

## OFFICERS OF CLASSIS

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| PRESIDENT      | Reverend Mr. Jon Blair      |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | Reverend Mr. Lee Johnson    |
| STATED CLERK   | Reverend Mr. David Fagrey   |
| TREASURER      | Elder Spencer Gross         |
|                | 723 E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave. |
|                | Mitchell, SD 57301          |

## PERMANENT COMMITTEES

*(Underlined indicates chairman)*

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Missions:</b>                  | <u>R. Morris</u> , H. Hart, R. Grossmann, S. Gross, D. Mettler                    |
| <b>Publications</b>               | <u>J. Vusich</u> , M. Powell, T. Schieffelin                                      |
| <b>Christian Education</b>        | <u>G. Horner</u> , C.W. Powell, D. Kingswood, J. Connelly, D. DeGroot             |
| <b>Interchurch Relations</b>      | <u>M. Powell</u> , H. Van Stedum, E. Starks, D. Griess                            |
| <b>Candidates&amp;Credentials</b> | <u>M. Koerner</u> , C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, G. Maassen, J. Savage, G. Van Holland |
| <b>Executive Committee</b>        | <u>J. Blair</u> , D. Fagrey, A. Haller  |
| <b>*Heidelberg Youth Camp</b>     | <u>L. Johnson</u> , D. Fagrey, D. Kingswood, J. Berg., L. Dewald, R. Gallimore    |
| *Special Committee                |   |

## 2011 CLASSIS GUIDELINE FOR GIVING\*

|                        | <b>Guideline</b>   | <b>per Communicant (1046)</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Classical Expense Fund | \$8,000.00         | \$7.65                        |
| Providence (Limon)     | \$13,500           | \$12.90                       |
| Christ the King (TX)   | \$22,500           | \$21.51                       |
| Future Home Missions   | \$15,000           | \$14.34                       |
| Heidelberg Seminary    | \$7,845            | \$7.50                        |
| New Geneva Seminary    | \$6,276            | \$6.00                        |
| Kelani Rogers          | \$2,400 (6 months) | \$2.29                        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$75,521</b>    | <b>\$72.19</b>                |

\*This budget is a 15 month budget to realign our fiscal year with that of Synod.

## **MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

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## **DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES**

### **COLORADO**

COLORADO SPRINGS ([www.trinityrcus.com](http://www.trinityrcus.com))

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

GREELEY ([www.reformedgreeley.org](http://www.reformedgreeley.org))

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

LIMON

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

### **NEBRASKA**

LINCOLN ([www.stjohnsreus.com](http://www.stjohnsreus.com))

St. John's RCUS. Phone: **(402) 477-7289**  
Mail and location: 1101 South 26<sup>th</sup> St. Lincoln, NE 68502  
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM.  
Pastor: Lee Johnson (wife, Jenny Jo).

SUTTON

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

## SUTTON

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

## SOUTH DAKOTA

### MENNO ([www.zionreformedchurchrcus.com](http://www.zionreformedchurchrcus.com))

Zion RCUS. Phone: **(605) 387-2816**  
Mail: P.O. Box 387. Menno, SD 57045. Location: 220 South Pine St.  
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Pastor: Scott Henry (wife, Maria)

### MITCHELL ([www.gracereformed.com](http://www.gracereformed.com))

Grace RCUS. Phone: **(605) 996-7439**.  
Mail: PO Box 252, Mitchell, SD 57301. Location: 1021 S. Davison.  
Worship: 10:00 AM; Sunday School 9:00 AM.  
Pastor: George Syms (wife, Debbie)

### RAPID CITY ([www.gracereformedrapidcity.com](http://www.gracereformedrapidcity.com))

Grace RCUS. Phone: **(605) 399-1711**.  
5626 Haines Ave. Rapid City, SD 57701  
Worship: 10:30 AM; Sunday School 9:00 AM; Bible Study Sunday 6:00 PM  
Pastor: David Fagrey (wife, Bonnie)

### SIoux FALLS ([www.trinityrcus.org](http://www.trinityrcus.org))

Trinity RCUS. Phone: **(605) 553-7971**.  
Mail and Location: 7301 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57106  
Worship: 10:00 AM.  
Pastor: Ron Morris (wife, Sheri)

### VERMILLION ([www.providencereformed.com](http://www.providencereformed.com))

Providence RCUS. Phone: **(605) 624-4337**.  
Mail and location: 830 E. Madison. Vermillion, SD 57069.  
Worship: 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:30 AM.  
Pastor: Robert Grossmann (wife, Polly)

## WYOMING

### ROCK SPRINGS ([www.providencerocksprings.org](http://www.providencerocksprings.org))

Providence RCUS. Phone: **(307) 362-5107**.  
1007 9<sup>th</sup> St. Rock Springs, WY 82901.  
Worship: 10AM, Sunday School 11:30AM  
Pastor: George Horner (wife, Mary Jo)

## SERVICES

- The body met for worship on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 p.m. with Rev. George Horner conducting, and Rev. Lee Johnson preaching from Ruth 1:6-18.
- At 9:45 a.m., Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Scott Henry gave a stirring devotion from James 1:1-4 and led the body in prayer.
- Closing devotions on Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. were led by Elder Albert Haller who read from Psalm 149 and led the body in prayer.

## ORGANIZATION

The President of Classis, Rev. Ron Morris, called the body to order on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 2011, at 8:05 p.m. The body had business until 9:15 p.m.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

|                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| President      | The Reverend Mr. Jon Blair    |
| Vice-President | The Reverend Mr. Lee Johnson  |
| Stated Clerk   | The Reverend Mr. David Fagrey |
| Treasurer      | Elder Mr. Spencer Gross       |

The President appointed Rev. Matt Powell to be the Reformed Herald reporter.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Benevolence               | D. Kingswood, J. Vusich, F. Hofmann.                        |
| Education and Student Aid | H. Van Stedum, H. Hart, G. Maassen.                         |
| Examination and Licensure | C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, G. Van Holland, J. Savage, D. Zeeb. |
| Finances                  | R. Morris, S. Gross, J. McClay.                             |
| Ministerial Aid           | G. Horner, G. Van Holland, M. Burbach.                      |
| Missions                  | S. Henry, L. Johnson, A. Hallar.                            |
| Overtures                 | M. Powell, S. Henry, L. Huber.                              |
| Publications              | C.W. Powell, M. Powell, G. Van Holland.                     |
| Services                  | H. Hart, H. Van Stedum, G. Maassen.                         |
| Judicial                  | L. Johnson, R. Grossmann, J. Savage.                        |
| Nominations               | R. Grossmann, G. Horner, J. McClay.                         |
| Minutes of Synod          | R. Morris, D. Fagrey, E. Starks.                            |

## **PRESENTATION OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Executive Committee (*Referred to Overtures*)

### **Executive Circulars Volume 25, Numbers 1-10**

#### **Number 1**

March 30, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention

#### A. The Call and Acceptance of Rev. George Horner.

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

- a. Call of a minister from Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, no date, to Rev. George Horner.
- b. Letter from Rev. George Horner, stating his Acceptance of the Call from Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, dated March 29, 2010.

Rev. Horner expects written acknowledgement by the Consistory of Emmanuel ARC, a congregation of the Canadian and America Reformed churches, that his labors as their interim pastor will cease as of the last day of March 2010.

*Recommendation:* the executive committee recommends that Classis approve the call of Rev. George Horner to Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY.

#### **Number 2**

April 8, 2010

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention:

#### B. The Installation of Rev. Joe Vusich.

The executive committee has received the following request from the consistory of Emmanuel Reformed Church, Sutton, NE:

The consistory of Emmanuel Reformed Church is requesting that an Installation Committee be erected for the installation of Pastor Joe Vusich. The committee should consist of Maynard Koerner, Herman Van Stedum and the Elders of Emmanuel, with the installation to take place on Sunday, May 16 during the regular morning worship service.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That a committee, consisting of Rev. Maynard Koerner (Chairman), Rev. Herman Van Stedum, and the elders of Emmanuel Reformed Church, Sutton, NE, install Rev. Joe Vusich as pastor of Emmanuel



Reformed Church on Sunday, May 16, 2010; and that said committee report back to the executive committee after the installation has taken place.

**Number 3**

May 12, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention:

C. The Installation of Rev. George Horner.

The executive committee has received the following information from the consistory of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY:

Providence Reformed Church consistory has scheduled the installation service for Reverend George Horner for June 27, 2010 during the worship service at 10:00 a.m. in Rock Springs, WY. We have invited Reverend Bud Powell to give the charge to the congregation and Reverend Neale Riffert to give the charge to the pastor. Both pastors have accepted our invitation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That a committee, consisting of Rev. Bud Powell (Chairman), Rev. Neale Riffert, and the elders of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, install Rev. George Horner as pastor of Providence Reformed Church on Sunday June 27, 2010; and that said committee report back to the executive committee after the installation has taken place.

**Number 4**

June 7, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention:

D. Correction for Guidelines.

Our Classis Treasurer, Spencer Gross, informed the executive committee that there was an oversight in calculating the 2010 guidelines with respect to missions support. The monies we approved at our 2009 spring meeting for Greely and Vermillion were designated for the calendar year 2010 and therefore they need to be a part of our guideline budget for 2010 (see 2009 Abstract, page 32). Also, the clerk made a slight error in recording the amount for Heidelberg Seminary and New Geneva Seminary. Instead of \$5,310 and \$4,248, it should be \$5,270 and \$4,216 respectively.

According to our treasurer, this is how the guidelines should read:

|                 |           |                  |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
|                 | TOTAL     |                  |
| Classis Expense | \$8000.00 | \$7.59 per comm. |

|                 |             |                  |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| Missions        |             |                  |
| Future          | \$21,080.00 | \$20.00          |
| Limon           | \$9,000.00  | \$8.54           |
| Vermillion      | \$5,000.00  | \$4.74           |
| Greeley         | \$9,928.00  | \$9.42           |
| Total Mission   | \$45008.00  | \$42.70 per comm |
| Heidelberg      | \$5,270.00  | \$5.00           |
| New Geneva      | \$4,216.00  | \$4.00           |
| Reserve Fund    | \$2,108.00  | \$2.00           |
| Total All Funds | \$64,602.00 | \$61.29          |

RECOMMENDATION: That Classis approve these corrections to the 2010 guidelines submitted by the classis treasurer.

