

**2019 Abstract
of the Minutes**

SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS

Reformed Church in the United States

**34th Annual Meeting
March 25-26, 2019**

**Hosted by
Grace Reformed Church
Rapid City, South Dakota**

INFORMATIONAL SUMMARY

OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS

President	Rev. Travis Grassmid
Vice President	Rev. Matthew Powell
Stated Clerk	Rev. Joe Vusich
Treasurer	Elder Scott Velgersdyk 3608 S. Anita Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57103

PERMANENT COMMITTEES

(underlined indicates convener)

Executive	<u>T. Grassmid</u> , J. Vusich, L. Streyle
Missions	<u>M. McGee</u> , M. Koerner, H. Opp, F. Hofmann, D. Mettler, D. Oliver
Publications	<u>D. Fagrey</u> , R. Grossmann, R. Klynsma, R. Davis, J. Frey
Christian Education	<u>D. Dawn</u> , G. Horner, H. Hart, S. Henry, W. Brouwer, D. Griess
Interchurch Relations	<u>M. Powell</u> , L. Johnson, H. Van Stedum, W. Nuss, J. Stevens
Candidates and Credentials	<u>J. Blair</u> , K. Carroll, C. Moulton, J. Rydell, J. Savage
*Heidelberg Youth Camp	<u>K. Carroll</u> , D. Fagrey, J. J. Hall, J. P. Mosley, Jr., D. Kimble, W. Nuss

*Special Committee

2019-2020 CLASSIS GUIDELINE FOR GIVING

(per communicant member)

Classical Expense Fund	\$8.40
Missions (inclusive)	\$78.08
Heidelberg Seminary	\$7.50
New Geneva Seminary	\$6.00
Total	\$99.98

South Central Classis
 Guideline Remittance Form
 July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Date _____

Church _____

Treasurer _____

Email _____

*No. of Communicant Members: _____

*Found in Abstract Appendix #1 (pp. 37-39), Membership & Financial Statistics –
 “Total Communicant Members This Year”

	Amount / Comm. Mem.	Amount Remitted
Classical Dues	\$8.40	_____
Missions	\$78.08	_____
Heidelberg TS	\$7.50	_____
New Geneva TS	\$6.00	_____
Total	\$99.98	_____

Make check payable to South Central Classis.

Send to:

Scott Velgersdyk
 SCC Treasurer
 3608 S. Anita Ave.
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DIRECTORY OF MINISTERS, ELDERS, LICENTIATES, AND STUDENTS UNDER CARE

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Van Peurse, Dan (Providence Reformed Church, Vermillion, SD)
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Licentiatees

None.

Students under Care

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DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

Colorado

Colorado Springs (www.trinity-covenant.org)

Trinity Covenant Reformed Church; Phone: (719) 590-1477
Location: 2511 N. Logan Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80907
Mail: 3555 Merrimont Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80917
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 12:30 pm
Pastor: J. P. Mosley, Jr. (wife: Francesca)

Denver (www.mercystreetreformed.org)

Mercy Street Reformed Chapel; Phone: (559) 836-9871
Location: Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale Ave., Denver, CO 80210
Mail: 710 S. Clinton St., Apt. 6B, Denver, CO 80247
Worship: 9:30 am; Sunday School: 10:45 am
Pastor: Chris Moulton (wife: Carole)

Greeley (www.reformedgreeley.org)

Grace Reformed Church; Phone: (970) 336-9927
Location: 1501 10th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631
Mail: 1505 10th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631
Worship: 10:00 am; Sunday School: 11:45 am
Pastor: Jon Blair (wife: Wendy)

Limon (www.sermonaudio.com/source_detail.asp?sourceid=providencercus)

Providence Reformed Church; Phone: (916) 202-5549
Location: 725 Michigan Ave., Limon, CO 80828
Mail: P.O. Box 848, Limon, CO 80828
Worship: 10:00 am; Sunday School: 11:45 am
Pastor: Jimmy John Hall (wife: Stefani)

Nebraska

Lincoln (www.stjohnsreformedlincoln.org)

St. John's Reformed Church; Phone: (402) 476-1827
Location and Mail: 1101 S. 26th St., Lincoln, NE 68502
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 9:30 am
Pastor: Lee Johnson (wife: Jenny Jo)

Omaha (www.omahareformed.org)

Omaha Reformed Chapel; Phone: (402) 281-3263
Location: 4905 N. 96th St., Omaha, NE 68134
Mail: 8340 Sheffield Dr., Omaha, NE 68122
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 9:00 am
Pastor: Randall Klynsma (wife: Julie)

Sutton (<https://pastorjoev.wordpress.com/our-church>)

Emmanuel Reformed Church; Phone: (402) 773-4218
Location: 110 S. Way Ave., Sutton, NE 68979
Mail: P.O. Box 362, Sutton, NE 68979
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 9:30 am
Pastor: Joe Vusich (wife: Gioia)

Sutton (www.hopereformedrcus.com)
Hope Reformed Church; Phone: (402) 773-4330
Location: 311 E. Hickory St., Sutton, NE 68979
Mail: P.O. Box 372, Sutton, NE 68979
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 9:00 am
Pastor: Scott Henry (wife: Maria)

South Dakota

Menno (www.sermonaudio.com/source_detail.asp?sourceid=travisgrassmid)
Zion Reformed Church; Phone: (605) 387-2816
Location and Mail: 220 S. Pine St., Menno, SD 57045
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 9:30 am
Pastor: Travis Grassmid (wife: Charity)

Mitchell (www.gracereformed.com)
Grace Reformed Church; Phone: (605) 996-2803
Location: 1021 S. Davison, Mitchell, SD 57301
Mail: 505 S. Davison, Mitchell, SD 57301
Worship: 10:00 am; Sunday School: 9:00 am
Pastor: Kevin Carroll (wife: Tammy)

Rapid City (www.gracereformedrapidcity.com)
Grace Reformed Church; Phone: (605) 399-1711
Location and Mail: 5626 N. Haines Ave, Rapid City, SD 57701
Worship: 10:30 am; Sunday School: 9:00 am
Pastor: David Fagrey (wife: Bonnie)

Sioux Falls (www.trinityrcus.org)
Trinity Reformed Church; Phone: (605) 271-0754
Location and Mail: 7301 S. Louise Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Worship: 10:00 am; Sunday School: 9:00 am
Pastor: Michael McGee (wife: Jenny)
Associate Pastor: Maynard Koerner (wife: Marcia)

Vermillion (www.providencercus.com)
Providence Reformed Church; Phone: (605) 624-4337
Location: 830 Madison St., Vermillion, SD 57069
Mail: 818 Madison St., Vermillion, SD 57069
Worship: 10:30am; Sunday School: 9:30am
Pastor: Harvey Opp (wife: Carol)

Wyoming

Casper (www.christreformedrcus.org)
Christ Reformed Chapel; Phone: (307) 277-5901
Location: 600 W. 21st St, Casper, WY 82601
Mail: 6061 W. Incline Rd, Casper, WY 82604
Worship: 10:00 am; Sunday School: 11:45 am
Pastor: Matthew Powell (wife: Andrea)

Rock Springs (www.providencerocksprings.org)
Providence Reformed Church; Phone: (307) 705-3683
Location: 1001 9th St., Rock Springs, WY 82901
Mail: 1007 9th St., Rock Springs, WY 82901
Worship: 10:00 am; Sunday School: 11:45 am
Pastor: George Horner (wife: Mary Jo)

**ABSTRACT OF THE MINUTES
OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL CLASSIS**
of the Reformed Church in the United States
34th Annual Session - March 25-26, 2019
Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, SD

SERVICES

Classis delegates, members of Grace Reformed Church, and visitors met at 6:45 pm on Monday, March 25, 2019, to worship our gracious Triune God. Rev. David Dawn conducted the service, and Rev. Dr. Lee Johnson preached a sermon on Philemon entitled, "Philemon."

At 10:30 am on Tuesday, March 26, Rev. Jimmy John Hall presented a devotion on Psalm 19.

At 4:30 pm on Tuesday, March 26, a closing devotion was presented by Elder Don Oliver, reading John 14:1-6 and ending with prayer.

Prayers were also offered for concerns and requests that arose from the parochial reports of ministers and other business of Classis.

ORGANIZATION

The President of Classis, Rev. Travis Grassmid, called the body to order on Monday, March 25, 2019, at 3:00 pm.

The Stated Clerk, Rev. Joe Vusich, called the roll, which showed 17 ministers and 12 elders present. The President declared a quorum. The bar of the house was defined as the first nine rows on either side of the center aisle. The President appointed Rev. Jon Blair, Rev. Randall Klynsmas, and Oliver as tellers.

The following delegates were nominated and elected as the officers of Classis for this year: Rev. Grassmid as President, Rev. Matthew Powell as Vice-President, Rev. Vusich as Stated Clerk, and Elder Scott Velgersdyk as Treasurer. The President appointed Rev. Dr. Maynard Koerner as reporter for the *Reformed Herald*.

The Agenda, Services, and Order of the Day were adopted. A motion was made to suspend the oral reading of the Standing Rules, which carried by the required 2/3 majority.

FRATERNAL DELEGATES AND VISITORS

No special visitors or fraternal delegates from other churches attended this Classis meeting.

