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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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9 April 1860

Holland, Michigan

Elder J. Labots presided at this meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church in the absence of the pastor, Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte. The consistory is in the process of collecting money for the salary of the pastor. Elders Keppel and Wakker proved to be too busy for this assignment so van der [sic] Luyster and Geerlings accepted this responsibility. The recent holocaust of fire caused needs in the congregation of those members who suffered losses. The parochial school was in need of a "competent and God-fearing teacher..."

In Dutch: translation by Rev. William and Althea Buursma, 2000.

Original in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, vol. II, p. 132.

Consistory Meeting of April 9, 1860

ARTICLE 1 – All members were present except Hekhuis.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother Keppel.

ARTICLE 2 – In the absence of the Rev. van Raalte, Brother Labots was chosen as chairman.

ARTICLE 3 – Keppel and Wakker report that collecting the salary of the pastor has been almost impossible, because of their extensive work responsibilities. They request that the Brothers van der Luyster and Geerlings accept this assignment, which they do.

ARTICLE 4 – Brothers Kamper and Wilterdink report that Hesseling was not very willing to hand over the gifts for the victims of fire damage. Some unpleasantness exists between him and the brother who had incurred the loss. According to their own report, they had indicated damages of \$180.00. It was decided that those members who have been unhappy with the procedure of the deacons be handed the list of signed pledges and a portion of the received funds from some congregations of classis. There are enough funds to cover the damages incurred, and they can allot this as they please. The other congregations will then be able to give the collected monies for additional victims of the holocaust, since there are even greater needs there.

ARTICLE 5 – A discussion took place concerning the parochial school and the need to maintain this school. A search will be made for a competent and God-fearing teacher, but, because of the late hour, the matter was tabled.

ARTICLE 6 – It was decided to schedule the next consistory meeting on Monday, April 16.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Kamper.

Labots
G. Wakker, clerk