vermillion has a population of approximately 10,000 and is the home of the University of South Dakota. The local economy is strong and the local community is stable.

When the RCUS began its outreach in Vermillion, there already existed a work which was being abandoned by the CRC. The core group from that work became the core group of the new RCUS work. Since that time, new members have come on board. Currently, the work supports a 9:30 am Sunday School hour and worship at 10:30 on Sunday mornings. There are 22 communicant members with 25 - 28 people in regular attendance. Rev. Grossmann reported that on one particular Sunday there were over 70 in attendance. The work also conducts a midweek Bible study, women's Bible study, men's Bible study and they have 2 covenant youth in confirmation training. Rev. Grossmann has visited the families of the congregation and has conducted membership classes for two new families.

The Vermillion work is endeavoring to reach out to the community through a radio broadcast which happens to be aired over a five state region. They have also placed ads in the local newspaper as well as articles which have been submitted for print in the paper. The pastor is a member of the rotary club and

has made a number of connections through his involvement at the local airport. There is a proposed marriage enrichment class which would be open to the public and advertised locally.

The building was donated to the RCUS by the CRC with a plan which calls for a ten percent amelioration per year over ten years. If the RCUS maintains the work for the total of the ten years, it will own all of the property free and clear. (Note: The Menno consistory holds the deed to the property in Vermillion). The church building itself is approximately 6300 square feet. The congregation recently put in two new high efficiency furnaces. There is also a half acre parking lot. This building was donated by the CRC and is insured by the congregation for \$305,000. The congregation has expressed great thankfulness to the Lord for this provision and gratitude to the CRC for this gift.

The parsonage is next door to the building and is estimated at 2500 square feet. It is estimated that the worth of the parsonage is about \$100,000. With some special gifts, the congregation currently only owes only \$30,000. A new air-conditioning system and new bathroom has been added and the basement has been redone.

A great deal of energy has gone into the physical buildings of the work in Vermillion. Most of the major work has been accomplished. The pastor will now have more time to focus on the work in the community but believes that the activity in the buildings has not gone unnoticed.

In summary, the congregation seems enthusiastic and optimistic about the future. There is an excellent attitude and spirit residing among the members.

High Plains Reformed Church - Calhan, Colorado

On October 29th, 2001, an assessment committee of Classis consisting of Revs. Ron Morris, Hans Kalkman, and David Fagrey as well as Elder Sam Powell with special guest Rev. Maynard Koerner who has been leading the group, met with key leaders of the Calhan group and ascertained the following facts: There are currently nine "seed" families involved in the Calhan work. Several of these families have already taken membership classes and have officially joined Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church. The group is functioning under the oversight of the Blue Cliff consistory.

The members of the group have familiarized themselves with the doctrinal standards of the RCUS, particularly the Heidelberg Catechism, and are in complete agreement with these teachings. They are familiar with our church government and believe strongly that it is biblical. They left their former church because it was decidedly Arminian and had adopted a fully man-centered form of worship. They have been together as a distinct body for over a year and there is good harmony within the group. They were informed of the distinctives of the RCUS such as six-day creation and women's roles and were heartily in agreement. (One of the women present at the assessment commented how the biblical view of gender roles is "comforting" and was glad to see a church stress the spiritual leadership of the husband). The group seems very zealous to reach not only their community, but the entire front range with the gospel from a Reformed perspective.

Demographically, Calhan has traditionally been a rural town. However, that is changing as Colorado Springs is growing east. There are many who have moved to Calhan as a bedroom community for Colorado Springs and even Denver. Financially, the group is extremely sound. The group consists of successful businessmen and ranchers. Currently the group is bringing in about \$3000 per month but they have commented that once the work is fully functioning, that figure will rise. They also anticipate some significant gifts being given when needed.

Potentially, there could be a number of other families join this new work. Most of those involved in the new work have come from a community church in town which is blatantly Arminian and is deeply rooted in man-centered worship. Many who are still involved in the former church have inquired why the others left that congregation. At present, those involved in the new work have not been confrontational or even very direct to the others about why they left. However, once a fully functioning

and "legitimate" new church is in place, they say that they will have the freedom to explicitly state to others why they left. Not only is there potential among those currently in the town of Calhan, but a Reformed work there would be the only one for miles and miles. It would be almost exactly between the Limon work and the church in Colorado Springs. In addition, by all accounts, Calhan as a town will continue to grow in the future as Colorado Springs grows and people move to the outlying areas such as Calhan.

Regional Missionary - Front Range, Colorado

Rev. Dorman Savage serves as the pastor of Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church near Karval, Colorado. He also has served as Regional Home Missionary along the Front Range of Colorado for the South Central Classis. His labors have witnessed the start of two new churches, one in Limon, Colorado and another in Greeley, Colorado. In addition, the new work in Calhan has developed on his watch as well as an ongoing Bible study in Pueblo, which has now become a Sunday evening worship service. Recently, Rev. Savage began meeting with a new group in the Rocky Ford/La Junta area. Altogether, that is five new works which have begun as the result of Rev. Savage's endeavors. Rev. Savage has been greatly assisted in these ventures by students from New Geneva Theological Seminary as well as from the Rev. Maynard Koerner. Rev. Koerner has relocated to Pueblo West and has been conducting the Sunday morning worship services in Calhan and the Sunday evening worship services in Pueblo. Recently, the consistory of Trinity Covenant Reformed Church in Colorado Springs has asked to take oversight of the Pueblo work. This will give Rev. Koerner more time to focus on Calhan, a promising work.

Rev. Savage's health has been a concern and we believe that at this point he is able to do the work currently assigned to him. However, after much prayer and deliberation, Rev. Savage does not believe that he should continue as the Regional Home Missionary in the year to come. Therefore, Rev. Savage will retire from that position and focus on the works that are before him, such as his charge at Blue Cliff and the new work in Limon. In addition, he may continue to work with the new group in the Rocky Ford area. If that is the case, we believe it would be wise to set aside a certain amount in the budget for travel expenses as Rev. Savage, and possibly others, travel to and fro, tending to the works that were begun while we maintained a missionary on behalf of Classis. The Blue Cliff consistory will be overture Synod for benevolence help on the part of Rev. Savage. Since this will not transpire until two months after classis, we believe it would be good to maintain Rev. Savage's salary for two more months. Other than this, we do not foresee other expenses in regard to a missionary along the Front Range in the upcoming budget.

Recommendations:

1. That Greeley be given \$18,580 from South Central Classis for the year 2003.
2. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for and additional \$18,580 for Greeley for the year 2003.
3. That Vermillion be given \$14,460 from South Central Classis for the year 2003.
4. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for an additional \$14,460 for Vermillion for the year 2003.
5. That the Calhan work be deemed a work worthy of support as a classical home mission.
6. That Calhan be given eight months of support at \$11,333 for 2002 and \$17,000 for 2003 from South Central Classis.
7. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions on behalf of Calhan for an additional \$11,333 for 2002 and \$17,000 for 2003.
8. That South Central Classis accept Rev. Dorman Savage's resignation as Regional Home

Missionary to be effective after Synod, and that Classis continue Rev. Savage's salary for two more months totaling \$4,416.67.

9. That South Central Classis budget \$3,000 for travel expenses for workers traveling to the new works which have started in Regional Home Missions area.

Respectfully Submitted
Ron Morris
David Fagrey
Hans Kalkman
Sam Powell
Chuck DeBoer

Publications

(referred to Standing Publications)

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS 2002

Honorable South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the U.S.

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your Publications Committee received no particular mandates for this year and no other business came before it. No meetings were held or business conducted.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Robert Grossmann
D. Savage
J. Johnson

Christian Education

(referred to Education and Student Aid)

Classis South Central
Reformed Church in the U.S.
Spring Meeting
Rapid City, South Dakota
March 26-27, 2002

Dear Brothers:

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

Rev. Howard Hart, Chairman
Elder Spencer Gross
Elder Bill Richards

Candidates and Credentials
(referred to Examination and Licensure)

Report of the Permanent Candidates and Credentials Committee
Spring 2002 Meeting of Classis
March 26-27, 2002
Grace Reformed Church, RCUS
Rapid City, South Dakota

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The Candidates and Credentials Committee examined the Reverend Mr. Darrell Kingswood during Synod and examined the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner in orthodoxy and intent by telephone conference. Both examinations were sustained.