RECEPTION OF NEW MINISTERS AND CHURCHES

There was one new minister: Rev. Chris Moulton, missions pastor of Mercy Street Reformed Chapel, Denver, CO, whose credentials were received by the 272nd Synod of the RCUS. Moulton was welcomed by the delegates. There were no new churches to receive.

STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The President announced the following appointments for the Standing Committees:

Benevolence	<u>M. Powell</u> , L. Streyle, W. Nuss
Education and Student Aid	<u>H. Opp</u> , L. Johnson, J. Savage
Examination and Licensure	<u>K. Carroll</u> , W. Brouwer
Finances	<u>M. McGee</u> , D. Oliver, S. Velgersdyk, D. Kimble
Ministerial Aid	<u>M. Powell</u> , L. Streyle, W. Nuss
Missions	<u>J. J. Hall</u> , K. Carroll, M. Koerner, J. Rydell
Publications	<u>H. Opp</u> , L. Johnson, J. Savage
Services	<u>D. Dawn</u> , H. Hart, W. Brouwer
Judicial	<u>J. Blair</u> , J. P. Mosley, Jr., R. Klynsma, J. Stevens
Nominations	<u>C. Moulton</u> , J. Frey, H. Opp
Minutes of Synod	<u>G. Horner</u> , R. Davis
Minutes of Classis	<u>D. Fagrey</u> , D. Dawn, D. Griess

PRESENTATION OF OVERTURES AND COMMUNICATIONS

The overtures and communications were distributed to the Standing Committees as determined by the Executive Committee. The actions taken on the Permanent Committee recommendations are found in the Standing Committee reports (pp. 29-34).

PERMANENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee Report

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your committee represents the Classis in the interval between classis meetings (Article 91) and conducts the business of Classis via executive circulars. Your committee also serves as advisors (as requested) to member congregations. The following is a review of Executive Committee business since the Spring 2018 Classis meeting. All circulars were approved (no objection to the proposed action).

1. Executive Circular 33.1, dated July 7, 2018, dealt with the installation of Rev. Chris Moulton as the missions pastor of Mercy Street Reformed Chapel, Denver, CO.
2. Executive Circular 33.2, dated February 11, 2019, dealt with the Spring 2019 Meeting of Classis and its proposed Services, Agenda, and Order of the Day.
3. Executive Circular 33.3, dated March 8, 2019, dealt with the distribution of overtures received from Classis that will be discussed at the 2019 Spring Meeting.
4. Your committee communicated via e-mails and phone calls prior to proposing Classis actions via executive circulars, and the committee was in agreement on all actions proposed in its circulars.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. T. Grassmid, Rev. J. Vusich, Elder R. Korn

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

B. Candidates and Credentials

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Your committee received no business, did not meet, and therefore did not conduct any business during the past Classical year.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. J. Blair, Rev. K. Carroll, Rev. M. Powell, Elder J. Rydell, Elder T. Schieffelin

Classis Action: The report was referred to Standing Examination and Licensure.

C. Interchurch Relations

To the delegates of the 2019 South Central Classis spring meeting,

The Interchurch Relations Committee business was handled via the chairman, as it has been in the past. Its business was to receive invitations to fraternal bodies' meetings and to send invitations to those bodies to our meetings.

We received an invitation to the fall meeting of the Midwest Presbytery of the RPCNA. The meeting was in Iowa, which was too far for any RCUS delegate to travel, so we did not send a delegate, but we did send a greeting.

We also received an invitation to the 2019 meeting of the Classis Central US of the URCNA to their meeting in May. That meeting is also in Iowa and out of our bounds, so I expect that the Classis will also not send a delegate to this body, though we will send them greetings.

We have not received invitations from the Presbytery of the Dakotas of the OPC for the last two years. I thought this may be because of a new clerk of the presbytery, and I contacted them to inquire. They informed me that they had elected not to send invitations to delegates recently as they had matters of controversy to deal with and did not feel they had time for delegates. But they did invite us to send a delegate this year to their meeting in April in Salt Lake City. I may try to make it to that meeting.

We also sent invitations to these three bodies to our Spring meeting. The PoD of the OPC has responded that they will be unable to send a delegate, and the MWP of the RPCNA and the CCUS of the URCNA have not yet responded.

One issue that I believe should be clarified is reimbursements for delegate expenses. I (the chairman) have always believed that the sending classis or presbytery should pay all expenses. But some from other denominations have said that the hosting body pays for lodging. Is there a policy on this in the RCUS, and if not, should we clarify that?

We have no specific recommendations.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. M. Powell, Chairman, Rev. H. Van Stedum, Rev. L. Johnson, Elder R. Honaker, Elder W. Nuss

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

D. Missions

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

This past year, your committee fulfilled its responsibilities by corresponding via email, meeting through conference calls, and also visiting with our various mission works through site visits and phone calls.

During the 2018 Annual Meeting of the South Central Classis, the following prayer concerns were noted:

- a. the raising up of godly, spiritually-minded men to serve as officers in Casper;
- b. the granting of peace, wisdom, and increased love in the coming year; and
- c. the numerical and spiritual growth of all three SCC mission churches.

Your committee is pleased to report that the Lord has answered our prayers and is continuing to build up the mission works of this classis. As of this report, a second elder has been elected, ordained and installed in Casper, WY. Continued peace and growth have been occurring in Omaha, Denver and Casper. Truly the Lord is prospering the work of missions within our boundaries. May He continue to increase our area in His vineyard!

As your committee was tasked to make a site visit with each of the mission works and consult with the overseeing consistories of those works, a 3-year budget was submitted by each chapel and reviewed by the committee. A copy of which will be available to the standing committee and any interested delegate. The following is an accounting of the fulfillment of your committee's task:

Christ Reformed Chapel: Casper, WY

On Sunday, October 7, 2018, Elder Daniel Mettler and Rev. Michael McGee visited with the members and visitors of Christ Reformed Chapel, Casper, WY.

Currently, the group averages 50-55 attendees on a Sunday and meets in the unused facilities of a Baptist church. For a reasonable price, they are also allowed access to the building during the week. Although there is some age to the edifice, the space is very adequate for worship, teaching and fellowship.

We were able to attend the morning worship service, followed by a time of enjoyable fellowship and good discussion. The members expressed their commitment to the Reformed faith and their interest in continuing with the work in order to see it develop and grow. Visitors indicated their appreciation for the clear and biblical teachings provided by Rev. Powell and noted their desire to become members of Christ Reformed Chapel.

Following our interaction with the group, we met with Rev. Matthew Powell and Elder Greg Hager. Rev. Powell serves the group by fulfilling the necessary duties entailed with building up the work in Casper, which include regular duties on Sunday, as well as mid-week studies, membership and Confirmation classes and time with the youth. Elder Hager offers his counsel, encouragement and support when he is able. They are humbled and amazed at the way in which the Lord continues to add to their number. In the past year, the group has continued to mature and develop in their unity and understanding of the faith.

Financially, the Church remains sound, with a good balance in the checkbook. There have been a couple of diaconal challenges in the past year which has had a fiscal impact. The officers also expressed their appreciation for being designated as the recipient of the 2018 Annual Day of Prayer Offerings.

Since the visit in October, we held a video conference meeting on February 11, 2019, with some of the officers of Christ Reformed Chapel and Providence RCUS, Rock Springs, WY. The relationship with the Consistory in Rock Springs continues to remain strong and useful. Through regular meetings conducted via Skype, pertinent business is discussed. The counsel and guidance provided has been beneficial to the work in Casper. In the providence of God, this relationship may be coming to an end. At the 2019 annual meeting of Christ Reformed Chapel, the congregation elected Mr. Marty Scott as a second elder. Subsequently, another congregational meeting was held, at which time, approval was given to adopt a constitution and write a memorial (following the steps of the RCUS Constitution) to seek particularization with the RCUS.

Your committee rejoices with the saints at Christ Reformed Chapel in the continued progress that the Lord is bringing in Casper. The mission work currently receives \$21,000 in funding from Classis and the same amount from Synod. For the upcoming classical and synodical year, \$17,400 will be requested, which is a 10% reduction from the previous year.

Mercy Street Reformed Chapel: Denver, CO

On December 6, 2018, Rev. Harvey Opp and Elder Fred Hofmann visited the SCC mission work at Denver. Classis and Synod first approved its funding for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The overseeing consistory is that of Trinity Covenant RCUS, Colorado Springs.

Bible studies have been conducted since the summer of 2017, first by Rev. J.P. Mosley, Jr., and also by Rev. Jimmy John Hall. The call and funding to bring Rev. Chris Moulton as the missionary for the work was approved and Rev. Moulton moved there in June 2018.

Rev. Moulton has continued with two Bible studies each week, one on Wednesdays, with a fellowship meal, and one on Thursday mornings. The core group originally consisted of six RCUS members from the three CO churches. Other singles have become part of this group, formerly of RCUS and other backgrounds. Your visitors arranged for a meeting with the group on Thursday evening. After a devotional time led by Rev. Moulton, a discussion was held with the group, and with Rev. Mosley and three officers from the overseeing consistory.

There were nine from the work in attendance. About six others have been regular at most studies, but were providentially hindered from being at this meeting. There were 16 at the previous study and prior worship service. The discussion was encouraging, in meeting and learning of the core group. As most of them are young RCUS members, it was good to hear of their desire for a church to be established, and what they have learned in the time together.

