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11-3-1862

### Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

A. C. Van Raalte

G. Wakker

William Buursma

Althea Buursma

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#### Recommended Citation

Van Raalte, A. C.; Wakker, G.; Buursma, William; and Buursma, Althea, "Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church" (1862). *Van Raalte Papers: 1860-1869*. 136.  
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3 November 1862

Holland, Michigan

In a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, he reported that the Holland Classis decided to assess the members of each congregation 75 cents "for the maintenance and extension of this Institution so important to us." [I think we can assume that the assessment was for the Holland Academy where college classes were inaugurated by Rev. Philip Phelps just that fall.]

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.183a.

Consistory Meeting of November 3, 1862

Absent: Brothers Vork and, due to illness, Keppel.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by the chairman, the Rev. A. C. van Raalte.

ARTICLE 2 – The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 3 – It was decided that a decision of classis to cover the expenses and existing debts by assessing each congregation 75 cents annually will be assigned to the deacons for implementation. Each deacon will contact all of the individuals in his district, and the members of the congregation will be encouraged to voluntarily contribute these monies, according to the ability and, in fairness, based on the total members of each family. This will remove any objections towards bringing up the necessary funds for the maintenance and extension of this Institution so important to us.

ARTICLE 4 – It was decided to pay more attention to family visitation. At the next consistory meeting, each of the elders will give a report concerning activities in their district.

ARTICLE 5 – It was decided to meet again in four weeks, unless circumstances require an earlier meeting.

The meeting was closed by Brother Kamper.

A. C. van Raalte  
G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of December 22, 1862

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. A. C. van Raalte, chairman.

ARTICLE 1 – The minutes were read and approved.

ARTICLE 2 – Membership transfer received for G. van den Beld and spouse, from Kalamazoo, dated June 16, 1862, and Hubrecht Marselije and spouse, from Kalamazoo, dated September 7, 1862, and Adam Everese and spouse, coming with a testimonial from the Vriesenveen, the Netherlands, dated December 27.

ARTICLE 3 – It was decided to announce to the congregation next Sunday that the collections for Higher Education will cease, and from now on the necessary funds will be collected by the deacons (in their districts).