### **Number 5**

September 3, 2010

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention:

E. Sherman, Texas

The Executive Committee received the following communication from the Classis Home Missions Committee regarding a work in Sherman, Texas:

September 2, 2010

The Executive Committee  
South Central Classis, RCUS

Honorable Brethren,

Representatives of the SCC Home Missions Committee including Rev. Scott Henry, (accompanied by his wife and daughter), Rev. Howard Hart, Elder Daniel Mettler, and Elder Spencer Gross, along with Rev. Robert Grossmann, who was invited to assist, traveled to Sherman, Texas, to encourage the group that has been forming with a view to becoming a home mission work of the RCUS.

We arrived at Rev. Neal Riffert's home for a mid-afternoon lunch, which was delightful along with the fellowship. We left for our host family's home who provided a very delightful meal and a time of fellowship. Around 7:30 P.M. we began our formal presentation, with 10-11 interested persons present. Rev. Hart led us in devotions, followed by Rev. Grossmann, who gave a presentation on church history, and then Rev. Henry gave a presentation on RCUS history and distinctives. We then opened it up for discussion which led to their accepting the invitation from Grace Reformed Church of Mitchell, SD, to be their overseeing congregation. They were very enthusiastic and anxious to get started. They have a strong core group of 5 families and another 5 to 7 persons who are very interested.

On Tuesday A.M. we met at 6:30 for a Bible study. Rev. Grossman taught on "What's Reformed?"

followed by further discussion of their future with the RCUS. The situation did not warrant an evaluation or assessment at the time as the work is in a preliminary stage, nor is it the committee's intention to conduct an assessment prior to the spring meeting of Classis. The Committee has understood that the funds raised through the Classis guidelines were to be used for the development of home missions possibilities, to help in the support of a young group that had promise for future growth (see 2010 Abstract, pg. 32, Home Missions, recommendations 2 and 3). After reviewing the activity and financial statistics of the group, the committee proposed an amount of \$1500 per month to help them in making progress in order to become a mission work. This would be used to provide Rev. Neale Riffert, who is willing to be engaged on a part-time basis, a housing allowance of \$1,000 monthly, and provide the amount of \$500 to the group for travel and honorarium for other RCUS pastors to minister the Word on occasion.

We left very encouraged and recommend approval of these matters. The committee members thank Rev. Grossman and Daniel Mettler for flying us there and back.

The Committee recommends that:

1. Classis provide funding to the Sherman, Texas, group in the amount of \$1,500 per month for housing and RCUS supply pastors beginning September 2010;
2. That the Churches be encouraged to pray for the Sherman group and for Rev. Riffert who has been instrumental in its development through his ministry of the Word.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Gross, chairman, on behalf of the committee

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Executive committee concurs with the recommendations of the Classis Home Missions Committee, that Classis provide funding to the Sherman, Texas, group in the amount of \$1,500 per month for housing and RCUS supply pastors beginning September 2010; and that the Churches be encouraged to pray for the Sherman group and for Rev. Riffert who has been instrumental in its development through his ministry of the Word.

## **Number 6**

October 28, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention.

The Executive Committee received the following communication from the South Central Classis Candidates and Credentials Committee:

Oct. 26, 2010  
Executive Committee  
South Central Classis

Subject: Request for action from the Permanent Candidates and Credentials Committee

Gentlemen:

Your committee has received a request concerning replacing Rev. Ron Morris, following his resignation, on the Board of New Geneva Theological Seminary. It is the task of the Candidates and Credential Committee to recommend individuals to represent the South Central Classis on the New Geneva Board. The name of Joshua Berg, Elder at Trinity Covenant Reformed Church of Colorado Springs, CO has been offered for this position. The committee concurs, therefore, we present the following recommendation.

Recommendation #1: That Joshua Berg, Elder at Trinity Covenant Reformed Church of Colorado Springs be presented to the New Geneva Board for consideration in serving on its Board.

Respectfully submitted: Maynard Koerner, Chairman, C.W. Powell, David Fagrey, Daniel Mettler, John Savage, Greg Van Holland

The Executive Committee concurs with this recommendation that Elder Joshua Berg of Trinity Covenant RCUS in Colorado Springs be presented to the New Geneva Theological Seminary Board for consideration in serving on its Board.

## **Number 7**

November 30, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention.

The Executive Committee received the following communication from the South Central Classis Home Missions Committee concerning the work in Sherman, TX.

November 26, 2010

South Central Classis  
Home Missions Committee

Report of Visit to Sherman, Texas, October 13-15, 2010

Executive Committee  
South Central Classis  
Reformed Church in the United States

Esteemed brethren,

The Home Missions Committee chairman, Elder Spencer Gross, had been working for some time on an opportunity to enable a sub-committee to visit the work which had been begun by the Rev. Mr. Neale Riffert in Sherman, Texas.

The sub-committee consisted of Elder Spencer Gross, Rev. Howard Hart, and Rev. G. Syms, all of Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD. The purpose of the trip was to have face-to-face contact with the people who have been responding to the teaching and preaching ministry of Rev. Riffert. Since the Mitchell Consistory had agreed to oversee the work in Sherman, and since Rev. Riffert had been giving instruction in the Confessions and Polity of the RCUS, the purpose also included the receiving as members of the Grace Reformed Church those who desired to do so.

The men left Mitchell at five o'clock in the morning on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Elder Gross kindly drove for the entire trip (both ways) which was more than 13 hours one way. The accommodations for the brethren had been arranged at the Comfort Suites hotel in Sherman.

On Thursday morning, October 14<sup>th</sup>, the sub-committee met with Mr. Ron Terry and Mr. Charles Sieling to discuss financial/budgetary matters and plans for the development of the mission. The demographics show that the region has a population of 85-100,000. The area is well churched, with a high percentage of people regularly attending worship. There is also a high percentage of disenchantment with what is going on in those churches. One of the brethren made the comment, "We don't know if **we** are what they are looking for, but we believe we have found what we were looking for." The Rifferts hosted the committee at their home at noon with a delightful meal and

fellowship. The entire group invited us to meet them at Johnny Carino's Restaurant for supper and afterward returned to the Comfort Suites' meeting room for the evening worship service which began at seven o'clock.

A service of worship was held during which the membership questions were put to the ten persons who desired membership. The singing was led by Mr. Jim Gurski, and accompaniment provided by Mrs. Debbie Terry. Rev. Syms preached a sermon entitled "The Pattern of Sound Words" from 2 Timothy 1:1-14. The service included the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Rev. Syms read the liturgical form, and Elder Spencer Gross and Rev. Hart distributed the elements.

The occasion was marked by the expression of thankfulness and joy by the brothers and sisters in Sherman. It was a delightful time of fellowship with the saints in Sherman that evening.

Recommendation:

1. That the work which is developing in Sherman, Texas, be declared an official mission work of the South Central Classis;
2. That the present Classis support of the work at \$1,500.00 per month be continued. After further consultation with the Sherman members and approval by the Home Missions Committee, an additional \$1,500.00 per month for this work may be requested from Synod pending a meeting to be held the end of January 2011.

Respectfully submitted, Spencer Gross, chairman.

The Executive Committee concurs with these recommendations that the developing work in Sherman, TX be declared an official mission work of the South Central Classis, and that the present Classis support of this work at \$1,500 per month be continued.

## **Number 8**

February 1, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

There is one item that needs your attention

- A. 2011 Spring Meeting of South Central Classis at Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, CO.
  1. Date and Time: The spring meeting of Classis will commence on **Monday, March 28**, at 6:45 p.m. with a worship service.
  2. The Schedule of Services, Order of the Day, and Agenda: see attachments.
  3. Statistics and Credentials: You will find attached with this mailing one set of forms consisting of Membership and Financial Statistics and Credentials of Elders to Classis. According to the Standing Rules of Classis (#2 & #3) these are to be forwarded to the Stated Clerk no later than **two weeks** before the Classis meets. This means they must be in the Clerk's hands by **March 14, 2011**. It would, however, be appreciated by the Clerk if these documents can get to him as early as possible.
  4. Parochial Reports: According to Standing Rule #2 Parochial Reports are to be **sent to the President** (NOT THE CLERK) **two weeks** before Classis (by **March 14, 2011**). It would, however, be appreciated by the President if these reports can get to him as early as possible.
  5. Reports and Recommendations of Permanent and Special Committees: According to Standing Rule #17 the Reports of the Permanent and Special Committees are to be completed and **mailed to all the Consistories** of all the Churches **four weeks** prior to the Classis Meeting, thus by **February 28, 2011** with **one copy** to be sent **to the Stated Clerk**. Excuses for this requirement are to be made only on written request to the Executive Committee.
  6. **PLEASE SEND ELECTRONIC COPY OF ALL COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE CLERK.**

7. Accommodations: Please email Rev. Jon Blair [jwblair83@msn.com](mailto:jwblair83@msn.com) and let him know whether you want him to arrange your lodging (and if so whether you want to stay with a family or in a hotel) or whether you prefer to find your own lodging. The Greeley church will assume that all delegates will be arriving in time for supper at 5:30 p.m. unless they communicate otherwise.
8. Committees:

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Missions:</b>                    | <u>S. Henry</u> , H. Hart, G. Syms, S. Gross, S. Heinbigner.                       |
| <b>Publications</b>                 | <u>J. Vusich</u> , M. Powell, T. Schieffelin.                                      |
| <b>Christian Education</b>          | <u>J. Blair</u> , C.W. Powell, D. Kingswood, J. Connelly, D. DeGroot.              |
| <b>Interchurch Relations</b>        | <u>M. Powell</u> , B. Grossmann, E. Starks, D. Griess.                             |
| <b>Candidates &amp; Credentials</b> | <u>M. Koerner</u> , C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, D. Mettler, J. Savage, G. Van Holland. |
| <b>Executive Committee</b>          | <u>R. Morris</u> , D. Fagrey, G. Maassen.  |
| <b>*Heidelberg Youth Camp</b>       | <u>R. Gallimore</u> , S. Henry, L. Johnson, B. Freeman, L. Dewald.                 |
| <b>*Dan Rogers</b>                  | <u>D. Kingswood</u> , Elders of Hope Sutton, F. Hofman, L. Johnson.                |
| *Special Committee                  |  |

## **Number 9**

February 28, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

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

- 1) From the Diaconate of High Plains OPC in Calhan, CO: A request for ministerial aid for Mrs. Kay Savage in the amount of \$1,000 per month.
- 2) From the Consistory of St. John's RCUS: A request that Classis petition Synod to grant Ministerial Aid for Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger in the amount of \$1,500 per month until her house is sold and then the amount of \$1,200 per month.