They want an RCUS congregation where they work and live, and to which they can invite visitors. They are excited with the new perspective gained with a mission work, and have been motivated as one of the studies was on evangelism. They do invite people, and as Reformed Christians desire to do whatever they can to be of help to others in the area. They see many needs and are praying for a group project as outreach.

Since these members had often gone to their hometowns on weekends, it was decided to start worship services on a bi-weekly basis, which began Nov. 18th. This was also the advice of other RCUS missionaries. Weekly services will begin in March. A room at a local YMCA has been rented at the minimal cost of only \$30/hour. It holds 60-70, and has been adequate. An average of about 12 have attended services. The consistory also reported that the giving has been "very good."

Rev. Moulton has been diligent in other means of outreach. As of our meeting, he had personally invited over 100 people. There is a special occasion for doing so, since they live in an apt. community for over 55-year olds. There are over 4000 people in that development! Some residents have attended studies. Chris and Carole are very welcoming that others may join them in meals. They are also mentoring 2 high school students, and have been involved in the Chamber of Commerce.

Their web site is mercystreetreformed.org, and a weekly podcast titled "M Street" has continued since August. Facebook, Twitter, and Spotify are used. And recently, a Bible study with Pharmacology students has begun. We suggested the use of sermonaudio.com, and also that the consistory seek some liability insurance regarding pastoral counseling, since Chris is counseling in various circumstances.

We visited with Rev. Moulton and the consistory members after the group meeting. The officers seem quite pleased with how the work has developed, and with the work being done. They have an officer at a study or worship service monthly. Rev. Moulton participates in the monthly consistory and spiritual council meetings by phone. He testified that it is a blessing to be in this mission work!

We encouraged the consistory to remain very active and involved with the work at Denver, as they have been for several years. They expressed their commitment to do so, and anticipate the Lord's continued blessing. The population is great in number, and it is a socially liberal area, with great need of the gospel, in spite of having many churches. Rev. Moulton has met the other reformed pastors in Denver, and preached in some of those churches, and all the RCUS churches in CO and WY.

Your visitors were quite encouraged with the Denver work, and the efforts being made! It remains in the beginning stages, of course. We certainly urge Classis and Synod to continue the support of this new mission work!

Omaha Reformed Chapel: Omaha, NE

On Thursday, December 13, 2018, Rev. Dr. Maynard Koerner and Elder Daniel Mettler conducted a visit as prescribed by the Home Missions Manual with the mission church plant in Omaha, NE.

We were able to meet for a time with the missionary, Rev. Randall Klynsma, as well as some of the members of the Omaha mission during an evening meal. Pastor Klynsma continues to have a

positive attitude and remains optimistic concerning the growth of this mission field. He reports that the work has enjoyed an extended period of peace and stability. The response of the various members with whom we were able to visit was very positive.

Following the meal, a meeting was held with members of the overseeing Consistory of St. John's Reformed Church. The members were all very pleased with the work in Omaha and optimistic concerning its future. There was some discussion with the Consistory regarding the timing for moving towards organizing the work as a particular congregation. The advice of the Consistory was that while it would be good to begin working toward that goal, the mission work should wait until it is very evident that the group is ready to be organized.

The finances of the group were discussed. With thanksgiving to God, we are happy to report that the building debt is now fully paid and that they are also carrying a significant balance in their checkbook. We discussed to what extent they might be able to take a greater reduction in support than what had been originally planned. During the current classical and synodical year, funding from Omaha had been reduced by 10% from their original request. For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the work was intending to ask for a 15% reduction; however, we agreed that they are ready to take a 30% reduction from the original budget. In looking ahead to the subsequent years, they will plan on requesting support of the classis and synod at an additional 15% reduction each year.

The following is taken from Rev. Klynsmas's report regarding the efforts made at pursuing the work of missions in Omaha:

"We've continued using Facebook Livestream and targeted advertising, Google Ads, and sign advertising. Currently, we've been publicizing our upcoming showing of *The Truth Project*. With our new members and attendees, I'm expecting between 15 and 25 will be attending. We'll then have to see how many actually continue through the 13-week series. As the goal is relationship building . . . I see it as a win either way. Through our target FB advertising . . . we've had more than 50 responders. Hopefully, some of these will grow into relationships. I've also personally invited some of Julie and my neighbors . . . it will be interesting to see if any of them come out.

"Over the last year or so, we've done some neighborhood canvassing with literature to introduce ourselves. I've also explored the possibility of putting together a discussion/debate club. We (St. John's and I) have considered a couple additional outreach methods but haven't acted upon them . . . bus stop signs, regional mailers, and billboard advertising. We've been weighing the expense vs. potential response and tabled them. Additionally, I've shared dozens of *The Complete Gospel* booklets and given out hundreds of business cards when the opportunity has arisen."

The composition of the group is as follows:

Current membership: 20 Communicant, 7 baptized

Growth from previous year: 100%

Average attendance on the Lord' Day: 35-40, an increase of 5-10 more people per service

Average number of visitors: 2-3

Potential members: 8

Potential Future Works:

During the past year, your committee has been contacted by an individual in Manhattan, MT, who has expressed interest in joining with the RCUS. This individual represents a group of 20-25

souls who have previously been members in the URCNA, PCA and Reformed Baptist churches in the area. Your committee has erected an assessment committee and is scheduled to conduct a site visit in the first part of April in order to determine interest and feasibility.

Goals:

Your committee is encouraged about the work of the Lord in our mission churches and the potential for continued growth. In light of these developments and the Home Missions Manual's guidelines, the committee has the following goals in mind:

- a. That the congregation in Omaha will experience sufficient growth to become an established, particularized RCUS congregation within the next three years.
- b. That the congregation in Casper would continue to experience sufficient growth so that it no longer is identified as a mission work of the RCUS in four years.
- c. That the work in Denver would experience sufficient growth to become an established, particularized RCUS congregation within the next five years.
- d. That within the next five years, the Lord would raise up new RCUS works in metropolitan areas within our classis where establish RCUS congregations already exist. These areas include, but are not limited to Lincoln, NE; Council Bluffs, IA; Colorado Springs, CO; Denver, CO, and Sioux Falls, SD.
- e. That cities with few to no existing NAPARC churches be identified within our classical boundaries and consideration be given to the possibility of starting RCUS mission works in these areas within the next five to ten years.

Recommendations:

Recommendation #1: That the South Central Classis support the work in Casper in the amount of \$18,000 for the upcoming classical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$30,000 received from classis).

Recommendation #2: That the South Central Classis overture the 273rd Synod of the RCUS for funding on behalf of Christ Reformed Chapel, Casper, WY, in the amount of \$18,000 for the next synodical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$30,000 received from synod).

Recommendation #3: That the South Central Classis support the work in Denver in the amount of \$45,000 for the upcoming classical year (represents the same amount as the current year).

Recommendation #4: That the South Central Classis overture the 273rd Synod of the RCUS for funding on behalf of Mercy Street Reformed Chapel, Denver, CO, in the amount of \$36,000 for the next synodical year (represents the same amount as the current year).

Recommendation #5: That the South Central Classis support the work in Omaha in the amount of \$27,000 for the upcoming classical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$45,000 received from classis).

Recommendation #6: That the South Central Classis overture the 273rd Synod of the RCUS for funding on behalf of Omaha Reformed Chapel, Omaha, NE in the amount of \$21,600 for the upcoming synodical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$36,000 received from synod).

Recommendation #7: That the South Central Classis commend the saints at Omaha Reformed Chapel for their timeliness in eliminating their building debt.

Recommendation #8: That the congregations of the South Central Classis continue to pray for the mission works in Casper, Denver and Omaha, particularly noting:

- a. Rejoicing with the saints in Omaha that their building debt has been eliminated;
- b. Giving thanks with the saints in Casper that the Lord has provided them another officer;
- c. Praising God with the saints in Denver for the opportunity to begin a mission work;
- d. Pray for the missionaries and their families as they serve in their respective fields;
- e. Pray for the Lord to bring an increase in missionaries;
- f. Pray for peace, wisdom and love to continue in the coming year;
- g. Pray for an increase in numeric growth, but especially in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ; and
- h. Pray for wisdom and discernment for the Committee on Assessment regarding the potential mission work in Manhattan, MT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elder F. Hofmann, Rev. M. Koerner, Rev. M. McGee (chairman), Elder D. Mettler, Elder D. Oliver, Rev. H. Opp

Classis Action: The report was referred to Standing Missions.

E. Publications

Dear Brothers,

The Publications Committee received no business, did not meet, and therefore did not conduct any business during the past Classical year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. D. Fagrey, Rev. R. Grossmann, Rev. R. Klynsma, Elder R. Davis, Elder J. Frey

Classis Action: The report was referred to Standing Publications.

F. Christian Education

Dear Brothers,

The Christian Education Committee received no business, did not meet, and therefore did not conduct any business during the past Classical year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. G. Horner, Rev. D. Dawn, Rev. H. Hart, Rev. S. Henry, Elder W. Brouwer, Elder F. Hofmann

Classis Action: The report was referred to Standing Education and Student Aid.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A. President's Report on the State of the Church

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. (2 Timothy 4:2)

The above Scripture does well to define the ordinary means of grace which seems to be the general consensus of the Classis this year. There were no significant distractions to deter the churches from their regular labors. The convincing, rebuking, exhorting has continued on; as it should. Sometimes more exhorting, and sometimes more rebuking, but I trust it was always with much longsuffering and teaching.

