



Augustine Presbytery Fall Meeting

September 26th, 2025

Southern Pines, NC



**COMMUNION OF REFORMED
EVANGELICAL CHURCHES**

Location: Sandhills Presbyterian Church, 650 Pee Dee Rd, Southern Pines, NC 28387

Officers: Presiding Minister (2024)-David Cooper; PM Pro Tem (2024)-Dan Nash; Secretary-Wade Choate

- I. Morning Worship

- II. Roll Call of Member Churches by PM David Cooper. Wade Choate recording.
9:15am.
 1. All Souls Reformed Church-Green Camp, OH-Rhett Crabtree
 2. Christ Covenant Reformed Church-Chesapeake, VA-Conrad Doskey, Caleb Peacock
 3. Christ Church-Cary NC-Duane Garner, Peter Jones
 4. Christ Church-Morgantown, WV-Jared McNabb, Bill Oldland
 5. Christ Reformed Evangelical Church-Annapolis, MD-Dan Nash (PM Pro-Tem), Ken Trovato
 6. Covenant Community Presbyterian-Orient, OH-Tom Lawson, Derrick Ratliff
 7. Holy Trinity Reformed Church-Concord, NC-Brian Phillips, Wade Choate
 8. Providence Church-Lynchburg, VA-Virgil Hurt, Rick Davis
 9. Sandhills Presbyterian-Southern Pines, NC-Kevin Skogen
 10. Sovereign Christ Church-Mansfield, OH-Clint Zeigler
 11. St. Peter Presbyterian Church-Bristol/Abingdon, VA-Steve Murphy, Laurence Windham
 12. Trinity Reformed Church-Martinsburg, WV-Lucas Dorminy, Chris Lee

Establish Quorum-8 member churches required

12 of 12 churches represented. Quorum established. 21 voting delegates.

Candidate, Mission Churches, Church Planters Recognized

1. Christ Church-Boone, NC-David Townsend
2. Christ Church-Owensboro, KY-Kevin Whear, Curtis Mort
3. Cross and Crown-Warrenton, VA-Jason Garwood
4. Dandridge Community Church-Dandridge, TN-Jake Torgeson, Blane Tarr
5. King's Valley Reformed-Erwin, TN-Absent
6. Reformed Covenant Church-Richmond, VA-Lee Becton
7. Walker's Chapel-Orange, VA-Jeremiah Pent

Recognize any additional guests or delegations. Updates on mission churches not present.

Reformed Evangelical Seminary Update from President Elect Virgil Hurt

III. Church Reports and Prayer for each Church.

IV. Presbytery Actions

2025/09/26: 1-Request to move agenda item 2 to 1 received without objection.

2025/09/26: 2-Christ Reformed Evangelical Church (Dan Nash) moves to receive **Cross and Crown** (Jason Garwood) into full membership of Augustine Presbytery.

Q and A of Pastor Jason Garwood

Motion Carried Unanimously.

PM David Cooper administered membership vows per Article III C/D and extended the right hand of fellowship. Cross and Crown of Warrenton, VA was seated as a full member of Presbytery.

2025/09/26: 3-Receive Presiding Minister's Report.

2025/09/26: 4-Ratify the decision of PM Cooper to dismiss two complaints from members of Trinity Reformed Church about the actions of the Augustine Presbytery Commission to TRC.

Motion carried with one abstention (Laurence Windham).

2025/09/26: 5-Ratify the decision of PM Cooper to form a pastoral advisory commission consisting of Duane Garner and Jody Simmons to assist the session of St. Peter Presbyterian Church.

Motion carried unanimously.

2025/09/26: 6-Christopher Lee moved to challenge the constitutionality of the appointment of two pro-tem elders to the Session of Trinity Reformed Church (based on the work of the Augustine Commission which ended in March, 2025). Virgil Hurt seconded.

2025/09/26: 7-Ken Trovato moved to make the vote anonymous.

No second, motion defeated.

Mr. Lee's original motion to challenge was defeated 20-1

Ordination Committee Chairman Jared McNabb presented a report and recommendations from the ordination committee.

2025/09/26: 8- Brian Phillips moved to have the PMOP develop an Augustine Presbytery Book of Procedures to house some of the committee's recommendations. Motion Seconded by Wade Phillips.

Discussion of the appropriate recommendations to include (sections 1, 4, and 5 of the committee's report).

Motion Carried Unanimously

2025/09/26: 9-Motion from Ordination Committee to amend CREC Constitution Article III. M

Currently, it reads: When a church joins the CREC, the existing ordination of all its officers is thereby accepted, and does not necessitate a formal examination as with other candidates. Nevertheless, observations and questions concerning elder qualifications may occur in the discussion of that church's potential admission.

Proposed amendment: When a church joins the CREC, the existing ordination of all its officers is thereby accepted. Nevertheless, observations and questions concerning elder qualification may occur in the discussion of that church's potential admission. **Any elder from a candidate church who wishes to be recognized as an Ordained Minister or Pastor, should have their credentials examined by a Presbytery commission or committee in accordance with the Book of Procedures, (Article XI. E. "Previously Ordained Men entering the CREC") prior to the church being admitted into membership.**

Motion Carried unanimously

Open Discussion of Memorial J and other upcoming Council Summit Topics

2025/09/26: 10- Rick Davis moved that Augustine Presbytery opposes the ratification of Memorial J or any other memorial on the same topic on the basis that the issues addressed are pastoral issues best handled at the local church level and that memorials should be used to gatekeep churches rather than individual church members. Motion seconded by Wade Choate.

2025/09/26: 11-Rhett Crabtree offered a friendly amendment to add, "We strongly encourage our council delegates to uphold the will of the Presbytery as expressed in this motion." Friendly amendment received.

Final Motion: Augustine Presbytery opposes the ratification of Memorial J or any other memorial on the same topic on the basis that the issues addressed are pastoral issues

best handled at the local church level and that memorials should be used to gatekeep churches rather than individual church members. We strongly encourage our council delegates to uphold the will of the Presbytery as expressed in this motion.

Motion Carried unanimously

2025/09/26: 12-Jared McNabb moved that any substantial changes to the current Memorial J draft would be viewed as a “First Reading” of a new memorial. Motion seconded by Derrick Ratliff.

Motion Carried unanimously

Reminder of Annual CREC Support:

- a. \$300 to support the work of Presiding Minister of Council Uri Brito.
Providence Church
3301 East Johnson Ave
Pensacola, FL 32514
- b. \$550 to support the work of Presiding Minister of Presbytery David Cooper (\$250 Travel, \$300 honorarium).
Providence Church
108 Melinda Dr.
Lynchburg, VA 24502

Final Actions

1. In 2026, Augustine Presbytery will have its Spring Retreat and Meeting, April 6-8. Location likely to be Luray, VA.
2. In 2026, Augustine Presbytery will meet in conjunction with the triennial Council meeting, September 28-October 2 in Nashville, TN.

2025/09/26: 13-Laurence Windham moved to commend Sandhills Presbyterian Church for their work and hospitality in hosting the Augustine Presbytery. Motion seconded by Brian Phillips.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2025/09/26: 14-Peter Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Lawson Seconded.

Motion carried Unanimously. PM Pro-Tem Dan Nash offered a closing prayer of thanksgiving to God.