The Chairman has also requested reports from the students under care, but he has not received any responses. However, this request has not been out long. Richard Stetler and Andrew McIntyre have responded, and there reports are below. Richard has asked for aid, but Andrew has not. All other reports received by Classis will be summarized at Classis, together with any requests for aid.

Recommendation: That the request of Richard Stetler, in the amount of \$2,852.00 for Student Aid, be forwarded to Synod. (This will fund 16 credit hours at \$210 per hour (\$3,360.00), less the 30% discount of \$1,008.00 as an RCUS student, plus \$500.00 for books.)

Respectfully Submitted,

The Reverend Mr. Warren Embree, Chairman
The Reverend Dr. C.W. Powell, Jr.
The Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann
Elder Roger Gallimore
Elder Chris Beilby

Interchurch Relations
(referred to Overtures)

INTERCHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE
SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS
2002
Honorable South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the U.S.

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren

Your Committee met twice by telephone to provide fraternal delegates to two sister church Presbytery Meetings. We had the privilege of providing a fraternal delegate to the OPC Presbytery of Central USA, September 28, meeting in Lincoln, NB. The Reverend Cliff Loucks represented South Central Classis. We also received an invitation to the Midwest Presbytery of the RPCNA which met at Camp Chippewa located southwest of Ottawa, KS. Your chairman Wesley Brice had the privilege of extending greetings to this Presbytery Meeting as your fraternal delegate.

Yours in His service,
Wesley Brice, Chairman
David Dawn,
Doug Wilson

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President's Report on the State of the Church

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Psalm 105:1-4 Give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. 2 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works. 3 Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD. 4 Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.

This is my first attempt to report on the State of the Church for South Central Classis. In reading the parochial reports it is evident that in the churches there is faithfulness in the preaching and teaching of the Word of God. Some of the information submitted is rather sketchy, and others give fuller accounts of their labors. The instruction of the covenant youth in Sunday School and Catechism Classes is a high priority. The continuing instruction of confirmed young is being carried out in many churches through Youth League organizations. Bible Studies are commonplace in the congregations. Several of the churches have regular radio broadcasts to their communities and surrounding areas. It is good to note a strong interest in the work of evangelist

The sacraments are faithfully administered in the churches, and church discipline is exercised when the need arises. We may be confident that the three marks of the true church are evident in the churches of South Central Classis.

We rejoice that Providence/Rock Springs received a new minister, Mr. Jon Blair, who was ordained in April of 2001 and installed as pastor. Rev. D. Kingswood was installed as pastor of Hope/Sutton after a relatively short vacancy there. We thank God that all the pulpits are presently filled in the churches of South Central Classis, however, there will be a vacancy in the near future.

We also rejoice in the Lord's provision of a new facility for Northland Reformed Church in Kansas City, MO. May the Lord gather many into the congregation there through the ministry of his Word. We are

especially glad that this Reformed witness to metropolitan Kansas City is easily accessible from all areas due to a great location.

It is perhaps a sign of our times that some of our congregations have been experiencing difficulties of one sort or another. We trust that in this we learn to be watchful and prayerful, as our adversary still seeks our destruction. There are influences from culture and evangelicalism that makes being self-consciously Reformed a rather difficult task in our society. The Lord has called us to faithfulness and to this end we must labor.

Another milestone in 2001 was the organization of Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, Co., and the settlement of Rev. Gene Sawtelle as home missionary. The work of our Regional Home Missionary, Rev. Dorman Savage, has been fruitful in establishing mission works at Greeley, Limon, Pueblo, and Calhan. The labors of Rev. Maynard Koerner in assisting the RHM have proven fruitful as well, and he has been called to be organizing pastor of the High Plains Reformed Church in Calhan.

We note with regret the resignation of our brother Dorman Savage as RHM due to health problems. Our prayers for him include thanksgiving for God's blessing upon his labors, and that his health would stabilize. Our brother's humble and faithful service is greatly appreciated by all of us.

Statistical indicators demonstrate that while we have had an increase in loss of communicants by dismissal and erasure/discipline, there is actually a net gain of communicants with a slight decrease in the number of baptized members. There was not an increase in the numbers of members received by profession of faith.

A bright spot financially is that receipts from regular and special offerings were up. Giving to Synod and Classis Guidelines were both up as well. However, total giving to the RCUS was off a percentage point. It would appear that there was a shortfall in terms of the Classis Guideline for Giving. Let us encourage our deacons to foster stewardship in the churches and to take special care that the congregations are aware of the works to which we are committed. .

We must also recognize that the agriculture community in the Midwest has been suffering a depressed economy for several years.

In whatever difficulties we face, we must not despair. *"Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore. "* The Lord has blessed the churches and he has used us in carrying out his purposes in the world. We must look to him with confidence. The Church may be healthy, but there is always room for improvement. Let us petition the Lord to bless us in the coming year, so that the churches may grow numerically. May he grant us boldness and aggressiveness in evangelistic work, because he is pleased to gather, preserve a church out of the whole human race. It is his work, indeed.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. G. Syms

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

Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes

March 26, 2002

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The following items refer to duties performed by either myself which reference either to the Spring 2001 Abstract or circulars, which have been sent since the Spring 2001 meeting.

1. Page 69 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Benevolence report requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Amy Stevens, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
2. Page 69 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3 of the Standing Benevolence report requesting aid from Synod the Reverend Dr. C.W. Powell, Jr., a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
3. Page 71 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
4. Page 71 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
5. Page 71 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
6. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 60% of Greeley's 2001 obligation, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
7. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 60% of Vermillion's 2001 obligation, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
8. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #7, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 50% of Vermillion's 2002 obligation, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
9. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #9, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 50% of Greeley's 2002 obligation, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
10. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #13, of the Standing Missions to send an overture from Blue Cliff RCUS to analyze RCUS mission endeavors in Kenya to the Synod FMC, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
11. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #14, of the Standing Missions to recommend the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris and Elder Bill Richards as men capable to serve on the Synod HMC to the Synod HMC t, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
12. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Kyle Sorensen, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.

13. Page 73 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Richard Stetler, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
14. Page 74 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Andrew McIntyre, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
15. Page 74 of the Abstract, Recommendation #4, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Matt Powell, a letter was sent April 23, 2001.
16. Necrologies for Elders Messrs. Norman Dale Ackerman and Edgar R. Dewald were sent to the Stated Clerk of Synod for publication in the Synodical Abstract.
17. A certified copy of a complaint against an action of Classis concerning the defeat of a vote to change the boundary of Classis together with all documents and papers were forwarded to the Stated Clerk of Synod May 7, 2001.
18. Executive Circular Volume 16, Number 2, dated April 26, 2001 which contained the recommendation to refer to Synod a complaint against the Stated Clerk of Classis, a certified copy of the complaint together with all documents and papers were forwarded to the Stated Clerk of Synod May 7, 2001.
19. Executive Circular Volume 16, Number 9, dated December 12, 2001 contained the recommendation to request Synodical funds in aid for the Reverend Mr. Robert Davis, a letter was sent December 24, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren C. Embree

Classis Action: The report was approved

Execute Committee's Report on its Minutes

The clerk moved that Executive Circulars Volume 16, Numbers 1 – 11 constitute the Execute Committee's Report on its Minutes.

Classis Action: The motion carried and the report was approved

Executive Committee of Synod's Report

There was none.

