

Tyndale Presbytery Spring Agenda 2025

Date: March 24-25, 2025

Meeting Location: Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO

I. Welcome & Exhortation (at the beginning of each day's meeting)

Dave Rapp gave the opening Invocation at 6:30p

The men and guests chanted Psalm 121

Pastor Jeff Meyers gave an Exhortation from Proverbs 26:17

Scriptural Exhortation – Jeff Meyers (Monday evening), Jeff Pennington (Tuesday morning)

II. Call To Order

PM Smith Called the Meeting to Order at 6:38p

Calling of the Roll/Establishment of a Quorum (2/3 representation of member churches)

- Christ Church - Leavenworth, KS
 - KJ Behler
- Christ Church Livingston County – Howell, MI
 - Tim Raynard, Joe Martinez
- Christ Church - Omaha NE
 - Nathan Joslin, George Little
- Christ Church Twin Cities – Excelsior MN
 - Arnie Abens, Daniel Ralph
- Christ Covenant Church of Chicago – Rolling Meadows, IL
 - Jon Herr, Dave Rapp
- Christ the King Presbyterian Church – New Era, MI
 - Jeff Swanson
- Christ the Redeemer – Pella, IA
 - Mike Shover, David Moody
- Exodus Church – Wichita, KS
 - Kyle Lammott, Kyle Waters
- Providence Church - Caro, MI
 - Phil Burch
- Providence Reformed Church – St. Louis, MO
 - Jason Carter, Jeff Meyers
- Trinity Reformed Church – South Whitley, IN
 - Nate Harlan

- Trinity Church – Bolivar, MO
 - Rob Davis
- Trinity Presbyterian – Waukesha, WI
 - Jeff Pennington, Shane Peterson
- Christ Covenant Church – Selkirk, MB
 - Dave Forsythe, Mr. Hallick
- Christ Church – Emporia, KS
 - Kevin Hadley
- Christ Church – Bonner Spring, KS
 - Cody Waterman, Colman Barbour
- Christ Church, Indy
 - Rocky Ramsey
- Coram Deo – Springfield, MO (no delegates)
- Reformation Church – Washington, IA (mission of Providence Reformed)
 - Mike Yates
- Cornerstone Reformed Church – Carbondale, IL
 - Shawn Jack, Nathan Brunaugh

Establish Agenda – approved (after date corrected) / Shover, Behler

Recognition of Guests and Visiting Delegations

- Sammy Hargrave – Exodus Church
- Andrew Harris – Deacon – Christ Church Omaha
- Kyle Grindberg – Licensure Candidate / pastor Christchurch Elk River (sponsored by CCTC)
- Ken & Debbie Hicks – Providence members
- Gabe Harder – pastoral intern C4 Chicago
- Mrs. Burch & Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Martinez
- Andy Wright – Deacon – New Era
- Randy Stone, John Moore, Paul Hahn, Trevor Roberson, Grant Stiner, Jordan Burlstein
- Joost Nixon – CCTC MN
- Kevin Lucas – Deacon / Christ Church Leavenworth

II. PMoP Report

- PM Smith presented his report – 6:55p
- Mike Yates gave a brief report about his mission church
- PM Smith gave a brief report on the dissolution of Christ the King – Springfield, MO
- Phil Burch gave a report about Christ Church Caro, MI

- Motion for presbytery go into executive session to discuss the Caro MI situation – (Meyers/Herr) - passed unanimously
- Motion to approve Phil Burch as interim pastor without examination with a request to provide written call (to PM Smith) within one month (Meyers/Peterson) – passed unanimously
- Motion to come out of executive session (Meyers/Carter) – passed unanimously
- No appeals or complaints
- Committee Appointments –
 - Sammy Hargrave / Gabe Harder / Kyle Grindberg - Licensure Examination – Members: Herr, Skogen, Pennington, Abens, Behler

