

Minutes of Athanasius Presbytery
Rich Lusk, Minister of Presbytery
Alan Stout, Clerk of Presbytery
Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches
14 – 15 November 2017
San Destin, Florida

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, Denny Dufour
Christ Redeemer, Live Oak, FL Pastor Randy Wilding, Elder Herman Gunter IV
Holy Trinity Reformed Evangelical Church, Greenville SC - Eddie Field
Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Clinton MS - Jay Barfield, Mark Sampson
Providence Church, Pensacola FL - Al Stout, Uri Brito
Redeemer Church Huntsville, AL – Steve Bowman
Salem Reformed Church, Rome GA - George Crocker, Eddie Johnston
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

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) Elder Ernesto Ochikubo

Guests

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

Church petitioning for membership:

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

- IV. Alan Stout delivers and exhortation from John 21 on Restoration and the Lord's Supper.
- V. Quorum established with the presbyters listed above. (21 voting Presbyters)
- VI. Motion 17/11/14:01 Motion to accept the agenda (Gil), . Seconded (Keith),
Amended to add discussion about council decision Carried 21-0 (Appendix A)
- VII. Motion 17/11/14:02 Motion to seat visitors and permit them to speak on the floor of Presbytery.
(Ted Phillips) Seconded (Gilbert). Carried 21-0
- VIII. Motion 17/11/14:03 Motion to approve the minutes as amended (Ben Rossell) Seconded (Uri Brito)
carried 21-0.
- IX. Church Reports: (Appendix B – Sent to the Presbytery, not part of the public record)
- X. Motion 17/11/14:04 Motion to receive Christ Presbyterian in Knoxville, TN, pastored by Mike
Pasarilla, into Athanasius Presbytery (Galen) Seconded (Keith).
- XI. Transfer Exam for Justin Wallick - Keith Diamond introduces Justin Wallick. In an RCA Church
right now. We asked his current session if he could go part time with us until he can
37 years old married nine years... Wife Shara, Pastoring in SD for 5 years.

Justin - Not from a Christian home. Baptized as an RC... Came to Christ in College on a youth mission trip, came to know Christ in a crisis experience felt born again to newness. Later in Bible Study he desired a deeper understanding of his faith. Went to Bethel College, called to the ministry. CREC seems to be a good fit theologically. Fostering 3 children presently. 3 ½ years now. They will have a hearing to terminate parental rights in November. If the case ends they will be adopted.

- a. Questions – (See Appendix B)
3FU – Does Christ Ch. Branchville. Have any desires to adopt 3FU? No specific plans but not opposed.

RCA is more progressive. How have you navigated those waters? A conservative candidate has a bullseye on his back. It was difficult going through ordination. There are Churches that will support you. You have to keep your head down and plow through.

Any chance you will return to Rome? Not a temptation. Have you looked at the theology or Rome and come to a principled

Do you take any exceptions to the WCF? Standard exceptions.

Branchville has a 2 office government. How will you operate in that model? I pastor a 3 office Church at a Church where the pastoral office is not held in high regard. Christ Church as embraced my and my leadership over the Church and seems more like a three office Church. Micky Schneider speaks to the issue and says, the Constitution that Branchville as Pastor he is full time called minister.

You mentioned you were baptized RC. Were you Rebaptized? No. What are your thoughts on what takes place. The triune God makes a covenant with baptized. Communicates Christ Benefits to the Baptized. Calls those who are baptized to walk in the Spirit. Sins are forgiven. Made a Child of God.

What is your approach to sermon preparation? Exegetical, find natural breaks, read through it. Translate it, Study, read, listen to topics/sermons. Write my sermon at the end of the week. Revisit after complete and make changes as required.

What day do you have in mind to take off. Work in the front of the week take the weekend off. Friday Saturday.

Who was your favorite College coach and who do you look to? Nick Saban.

Hav you read the memorials and do you have any objections? None.

How do you reconcile every thing you have said about Baptism given your experience in RC Baptism? Theology of flesh and blood. My parents broke covenant after my Baptism. I was a covenant breaker until repentance. God's promises came to fruition at College. Even when I walked away and broke covenant myself again, but God still kept his promises.

