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### Meeting Notes on the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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15 July 1859

Holland, Michigan

At a consistory meeting of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, Gabriel van Putten and Henderik Uiterwijk were received as members. In the case of man who though not yet married for six months, had a son. This must be confessed before the congregation at the time of the baptism of the baby. The couple which appeared earlier before the consistory and were restored to fellowship are again separated. A committee was appointed to deal with this situation. A committee of three was appointed to determine how to further missionary work by the congregation.

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. 98.

Consistory Meeting of July 15, 1859

Absent: Brothers Labots, Ploeg, Keppel, Broek, and Wilterdink.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by the president.

ARTICLE 2 – Gabriel van Putten and Henderik Uiterwijk are present at the meeting and request to be received as members. After the examination and hearing their confession, they were both, with nearly an unanimous vote, accepted. Brother Broek in the meanwhile entered the meeting.

ARTICLE 3 – The president presents a statement of membership for Arend Jan Nijland from Kalamazoo, dated June 25, 1859. It was accepted.

ARTICLE 4 – The clerk reports that membership statements for Widow J. van der Velden, and daughter, Elisabet, have been given to them.

ARTICLE 5 – A discussion followed over the case of C. Doesburg, who, although not yet married six months, already has a son. It was decided to send a committee to them, informing them that this premature union must be confessed at a public worship service, at the time of the baptism of their child. Rev. van Raalte and Wakker were appointed as the committee.

ARTICLE 6 – Brothers Hekhuis and Apeldoorn report on the separation between van Dam and his wife. Both brothers were asked to continue with this assignment, and Rev. van Raalte will assist them in dealing with the separated members.

ARTICLE 7 – Brothers Labots, Keppel, Wakker, and te Roller were appointed as a committee to further the missionary work by increased participation and more funds. If possible, a weekly contribution should be arranged.

ARTICLE 8 – Brothers Plugger and de Vries were assigned the task of determining what repairs are necessary for the tower of the church and the place of the bell.

ARTICLE 9 – Because of the lateness of the hour, it was decided to read the minutes of the previous meeting at the next meeting and to adjourn.

The meeting was closed by Brother te Roller.

A. C. van Raalte  
G. Wakker