

FELLOWSHIP OF UNITING REFORMED CHURCHES

December 15, 1995

Esteemed Brethren:

We are grateful for the interest in federation which was manifested at the recent meeting of independent churches held following the November meeting of the Alliance. The recommendation "to form a provisional federation of churches" was adopted unanimously. Before the meeting adjourned, twenty-seven churches signed a statement committing themselves to membership in the proposed federation. Since the adjournment of the November meeting, additional churches have informed us of their decision to join. We encourage other churches who are giving this matter consideration to contact us if we can be of any assistance. It has been decided that all churches which join by January 15 will be considered "charter members" of the federation. A list of the member churches of the federation will be published and distributed the week of January 15 D.V.

Several churches have indicated their difficulty in securing a copy of the 1934 Church Order. We are, therefore, enclosing a copy with the reminder that the Committee on Church Order is working on the preparation of a church order for the federation. Your input will be gratefully received by the committee, of which Rev. J. Gangar is the chairman.

There is still opportunity to submit your suggestions for a name for the federation. Please send your suggestions to the undersigned at 2420 Avon Avenue, S.W., Wyoming, MI 49509. The deadline for suggestions has been extended to January 15.

The three convening councils have divided the ongoing work of the federation among themselves and will be requesting churches in their areas to assist them in the various areas of investigation and study.

We hope to release a news bulletin every two months to inform the churches of developments and progress.

We wish each of you the Lord's blessing and grace to remain faithful as you continue your service to Him in the New Year.

Sincerely:
/s/ Arthur Besteman, Acting Clerk