## **Number 10**

March 7, 2011

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There is one item that needs your attention.

A. The Resignation, Acceptance, and Dismission of Rev. Scott Henry.

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

- (1) Call of a minister from Grace Reformed Church, Lancaster, CA, dated February 27, 2011, to Rev. Scott Henry, Menno, SD.
- (2) Letter from Rev. Scott Henry, stating his acceptance of the call from Grace Reformed Church, Lancaster CA, March 2, 2011.
- (3) Resignation of Rev. Scott Henry from Zion Reformed Church, Menno, SD, dated March 2, 2011, effective May 30, 2011.

- (4) Acceptance of the resignation of Rev. Scott Henry from the Consistory of Zion Reformed Church, Menno, SD, dated March 2, 2011.
- (5) A request from Rev. Scott Henry to be dismissed to the Western Classis, dated March 5, 2011.

## RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that the resignation of Rev. Scott Henry from Zion RCUS, Menno, SD be approved, that his request to be dismissed to the Western Classis be granted, and that the pulpit of Zion Reformed Church, Menno, SD be declared vacant as of May 30, 2011.

Respectfully submitted on all circulars,

President Rev. Ron Morris, Stated Clerk Rev. David Fagrey, Elder Gary Maassen

## MISSIONS

*(Referred to Standing Missions)*

### **Grace Reformed Church, Greeley, Colorado**

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren,

Your committee has been active in various ways to encourage and report on the progress of the Home Missions works of South Central Classis.

Due to time and travel constraints, several of our Home Mission works were interviewed *via* conference calls with members of the local consistories and committee members participating.

On Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, the Consistory of Grace Reformed Church of Greeley, Colorado, and Committee members Elders Daniel Mettler, Steve Heinbigner, and Spencer Gross Rev. S. Henry, Rev. H. Hart, conducted a conference call for approximately one half hour. Chairman S. Gross read from Revelation 3:7, 8 & 10. Rev. S. Henry offered prayer for the Lord's blessing on the meeting.

2010 was the last year for Home Mission support for the Greeley church. The committee was assured that the Grace Congregation was comfortable with this situation.

Elder Albert Haller expressed great appreciation for the financial and prayer support from both Classis and Synod.

Some of the statistics reported were: 77 baptized members and 32 covenant households. The average Sunday attendance has been 70-75. There have been occasions when attendance has come close to 100. People are visiting from evangelical churches mainly looking for the preaching of the Word of God. The Grace Reformed Church embraces the Three Forms of Unity wholeheartedly, which indicates a soundness in doctrine and in commitment to the church.

The conference call meeting was closed with prayer offered by Rev. J. Blair.

### **Providence Reformed Church, Limon, Colorado**

On Tuesday evening, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 8PM Central Time, the Home Missions Committee conducted a conference call with Rev. Matthew Powell and members of the Consistory. Committee members participating were Elders Daniel Mettler, Steve Heinbigner, Spencer Gross (Chairman), Rev. S. Henry, Rev. H. Hart, and Rev. G. Syms. Elder Gross read from Revelation 3:7, 8 &10, and the meeting was opened with prayer offered by Rev. S. Henry.

The report of Rev.. Powell and the elders was very upbeat and positive. The men reported a netgain in membership of 3 communicants and 3 baptized members. They now have 42 communicants and 21 unconfirmed for a total of 63 baptized members.

Rev. Powell reported that he conducts three Bible Studies weekly. This is necessary due to the geographical locations of the members. The brothers reported that financially they are pleased with the past support of Classis as well as the giving of the members. Due to the local support of the church they are requesting a reduction in Home Mission support to \$375.00 per month for the year 2012.

The conference call was concluded with the offering of prayer by Rev. Hart.

### **Providence Reformed Church, Vermillion, South Dakota**

On Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, the Home Mission Committee consisting of Elders Daniel Mettler and Spencer Gross (Chairman), Rev. S. Henry, and Rev. G. Syms, traveled to Vermillion, SD, to meet with Rev. R. Grossmann and Elders past and present of Providence Reformed Church.

The meeting was opened with prayer offered by Rev. S. Henry and the reading of Revelation 3:7,8 &10 by Elder S. Gross.

Providence Reformed Church will also be going off Home Mission support as of the end of 2010. The committee's concern was to make sure that the Providence Committee was comfortable with this cessation of support.

The men expressed great appreciation and thankfulness for all of the support and prayers over the years. They assured the committee that they were comfortable with this change. By their financial report (available upon request) they are justified. The church presently has 22 communicant members with a total of 35 baptized members.

Rev. Grossmann reports that the members of the congregation are in harmony with each other and are committed to the doctrines and distinctive of the RCUS.

### **Christ the King Reformed Church**

September 2, 2010

The Executive Committee

South Central Classis, RCUS

Honorable Brethren,

Representatives of the SCC Mome Missions Committee including Rev. Scott Henry, (accompanied by his wife and daughter), Rev. Howard Hart, Elder Daniel Mettler, and Elder Spencer Gross, along with Rev. Robert Grossmann, who was invited to assist, traveled to Sherman, Texas, to encourage the group that has been forming with a view to becoming a home mission work of the RCUS.



We arrived at Rev. Neal Riffert's home for a mid-afternoon lunch, which was delightful along with the fellowship. We left for our host family's home who provided a very delightful meal and a time of fellowship. Around 7:30 P.M. we began our formal presentation, with 10-11 interested persons present. Rev. Hart led us in devotions, followed by Rev. Grossmann, who gave a presentation on church history, and then Rev. Henry gave a presentation on RCUS history and distinctives. We then opened it up for discussion which led to their accepting the invitation from Grace Reformed Church of Mitchell, SD, to be their overseeing congregation. They were very enthusiastic and anxious to get started. They have a strong core group of 5 families and another 5 to 7 persons who are very interested.

On Tuesday A.M. we met at 6:30 for a Bible study. Rev. Grossman taught on "What's Reformed?" followed by further discussion of their future with the RCUS. The situation did not warrant an evaluation or assessment at the time as the work is in a preliminary stage, nor is it the committee's intention to conduct an assessment prior to the spring meeting of Classis. The Committee has understood that the funds raised through the Classis guidelines were to be used for the development of home missions possibilities, to help in the support of a young group that had promise for future growth (*see 2010 Abstract, pg. 32, Home Missions, recommendations 2 and 3*). After reviewing the activity and financial statistics of the group, the committee proposed an amount of \$1,500 per month to help them in making progress in order to become a mission work. This would be used to provide Rev. Neale Riffert, who is willing to be engaged on a part-time basis, a housing allowance of \$1,000 monthly, and provide the amount of \$500 to the group for travel and honorarium for other RCUS pastors to minister the Word on occasion.

We left very encouraged and recommend approval of these matters. The committee members thank Rev. Grossman and Daniel Mettler for flying us there and back.

The Committee recommends that:

1. Classis provide funding to the Sherman, Texas, group in the amount of \$1,500 per month for housing and RCUS supply pastors beginning September 2010;
2. That the Churches be encouraged to pray for the Sherman group and for Rev. Riffert who has been instrumental in its development through his ministry of the Word.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Gross, chairman, on behalf of the committee

### **Christ the King Reformed Church**

Report of Visit to Sherman, Texas

Esteemed brethren,

The Home Missions Committee chairman, Elder Spencer Gross, had been working for some time on an opportunity to enable a sub-committee to visit the work which had been begun by the Rev. Mr. Neale Riffert in Sherman, Texas.

The sub-committee consisted of Elder Spencer Gross, Rev. Howard Hart, and Rev. G. Syms, all of Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD.

The purpose of the trip was to have face-to-face contact with the people who have been responding to the teaching and preaching ministry of Rev. Riffert. Since the Mitchell Consistory had agreed to oversee the work in Sherman, and since Rev. Riffert had been giving instruction in the Confessions and Polity of the RCUS, the purpose also included the receiving as members of the Grace Reformed Church those who desired to do so.

The men left Mitchell at five o'clock in the morning on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Elder Gross kindly drove for the entire trip (both ways) which was more than 13 hours one way. The accommodations for the brethren had been arranged at the Comfort Suites hotel in Sherman.

On Thursday morning, October 14<sup>th</sup>, the sub-committee met with Mr. Ron Terry and Mr. Charles Sieling to discuss financial/budgetary matters and plans for the development of the mission. The demographics show that the region has a population of 85-100,000.

The area is well churched, with a high percentage of people regularly attending worship. There is also a high percentage of disenchantment with what is going on in those churches. One of the brethren made the comment, "We don't know if *wē* are what they are looking for, but we believe we have found what we were looking for." The Rifferts hosted the committee at their home at noon with a delightful meal and fellowship. The entire group invited us to meet them at Johnny Carino's Restaurant for supper and afterward returned to the Comfort Suites' meeting room for the evening worship service which began at seven o'clock.

A service of worship was held during which the membership questions were put to the ten persons who desired membership. The singing was led by Mr. Jim Gurski, and accompaniment provided by Mrs. Debbie Terry. Rev. Syms preached a sermon entitled **The Pattern of Sound Words** from 2 Timothy 1:1-14. The service included the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Rev. Syms read the liturgical form, and Elder Spencer Gross and Rev. Hart distributed the elements.

The occasion was marked by the expression of thankfulness and joy by the brothers and sisters in Sherman. It was a delightful time of fellowship with the saints in Sherman that evening.

Recommendation:

1. That the work which is developing in Sherman, Texas, be declared an official mission work of the South Central Classis;
2. That the present Classis support of the work at \$1,500.00 per month be continued, with an increase per month of \$1,500.00 from Synod to be added when appropriate.

Respectfully submitted, Spencer Gross, chairman.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

*(Referred to Standing Publications)*

No requests or action items were presented to the South Central Classis since last year's Classis meeting, and the committee did not have reason to meet. There is nothing further to report.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Joe Vusich (chairman).

