

2004
Abstract of the Minutes

SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS

Spring Meeting
March 22-24, 2004
St. John's Reformed Church
Lincoln, NE

Special Meeting
August 18, 2003
Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD

Dedicated to the memory of Rev. Dorman Savage

See his necrology on page 41

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2004 DIRECTORY
SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS (RCUS)
OFFICERS OF CLASSIS

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

PERMANENT COMMITTEES
(Underlined indicates chairman)

Missions H. Kalkman, R. Morris, M. Koerner, M. Burbback,
 G. Maassen
Publications D. Kingswood, H. Hart, T. Schieffelin, L. Ochsner.
Christian Education C.W. Powell, J. Blair, L. Streyle.
Interchurch Relations W. Embree, G. Sawtelle, J. McClay.
Candidates & Credentials R. Grossmann, H. Van Stedum, D. Fagrey, D. McPherson,
 S. Gross
Executive Committee R. Morris, S. Gross, D. Fagrey
Heidelberg Youth Camp R. Gallimore, J. Blair, H. Van Stedum
Reformed Resource Center Administrator - H. Hart (2 yrs)
 Curator –J. Johnson

2004 CLASSIS GUIDELINE FOR GIVING

Budget	Guideline	Per Communicant (1049)
Classical Dues	\$7,000.00	6.67
Reformed Resource Center	\$3,000.00	2.85
Greeley Home Missions	\$18,580.00	17.71
Vermillion Home Missions	\$11,511.00	10.97
Calhan Home Missions	\$18,000.00	17.16
Reserve Fund	\$1,500.00	1.43
Blue Cliff	\$6,000.00	5.72
Limon	\$6,000.00	5.72
Heidelberg Seminary	\$ 6,294.00	6.00
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Total	\$77,885.00	74.24

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DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

COLORADO

CALHAN, CO 81007 (719) 391-7431
High Plains Reformed Church
Corner of 7th and Colorado (mail: 555 Boulder St., Calhan Co. 80808)
Worship at 10:00 a.m. Sunday school at 9:00 a.m.
Pastor: Vacant. Stated supply: Elder Sam Powell (wife, Susan)

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80918 (719) 590-1477
Trinity Covenant RCUS
We meet at 2511 N. Logan Ave at Grace PCA (mail: 6050 Del Paz Dr.)
Worship: 2:00 p.m. Sunday school: 1:00 p.m. Wed. Bible at 7:00 p.m. 6050 Del Paz Dr.
Pastor: C.W. "Bud" Powell, Jr. (wife, Penny)
Web-site: www.trinityrcus.com

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 Community Building (mail: 2600 State Road 71, Ordway, CO 81063)
Worship: 11AM; Sunday School 12:00 noon
Pastor: Vacant. Stated Supply: Licentiate Matthew Powell.

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: Maynard Koerner (wife, Marcia)

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
Stated Supply: Licentiate Dan Rogers (wife, Kelani).

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)

Web-site: www.gracereformed.com

RAPID CITY, SD 57701 (605) 399-1711
Grace RCUS, 5626 North Haines Ave (2 miles north of I-90 on Haines)
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:15 AM; Sunday Night 6:00 PM
Pastor: David Fagrey (wife, Bonnie)
Web-site: www.gracercus.org

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: Herman Van Stedum (wife, Phyllis)
Web-site: www.trinityrcus.org

VERMILLION, SD 57069 (605) 624-4337
Providence RCUS, 830 E. Madison
Worship: 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:30 AM, Wed. Bible 7:00 PM
Pastor: Robert Grossmann (wife, Polly)

WYOMING

ROCK SPRINGS, WY 82901 (307) 362-5107
Providence RCUS, 9th and Pearl (mail: 1007 Ninth St.)
Worship: 11AM, Sunday School 12:15AM
Pastor: Jon Blair (wife, Wendy)

SERVICES

The body met for worship on Monday March 22, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. with the Reverend Mr. Warren Embree conducting and the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart preaching from Hebrews 12:1 with a sermon entitled "So Great Cloud of Witnesses."

At 9:30 a.m., March 22, 2004 Elder and Student Under Care Matthew Powell preached a sermon from John 15:1-6.

At 7:00 p.m., March 23, 2004 Dan Rogers preached a sermon from John 15:1-6.

At 9:30 a.m., March 24, 2004 Student Under Care Lee Johnson preached a sermon from Colossians 1:21-23.

Closing devotions on March 24, 2004 were led by Reverend Warren Embree from Luke 9:52-56.

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 and served the meals.

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

ORGANIZATION

The President of Classis, the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris, called the body to order March 22nd, 2004, at 8:45 p.m. The sessions were well attended by all delegates, the opening roll call showing 13 Ministers and 11 Elders present and the closing roll call showing 13 Ministers and 11 Elders. Ministers of the Word who attended the sessions were the Reverend Messrs. Jon Blair, Robert Davis, Warren Embree, David Fagrey, Robert Grossmann, Howard Hart, Hans Kalkman, Darrell Kingswood, Maynard Koerner, Ron Morris, C.W. Powell, Gene Sawtelle, and Herman Van Stedum. Elder delegates were Messrs. Spencer Gross, Gary Maassen, Jean McClay, Lon Ochsner, Ted Schieffelin, Melvin Burbach, Dave McPherson, Ewald Ochsner, Jim Rydell, Larry Streyle, and Doug Wilson. Seated in the Bar of the House but not delegates were Elders Matthew Powell, Sam Powell, Monte Sedlack, Jess Johnson, David Brauning, Tom Ochsner, Vern Ochsner, David Maser, Eugene Olmer, and Ron Ochsner.

Elders Matthew Powell and Sam Powell were appointed tellers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President	The Reverend Mr. Ron Morris
Vice-President	The Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner
Stated Clerk	The Reverend Mr. David Fagrey
Treasurer	Elder Mr. Spencer Gross

The President appointed the Reverend Jon Blair 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 AND CHURCHES

There were none.

STANDING COMMITTEES

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

Benevolence	<u>J. Blair</u> , D. Wilson
Education and Student Aid	<u>H. Van Stedum</u> , D. McPherson.

Examination and Licensure	<u>R. Grossmann</u> , H. Van Stedum, D. Fagrey, S. Gross, D. McPherson.
Finances	<u>M. Koerner</u> , L. Ochsner.
Ministerial Aid	<u>C.W. Powell</u> , S. Gross.
Missions	<u>H. Kalkman</u> , G. Maassen.
Overtures	<u>R. Grossmann</u> , E. Ochsner.
Publications	<u>D. Kingswood</u> , D. McPherson.
Services	<u>G. Sawtelle</u> , T. Schiefflein.
Judicial	<u>R. Davis</u> , W. Embree, H. Hart, J. McClay.
Nominations	<u>H. Hart</u> , M. Burrbach.
Minutes of Synod	<u>R. Morris</u> , T. Schiefflein.

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 18 Number 1

April 18, 2003

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There is one item that needs your attention.

1. A Laptop computer and printer for the Stated Clerk of South Central Classis.

The Reverend Ron Morris has recently upgraded and is willing to sell to Classis his old laptop computer. It is a Toshiba 335cds working with Windows 95. It has WordPerfect and Word on it as well as Microsoft Outlook and Netscape. It has a 56k modem. Rev. Morris asked Warren Embree what it is worth and he found that it is worth \$320. Rev. Morris also has a HP DeskJet 350 portable printer and a nice leather Targus carrying case that holds both the computer and the portable printer. He is willing to sell both the laptop and printer for \$300.

This laptop and printer will greatly facilitate the work of your new Stated Clerk.

Recommendation #1: That Classis purchase Rev. Morris' laptop and printer in the amount of \$300.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 2
May 8, 2003

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are two items that needs your attention.

1. A request concerning the old laptop computer for the Stated Clerk.

Since Classis has recently purchased a new laptop from the Reverend Ron Morris, the Reverend Howard Hart has requested that Classis give its old laptop to the Reformed Resource Center.

2. A request to replace the Reverend Warren Embree with the Reverend David Fagrey on the Permanent Candidates and Credentials Committee.

The three ministers currently on the Candidates and Credentials Committee are all seminary professors, two of which are from the same seminary. Therefore, the Candidates and Credentials Committee has requested that one of those professors, namely, Warren Embree, be replaced with David Fagrey, who is willing to serve as a replacement.

Recommendation #1: That Classis give its old laptop to the Reformed Resource Center.

Recommendation #2: That Classis appoint David Fagrey to replace Warren Embree on the Candidates and Credentials Committee.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 3
July 18, 2003

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are two items that needs your attention.

A. Special Classis Meeting.

The President has called for a special Classis meeting to be held at Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD, on Monday, August 18, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The following items of business shall be before the body:

1. The Candidates and Credentials Committee will finish the Licensure Examination of Mr. Kurt Schimke, and then examine him for ordination.

2. The Candidates and Credentials Committee has requested that Classis discuss the matter of ordaining men who have been married as Christians and then divorced.
 3. Matters concerning the Calhan, CO charge.
 4. Matters concerning the potential sale of former RCUS property in Loveland, CO.
- A. Report of the Special Committee to meet with Emmanuel Reformed Church in Sutton, NE.

A special committee of Classis was erected to look into a matter at Emmanuel Reformed Church, Sutton, NE. An elder from that congregation, Mr. Larry Griess, contacted the executive committee of Classis and informed them that two elders of Emmanuel as well as a few other families had requested a transfer to Hope Reformed Church in the same town. Rev. Ron Morris, Rev. Hans Kalkman, Rev. Howard Hart and elders Spencer Gross and Charles Mehlhaf met at Emmanuel with elders Larry Griess, Lon Ochsner, Lyle Griess and Melvin Reickert. Summer intern Dan Rogers was also present.

The committee advised elders Lyle Griess and Melvin Reickert to withdraw their resignations from Emmanuel and to serve out the duration of their terms. The committee also advised the Consistory of Emmanuel not to pursue the matter any further if the two elders decide not to heed the advice of the committee.

If the two elders stay, they were advised to help the congregation of Emmanuel work on specific problem areas, particularly a vote on the issue of officially adopting the Belgic Confession and Canons of Dort. If the two elders decide to continue with their resignation, the Consistory of Emmanuel has been advised to transfer the families as members in good standing, noting, however, that the two elders resigned their post at an important point in the congregation's history.

Respectfully Submitted, Ron Morris, Hans Kalkman, Howard Hart, Spencer Gross, Charles Mehlhaf.