III. Committee Reports

A. Views Examination Committee Report

- Committee Report - transfer of Christ Church, Omaha, NE and Nathan Joslin
 - Pastor Harlan gave a report about his experience on the ordination committee (conducted by Knox Presbytery).
- Floor exam of church and pastor
 - The delegates questioned the session of CC Omaha to their views and Pastor Joslin's qualifications
 - Motion to move into executive session (Peterson/Harlan) – passed unanimously
 - Motion to accept CCO's transfer and Nathan Joslin's transfer of ordination with the proviso holding them to the commitment of Pastor Joslin finishing his language studies and PM Smith shall appoint a delegate to report on his progress each at stated presbytery meeting (Abens, Harlan)
 - Question was called (Burch/Peterson) – passed unanimously
 - Motion passed by majority vote
 - Delegates from CCO were brought into the executive session
 - PM Smith appointed David Moody to report on Pastor Joslin's original languages progress at each stated meeting.
 - Motion to end executive session (Harlan/Moody) – passed unanimously
 - PM Smith administered the vows/questions of membership to Pastor Joslin and Elder G. Little to which they gave their verbal consent. This was followed by the members of Tyndale Presbytery giving their consent to receive Christ Church Omaha, NE

PM Smith concluded the meeting until the morning at 8:36pm

The meeting dismissed w/singing “Worthy is the Lamb”

PM Smith called the meeting to order w/prayer at 8:42am

The gathering chanted Psalm 121

Pastor Jeff Pennington exhorted the delegates/guests on learning contentment and putting off covetousness.

IV. Presentations and Discussion (30 minutes each)

Arnie Abens exhorted the delegates on being certain what a church constitution says to be sure necessary changes are being dealt with. (at 9:00a)

Arnie Abens brought up a discussion about marriage, divorce, and remarriage and how each church interprets Scripture and applies the biblical grounds for divorce.

Daniel Ralph facilitated a conversation on psychological preferences especially related to digital media and online influencers. (9:30a)

Daniel Ralph facilitated a conversation on sabbaticals in pastoral ministry (9:52a)

Michael Shover and Bill Smith facilitate a discussion on “deaconesses”. After much discussion, a motion was made to extend discussion for another 15 minutes (Harlan, Swanson) – passed unanimously

Motion to amend the CREC Constitution Article II as follows:

F. Ordination is the conferring of status and authority of the ministerial office, and in the CREC it shall be performed by vows, the laying on of hands, and prayer in accordance with apostolic precedent (Acts 6:6; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6). This practice is not optional but is an essential element of ordination in every local church within the CREC.

G. In keeping with the scriptural qualifications for church office (1 Tim. 3:1–7; Tit. 1:5–9), the offices of ~~minister~~* pastor, elder, and deacon are reserved for qualified men only. ~~No~~ Women shall ~~ever~~ not be ordained to any of these offices within the CREC.

(Shover/Peterson)

*friendly amendment to replace the word “minister” with “pastor”.

*friendly amendment to strike the words “No” and “ever” in the last sentence and add the word “not”.

Motion passed unanimously

Jon Herr facilitated a discussion on CREC ordination standards. (11:06a)

Michael Shover facilitated a discussion on the CREC Memorial on Nations. (11:38a)

- Motion to extend the discussion time by 10 minutes (Harlan/Carter) – passed unanimously
- Motion that Tyndale Presbytery opposes the Memorial on Nations as proposed by Hus Presbytery for the second reading at Council in 2026, and requests PM Smith to communicate our opposition to the Presiding Ministers of the CREC (Herr/Ralph) – passed unanimously

Dividing the Presbytery was briefly discussed by Arnie Abens (12:22p)

Motion that Tyndale PM form a committee for the purpose of studying biblical and traditional data on lawful divorce and remarriage, for the purpose of giving Tyndale Presbytery guidelines for how we work together in dealing with these scenarios. Work to be done and submitted at Fall Presbytery 2025. (Herr / Moody) – motion failed by verbal vote

VII. Other Business

- Motion to extend thanks from Tyndale Presbytery to Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church for hosting our meetings over the past two days. (Brunaugh/Abens) – passed unanimously (12:25pm)
- Fall Meeting - Exodus Church, September 22-23

The meeting was adjourned by singing “Do Not Be Silent God, Or Unresponding” (12:32p)