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

*(Referred to Education and Student Aid)*

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

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

Respectfully submitted, Rev. J. Blair (chairman), C.W. Powell, D. Kingswood, J. Connelly, D. DeGroot

## **INTERCHURCH RELATIONS**

*(Referred to Overtures)*

Esteemed Brothers,

We received an invitation to the Presbytery of the Central US, OPC meeting for 2010 in Lincoln, NE. Pastor Joe Vusich represented the South Central Classis to this meeting. We also were invited to Classis Central URC meeting in Doon, Iowa. Pastor Maynard Koerner represented us to that body.

We sent invitations to the Presbytery of the Dakotas, OPC, the Classis Central URC and the Midwest Presbytery of the RPCNA. The OPC plans on sending a delegate, the URC was unable to come but sent greetings, and the RPCNA reports that they are unable to attend due to a scheduled ordination service, but are very interested in maintaining contact regarding future meetings.

Respectfully Submitted, M. Powell (chairman), R. Grossmann, Elder E. Starks, Elder D. DeGroot

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

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## **CANDIDATES AND CREDENTIALS**

*(referred to Examination and Licensure)*

Esteemed Brethren:

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

Your committee received a request from Dr. CW Powell to recommend Elder Joshua Berg of Trinity Reformed Church, Colorado Springs, CO, to be considered by New Geneva Theological Seminary for membership on its Board. This recommendation was submitted to the Executive Committee of the South Central Classis on Oct. 26, 2010. Subsequently the Executive Committee circularized the request. Since the Executive Committee received an objection to the proposed action, the matter will need to be taken up by Classes at its Spring Meeting, March 28-29, 2011.

The committee has continued to work with student under care Jim Connelly. Mr. Connelly has pursued a course of self study under the direction of Rev. David Fagrey.

Your committee met by means of a conference phone call on Jan. 20, 2011. All of the members participated. The matter of whether Mr. Connelly is sufficiently prepared to undergo a licensure exam was discussed at length.

In addition to the study Mr. Connelly has completed, he has a very small amount of experience in the ministry and He has attended classes at Heidelberg Seminary for one year.

The committee concluded that, if the Classis so determines, Mr. Connelly may be licensed without a seminary degree according to Art. 21 of the constitution. However, he still needs to be able to complete an exam in all of the areas prescribed in Art. 20 of the constitution. Therefore, the committee has determined that Mr. Connelly will need to complete an assignment in historical philosophy, and be able to demonstrate a basic proficiency in Greek and Hebrew, as well as submit assigned papers before he is ready to be examined.

The committee commends Mr. Connelly for the work done thus far and would like to encourage him to continue his studies so long as he remains convinced of the Lord's calling to seek the ministry.

The committee therefore makes the following recommendation: That before South Central Classis schedule a licensure exam of Mr. Jim Connelly, he will need to complete the course work which has been assigned, specifically historical philosophy, and be prepared to demonstrate a basic proficiency in Greek and Hebrew in his exam, along with submitting theological papers.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Maynard Koerner, chairman  
Rev. David Fagrey  
Dr. C.W. Powell  
Elder John Savage  
Elder Daniel Mettler  
Elder Greg Van Holland

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

### **President's Report on the State of the Church**

Beloved brethren of the South Central Classis. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. As I write this report, the world around seems to be in a state of turmoil. Major earthquakes, wars, unrest across the Arab world and economic difficulties are all around us. But it is times such as these that we can gain great comfort from the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and assurance in God's providence.

In last year's President's Report, we went on somewhat of a tour of the congregations starting out west. This year, we'll do the same thing only we'll start in the east. At Trinity Reformed Church in Sioux Falls, SD, I can report that things are going well. We have visitors on a regular basis and our auditorium is usually pretty full. We built on to our building and added classrooms, offices and a library which is being used by Heidelberg Theological Seminary (HTS). HTS began having classes at our facility last fall and that seems to have been a good move for the seminary. Rev. Maynard Koerner has accepted a position as associate pastor at Trinity and in addition to teaching classes at the seminary, also teaches a section for our catechism class. Although I regularly see Rev. Koerner during the week in the office, I rarely see him on Sundays. This is because he keeps busy filling pulpits in the area. The same goes for Rev. Herman Van Stedum who has retired and lives in nearby Harrisburg.

Heading south, we come to Menno, SD. Rev. Scott Henry has now been at Menno for seven years. He has received a call to Lancaster, CA and he has accepted that call. His last Sunday in Menno will be the last Sunday in May. Let us keep both Rev. Henry and the congregation in Menno in our prayers as they go through this time of transition.

In Vermillion, SD, Rev. Robert Grossmann continues his ministry there. Vermillion has been a mission work for a number of years but they have become self-supporting and are no longer in need of mission funds. Rev. Grossmann does a weekly radio program that covers a five state area. We are thankful that the gospel can be preached by one of our men to such a wide area.

In Mitchell, SD, the congregation is doing well. Rev. George Syms had some health concerns last year and was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. He is recovering and has taken some steps to improve his health. While Rev. Syms was recuperating, Rev. Howard Hart picked up the slack. It can be a tremendous blessing to have a reliable, retired minister in the congregation as Mitchell has in Howard Hart. Rev. Hart was diagnosed with prostate cancer last year and is starting to slow down a bit, but we pray for many more fruitful years.

Going down to Sutton, NE, Rev. Darrell Kingswood continues his ministry at Hope Reformed Church. In addition to the regular work of the ministry, Rev. Kingswood has served on some special committees. He was on the committee to work with Rev. Dan Rogers, and he also is on the synodical

committee on "Biblical Sexual Morality."

Also in Sutton, Emmanuel Reformed Church has undergone a real trial. Their pastor, Rev. Dan Rogers, resigned and was suspended by Classis because of a heavy drinking problem. That issues will be further dealt with at this Classis meeting. Emmanuel has called a new man, Rev. Joe Vusich, who is a very capable man. May the Lord grant a time of peace and healing to all involved in this situation.

In Lincoln, NE, Rev. Lee Johnson and his wife are contributing to the growth of the church by bringing into this world their fifth child. Statistically, it looks like the numbers are down at the Lincoln congregation, but this is because they have been purging their rolls and have erased a number of members who have either moved or are not attending for some reason.

In Rapid City, Rev. David Fagrey is now in his thirteenth year serving that congregation. They continue to show signs of growth and have become debt free. Their very nice facility and parsonage have been paid off. Rev. Fagrey also does a weekly radio program.

Going west to Colorado Springs, CO, Rev. C. W. Powell continues to pastor the flock there as well as teaching at New Geneva Theological Seminary (NGTS). The congregation at Colorado Springs is using technology to spread the Word. The hits on the church web site remained steady through the first seven months of the year with more than 90,000 hits and more than 30,000 downloads of material. Unfortunately the web site was "hijacked" and hits fell off to practically nothing for a while but they have begun to recover.

In Limon, CO, Rev. Matt Powell reports signs of growth in that congregation. They did receive some building damage as the result of a storm, but that has been remedied. In addition to the regular work of the ministry, Rev. Powell is also working on his Th M and plans to work towards a Ph. D. He is currently teaching one class at New Geneva.

In Greeley, CO, Rev. Jon Blair reports good things and growth in that congregation. Like Rapid City, the congregation in Greeley has also paid off their building debt. They are also now self supporting so they have requested to come off of missions assistance.

Last, but not least, we end up in Rock Springs, WY. Rev. George Horner will soon be celebrating his one year anniversary as the pastor of that congregation. Rev. Horner and his wife Mary Jo did have a health scare with Mary Jo being diagnosed with a brain tumor. But he reports that the brain tumor has been eradicated and she appears to be in excellent health. We praise the Lord for that.

Another area I would like to report on is the area of missions. As previously noted, both Greeley and Vermillion are now self-supporting and no longer receiving mission support. Limon is receiving mission funding from Classis, but has already requested a reduction in support.

Last October, the missions committee flew to Sherman, TX where Rev. Neal Riffert has been working with a group of believers. That work seems to be going well and the missions committee has requested mission support of \$1500 per month for that work. We should continue to support this work with our money, time, and prayers.

Rapid City has indicated a desire to start a work in Scotts Bluff, NE. There is a Bible study going on there and the congregation in Rapid City is seeking to discern the Lord's will about what to do next. Let us keep the situation in Scotts Bluff in our prayers. In the past, our Classis has had a Regional Home Missionary who could oversee some mission works. It worked well in the past and perhaps it is time to reconsider that program.

All in all, it was a relatively quiet year in the South Central Classis. We are seeing signs of growth in many congregations. Let us pray that the Lord would continue to help us grow and to give us wisdom that we might bring the gospel and plant churches in our Classis.

Respectfully Submitted, Ron Morris

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

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## Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers:

The following items refer to duties performed by myself, which include reference either to the spring 2010 Abstract or Circulars that have been sent since the spring 2010 meeting.

1. Page 32 of the Abstract, in regards to a motion from the floor in connection with Standing Benevolence, to direct the clerk to send a letter to each of the consistories of the South Central Classis informing them of the diaconal need of Rev. Dan Rogers' family, a letter via e-mail was sent March 30, 2010.
2. On March 30, 2010 I sent a letter via e-mail to Peter Griffith, stated clerk of Heartland Presbytery (PCA), informing him that Rev. Joe Vusich sustained his licensure exam in the South Central Classis and was now on the roll of ministers of the RCUS.
3. Page 32 of the Abstract, Recommendation #1, of Standing Benevolence, requesting benevolent aid from Synod for Mrs. Amy Stevens, a letter was sent March 30, 2010.
4. Page 32 of the Abstract, Recommendation #2, of the Standing Benevolence, requesting benevolent aid from Synod in the amount of \$725 per month for Trinity Covenant, RCUS, Colorado Springs, CO, a letter was sent March 30, 2010.
5. Pages 32-33 of the Abstract, Recommendations #1-5, of Standing Ministerial Aid, requesting aid from Synod for Mrs. Kay Savage, Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, Rev. Howard Hart, and Rev. Herman Van Stedum, a letter was sent March 30, 2010.
6. On March 30, 2010 I sent a letter to the synod stated clerk informing him that Rev. Warren Embree has been honorably retired and placed on the roll of retired ministers.