Treasurer's Report and Auditor's Opinion *(referred to Standing Finances)*

South Central Guide Lines Per Congregation

Classis	Com. #	Guide Lines	Received	Over	Short
South Central Classis	1084	\$74,037.20	\$73,317.69		\$699.51
Church					
Trinity Covenant					
Colorado Springs	41	\$2,800.30	\$4,798.54	\$1,998.24	
Blue Cliff					
Limon	26	\$1,775.80	\$1,802.10	\$26.30	
Northland RCUS					
Kansas City	44	\$3,005.20	\$1,800.00		\$1,205.20
St. Johns RCUS					
Lincoln, NE	78	\$5,327.40	\$3,046.21		\$2,281.19
Emmanuel RCUS					
Sutton, NE	185	\$12,635.50	\$12,635.50		
Hope RCUS					
Sutton, NE	218	\$14,889.40	\$14,889.40		
Zion RCUS					
Menno,SD	224	\$15,299.20	\$15,299.20		
Grace Reformed					
Mitchell, SD	77	\$5,259.10	\$5,259.10		
Grace Reformed					
Rapid City, SD	42	\$2,868.60	\$2,870.28	\$1.68	
Trinity Reformed					
Sioux Falls, SD	106	\$7,239.80	\$7,997.46		\$757.66
Providence Reformed					
Rock Springs, WY	27	\$1,844.10	\$1,844.10		
Grace Reformed					
Greeley, CO	16	\$1,092.80	\$1,092.80		
Total	1084	\$74,037.20	\$73,337.69	\$2,783.88	3,486.39
			Interest Income	\$527.57	
			TOTALS OF ALL INCOME	\$73,865.26	\$171.94
GUIDELINES					
		Budget Received	Over	Short	
Reformed Resource Center					
\$2.26 per com.		\$2,500.00	\$2,463.59		\$36.41
Safe Harbor Light House					
\$1.97 per com.		\$2,180.00	\$1,990.71		\$189.29
Classical Dues					
\$4.63 per com.		\$5,000.00	\$6,919.05	\$1,919.05	

Regional Home Missionary			
\$24.04 per com.	\$26,500.00	\$29,136.78	\$2,636.78
Rev. Savage Mileage			
\$2.72 per com.	\$3,000.00	\$2,271.88	\$731.12
Vermillion Home Missions			
\$13.11 per com.	\$14,454.00	\$11,894.56	\$2,559.44
Greeley Home Missions			
\$13.48 per com.	\$14,864.00	\$13,342.19	\$1,521.81
Reserve Fund			
\$2.50 per com.	\$2,755.00	\$3,269.43	\$514.43
Surplus Fund			
\$3.62 per com.	\$2,784.20	\$2,577.07	\$207.13
GUIDE LINES TOTAL	\$74,037.20	\$73,337.69	
Interest Income		\$527.57	
TOTAL INCOME		\$73,865.26	\$171.94

CHECKBOOK

Beginning Balance	\$881.71
Ending Balance	\$7,963.88
Mutual Fund	\$2,100.00
Total	\$10,063.88

Budget Expenditures

	Budget	Paid	Balance
Rev. Dorman Savage	\$3,000.00	\$2,316.20	\$683.80
Classis Expenditures:			
Travel, Phone & Supplies	\$5,000.00	\$5,589.89	(\$589.89)
Reformed Resource Center:			
Virginia Hoeflinger	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Reformed Resource Center:			
Projector	\$0.00	\$141.00	(\$141.00)
Reformed Resource Center:			
Jess Johnson	\$0.00	\$200.00	(\$200.00)
Reformed Resource Center:			
Howard Hart	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Safe Harbor Lighthouse	\$2,180.00	\$2,180.00	\$0.00
Regional Home Mission	\$26,500.00	\$26,500.00	\$0.00
Vermillion Mission	\$14,454.00	\$14,454.00	\$0.00
Greeley, Colorado Mission	\$14,864.00	\$14,864.00	\$0.00
Reserve Fund:			
Bob Davis Aid	\$2,755.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,755.00
Surplus Fund	\$2,784.20	\$0.00	\$2,784.20

Total	\$74,037.20	\$69,745.09	\$4,292.11
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Classis Action: The report was referred to Finances

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, except Dawn’s report to Overtures and Syms 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 Lee Blank, Sam Powell, and Harold Yoder (via letter) who all 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 Charles Henson who answered “Yes, and then some” and Lee Blank and Jess Johnson who answered “No.”
 - b. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Classis treasurer?* All answered “Yes” except for Lee Blank who answered “Yes, those that were paid” and Jess Johnson who answered “No”.

- c. *Are the apportionments for the Synod paid according to the Guideline for Giving?* : All answered “Yes” except Lee Blank, Jess Johnson, and Melvin Reichert who all answered “No”.
- d. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Synod treasurer?* : All answered “Yes” except for Jess Johnson who answered “No,” Lee Blank and Melvin Reichert who answered “Yes, those that were paid,” and Michael Newman (via letter) who answered “Yes, this January the monies were sent prior to the end of the Synodical year, but they were not posted by the Synod Treasurer until after the end of the Synodical year.”
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.

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

REPORT FROM CLASSIS’ FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Report of the Fraternal Delegate to Presbytery of the Central United States, OPC

Pastor Clif Loucks

The Presbytery of the Central United States, OPC, met September 30, 2001, A.D., in Lincoln, Nebraska, at Faith Orthodox Presbyterian Church. The meeting was conducted not only with decency and order but with an evident sense of love for the brethren. Your servant was well received by the presbytery, as a fraternal delegate, and a brother in the Lord. Your servant spoke to the assembly of “Our Like Precious Faith” from 2 Peter 1:1-11 and encouraged the brethren to abound in that God-given faith by living according to our measure of knowledge. This servant was impressed by the assembly’s compassion while dealing with a difficult discipline case regarding a minister, and the subsequent reproof was graciously administered and received.

I believe relations between the OPC and the RCUS were maintained, if not strengthened, in the meeting and look forward to serving in this capacity if called upon to do so again.

Classis Action: Take note.

The Reverend Mr. Wes Brice gave an oral report as delegate to the Midwest Presbytery of the RPCNA

Classis Action: Take note.

ADDRESSES BY DELEGATES FROM OTHER REFORMED CHURCHES AND VISITORS

(the body used this time to hear from Heidelberg and New Geneva Seminaries)

Heidelberg Theological Seminary

PROGRESS REPORT

MARCH 2002

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACTIVITIES

The Board of Trustees of Heidelberg Theological Seminary met four times during the year to conduct its normal business of preparing for the opening of the Seminary.

The Board decided to begin classes on September 9, 2002, and to mark the opening on that evening with a formal convocation service at 7:30 P.M.

The Board also decided to purchase the library of the late Rev. Donald Vance from his widow Joan. This library includes 800 volumes of mostly Reformed material that will be useful to the Seminary.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

The two faculty members, Dr. Warren Embree and Dr. Robert Grossmann have been busy preparing to begin classes in September and in promoting the seminary among RCUS churches and other Reformed bodies. We have also been in contact with several men who are interested in studying theology at Heidelberg Seminary.

The Faculty has accepted one full-time ministerial student into the course of study. Mr. Scott Henry, who currently serves as an elder of the RCUS congregation at Lancaster, CA, will move to Vermillion this summer and begin his studies in September.

FUTURE PLANS FOR THE SEMINARY

Through the advice of several ministers around the RCUS, Heidelberg Theological Seminary is in the process of seeking a more direct relationship with the Denomination. Believing that pastoral training is the work not of independent schools, but of the Church itself, we hope to be able work out a relationship that will place our work under the direct oversight of the Synod of the RCUS. Our central focus is on preparing men for Reformed ministry, first of all in the RCUS, and our Board and Faculty is made up entirely of RCUS men, with the exception of one OPC pastor on the Board.

Heidelberg Theological Seminary seeks the support and prayers of the churches of the RCUS, and trusts that our labors will indeed serve our beloved Denomination.

Classis Action: Take note.

New Geneva Theological Seminary

Elder Jess Johnson

Esteemed Brothers

Your servant participated in four Board meetings in 2001; two in person and two by telephone. (Note six meetings are scheduled in 2002). In January, the Board selected Dr Dominic Aquila to be our President. He later accepted and was installed in October. Also at that meeting Elder John Savage was nominated for membership.

At the May meeting Elder Savage was appointed to a three-year term on the Board. South Central Classis now has two representatives on the Board. In August, the Board approved an Extension in Baltimore. There are seven students for credit. They meet in a PCA church building under Dr. Jonathan Gerstner. Efforts are underway to open an Extension in the Denver area. On October 18th we had a Board meeting, a banquet and an installation service. The banquet was attended by 85 members, faculty and supporters.

Although enrollment remains strong (62 students, 28 in degree programs [5 of which are RCUS students]), giving was down from 2000 and we ended the year in the red. Your servant's three-year term ends in May 2003. You should consider naming a replacement not later than Spring Classis 2003.

Classis Action: Referred to Nominations.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee

Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee

March 2, 2002

Members present: Elder Roger Gallimore, chair; Rev. Clif Loucks, Rev. Ron Morris and Rev. Dan Schnabel representing Northern Plains Classis.