Recommendation #1: That Classis hold a Special Classis Meeting as outlined above.
Recommendation #2: That Classis take note of the Special Committee report concerning Emmanuel.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 4
October 25, 2003

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are two items that need your attention.

B. Examination of MARS student Daniel Rogers.

In the presence of the members of Classis at our special meeting on August 18, 2003, the Candidates and Credentials Committee examined Mr. Daniel Rogers in orthodoxy and intent. The Reverend Messrs. Robert Grossmann, Maynard Koerner (member pro tem), Herman Van Stedum and Elders Messrs. Spencer Gross (member pro tem) and Charles Zeeb (member pro

tem) participated in the examination. The Committee reported that it is satisfied with Mr. Rogers' examination.

Mr. Daniel Rogers is a senior student at MARS. He served as a summer intern at Emmanuel Reformed Church in Sutton, NE, with great reception by the congregation, and looks forward to the possibility of being called there as pastor in the future, the Lord willing. He is presently a member of a United Reformed Church in CA, having joined that denomination after leaving a Baptist denomination.

The Candidates and Credentials Committee has advised Mr. Rogers to join with an RCUS Congregation over this winter, and petition Classis to be taken under care as an RCUS student for the ministry. Mr. Rogers agreed to follow this advice as opportunity allows.

The Committee recommends that Mr. Rogers be allowed to lead worship and exhort at Emmanuel Reformed Church in Sutton, NE, on a limited basis of not more than two Sundays a month over the 2003-2004 school year, while he attends Mid-America Reformed Seminary in Dyer, IN, for his Senior year.

Recommendation #1: That Dan Rogers be allowed to lead worship and exhort at Emmanuel Reformed Church in Sutton, NE, on a limited basis of not more than two Sundays a month over the 2003-2004 school year, while he attends Mid-America Reformed Seminary in Dyer, IN, for his Senior year.

C. The Installation of Reverend Maynard Koerner in St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE.
St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE, has requested that an installation committee consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Ron Morris (chairman), Warren Embree, and the Elders of St. John's Reformed Church be appointed to install the Reverend Maynard Koerner on Sunday November 9, 2003.

Recommendation #2: That a committee consisting of the Reverend Messrs. Ron Morris, Warren Embree, and the Elders of St. John's Reformed Church be appointed to install the Reverend Maynard Koerner on Sunday November 9, 2003.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 5
December 31, 2003

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There are four items that need your attention.

D. 2004 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis.

St. John's Reformed Church in Lincoln, NE, in conjunction with their 25th anniversary, has graciously extended an invitation to host the Annual Spring Meeting of Classis for 2004. Therefore, according to our Standing Rules (#22), we will convene at St. John's Reformed

Church on Tuesday March 23, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. with a worship service. All the particulars will be sent out under a different circular.

E. Information regarding Licensure examinations.

Two, possibly three, men have requested to be examined for licensure at the 2004 Spring Classis meeting: Lee Johnson, Matthew Powell, and possibly Dan Rogers. Please note that Classis may have to be extended in order to complete these examinations.

F. Information regarding licentiate Kurt Schimke.

After consulting with Kurt Schimke regarding his call to the ministry, the Candidates and Credentials Committee has informed the Executive Committee that Kurt Schimke is not presently to be viewed as actively pursuing the ministry, and that the Candidates and Credentials Committee will have a more definitive recommendation for Classis at its Spring Meeting in March.

G. Ministerial Aid for Kay Savage.

The Consistory of Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church has requested that Classis overture Synod to provide ministerial aid for Mrs. Kay Savage in the amount of \$1,000.00 per month for 2004.

Recommendation #1: That Classis overture Synod to provide ministerial aid for Mrs. Kay Savage in the amount of \$1,000.00 per month for 2004.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 6
January 20, 2004

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There is one item that needs your attention, and it concerns the 2004 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis.

In light of the fact that there are going to be three licensure examinations, which will most likely extend Classis at least one day, the executive committee thought it would be good if Classis convened a day early, on Monday March 22, instead of on Tuesday, March 23. St. John's Reformed Church is willing and ready to host Classis a day earlier.

It is a moot point to say that a two-thirds vote is needed to suspend Standing Rule #22, since only one objection can kill this circular letter.

Recommendation: That Classis suspend standing rule #22 by convening its Spring meeting at St. John's Reformed Church on Monday 22, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. with a worship service.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 7

January 30, 2004

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

A. 2004 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis at St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE.

1. Date and Time.

Since there was no objection to executive circular 18:6, the spring meeting of Classis will commence on Monday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. with a worship service.

2. 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. According to the Standing Rules of Classis (#2 & #3) these are to be forwarded to the Stated Clerk no later than **two weeks** before the Classis meets. This means they **must** be in the Clerk's hands by **March 8, 2004**. It would, however, be appreciated by the Clerk if these documents can get to him as early as possible.

3. Parochial Reports.

According to Standing Rule #2 Parochial Reports are to be sent to the President **two weeks** before Classis (by **March 8, 2004**). It would, however, be appreciated by the President if these reports can get to him as early as possible.

4. Reports and Recommendations of Permanent and Special Committees.

According to Standing Rule #17 the Reports of the Permanent and Special Committees are to be completed and mailed to all the Consistories of all the Churches **four weeks** prior to the Classis Meeting, thus by **February 23rd, 2004** 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.

5. Accommodations.

Please fill out enclosed Lodging request forms and send in as soon as possible.

6. Miscellaneous.

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

7. Committees.

Missions	H. Kalkman, R. Morris, H. Van Stedum, C. Zeeb, H. Yoder
Publications	R. <u>Grossmann</u> , D. Kingswood, D. Brauning, C. Mehlhaf
Christian Education	H. <u>Hart</u> , S. Gross, J. Blair
Interchurch Relations	M. <u>Koerner</u> , H. Van Stedum, J. Rydell
Candidates & Credentials	<u>R. Grossmann</u> , H. Van Stedum, D. Fagrey, R. Gallimore, C. Beilby
Executive Committee	R. <u>Morris</u> , R. Blare, D. Fagrey.
Heidelberg Youth Camp	R. <u>Gallimore</u> , H. Kalkman, J. Blair
Reformed Resource Center	Administrator H. Hart (3 more years) Curator –J. Johnson Board of Trustees 3 yrs: W. Embree, A. Griess 2 yrs: D. Fagrey, D. Wilson 1 year: H. Van Stedum, D. Brauning

8. Special Committee:

Membership for Ministers of the Word R. Morris, R. Grossmann, H. Hart, C. Hensen

9. Licensure examinations.

Lee Johnson, Dan Rogers, and Matthew Powell have requested a Licensure exam. The proposed order for each of the examinations is as follows:

Piety and Intent	15 minutes	Beilby
English Bible	15 minutes	Van Stedum
Historical Philosophy	15 minutes	Fagrey
Apologetics	15 minutes	Fagrey
Church History	15 minutes	Grossmann
Hermeneutics	15 minutes	Fagrey
Prolegomena – doctrine of Scripture	15 minutes	Fagrey
Theology proper – doctrine of God	15 minutes	Van Stedum
Anthropology	15 minutes	Grossmann
Christology	15 minutes	Grossmann
Soteriology	15 minutes	Fagrey
Ecclesiology	15 minutes	Grossmann
Eschatology	15 minutes	Van Stedum
Creeds	15 minutes	Beilby
Practica	15 minutes	McPherson

Questions from the floor will be entertained after each section.

The following parts of the Licensure exam will not take place on the floor of Classis:

Original Languages: Grossmann (written before Classis)
Exegetical Papers and written sermons: Fagrey (written before Classis)
Constitution: Fagrey (take-home exam to be given to the Candidates after Classis)

At the request of the chairman of the Candidates and Credentials Committee, the Executive committee has chosen Elder Dave McPherson to replace Roger Gallimore on the Candidates and Credentials Committee. Elder McPherson, instead of Roger Gallimore, will be the elder delegate from Rapid City.

Executive Circular, Volume 18 Number 8
March 2, 2004

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

According to the by-laws, I am to send out overtures that were received 4 weeks prior to the meeting. I received 2 such overtures.

- 1) From Grace Reformed, Mitchell: A request for Benevolent Aid at \$1,000.00 per month for Mrs. Amy Stevens.
- 2) From Grace Reformed, Mitchell: A request for Ministerial Aid at \$1,250.00 per month for the Reverend Mr. Howard Hart.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Reverend Mr. Ron Morris
President

The Reverend Mr. David Fagrey
Stated Clerk

Mr. Rusty Blare
Elder Member

MISSIONS

(referred to Standing Missions)

March 2, 2004

South Central Classis Reformed Church in the United States

Dear Brothers,

The following is a report on the Mission Churches in our Classis, which are, "High Plains Chapel" of Calhan, Colorado; Grace RCUS of Greeley Colorado; and Providence RCUS of Vermillion South Dakota.

High Plains Chapel of Calhan, Colorado:

On February 17, 2004, at 12:30 PM, the Rev. Ron Morris from Mitchell, SD. and I, the Chairman of your Home Mission Committee, met with representatives of the Consistory of Trinity Covenant RCUS of Colorado Springs, under whose oversight the work of "High Plains Chapel" in Calhan takes place, at the "Village Inn" in Colorado- Springs.

Present at this meeting were: Rev. Bud Powell, Elder Sam Powell, Elder Jean McClay, Committee member Elder Harold Yoder, Elder Monty Sedlak, Elder Richard Stettler.

The work in Calhan is going very well. The membership is 8 families at the present. During the last year 2 new families joined and there are 3 families regularly visiting so that there are from 45 to 50 people attending the worship services on Sundays.

After Rev. Maynard Koerner left the group in Calhan, Elder of Trinity Covenant RCUS and student under care Mr. Sam Powell has regularly filled the pulpit in High plains Chapel and elder Monty Sedlak has taught the Sunday School classes. The Rev. Bud Powel has administered the Sacraments and has been training some men for office of Elder and Deacon. The members of High Plain Chapel are very pleased with the work of Elder Sam Powel, and they would like him very much to continue, as their pulpit supply.

On February 29 the Group of High Plains Chapel met for an organization meeting. They held an election for office bearers and the Lord used this election to call Mr. Sam Powell, and Mr. Larry Lee into the office of Elder, and Mr. Red Larson and Mr. Dave Dugen into the office of Deacon. The group of High Plains Chapel also voted in favor to accept a constitution, which literally follows the "Constitution of a Congregation" "in the back of the constitution of the RCUS.

