

THE MINUTES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

*Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada,
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod*

Teleconference Meeting

January 31, 2009

Teleconference Call



Mr. Bill McKay
Stated Clerk

Mr. Mike Flewelling
Moderator

MODERATOR

(1 yr. Term expires June 30, 2009)

Mr. Mike Flewelling
443 Weston Rd.
Weston, NB, Canada
E7K 1B1

VICE MODERATOR

(1 yr. Term expires June 30, 2009)

Rev. Jeff Kingswood
172 Light St.
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 6H4

PRINCIPAL CLERK

(3 yr. Term expires June 30, 2010)

Mr. Bill McKay
1124 Tupper Gardens
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 8K2

READING CLERK

(3 yr. Term expires June 30, 2010)

Rev. Jeff Kingswood
172 Light St.
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 6H4

TREASURER

(3 yr. Term expires June 30, 2010)

Mr. Gary Armstrong
7 Kipling Dr.
Woodstock, ON, Canada
N4S 3C8

CHURCHES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY

MARITIMES REGION

Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church

Covenanters ARP Church

Grace Fellowship Church, ARPC

Mt. Zion ARP Church

Trinity Presbyterian Church

ONTARIO REGION

Grace Presbyterian Church

Reformed Hungarian Church

Riverside ARP Church

Trinity ARP Mission

MINUTES OF THE CANADIAN PRESBYTERY, ARPC
STATED JANUARY MEETING – JANUARY 31, 2009
Teleconference Meeting

The Stated January Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery was held on January 31, 2009 by teleconference. Eighteen (18) presbyters were in attendance for this meeting of presbytery.

Presbytery Convenes for Stated January Teleconference Meeting

At 10:00 a.m. (E.S.T.)/11:00 a.m. (A.S.T.), the Moderator, Mr. Mike Flewelling, called the presbyters to order and convened the 2009 Stated January Teleconference Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery.

Mr. Flewelling constituted the teleconference meeting as a court of the church of Jesus Christ, with an opening prayer and a reading of Scripture from Acts 1: 4-8.

Calling of the Roll

The following persons were in attendance for the meeting:

a) Ministers

Rick Barnes
Henry Bartsch
Bill Campbell
Kevin Carter
Rudy de Vries
David Els
Fariborz Khandani
Jeff Kingswood
Frank Kovacs
Brian Murray
John Shearouse

b) Students of Theology

Bill Van Doodewaard (Student of Theology)

c) Ruling Elders (as delegates to presbytery)

Winston MacEachern (Grace Fellowship Church, ARP)
Kevin Bigney (Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church)
Reg Lindsay (Trinity Presbyterian, NB)
John Rood (Grace Presbyterian Church – Woodstock, ON)
Grieg Park (Riverside ARPC)
Henry Van Til (Trinity ARPM – Chatham, ON)

d) Officers of the Canadian Presbytery

Mike Flewelling (Moderator)
Bill McKay (Stated Clerk)

There were no elder representatives from Covenanters ARPC, Mt. Zion ARPC or Reformed

Hungarian Church ARP present for the meeting.

Jack Whytock has sent his regrets for his absence as he is in South Africa teaching courses for MT3.

The Stated Clerk declared a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests and Visitors

The attendance of the following guests was noted:

- Sean Panjer and Willem Spelt (Grace Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, ON)
- Simon Oosterhof, Jon Van Dyk and Henry Nymann (Riverside ARP, Cambridge, ON)
- John Moerman (Trinity ARPM, Chatham, ON)
- Joseph Alghrary (ARP Connect)
- Peter Moelker and John Ferguson (OPC)

Motion from Outreach Canada for Elder Representatives of Mission Congregations

- **Motion:** To allow the Elder Representative of the Trinity ARP Mission Congregation to be a full participant in this meeting. **M/S/C**

Report of the Moderator (Mr. Mike Flewelling)

1. Presentation and Approval of the Docket.
 - **Motion:** to adopt the docket as presented. **M/S/C**

Report of the Stated Clerk (Mr. Bill McKay)

1. Approval of 2008 Stated Fall Meeting Minutes
 - **Motion:** To approve the minutes from the 2008 Stated Fall Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery (September 25-26, 2008) as circulated. **M/S/C**
2. Correspondence
 - a) Riverside (Application to receive a Student under Care)

The presbytery received correspondence from Riverside Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, requesting the presbytery to consider taking Mr. Russ Kosit under care as a Student of Theology of the Canadian Presbytery.