1. Highlights of the 2001 finance report showed a net gain of \$750.60. The ending balance is \$3,934.80.
2. The proposed 2002 budget includes moderate increases in expenses and a decrease of camper fees of \$1 down to \$106. Note that Heidelberg Youth Camp pays all expenses for the committee meeting, the quarterly HYC Fire publication and video production of the lessons.
3. The theme of HYC 2002 is LORD of All Things. Continuing with HYC as largely focused on lessons applying the Biblical worldview to contemporary issues, this theme plays on the currently popular movie

and book trilogy, Lord of the Rings, while reminding the campers that Jesus Christ is Lord over everything.

4. Rev. Ron Morris will coordinate those teaching the junior camp lessons, which will include:

LORD of All Things - An overview lesson aimed at reinforcing the sovereignty of God over all the heavens and the earth and all that is in them.

What Will They Think? - Particularly intense in junior high students is the concern of what others think. This lesson is designed to strengthen campers in the knowledge and conviction that God sets the standard for living and not the other kids.

LORD of the Nations - Patriotism is now in vogue. This lesson teaches that it is God who establishes nations along with our Biblical responsibility as citizens of this country.

Dealing With Bullies - Schoolyard bullies is a present reality for many of our children. Dealing with the verbal, physical and yes, even sexual, threats are the focus of this lesson.

Ladies and Gentlemen - Manners really do matter, especially for the children of God. In a unisex culture, this lesson teaches that there are truly differences between the genders and that we are to act accordingly.

Taking a Stand - This lesson teaches that covenant children are to stand for what is right in God's eyes. Responding to Temptation - In a culture saturated with media messages, peer pressure and easy access to evil, this lesson helps equip children to resist temptation.

5. Rev. Clif Loucks will coordinate those teaching the senior camp lessons, which will include:

LORD of All Things - An overview lesson aimed at reinforcing the sovereignty of God over all the heavens and the earth and all that is in them.

School Shootings - This lesson examines an overview of what has lead to this recent phenomena and how we as Christians are to respond in the short-term and in the long-term.

Women in the Military - The feminist movement would have us believe that women can and should be soldiers in fighting for our country. This lesson reviews what the Bible has to say about this.

Tattoos and Body Piercing - This lesson examines the Biblical response to tattoos and body piercing as well as how we are to respond to any fad that is founded on rebellion.

Islam - This lesson provides an honest look at Islam. This is especially timely in the syncretism that prevails in our culture today.

9/11 - Much has been said about this terrible attack on our country. This lesson examines what was not said but by a few courageous people as to the cause of this tragedy.

Work & Recreation - We work so we can have fun on the weekends, right? Wrong. This lesson puts both work and recreation into proper perspective.

6. Rev. Dan Schnabel will coordinate those who will lead the evening worship services. The offering

from the evening worship services will go to RCUS foreign mission work in the Congo.

7. There will be a youth advisory committee to help with camp planning for HYC 2003. The committee will be comprised of one youth selected by the pastor of each congregation represented at camp and will have opportunity to review camp evaluations and give suggestions for the camp theme and lesson topics.

8. Minor changes were made in the schedule that allowed for more time in the second morning lesson and for evening programs. Plus, the afternoon soapbox will now be only made up of the two presenters from the morning lessons.

9. HYC 2002 dates are July 22-26. Future organizers of the family camp and any other denominational function that HYC dates will always be the last full week of July. Camp Bob Marshall is reserved 5 years in advance each year.

The Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee recommends that:

1. Classis approve the 2002 Heidelberg youth Camp proposed budget and camper fees.
2. Classis approve the report a whole of the Heidelberg Youth Camp committee.

Heidelberg Youth Camp
Proposed Budget 2002

Balance Forward \$3,184.20

(107 Campers - 35 adults)		(107 Campers - 35 adults)	
Revenue	Actual 2001	Budget 2002	
Camp Fees	\$11,366.50	\$11,340.00	
Gifts	\$285.00	\$300.00	
Worship Offering	\$348.54	\$350.00	
Interest	\$7.44	\$10.00	
T-Shirts Sold	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Camp Store Sales	\$470.10	\$470.00	
Total Revenue	\$12,477.58	\$12,470.00	
Expense			
Facility Use	\$7,310.20	\$7,420.00	
Food	\$1,479.03	\$1,550.00	
T-Shirts	\$1,299.00	\$1,400.00	
Crafts	\$154.88	\$175.00	
Supplies	\$112.99	\$150.00	
Promotion	\$136.96	\$275.00	
Custer State Park Fees	\$50.00	\$100.00	
Postage	\$22.84	\$50.00	
Administration	\$88.80	\$100.00	
Equipment	\$46.51	\$100.00	
HYC Fire	\$377.28	\$500.00	

Camp Store Supplies	\$299.95	\$300.00
Worship Offering	\$348.54	\$350.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expense	\$11,726.98	\$12,470.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Revenue - Expense	\$750.60	\$0.00
Summary		
Balance Forward	\$3,184.20	\$3,934.80
Total Revenue	\$12,477.58	\$12,470.00
Total Expense	\$11,726.98	\$12,470.00
Ending Balance	\$3,934.80	\$3,934.80

Proposed 2002 fees @ \$106 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

REFORMED RESOURCE CENTER
 A MINISTRY OF CLASSIS SOUTH CENTRAL
 REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

Rev. Howard E. Hart, administrator
 2705 N. Minnesota St.
 Mitchell, SD 57301
 January 8, 2002

Board of Trustees
 Reformed Resource Center
 The Rev. Ron Morris, Chairman
 420 E. 14th. Ave.,
 Mitchell, SD 57301

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR: Your servant submits the following report for this Classical year.

A. ACTIVITIES: Your servant was involved in the following activities this Classical year as Administrator of the RRC and TIM programs.

1/ The Hoeflinger Memorial Library is available on floppy disks and continues to function as a lending library. The discs are available to members of the denomination. Dr. Jess Johnson continues to do a stellar job on the Library.

2/ The "Training in Ministry" program was implemented on five occasions.

A/ An Internship program was written. (Please note the supplementary material at the end of this report. (This program needs Classical approval.)

B/ A Ministerial Retreat for the Midwest RCUS Ministers meeting at Mitchell, South Dakota was held on September 3 & 4 of 2001. Nineteen pastors met at Grace Reformed Church. This was the largest group in many-a-year. All the Classes were represented, except for the Western Classis. There were two Pastors from the Canadian Reformed Churches from Winnipeg, Canada, and one Orthodox Presbyterian pastor. The emphasis was on Bible exposition, prayer and Bible exposition.

1/ Pastor Darrell Kingswood from Hope Reformed Church, Sutton NE., gave three excellent and relevant devotionals from the Book of Romans. He pointed out the nature of Paul's call and Apostleship (Romans 1); the truth about indwelling sin (Romans 7); and the glorious state of salvation which the true believer enjoys in Messiah Jesus (Romans 8). The pastors were edified by his presentation.

2/ Three lectures were given by Dr. Warren Embree, Associate Pastor at St. John's Reformed Church of Lincoln, NE., and a professor at Heidelberg Seminary in Vermilion, SD. He gave in-depth, enlightening and interesting lectures on the "Necessity and Content of Theological Education" from Ephesians 4:11-16. Dr. Embree had a vast wealth of statements from John Calvin and C. Van Til on the proper nature of knowledge which begins and ends with the knowledge of God. He emphasized that the minister of the Word is to teach the truth of God in an exegetical, systematic, apologetic and life applicatory manner. It was refreshing to hear a true and epistemological self-conscious Calvinist and Van Tillian speak about education.

3/ Pastor Ron Morris of Grace Reformed Church of the Mitchell RCUS spoke on "How To Survive the Pastorate." Rev. Morris used his own background as illustrative of the types of problems a pastor encounters along the way. He showed how God gives wisdom and strength to overcome difficulties in the Pastorate. Pastor Morris made a long pilgrimage from Pentecostal and Baptists pastorates to the RCUS ministry. He tells the story of how he was a bit late arriving at his Baptist congregation one Sunday morning with the excuse for his tardiness being that he was having his children baptized at an RCUS church. Pastor Morris is a kindred spirit and we are happy he is with us.