Respectfully submitted, David P. Fagrey

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Classis Action: The report was adopted.

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### Reading of Executive Committee Report of Synod

The clerk read the report.

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Classis Action: Take note

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## Classis Executive Committee Report on Their Minutes

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your committee would like to review our business over the past Classical year. All circulars passed except for one, which will be noted.

1. Executive circular volume 25, Number 1, dated March 30, 2010, dealt with the Call and Acceptance of Rev. George Horner.
2. Executive circular 25.2, dated April 8, 2010, dealt with the installation of Rev. Joe Vusich.
3. Executive circular 25.3, May 12, 2010, dealt with installation of Rev. George Horner.
4. Executive circular 25.4, dated June 7, 2010, contained a correction for the 2010 Guidelines.
5. Executive circular 25.5, dated September 3, 2010, approved funding in the amount of \$1500 a month for the emerging work in Sherman, TX.
6. Executive circular 25.6, dated October 28, 2010, contained a recommendation concerning the presentation of a candidate to the New Geneva Theological Seminary Board for consideration in serving on its board. There was an objection to this circular. Therefore, the matter will need to be taken up by Classes at its Spring Meeting, March 28-29, 2011.
7. Executive circular 25.7, dated November 30, 2010, approved the recommendation that the work in Sherman, TX be declared an official work of the South Central Classis, and that the present support of this work at \$1500 a month be continued.
8. Executive circular 25.8, dated February 1, 2011 contained the particulars regarding the Spring Classis meeting to be held at Grace RCUS, Greeley, CO on March 28-29, 2011.
9. Executive circular 25.9, dated February 28, 2011, contained notice of the overtures received at least 4 weeks prior to the Classis meeting.
10. Executive circular 25.10, dated March 7, 2011, dealt with the resignation, acceptance, and dismissal of Rev. Scott Henry.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee, David Fagrey

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Classis Action: Item #6 was referred to standing Examination and Licensure. Classis adopted the report.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

|                                     | Com.# | Guidelines  | Received    | Over   | Short      |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|--------|------------|
| <b>South Central Classis</b>        | 1054  |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Trinity Covenant</b>             |       |             |             |        |            |
| Colorado Springs                    | 41    | \$2,512.89  | \$2,512.89  |        |            |
| <b>St. Johns RCUS</b>               |       |             |             |        |            |
| Lincoln, NE                         | 98    | \$6,006.42  | \$6,129.00  | 122.58 |            |
| <b>Emmanuel RCUS</b>                |       |             |             |        |            |
| Sutton, NE                          | 121   | \$7,416.09  | \$5,702.73  |        | 1,713.36   |
| <b>Hope RCUS</b>                    |       |             |             |        |            |
| Sutton, NE                          | 207   | \$12,687.03 | \$12,691.12 | 4.09   |            |
| <b>Zion RCUS</b>                    |       |             |             |        |            |
| Menno, SD                           | 161   | \$9,867.69  | \$9,867.69  |        |            |
| <b>Grace Reformed</b>               |       |             |             |        |            |
| Mitchell, SD                        | 69    | \$4,229.01  | \$4,229.01  |        |            |
| <b>Grace Reformed</b>               |       |             |             |        |            |
| Rapid City, SD                      | 63    | \$3,861.27  | \$3,861.27  |        |            |
| <b>Trinity Reformed</b>             |       |             |             |        |            |
| Sioux Falls, SD                     | 139   | \$8,519.31  | \$8,240.97  |        | *278.34    |
| <b>Providence Reformed *</b>        |       |             |             |        |            |
| Rock Springs, SD                    | 39    | \$2,390.31  | \$1,837.07  |        | *553.24    |
| <b>Grace Reformed</b>               |       |             |             |        |            |
| Greeley, CO                         | 54    | \$3,309.02  | \$3,309.04  | 0.02   |            |
| <b>Providence Reformed</b>          |       |             |             |        |            |
| Vermillion, SD                      | 23    | \$1,409.67  | \$1,410.50  | 0.83   |            |
| <b>Providence Reformed *</b>        |       |             |             |        |            |
| Limon, CO                           | 39    | \$2,390.31  | \$2,390.31  |        |            |
| <br>                                |       |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Total Income</b>                 | 1054  | \$64,599.02 | \$62,181.60 |        | 1,585.84   |
| <br>                                |       |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Budget based on 1054 Members</b> |       |             |             |        |            |
| <br>                                |       |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Special Receipts for</b>         |       |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Christ The King</b>              |       |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Reformed Church</b>              |       |             | \$5,172.00  |        |            |
| <br>                                |       |             |             |        |            |
| <b>Totals</b>                       |       | \$64,599.02 | \$67,354.60 |        | \$1,585.84 |

\*Providence Reformed \$552.24 went into 09 figures

\*Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls SD \$278.34 went into 09 figures



|  |  | Budget Expenditures |             |             |
|--|--|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
|  |  | Budget              | Paid        | Short/Over  |
|  | <b>Dan Rogers</b>                      |                     | \$700.00    | \$0.00      |
|  | <b>Providence Reformed, Limon</b>      | \$9,000.00          | \$9,000.00  | \$0.00      |
|  | <b>Grace Reformed, Greeley</b>         | \$9,928.00          | \$9,928.00  | \$0.00      |
|  | <b>Providence Reformed, Vermillion</b> | \$5,000.00          | \$5,000.00  | \$0.00      |
|  | <b>Heidelberg Reformed Seminary</b>    | \$5,310.00          | \$5,310.00  | \$0.00      |
|  | <b>New Geneva Seminary</b>             | \$4,248.00          | \$4,248.00  | \$0.00      |
|  | <b>Future Missions</b>                 | \$21,080.00         | \$10,500.00 | \$10,580.00 |
|  | <b>Total</b>                           | \$54,566.00         | \$44,686.00 | \$10,580.00 |
|  | <b>CLASSIS EXPENSE</b>                 | \$8,000.00          |             |             |
|  | <b>Mileage</b>                         |                     | \$5,142.58  |             |
|  | <b>Honorarium</b>                      |                     | \$400.00    |             |
|  | <b>Printing</b>                        |                     | \$188.15    |             |
|  | <b>Lodging</b>                         |                     | \$220.00    |             |
|  | <b>Postage</b>                         |                     | \$44.30     |             |
|  | <b>Total Classis Expense</b>           |                     | \$5,995.03  |             |
|  | <b>FUND</b>                            |                     |             |             |
|  | <b>TOTALS</b>                          | \$62,566.00         | \$50,681.03 | \$10,580.00 |

### 2011 GUIDELINES

|                     | Budget      | Received    | Over/Short     | Per Com. |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------|
| <b>Dues</b>         | \$8,000.00  | \$7,941.97  | 58.03 under    | 7.59     |
| <b>Missions</b>     | \$45,008.00 | \$46,756.52 | 1748.52 over   | 42.70    |
| <b>Heidelberg</b>   | \$5,270     | \$5,224.00  | 46.00 under    | 5.00     |
| <b>New Geneva</b>   | \$4,216.00  | \$4,094.00  | \$122.00 under | 4.00     |
| <b>Reserve Fund</b> | \$2,108.00  | \$2,070.00  | \$38.00 under  | 2.00     |
| <b>Dan Rogers</b>   |             | \$700.00    |                |          |
| <b>Total</b>        | \$64,602.00 | \$66,786.00 | \$2184.49 over | \$61.29  |

## CHECKBOOK

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Beginning Balance</b> | \$17,024.68   |
| <b>Interest Income</b>   | \$51.01       |
| <b>Bank Charges</b>      | (\$116.86)    |
| <b>Deposits</b>          | \$68,055.24   |
| <b>Checks Written</b>    | (\$49,981.03) |
| <b>Dan Rogers</b>        | \$700.00      |
| <b>Total Income</b>      | \$35,033.04   |

\*Received from Synod \$5000.00 gift for Christ the King Reformed Church in Sherman, TX.

\*Received from St. John's \$172.00 gift for Christ the King Reformed Church in Sherman, TX

This should be earmarked for Sherman Texas for future use

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Classis Action: The report was referred to Finances

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### PAROCHIAL REPORTS OF MINISTERS

The Ministers of the Word individually read their reports.

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Classis Action: On all the reports – take note.

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### 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 Spencer Gross who answered “No.”
  - b. *Is Christian discipline exercised according to the constitution?* All answered, “Yes,” except Melvin Burbach who answered “Improving.”
4. *Are the sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord’s Supper properly administered in accordance with the constitution?* All answered, “Yes.”
5. *In providing for the furtherance of Christian stewardship:*
  - a. *Are the apportionments for the Classis paid according to the Guidelines for Giving?* All Answered, “Yes.”
  - b. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Classis treasurer?* All answered, “Yes.”
  - c. *Are the apportionments for the Synod paid according to the Guideline for Giving?* All answered, “Yes.”
  - d. *Are these moneys sent promptly to the Synod treasurer?* All answered, “Yes.”
6. *Are the church records properly kept?* All answered, “Yes.”
  - 7a. *Is the temporal contract between minister and people fulfilled in your charge?* All answered, “Yes.”
  - 7b. *Is the temporal contract between minister and people adequate to meet his temporal needs?* All answered, “Yes.”

## **REPORT OF NUMERICAL AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS**

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

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

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## **REPORTS FROM CLASSIS' FRATERNAL DELEGATES**

Rev. Joe Vusich read his report as fraternal delegate to the Presbytery of the Central United States, OPC. Take Note.

Matt Powell read Maynard Koerner's report as fraternal delegate to Classis Central US, URCNA. Take note.

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Classis Action: Take note.

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## **ADDRESSES BY DELEGATES FROM OTHER REFORMED CHURCHES AND VISITORS**

- The President invited Rev. Archie Allison, fraternal delegate from Presbytery of the Dakotas, OPC, to address the body.
- Hart gave his response.
- Matt Powell brought greetings from Classis Central US, URCNA.
- Ewald Ochsner addressed the body on behalf of Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger.
- Van Stedum led the body in prayer for the widows of RCUS ministers.
- The President invited Ray Schnabel to address the body on behalf of Heidelberg Theological Seminary.