You mentioned Norman Shepherd. Tell us about your understa.. God declares you a justified sinner. The Holy Spirit lives in the justified child. Is the justification of God complete at Baptism profession of faith? God justifies completely, but the child of God continues

Marriage and sexuality mirrors the nature of God. Homo is a union of death and does not beget life. We have an obligation to present this truth to the culture. We have a crises of identity in the culture. Homosex is a way to gain acceptance of manhood. True community where you don't have to flee elsewhere to get your identify. We need to stick with the scriptures say about identity and sexuality, but welcome refugees from the culture.

Transgender – Similarly to the sexual confusion. They are trying to harm whom they are created as. Rebellion confusion, Romans 1 insanity. Minister by establishing relationships

Not much experience in counseling. I am open to expertise from outside?

Non theological reading. Plan on doing fiction.

Theonomic controversies? I think I heard the talks by JBJ, caused me to go back to look at the prophetic fulfillment of the law in Christ.

Do you homeschool? Our desire is to homeschool. Titus is homeschooled, the eldest is under the foster care and is required to go to the Government school. The others are younger and are taught at home.

The areas where it comes more naturally is the teacher discipleship model. Evangelism and apologetics are areas that I need to delve into given my sessions desire to establish relationships with local officials

Paedo communion. How will you handle those who don't practice? It is not a condition of fellowship or membership, we can work together

- XII. Motion 17/11/14:05 Move to sustain the transfer exam. Jimmy Gill, Uri Second. Discussion carried 21-0.
- XIII. Church Planting Committee Report
- XIV. Motion 17/11/14:04 Move to receive the Church planting Committee Report, and call upon the committee to develop a specific strategy for the Church in Lakeland. (Gilbert) (Stout) Discussion carried 21-0.
- XV. Motion to adjourn
- XVI. Reconvene
 - a. Invocation
 - b. A mighty Fortress
 - c. Quorum established

A memorial honoring Rev. Mickey Schneider read:

In light of Arthur Michael (Mickey) Schneider III's service to the Church of Christ as a minister of the Gospel for over 45 years before his retirement and;

In light of his continued ministry to the Saints of God by filling the pulpit of various Churches in our Presbytery and Communion and;

Because the word of God speaks of the wise one inheriting honor (Proverbs 3:35) and;

Mickey Schneider is a man who pursues righteousness and kindness and we believe with God that he will find life, righteousness, and honor (Proverbs 21:21);

We, the Churches of Athanasius Presbytery, honor and lift up Pastor Mickey Schneider to the Lord Most High that He might remember him, bless his labors of these, now over 50 years, and raise up men to imitate him just as he imitates Jesus Christ.

- XVII. Motion to place the memorial into the Minutes of Presbytery (stout) (Hadding)
- XVIII. Council Motions
 - a. Serious concerns with ordination changes. Possible changes include clear language of where the ordination is held. Some problems include the idea of court of original jurisdiction. We end up with two tracks of ordination. We have presbyteries without presbyters (no membership of presbytery).
 - b. Constitutional language about Elder/Pastors sitting on exams.
 - c. Email list... some don't think we should shut down the email list serve.
 - d.
- XIX. Motion Next meeting location and date TPC Birmingham 2018 April 9th and 10th.
- XX. Updates from mission Churches
 - a. Herman report submitted
 - b. No update from Jeff Trexler
 - c. Igreja De Cristo Elder Ernesto
- XXI. Motion to refer the relationship of Christ the King Bible Study and their relationship to the CREC to Church planting committee.

- XXII. There were no other motions from the floor
- XXIII. Motion of gratitude for the PM on their on the report Chrit TRC in Moscow and inviting Ministry Safe Galen Herman IV
- XXIV. Thank the Churches of the Panhandle Especially Ben Rossel for their work on Pres Steven Jimmy
- XXV. Jay Prays.
- XXVI. 17/11/14:06 Motion to adjourn () Second () 16-0 Motion carried.