4/ The last speaker at the conference was Pastor David Dawn of Trinity Reformed Church of Sioux Falls, SD. He spoke on the topic of "Surviving Church Discipline." He states most members of the RCUS agree that church discipline is a mark of the Christian Church. On the other hand, when you engage them or their family on a one-to-one manner all bets are off. In the Biblical foundation of admonition and correction of erring saints and sinners we need the wisdom of God in dealing with sinful situations. Pastor Dawn showed the clear Biblical method and attitude of church discipline. We appreciated his outline and the quality of his presentation. A Video of these lectures is available.

We are planning for another retreat this year at Mitchell, SD on September 2-3, 2002. Speakers that will be approached are The Rev. G. I. Williamson, The Rev. Hans Kalkman, The Rev. Maynard Koerner, The Rev. Dale Clark, Dr. Jess Johnson and The Rev. Herman Van Stedum. The topics and devotions are not set, but, I have been thinking about such topics as "Revisiting Geerhardus Vos" "Biblical Theology;" and "Using the House Visitation (Huisbezoek) Effectively;" and "The OT Religious War and the Islamic Jihad;" and "Premarital Counseling;" and "Constructing and Maintaining a Church Library" and "Having

a Meaningful Sunday School;" and "The Confirmation School Curriculum;" and "Teaching The Five Points To Little Kids;," and possibly, any of your suggestions.

C/ Your servant did an update on the Workbook, "What We Think Before We Think." There is also an Answer Book now available. The Answer Book is new.

D/ We made a two-hour video at a teacher-training seminar at Mitchell, SD, explaining the use of the Sunday School material we are writing. The content is AOK but the sound quality and camera work make the video unusable for the churches. We are planning on another try in the near future.

E/ Your servant outlined Articles 1112-129 of the Constitution of the RCUS as to "Process of Discipline," and Articles 130-145 of the RCUS Constitution as to "Process of Trial." These outlines should aid the churches' judicatories in the Biblical exercise of church discipline. (Note the supplements at the end of this report.)

B. VIDEOS: The following videos are available:

1. "Aplogetics - What We Think Before We Think" This is a four lecture course by Pastor R. 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. Pastor Grossmann's book on this subject is also available. There is also a video from New Geneva Seminary made in 2000.

2. "Hermeneutics - How To Study The Bible" by Pastor Hart. This a 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.

3. "Theological Basis of confirmation and Catechetical Instruction" by Rev. R. Grossmann. This is an hour lecture. There is also an audiocassette available. This talk appears in a recent Reformed Herald.

4. "Reasons and Methodology of Catechetical Instruction" by Rev. H. E. Hart. This is an hour lecture that was given at a minister's retreat. There is a audiocassette available.

5. "The Seeker Sensitive Movement" by Rev. G. Horner. This is an hour lecture given at a minister's retreat. There is an audiocassette available.

6. "Studies in the Book of Daniel" by Pastor Hart. This is a twelve-lecture series video with a workbook.

7. "Kohlbrugge" by Rev. N Hoeflinger. This is a lecture given at an October, 3, 1996 minister's retreat.

8. "A Conversation with Chester and Grace Ploeger.11 The Ploeger's 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 E. 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, gives a sermon presentation that underlines the this method of structuring sermons. There is another video on this topic from the seminar at New Geneva Seminary in 2000

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 E. Hart. This 7-lecture video covers the history of our denomination in this country and surveys our routs in Germany. There is introductory material on why we are to study Church History by Pastor Hart. There is a second video made at New Geneva Seminary in 2000.

14. "Classis South Central of the RCUS opening Worship Service and Opening Session at Rock Springs, WY on October 11, 1999.11 This video has the Rev. C.W. Powell leading the worship service, and the Rev. Howard E. 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 E. 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 Now 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 in 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.
22. The 2001 Minister Conference given at Grace Reformed Church of Mitchell, SD. (Note the topics above at A2B)

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. 11 This is a 4 or 5 session seminar that uses slides, overhead outlines and work sheets.
- 4/ "Covenant/Kingdom. 11 This is a 4 or 5 session study with overhead outlines and work sheets.
- 5/ "Teacher Training Course. 11 This is a 3 to 4 sessions study with a workbook and outlines.
- 6/ "Hallowed be Thy Names" a lecture series on the basic names of God in the Old Testament.

D. FUTURE PLANS:

- 1/ To work closely with Heidelberg Seminary.
- 2/ To publicize our library and videos. 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.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1/ That Dr. Jess Johnson continue to be curator of the Hoeflinger Memorial Library for the next our years.
- 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 the Administrator be in contact with Heidelberg Seminary, New Geneva Seminary, and Mid-America Reformed Seminary for implementation of the TIM Program.
- 5/ Take note that Pastor Hart has four more years of service as Administrator of the RRC and TIM.
- 6/ That Classis approve the outline of the Internship Program.

Classis Action: All recommendations were adopted except #6, which was referred to Permanent Candidates and Credentials. The report was adopted.

Special Committee to Confer with Northland, RCUS

Esteemed Brethren,

Northland Reformed Church of Kansas City made an overture to the Spring 2001 classis to leave South Central Classis (SSC) and to join Covenant East Classis (CEC). The overture was made to classis on the grounds of geography. It was the belief of the consistory that Kansas City is actually in the geographical bounds of Covenant East. The issue was examined by classis and rejected on the basis that when the original boundary lines were drawn up, the whole of Kansas City was considered to be a part of SSC, even though part of the city was geographically in CEC.

Kansas City then made a similar overture to synod, this time focusing on the grounds of geography as it pertains to present and future missions endeavors by the KC congregation. This overture was also rejected. After some private comments from the delegates of Kansas City, some believed it wise to recommit the matter to the floor of synod. This was done and after some discussion, synod recommended that the whole issue be given back to classis. At that point, the executive committee of classis appointed Revs. Ron Morris, Jon Blair and George Syms and Elders Bill Richards and Spencer Gross to serve on that committee.

Your committee met with the consistory of Northland Reformed in Kansas City on Jan. 10, 2002 and had a very frank and cordial discussion. Your committee pointed out to the consistory that there was some concern that there was more to their request than simple geography. For example, it was pointed out that for at least the past two years, Kansas City has not paid their missions guideline. In fact, it was noted that when the vote at Synod was not in Kansas City's favor, the elder delegate commented that Kansas City would specifically not pay their mission guideline in the upcoming year. Was there a problem on the part of Kansas City with SSC missions? The consistory conceded that there might be some problem but that these were "two completely separate issues." In fact, the consistory informed us, the whole idea of leaving was not original with them but came to them from another minister within SSC.

In summary, the main concern on the part of the committee was that there was a problem on the part of the Kansas City consistory with the SSC and that their move was really a revolt, of sorts, against SSC. If this were the case, there would be a much deeper issue involved than mere mission funding or classis obligations. It was believed that to allow KC to leave without addressing this issue would not be biblical. Your committee can report that after a long conversation with the consistory, they assure us that their desire to leave SSC and to join CEC has nothing to do with SSC missions, funding priorities, or anything like that but rather their desire to move is purely geographical, especially since most of their future mission endeavors as a congregation will be more deeply in the geographical bounds of CEC.

Recommendations:

1. The committee recommends that Northland Reformed Church be taken at their word that their only desire for leaving is geographical.

2. That Northland Reformed Church be granted the privilege of leaving SSC and joining with CEC if that is still their desire.

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole.

Special Committee to Consult with Bethlehem Reformed Freeman, SD

REPORT OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
CONSULT WITH THE CONSISTORY
OF
BETHLEHEM REFORMED CHURCH
FREEMAN, SOUTH DAKOTA

Honorable South Central Classis, RCUS

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your Committee and its mandate of consulting with the Consistory of Bethlehem Reformed Church and Rev. Robert Davis were continued by the 2001 Annual Session of Classis. Also the Committee was enlarged by the addition of Rev. Ron Morris and Elder Roland Schnabel.

During the Summer and Fall months of 2001 your Committee met three times with the Bethlehem Consistory and Rev. Davis. Committee member Rev. Warren Embree also worked diligently during this period to help Rev. Davis produce more effective sermons. Also during this time, the Bethlehem Consistory discussed their future denominational affiliation at some length, and polled the congregation concerning this matter and attitudes toward Rev. Davis. The Consistory concluded that the course of least resistance in the congregation would be to affiliate with the OPC, and members of the OPC did present their denomination to the Consistory.