## **EXAMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES**

There were no Examinations

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Heidelberg Youth Camp**

Esteemed Brethren,

A meeting of the Heidelberg Youth Camp Committee was held February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 via conference call. Committee members present were: Rev. Michael McGee, chair, Rev. James Grossmann and Elder Ron Abbink from the Northern Plains Classis, and Rev. Lee Johnson and Elder Roger Gallimore from the South Central Classis. Rev. McGee opened the meeting with the reading of Proverbs 3:1-35 and asked Rev. Johnson to pray for the business of the committee.

The activities of Heidelberg Youth Camp 2010 were reviewed. It was noted that the evaluation results were extremely positive among the campers, with a diversity of opinions given among the counselors. Although camp has continued to be successful, there are still ways in which it can be improved. The following changes for HYC 2011 will be implemented:

Special attention will be given to length of time designated for evening activities with the purpose of reducing the time it takes for these activities so that a more manageable schedule can occur.

A change will be made to the way in which the Sr. Night Hike is conducted. Although we will continue this practice, we will not ask outgoing Sr. campers to give an outgoing "speech", but rather will present them with a question and ask for their thoughts.

Efforts will be made to change the types of songs that are sung around the campfire. Although none of the songs being performed are sinful, an attempt will be made to use this time to sing songs that are more edifying and God centered.

The practice of the Thursday Night All-Niter will continue. However, we will only allow Sr. campers to be at the campfire. We will also make a greater effort in recruiting counselors to help supervise this activity.

The issue of modesty was discussed. It seems that the length of shorts that some of the female campers are wearing has been a problem. It was decided to address the matter by requesting that only shorts which are longer than your finger tips at your side may be worn. Furthermore, pastors are being asked to address this matter with campers and their parents at a period of time prior to the beginning of HYC, preferably when registration forms are being distributed.

The 2010 finance report was reviewed, which showed a net gain of \$1,241.41. The camp account remains in the black with a balance of \$5,869.79. Camp fees will remain at \$149 per camper, provided the registration form and fee is submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup>. However, the registration fee will be \$179, if it is submitted after June 1<sup>st</sup>. This increase remains in order to encourage camp registrations to be submitted in a timely manner so that the preliminary work for HYC can occur.

It was noted that there is a need for a wireless microphone and sound system for the Jr. Hall and Sr. Hall, as well as an electronic keyboard for use during the evening worship services. By common consent, the committee decided to purchase a new wireless microphone. Congregations are asked to contribute a sound system that could be used for the week or raise money that could be used to purchase better equipment. All responses can be directed to Rev. McGee.

The theme for HYC 2011 will be *The Way of Wisdom: Lessons from the book of Proverbs*. This theme recognizes that God has given His people great and invaluable instruction to lead them in the paths of righteousness. Lessons will be given on the following topics:

*The way of wisdom....*

-- *Begins with the fear of the Lord* – The Scriptures state “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” This lesson should remind the campers what it means to fear the Lord, as well as noting that no one can have a proper standing before God unless that individual is resting in Christ alone for salvation.

-- *Is a humble way* – although sinners want to exalt themselves and promote their own accomplishments, the way of humility is not wise in its own eyes nor one that leans on its own understanding. This lesson should address the issues of pride and arrogance from the book of Proverbs.

-- *Is a disciplined way* – The Christian is called to live an industrious life, using his time well and honoring God in his responsibilities and commitments. When he is not, he will receive rebuke properly. His life will not be characterized by the habits of the lazy man, the sloth or the sluggard. This lesson should address the issues of time management and work from the book of Proverbs.

-- *Is a controlled way* – The Christian is to speak the truth in love and keep his tongue from evil. He is to think about the words he uses and be wise in the way he communicates. This lesson should present the lessons from the Proverbs which address the subject of speech.

-- *Is a blessed way* – The Bible tells us that the love of money is the root of all evil, but it doesn't condemn wealth. The book of Proverbs has many lessons on the subject of wealth, as well as the importance of helping the needy and how one should wealth for the glory of God. This lesson should address the subject of money, giving and the subject of true wealth from the book of Proverbs.

-- *Life-long Wisdom* – Once all of these subjects have been addressed, now what? This lecture challenge the campers regarding what they heard through the week and how they can be immediately applied to their situation. For the Junior campers, these matters include thinking about their friends, how they spend their time and how they interact with their parents. For the Senior campers, these matters include thinking about honoring their parents, career, life goals, as well as the area of choosing a spouse. The camper should be challenged to think about how they should live as a man or woman of God and the biblical qualifications for a friend or spouse.

Our recruiters this year will be Rev. Scott Henry and Rev. McGee. Rev. Henry will talk to ministers and secure speakers for each of the lessons and worship services. Rev. McGee will make contact with those that have volunteered to help out with various duties to ensure these tasks will be completed for 2011.

The worship offering for 2011 was discussed. It was decided to designate the Reformed Faith and Life Broadcast as the recipient of the worship offering for this year.

Rev. James Grossmann closed the meeting with prayer.

Heidelberg Youth Camp is scheduled for the last full week of July and will be held July 25-29, 2011 at Camp Bob Marshall in the Black Hills.

Your committee proposes the following recommendations:

Recommendation #1: That Classis approve the 2011 HYC proposed budget and campers fees.

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

Recommendation #3: That Classis take note of the need for a sound system.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

## Heidelberg Youth Camp Budget for 2011

|                           |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Balance Forward</b>    | <b>\$ 4,628.38</b>        |                           |
| <b>Revenue</b>            | <b><u>Actual 2010</u></b> | <b><u>Budget 2011</u></b> |
| -- Camp Fees              | \$21,480.00               | \$ 20,710.00              |
| -- Gifts                  | \$ -----                  | \$ -----                  |
| -- Worship Offering       | \$ 1,200.00               | \$ 1,200.00               |
| -- Interest               | \$ 3.52                   | \$ -----                  |
| -- Camp Store Sales       | \$ 724.41                 | \$ 725.00                 |
| -- T-Shirt Sales          | \$ -----                  | \$ -----                  |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>      | <b>\$ 23,407.93</b>       | <b>\$ 22,635.00</b>       |
| <b>Expenses</b>           | <b><u>Actual 2010</u></b> | <b><u>Budget 2011</u></b> |
| -- Facility Use           | \$ 12,840.00              | \$ 12,840.00              |
| -- Food                   | \$ 3,975.01               | \$ 4,180.00               |
| -- T-Shirts               | \$ 2,656.77               | \$ 2,790.00               |
| -- Crafts                 | \$ -----                  | \$ 185.00                 |
| -- Supplies & Equipment   | \$ 839.94                 | \$ 600.00                 |
| -- Promotion              | \$ 97.71                  | \$ 100.00                 |
| -- Custer State Park Fees | \$ 69.00                  | \$ 100.00                 |
| -- Administration         | \$ 67.31                  | \$ 200.00                 |
| -- Camp Store Supplies    | \$ 420.78                 | \$ 440.00                 |
| -- Worship Offering       | \$ 1,200.00               | \$ 1,200.00               |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>     | <b>\$ 22,166.52</b>       | <b>\$ 22,635.00</b>       |
| Revenue Less Expense      | \$ 1,241.41               | \$ -----                  |
| <b>Ending Balance</b>     | <b>\$ 5,869.79</b>        |                           |

*Proposed 2011 fees: \$149 per camper provided both the registration fee and form are received by June 1. After June 1, the fee will be \$179. Adult volunteers continue to be free. Fees are based on 139 campers and 41 adults.*

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Classis Action: Recommendations #1-2 carried. On #3-4: Take Note. The report was adopted.

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## Committee to oversee Dan Rogers

This committee talked on a regular basis with one another as well as with Rev. Rogers and his family. The committee left the spiritual care and oversight to the Spiritual Council of Hope Reformed Church, and dealt mainly with the credentials of Rev. Rogers and his status as a suspended minister. It is with a heavy heart that the committee brings the one recommendation, but it is also with a sense of hope that this action might be used by the Lord for the good of Rev. Rogers. The charge brought before Classis is attached, and provided below is a timeline of events so that all delegates will have a sense of what has occurred during this Classical year leading up to the decision made by this committee. The sole recommendation follows the timeline.

### Time Line of Events:

October 2009 - Rev. Rogers meets with the South Central Classis in Oggalla, NE and pleads guilty to drunkenness. Rev. Rogers accepts the sentence of Classis to be suspended as a minister. A committee to oversee Rev. Rogers is created.

March 2010 - Classis asks the churches to take an offering to help Rev. Rogers with debts. Since Rev. Rogers did not move to Sioux Falls, SD as expected a new committee is created to deal with Rev. Rogers and his status as a suspended minister. The committee is to report back in March of 2011.

January 2010 - Rev. Rogers joins Hope RCUS in Sutton, NE. Rev. Rogers appears to be sober during this time.

March-May 2010 - The members of the committee speak with Rev. Rogers on several occasions.

May 2010 - By his own later admission, Rev. Rogers begins drinking again.

August 2010 - Rev. Rogers loses his job for drunkenness. The Hope Spiritual Council suspends Rev. Rogers from the Lord's Table. Rev. Rogers, for his own good as well as the good of his family, moves into the Crossroads Rescue Shelter in Hastings, NE.

November 2010 - Rev. Rogers moves back home. He gets a job at Crossroads on the nightshift, and moves back home.

August-December 2010 - Rev. Rogers meets regularly with Rev. Kingswood. During this time, Rev. Rogers appears sober.

December 2010 - Rev. Rogers has his last meeting with Rev. Kingswood where it is revealed that Rev. Rogers had not abided by a familial agreement to report all income so that it might be monitored.

January 2011 - Rev. Rogers's job at Crossways is downsized. Kelanie Rogers returns home from an outing with her daughter to find Rev. Rogers drunk. Rev. Rogers battles drunkenness during the first week of January.

January 2011 - The Committee decides to pursue Deposition from the ministry. Rev. Rogers has been sober since the first week of January.

February 1, 2011 - The Committee lays the charges before Rev. Rogers, and Rev. Rogers decides to enter a guilty plea.

Recommendation #1 - That Rev. Rogers be deposed from the ministry.

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

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Classis Action: The report was referred to judicial.

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## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Benevolence**

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis overture Synod on behalf of Mrs. Amy Stevens for benevolent aid in the amount of \$1,300.00 per month.
2. That Classis overture Synod on behalf of Trinity Covenant RCUS of Colorado Springs, CO for benevolent aid in the amount of \$725 per month for the next fiscal year.
3. That Classis provide benevolent aid to Dan and Kelani Rogers in the amount of \$400 per month beginning April 1 through September 30, 2011.

