

Minutes of Athanasius Presbytery
Confederation of Reformed Evangelical Churches
11 November 2010
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, Florida

Churches and Members of Presbytery Represented:

Christ Church, Branchville AL: Ted Phillips

Christ Church, Lakeland FL: David Bostrom

Christ Presbyterian Church, Baton Rouge LA: Galen Sorey, Denny Dufour, Joey Booth

Holy Trinity Reformed Evangelical Church, Greenville SC: Craig Beaton and Bob Corneroli

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Clinton MS: Bill Grete

Providence Church, Pensacola FL: Uri Brito and Alan Stout

Salem Reformed Church, Rome GA: George Crocker

St. Mark Reformed Church, Nashville TN: Joe Thacker

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Birmingham AL: Rich Lusk and Gilbert Douglas

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso FL: Michael Schneider, Erik Stoer, Jonathon Sutton
(Schneider and Stoer served as church representatives, Sutton as Clerk)

Not represented: Christ Church, Atlanta GA

Guests: Steven Wedgeworth, Interim Pastor of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Clinton MS; Rob Hadding, Pastor of Christ Church, Pace FL; and Tyler Ray of Salem Reformed Church, Rome GA were received as visiting brothers.

Breakfast at “Another Broken Egg” Restaurant (near the meeting room) at 8 a.m.

Convening of Presbytery with worship at 9:15 a.m.: Mickey Schneider, Minister of Presbytery

* Singing of “A Mighty Fortress is our God” (original version)

* Approval of Docket

* Discussion of and prayer concerning challenges faced by individual members and churches within the presbytery.

Motion by Alan Stout (seconded and approved): That the Presiding Minister send a letter to the session of Immanuel Presbyterian Church concerning the status of the IPC session.

Motion by Galen Sorey (seconded and approved): That the Presiding Minister should appoint two or three men to write this letter, subject to Presbytery concurrence.

Motion by Michael Schneider (seconded and approved): That Bill Grete, Erik Stoer, Alan Stout, and Galen Sorey prepare this letter during the lunch break.

Break for lunch, also at “Another Broken Egg.”

Motion by Michael Schneider (seconded and approved): That the letter, as amended, is approved to be sent to the IPC session.

Report by Joe Thacker of Slavic Reformation Society. CREC Europe has a goal of forming a presbytery of ten churches by 2015, with support equal to \$100 per month by forty CREC churches.

Report by Jonathon Sutton of Peru Mission work in 2011 and Caleb Sutton’s preparation for return to the mission field of Trujillo, Peru in the summer of 2011 as Director of Communications. Caleb has so far received one quarter of his needed financial support.

Theological discussion led by Erik Stoer on “Basic Catholic Beliefs and Practices” and a consideration of...

“What should be our relationship to the Roman Catholic Church?”

“What are the sticking points of church unity?”

“In what kind of joint endeavors should we participate?”

Discussion of name change and question of overture to General Council.

Motion by Alan Stout (seconded and approved): That Athanasius Presbytery reject the recommendation of the Council Name Change Committee.

Motion by Bob Corneroli (seconded and approved): That the Presiding Minister reiterate to Council our previous motion that the name “Confederation of Reformed Evangelical Churches” be changed to “Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches.” (Galen Sorey and Bob Corneroli will be our representatives to General Council and will present a motion to this effect.)

Galen Sorey confirmed as the new Presiding Minister of Athanasius Presbytery, to serve a three-year term.

Craig Beaton elected as the new Presiding Minister Pro-Tem of Athanasius Presbytery.

Alan Stout elected as the new Clerk of Athanasius Presbytery.

Discussion of the Spring 2011 meeting, hosted by Trinity Presbyterian Church (Birmingham) on March 4, 2011. Dr Timothy George will speak on Christian involvement in politics.

Motion by Erik Stoer (seconded and approved): That the Presiding Minister prepare a change to our Book of Procedures clarifying the status of churches that have been reduced to one elder.

Discussion of the Fall 2011 meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota during the week of October 3-7.

Tentatively, the schedule is...

Monday night: Reception.

Tuesday: Missions Conference.

Wednesday and Thursday morning: Presbytery Meetings.

Thursday afternoon and Friday: Council Meeting.

Galen Sorey stressed that attendance at the Council Meeting is mandatory, and that absence will require a significant reason.

Discussion of our meeting schedule and locations: Should we continue to meet twice a year (Spring and Fall), with the Spring meeting location varying amongst our churches (as a meeting for theological discussion) and the Fall (business) meeting location at Sandestin, Florida in conjunction with the Trinity Presbyterian (Valparaiso) Annual Family Advance, or should we change to another schedule and/or different location? The Presbytery voted to retain our current schedule and locations.

Adjournment for supper at 5 p.m.

Closing Worship Service at Linkside Center at 7 p.m., with Rich Lusk preaching on Deuteronomy 6 (This worship service will also be the opening session of the Trinity Family Advance).

Respectfully submitted by Jonathon Sutton, Clerk

Approved: December 9, 2010