Grace Reformed Church of Greeley, Colorado:

On February 17, 2004, at 7:30 PM Rev. Ron Morris and I, the chairman of your Home Mission Committee met with members of the consistory of Grace Reformed Church. Present on this meeting were: the Rev. Gene Sawtelle, Elder Albert Haller, Elder Daniel Thomas, Deacon Warren Nuss, and Mr. Ewald Ochsner.

The work in and of Grace Reformed Church goes very well and each one of the men present at the meeting was very positive and optimistic about the spiritual as well as the material progress of the church, they all voiced their thankfulness to the Lord for the blessings they continually receive from Him.

The average attendance of the Worship Services is 46 people, and there is the prospect of an immediate growth in membership of another 5 families, which at the present receive membership training of Rev. Sawtelle.

Sunday school classes are well attended, and there are at this time two covenant children that will be confirmed in this year and are receiving confirmation classes from Rev. Sawtelle.

The members of the congregation are very generous in their giving for the Lord's work and the offerings continue to exceed expectations.

It is a great blessing that the congregation has been able to purchase a Church building and a parsonage during the past year, and the congregation is very active with renovations and repairs on the church building as well as on the parsonage. There are also plans in the works to make some special parking places, and an entry and elevator in order to make the Church building wheelchair accessible. This is necessary since some of the members of the congregation are bound to their wheelchairs.

Providence Reformed Church of Vermillion, South Dakota:

The chairman of your committee and the Rev. Robert Grossmann met on February 24, 2004, at 5:00 PM at the parsonage of Providence Reformed Church.

The Church in Vermillion did not grow in numbers this year. Part of the reason for this is that three communicant members requested transfer to other reformed churches and one member needed to be removed from the membership roll by discipline.

The attendance of its members to the Worship Services and Bible studies is very faithful, and the commitment of the members toward the church is very good. There is also an increasing attendance of visiting college students to the midweek Bible studies. The giving continues to increase and one of the results is that in June this year the mortgage of the parsonage will be paid off, and the congregation will be debt free.

Rev. Grossmann continues to reach out over the airwaves by means of his weekly radio ministry on WNAX of Yankton. He also spends two days per week teaching in and administering in Heidelberg Reformed Seminary, which uses the classrooms of the Providence Reformed Church building.

Recommendations:

1. That High Plains Chapel of Calhan, Colorado be given \$18,000 support for the year 2004.
2. That South Central Classis overtures the Synod Home Mission Committee of the RCUS for an additional \$18,000 support for High Plains Chapel for the year 2004.
3. That after an examination of his orthodoxy and the purity of his intentions by the "Candidates and Credential Committee" of Classis, the South Central Classis declares Elder Sam Powell of

Calhan to be “Exhorting Elder” of the Congregation of High Plains Chapel of Calhan, that this permission to exhort is restricted to the congregation of High Plains Chapel in Calhan only, and lasts for the duration of and not exceeding a period of three years, that the Congregation of High Plain Chapel pays Elder Sam Powell according to the budget as it is approved by South Central Classis, and that the Sacraments and all the rites, except for funerals, will be administered by an ordained minister of the RCUS.

4. That Grace Reformed Church of Greeley be given \$18,580 support for the year 2004.

5. That South Central Classis overtures the Synod Home Mission Committee of the RCUS for an additional \$18,580 support for Grace Reformed Church for the year 2004.

6. That Providence Reformed Church of Vermillion South Dakota be given \$11,511 support for the year 2004.

7. That South Central Classis overtures the Synod Home Mission Committee of the RCUS for an additional \$11,511 support for Providence Reformed Church for the year 2004.

8. That Classis budget \$1,000 for the Home Missions Committee’s expenses (i.e. traveling- cost and mail)

Respect fully submitted,

Rev. Hans Kalkman (Chairman), Rev. Ron Morris, Rev. Herman VanStedum, Mr. Harold Yoder, Mr. Charles Zeeb

Publications

(referred to Standing Publications)

March 1, 2004

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

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your Permanent Publications Committee had no business brought before it during the past year, and therefore too no actions beyond giving this report

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Grossmann, chairman

Christian Education

(referred to Education and Student Aid)

February 13, 2004

Classis South Central
Reformed Church in the U.S.
Spring Meeting

Lincoln, NE
March 22-24, 2004

Dear Brothers:

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

Rev. Howard Hart, Chairman, Rev. Jon Blair, Elder Spencer Gross

Interchurch Relations
(referred to Overtures)

Interchurch Relations Committee
South Central Classis, RCUS
Meeting at Lincoln, NE March 22-24, 2004

Esteemed Brethren:

Your committee received several invitations to send fraternal delegates/observers from assemblies with whom we have fraternal relations or with whom we correspond. Invitations were received from the Dakota Presbytery, OPC concerning their fall meeting, from Classis Alberta, Canadian Reformed Churches, and from the Classis Central,U.S., URCNA.

We did not send a delegate to the fall meeting of the Dakota Presbytery, OPC since the meeting was in Carson, ND. Rev. Herman Van Stedum attended the meeting of the Classis Central,U.S., URCNA as an observer. His report is included. Since the meeting of Classis Alberta, CanRef was only two weeks prior to our meeting, we sent greetings by e-mail.

The committee sent invitations to the following to send delegates to our Spring meeting; Presbytery of Central US and Dakota Presbytery, OPC, the Midwest Presbytery, RPCNA and to Classis Alberta, CanRef. An invitation was also sent to Classis Central,US, URCNA to send an observer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Maynard Koerner, chairman
Rev. Herman Van Stedum
Elder Jim Rydell

South Central Classis
Reformed Church in the United States
2004 Annual Classis Meeting

February 9, 2004
Sioux Falls, SD

Interchurch Relations Committee

I attended the 13th meeting of Classis Central, U.S. URCNA, which met at the Doon United Reformed Church in Doon Iowa on January 13, 2004. I also attended the church planting seminar held Monday evening January 12, 2004.

I would like to make a few observations on the Classis meeting. First the seminar on Monday evening with Rev. Paul T. Murphy was a very interesting presentation of his mission work at ground zero New York and a very challenging message to be doing mission work. He gave an insightful challenge to the URC to be doing Biblical missions in light of their own identity and history.

The Classis meeting itself was in many ways more relaxed and less structured and parliamentary than our Classis meetings. They had a very limited agenda and much that was done seemed to be decided in a rather informal way. In terms of procedure, the main emphases seemed to be on the presenting of credentials and signing of Subscription for first time delegates. There were the brief reports of the interim committee, the Stated Clerk, Treasurer and the classical church visitors. The real business of Classis dealt with 3 overtures which had been received.

The first overture was for Synod to appoint a Synodical Theological Committee. This overture was in response to URCNA Synod's decision to enter into Phase Two of ecumenical relations with the Canadian Reformed Churches. Because of the close decision to enter into Phase Two and the reservations of many consistories, the overture sought a committee to look into some perceived differences among the federations. Specifically they in the areas of the Covenant, the view of the church, the application of Redemption, and the relationship between law and gospel. It became apparent that there is great antipathy to committees in general. There was also felt that these issues were being dealt with. Overture defeated.

The second overture requested Classis to appoint a Committee to Draft new Lord's Supper forms. It was felt that it would be beneficial to have abbreviated forms for those churches who serve communion very frequently. Since it called for a committee and they did not see a need for it, this overture was also defeated.

The 3rd overture sought Classical support for Seminary Students. It was felt that having the home church consistories bear the burden of support was unfair, especially since a number of there students had joined local churches in vicinity of MARS. It was felt that this was asking to do what the local church should be doing and that the local churches could put out appeals to other individual churches. Thus this overture was also defeated. The next Classis meeting is scheduled to be held at the Hills, MN, URC. They adjourned shortly after the noon meal.

A few observations: First it became apparent that differences between us in the area of church government and the authority of the different judicatories accounts for much of the differences in their conduction of the Classis meeting and the decisions that they are willing to make. Second their love for the Lord and their desire to do things Biblically is genuine. In many ways they are adopting their own identity. We need to keep in close communication with them and work together in as much is feasible for the furtherance of the kingdom of God. Their perceived abuses of authority by the Synod and Committees of the CRC and the departure from orthodoxy

with in the CRC, I feel have hindered them from Biblically dealing with proper use of authority in the church and the subsequent safeguard of orthodoxy by the brethren. As Rev. Paul T. Murphy stated on Monday evening: "They need to get over the CRC".

The hospitality and fellowship was great.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Herman Van Stedum

Candidates and Credentials
(referred to Examination and Licensure)

March 1, 2004

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

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

Since the 2003 Spring Classis meeting your Candidates and Credentials Committee has conducted the following business.

1. Conducted the Licensure examination of Mr. Kurt Schimke at our Fall Classis meeting on August 18, 2003. Mr. Schimke was licensed by Classis to preach the Gospel.
2. During the same meeting, but off the floor of Classis, we conducted an examination as to orthodoxy and intent of Mr. Dan Rogers. Mr. Rogers was subsequently given permission to serve the Emmanuel Reformed Church of Sutton, NE, pulpit over the winter months, but not more than twice a month.
3. Prior to the Fall Classis meeting your Committee also conferred with Mr. Sam Powell, examined him as to orthodoxy and intent, and brought the matter of approving him as a student for the ministry to the Classis meeting. Mr. Sam Powell was approved as a student for the ministry.
4. Following the Fall Classis meeting your Committee was called upon to confer with Licentiate Kurt Schimke concerning personal and other problems which might compromise his following a course of seeking ordination and being sent to Africa as a missionary. It was finally agreed by our Committee and Mr. Schimke that it would be best for him to resign his licensure at this time and wait upon God's will for the future. The Committee has in hand a signed resignation from Mr. Schimke of his licensure.
5. The Committee is aware of three men who have applied for licensure examination at this Spring Meeting of Classis and has begun their examinations by assigning exegetical papers and sermons, and by examining them in Hebrew and Greek. They are: Mr. Matthew Powell, Mr. Dan

Rogers and Mr. Lee Johnson. Special orders for their examinations on the floor of Classis are included in the Executive Committee's organizational materials for this Classis meeting, along with the particular areas of examination assigned to each Committee member. In addition, it has been arranged that Elder Spencer Gross will replace Elder Chris Beilby on the Committee since Mr. Beilby will be unable to attend this session of Classis.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Classis accept the resignation from Licensure of Mr. Kurt Schimke and that his name be removed from that roll of Classis.
2. That the Licensure examinations of Messers. Powell, Rogers, and Lee be conducted according to special orders adopted by Classis, and that the Examiners be as listed in Executive Circular Volume 18, Number 7, with the exception of Spencer Gross replacing Chris Beilby.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Grossmann, David Fagrey, Herman Van Stedum, Chris Beilby, Roger Gallimore.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President's Report on the State of the Church

"The Earth is the LORD's and all the fullness therein," the psalmist tells us. And this is most certainly true. The Lord "upholds heaven and earth, with all creatures; and so governs them, that herbs and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, yea, all things, come not by chance, but by His fatherly hand."