Your president recognizes that there was some question concerning the lack of a pre-classis meeting this year, as has been our regular practice for a few years now. I have answered that question to the satisfaction of all who have called and asked me about this. The legal reason is that the Executive Committee proposed the change via circular, and nobody objected. The practical reason is that we spent much time in proposing topics and speakers, and ultimately we agreed to ask a speaker to discuss church planting to benefit our delegates this year. Even though we had a verbal agreement from our chosen speaker, we soon considered that we had no budget to pay his expenses, and so had to reluctantly retract our request. This leads us to a request. Your Executive Committee would be greatly assisted in arranging pre-classis meetings if it had a formal budget. In your President's opinion, even a \$1,000 line item budget would give us room to pay for a speaker's expenses, and offer him a small honorarium.

Our Classis membership statistics show slow growth throughout the year, with a year-end total of twenty-four souls. As always, growth was mingled with loss. Among those who have been lost from our rolls this year, fifteen have been from death, and fifty-nine to erasure or discipline. Each of these categories is up this year. We mourn the loss of those souls which have been translated to glory, yet the weeping is but for a time, and we certainly rejoice with them as they continue in glory!

After a couple years of declining numbers of baptisms, we rejoiced a year ago to note a 60% increase. We have increased our number of baptisms again this year by five, bringing us to a total of thirty-four baptisms. Of this year's baptisms, we note that thirty-two were infants, and two were adult baptisms. We praise the Lord for each one of these covenant members.

After several years of prayer and labors, we are happy to report the establishment of a mission work in the Denver metro area. We received one new minister to our rolls of Classis. Rev. Chris Moulton was called to the work in Denver, examined at last year's Classis meeting, and subsequently confirmed by Synod. Welcome, Rev. Moulton.

Rev. Michael McGee reported that Trinity Reformed Church, Sioux Falls, SD has begun labor on a 6,550 square foot expansion project. The walls are up, and progress continues on this ambitious project. We pray that the Lord would continue to bless with spiritual growth, even as He is blessing in structural growth.

Rev. Scott Henry seems to be settling in at Hope Reformed Church, Sutton, NE. Scott's parochial report indicates great activity, an ambitious preaching and teaching schedule, as well as the corresponding spiritual growth of the congregation.

Rev. George Horner reflected upon the maturing spiritual growth of the Providence Reformed congregation of Rock Springs, WY. The Providence congregation, though they "are way out there where the pronghorns roam amidst the lonely expanses of sagebrush," are indeed an active body who love to fellowship with the saints. Any given week in Rock Springs may find the saints engaged in Sunday school, Wednesday Bible study, hymn-sings, prayer times, and eating a hearty Saturday breakfast, complete with a side of John Calvin's Institutes. This June, Lord willing, Rev. Horner will retire from active ministry, at the young age of seventy-five. Thank you for your many years of faithful service, dear brother, and we pray that the Lord would bless both you and your lovely bride, Mary Jo, as you enjoy your retirement together.

As noted in the introductory words, the parochial reports this year have generally reflected little of extraordinary change, and a lot of the regular ministry of the church continuing and growing stronger. The church goes through ebbs and flows, times of much change, and times of general growth. Right now the Classis seems to be generally operating in a slow-growth, normal manner. Yes, there are exceptions, but the norm is the continuation of the normal means of grace as the church moves forward.

One year ago, this Classis first met, examined, sustained and welcomed Rev. Chris Moulton to be called as a missionary to establish a church plant in Denver, Colorado. This year, your missions report notes that there are Bible studies, a web presence, a growing core group, and by the writing of this report, there is scheduled to be weekly worship services at the newest mission work of our classis, Mercy Street Reformed Chapel, in downtown Denver. We celebrate this work, thank all those who have labored diligently towards this end, and pray that the Lord would see fit to use this young work in a powerful way towards the advancement of His church in Denver.

In Casper, WY, the statistics report shows that Christ Reformed Chapel has grown to twenty-seven communicant members, while the Missions report shows that there are 50-55 people as an average attendance for worship. Christ Reformed has ordained a second elder this year, and has submitted to Classis a proposed constitution, as they mature into a particular congregation. It is indeed glorious to watch as the Lord grows His church.

Omaha Reformed Chapel is continuing to grow and mature as well. Rev. Klynsmas reported to the Missions Committee that "the work has enjoyed an extended period of peace and stability." Of note, we rejoice with the congregation at the news that the note on their building has now been paid off, even as there are reductions in monies from both Classis and Synod. Currently the chapel has twenty professing members, seven baptized members, and an average attendance of 35-40 souls. The Missions report shows that the committee is faithful in conducting its business, and has laid out ambitious plans for striving to grow the church within this classis.

We praise God for His continued blessing upon the churches of the South Central Classis of the RCUS, and trustingly pray for His continued hand of blessing upon our labors.

So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. (1 Cor. 3:7)

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Travis Grassmid

Classis Action: The report is to be spread in the minutes, printed in the SCC Abstract, and submitted to the *Reformed Herald*; it was also referred to Standing Services.

B. Stated Clerk's Report

Esteemed Fathers and Brothers,

Following is the list of the duties performed by your Clerk since the 2018 Spring Classis meeting:

1. Your Clerk recorded the business of the 2018 Spring Classis Meeting in the Minutes of Classis; prepared the formal Abstract of the Minutes for publication; and distributed copies of the Abstract to member churches at the 2018 Synod. Your Clerk formatted, indexed, and placed in a permanent binder the 2018 Minutes of Classis along with all reports and relevant documents. After reviewing the the 2018 Minutes of Classis, the Synodical Minutes of Classis Committee determined that no corrections were necessary.
2. Per page 20 of the 2018 Abstract, the Classis President's Report on the State of the Church was sent to the editor of the Reformed Herald.
3. Per page 32 of the 2018 Abstract, regarding the recommendation of Standing Benevolence requesting benevolent aid from Synod for Mrs. Amy Stevens, a letter was sent to the Clerk of Synod on April 12, 2018.
4. Per page 32 of the 2018 Abstract, regarding recommendation #3 of Standing Education and Student Aid, a letter was sent to the Clerk of Synod on April 12, 2018 requesting that Synod provide tuition and book expenses in the amount of \$5,200 for Mr. Matthew Dawn to continue his studies at Heidelberg Theological Seminary.
5. Per page 33 of the 2018 Abstract, regarding recommendation #3 of Standing Finance, a letter of thanks dated April 12, 2018, was sent to Paula Bindert for giving Classis her auditor's opinion.
6. Per page 34 of the 2018 Abstract, regarding recommendations #1-7 of Standing Ministerial Aid, a letter was sent to the Clerk of Synod on April 12, 2018 requesting ministerial aid from Synod for Rev. and Mrs. Herman Van Stedum, Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, Rev. and Mrs. Howard Hart, Rev. and Mrs. David Dawn, Mrs. Penny Powell, and Mrs. Lori Kingswood.
7. Per pages 34-35 of the 2018 Abstract, regarding recommendations #4, #6, and #8 of Standing Missions, a letter was sent on April 12, 2018 requesting \$21,000 from Synod to support the mission work in Casper, WY; \$32,400 to support the mission work in Omaha, NE; and \$36,000 to support the new mission work in Denver, CO.
8. Executive Circulars, Volume 33, #'s 1-3 (see Classis Executive Committee Report) were prepared and emailed to the Classis delegates.

9. A proposed Agenda, Services, and Order of Business for the Spring 2019 Classis meeting was prepared and emailed to the delegates.

10. Delegate and membership and financial statistics forms were sent to the member churches.

11. A Docket containing the reports to be considered at the Spring 2019 Classis meeting was prepared and sent to the delegates.

12. Completed Statistics and Delegate forms submitted by the member churches of Classis were reviewed and compiled, and the Report of Numerical and Financial Statistics was prepared in spreadsheet form and distributed with the Docket.

13. Delegate credentials were sent to the Clerk of Synod, along with the Report on Ministerial Changes and the Informational Form on the Congregations of the Classis.

14. Your Clerk also served on the Executive Committee of Classis.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Joe Vusich

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

C. Report of Synod Clerk to Classes

Dear Brothers in Christ,

In reviewing the minutes of the 272nd Synod, there are some items that the Classes should take note of:

1. Classes should take note of the corrections that should be made to their minutes as adopted by the Synod (272nd Abstract, pp. 88-89).

2. Both membership statistics and financial statistics should be according to the calendar year.

3. Standing rules #2 and #3 which respectively read: "The statistics of the Classes for the calendar year shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk of Synod May 1"; "The writ of certification for delegate elders shall be forwarded to the Stated Clerk May 1."

4. That the Stated Clerk of each Classis regularly provide the webmaster, in electronic form, an updated roll of ministers, elders, and churches following their spring Classis meeting.

5. Standing Ministerial Aid recommendation 8 (2013 Abstract page 76), that pursuant to Article 28 of the RCUS Constitution, Classes shall not consider a pastoral call letter as "adequate support" to the temporal needs of the called pastor, unless retirement is addressed and funded in the terms of the call.