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Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

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### **Education and Student Aid**

The committee had no business and brought no recommendations.

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Classis Action: the report was adopted.

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### **Examination and Licensure**

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Elder Joshua Berg be appointed as board member to New Geneva Seminary.
2. That before South Central Classis schedule a licensure exam of Mr. Jim Connelly, he will need to complete the course work which has been assigned, specifically historical philosophy, and be prepared to demonstrate a basic proficiency in Greek and Hebrew in his exam, along with submitting theological papers.

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Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

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### **Finances**

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That travel for delegates be reimbursed:

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| David Fagrey          | 264.00 |
| Ron Morris/G.Maassen  | 329.80 |
| Earl Starks           | 199.98 |
| George Horner         | 199.98 |
| Melvin Burbach        | 184.00 |
| Spencer Gross/H. Hart | 288.00 |
| Rev. Neal Riffert     | 404.58 |
| Hedgepoth/Seiling     | 321.20 |
| R. Grossmann          | 350.00 |
| Matt Powell           | 92.40  |
| Scott Henry           | 443.85 |
| Jean McClay           | 87.78  |

2. That the Classis Expense Fund be set at \$8,000 for 2011.
3. That the Guideline for Heidelberg Seminary be set at \$7.50.
4. That the Guideline for New Geneva be set at \$6.00.
5. That total dues and guidelines be set at \$75,521 at \$72.19 per communicant member.



|                        | <b>Guideline</b>   | <b>per Communicant (1046)</b> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Classical Expense Fund | \$8,000.00         | \$7.65                        |
| Providence (Limon)     | \$13,500           | \$12.90                       |
| Christ the King (TX)   | \$22,500           | \$21.51                       |
| Future Home Missions   | \$15,000           | \$14.34                       |
| Heidelberg Seminary    | \$7,845            | \$7.50                        |
| New Geneva Seminary    | \$6,276            | \$6.00                        |
| Kelani Rogers          | \$2,400 (6 months) | \$2.29                        |
| Total                  | \$75,521           | \$72.19                       |

6. That we budget \$15,000 for the mission work in Sherman, TX.

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Classis Action: Recommendations 1-5 carried. On #6: a substitute motion carried to increase the amount for Sherman, TX to \$22,500. The report was adopted.

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### **Judicial**

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis continue its current fiscal year.
2. That the charges in the Special Committee Report to Oversee Dan Rogers be expunged from the report.
3. That Rev. Dan Rogers be deposed from the ministry on the basis of his guilty plea at the Ogallala, NE meeting, his failure to reform his life since that time, and his confession of said facts.

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Classis Action: On Recommendation 1: a substitute motion carried to change the Classis fiscal year to conform to Synod's fiscal year. All other recommendations and the report were adopted.

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### **Ministerial Aid**

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

1. Mrs. Kay Savage, \$1,000 per month.
2. Rev. Howard Hart, \$1,550 per month.
3. Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, \$1,200 per month.
4. Rev. Herman Van Stedum, \$1,500 per month.
5. That Virginia Hoeflinger receive \$1,500 per month until her house is sold and thereafter \$1,200.

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Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

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### **Home Missions**

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That the work in Sherman, TX be declared an official mission work of the SCC.
2. That Classis support of \$1500 per month for the work in Sherman, Texas continue for the next fiscal year.
3. That Classis reinstate its missionary at large program specifically targeting the larger cities within the states of Kansas and Oklahoma, which are within the bounds of the SCC.
4. That Classis overture the Synod of the RCUS to reinstate its missionary at large program to evangelize our nation's largest cities.
5. That the Home Missions Committee of Classis seek out candidates for the work of the missionary at large position.
6. That Classis set up a yearly mission's conference for the instruction of our office-bearers and the general office of believer to evangelize their local geographical area.

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Classis Action: On Recommendation 1: Take Note. Recommendations 2-5 carried. Recommendation 6 was amended by deleting the word "yearly." The report was adopted.

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## Nominations

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Missions:</b>                  | <u>R. Morris</u> , H. Hart, R. Grossmann, S. Gross, D. Mettler                    |
| <b>Publications</b>               | <u>J. Yusich</u> , M. Powell, T. Schieffelin                                      |
| <b>Christian Education</b>        | <u>G. Horner</u> , C.W. Powell, D. Kingswood, J. Connelly, D. DeGroot             |
| <b>Interchurch Relations</b>      | <u>M. Powell</u> , H. Van Stedum, E. Starks, D. Griess                            |
| <b>Candidates&amp;Credentials</b> | <u>M. Koerner</u> , C.W. Powell, D. Fagrey, G. Maassen, J. Savage, G. Van Holland |
| <b>Executive Committee</b>        | <u>J. Blair</u> , D. Fagrey, A. Haller  |
| <b>Heidelberg Youth Camp</b>      | <u>L. Johnson</u> , D. Fagrey, D. Kingswood, J. Berg,, L. Dewald, R. Gallimore    |

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Classis Action: the report was adopted

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## Overtures

The committee carried out the following actions:

1. They read the Interchurch Relations Committee Report.
2. They recommended referring items to the following standing committees: Judicial, Missions, Finances, Ministerial, Benevolence, and Services.
3. They recommended granting excuses to Rev. Maynard Koerner and Rev. George Syms.

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Classis Action: All recommendations and the report were adopted.

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## Publications

The committee had no business and brought no recommendations:

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Classis Action: The report was adopted.

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## Services

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis express its gratitude to our brothers and sisters of Grace Reformed Church in Greeley, CO for their labor of love for Classis South Central in their feeding, housing, and extending warm hospitality. Well done Grace Church! The committee would request the Pastor of Grace Church to convey the thanks of Classis next Lord's Day morning worship.
2. That the invitation to host the spring 2012 session of South Central Classis at Emmanuel Reformed Church of Sutton, NE be accepted.

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Classis Action: On Recommendation 1: Take Note. Recommendation 2 carried. The report was adopted.

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## Minutes of Synod

After reviewing the 2010 Synodical Abstract, the Synodical Executive Committee's Report to the Classes, and the Stated Clerk's Report on the Minutes, the committee found no discrepancies or omissions, nor any matters to deal with.

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Classis Action: the report was adopted

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

The body adjourned to the 2012 spring Session of Classis to meet at Emmanuel Reformed Church, Sutton, NE.

## APPENDICES

### MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2010

|                                   | Colorado Springs, CO<br>Trinity Covenant | Greeley, CO<br>Grace Reformed | Limon, CO<br>Providence Reformed | Lincoln, NE St.<br>John's Reformed | Sutton, NE<br>Emmanuel Reformed | Sutton, NE<br>Hope Reformed |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of Elders                  | 2  | 3                             | 3                                | 4                                  | 3                               | 4                           |
| Number of Deacons                 | 2  | 3                             | 3                                | 4                                  | 3                               | 4                           |
| Communicant Members Last Year     | 41                                       | 54                            | 39                               | 98                                 | 121                             | 207                         |
| Received by Confirmation          | 0  | 3                             | 1                                | 1                                  | 0                               | 0                           |
| Received by Letter of Transfer    | 14                                       | 3                             | 1                                | 0                                  | 6                               | 0                           |
| Received by Profession of Faith   | 1  | 2                             | 2                                | 2                                  | 0                               | 0                           |
| Total Members Received            | 15                                       | 8                             | 4                                | 3                                  | 6                               | 0                           |
| Total Old/New Members             | 56                                       | 62                            | 43                               | 101                                | 127                             | 207                         |
| Lost by Dismissal                 | 6  | 5                             | 0                                | 4                                  | 1                               | 4                           |
| Lost by Erasure or Discipline     | 5  | 0                             | 1                                | 0                                  | 4                               | 17                          |
| Lost by Death                     | 0  | 0                             | 0                                | 0                                  | 1                               | 2                           |
| Total Members Lost                | 11                                       | 5                             | 1                                | 4                                  | 6                               | 23                          |
| Communicant Members This Year     | 45                                       | 57                            | 42                               | 97                                 | 121                             | 184                         |
| Unconfirmed Members               | 24                                       | 21                            | 22                               | 31                                 | 26                              | 50                          |
| Total Baptized Members            | 68                                       | 78                            | 64                               | 128                                | 147                             | 234                         |
| Number of Families                | 21                                       | 32                            | 17                               | 53                                 | 74                              | 96                          |
| Number of Children in SS          | 26                                       | 14                            | 17                               | 27                                 | 18                              | 36                          |
| Number of Adults Baptized         | 1  | 0                             | 0                                | 0                                  | 0                               | 0                           |
| Number of Infants Baptized        | 7  | 1                             | 3                                | 1                                  | 1                               | 2                           |
| Total Number of Baptism           | 8  | 1                             | 3                                | 1                                  | 1                               | 2                           |
| Number Received Lord's Supper     | 42                                       | 52                            | 42                               | 81                                 | 107                             | 148                         |
| Times Lord's Supper Served        | 12                                       | 5                             | 12                               | 6                                  | 6                               | 6                           |
| <b>Financial Statistics</b>       |  |                               |                                  |                                    |                                 |                             |
| Receipts from Regular Offerings   | 68,852                                   | 107,771                       | 66,015                           | 64,647                             | 90,319                          | 162,941                     |
| Receipts from Special Offerings   | 0  | 0                             | 1,600                            | 8,236                              | 33,263                          | 25,315                      |
| Receipts from other sources       | 9,862                                    | 14,146                        | 33,151                           | 3,659                              | 600                             | 1,089                       |
| Total Receipts                    | 78,721                                   | 121,917                       | 100,766                          | 101,494                            | 124,182                         | 189,345                     |
| Budgeted Synodical Funds          | 7,790                                    | 10,836                        | 6,981                            | 18,620                             | 23,930                          | 41,058                      |
| Budgeted Classical Funds          | 2,513                                    | 3,310                         | 2,390                            | 7,337                              | 5,703                           | 12,691                      |
| Giving to Non-Guideline Causes    | 0  | 0                             | 900                              | 315                                | 0                               | 0                           |
| Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes        | 0  | 0                             | 600                              | 707                                | 1,404                           | 15,651                      |
| Other General Expenses            | 54,150                                   | 119,701                       | 80,697                           | 61,978                             | 84,417                          | 117,674                     |
| Total Disbursements               | 64,453                                   | 133,847                       | 91,568                           | 88,957                             | 115,454                         | 187,074                     |
| Value of Church Building          | 0  | 192,000                       | 40,000                           | 110,000                            | 522,000                         | 800,000                     |
| Value of Parsonage                | 0  | 158,000                       | 0                                | 99,100                             | 157,000                         | 80,000                      |
| Improvements on Church Property   | 0  | 0                             | 0                                | 0                                  | 5,332                           | 20,849                      |
| Present Property Debts            | 0  | 0                             | 0                                | 0                                  | 0                               | 0                           |
| Debt Payments in the Past Year    | 0  | 10,090                        | 1,454                            | 0                                  | 0                               | 0                           |
| Giving to Synod Per Communicant   | 190                                      | 201                           | 179                              | 190                                | 198                             | 198                         |
| Giving to Classis Per Communicant | 61                                       | 61                            | 61                               | 75                                 | 47                              | 61                          |
| Total Giving to RCUS              | 251                                      | 262                           | 263                              | 268                                | 245                             | 260                         |