Our Covenant God has visited us with His Covenant Mercies in many different ways this past year. The parochial reports are an encouragement as we see growth among many of our congregations. Many of the various difficulties of the past have been dealt with and things seem more quiet in regard to disciplinary issues. One victory that we had been anticipating for some time was the arrival of our dear brother and friend Dorman Savage at his life's finish line. We say "victory" for that is what it was. He fought the good fight, finished his race and he kept the faith. We praise God for the time we had with him and for the many years of faithful service to our Church. But we will certainly miss his presence, wisdom and insights as we look forward to this year's meeting.

What Dorman was probably most noted for was the way in which the Lord used him in mission work. And our mission works in Vermillion, Greeley, and Calhan are all doing well. In addition to being a preaching point,

Vermillion also is the location of the new Heidelberg Theological Seminary. Greeley reports growth in numbers and has secured a nice facility and parsonage that should serve that congregation well. We will need to address our works in Colorado as the Calhan pulpit is technically vacant. The congregation would like to have a seminary student that is currently exhorting there to be considered a stated supply. So this is something that needs to be addressed.

Also, although not officially considered a mission work, we will be examining a man at this meeting to take on the Limon/Blue Cliff charge.

Our Reformed Resource Center hosted two retreats this past year. We had special studies on controversial issues such as the Norman Shepherd controversy, the "Openness of God" controversy and also the so-called "New Perspective on Paul." There were also practical lessons such as the practice of confirmation and membership training.

As we look forward to a new year we see that we have new men coming into our fold as ministers. As was alluded to earlier, we will be having examinations of three men at this year's classis.

In conclusion, God has been good to us. He has blessed us as a classis, as local congregations, and also as a nation. But I fear ominous clouds on the horizon. If you would indulge me to make this statement, I firmly believe that we are in an intense culture war in our nation and in our world. The Church of Jesus Christ must stand firm and clearly define what God's word says about things such as what a man is, what a woman is, what marriage is and what life is. We should be praying diligently for the Muhammedan nations that are in the grip of the false teaching of Islam. We should pray for our European brethren who are more and more naively embracing a valueless world and life view. But more importantly we should be praying for our own nation as we seem to be chasing after Baal. May God have mercy and may he grant a spirit of repentance among our people. And may God's servants have the grace to stand up to the moral slide and be strong and of a good courage as we carry out our Lord's Great Commission. Amen

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Morris

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

Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes

March 22, 2004

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The following items refer to duties performed by either myself, which reference either to the spring 2003 Abstract or Circulars which have been sent since the spring 2003 meeting.

1. Page 43 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Benevolence report requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Amy Stevens, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.

2. Page 43 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2 of the Standing Benevolence report requesting aid from Synod for Trinity Covenant, RCUS, Colorado Springs, CO, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
3. Page 43 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3 of the Standing Benevolence report requesting aid from Synod for Blue Cliff Community, RCUS, Karval, CO, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
4. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Matthew Powell, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
5. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for James Grossmann, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
6. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Richard Stetler, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
7. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #4, of the Standing Education and Student Aid requesting aid from Synod for Ted Schieffelin, a letter was sent April 3, 2003
8. Page 45 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for Rev. & Mrs. Dorman Savage, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
9. Page 45 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
10. Page 45 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
11. Page 45 of the Abstract, Recommendation #4, of the Standing Ministerial Aid report requesting aid from Synod for Rev. & Mrs. Howard Hart, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
12. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #3, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 50% of Greeley's 2004 obligation, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
13. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #5, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 50% of Vermillion's 2004 obligation, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
14. Page 44 of the Abstract, Recommendation #7, of the Standing Missions requesting aid from Synod for 50% of Calhan's 2004, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
15. Page 45 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of the Standing Judicial overturing Synod concerning the teaching of Norman Shepherd, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
16. Page 46 of the Abstract, Recommendation #7, of the Standing Judicial overturing Synod concerning having a biennial meeting, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.

17. Page 45 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Judicial overruling Synod concerning the moderating of the RCUS website discussion forum, a letter was sent April 3, 2003.
18. On April 3, 2003, a letter was sent informing Synod that Andrew McIntyre is no longer under care.
19. From the special meeting of Classis held August 18-19, 2003, a letter (dated January 5, 2004) was sent to the stated clerk of Synod requesting student aid for Sam Powell.
20. From Executive Circular Volume 18, Number 5, dated December 31, 2003, a letter (dated January 14, 2004) was sent to the Stated Clerk of Synod requesting Ministerial Aid for Mrs. Kay Savage.

Respectfully submitted,
David Fagrey

Classis Action: The report was approved

Execute Committee's Report on its Minutes

The clerk moved that Executive Circulars Volume 18, Numbers 1 – 8 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

The Clerk reported that he had not received the Executive Committee of Synod's report.

Classis Action: Take note

TREASURER'S REPORT *(referred to Standing Finances)*

Classis	Com. #	Guide Lines	Received	Over	Short
South Central Classis	*1057	\$79,042.46	\$79,481.25	\$438.70	
Church					
Trinity Covenant					
Colorado Springs	46	\$3,439.88	\$3,290.32		\$149.56
Blue Cliff					
Limon	19	\$1,420.82	\$1,420.82		
St. Johns RCUS					
Lincoln, NE	63	\$4,711.14	\$4,711.14		

Emmanuel RCUS					
Sutton, NE	167	\$12,488.26	\$12,528.81	\$40.55	
Hope RCUS					
Sutton, NE	234	\$17,498.52	\$17,871.66	\$373.14	
Zion RCUS					
Menno, SD	192	\$14,357.76	\$14,357.76		
Grace Reformed					
Mitchell, SD	72	\$5,384.80	\$5,384.16		
Grace Reformed					
Rapid City, SD	55	\$4,112.90	\$4,187.68	\$74.78	
Trinity Reformed					
Sioux Falls, SD	104	\$7,777.12	\$7,777.12		
Providence Reformed					
Rock Springs, WY	33	\$2,467.74	\$2,467.68		\$0.06
Grace Reformed					
Greeley, CO	20	\$1,495.60	\$1,495.60		
Providence Reformed					
Vermillion, SD	23	\$1,719.94	\$1,819.92	\$99.98	
High Plains Reformed					
Calhan, CO	17	\$1,271.26	\$1,217.22		\$0.04
Providence Reformed					
Limon, CO	12	\$897.36	\$897.36		
Totals of all Income		\$79,042.46	\$79,481.25	\$5.53	
Interest Income First Dakota			\$105.84		

*Budget based on 1057 members, but 1055 reported

Budget Expenditures

	Budget	Paid	Balance
Reformed Resource Center	\$3,000.00		
Rev. Howard Hart		\$2,000.00	
Virginia Hoeflinger		\$500.00	
Jess Johnson		\$200.00	
Training & Retreat		\$269.00	
			\$31.00
Blue Cliff	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
Rocky Ford Internship	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	
Grace Reformed, Greeley	\$18,580.00	\$18,580.00	
Providence Reformed, Vermillion	\$14,460.00	\$14,460.00	
High Plains Reformed Chapel, Calhan	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	
Reserve Fund	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00*	\$1,000.00
Classis Expense	\$7,000.00		
Mileage		\$5,229.98	
Honorarium		\$400.00	
Telephone		\$552.34	
Printing		\$214.76	
Computer		\$300.00	
			\$302.92
TOTALS	\$79,040.00	\$75,706.08	\$3,333.92

*2000.00 for Zion Reformed Menno

Reserve Fund Special Gift	\$3,000.00	\$1,977.80	\$1,022.20
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GUIDELINES

	Budget	Received	Over	Short
Reformed Resource Center	\$3,000.00	\$3114.83	\$114.60	
\$2.84 per com.				
Classical Dues	\$7,000.00	\$7,142.91	\$142.91	
\$6.62 per com.				
Missions	\$51,040.00	\$51,478.79	\$438.79	
\$48.29 per com.				
Reserve Fund	\$3,000.00	\$2,918.70		\$81.30
\$2.84 per com.				
Blue Cliff Benevolence	\$6,000.00	\$6,144.75	\$144.75	
\$4.34 per com.				
Rocky Ford Internship	\$9,000.00	\$8,809.26		\$190.74
8.51 per com.				
Guide Lines Total	\$79,042.46	\$79,481.25	\$438.79	
\$74.78 per com.				
Reserve Fund		\$3,000.00		
Total Income		\$82,481.25		
(Based on 1057 Communicant members)				

CHECKBOOK

Beginning Balance	\$11,632.93
Ending Balance	\$15,989.03
Mutual Fund	\$1,800.00
Total	\$17,789.03

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

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO ELDERS (ARTICLE 81, RCUS ONSTITUTION)

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 Lon Ochsner who answered, “Improving.”
- b. *Is Christian discipline exercised according to the constitution?* All answered, “Yes”.

4. *Are the sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord’s Supper properly administered in accordance with the constitution?* : All answered “Yes”

5. *In providing for the furtherance of Christian stewardship:*

- a. *Are the apportionments for the Classis paid according to the Guidelines for Giving?* All Answered, “Yes”.

b. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Classis treasurer?* All answered, “Yes”.

c. *Are the apportionments for the Synod paid according to the Guideline for Giving?*
All answered, “Yes,” except Ochsner who all answered, “No”.

d. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Synod treasurer?* All answered, “Yes.”

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

The Reverend Herman Van Stedum read his report as an observer to the meeting of the Classis Central, United Reformed Churches in North America. This report is printed in this Abstract under Inter Church Relations.

Classis Action: Take note.

ADDRESSES BY DELEGATES FROM OTHER REFORMED CHURCHES AND VISITORS

Theo Lodder, from Tabor Alberta, represented Classis Alberta of the Canadian Reformed Churches. Roy Miller represented the Presbytery Central U.S, Orthodox Presbyterian Church. Both fraternal delegates were welcomed, seated in the bar of the house, and given privilege of the floor.

Rev. Bill DeJong was welcomed as an observer from the Classis Central, United Reformed Churches in North America, and given time to address the body.