Since these matters appeared to be headed for some conclusion in the Spring of 2002 with the congregation most likely making its application to the spring meeting of the OPC presbytery, the Committee urged Rev. Davis not to become a lame duck pastor by waiting until a new OPC pastor had been named before making other arrangements for his own employment. Rev. Davis candidated at an RCA congregation in western Iowa, but was not elected pastor. Finally, without having future employment or informing the Committee of his intention, Rev. Davis resigned on October 12, 2001, as pastor of Bethlehem Reformed Church. This left Rev. Davis and his family in immediate financial need and aid arrangements were circularized with the result that \$500 per month was supplied by Classis to the Menno Reformed Consistory which was given responsibility for administration of this aid and the \$1300 that was eventually approved from Synod.

Rev. Davis finally found employment with a railroad and has moved to Lincoln, NE, where he and his family are living with his parents until they can purchase their own home.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Rev. Robert Davis be placed on a roll of inactive ministers of Classis (this would keep his credentials intact, but would relieve him of serving in the active ministry).
2. That this Committee be dissolved.

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole.

Special Committee to Confer with Pastor & Consistory of Sioux Falls, SD

Report of Special Committee to Confer with Sioux Falls Consistory
Spring 2002 Meeting of Classis
March 26-27, 2002
Grace Reformed Church, RCUS
Rapid City, South Dakota

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

At the request of the Consistory of Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the President appointed a special committee to consult with the Reverend Mr. David Dawn and the Consistory of Trinity. The Committee met twice at Sioux Falls and once by means of a telephone conference call. Elder Spencer Gross and the Reverend Mr. Hans Kalkman attended consistory meetings and an ad hoc congregational meeting.

After careful investigation into the issue at Sioux Falls and interviews with both the Reverend Mr. David Dawn and the Consistory (together and separately), the committee concluded to advise the Reverend Mr. David Dawn to offer his resignation to the consistory and to advise the consistory to accept the resignation. We also advised Pastor Dawn that it would be wise to seek further education at a theological seminary.

Pastor Dawn has submitted his resignation and it has been accepted.

It is the opinion of the committee that, should Classis desire any particulars, that Classis should meet in Executive Session for a question and answer period.

Recommendation: That the committee be dissolved when a new pastor has been called and installed at Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD.

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole.

Special Committee to Consult with the Consistory of Sioux Falls, SD in Calling New Pastor

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO CONSULT WITH THE SIOUX FALLS CONSISTORY
IN OBTAINING A NEW PASTOR
SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS 2002

Honorable South Central Classis

Reformed Church in the U.S.

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

The undersigned were appointed by Classis Executive Committee to consult with the Sioux Falls Consistory during their search for a new pastor.

The Committee met formally with the Trinity Reformed Consistory at 1:00 p.m. on February 17 to consider the matter of calling a new minister. During the meeting the Committee was requested to recommend names of pastors they thought might fit well at Trinity Church and who might be inclined to accept a call. A list of these men was approved by the Consistory and they have been proceeding to contact them with hopes of inviting one for a trial sermon.

Members of the Committee also have met with several of the elders of Trinity Reformed Church to informally discuss the future ministry and direction of the Congregation. It is expected that the Committee will be meeting at least once more with the Consistory after this date, March 2, 2002.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Benevolence

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. From Overture #8, that Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church of Karval, CO be granted benevolent aid from the funds of Classis South Central in the amount of \$1,000.00 for April 2002 and \$1,000.00 for May of 2002; and that Classis fund benevolent aid in the amount of \$500.00 per month until May 2003; and that Classis overture Synod to provide benevolent aid in the amount of \$500.00 per month.
2. From Overture #9, that Classis South Central overture Synod on behalf of Mrs. Amy Stevens for aid in the amount of \$800.00 per month.
3. From Overture #14, that Classis overture Synod to provide benevolent aid in the amount of \$800.00 per month to Trinity Reformed Church of Colorado Springs.
4. From Overture #26, that the guideline of \$2.00 per communicant member of Classis be continued for Safe Harbor Lighthouse.
5. From Overture #31, that Pastor David Dawn be given the amount of \$1,500.00 for June, July, and August from Classis; and that Classis overture Synod to grant Pastor Dawn \$1,500.00 for June, July, and August in Benevolent aid until needed.

Classis Action: All the recommendations and report were adopted.

Examination and Licensure

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. That the Permanent Candidates and Credentials Committee Report not be read orally.
2. That Mr. James Grossmann be taken under care of Classis as a Student for the Ministry.
3. That Mr. Lee Johnson be taken under care of Classis as a Student for the Ministry.

Classis Action: The report was adopted was adopted as a whole.

Minutes of Synod

The following items were reported from the Abstract of the 255th Synod of the RCUS:

1. That there was an exception made to the approval of the minutes of the South Central Classis Spring Meeting, 2001, that on page 10 the President vacated the chair and it is still empty (p. 69).
2. That the South Central Classis was requested to reconsider the transfer of Northland Reformed Church, Kansas City, MO to the Covenant East Classis (p. 68).
3. That our churches be urgently reminded of the need that Rev. Kabongo has for a motocross cycle, as per request of Synod (p. 71).
4. That our stated clerk is reminded to provide the RCUS website chairman, in electronic form, an updated roll of ministers, elders, and churches following the meeting (p. 74).
5. That the clerk of each consistory provide updates to the website chairman of any information listed on the website (p. 74).
6. That the complaint of Northland Reformed Church of Kansas City against the South Central Classis was denied (p. 76).
7. That the complaint of Mr. Kevin Strickler against the Reverend Mr. Warren Embree, Stated Clerk of the South Central Classis, was denied (p. 76).

Classis Action: Take Note on all recommendations. The report was adopted.

Publications

The committee received no business that required action.

Ministerial Aid

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. From Overture #6, that Classis overture Synod for aid for Phyllis Grossmann in the amount of \$1000.00 per month.
2. From Overture #7, that Classis overture Synod for aid for the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart in the amount of \$1250.00 per month.
3. From Overture #19, that Classis overture Synod for aid for Virginia Hoeflinger in the amount of \$1000.00 per month.

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

Judicial

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. From Overture #15, that the overture from Northland Reformed Church, RCUS to be moved from the South Central Classis into the Covenant East Classis be forwarded to Synod.
2. From Overture #16, that a Classis Committee consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Ron Morris (Chairman), Robert Grossman, Howard Hart, and Elder Charles Hensen be established to study the matter of church membership for Ministers of the Word and report back to the 2003 Classis.
3. From Overture #18, that upon changing the word "Special" to "any" in Article 23 of the congregational Constitution, that Providence Reformed Church be received as a congregation in the South Central Classis.
4. From Overtures #20, 21, 22, & 23, that the call from Blue Cliff to the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner, acceptance of the call, the resignation of the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner from Trinity Reformed, and the acceptance of the resignation be declared in order.
5. From the Reverend Mr. George Syms Parochial Report, that a Committee of Reconciliation between Emmanuel Reformed Church and the RCUS be appointed, consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Hans Kalkman (Chairman), Robert Grossmann, Warren Embree, and Elder Jess Johnson.

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

Home Missions

The committee brought the recommendations from the Permanent Home Missions Committee Report:

1. That Greeley be given \$18,580.00 from South Central Classis for the year 2003.
2. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for an additional \$18,580.00 for Greeley for the year 2003.
3. That Vermillion be given \$14,460.00 from South Central Classis for the year 2003.
4. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for an additional \$14,460.00 for Vermillion for the year 2003.
5. That High Plains Reformed Chapel of Calhan, CO be placed on the Roll of Mission Churches of the South Central Classis and receive funding for Missions, and that South Central Classis overture the 256th Synod of the RCUS to place High Plains Reformed Chapel on the Roll of Mission Churches of Synod and receive funding for Missions.
6. That Calhan be given 7 months of support at \$10, 500.00 for 2002, and \$18,000.00 for 2003 from South Central Classis.
7. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions on behalf of Calhan for an additional \$12,000.00 for 2002 and \$18,000.00 for 2003.
8. That South Central Classis accept Rev. Dorman Savage's resignation as Regional Home Missionary.
9. That South Central Classis budget \$3,000.00 for travel expenses for workers traveling to the new works which have started in the Regional Home Missions area and that the appropriate consistory request monies from this fund.

From the floor: That the Permanent Home Missions Committee research the possibility of continuing the Regional Home Missionary program.