6. That treasurers of the various churches be reminded to comply with Synod standing rule 8 with regard to designating for which fund the monies delivered to the RCUS are to be attributed.

7. Please remember to send necrologies to me in time for Synod.

8. The Classes are reminded that the 273rd Annual Session of the Synod of the RCUS is scheduled to meet May 20-23, 2019, at Northland Reformed Church, Kansas City, MO.

Respectfully submitted,
David Fagrey
Stated Clerk, RCUS

Classis Action: The report was referred to Standing Minutes of Synod.

D. Treasurer's Report

CHECKBOOK

July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

Beginning Balance	101,398.35
Deposits	86,457.72
Checks	(79,648.62)
Interest	252.75
Bank Charges	(111.14)
Ending Balance	\$108,349.06
Variance	6,950.71

CASH FLOW

July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Guideline Dues

Emmanuel Reformed Sutton	
Classis Dues	808.78
Heidelberg Seminary	795.00
Missions	8,435.48
New Geneva Seminary	636.00
Total Emmanuel Reformed Sutton	10,675.26
Grace Reformed Greeley	
Classis Dues	209.82
Heidelberg Seminary	206.26
Missions	2,188.45
New Geneva Seminary	165.00
Total Grace Reformed Greeley	2,769.53
Grace Reformed Rapid City	
Classis Dues	427.28
Heidelberg Seminary	420.00
Missions	4,456.48
New Geneva Seminary	336.00
Total Grace Reformed Rapid City	5,639.76

Hope Reformed Sutton
 Classis Dues 1,312.36
 Heidelberg Seminary 1,290.00
 Missions 13,687.76
 New Geneva Seminary 1,032.00
 Total Hope Reformed Sutton 17,322.12

Omaha Reformed
 Classis Dues 76.30
 Heidelberg Seminary 75.00
 Missions 795.80
 New Geneva Seminary 60.00
 Total Omaha Reformed 1,007.10

Providence Reformed Limon
 Classis Dues 290.32
 Heidelberg Seminary 285.00
 Missions 2,711.30
 New Geneva Seminary 228.00
 Total Providence Reformed Limon 3,514.62

Providence Reformed Rock Springs
 Classis Dues 274.68
 Heidelberg Seminary 270.00
 Missions 2,864.88
 New Geneva Seminary 216.00
 Total Providence Reformed Rock Springs 3,625.56

Providence Reformed Vermillion
 Classis Dues 190.75
 Heidelberg Seminary 187.50
 Missions 1,989.50
 New Geneva Seminary 150.00
 Total Providence Reformed Vermillion 2,517.75

St. John's Reformed Lincoln
 Classis Dues 648.55
 Heidelberg Seminary 637.50
 Missions 6,764.30
 New Geneva Seminary 510.00
 Total St. John's Reformed Lincoln 8,560.35

Trinity Covenant Reformed Colorado Springs
 Classis Dues 488.32
 Heidelberg Seminary 480.00
 Missions 5,093.12
 New Geneva Seminary 384.00
 Total Trinity Covenant Colorado Springs 6,445.44

Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls
 Classis Dues 672.07
 Heidelberg Seminary 660.66
 Missions 7,009.66
 New Geneva Seminary 528.50
 Total Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls 8,870.89

Zion Reformed Menno
Classis Dues 1,175.02
Heidelberg Seminary 1,155.00
Missions 12,255.32
New Geneva Seminary 924.00
Total Zion Reformed Menno 15,509.34

Total Guideline Dues 86,457.72

Total Income \$86,457.72

Expense

Bank Service Charges 111.14

Guideline Payments

Heidelberg Seminary 4,585.00

New Geneva Seminary 3,668.00

Total Guideline Payments 8,253.00

Mission Exp

Christ Reformed Chapel Casper 12,250.00

Mercy St. Reformed Chapel Denver Salary and Moving 8,000.00

Mercy St. Reformed Chapel Denver 26,250.00

St. John's Reformed Lincoln (Omaha Reformed) 23,625.00

Total Mission Exp 70,125.00

Travel Exp 1,270.62

Total Expense \$79,759.76

Net Ordinary Income 6,697.96

Other Income/Expense

Other Income

Interest Earned 252.75

Total Other Income 252.75

Net Other Income 252.75

Net Income \$6,950.71

GUIDELINE INCOME

July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

	<u>Communicant #</u>	<u>Guidelines</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Guideline Dues: 100.71 per communicant				
Christ Reformed Casper	19	1,913.49	0.00	(1,913.49)
Emmanuel Reformed Sutton	106	10,675.26	10,675.26	0.00
Grace Reformed Greeley	55	5,539.05	2,769.53	(2,769.52)
Grace Reformed Mitchell	75	7,553.25	0.00	(7,553.25)
Grace Reformed Rapid City	56	5,639.76	5,639.76	0.00
Hope Reformed Sutton	172	17,322.12	17,322.12	0.00
Omaha Reformed	10	1,007.10	1,007.10	0.00
Providence Reformed Limon	40	4,028.40	3,514.62	(513.78)
Providence Reformed Rock Springs	36	3,625.56	3,625.56	0.00
Providence Reformed Vermilion	25	2,517.75	2,517.75	0.00
St. John's Reformed Lincoln	85	8,560.35	8,560.35	0.00
Trinity Covenant Reformed Colo. Spgs.	64	6,445.44	6,445.44	0.00
Trinity Reformed Sioux Falls	151	15,207.21	8,870.89	(6,336.32)
Zion Reformed Menno	<u>154</u>	<u>15,509.34</u>	<u>15,509.34</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Guideline Dues	1048	105,544.08	86,457.72	(19,086.36)
Other Income				
Interest Earned			252.75	
Total Income			<u>86,710.47</u>	
Expense				
	Budget			
	FY July 1-Jan 31	Paid July 1-Jan 31	Due June 30	
Guideline Payment				
Heidelberg Seminary	7,860.00	4,585.00	3,275.00	
New Geneva Seminary	6,288.00	3,668.00	2,620.00	
Mission Expense				
Christ Reformed Casper	21,000.00	12,250.00	8,750.00	
Mercy Street Reformed Denver	45,000.00	26,250.00	18,750.00	
Mercy Street Reformed Denver	11,420.00	8,000.00	0.00	
St. John's Reformed (Omaha)	<u>40,500.00</u>	<u>23,625.00</u>	<u>16,875.00</u>	
Total Mission Expense	117,920.00	70,125.00	44,375.00	
Benevolence	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Classis Expense				
Equipment		0.00		
Supplies		0.00		
Printing and Reproduction		0.00		
Travel Expense		1,270.62		
Officer Stipend		0.00		
Total Classis Expense	<u>8,000.00</u>	<u>1,270.62</u>	6,729.38	
Total Guideline Payments	140,068.00	79,648.62	56,999.38	
Other Expense				
Bank Service Charges		111.14		
Total Expense		<u>79,759.76</u>		
Net Cash Flow			\$6,950.71	

GUIDELINE INCOME BY CATEGORY

July 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Classical Dues (7.63/Com. Mem.)	8,000.00	6,574.25	(1,425.75)
Missions (79.58/Com. Mem.)	83,400.00	68,252.05	(15,147.95)
Heidelberg Seminary (7.50/Com. Mem.)	7,860.00	6,461.92	(1,398.08)
New Geneva Seminary (6.00/Com. Mem.)	6,288.00	5,169.50	(1,118.50)
Benevolence/Uncategorized (0/Com. Mem.)	-	-	-
Total Guidelines	105,548.00	86,457.72	(19,090.28)
1048 Com. Mem. x 100.71	105,544.08	86,457.72	(19,086.36)

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Velgersdyk, Treasurer

Classis Action: The report was referred to Standing Finances.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS OF MINISTERS

The Ministers of the Word read their parochial reports. Opportunity was given for the delegates to ask questions about each report. After the reports were read, prayer was offered for noted concerns.

Classis Action: Took note of each report.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO ELDERS

The President addressed the questions found in Article 81 of the *RCUS Constitution* to the elder delegates of each congregation.

The following answers were given:

1. *Are the doctrines of the Gospel preached in your charge in their purity, agreeably to the Word of God?*
All answered, "Yes."
2. *Is careful attention given to the instruction of the youth for confirmation, the reception of members into the Church, and the Christian nurture of the members?*
All answered, "Yes."
3. *In providing spiritual nurture for the congregation*
 - a. *Is visitation faithfully performed?*
All answered, "Yes."

b. *Is Christian discipline faithfully exercised according to the Constitution?*
All answered, "Yes."

4. *Are the sacraments of Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper properly administered in accordance with the Constitution?*
All answered, "Yes."

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

a. *Are the apportionments for the Classis paid according to the Guidelines for Giving?*
All answered, "Yes."

b. *Are these monies sent promptly to the Classis treasurer?*
All answered, "Yes," except for the Limon, CO, charge, who answered, "No."

c. *Are the apportionments for the Synod paid according to the Guideline for Giving?*
All answered, "Yes."

d. *Are these monies sent promptly to the Synod treasurer?*
All answered, "Yes," except for the Mitchell, SD, charge, who answered, "Synod payment was late, but paid."