OPC pastor Rev. Mark Herrington was present as an observer.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS Heidelberg Youth Camp

February 5, 2004

Members present: Elder Roger Gallimore, chair; Rev. Hans Kalkman and Rev. Jon Blair of the South Central Classis; and Rev. Mike McGee and Elder Jim Snyder of the Northern Plains Classis.

1. Roger called the meeting to order via conference call. Hans opened in prayer.
2. The evaluation results from HYC 2003 were discussed. The following changes for HYC 2004 were made as a result of the evaluations:
 - Soap Box - The primary responder to the question will have a maximum of 2 minutes in which to respond. There may only be one additional response from the panel, which may last for no longer than 30 seconds.
 - Talent night - The traditional Tuesday night junior talent show and Wednesday night senior talent show will be eliminated. In its place will be the Heidelberg Cup consisting of a combination of quiz/Bible bowl competitions and sports-related competitions. Campers will be mixed for teams in order to facilitate greater interaction.
 - Free time - Additional activities will be organized for those wishing to join in during free time. * Sylvan Lake - All adult volunteers will be assigned supervisory responsibilities at different locations around the lake.
 - Lesson schedule - The first lesson will be 9:15-10:15 and the second lesson will be 10:45-11:45, thereby giving a little longer break between lessons.
1. The 2003 finance report was reviewed, which showed a net gain of \$909.65. The gain was a result of fewer adults than what was expected and fewer HYC Fire publications than planned.
2. The proposed 2004 budget was reviewed. The 2004 camper fees will be \$125 per camper. However, if Roger receives the registration form and fee by June 25, the camper fee will be \$113, which is no change from 2003. The budget assumes that all registrations will be in by June 25. Although the budget shows a deficit of \$480 for 2004, the camp remains in a good cash position, which is sufficient to cover expenses incurred before the start of camp. The committee agreed to recommend approval. Please note that the cost of the committee

meeting, video productions of the lessons and the HYC Fire are paid by Heidelberg Youth Camp and are not passed on to Classis.

3. The theme for HYC 2004 will be Nothing For Granted. The Biblical worldview of nearly all, if not all, areas of life is constantly under attack. The temptation for many of our covenant youth is to take for granted the Biblical worldview that is an inherent part of the Reformed faith. The lessons will offer an apologetic for several different areas that are under assault.
 - Marriage - This institution created by God has been eroded the past few decades to that which is now viewed as either a means in which to gain legal benefits or a ceremonial statement of debauchery. This lesson explores the original design of marriage, the wonderful picture of Christ and the church and the social implications of a man and a woman holding to a lifelong vow.
 - Life/Children - Our culture would have us believe that a child should only be brought into the world if he/she is a wanted child. This lesson provides the Biblical support for the truth that children are blessings from the LORD and are not to be taken for granted.
 - Church - In a world that has reduced the church to nothing more than an organization like the Elk's Club, many of our covenant youth don't know or understand the zeal that drove our forefathers to labor for the church, even unto martyrdom. This lesson examines the importance of the church in the lives of God's people.
 - Truth - Truth is relative (except for the absolute statement that truth is relative, of course). To stand for truth is to be viewed as a narrow-minded, hateful and intolerant bigot. This lesson demonstrates what has happened with truth in our culture and how we can once again stand on truth.
 - Salvation - Salvation was freely given to us through the precious blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Sadly, this too is an area that is often times taken for granted. This lesson stops and reflects on the wonderful plan of salvation and our response of obedient gratitude.
 - Heritage - The Christian heritage was manifest in the founding of this country, the development of our legal system and many more parts of our social order that is easily taken for granted. This lesson brings to light the rich heritage of Christianity.
1. Mike volunteered to coordinate the speakers for the lessons and the worship services. Although the juniors and the seniors will go through the same topics, different speakers will present the lessons between the juniors and the seniors.
2. Jon closed the meeting in prayer.

Recommendations:

1. That Classis approve the 2004 Heidelberg Youth Camp proposed budget and camper fees.
2. That Classis approve the report as a whole of the Heidelberg Youth Camp committee.

Budget 2004

Balance Forward	\$3,898.59	
Revenue	(113 Campers - 32 adults)	(111 Campers - 38 adults)
	Actual 2003	Budget 2003
		Budget 2004

Camp Fees	\$12,692.50	\$12,540.00	\$12,770.00
Gifts	\$280.00	\$150.00	\$200.00
Worship Offering	\$315.56	\$500.00	\$350.00
Interest	\$2.42	\$10.00	\$10.00
T-Shirts Sold	\$44.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Camp Store Sales	\$650.51	\$550.00	\$660.00
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Total Revenue	\$13,984.99	\$13,750.00	\$13,990.00
Expense			
Facility Use	\$7,560.00	\$7,800.00	\$7,800.00
Food	\$1,714.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
T-Shirts	\$1,293.75	\$1,250.00	\$2,000.00
Crafts	\$285.91	\$200.00	\$300.00
Supplies	\$347.03	\$150.00	\$250.00
Promotion	\$510.75	\$500.00	\$520.00
Custer State Fee	\$76.00	\$150.00	\$100.00
Postage	\$48.54	\$50.00	\$50.00
Administration	\$308.91	\$350.00	\$330.00
Equipment	\$95.78	\$100.00	\$100.00
HYC Fir	\$57.52	\$400.00	\$200.00
Store Supplies	\$461.59	\$300.00	\$470.00
Worship Offering	\$315.56	\$500.00	\$350.00
<hr/>			
Total Expense	\$13,075.34	\$13,750.00	\$14,470.00
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Revenue Expense	\$909.65	\$0.00	(\$480.00)
Summary			
Balance Forward	\$3,898.59	\$3,898.59	\$4,808.24
Total Revenue	\$13,984.99	\$13,750.00	\$13,990.00
Total Expense	\$13,075.34	\$13,750.00	\$14,470.00
Ending Balance	\$4,808.24	\$3,898.59	\$4,328.24

Respectfully Submitted,
Roger Gallimore

Classis Action: The report as a whole was adopted.

Board of Trustees, Reformed Resource Center

Report of the Administrator of the Reformed Resource Center

By Rev. Howard Hart

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 an excellent job on the Library.

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

A/ An Internship program was submitted. Please note that this program was given to the Candidates and Credentials Committee for examination two years ago. I trust that we will approve this program this Classical year. The clerk did not include this in his abstract.

B/ A Ministerial Retreat for the Midwest RCUS Ministers meeting at Mitchell, South Dakota was held on August 18-19. Fourteen pastors met at Grace Reformed Church. One Orthodox Presbyterian pastor attended. Pastor C.W. Powell gave an enlightening set of lectures on "The 'Openness' of God." Pastor Maynard Koerner lectured on "Membership Instruction." Both lectures were well received and the Pastor's present remarked how meaningful and helpful the lectures were. We are grateful for their time and energy. A video of these lectures is available.

C. A Winterum Retreat was held January 13, 2004 for Ministers and Elders at Grace Reformed Church of Mitchell, SD. Ten Pastors and two Elders attended. Pastor Robert Grossmann lectured on "God's Covenant and the Reformed Practice of Confirmation." Pastor Tracy Gruggett lectured on "The New Perspective on Paul." We thank both of these gentlemen for their good jobs. A video of these lectures is available.

D/ We are planning for two more retreats this Classical year at Mitchell, SD on August 16--17, 2004 and January 10, 2005. For the August retreat has the Rev. Herman Van Stedum on "Revisiting Geerhardos Vos." We need two more lectures for that retreat. The January meeting is open for suggestions and volunteers. We need two lectures.

E/ The Administrator of the RRC and TIM programs is presenting a 20 page document on "Guidelines for Examination for Licensure and Ordination." I spent a number of hours on this task. I believe the Candidates and Credentials Committee was to examine this document for possible use in the examination of candidates for our ministry.

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 is 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 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 roots 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.
1. "The Covenant and the Canons of Dordt" A lecture given by Pastor Grossmann at the 2000 Minister's Retreat at Watertown, SD.
2. The 2001 Minister Conference given at Grace Reformed Church of Mitchell, SD. The tape contains devotions by the Rev. Darrel Kingswood on Romans 1,7,8; Dr. Warren Embree on "The Necessity and Content of Theological Education;" The Rev. Ron Morris on "How to Survive the Pastorate;" The Rev. David Dawn on "Surviving Church Discipline."
3. The 2002 Minister's Retreat given at Grace Reformed Church of Mitchell, SD. Reflecting Upon 50 years of Ministry" by OPC Minister Rev. G.I. Williamson. "War and the Muslim Holy War" by the Rev. Norman Jones. "Pastoring to the Local Community" by the Rev. Randy Klynsma.
4. The Winterum for Ministers and Elders of January 2003. "The Sin Against the Holy Spirit" by Howard Hart. "Comments on the Theology of Norman Shepherd" by Norman Jones.
5. From the 2003 Minister Retreat. "The Openness of God" by Professor C.W. Powell. "Instructing for Church Membership" by the Rev. Maynard Koerner.
6. From the 2004 Winterum for Ministers and Elders. "New Perspectives on Paul" by the Rev. Tracy Grugget. "God's Covenant and the Reformed Practice of Confirmation" by Dr. Robert Grossmann.

D. FUTURE PLANS:

- 1/ We plan on "running" two more retreats this Classical year.
- 2/ I am writing a manual for teaching church history from the Apostle Peter to 2005. I am teaching Church History at the Mitchell Christian School and I am using the first draft of this manual. The structure has sections on, I. A Synopsis of the Lesson; II. Looking Back (to the previous lesson); III. Looking at this lesson (a chapter in the Church in History by B.K. Kuiper); and IV. Discuss/Decide Section.
- 3/ I am preparing Lessons on the Old Testament for Freshmen in High School. Much of it will be based on material I wrote for Synod. I will be teaching Old Testament at the Mitchell Christian School this coming Fall and Winter as well as Church History.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1/ That Dr. Jess Johnson be given an honorarium of \$200.00. Note that Dr. Johnson has three more years to serve as curator of the Hoeflinger Memorial Library.
- 2/ 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.
- 3/ Take note that Pastor Hart has three more years of service as Administrator of the RRC and TIM.
- 4/ That Classis approve the outline of the Internship Program.
- 5/ That Classis approve the "Guidelines for Examinations for Licensure and Ordination."

Warm Regards in Christ,

Rev. Howard E. Hart, Administrator

Classis Action: Recommendation 1 was adopted. On Recommendations 2-5, take note. The report was adopted.

Special Committee to Confer with Clif Loucks

March 1, 2004

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

Esteemed Brothers,

Since Mr. Loucks no longer lives in the area of South Central Classis, and since he is no longer a member of the RCUS, we recommend that this Committee be dissolved.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Grossmann-chairman, R. Morris, H. Kalkman, S. Gross

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole.