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

Education and Student Aid

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. From Overture #32, that Classis overture Synod for \$2500.00 in student aid for Matt Powell.
2. From Overture #33, that Classis overture Synod for \$2852.00 in student aid for Richard Stetler.
3. From Overture #34, that Classis overture Synod for \$3299.00 in student aid for Lee Johnson.
4. From Overture #13, that Classis overture Synod for \$3600.00 in student aid for James Grossmann.

NB: Lee Johnson request was increased to \$3575.00 via Circular Letter after Classis.

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

Services

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. That all excuses arising from Overtures #1,2,3,4,5, and 30 be granted (K. Schmike, H. Yoder, R. Davis, R. Honaker, M. Newman, and D. Dawn)
2. That Classis South Central directs Rev. Fagrey to place the following paragraph in their March 31, 2002 bulletin: "The South Central Classis wishes to extend their love and gratitude to Grace Reformed Church for the unstinting care extended to its delegates at our recent meeting. Your hospitality was unstinting, the meals you provided were first class and, above all, your fellowship was precious. My God richly bless you for your care of our delegates."

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

Finances

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. That all the mileage requests be approved.

George Syms	994 miles @ .22	218.68
Dorman Savage	880 miles @ .22	193.60
David Dawn	700 miles @ .22	154.00
Jon Blair	996 miles @ .22	219.12
Maynard Koerner	1060 miles @ .22	233.20
Jess Johnson	1200 miles @ .11	132.00
Cliff Loucks	1200 miles @ .11	132.00
Wes Brice & Lee Blank	Air Fare	1294.00
Robert Grossmann	Plane expense	160.00
Gene Sawtelle	720 miles @ .22	158.40
Harley Mehlhof	722 miles @ .22	158.84
Sam Powell	900 miles @ .22	198.00

		3551.76
2. From Overture #17, that the request from Hope Reformed Church that local congregations pay for delegates to Classis be denied:
 - a. Since it is the Classis which requires attendance, the Classis should pay for getting the delegates there.
 - b. Requiring congregations to pay the expenses for their delegates would put an undue burden on the smaller congregations.
3. That the Treasurer's records are well kept and accurate.
4. That the Treasurer be commended for a job well done under difficult circumstances.

5. That the following budget and guideline be adopted:

	2001 Budget	2002 Budget
a. Blue Cliff	- 0 -	\$ 8,000.00
b. David Dawn	- 0 -	\$ 4,500.00
c. Safe Harbor	\$ 2,180.00	\$ 2,076.00
d. Greeley Home Mission	\$14,864.00	\$18,580.00
e. Vermillion Home Mission	\$14,464.00	\$16,270.00
f. Calhan	- 0 -	\$10,500.00
g. Missions Expenses (travel)	- 0 -	\$ 3,000.00
h. Reformed Resource Center	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,700.00
i. Reserve Fund	\$ 2,755.00	\$ 3,000.00
j. Classical Dues	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
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Total		\$75,626.00
Guideline per		\$72.85

6. That payment for mileage for D. Kingswood be approved of 1000 miles @ .22 for \$220.00.

Classis Action: All the recommendations were adopted, except #3, which was Take Note. The report was adopted.

Nominations

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

Missions	R. <u>Morris</u> , D. Savage, H. Kalkman, B. Tjeerdsma, S. Powell
Publications	R. <u>Grossmann</u> , C. Henson, Savage, J. Johnson
Christian Education	H. <u>Hart</u> , S. Gross, J. Blair
Interchurch Relations	M. <u>Koerner</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> , J. Johnson, 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 D. Fagrey, D. Wilson 2 yrs C. Loucks, D. Brauning 1 yrs. R. <u>Morris</u> , A. Griess
Investigate the Jones Library	J. <u>Johnson</u> , W. Embree

Nominated from the floor to replace Elder Johnson for New Geneva Board: M. Koerner

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole

Overtures

The committee brought the following referrals and recommendations:

1. Excuse from Elder Kurt Shimke – to Services.

2. Excuse from Elder Harold Yoder – to Services.
3. Excuse from Rev. Robert Davis – to Services.
4. Excuse from Elder Richard Honeker – to Services.
5. Excuse from Elder Michael Newman – to Services.
6. Request for Ministerial Aid for Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann – to Ministerial Aid.
7. Request for Ministerial Aid for Rev. Howard Hart – to Ministerial Aid.
8. Request for Benevolent Aid for Blue Cliff – to Benevolence.
9. Request for Benevolent Aid for Mrs. Amy Stevens – to Benevolence.
10. Request that High Plains Reformed Chapel of Calhan be placed on roll of mission churches – to Missions.
11. Request that Mr. James Grossmann be taken under care – to Examination and Licensure.
12. Zion Reformed Church’s recommendation of James Grossmann – to Examination and Licensure.
13. Request from James Grossmann to be taken under care – to Examination and Licensure.
14. Request from Trinity Covenant Reformed Church for Benevolent Aid – to Benevolence.
15. Request from Consistory of Northland Reformed Church to changed Classes – to Judicial.
16. Petition to overture Synod to re-examine its resolution of 1970 – to Judicial.
17. Request that Churches pay their ministers & elders’ travel expense to Classis – to Finances.
18. Memorial requesting establishment of Providence Reformed Church of Vermillion – to Judicial.
19. Request for Ministerial Aid for Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger – to Ministerial Aid.
20. The Call of Rev. Maynard Koerner – to Judicial.
21. The Acceptance of call of Rev. Maynard Koerner – to Judicial.
22. The Resignation of Rev. Maynard Koerner – to Judicial.
23. The Acceptance of resignation of Rev. Maynard Koerner – to Judicial.
24. Letter of commendation of Rev. Koerner – Take note.
25. Transfer of membership of Rev. Gene Sawtelle – Take note.
26. Letter of thanks from Safe Harbor Lighthouse – to Benevolence.
27. Invitation to 125th Anniversary of Emmanuel Reformed Church – Take note.
28. Interchurch Relations Committee Report – Take note.
29. Executive Committee Report – Take note.
30. Excuse from Rev. David Dawn – to Services.
31. Parochial Report of David Dawn – to Benevolence.
32. Request of Matt Powell for Student Aid – to Education and Student Aid.
33. Request from Richard Stetler for Student Aid – to Education and Student Aid.
34. Two Parts:
 - a. #1 – Request that Lee Johnson be taken under care – to Examination and Licensure.
 - b. #2 – Request on behalf of Lee Johnson for Student Aid – to Education and Student Aid.
35. Memorial of thanksgiving for Rev. Howard Hart – Take note.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Commendation of the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage

The South Central Classis of the RCUS warmly commends the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage for his faithful service as Missionary to the Front Range in Colorado. We are thankful to the Lord for His blessings on the labors of Reverend Savage and the success that has been realized in starting new churches and gathering together the children of God.

Memorial for the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart

In Thanksgiving to Almighty God: The South Central Classis hereby resolves to give special thanks to God for the gift to His Church of the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart, whose ministry in the Reformed Church in the United States has helped to build up the congregations he has served, has added wisdom and blessings to our labors in Classes and Synod, and has been a great encouragement to his fellow pastors. May our covenant God continue to watch over and bless His faithful servant as the infirmities of advanced age may afflict him and his dear wife Barbara. And may their confidence in the crown of glory that God has laid up for His faithful servants shine brightly as they await His further call in this life and in that which is to come.

READING OF THE MINUTES

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

The body voted to change the Standing Rule 22 to add “, but if the 4th Tuesday is in the week before Easter that we meet the 3rd Tuesday of March.”

The body adjourned to the 2003 Spring Classis meeting according to Standing Rule 22.

