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### The Congregational Meeting of the First Reformed Church

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23 June 1861

Holland, Michigan

The congregational meeting of the First Reformed Church was opened with prayer by Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, followed by the singing of Psalm 25.2. Apparently the school of the church was in another crisis. It was again decided to continue the school and give instruction in the Holland language. The present district teacher, C. Doering, "will be called to work in our school." Some people made financial commitments at this meeting for salary and lumber for a new building.

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. 158.

Congregational Meeting of June 23, 1861

The meeting was opened with prayer by the president, the Rev. A. C. van Raalte, and the singing of Psalm 25: 2.

ARTICLE 1 – The president, speaking about the current situation of the school of the congregation, reports that the board, because of this situation, is no longer desirous of continuing or making an effort for renewing the prospects for the school in the future by hiring the present teacher, unless the congregation will make it possible for the board to have the necessary monies at their disposal.

After various situations were discussed, it was finally decided to raise the school to the necessary standard for education and nurture, and to give instruction in the Holland language, so dearly desired by so many. To this end, the present district teacher, C. Doering, will be called to work in our school. This seemed to bring about general approval, and it was decided to make a list for pledges, to cover the costs in connection with a new appropriate building and for teachers' salaries.

After the opening of voluntary contribution pledges on the part of those who were present, it became apparent that 24 persons have promised the sum of \$297.00 for the teachers, and \$197.00 plus 10,000 feet lumber and 1,000 shingles for the building. The others present wanted to reflect on this matter before making any commitment.

ARTICLE 2 – It was decided to adjourn until eight days from now, on Monday, July 1, and to appoint a committee to circulate the petition list among the membership.

ARTICLE 3 – The committee consists of K. Schaddelee, A. Plugger, J. van Putten, Kroon, and J. Visscher.

The meeting was closed with prayer by the president, the Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

G. Wakker, clerk