Special Committee to Investigate Membership of Ministers

The Committee will report back at the next Spring Classis meeting.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Education and Student Aid

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis overture Synod for \$1,500 in student aid for Ted Schieffelin.
2. Take note with thanksgiving for Ted Schieffelin's satisfactory progress in preparing for the ministry.
3. That Classis overture Synod for \$4,700 (\$4,200 for tuition, \$500 for books) in student aid for Sam Powell.
4. Take note that Mr. Sam Powell has begun his ministerial studies and has made plans to expeditiously complete his formal training.
5. That Classis overture Synod for \$4,446 (\$3,546 for tuition, \$900 for books) in student aid for Richard Stetler.
6. Take note that Mr. Richard Stetler is making satisfactory progress in preparing for the ministry.
7. That Classis overture Synod for \$4,600 (\$4100 for tuition, \$500 for books) in student aid for James Grossmann.

8. Take note that Mr. James Grossmann is making satisfactory progress in preparing for the ministry.
9. That Classis put Heidelberg Seminary on the guideline for giving in the amount of \$3.00 per communicant member.
10. That Classis authorize the relocation of the Reformed Resource Center Library from St. John's RCUS in Lincoln, NE to Providence RCUS in Vermillion, SD.
11. That we honor Rev. Maynard Koerner's resignation as Board member of New Geneva Seminary, and that we suggest that Rev. Ron Morris represent the Classis on the board.

Classis Action: All the recommendations were adopted. Recommendation 9 was amended to change the guideline from \$3.00 to \$6.00. The report was adopted.

Benevolence

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. From Overture #3, that Classis South Central overture Synod on behalf of Mrs. Amy Stevens for aid in the amount of \$1000.00 per month.
2. From overture #5, that Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church of Karval, CO be granted benevolent aid from the funds of Classis South Central in the amount of \$500.00 per month, and that Providence Reformed Chapel of Limon, CO be granted aid in the amount of \$500 per month from the funds of Classis South Central.
3. From Overture #13, that Classis overture Synod to provide benevolent aid in the amount of \$725.00 per month to Trinity Reformed Church of Colorado Springs.

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

Examination and Licensure

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. We received the report of the Permanent Candidates and Credentials Committee of Classis. Since both recommendations of the Permanent Committee are being handled by Classis, we recommend that Classis take note of this fact.
2. That the licensure exam of Mr. Matthew Powell be declared satisfactory.
3. That Classis proceed immediately to the licensure exam of Mr. Dan Rogers.
4. That the licensure exam of Mr. Dan Rogers be declared satisfactory.
5. That Classis license Matthew Powell at the next convenient time during this session of Classis.
6. Your committee reports a satisfactory examination as to Orthodoxy and Intent of Mr. Sam Powell and finds no impediment to allowing him to exhort regularly at Calhan, CO.
7. That the licensure exam of Mr. Lee Johnson be declared satisfactory.
8. That Mr. Johnson be licensed by this session of Classis at a convenient time.
9. We received the Parochial Report of Rev. Bob Davis for consideration of his status as a minister who has not had a charge for some. We recommend that the Permanent Candidates and Credentials Committee work in conjunction with the Consistory of St. John's RCUS in Lincoln, NE in working with Rev. Davis concerning his ministerial status.
10. That the Internship Requirement of Mr. Matthew Powell be declared completed.

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

Judicial

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. Concerning the overture of Trinity Reformed Church Consistory to seat Gary Maassen as an Elder delegate. Take note (because Classis has already acted on this).
2. The Judicial Committee in consultation with the Candidates and Credentials Chairman of the RCUS recommends to Classis to accept the resignation of Kurt Schimke as a Licentiate of South Central Classis.
3. That Classis approve the petition to organize High Plains Church in the township of Calhan, CO, and to appoint the Executive Committee to superintend the election of elders and deacons and induct them into office in accord with Article 8 of the RCUS Constitution.
4. That the Constitution of the High Plains Church be approved after the typos are corrected in Articles 2,4,8,9,26,27, and Article 21.
5. That Classis approve the request of Blue Cliff-Limon Congregations to appoint Matthew Powell as stated supply.

Classis Action: All recommendations were adopted. Recommendation 5 was amended to change the word 'appoint' to 'approve.' The report was adopted.

Ministerial Aid

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis request aid from Synod in the amount of \$1000 per month for Kay Savage for the next synodical year for the months not provided in executive circular 257:2.
2. That Classis request aid from Synod in the amount of \$1000 per month for Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger for the next synodical year.
3. That Classis request aid from Synod in the amount of \$1250 for Rev. Howard Hart for the next synodical year.
4. That Classis request aid from Synod in the amount of \$1000 per month for Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann for the next synodical year

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

Home Missions

The committee brought the recommendations:

1. That High Plains Chapel of Calhan be given \$15,000.00 from South Central Classis for 2005.
2. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for an additional \$15,000.00 for High Plains Chapel of Calhan for the year 2005.
3. That after an examination of his orthodoxy and the purity of his intentions by the Candidates and Credentials Committee of Classis, the South Central Classis declares elder Sam Powell of Calhan to be "Exhorting Elder" of the congregation of High Plains Chapel of Calhan, that this permission to exhort is restricted to the congregation of High

Plains Chapel in Calhan only, and lasts for the duration of and not exceeding a period of three years, that the congregation of High Plains Chapel pay Sam Powell according to the budget as it is approved by South Central Classis, and that the Sacraments and all the Rites, except for funerals, will be administered by an ordained minister of the RCUS.

4. That Grace Reformed Church of Greeley be given \$16,650.00 from South Central Classis for 2005.
5. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for an additional \$16,650.00 for Grace Reformed Church of Greeley for the year 2005.
6. That Providence Reformed Church of Vermillion be given \$10,800.00 from South Central Classis for the year 2005.
7. That South Central Classis overture Synod Home Missions for an additional \$10,800.00 for Vermillion for the year 2005.
8. That Classis budget \$1000 for the Home Missions Committee expenses (i.e. travel-cost of mail).

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

Nominations

The committee brought the following and recommendations:

Missions	<u>H. Kalkman</u> , R. Morris, M. Koerner, M. Burbback, G. Maassen
Publications	<u>D. Kingswood</u> , H. Hart, T. Schieffelin, L. Ochsner.
Christian Education	<u>C.W. Powell</u> , J. Blair, L. Streyle.
Interchurch Relations	<u>W. Embree</u> , G. Sawtelle, J. McClay.
Candidates & Credentials	<u>R. Grossmann</u> , H. Van Stedum, D. Fagrey, D. McPherson, S. Gross
Executive Committee	<u>R. Morris</u> , S. Gross, D. Fagrey
Heidelberg Youth Camp	R. <u>Gallimore</u> , J. Blair, H. Van Stedum
Reformed Resource Center	Administrator - H. Hart (2 yrs) Curator -J. Johnson

Classis Action: The report was adopted as a whole

Overtures

The committee brought the recommendations:

1. That Overture 1 from St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE requesting ministerial aid for Mrs. Hoeflinger be referred to Ministerial Aid.
2. That Overture 2 from Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD, requesting ministerial aid for Rev. Hart be referred to Ministerial Aid.
3. That Overture 3 from Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD, requesting benevolent aid for Mrs. Amy Stevens be referred to Benevolence.
4. That Overture 4 from Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, SD, requesting ministerial aid for Mrs. Grossmann be referred to Ministerial Aid.
5. That Overture 5 from Blue Cliff Community Church requesting benevolent aid for Blue Cliff-Limon, CO churches be referred to Benevolence.

6. That Overture 6 from Elder Spencer Gross recommending a Classical guideline for Heidelberg Seminary be referred to Education and Student Aid.
7. That Overture 7 from Elder Jess Johnson requesting Classis to authorize relocation of the Hoeflinger Memorial Library to Vermillion, SD, and authorize the executive committee to appoint a new curator at the time of the transfer be referred to Education and Student Aid.
8. That Overture 8 from Trinity Sioux Falls Consistory to seat Gary Maassen as delegate Elder from Sioux Falls be referred to Judicial.
9. That Overture 9 from Rev. Maynard Koerner requesting that he be replaced on the Board of New Geneva Seminary be referred to Education and Student Aid.
10. That Overture 10 concerning the resignation of Kurt Schimke from his licensure be referred to Judicial.
11. That Overture 11 concerning the memorial for the organization of High Plains Reformed Church at Calhan, CO be referred to Judicial.
12. That Overture 12 concerning the proposed constitution of High Plains Reformed Church at Calhan, CO be referred to Judicial.
13. That Overture 13 concerning a request of Trinity Covenant RCUS of Colorado Springs for benevolent aid from Classis be referred to Benevolence.
14. That Overture 14 concerning an excuse from Elder Harvey DeGroot be referred to Overtures.
15. That Overture 15 concerning an excuse from Elder Charles Zeeb be referred to Overtures.
16. That Overture 16 from Blue Cliff-Limon requesting Classis to appoint Matt Powell as stated supply be referred to Judicial.
17. Take note that we find that the approved actions of all circular letters were carried out.
18. That C.W. Powell be excused from the Tuesday evening session from 9-10 p.m.
19. That Elder Ewald Ochsner be excused from the Tuesday evening session.
20. That Rev. Warren Embree be excused from the first 15 minutes of Tuesday morning's session.
21. That Elder Lon Ochsner be excused from Wednesday morning's session in order to arrange for Mr Roger's return flight.
22. That Elder Harvey DeGroot be excused from all sessions of Classis.
23. That Elder Charles Zeeb be excused from all sessions of Classis.

Publications

The committee received no business that required action.

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

Services

The committee received no business that required action.

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

Minutes of Synod

The committee reported having received no business that required action.

Classis Action: the report was adopted

Finances

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That all the mileage requests be approved.