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

After the body sang “Spend and Be Spent” in unison, 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

	Colorado Springs, CO Trinity Reformed	Grace Reformed Greeley, CO	Blue Cliff Community Ref Kanval, CO	High Plains Reformed Calhan, CO	Limon, CO Providence Reformed I	Northland Reformed Kansas City, MO	John's Reformed Lincoln, NE St.	Emmanuel Reformed Sutton, NE	Hope Reformed Sutton, NE
Number of Elders	3	1	2	1	1	3	4	4	4
Number of Deacons	3	1	2	0	1	2	4	4	4
Communicant Members Last Year	41	17	21	0	11	44	78	185	218
Received by Confirmation	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	9	4
Received by Letter of Transfer	6	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
Received by Profession of Faith	2	1	2	7	0	2	0	1	0
Total Members Received	8	3	5	7	0	8	1	10	4
Total Old/New Members	49	20	26	7	11	52	79	195	222
Lost by Dismissal	2	0	0	0	3	1	2	4	1
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	3	0	1	0	0	0	3	8	0
Lost by Death	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2
Total Members Lost	5	1	2	0	3	1	5	14	3
Communicant Members This Year	44	19	24	7	8	51	74	181	219
Unconfirmed Members	11	13	8	11	5	35	26	53	57
Total Baptized Members	55	32	32	18	13	86	100	234	276
Number of Families	25	8	7	4	4	28	36	98	95
Number of Children in SS	11	13	8	13	8	46	22	28	69
Number of Adults Baptized	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Infants Baptized	0	0	1	1	1	7	2	5	3
Total Number of Baptism	0	1	1	1	1	7	2	5	3
Number Received the Lord's Supper	41	19	24	0	11	51	72	169	193
Times Lord's Supper Served	12	4	3	0	3	6	6	6	5

2002 Financial Statistics

Receipts from Regular Offerings	57906	30789	30519	6694	14455	128415	52471	73698	105728
Receipts from Special Offerings	0	229	0	300	0	4681	2594	7242	10082
Receipts from Other Sources	10172	40387	29340	2112	0	2225	1914	1191	2814
Total Receipts	68078	71405	59859	9106	14455	135321	56979	82131	118624
Giving to Synod Guidelines	6685	2680	2934	0	1304	1800	8771	14661	36382
Giving to Classis Guidelines	2799	1093	1247	0	554	1919	3046	12635	14889
Giving to NonBgdT RCUS Causes	143	229	0	0	0	2000	395	1330	4188
Giving to Non-RCUS Causes	0	0	0	0	0	2000	1021	4999	9394
Other Expenses	58764	66481	48954	2522	16092	116245	43698	56267	62209
Total Expenses	68391	70483	53135	2522	17950	123964	56931	89892	127062
Value of Church Building	0	0	0	0	40000	1200000	110000	522900	400000
Value of Church Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	99100	156960	60000
Improvements on Church Property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	0
Present Property Debt	0	0	0	0	26577	470000	0	0	0
Debts Paid in Past Year	0	0	0	0	4103	56000	0	0	0
Giving to Synod Per Communicant	163	158	140	0	119	41	112	79	167
Giving to Classis Per Communicant	68	64	59	0	50	44	39	68	68
Total Giving to RCUS	235	235	199	0	169	130	157	155	254

	Mennon, SD Zion Reformed		Grace Reformed	Mitchell, SD	Rapid City, SD Grace Reformed	Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls, SD	Providence Reformed Vermillion, SD	Rock Springs, WY Providence Reformed	Totals 2002	Totals 2001	Percent Change
Number of Elders	4	3	2	5	0	3	40	39	3%		
Number of Deacons	4	2	2	5	0	1	35	31	13%		
Communicant Members Last Year	209	77	42	110	15	27	1095	1085	1%		
Received by Confirmation	4	0	0	2	0	1	24	20	20%		
Received by Letter of Transfer	4	0	10	2	4	1	35	37	-5%		
Received by Profession of Faith	0	0	1	2	0	2	20	20	0%		
Total Members Received	8	0	11	6	4	4	79	77	3%		
Total Old/New Members	217	77	53	116	19	31	1174	1162	1%		
Lost by Dismissal	12	7	2	4	0	0	38	26	46%		
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	5	0	6	8	0	2	36	21	71%		
Lost by Death	1	2	0	2	0	0	11	13	-15%		
Total Members Lost	18	9	8	14	0	2	85	60	42%		
Communicant Members This Year	199	68	45	102	19	29	1089	1102	-1%		
Unconfirmed Members	39	27	33	51	9	10	388	409	-5%		
Total Baptized Members	238	95	78	153	28	39	1477	1511	-2%		
Number of Families	99	35	23	48	9	12	531	547	-3%		
Number of Children in SS	51	25	28	32	2	10	366	403	-9%		
Number of Adults Baptized	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	-75%		
Number of Infants Baptized	1	3	2	3	1	0	30	30	0%		
Total Number of Baptism	1	3	2	3	1	0	31	34	-9%		
Number Received the Lord's Supper	199	77	45	95	17	28	1041	1032	1%		
Times Lord's Supper Served	4	4	7	5	4	7	76	79	-4%		

2002 Financial Statistics

Receipts from Regular Offerings	107974	59457	85831	120393	28802	50183	953315	891927	7%
Receipts from Special Offerings	11514	15430	0	12844	20284	5473	90673	40638	123%
Receipts from Other Sources	3974	0	0	7113	30504	6321	138067	211059	-35%
Total Receipts	123462	74887	85831	140350	79590	61977	1182055	1143624	3%
Giving to Synod Guidelines	34571	12000	8486	16840	2445	4185	154744	139454	11%
Giving to Classis Guidelines	14274	5000	2870	7208	1025	0	68559	64997	5%
Giving to NonBgdT RCUS Causes	2864	0	0	2724	3870	0	17743	35246	-50%
Giving to Non-RCUS Causes	1945	0	0	2840	0	2727	24926	14101	77%
Other Expenses	66042	44695	77773	87534	69997	49091	866364	738006	17%
Total Expenses	119696	61695	89129	117146	77337	56003	1131336	991804	14%
Value of Church Building	500000	185000	130000	420000	225000	0	3732900	3408340	10%
Value of Church Home	75000	85000	151000	140000	85000	0	852060	846260	1%
Improvements on Church Property	0	0	0	0	6131	0	6631	575918	-99%
Present Property Debt	0	0	20232	231248	32000	27000	807057	836999	-4%
Debts Paid in Past Year	0	0	27520	37500	20147	3891	149161	164042	-9%
Giving to Synod Per Communicant	165	156	202	153	163	155	141	129	9%
Giving to Classis Per Communicant	68	65	68	66	68	0	63	60	5%
Total Giving to RCUS	247	221	270	243	489	155	220	221	0%

NECROLOGIES

Woodrow Ernest Gibbons

Gibbons, Ernest Woodrow was born May 27, 1912 in Springfield, MO. He was married to Eunice, his wife of sixty-seven years, in Claude, Texas on March 1, 1934. The Lord blessed this union with four children, one son and three daughters. Ernest came to the faith as an adult and it was his great joy to see his children and his children's children following in the faith and serving the Lord in His church. His son, two sons-in-law, two grandsons and the husband of a granddaughter all serve as ministers of the Gospel. Three grandsons serve the Lord in His church as elders and two grandsons as deacons. All but his son serves in the RCUS. He spent his early years as a trucker primarily hauling logs in the western states of Arizona and California. In his later years he owned and operated used car businesses in northern California and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Ernest served the Lord as an elder in Faith Reformed Church, RCUS, and Anderson, CA from 1968 until 1975 and in Knox Presbyterian Church, OPC, in Oklahoma City, OK, for more than 20 years. The Lord called His servant home on December 24, 2001 at the age of 89 years, 7 months and 27 days.

Walter Leroy Heinbigner

Heinbigner, Walter Leroy was born November 9, 1932 in Bayard, Nebraska to Herbert and Pauline (nee Scheidt). Walter was baptized December 14, 1932 at the Peace Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, Minatare, Nebraska, and was confirmed March 30, 1947 at St. John's Evangelical and Reformed Church, Lincoln, Nebraska. He was a Korean War Army veteran. He married Eleanor Bauer on June 5, 1955, at Hope Reformed Church, RCUS, Sutton, Nebraska. He also joined Hope Reformed Church that year. There were two sons born to this union, Steven W. (wife Mercedes) June 3, 1956 and John L., January 3, 1958. One daughter, Lori E. Bergantzel (husband Leonard "Jake") March 17, 1963. There are four grandchildren, Jennifer, Tonya, Ashley, and Brittany and two great-grandchildren Trenton and Dylan. Walter was a charter member of St. John's Reformed Church in Lincoln, Nebraska and served as an elder there. He retired as a truck driver with Fleming Foods after 37 years of service. Walter went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, April 10, 2002 at Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska, after having struggled with emphysema for a number of years. He was 69 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., but if the 4th Tuesday is in the week before Easter, Classis shall meet the 3rd Tuesday of March. (1987, 2001, 2002).
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.