

Hope College

Hope College Digital Commons

Van Raalte Papers: 1860-1869

Van Raalte Papers

11-14-1864

Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

G. Wakker

William Buursma

Althea Buursma

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1860s

The original documents are held in The Joint Archives of Holland. This digitized material is intended for personal research/study only. The original documents may not be reproduced for commercial use in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without permission in writing from [The Joint Archives of Holland](#).

Recommended Citation

Wakker, G.; Buursma, William; and Buursma, Althea, "Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church" (1864). *Van Raalte Papers: 1860-1869*. 281.

https://digitalcommons.hope.edu/vrp_1860s/281

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Van Raalte Papers at Hope College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Van Raalte Papers: 1860-1869 by an authorized administrator of Hope College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@hope.edu.

14 November 1864

Holland, Michigan

Elder de Bruin was elected chairman of the consistory meeting of the First Reformed Church in the absence of Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte. The members of the consistory mourned the death of Deacon Albert [Aldert?] Plugger who had served as a deacon "since the beginning of the Dutch settlement..." The painting of the church was completed. Kieft was appointed to replace Plugger on the building committee.

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., pp. 218-219.

were challenged and admonished in fitting words to walk worthily of the confession they have made and to conduct themselves properly in the presence of others, especially their peers. The chairman then led in a prayer on their behalf, and they left the meeting.

ARTICLE 6 – A membership statement was asked and granted to Jacobus Brandt to Zeeland.

ARTICLE 7 – The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Kamper.

Communion will be celebrated on October 23.

G. Wakker, clerk

Consistory Meeting of November 14, 1864

Absent: Brothers Broek and Naber.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Brother Labots.

ARTICLE 2 – Brother de Bruin was chosen as chairman.

ARTICLE 3 – The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ARTICLE 4 – The chairman officially informed the meeting of the unexpected death of one of the consistory members, the beloved brother deacon, Albert Plugger, who on November 1, 1864, was taken to the Lord. The loss of this worthy brother, who, since the beginning of our Dutch settlement, has been of service to our congregation as deacon, was painfully felt by all, and his empty place has grieved our hearts. However, we know that his death, so sad for us, is for him the entrance into eternal life. The brothers want to submit themselves to God's will, since he is the one who in his own time calls us from the church militant to the church triumphant. It is our hope that the King of the church will fill the place left empty by his departure.

ARTICLE 5 – It was decided that the building committee investigate whether improvements should be made on the church building by placing a stone wall under the church, and thereby to lift the lowest section higher. The necessary repairs on the roof, to avoid snow from entering, will also take place, and at the next meeting there will be a report concerning how this is to be done and the expenses involved.

ARTICLE 6 – It was decided to bring the above-mentioned matter to the next congregational meeting.

ARTICLE 7 – Because of some complaints against Jacob and Jan Reidsema, Brothers Labots and Keppel were appointed as a committee to speak with these members.

ARTICLE 8 – The committee, assigned the responsibility of painting the church, reports that this work has been completed. The bill for the necessary changes was higher than the first estimate, and it has now reached the sum of \$535.50. The committee is of the opinion that this bill is \$10.00 to \$12.00 too high. The committee has been weakened because of the passing of one of their members, Brother Plugger, and his counsel was missed. The committee requests advice in dealing with the contractor. The brothers judged that the remaining members of the committee are all adequate to this task, and their assignment was continued.

ARTICLE 9 – In order to fill the vacancy, Brother Kieft was appointed as a member of the building committee.

ARTICLE 10 – After mutual reflection, the members Beeuwkes and Vaupel were judged to be the most appropriate people to fill the empty place as deacon. Both of these people will be recommended to the next congregational meeting, when the usual election of one-half of the consistory is scheduled.

ARTICLE 11 – The delegates to the most recent classical meeting report that the request of the congregation for a decision from the general synod in the matter of increasing the salaries of pastors in these current times was rejected. In the discussion which followed, it was felt that it would be wise not to bring up this matter at the congregational meeting. Because these financial matters are on the agenda....(?), it was decided to let the matter rest.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother de Bruin.

G. Wakker, clerk