Gary Maassen	470 miles at .11	51.70
Herman Van Stedum	470 miles at .11	51.70
Gene Sawtelle	1000 miles at .11	110.00
Ewald Ochsner	1000 miles at .11	110.00
Larry Streyle	540 miles at .22	118.00
Ted Schieffelin	900 miles at .22	198.00
Jon Blair	1430 miles at .22	314.00
Trinity Covenant Church	1054 miles at .22	231.00
James Rydell	350 miles at .22	77.00
Ron Morris	600 miles at .22	132.00

1393.40

2. That mileage be paid to Sam Powell for 1020 miles at .22 = \$224.40.
3. That Mr. Lee Johnson be reimbursed for his plane ticket for \$618.70.
4. That the following budget and guideline be adopted:

	2004 Budget	Guideline (1049 communicants)
Classical Dues	\$7,000.00	6.67
Reformed Resource Center	\$3,000.00	2.85
Greeley Home Missions	\$18,580.00	17.71
Vermillion Home Missions	\$11,511.00	10.97
Calhan Home Missions	\$18,000.00	17.16
Reserve Fund	\$1,500.00	1.43
Blue Cliff	\$6,000.00	5.72
Limon	\$6,000.00	5.72
Heidelberg Seminary	\$6,294.00	6.00
Total	\$77,885.00	74.24

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

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 adjourned to the 2005 Spring Classis meeting according to Standing Rule 22.

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

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

APPENDICES

2004 MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS

	Trinity Covenant Church Colorado Springs, CO.	Grace Reformed Greeley, CO	Blue Cliff Community Ref Karval, CO	High Plains Reformed Calhan, CO	Providence Reformed Limon, CO	Lincoln, NE St. John's Reformed	Emmanuel Reformed Sutton, NE	Hope, Sutton, NE
Number of Elders	2	1	3	0	1	4	3	4
Number of Deacons	1	2	2	0	1	4	3	4
Communicant Members Last Year	46	22	19	11	12	63	167	226
Received by Confirmation	0	0	2	0	0	3	5	4
Received by Letter of Transfer	1	2	1	2	2	3	0	19
Received by Profession of Faith	7	3	0	6	0	0	0	0
Total Members Received	8	5	3	8	2	6	5	23
Total Old/New Members	54	27	22	19	14	69	172	249
Lost by Dismissal	4	0	0	0	0	2	18	4
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	6	0	0	0	2	0	4	8
Lost by Death	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Total Members Lost	10	0	1	0	2	2	24	12
Communicant Members This Year	44	27	21	19	16	75	148	237
Unconfirmed Members	14	17	10	13	10	26	31	66
Total Baptized Members	58	44	31	32	26	101	179	303
Number of Families	26	15	18	8	6	37	78	108
Number of Children in SS	14	17	0	9	10	17	23	75
Number of Adults Baptized	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Infants Baptized	0	2	1	0	0	2	3	4
Total Number of Baptism	1	2	1	0	0	2	3	4
Number Received the Lord's Supper	41	27	22	19	16	68	153	230
Times Lord's Supper Served	12	4	4	2	4	6	4	5

2004 Financial Statistics

Receipts from Regular Offerings	47301	45061	19020	37215	17737	58374	65455	125254
Receipts from Special Offerings	0	92848	195	0	0	10151	3189	13187
Receipts from Other Sources	9329	37160	54680	36000	0	711	822	2305
Total Receipts	56630	175069	73895	73215	17737	69236	69466	140746
Giving to Synod Guidelines	8753	4005	*02	3385	2379	12495	7616	45031
Giving to Classis Guidelines	3290	1496	*02	1271	897	4711	12529	17872
Giving to NonBgdT RCUS Causes	0	1017	120	0	0	1938	900	1384
Giving to Non-RCUS Causes	625	196	0	0	0	483	3084	11761
Other Expenses	43216	203337	75580	64630	15994	37971	46596	74296
Total Expenses	55884	210051	75700	69286	19270	57598	70725	150344
Value of Church Building	0	192000	0	89000	48000	110000	522000	400000
Value of Church Home	0	158000	0	165000	0	99100	156960	60000

Improvements on Church Property	0	3220	0	15000	0	0	0	4300
Present Property Debt	0	191000	38071	154660	17000	0	0	0
Debts Paid in Past Year	0	27237	1929	9153	4205	0	0	0
Giving to Synod Per Communicant	199	182	*02	308	238	198	46	199
Giving to Classis Per Communicant	75	68	*02	116	90	75	75	79
Total Giving to RCUS	274	296	*02	423	328	304	126	284

	Zion Ref. Church Manno, SD	Mitchell, SD Grace Reformed	Rapid City, SD Grace Reformed	Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls, SD	Providence Reformed Vermillion, SD	Rock Springs, WY Providence Reformed	TOTAL 2004	TOTAL 2003	Percent Change
Number of Elders	6	3	2	5	2	3	39	40	-3%
Number of Deacons	6	2	2	5	1	1	34	35	-3%
Communicant Members Last Year	192	72	55	104	23	33	1045	1095	-5%
Received by Confirmation	0	3	0	4	0	0	21	24	-13%
Received by Letter of Transfer	0	2	0	4	0	0	36	35	3%
Received by Profession of Faith	1	0	1	2	0	2	22	20	10%
Total Members Received	1	5	1	10	0	2	79	79	0%
Total Old/New Members	193	77	56	114	23	35	1124	1174	-4%
Lost by Dismissal	8	5	4	3	3	2	53	38	39%
Lost by Erasure or Discipline	5	0	0	0	1	0	26	36	-28%
Lost by Death	3	1	1	0	0	0	8	11	-27%
Total Members Lost	16	6	5	3	4	2	87	85	2%
Communicant Members This Year	177	71	51	111	19	33	1049	1089	-4%
Unconfirmed Members	38	33	41	50	9	14	372	388	-4%
Total Baptized Members	215	104	92	161	28	47	1421	1477	-4%
Number of Families	93	35	26	56	12	19	537	531	1%
Number of Children in SS	39	30	34	46	3	9	326	366	-11%
Number of Adults Baptized	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0%
Number of Infants Baptized	3	1	2	2	1	1	22	30	-27%
Total Number of Baptism	3	1	2	2	1	1	23	31	-26%
Number Received the Lord's Supper	173	71	55	110	23	31	1039	1041	0%
Times Lord's Supper Served	4	4	8	5	4	12	78	76	3%

2004 Financial Statistics

Receipts from Regular Offerings	98025	60446	137485	138493	40155	61029	951050	953315	0%
Receipts from Special Offerings	14820	26508	0	12410	2358	3507	179173	90673	98%
Receipts from Other Sources	12259	0	0	977	31873	0	186116	138067	35%
Total Receipts	125104	86954	137485	151880	74386	64536	1316339	1182055	11%
Giving to Synod Guidelines	37104	14314	11082	19445	6263	6431	178303	153744	16%
Giving to Classis Guidelines	14358	5384	4188	9635	1820	2656	80107	68559	17%
Giving to NonBgdT RCUS Causes	1896	0	0	4129	1398	1850	14632	17743	-18%
Giving to Non-RCUS Causes	0	0	0	5721	0	1192	23062	24926	-7%
Other Expenses	70932	0	60305	75252	74694	49434	892237	866364	3%
Total Expenses	124290	19698	75575	114182	84175	61563	1188341	1131336	5%
Value of Church Building	500000	260000	257000	423946	250000	0	3051946	3732900	-18%
Value of Church Home	75000	85000	174000	140000	85000	0	1198060	852060	41%
Improvements on Church Property	8500	0	107227	9119	4024	0	151390	6631	2183%
Present Property Debt	0	10000	25000	173674	6000	24000	639405	807057	-21%
Debts Paid in Past Year	0	500	3430	35145	13000	3517	98116	149161	-34%
Giving to Synod Per Communicant	193	198	201	187	272	195	171	140	22%
Giving to Classis Per Communicant	74	75	76	93	79	80	77	63	22%

NECROLOGIES

The Reverend Dorman Savage

Rev. Dorman Savage was born in Akron CO on September 23, 1935, the son of Melvin B. and Dorothy (Jackson) Savage. He graduated from Bob Jones University's School of Religion in 1960 with a BA degree. On July 7, 1960, he married Margaret Kay Gibbons in Anderson, CA. God blessed their union with three daughters and two sons: John, Cathy, Coleen, Susan and Thomas. In June 1960, Rev. Savage was ordained to the Christian ministry by the General Association of Regular Baptists in Anderson. He served as the Assistant Pastor in the First Baptist Church in Anderson until he moved to Canon City, CO as a church planter. Returning to Anderson, Rev. Savage pastored a small church in Enterprise, CA. During this time, Rev. Savage and his close friends - Rev. J.G. Duckett, Rev. Gene Sawtelle, Dr. C.W. Powell, Jr., and Rev. Roger Gibbons- studied the Reformed faith and became ardent believers in the doctrines of Sovereign Grace. In 1966, Rev. Savage moved to Fort Collins - along with the membership of the Enterprise church! - where, along with Roger Gibbons, he founded the American Reformed Church. The church later changed its name to Peace Reformed Church when it joined the Reformed Church in the United States. Rev. Savage moved to Colorado Springs in 1971 to manage an employment agency. In 1974 Rev. Savage left Colorado Springs and returned to live on the ranch where he grew up near Karval, CO. 1975 saw the start of a Bible Study, taught by Rev. Savage, that later developed into the Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church in 1979. Rev. Savage was added to the roll of ministers of ~Reformed Church in the United States and was officially installed as pastor of the Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church in 1983. In 1989, Rev. Savage accepted the call to move to Sioux Falls, SD to organize a church there. This church was named the Trinity Reformed Church, presently a growing congregation of over a hundred members. Then, in 1993, Rev. Savage was called to organize a congregation in Rapid City, SD. It is now Grace Reformed Church and thriving under the blessing of God. In the midst of his other work, Rev. Savage also served as President of the South Central Classis (the regional body of the Reformed Church in the United States) from 1995 to 2001. Rev. Savage returned to live on the ranch in Colorado in 1998. He resumed the pastorate of Blue Cliff Community Reformed Church. He also started new works at Greeley, Limon, Calhan and a Bible study in the Arkansas valley.

Rev. Savage was called into the presence of his Lord just before sunrise on Tuesday the 7th of October. He passed away at home in the presence of much of his family. Rev. Savage was preceded in death by his father Melvin Savage. He is survived by his sister Mrs. Jeannie Jolly and his mother Dorothy. Also grateful for sharing his life were John and Anne Savage of Ordway, Kathy and Clinton Clark of Karval, Colleen and David Dawn of Aberdeen, SD, Susan and Samuel Powell of Colorado Springs and Thomas Savage of Colorado Springs. Rev. Savage will also be sadly missed by his grandchildren- Victoria, Joshua and Joseph (John and Anne);

Caleb, Sarah, Abigail and Hannah (Kathy and Clinton); Phoebe, Matthew, and Patrick (Colleen and David); and Morgan, James, Raymond, Carrie and Maggie (Susan and Samuel).