 - **Motion:** To refer this request to the Minister and His Work Committee for their consideration; and further, to report back to the presbytery at the 2009 Stated Spring Meeting regarding their recommendation. **M/S/C**
 - **Motion:** to adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

Outreach Canada (Brian Murray)

1. Trinity ARP Mission petition for organization (see Appendix 1)

The congregation of the Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Mission has submitted a petition to be organized as a particular church of the Canadian Presbytery. The committee that was established at the 2008 Stated Fall Meeting has met with the congregation and Provisional Session and is recommending that the presbytery proceed with the organization of that congregation.

- **Motion:** To approve the petition from Trinity ARP Mission to be organized as a Particular Church of the Canadian Presbytery; and further to have the Organizational Service on Thursday, April 23, 2009 during the 2009 Stated Spring Meeting of the Canadian Presbytery at Chatham, Ontario. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** That a representative from the Congregational Life Committee meet with the Session of Trinity ARP within the time frame of six – twelve months after their organization as an aid to Trinity in making sure the transition from mission congregation to an organized congregation in progressing smoothly. **M/S/**
- **Motion:** To table the motion until the Stated Spring Meeting in April, 2009. **M/S/C**
- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

Simon Oosterhof offered prayer for the work of the mission in Chatham and gave thanks to God for His providence and grace in their present situation and quest for organization as a particular church of the presbytery.

Rev. Fariborz Khandani was excused from the meeting at this time.

Minister and His Work Committee (Rick Barnes)

1. **Peter Moelker – Proposed Stated Supply for Mt. Zion**

The M&HW committee (in conjunction with the Provisional Session of Mt. Zion) had hoped to recommend that the presbytery consider a request to call Rev. Peter Moelker to serve as Stated Supply for Mt. Zion Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. The presbytery was informed by Rev. Barnes that he had just been notified this morning, that Rev. Moelker was withdrawing his name from consideration for the position. There appeared to be some confusion as to whether Rev. Moelker was actually withdrawing or not. Rev. Moelker was present for the discussion and offered an explanation as to what was involved with his decision. Rev. Moelker is a minister without charge under the care of the Presbytery of New York and New England of the OPC.

- **Motion:** To grant Privilege of the Floor to Rev. Peter Moelker. **M/S/C**

Rev. Moelker addressed the presbytery and noted that he is currently being considered as a candidate for a possible mission plant in Ontario by the Michigan/Ontario Presbytery of the OPC, but that he was still interested in being considered for the Stated Supply position with Mt. Zion. He would not be able to make a decision for this until the end of February.

It was decided that the Ontario members of the M&HW Committee (present at the meeting) would take the opportunity they had to speak with Rev. Moelker to gather more information for the committee as a whole. Outside of this, there was no action to take place.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. **M/S/C**

Rev. Rick Barnes was excused from the meeting at this time.

Congregational Life Committee (David Els)

1. Riverside Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (see Appendix 2)

A report was given by the Interim Moderator of Riverside Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (Rev. Jeff Kingswood) on the state of affairs at Riverside since Rev. van Eyk left in September, 2008.

2. Mt. Zion Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (see Appendix 3)

A report was given by the Interim Moderator of Mt. Zion Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (Rev. John Shearouse) on the state of affairs at Mt. Zion since the actions of presbytery in April, 2008.

- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. M/S/C

Nominations Committee (Henry Bartsch) No report.

Stewardship Committee (John Shearouse)

1. Treasurer's Report for 2008

Rev. Shearouse presented the 2008 Treasurer's Report (see Appendix 4).

- **Motion:** To receive the 2008 Treasurer's Report (ending December 31/08) as presented. M/S/C

2. 2009 Canadian Presbytery Budget Report

Rev. Shearouse presented the 2009 Budget for the Canadian Presbytery (see Appendix 5)

- **Motion:** To adopt the 2009 Budget for the Canadian Presbytery as presented. M/S/C
- **Motion:** To adopt the report as a whole. M/S/C

Board of Directors (Kevin Carter) No report.

Dates & Locations of Future Meetings of the Canadian Presbytery

April 23-24/09: Trinity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Mission, Chatham, ON

September 24-25/09: Trinity Presbyterian Church, Woodstock, NB

Adjournment/ Announcements

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting. M/S/C

Closing Prayer and Benediction.

At 11:15 a.m. (E.S.T.), Frank Kovacs closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by:

Bill McKay
Stated Clerk

Attest:

Mr. Mike Flewelling
Moderator

APPENDIX 1

RIVERSIDE

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

December 22nd 2008

Canadian Presbytery

Russ Kosit a member of our congregation has expressed an interest in becoming a student of theology within the Canadian ARP Presbytery. Session considered the Manual of Procedure (page 14) and met with him. We discussed his desire for ministry, his life and his qualifications.

