

Meeting of the Wycliffe Presbytery

Searcy, AR
October 20, 2016

9:05 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Presiding Minister (PM) Todd Davis following an opening welcome and review of the agenda.

Member churches were represented by Pastor Todd Davis and Elder Joe Myers (Christ Church of Searcy), Pastor Phil Bozarth and Elder Charles Williams (Grace Covenant Church of Jonesboro/Fontaine), Elder Dale Pickard (Grace Covenant Church of Texarkana), Pastor Steve Wilkins (Auburn Avenue Presbyterian Church), Pastor John Barach (Covenant Presbyterian Church of Sulphur), Pastor Jeff Niell (All Saints Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth), Pastor Randy Booth and Elder Lee Hill (Grace Covenant Church of Nacogdoches), Pastor Pat Hurd and Elder Mark Thrash (Heritage Covenant Church of Weatherford), Elder Steve Willborg (St. David's Church of Hockley), and Pastor Oleg Volkov (Reformed Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg).

Mission church Christ Covenant Church of San Antonio, a mission of Grace Covenant Church of Nacogdoches was represented by Pastor Joe Rosales.

Elder David Alders (Grace Covenant Church of Nacogdoches) served as clerk.

Guests in attendance were Deacon Wesley Hurd, Micah Hurd and Clark Hurd (Heritage Covenant Church of Weatherford), Deacon Jonathan Landrum (Grace Covenant Church of Nacogdoches) Rachel Rosales and children (Christ Covenant Church of San Antonio), and Rachel Bozarth and children (Grace Covenant Church of Jonesboro/Fontaine).

Elder Joe Myers offered an invocation, followed by an exhortation by Pastor Oleg Volkov.

Following the singing of *O God of Earth and Altar*, member churches gave reports.

The Arkansas pastors/elders gave church reports, and Pastor Steve Wilkins prayed for them and their specific needs.

The Louisiana pastors gave church reports, and Pastor Pat Hurd prayed for their requests.

Following an approximately ten minute break, the Texas pastors gave church reports; prayer for their requests was led by Pastor John Barach.

Pastor Oleg Volkov gave a report on behalf of Reformed Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg, Russia, and his ministry with a Reformed mission work in Uzbekistan. Following his report, Pastor Volkov was asked whether he recommended extending the Candidate status of the Reformed Church of Kazan, Tartarstan, whose pastor recently passed away. Pastor Volkov did not request the extension of such status but will continue to remain in contact with the church in Kazan.

Pastor Randy Booth reported on the relationship between a number of Wycliffe Presbytery churches, with Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church of Nacogdoches as intermediary, and the missionary work of Pastor Volkov in Russia and Uzbekistan. Pastor Booth prayed for the work of Pastor Volkov.

The meeting recessed for lunch shortly before noon, following a blessing given by Pastor Phil Bozarth.

12:40 p.m.

Following lunch, the meeting reconvened with the singing of *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*, following which PM Davis gave the Presiding Minister's Report, summarizing his work in that capacity since the 2015 meeting of Presbytery.

John Barach offered and Jeff Niell seconded a motion that the Presbytery approve the PM's report, the effect of which would be the ratification of the actions reported upon. The motion passed unanimously.

PM Davis appointed a Constitutional Review committee comprised of Pastor John Barach, Pastor Joe Rosales, Elder David Alders, and himself, as ex-officio member, to review the CREC's governing documents, PMoC Wilson's proposed amendments and recommendations from the broader CREC body. The committee was charged to report its recommendations to Wycliffe presbyters by June, 2017.

PM Davis referred the presbyters to the informational reports submitted by the CREC Missions committee and the Same-sex "Marriage" Committee, neither of which contained requests for action.

PM Davis referred the presbyters to PMoC Wilson's report. No action was taken concerning that report.

Pastor Randy Booth offered and Pastor Pat Hurd seconded a motion that "Wycliffe Presbytery petitions PMoC Wilson to form a five-person committee to propose amendments to the CREC governing documents for the 2017 Council meeting. Wycliffe Presbytery voices the following preferences for the process of amending governing documents:

- 1) that the governing documents of the CREC may be amended by agreement of 3/4 of the presbyteries at any time;
- 2) that Council may amend the governing documents by a 3/4 vote in stated or ad hoc meeting;
- 3) that the PM of Council may propose amendments of the governing documents at any time which may be approved by 3/4 of the presbyteries or a 3/4 vote of Council."

Pastor Barach offered and Pastor Bozarth seconded a motion to amend the main motion to strike the second sentence of the motion. The amendment passed unanimously.

Pastor Booth offered and Pastor Pat Hurd seconded a motion to amend the main motion such that it reads, "Wycliffe Presbytery petitions PMoC Wilson to form a five-person committee to propose amendments to the CREC governing documents for the 2017 Council meeting, to be distributed to the presbyteries no later than 90 days prior to the meeting of Council."

The amendment was approved unanimously. The amended motion then passed unanimously.

PM Davis opened the floor to nominations for the position of Alternate Delegate to Council. Pastor Steve Wilkins had been nominated previous to the convening of the presbytery meeting as posted on the Presbytery agenda. No additional nominations for the position were offered, so PM Davis closed nominations and asked for a vote from the presbyters. Pastor Steve Wilkins was unanimously elected as the Alternate Delegate to Council.

The presbyters sang *Now Thank We All Our God*, followed by a closing exhortation from Pastor Joe Rosales.

Following a closing prayer by PM Davis, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:50 p.m. by general consent.