STANDING RULES

1. Classical dues shall be due on the first of December and are to be paid not later than the Thirty-First of December of the current year (1960, '64, '68,'87).
2. The Parochial Reports and Statistics shall be forwarded two weeks before the Spring Meeting of Classis; the Parochial Reports to the President of the Executive Committee and the statistics to the Stated Clerk (1976, '77, '87).
3. The writ of certification for delegate elders for the Classical year shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk two weeks before the Spring Meeting of Classis.
4. All congregations shall present an accurate report on confirmation instruction, Sunday School and weekday school. The period of instruction shall, if possible, be so extended that the pupils memorize and are able to recite the entire Catechism before confirmation. The course of instruction shall include Bible history, Catechism, Bible readings and the study of books and contents of the Bible; also singing, and preferably, Psalm-hymns.
5. The Standing Rules shall be read during the second session of the Spring Meeting (1932, '87).
6. If pastors, elders, and members of congregations request information from the Executive Committee of Classis concerning constitutional matters and procedures, as provided in Article 91, the answer shall, if the request is in order and in written form, be presented to the parties concerned only in written form and relevant only to the item in question (1933).
7. Delegate travel to Classis meetings shall be paid at the rate of 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 (\$150.00), the Stated Clerk shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00), and the Treasurer shall receive fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the Classical year (1960, '61, '65, '78, '84, '87, '90, 2003).

11. The monies sent to the Treasurer shall be made out in check form and designated for which fund and how much for each fund (1957).
12. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to advance the actual fare for public transportation to qualified candidates preaching trial sermons in our vacancies (1958, '87).
13. The Stated Clerk shall prepare for publication an abstract of the Classis minutes. The Spring Abstract shall include a cumulative index of resolutions and positions taken by Classis (1959, '87, '90).
14. The Classis shall have Permanent Committees as follows: Executive, Missions, Christian Education, Candidates and Credentials, Interchurch Relations, and Publications; and the Standing Committee of Nominations each year is to nominate men to serve on these committees (1961, '80, '85, '87, '91).
15. Nominations for all officers of Classis shall be made by secret ballot. All names appearing on the nominating ballot shall be candidates and, if there is no election on the first electing ballot, on each succeeding ballot the two candidates with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped until there is an election. (1962, '80, '87, '88).
16. Every charge that will not have an elder delegate at the Spring Meeting of Classis shall, before the date of the meeting, send in the answers to the questions placed before the elders according to Article 81 of the constitution. This copy shall be signed by all the elders of the charge and sent to the Stated Clerk (1963, '87).
17. The reports and recommendations of the Permanent and Special Committees of Classis shall be completed and mailed to all the Consistories of all the churches, with two copies to be sent to the Stated Clerk, four weeks prior to the meeting of Classis to which these reports and recommendations are to be presented. Excuses for this requirement are to be made only on written request to the Executive Committee of Classis by the chairman of the committee involved, at least two weeks before the meeting of Classis (1963, '70, '79, '82, '87, '90).
18. The services of Classis shall be prepared by the Executive Committee and these proposed services shall be circularized before Classis (1966, '72).
19. Students that are under the care of Classis shall be urged to attend only such seminaries approved by Classis. Only students who attend approved institutions shall be eligible for student aid while preparing for the Christian Ministry (1978, '87).
20. Classis shall require candidates for the ministry to complete an eight-month internship before his ordination exam. The internship shall be spent with a pastor who has served at least 5 years in the RCUS. The pastor shall provide a written evaluation of the candidate to the Candidates and Credentials committee. During this internship particular emphasis shall be placed on learning the peculiarities and practices of the RCUS. This internship requirement may be fulfilled either before or after the candidate has received a call or is licensed (1979, '87, '95).

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

22. The Spring Meeting of Classis shall be held at least one month before the annual meeting of Synod and shall start the 4th 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.

SPECIAL CLASSIS MEETING

Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell SD
August 18, 2003

I. Services.

At 10:00 a.m., August 18, 2003, the Reverend Mr. Ron Morris, President, opened the session with devotions from Hebrews 11:1-16, followed with prayer.

II. Organization.

A. Roll Call

The Reverend Mr. Warren Embree, Clerk Pro Tempore, read the roll. 10 ministers and 7 elders were present. The President declared a quorum.

The President called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

B. Defining the Bar of the House

The President declared the first 7 pews either side of the center aisle as the Bar of the House.

The President appointed Elder Mr. Rusty Blare as teller.

III. Adoption of Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day. (Document #3)

The Reverend Mr. Robert Grossmann moved adoption of the Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day. Seconded and Carried.

The Reverend Mr. Howard Hart moved that the President appoint a Standing Judicial Committee. Seconded and Carried.

The President appointed the Reverends Messrs. Hans Kalkman (Chairman), Howard Hart, and Elder Harley Mehlhaf as the Standing Judicial Committee.

The Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage moved that the Reverend Messrs. David Dawn and Norman Jones, Ministers of the Word in the Northern Plains Classis, RCUS, be seated in the bar of the house and given the privilege of the floor. Seconded and Carried.

Kalkman moved that Roland Schnabel, elder from Zion, RCUS, Menno, SD be seated in the bar of the house and given the privileges of the floor. Seconded and Carried.

The President welcomed Mr. Dan Rogers, a student from Mid-America Reformed Seminary and summer intern at Emmanuel, RCUS, Sutton, to the proceedings.

The Reverend Mr. Jon Blair reported present at 10:15 a.m.

Embree moved that all delegates unable to attend this Special Classis meeting be excused. (Documents #4 & #5) Seconded and Carried.

IV. Licensure Examination

Grossmann moved that the Reverends Messrs. Maynard Koerner, Herman Van Stedum, and Elder Spencer Gross be added to the Candidates and Credentials Committee. Seconded and Carried.

Grossmann presented Kurt Schimke to the body to finish his Licensure Examination.

Van Stedum examined in Apologetics & Philosophy for 20 minutes.

There were questions from the floor.

Koerner examined in Prolegomena for 20 minutes.

There were questions from the floor.

Savage moved to place Elder Charles Zeeb on the Candidates and Credential Committee. Seconded and Carried.

At 11:05 a.m., Grossmann moved a 15 minute recess for the Committee to do its work. Seconded and Carried.

The President called the body to order at 11:20 a.m.

Grossmann moved reception of the Candidates and Credentials Committee report and consideration of the items seriatim. (Document #6) Seconded and Carried.

Grossmann moved adoption of Recommendation #1. Seconded and Carried.

Embree moved that the Reverend Mr. Tracy Gruggett, a Minister of the Word from the Northern Plains Classis, RCUS, be seated in the bar of the house and given the privilege of the floor. Seconded and Carried.

Grossmann moved adoption of Recommendation #2. Seconded and Carried.

Schimke read the Licensure Testimony, signed, and dated it.

The President reported that, without the seal, the presentation of the Certificate of Licensure would need to wait until the Stated Clerk returned from vacation.

Savage led the body in a prayer of thanksgiving.

The body extended the right hand of fellowship to Mr. Schimke.

Grossmann moved adoption of the partial report. Seconded and Carried.

VII. Matters concerning the Calhan, CO mission work including call of the Reverend Mr. Maynard Koerner to St. John's RCUS, Lincoln, NE

Kalkman moved to take up Agenda Item VII. Seconded and Carried by 2/3.

Kalkman moved reception of the Special Judicial Committee report and consideration of the single recommendation. (Documents #7,8,9,10,11,12) Seconded and Carried.

Kalkman moved adoption of its recommendation. Seconded.

Van Stedum moved to amend by adding the words: "and that the pulpit at Calhan be declared vacant as of September 30, 2003." Seconded and Carried.

The Reverend Dr. C.W. Powell, Jr. and Elder Matthew Powell reported present at 11:50 a.m.

On the Main Motion as amended. Carried.

Grossmann moved adoption of the report as a whole. Seconded and Carried.

At 11:55 a.m., Van Stedum moved to recess until the 1:00 p.m. Order of the Day. Seconded and Carried by 2/3.

Matt Powell led in prayer, especially remembering Susan Powell who had contracted the West Nile virus, wife of Sam Powell and daughter of Dorman Savage.

IV. Licensure Examination

The President called the body to order at 1:00 p.m.

C.W. Powell introduced Matt Powell as a first time elder to Classis.

Grossmann moved reception of the Candidates and Credentials report and consideration of its items seriatim (Document #6). Seconded and Carried.

Grossmann moved adoption of Recommendation #3. Seconded and Carried.

Grossmann moved adoption of Recommendation #4. Seconded and Carried.

Grossmann moved adoption of the report as a whole. Seconded and Carried.

C.W. Powell moved the resolution that "Because there is every likelihood that his will be the last meeting of Classis, that the South Central Classis commend the Reverend Mr. Dorman Savage for his many years of faithful service to the RCUS, that this commendation be spread in the minutes, published in the Herald, and the Reverend Savage be given the floor to address the delegates to this Special Classis Meeting." Seconded and Carried.

Savage addressed the body.

Grossmann responded to the address and led the body in a prayer of thanksgiving for Pastor Savage.

V. Ordination Examination (if Licensure is sustained)

Recommendation #3 of the Candidates and Credentials report (q.v.) postponed this item indefinitely.

VI. Matters concerning Ordination of Men having been divorced

Koerner moved that Sam Powell be placed on the roll of Students for the Ministry. Seconded and Carried.

VIII. Matters concerning the potential sale of Peace Reformed Church Loveland, CO property

Koerner moved to ask Mr. Chad Hamilton, a lawyer with the Longmont, Colorado, URC, to investigate legal options with respect to the selling of Peace Reformed, Loveland, Colorado congregation's property, both of the Church building and parsonage. Seconded and Carried.

Savage moved that, if necessary, Sam Powell be granted the maximum amount of money allowed by Synod for seminary tuition and books. Seconded and Carried.

Koerner moved that the treasurer be allowed to determine the legitimate expenses submitted by delegates to this Special Meeting of Classis and pay them. Seconded and Carried.

IX. Reading of the Minutes and Adoption of Minutes.

Clerk read the minutes

The President declared the minutes approved as corrected.

X. Adjournment (including Motion to Adjourn).

At 2:35 p.m., Grossmann moved to adjourn the Special Meeting of Classis. Seconded and Carried.

A. Roll Call.

Clerk read the roll.

Roll call showed 12 ministers and 8 elders present. A quorum.

B. Closing Prayer.

Schimke led the body in prayer.

C. Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction.

The body confessed the Apostles' Creed in unison.
The body prayed the Lord's Prayer in unison.
Savage pronounced the Apostolic Benediction.
The body sang the Doxology in unison.