Russ is a gifted individual who is a professor at Redeemer University. He expressed a desire to be a teaching elder, to be a steward of the mysteries of God. He expressed that this is something that has been on his heart for ten years. Ideally he would like to be involved in the starting up of church, helping build up a congregation to point where they could call a full time minister. Given his position at Redeemer, Session thought it wise to ask, if ordained, would he consider a call, as God's call could lead him anywhere. Russ could see that he would not necessarily be held to his current position at Redeemer. We were concerned about the workload but Russ felt he could cope and informed us that he has enrolled at RTS.

Session is delighted to recommend Russ as a Student of theology to the Presbytery.

Blessings,
Simon Oosterhof
Clerk of Session
Riverside ARP Church

Email address;
simon.oosterhof@gmail.com

APPENDIX 2

REPORT TO CANADIAN PRESBYTERY ON RIVERSIDE ARP

Dear Brothers in Christ:

As Interim-Moderator of Riverside ARPC in Cambridge I am pleased to report that the congregation seems to be doing well.

The year end found the congregation stable in terms of numbers, doing very well financially, and enjoying an exceptionally high quality of pulpit supply from a variety of Reformed and Presbyterian pastors in the area.

The elders and deacons are doing a good job in seeking to guide and shepherd the congregation during this time of transition. A place of worship, in a local Baptist Church, has been secured, but searching for a more permanent church home continues. The Pastoral Search Committee is active and has developed a profile of the congregation and a statement of their perceived needs in light of the Word of God that seems to be an accurate representation of who they are as a congregation.

Please continue to be in prayer for Riverside even as we thank God for His mercies to this congregation.

Respectfully,
Jeff Kingswood
Grace ARP
Woodstock, ON

Mount Zion Update
6 January 2009

APPENDIX 3

Greetings Fathers and Brothers,

David Els asked me to give you a brief update on Mt. Zion, so here goes.

We are very thankful that we have been able to supply the pulpit from week to week. You in Ontario may not understand how few qualified persons there are for us to call upon in the Maritimes. We are thankful to Mike Flewelling who has made himself available for those times when we have been unable to secure anyone. There has been some discussion about using a web camera so that the congregation could join another service when a minister cannot be found, especially as the weather becomes an additional factor.

We had two men who were candidates for stated supply. We were thankful that each of them preached at Mt. Zion for two or three weeks in the fall, and both did some visitation, but the session concluded that neither was suitable for stated supply in Moncton. This was a bit discouraging to us and to the congregation because it puts us back into a situation of having to find pulpit supply from week to week. Moreover, the people at Mt. Zion are very much in need of both pastoral care and consistent ministry from the pulpit. We do continue to ask that you would all be on the look out for those who may be able to come. Also, consider taking a week yourself (or even a month or two) to come and minister in Moncton.

As of this writing, the pulpit search committee and the session has found a man to recommend for Minister of Word and Sacrament at Mt. Zion. They are in process of contacting him. The procedure in our MOP is that M&HW must first conduct an examination to approve the candidate as eligible to receive a call from Mt. Zion. If such approval is given, the congregation will meet to attest to the call. Then the call will be presented to the candidate at a meeting of Presbytery (our stated spring meeting perhaps?) at which time he will be examined by the Presbytery. Please pray for this very important matter.

In other matters, the congregation is generally working together, but they are somewhat discouraged and definitely lacking in pastoral care. I was there this past weekend and had some good visits, but there is much more that could be done. Great wisdom will be needed in the calling of a pastor because there are still differences among the remaining members that will become more evident when a direction and agenda are set. There are some who are hanging back, waiting to see what will happen, who may return to the church when they see how things fall out. The finances are still holding up, but it is possible that Mount Zion may need some help when the time comes to call a minister.

I hope that gives you a pretty good idea of where things are. Please continue to hold this congregation up in prayer.

For His Kingdom and Glory,

John R Shearouse
Moderator

Mount Zion Update **28 January 2009**

Greetings again Fathers and Brothers,

So much has changed at Mount Zion since I sent the report below (Jan 6) that I thought I should send an update before our meeting.

First of all, the man the search committee recommended to call as pastor of Mt. Zion has responded. He has told us that he is not in a position to even be able to consider such a call for at least 12 months. Therefore, he did not agree to take the first step of meeting with M&HW.

Secondly, the Search Committee at Mount Zion identified Peter Moelker, an OPC minister who is without a call, as a man they would like to call as Stated Supply. The session approved this decision as well as the terms of call for Rev. Moelker presented to us by the Deacons and the Search Committee. The Session requested the M&HW Committee to interview him. Lord willing, you will be “meeting” Peter at our teleconference meeting on Saturday.

