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Meeting Minutes of the Consistory of the First Reformed Church

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21 December 1866

Holland, Michigan

At a meeting of the consistory of the First Reformed Church at which Elder Keppel was chosen chairman in the absence of Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, routine matters were dealt with.

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. 278.

Consistory Meeting of December 21, 1866

Present: Keppel, Wakker, Oonk, Geerlings, Beeuwkes, Kieft, and Naber;
From the pew rental committee: L. Schaddelee, J. Schrader, Kroon, van Rij, J. Reidsema.

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with prayer by Oonk.

ARTICLE 2 – Keppel was chosen as chairman.

ARTICLE 3 – The report of the committee for pews was read, and, after some discussion, was withdrawn by the committee itself. They have decided to make another report, which will be presented to the upcoming congregational meeting.

ARTICLE 4 – Present at the meeting was Leunis Goedhart, who presented a statement of membership from the Reformed (State) Church in the Netherlands. It was decided to place the membership statement on the table. Thereupon, Leunis Goedhart was questioned, and upon his profession of faith, accepted.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Brother Naber.

G. Wakker, clerk

Congregational Meeting of December 31, 1866

ARTICLE 1 – The meeting was opened with the singing of Psalm 87: 2, and prayer.

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

ARTICLE 3 – The report of the committees for pews, and the building of a new church, was presented.

ARTICLE 4 – The report of the pews committee was received. The last proposal for immediate payment, with some flexibility, which was to be left to the judgment of the consistory, was rejected by a vote of 26 against and 26 for.

ARTICLE 5 – Another proposal to leave the pew seating free was accepted by a vote of 30 yes and 19 no.

ARTICLE 6 – The proposal of the building committee, to build a new church, was approved 39 to 0.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. van Raalte

G. Wakker, clerk