

Minutes of Athanasius Presbytery
Rich Lusk, Minister of Presbytery
Alan Stout, Clerk of Presbytery
Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches
14 March 2017
Birmingham, Alabama

Churches and Members of Presbytery Represented:

Christ Church, Branchville AL - Ted Phillips and Keith Diamond
Christ Church, Pace, FL - Rob Hadding,
Christ Church, Lakeland, FL - Steven Wedgeworth
Christ Presbyterian Church, Baton Rouge - Galen Sorrey
Holy Trinity Reformed Evangelical Church, Greenville SC - Eddie Field
Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Clinton MS - Jay Barfield
Providence Church, Pensacola FL - Al Stout Uri Brito
Redeemer Church Huntsville, AL – Stewart Jordan, Steve Bowman
St. Mark Reformed Church, Nashville TN - Joe Thacker
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Birmingham AL - Jimmy Gill Gilbert Douglas
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Valparaiso, FL Ben Rossell, Mike Mosley

Church not represented:

Church of the Good Shepherd, North Augusta, SC Jeremy Sexton
Salem Reformed Church, Rome GA - George Crocker, Eddie Johnston

Mission Church:

Covenant First Presbyterian Church in Live Oak, FL (Herman Gunter)
Covenant Community Mission, Andrews, SC (Jeff Trexler)
Igreja de Cristo, Porto Alegre, Brazil (sponsored by Providence) Not Present

Guests

Mickey Schneider - Pastor Emeritus (Trinity Valparaiso)
Jacob Handy – Pastoral Intern (Trinity Birmingham)
Mike Pasarilla – Pastor, Bill Waltrip Christ Presbyterian Church Knoxville
Shane O’Neil – Redeemer Church, Huntsville, AL
Kyle Stewart – Guest of Christ Church Lakeland

Church petitioning for membership:

Christ Redeemer, Live Oak, FL Pastor Randy Wilding, Elder Herman Gunter III

- I. Called to order.
- II. Uri Brito leads in Song (O Sacred Head Now Wounded)
- III. Invocation. Rich Lusk

- IV. Steven Wedgeworth brings an exhortation from 1 Corinthians 5. The reality of the fall and death. Death is still with us, but death has been swallowed up in life. The Holy Spirit has been given to us as a guarantee of this truth. We live by faith not by sight. We see the reality of death, but we believe the promise of life. We make it our aim to be well pleasing to the Lord. Our response to life and death is that we aim to be well pleasing to God.
- We will be judged and rewarded for the lives we live, knowing therefore the terror of the Lord. Do we have a place in our preaching for the terror of the Lord? We are going to die. We will be raised again. We will be judged. All this goes together. No one stands alone, we need grace. If we are alone all we will be left with is the terror of the Lord. Your conscience will testify against you, unless you rest in Christ.
- V. Quorum established with the presbyters listed above. (16 voting Presbyters)
- VI. Motion 17/03/14:01 Motion to accept the agenda (Gilbert Douglas), . Seconded (Steven Wedgeworth), Carried 16-0 (Appendix A)
- VII. Motion 17/03/14:02 Motion to seat visitors and permit them to speak on the floor of Presbytery. (Jay Barfield) Seconded (Keith Diamond). Carried 16-0
- VIII. Church Reports: (Appendix B – Sent to the Presbytery, not part of the public record)
- IX. Other Church Updates:
- a. Updates Ted Phillips delivers an update on Christ Church Branchville. Call extended to Adam McIntosh (Assistant at Cornerstone under Burke Shade). If he accepts the call, we will request an oral exam of candidate. Ad Hoc meeting of presbytery to examine him in June if possible, then ordain him. We would send out his ordination material ahead of time. The Presiding Minister will form an Ad Hoc meeting once we have had time to review.
 - b. Update from the Presiding Minister on Covenant Community – Mission Church, Andrews SC (Jeff Trexler) Discipleship continues with several members. Still small (15 people) and not ready to move forward with membership in CREC. Mike Mosely prays
 - c. Update from Uri Brito on Igreja de Cristo, Porto Alegre, Brazil. They are planted in the least Christianized portion of Brazil. Pastor Brito was present when they celebrated their 1 year anniversary. They have great meetings. One potential blow to the congregation... The Swaits have left and that has been a loss. In a Church of 25 the loss of 7 members has been difficult. However, the Church is very encouraged even with their departure. Brazil reformed community is seeing some of the same push back over some of the old CREC controversies, but Igreja de Cristo has great relationship with the National Presbyterian Church and the other Churches in their area. One of the elders should be coming to the Triannual Council. Two deacons preparing to be ordained for ministry. Studying our material and taking classes. Jay Barfield Prays.
- X. Motion 17/03/14:03 Motion to approve the minutes as amended (Gilbert Douglas) Seconded (Rob Hadding) carried 16-0.
- XI. Break
- XII. Christ Redeemer petitions for membership. Rich Lusk announces that they meet all the requirements. Randy Wilding introduces himself, discusses his Christian upbringing and growth. How Redeemer came to be an independent Church.
- XIII. Motion 17/03/14:04 Motion to bring Christ Redeemer into Membership of Athanasius Presbytery. Discussion Questions about any objections to founding documents and it was revealed there may be one with the Memorial on Creation. A few spoke against them being brought into membership simply based on the procedural requirements for membership the constitution and BoP, with the expectation that they would be received into Athanasius. Approved 4 opposed 11. Motion fails.

Lunch

- XIV. Steven Wedgeworth delivers a report on Christ Church Lakeland, FL. Remaining Elder is leaving. Looking at bringing Christ Church Pace's session on a pro tem basis. Joe prays for them and for Covenant First Presbyterian.
- XV. 17/03/14:05 Motion to reconsidered the previous motion 17/03/14:04 (Jimmy Gill) Seconded (Alan Stout). A clarification about the exceptions to memorials was discussed. Motion was reconsidered. 16-0 Approved. Motion carried. Christ Redeemer is brought into membership.

New Business:

- XVI. General Council planning committee is proceeding apace. Noting is required of the broader Presbytery at this time. An email has been sent to the CREC elders list with resort reservation and general travel advice issued.
- XVII. Presiding Minister decided not to form a Church Polity Committee at this time.
- XVIII. Next meeting location and date San Destin, FL November 13 – 15 2017
- XIX. Church Planting Committee established by the Presiding Minister – Rob Hadding Chair – Members to be asked to serve.
- XX. 17/03/14:06 Motion to register thanksgiving for the labors of the saints at Trinity Presbyterian in hosting Presbytery including the lunch. 16-0 Motion carried.
- XXI. There were no other motions from the floor
- XXII. 17/03/14:06 Motion to adjourn (Uri Brito) Second (Steven Wedgeworth) 16-0 Motion carried.