|                                 | Zion Reformed Church | Menno, SD<br>Grace Reformed | Rapid City, SD<br>Grace Reformed | Sioux Falls, SD<br>Trinity Reformed | Verillion, SD<br>Providence Reformed | Rock Springs, WY<br>Providence Reformed | <b>TOTAL 2010</b> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Number of Elders                | 4                    | 3                           | 2                                | 5                                   | 2                                    | 3                                       | 38                |
| Number of Deacons               | 4                    | 2                           | 2                                | 5                                   | 1                                    | 2                                       | 35                |
| Communicant Members Last Year   | 161                  | 69                          | 63                               | 139                                 | 23                                   | 36                                      | 1064              |
| Received by Confirmation        | 3                    | 0                           | 3                                | 1                                   | 0                                    | 0                                       | 12                |
| Received by Letter of Transfer  | 2                    | 0                           | 4                                | 2                                   | 0                                    | 4                                       | 36                |
| Received by Profession of Faith | 1                    | 0                           | 4                                | 4                                   | 0                                    | 1                                       | 17                |
| Total Members Received          | 6                    | 0                           | 11                               | 7                                   | 0                                    | 5                                       | 65                |
| Total Old/New Members           | 167                  | 69                          | 74                               | 146                                 | 23                                   | 41                                      | 1116              |
| Lost by Dismissal               | 0                    | 4                           | 3                                | 0                                   | 0                                    | 0                                       | 27                |
| Lost by Erasure or Discipline   | 7                    | 0                           | 3                                | 5                                   | 1                                    | 3                                       | 46                |
| Lost by Death                   | 4                    | 0                           | 0                                | 0                                   | 0                                    | 0                                       | 7                 |
| Total Members Lost              | 11                   | 4                           | 6                                | 5                                   | 1                                    | 3                                       | 80                |
| Communicant Members This Year   | 156                  | 75*                         | 68                               | 141                                 | 22                                   | 38                                      | 1046              |
| Unconfirmed Members             | 25                   | 25                          | 38                               | 73                                  | 13                                   | 15                                      | 363               |
| Total Baptized Members          | 181                  | 100*                        | 106                              | 214                                 | 35                                   | 53                                      | 1308              |
| Number of Families              | 79                   | 29                          | 34                               | 71                                  | 12                                   | 22                                      | 540               |
| Number of Children in SS        | 19                   | 17                          | 24                               | 68                                  | 9                                    | 8                                       | 283               |
| Number of Adults Baptized       | 0                    | 0                           | 0                                | 0                                   | 0                                    | 0                                       | 1                 |
| Number of Infants Baptized      | 1                    | 1                           | 3                                | 3                                   | 1                                    | 0                                       | 24                |
| Total Number of Baptism         | 1                    | 1                           | 3                                | 3                                   | 1                                    | 0                                       | 25                |
| Number Received Lord's Supper   | 149                  | 60                          | 60                               | 130                                 | 23                                   | 39                                      | 933               |
| Times Lord's Supper Served      | 4                    | 6                           | 6                                | 6                                   | 4                                    | 11                                      | 84                |

#### Financial Statistics

|                                   |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Receipts from Regular Offerings   | 116,323 | 95,709  | 165,715 | 255,667 | 73,610  | 74,206  | 1341775 |
| Receipts from Special Offerings   | 18,806  | 7,124   | 0       | 13,788  | 7,880   | 190     | 116202  |
| Receipts from other sources       | 2,500   | 4,653   | 0       | 1,866   | 11,977  | 0       | 83503   |
| Total Receipts                    | 137,629 | 107,486 | 165,715 | 271,321 | 93,466  | 74,396  | 1566438 |
| Budgeted Synodical Funds          | 30,590  | 13,110  | 12,474  | 27,733  | 4,586   | 7,645   | 205353  |
| Budgeted Classical Funds          | 7,588   | 4,229   | 3,862   | 8,241   | 1,410   | 1,838   | 61112   |
| Giving to Non-Guideline Causes    | 20,670  | 809     | 6,000   | 2,003   | 5,794   | 190     | 36681   |
| Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes        | 0       | 2697    | 0       | 8,965   | 174     | 0       | 30198   |
| Other General Expenses            | 98,473  | 83,584  | 134,015 | 155,800 | 56,212  | 77,832  | 1124533 |
| Total Disbursements               | 157,321 | 104,429 | 156,351 | 202,742 | 68,176  | 87,505  | 1457877 |
| Value of Church Building          | 500000  | 275,000 | 515,000 | ***     | 300,000 | 200,000 | 3666771 |
| Value of Parsonage                | 75,000  | 155,225 | 185,000 | 0       | 125,000 | include | 1034325 |
| Improvements on Church Property   | 15,823  | 0       | 0       | 568,908 | 0       | 7,411   | 618323  |
| Present Property Debts            | 0       | 49,549  | 0       | 277,104 | 0       | 13,000  | 339653  |
| Debt Payments in the Past Year    | 0       | 1,320   | 40,579  | 27,570  | 0       | 3,251   | 84264   |
| Giving to Synod Per Communicant   | 196     | 190     | 198     | 200     | 199     | 213     | 193     |
| Giving to Classis Per Communicant | 49      | 61      | 61      | 59      | 61      | 52      | 57      |
| Total Giving to RCUS              | 377     | 253     | 340     | 273     | 504     | 269     | 285     |

\*10 of these are from the mission work in Sherman, TX

\*\*\* \$1,000,000

#### NECROLOGIES

None were submitted

## **STANDING RULES**

1. Classical dues shall be due on the first of December and are to be paid not later than the Thirty-First of December of the current year (1960, '64, '68, '87).
2. The Parochial Reports and Statistics shall be forwarded two weeks before the Spring Meeting of Classis; the Parochial Reports to the President of the Executive Committee and the statistics to the Stated Clerk (1976, '77, '87).
3. The writ of certification for delegate elders for the Classical year shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk two weeks before the Spring Meeting of Classis.
4. All congregations shall present an accurate report on confirmation instruction, Sunday School and weekday school. The period of instruction shall, if possible, be so extended that the pupils memorize and are able to recite the entire Catechism before confirmation. The course of instruction shall include Bible history, Catechism, Bible readings and the study of books and contents of the Bible; also singing, and preferably, Psalm-hymns.
5. The Standing Rules shall be read during the second session of the Spring Meeting (1932, '87).
6. If pastors, elders, and members of congregations request information from the Executive Committee of Classis concerning constitutional matters and procedures, as provided in Article 91, the answer shall, if the request is in order and in written form, be presented to the parties concerned only in written form and relevant only to the item in question (1933).
7. Delegate travel to Classis meetings shall be paid at the rate of thirty-three cents (.33) per running mile to each charge, if travel is by automobile. When distance and time require delegates to use public transportation to Classis, they shall be granted full fare (1965, '74, '80, '83, '94, 2006).
8. The Treasurer shall reimburse travel in behalf of Classis at thirty-three cents (.33) per running mile, also if several ride together in one car; or if by public transportation, the actual fare (1936, '54, '74, '80, '94, 2006).
9. Travel reimbursement shall be paid only those delegates to Classis whose congregations have paid the Classical dues in full to the Classis Treasurer, and those delegates who have attended all sessions of Classis or have been properly excused by Classis (1937, '67).
10. The President of the Executive Committee of Classis shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00), the Stated Clerk shall receive two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00), and the Treasurer shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the Classical year (1960, '61, '65, '78, '84, '87, '90, 2003).
11. The monies sent to the Treasurer shall be made out in check form and designated for which fund and how much for each fund (1957).
12. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to advance the actual fare for public transportation to qualified candidates preaching trial sermons in our vacancies (1958, '87).
13. The Stated Clerk shall prepare for publication an abstract of the Classis minutes. The Spring Abstract shall include a cumulative index of resolutions and positions taken by Classis (1959, '87, '90).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## INDEX OF RESOLUTIONS AND POSITIONS

(Spring 1986, Abstract p. 110)

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

(Spring 1987, Abstract p. 5)

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

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

(Fall 1987, Abstract p. 5)

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

(Fall 1987, Abstract p.9)

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

(Spring 1988, Abstract p. 23)

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

(Spring 1989, Abstract p. 25)

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

(Spring 1989, Abstract pp. 27-28)

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

- a. The Consistory overseeing the mission work shall select a pastoral candidate in consultation with the members of the mission work and the Classis Home Missions Committee.

b. The members of the proposed mission work, under the supervision of the Consistory, shall vote on calling the candidate.

c. The Consistory shall extend the call.

d. The organizing pastor shall work under the oversight of the Consistory as long as the work is unorganized.

e. The mission work shall be under the oversight of the Classis Home Missions Committee as long as it has the status of a Mission Church.

(Spring 1990, Abstract p. 27)

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

(Spring 1991, Abstract p. 20)

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

(Spring 1991, Abstract p. 21)

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

(Fall 1991, Abstract p. 22)

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

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

(Spring 1992, Abstract p. 41)

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

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

(Spring 1997, Abstract p. 33)

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

(Spring 2007, Abstract)

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