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

G. Wakker

William Buursma

Althea Buursma

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18 January 1864

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte presided, a discussion was held concerning "those who are not attending the regular classes taught by the pastor." A class in the village was necessary but the pastor was in a "weakened condition" and thus not able to take on more responsibility.

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

Original located in the records of the Pillar Christian Reformed Church at the Joint Archives of Holland, vol. II, pp. 202-203a.

This task was assigned to the building committee, with the addition of the pastor and Wakker. They will meet tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock in the church.

ARTICLE 8 – The clerk reports that Joh. Hogesteger has requested to be given the same place in the pew, which had been reserved for him last year. It was decided that, since there are new seating arrangements, this member is able to rent a good place, and that there is no reason to make an exception, unless a need is made known.

ARTICLE 9 – The treasurer of the Holland Academy requests that the deacons speedily see to it that the monies of this congregation, designated for the Holland Academy, be handed over to him. Approved.

ARTICLE 10 – It was decided to meet again on Monday, January 18.

ARTICLE 12 (sic) – According to custom, all of the brothers declare that they are able to celebrate the Lord's Supper with one another in love. Communion will be celebrated on January 17.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Wilterdink.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of January 18, 1864

Absent: Brothers Labots and Vork.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. van Raalte, as president.

ARTICLE 2 – The minutes were read and approved.

ARTICLE 3 – The committee for the review of the financial accounts reports that they have found everything to be in good order. The account book of the deacons lists a deficit of \$15.01, thus more has been disbursed than has been received. The church administration book had a surplus of \$14.92. However, there are still some ongoing debts to be paid.

Both books were closed and signed by Kamper, Wakker, and Wilterdink.

ARTICLE 4 – It was decided that the pastor will encourage the congregation at the regular Sunday collection to contribute more to cover the additional expenses incurred in providing for the poor.

ARTICLE 5 – There was a discussion concerning the necessity of catechism for those who are not attending the regular classes taught by the pastor. The discussion included whether it was desirable to have a Sunday evening catechism class in the village, taking into consideration the weakened condition of the pastor, who had previously taught a class in school house #3 on a weekly basis.

It was decided that Brother Broek is to teach catechism in that neighborhood. He will be released from attendance at meetings and contributions.

As far as a Sunday evening class in the village is concerned, no decision was made.

ARTICLE 6 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Broek.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of February 17, 1864

Absent: Brothers Broek, Labots, Wilterdink, Naber, and Kieft.

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

ARTICLE 2 – The minutes were read and approved, with the addition to Article 5 that the elders will take turns teaching a catechism class in the village on Sunday evening.

ARTICLE 3 – A membership transfer was requested and granted for M. van de Linde to the Second congregation here. Also a statement was granted for Dalman and wife to Graafschaap.

ARTICLE 4 – Because of certain difficulties between Kroon and van Apeldoorn, the pastor, Kamper, and Oonk were appointed, with a mandate to attempt to resolve these difficulties.

ARTICLE 5 – The committee mandated to arrange for additional seating in the church and in the balcony reports that they have contracted to the lowest bidder, namely, Toorn and Kamper for the sum of \$82.49, and that the work will be completed next week, so that the seats can be rented.

ARTICLE 6 – It was decided that the time for rental of the new seating will be set for Saturday, February 7, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. To make the arrangements and regulations for the rental, Brothers Keppel, Plugger, and te Roller were appointed.