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 MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL STATISTICS

The Stated Clerk presented the report. It appears in Appendix #1 of this Abstract (pp. 37-39).

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

REPORTS FROM CLASSIS' FRATERNAL DELEGATES

Powell read a letter from Rev. Ralph Pontier, Stated Clerk of the Classis Central U.S. of the United Reformed Churches in North America (URCNA). Rev. Pontier expressed regret that his classis was not able to send a delegate to attend the SCC meeting, and he wished God's blessings on our deliberations.

ADDRESSES BY DELEGATES AND VISITORS FROM OTHER REFORMED CHURCHES

No special visitors or fraternal delegates attended this Classis.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Heidelberg Youth Camp

Esteemed Brothers,

Your Committee met by teleconference on Tuesday April 2, 2019. Members participating were Revs. Carroll, R. Grossmann, J. Grossmann, Hall, Lassely, and Mosley and Elders Kimble, Nuss, and Fickbohm. Rev. Carroll chaired the meeting and Rev. Lassely recorded the minutes. A quorum was declared present.

The Committee undertook its annual review of the prior year's camp. The evaluations provided by campers and counselors proved useful in identifying improvements for 2019. Of particular concern was many counselors indicating they did not know the campers in their cabin. We hope to improve this during HYC 2019.

The Committee also discussed the schedule for camp. This year we will change the Thursday schedule to allow campers more time of fellowship and alleviate some over-scheduled times in the evening. Campers should not worry, our classic outings and events are not changing – only improving!

The Committee considered the financial report (included with this report) for 2018. We noted that higher than expected costs in some areas led to a shortfall for the year. As we approach HYC 2019 we will seek to control costs and seek additional support from our member congregations. We also plan to designate the offerings during HYC to funding new equipment that is needed for the camp.

The camp theme “Doctrines of Grace and Sovereignty of God” was approved by majority vote of those present.

Lesson 1 Divine Election and Reprobation

Lesson 2 The Death of Christ, and the Redemption of Men Thereby

Lesson 3 The Corruption of Man

Lesson 4 Man's Conversion to God and the Manner Thereof

Lesson 5 The Perseverance of the Saints

Lesson 6 The Sovereignty of God

Your committee brings the following recommendations.

Recommendation #1: TAKE NOTE that the dates of camp are as follows: July 22-26, 2019; July 20-24, 2020; July 26-30, 2021; July 18-22, 2022; & July 24-28, 2023.

Recommendation #2: TAKE NOTE that congregations be encouraged to help meet the goal of \$2,000 fundraising to support the camp.

Recommendation #3: TAKE NOTE that congregations be encouraged to submit registrations by the July 1 submission deadline.

Recommendation #4: That the budget, including registration fees, for HYC 2019 be approved.

Recommendation #5: That the report be adopted.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the joint committee,

Revs. K. Carroll, D. Fagrey, R. Grossmann, J. J. Hall, J. P. Mosley, and Elder D. Kimble for the South Central

Revs. H. Bowen, J. Grossmann, and M. Lassley and Elder M. Fickbohm for the Northern Plains

Classis Action: The report was recommitted to the special committee, especially to review and revise the proposed topics for this year's camp. Clerk's Note: The special committee later revised the report, which was circularized on 4/4/2019 without objection. The above report is the revised version.

Heidelberg Youth Camp Financial Report and Proposed Budget

	2018 <u>Budget</u>	2018 <u>Actual</u>	Difference <u>(under)/over</u>	2019 <u>Proposed Budget</u>
Opening Fund Balance (1/1/18)		\$ 5,643.83		
Revenue				
Camp Fees (95 campers)	\$ 16,925	\$ 17,340.00	\$ 415	\$ 17,400
Donations	1,500	1,023.00	(477)	2,000
Worship Offering	1,000	1,108.00	108	1,000 **
Camp Store Sales	600	606.00	6	600
Interest		0.44		
Total Revenue	<u>20,025</u>	<u>20,077</u>		<u>21,000</u>
Expenses				
Camp Bob Marshal Rental	\$ 11,457 J	\$ 11,704.92	248	\$ 11,457 *
Camp Bob Sewage Surcharge	1,620	1,680	60	1,700
Food	3,800	4,528.29	728	4,000
T-Shirts & Counselor Gifts	2,500	2,841.36	341	2,500
Arts & Crafts	300	45.88	(254)	100
Supplies and Equipment	400	441.48	41	400
Administration	100 L	20.00	(80)	100
Camp Store Supplies	525 H1	435.63	(89)	500
Designated offering recipient	1,000 K	1,121.00	121	- **
Total Expenses	<u>21,702</u>	<u>22,818.56</u>		<u>20,757</u>
Operating Gain (Loss)		<u>(2,741.12)</u>		<u>242.70</u>
Ending Fund Balance (10/31/18)		<u>2,902.71</u>		

* Rental cost: \$600 (kitchen use) +[\$19 (daily rate/person) X 4 (days) X 135 (people)] + 5.5% tax

** HYC be designated as recipient of offering this year

Proposed 2019	Camper
Fees:	\$180 per camper if registration and fee received by June 1. (\$5 increase)
	\$210 per camper if received June 1 or after. (\$5 increase)
	No fee for adult volunteers.
Proposed budget is based upon 95 campers and 40 adults.	

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Benevolence

The committee brought the following recommendation:

That Synod be overtured to send \$1,550.00/mo. in benevolent aid to Mrs. Amy Stevens in the coming synodical year.

M. Powell, L. Streyle, W. Nuss

Classis Action: The report and its recommendation were adopted.

B. Education and Student Aid

The committee brought the following recommendation:

That Classis overture Synod for tuition and book expenses in the amount of \$5,200 for Mr. Matthew Dawn to continue his studies at Heidelberg Theological Seminary in the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters.

L. Johnson, H. Opp, J. Savage

Classis Action: The report and its recommendation were adopted.

C. Examination and Licensure

The committee brought no recommendations.

K. Carroll, W. Brouwer

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

D. Finances

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That the Auditor's opinion be approved.
2. That the Treasurer's report be approved.
3. That the Stated Clerk send a note of thanks to the Auditor.
4. That Classis budget \$1,000 for travel expenses and an honorarium for a speaker at the next pre-Classis meeting, and that this cost be covered under the dues portion of the classical guidelines.
5. That the overture from Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD, requesting that the SCC's fiscal

year be changed back to a calendar year, and that the 273rd Synod of the RCUS be overtured to do likewise, be denied.

6. That if congregations fulfill their financial obligations to Classis and expenses remain as projected, the projected checkbook balance on June 30, 2019, will be approximately \$71,000.

7. That \$28,000 of the remaining balance of the checking account on June 30, 2019, be allocated for future mission works.

8. That the guideline for Heidelberg Theological Seminary be set at \$7.50 per communicant member in the 2019-2020 classical year.

9. That the guideline for New Geneva Theological Seminary be set at \$6.00 per communicant member in the 2019-2020 classical year.

10. That the total budget for the 2019-2020 classical year be set at \$113,472, and that the classical guideline per communicant member for the upcoming year be allocated as follows:

2019-2020 Guideline per Communicant:

Classical dues	8.40
Missions	78.08
Heidelberg TS	7.50
<u>New Geneva TS</u>	<u>6.00</u>
Total	\$99.98

11. That Classis pay the submitted Classis travel expense in the amount of \$6,101.41.

Travel Expenses for Spring 2019 Classis Meeting:

Kevin Carroll	\$342.43
Robert Davis	\$616.54
Dan Griess	\$551.00
Jimmy John Hall	\$469.80
George Horner	\$574.00
Lee Johnson	\$589.28
Dave Kimble	\$290.00
Randall Klynsma	\$303.92
Maynard Koerner	\$406.00
J. P. Mosley, Jr.	\$77.72
Warren Nuss	\$397.88
Harvey Opp	\$475.60
Matthew Powell	\$316.68
Larry Streyle	\$150.00
Joe Vusich	\$540.56
Total	\$6,101.41

M. McGee, D. Oliver, S. Velgersdyk, D. Kimble

Classis Action: Recommendations #1-3, 5, and 7-11 were adopted. Recommendation #4 was defeated. On recommendation #6, take note. The report was adopted.

E. Ministerial Aid

The committee brought the following recommendations to request ministerial aid from Synod for the 2019-2020 synodical year:

1. Rev. and Mrs. Howard Hart, \$1,850 per month.
2. Mrs. Phyllis Grossmann, \$1,000 per month.
3. Mrs. Virginia Hoeflinger, \$1,600 per month.
4. Rev. and Mrs. Herman Van Stedum, \$1,800 per month.
5. Rev. and Mrs. David Dawn, \$2,000 per month.
6. Mrs. Kay Savage, \$1,200 per month.
7. Mrs. Penny Powell, \$1,200 per month.
8. Mrs. Lori Kingswood, \$1,800 per month.

M. Powell, L. Streyle, W. Nuss

Classis Action: The report and its recommendations were adopted.