Yours in Christ,

John R Shearouse

APPENDIX 4 – 2008 Treasurer’s Report

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada								
Treasurer's Report								
for the period ending December 30, 2008								
	Expense Fund		Denominational Ministry Fund		Canadian Church Development Trust		Total All Funds	Total All Funds
RECEIPTS	Actual	Pledges	Actual	Pledges	Actual	Pledges	2008	2007
Covenant Reformed	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Covenanters	300.00	300.00	100.00	100.00	600.00	600.00	1,000.00	900.00
Grace Fellowship, NS	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	3,200.00	4,000.00
Grace Presbyterian, ON	1,542.28	1,300.00	200.00	200.00	3,500.00	2,500.00	5,242.28	4,048.28
Mount Zion	-	1,200.00	-	400.00	500.00	3,000.00	500.00	4,852.83
Reformed Hungarian	200.00	200.00	50.00	50.00	500.00	500.00	750.00	750.00
Riverside	2,000.00	2,000.00	300.00	300.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	7,300.00	14,295.62
Trinity Chatham, ON	1,000.00	1,000.00	200.00	200.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	3,200.00	10,700.00
Trinity Woodstock, NB	750.00	1,000.00	150.00	200.00	750.00	1,000.00	1,650.00	2,825.00
GST	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54.17
Interest	4,784.43	-	-	-	-	-	4,784.43	4,598.52
TOTAL RECEIPTS	11,776.71	8,600.00	2,000.00	2,550.00	13,850.00	16,100.00	27,626.71	47,024.42
DISBURSEMENTS		Budget				Budget		
Supplement paid to Covenanters							-	12,000.00
Supplement paid for Iranian supplies					1,101.32	1,000.00	1,101.32	
Travel	3,242.27	2,000.00					3,242.27	3,263.64
Moderator/Clerk Travel		1,500.00						
Telephone, teleconference calls	2,291.40	1,500.00					2,291.40	1,645.58
Printing Minutes, Manual of Procedure							-	-
Treasurer's Work, Postage, Bank Chgs, Office	1,157.80	1,000.00					1,157.80	1,123.36
Student Bursaries & Expenses	2,308.00	4,800.00					2,308.00	2,400.00
Incorporation							-	2,871.12
Miscellaneous	9,289.06	400.00	-	-	-	-	9,289.06	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	18,288.53	11,200.00	-	-	1,101.32	1,000.00	19,389.85	23,303.70
Excess - Receipts over Disbursements	(6,511.82)	\$ (2,600.00)	2,000.00	\$ 2,550.00	12,748.68	\$ 15,100.00	8,236.86	23,720.72
Bank and Investments - January 1	25,103.90		20,771.16		104,202.83		150,077.89	126,357.17
Bank and Investments - December 31	\$ 18,592.08		\$ 22,771.16		\$ 116,951.51		\$ 158,314.75	\$ 150,077.89
Represented by:								
Bank Balance							\$ 13,888.65	\$ 39,061.08
Investment Certificates							144,426.10	111,016.81
Total Funds - Sept 20							\$ 158,314.75	\$ 150,077.89

APPENDIX 5 – 2009 Budget

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches in Canada			
Budget 2009			
	Expense Fund	Denominational Ministry Fund	Canadian Church Development Trust
<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Pledges</u>	<u>Pledges</u>
Covenant Reformed	\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 250.00
Covenanters	300.00	100.00	600.00
Grace Fellowship, NS	1,200.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Grace Presbyterian, ON	2,500.00	1,250.00	1,250.00
Mount Zion	1,200.00	-	500.00
Reformed Hungarian	200.00	50.00	500.00
Riverside	3,000.00	300.00	2,500.00
Trinity Chatham, ON	1,000.00	200.00	2,000.00
Trinity Woodstock, NB	1,000.00	200.00	1,000.00
GST	-	-	-
Interest	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	10,600.00	3,150.00	9,600.00
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>Budget</u>		
Supplement paid to Covenanters			
Computer	1,500.00		
Travel	1,500.00		
Moderator/Clerk Travel	2,000.00		
Telephone, teleconference calls	500.00		
Treasurer's Work, Postage, Bank Chgs, Office	1,300.00		
Student Bursaries & Expenses	3,800.00		
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	10,600.00	-	-
Excess - Receipts over Disbursements	\$ -	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 9,600.00

Payments should be made not less than quarterly to the Canadian Presbytery Treasurer.

Cheques are to be made out to: ARP Churches in Canada, Reg Number 87885 6061-RR0001

Cheques are to be sent to:

Gary Armstrong

7 Kipling Cres.

Woodstock, ON N4S 8C3

519-537-7923

gjarms@rogers.com

Officers of the Canadian Presbytery

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