

**The United Reformed Churches of North America**  
**Synod Nyack 2012**  
**Press Release #1**  
**Tuesday, June 12, 2012**

**Opening Evening**

In accordance with our Lord's good providence and as a result of innumerable hours of work by the convening consistory of Pompton Plains Reformed Bible Church, the campus of Nyack College in Nyack, New York was the beautiful and historic site of Synod Nyack.

Following an exhausting day of travel for 197 delegates from 104 various churches among the United Reformed Churches of North America, Synod Nyack began unofficially with a prayer service held Monday evening. In the uniquely historical setting of Olson Auditorium, the delegates called upon the name of the Lord in prayer and offered Him their praise.

**Preliminary Matters**

Underneath the able leadership of chairman pro-tem, Rev. Richard Kuiken, the pastor of Pompton Plains Reformed Bible Church, Tuesday morning began with the preliminary matters of convening Synod. These details included opening with devotions by the reading of Philippians 2:1-11 and the reminder to each of the delegates of the need for humility throughout the deliberations of the week. With the role called, the delegates stood to give their assent to the Formula of Subscription thereby expressing their doctrinal unity. With joy, the body also received one new church to the federation through the process of Church Order Article 32.

**Election of Officers**

The election of officers seated the Rev. Ronald Scheuers as chairman, Rev. John Bouwers as vice-chairman, Rev. Doug Barnes as first clerk and Rev. Greg Lubbers as second clerk. Having served capably as chairman numerous times in the past, Rev. Scheuers reminded the delegates of their duty to serve Synod, the churches and ultimately the Lord Jesus Christ.

The large portion of the overcast and rainy morning and afternoon hours were spent in advisory committee meetings. Towards the later portion of the day, this initial work gave the plenary session of Synod numerous matters of attention for the day including the division of Classis Southern Ontario into a Classis Southwestern Ontario and a Classis Ontario – East. In addition, overtures requesting ministers to submit written sermons to the federation's website and to add to the requirements of a *Colloquium Doctum* were both rejected by Synod.

**The Work of the Evening**

After dinner, the delegates rededicated themselves to the work before it. This work included receiving reports from both the Stated Clerk and the Convening Consistory. Throughout the day, Synod had the

opportunity to hear fraternal addresses from representatives of the Free Church of Scotland – Continuing (FCSC) and the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA). The day ended with the advisory committees returning to the work of preparing pre-advice for the day that lay ahead, DV.

Humbly Submitted,

Rev. Greg Lubbers

Second Clerk of Synod Nyack