F. Missions

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That Classis approve funding for Christ Reformed Chapel, Casper, WY, in the amount of \$18,000 for the next classical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$30,000 received from Classis).
2. That Classis overture the 273rd Synod of the RCUS for funding on behalf of Christ Reformed Chapel, Casper, WY, in the amount of \$18,000 for the next synodical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$30,000 received from Synod).
3. That Classis approve funding for Mercy Street Reformed Chapel, Denver, CO, in the amount of \$45,000 for the upcoming classical year (represents the same amount as the current year).
4. That Classis overture the 273rd Synod of the RCUS for funding on behalf of Mercy Street Reformed Chapel, Denver, CO, in the amount of \$36,000 for the next synodical year (represents the same amount as the current year).
5. That Classis approve funding for Omaha Reformed Chapel, Omaha, NE, in the amount of \$27,000 for the next classical year (represents a 40% reduction from the original \$45,000 received from Classis).

6. That Classis overture the 273rd Synod of the RCUS for funding on behalf of Omaha Reformed Chapel, Omaha, NE in the amount of \$25,200 for the next synodical year (represents a 30% reduction from the original \$36,000 received from Synod).

7. That Classis commend the saints of Omaha Reformed Chapel for their timeliness in eliminating their building debt.

8. That the congregations of the SCC continue to pray for the mission works in Casper, Denver, and Omaha:

- a) Rejoicing with the saints in Omaha that their building debt has been eliminated;
- b) Giving thanks with the saints in Casper that the Lord has provided them another officer;
- c) Praising God with the saints in Denver for the opportunity to begin a mission work;
- d) Praying for the missionaries and their families as they serve in their respective fields;
- e) Praying for the Lord to bring an increase in missionaries;
- f) Praying for peace, wisdom, and love to continue in the coming year;
- g) Praying for an increase in numeric growth, but especially in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- h) Praying for wisdom and discernment for the Committee on Assessment regarding the potential mission work in Manhattan, MT.

J. J. Hall, K. Carroll, M. Koerner, J. Rydell

Classis Action: The report and its recommendations were adopted.

G. Publications

The committee brought no recommendations.

H. Opp, L. Johnson, J. Savage

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

H. Services

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That all services were carried out in accordance with the schedule proposed by the Classis Executive Committee.
2. That the absence excuse submitted for Rev. Scott Henry be granted.

3. That the overture from St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE, to host the Spring Meeting of Classis on March 23-24, 2020, be approved.

4. That that Classis send the following statement of thanks to Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, SD, and that it be printed in the church's March 31 bulletin.

"The delegates of the 34th Spring Meeting of the South Central Classis wish to thank the members of Grace Reformed Church for the fine hospitality they have enjoyed. The meals were definitely five stars. The careful attention to meet the needs of the delegates made them very comfortable. In short, the ministrations of the congregation made the Classis meetings both possible, and a delight which will be long remembered."

D. Dawn, H. Hart, W. Brouwer

Classis Action: On recommendation #1, take note. Recommendations #2-4 were adopted. The report was adopted.

I. Judicial

The committee brought the following recommendations:

1. That the overture to Synod from Grace Reformed Church, Rapid City, SD, calling for mutual submission by all RCUS churches to the authoritative advice provided by previous synods on the subject of women voting in congregational meetings, be ruled out of order by the President on the following grounds:

- a) A synodical special committee is preparing a new report on women voting, and Classis should allow that process to be completed before requesting Synod to issue any new rulings on the subject.
- b) There is no constitutional basis for the overture. Synodical position papers have advisory status and are subordinate to the RCUS Constitution.
- c) The proper course of action in such matters is to pursue an amendment to the Constitution, not to request Synod to impose its authoritative advice on all RCUS congregations.

2. That the memorial and constitution submitted by Christ Reformed Chapel in Casper, WY, be approved, and that the church be organized as a particular congregation of the RCUS.

3. That Rev. George Horner be granted the status of retired Minister of the Word, effective June 1, 2019.

4. That the pastoral relationship between Horner and the congregation of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, be dissolved and the pulpit declared vacant effective on Horner's retirement on June 1, 2019.

5. That the election of Horner as Pastor Emeritus by the congregation of Providence Reformed Church, Rock Springs, WY, be approved, effective on Horner's retirement on June 1, 2019.

6. That John Frey be acknowledged as the 2019 elder delegate for Grace Reformed Church, Mitchell, SD.

J. Blair, J. P. Mosley, Jr., R. Klynsma, J. Stevens

Classis Action: On recommendation #1, the president ruled the overture out of order. Recommendations #2-6 were adopted. The report was adopted.

J. Nominations

The following nominations were made for the 2019-2020 Permanent Committees (underlined indicates convener):

Executive: T. Grassmid, J. Vusich, L. Streyle

Missions: M. McGee, M. Koerner, H. Opp, F. Hofmann, D. Mettler, D. Oliver

Publications: D. Fagrey, R. Grossmann, R. Klynsma, R. Davis, J. Frey

Christian Education: D. Dawn, G. Horner, H. Hart, S. Henry, W. Brouwer, D. Griess

Interchurch Relations: M. Powell, L. Johnson, H. Van Stedum, W. Nuss, J. Stevens

Candidates and Credentials: J. Blair, K. Carroll, C. Moulton, J. Rydell, J. Savage

Heidelberg Youth Camp: K. Carroll, D. Fagrey, J. J. Hall, J. P. Mosley, Jr., D. Kimble, W. Nuss

C. Moulton, J. Frey, H. Opp

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

K. Minutes of Synod

The committee brought the following recommendation:

Regarding the items referenced in the Minutes of Synod report, take note.

G. Horner, R. Davis

Classis Action: On the recommendation, take note. The report was adopted.

L. Minutes of Classis

The committee received the draft minutes from the Stated Clerk and made corrections which were then incorporated into the revised minutes.

D. Dawn, D. Fagrey, D. Griess

Classis Action: The report was adopted.

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION TO HOST CONGREGATION

The expression of appreciation to the host congregation was presented by the Services committee and adopted (pp. 32-33).

READING OF THE MINUTES

The Stated Clerk read aloud the minutes of the closing items of business, and upon correction from the floor, the Minutes were approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The 2019 Spring Meeting of the South Central Classis was adjourned at 4:28 pm on Tuesday, March 26th, until the convening of the next Spring Meeting, March 23, 2020, at St. John's Reformed Church, Lincoln, NE.

A. Roll Call - The final roll call showed 17 ministers and 12 elders present.

B. Devotion - Oliver closed with a devotion from John 14:1-6 and prayer.

C. Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction, Doxology - The President led the body in confessing the Apostles' Creed and praying the Lord's Prayer. After the President pronounced the Benediction, the body sang the Doxology.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Joe Vusich
Stated Clerk of the South Central Classis

APPENDICES

1. Membership and Financial Statistics
2. Necrologies
3. Standing Rules of the South Central Classis
4. Index of Resolutions and Positions

Appendix #1 - Membership and Financial Statistics

2018	Colorado Springs, CO	Denver, CO	Greeley, CO	Limon, CO	Lincoln, NE	Emmanuel Sutton, NE
Number of Elders	4	0	3	3	2	3
Number of Deacons	3	0	3	2	3	3
Communicants Last Year	64	2	55	40	85	106
Received – Confirmation	1	0	1	0	5	0
Received – Letter of Dismission	11	3	0	0	0	0
Received – Profession of Faith	8	0	1	0	2	1
Total Members Received	20	3	2	0	7	1
Total Old/New Members	84	5	57	40	92	107
Lost by Dismissal	4	0	1	5	2	4
Lost by Erasure/Discipline	7	0	4	1	3	4
Lost by Death	0	0	2	0	1	5
Total Members Lost	11	0	7	6	6	13
Total Communicants Members This Year	73	5	50	34	86	94
Unconfirmed Members	35	0	11	21	32	6
Total Baptized Members	108	5	61	55	118	100
Number of Families	38	4	26	15	43	52
Children in Sunday School	22	0	8	20	10	3
Adults Baptized Last Year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infants Baptized	6	0	0	1	2	0
Total Baptisms	6	0	0	1	2	0
Members Received Lord's Supper	59	0	52	34	82	94
Lord's Supper Observed	12	0	13	12	6	6
Receipts – Sunday Offerings	125,636	4,058	129,374	65,057	103,309	97,253
Receipts – Special Offerings	4,102	0	10,402	2,932	11,461	49,767
Receipts – Other Sources	45,500	0	0	2,335	896	0
Total Receipts	175,238	4,058	139,776	70,324	115,666	147,020
Budgeted Synodical Funds	16,372	0	14,068	9,272	19,982	33,128
Budgeted Classical Funds	6,445	0	5,267	3,514	8,559	10,675
Non-Guideline Causes	2,143	0	7,000	2,128	250	0
Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes	0	0	560	600	600	9,099
Other General Expenses	142,595	40,244	99,104	75,634	86,476	101,821
Total Disbursements	167,555	40,244	125,999	91,148	115,958	154,723
Value of Church Buildings	0	0	242,000	40,000	110,000	522,000
Value of Parsonage	0	0	158,000	0	99,100	157,000
Property Improvements	0	0	0	0	0	10,478
Present Property Debts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Paid Last Year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Synod Giving Per Communicant	256	0	261	244	235	313
Classis Giving Per Communicant	101	0	98	92	100	101
Total RCUS Giving Per Comm.	390	0	479	373	339	413

2018	Hope Sutton, NE	Menno, SD	Mitchell, SD	Rapid City, SD	Sioux Falls, SD
Number of Elders	3	4	3	3	6
Number of Deacons	4	4	2	2	6
Communicants Last Year	160	154	88	56	151
Received – Confirmation	6	0	2	4	4
Received – Letter of Dismission	4	0	4	6	6
Received – Profession of Faith	6	3	3	7	5
Total Members Received	16	3	9	17	15
Total Old/New Members	176	157	97	73	166
Lost by Dismissal	0	2	0	1	2
Lost by Erasure/Discipline	17	4	3	0	13
Lost by Death	3	2	1	0	1
Total Members Lost	20	8	4	1	16
Total Communicants Members This Year	156	149	93	72	150
Unconfirmed Members	34	14	23	26	54
Total Baptized Members	190	163	116	98	204
Number of Families	81	79	40	37	70
Children in Sunday School	19	7	10	21	41
Adults Baptized Last Year	0	0	0	0	0
Infants Baptized	2	1	2	4	6
Total Baptisms	2	1	2	4	6
Members Received Lord's Supper	155	136	88	54	145
Lord's Supper Observed	6	4	6	6	6
Receipts – Sunday Offerings	237,162	164,824	107,707	205,910	230,312
Receipts – Special Offerings	43,387	29,887	3,884	2,345	5,897
Receipts – Other Sources	1,326	2,158	48,602	0	186,202
Total Receipts	281,875	196,869	160,193	208,255	422,411
Budgeted Synodical Funds	44,176	38,192	8,250	14,528	38,404
Budgeted Classical Funds	17,322	15,509	4,250	5,640	14,540
Non-Guideline Causes	5,600	17,100	0	11,400	1,387
Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes	62,155	621	0	17,050	0
Other General Expenses	143,632	125,118	110,760	145,921	277,397
Total Disbursements	272,885	196,540	123,260	194,539	331,728
Value of Church Buildings	800,000	500,000	525,000	850,000	1,065,692
Value of Parsonage	100,000	350,000	189,000	200,000	0
Property Improvements	13,074	6,582	0	0	33,501
Present Property Debts	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Paid Last Year	0	0	10,262	0	0
Synod Giving Per Communicant	276	248	94	260	254
Classis Giving Per Communicant	108	101	48	101	96
Total RCUS Giving Per Comm.	419	460	142	564	360

2018	Vermillion, SD	Rock Springs, WY	Omaha, NE	Casper, WY	Total all churches
Number of Elders	2	3	0	1	40
Number of Deacons	1	1	0	0	34
Communicants Last Year	25	36	10	19	1,051
Received – Confirmation	0	0	3	1	27
Received – Letter of Dismission	0	0	2	0	36
Received – Profession of Faith	6	2	5	7	56
Total Members Received	6	2	10	8	119
Total Old/New Members	31	38	20	27	1,170
Lost by Dismissal	3	0	0	0	24
Lost by Erasure/Discipline	0	0	0	3	59
Lost by Death	0	0	0	0	15
Total Members Lost	3	0	0	3	98
Total Communicants Members This Year	28	38	20	24	1,072
Unconfirmed Members	8	16	7	19	306
Total Baptized Members	36	54	27	43	1,378
Number of Families	13	22	8	10	538
Children in Sunday School	8	11	9	13	202
Adults Baptized Last Year	1	0	0	1	2
Infants Baptized	2	3	1	2	32
Total Baptisms	3	3	1	3	34
Members Received Lord's Supper	28	38	20	24	67 (avg)
Lord's Supper Observed	6	12	6	12	8 (avg)
Receipts – Sunday Offerings	67,304	177,779	64,855	45,246	1,825,786
Receipts – Special Offerings	195	1,376	40,249	754	206,638
Receipts – Other Sources	2,532	0	76,950	46,500	413,001
Total Receipts	70,031	179,155	182,054	92,500	2,445,425
Budgeted Synodical Funds	6,400	14,366	2,580	3,432	263,150
Budgeted Classical Funds	2,518	3,626	931	1,202	99,998
Non-Guideline Causes	3,100	4,000	650	1,727	56,485
Non-RCUS Benevolent Causes	557	0	0	1,200	92,442
Other General Expenses	74,658	113,537	76,049	98,233	1,711,179
Total Disbursements	87,233	135,529	80,210	105,794	2,223,345
Value of Church Buildings	305,000	240,000	160,000	0	5,359,692
Value of Parsonage	125,000	included	0	0	1,378,100
Property Improvements	1,973	17,843	1,495	0	84,946
Present Property Debts	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Paid Last Year	0	0	76,409	0	86,671
Synod Giving Per Communicant	256	399	253	286	242
Classis Giving Per Communicant	101	101	93	100	89
Total RCUS Giving Per Comm.	481	611	416	335	385

Appendix #2 - Necrologies

No necrologies were reported.

Appendix #3 - Standing Rules of the South Central Classis

1. The fiscal year of the South Central Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States shall run from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. The Classis guidelines shall be due on the first of June and are to be paid no later than the thirtieth of June of the current fiscal year (1960, '64, '68, '87, 2015).
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 current IRS yearly mileage rate 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, '12, '15, '17).
8. The Treasurer shall reimburse travel in behalf of Classis at the current IRS yearly mileage rate 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, '15, '17).
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 five hundred dollars (\$500.00), and the Treasurer shall receive one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the Classical year (1960, '61, '65, '78, '84, '87, '90, 2003, '15).
11. The monies sent to the Treasurer shall be made out in check form and designated for which fund and how much for each fund (1957).
12. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to advance the actual fare for public transportation to qualified candidates preaching trial sermons in our vacancies (1958, '87).
13. The Stated Clerk shall prepare for publication an abstract of the Classis minutes. The Spring Abstract shall include a cumulative index of resolutions and positions taken by Classis (1959, '87, '90).

14. The Classis shall have Permanent Committees as follows: Executive, Missions, Christian Education, Candidates and Credentials, Interchurch Relations, and Publications; and the Standing Committee of Nominations each year is to nominate men to serve on these committees (1961, '80, '85, '87, '91).
15. Nominations for all officers of Classis shall be made by secret ballot. All names appearing on the nominating ballot shall be candidates and, if there is no election on the first electing ballot, on each succeeding ballot the two candidates with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped until there is an election. (1962, '80, '87, '88).
16. Every charge that will not have an elder delegate at the Spring Meeting of Classis shall, before the date of the meeting, send in the answers to the questions placed before the elders according to Article 81 of the constitution. This copy shall be signed by all the elders of the charge and sent to the Stated Clerk (1963, '87).
17. The reports and recommendations of the Permanent and Special Committees of Classis shall be completed and mailed to all the Consistories of all the churches, with two copies to be sent to the Stated Clerk, four weeks prior to the meeting of Classis to which these reports and recommendations are to be presented. Excuses for this requirement are to be made only on written request to the Executive Committee of Classis by the chairman of the committee involved, at least two weeks before the meeting of Classis (1963, '70, '79, '82, '87, '90).
18. The services of Classis shall be prepared by the Executive Committee and these proposed services shall be circularized before Classis (1966, '72).
19. Students that are under the care of Classis shall be urged to attend only such seminaries approved by Classis. Only students who attend approved institutions shall be eligible for student aid while preparing for the Christian Ministry (1978, '87).
20. Classis shall require candidates for the ministry to complete an eight-month internship before his ordination exam. The internship shall be spent with a pastor who has served at least 5 years in the RCUS. The pastor shall provide a written evaluation of the candidate to the Candidates and Credentials committee. During this internship particular emphasis shall be placed on learning the peculiarities and practices of the RCUS. This internship requirement may be fulfilled either before or after the candidate has received a call or is licensed (1979, '87, '95).
21. Overtures sent to the Stated Clerk of Classis four weeks in advance of the Classis meeting shall be circularized, but overtures may be submitted to Classis at anytime (1986, '87).
22. The Spring Meeting of Classis shall be held at least one month before the annual meeting of Synod and shall start the 4th Monday of March opening with a worship service at 7:00 p.m., but if the 4th Monday is in the week before Easter, Classis shall meet the 3rd Monday of March (1987, 2001, '02, '09).
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).

Appendix #4 - 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.

(Spring 2015, Abstract, pg. 46)

That the Consistories of South Central Classis be reminded of the Constitutional requirements regarding the establishment and dissolution of pastoral relations:

(Based on Art. 30, 76, 81, 82, 91 of *RCUS Constitution*)

- a. Classis is vested with the power to constitute and dissolve pastoral relations.
- b. Classis is responsible to take care that the call is in order, for example, “that the temporal contract be adequate.”
- c. This responsibility of Classis may be carried out by Classis either by means of a regular meeting of Classis or by the Executive Committee through the use of a circular letter.
- d. Specific instructions to the Executive Committee of Classis include: to constitute and dissolve pastoral relations, confirm a call, appoint a committee to ordain a licentiate and install a pastor.
- e. The call of a pastor, acceptance of a call, resignation of a pastor, the acceptance of the resignation of a pastor by the Consistory shall be submitted to the Executive Committee of Classis as soon as possible for action.
- f. Implementation of a resignation or call may not begin prior to the approval of said resignation or call, for example, “a pastor shall not leave his charge before his resignation has been approved and the pastoral relation has been dissolved by Classis,” Art. 30.