

The United Reformed Churches in North America
Synod Wheaton 2018
Press Release #1
Monday, June 11, 2018

Prayer Service

Delegates to the 11th Synod of the United Reformed Churches in North America arrived in Wheaton, Illinois, according to the kind providence of the most high God. This is a historic Synod, in that it is meeting concurrently with the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, with common devotional times and several joint gatherings planned.

The Consistory of the Oak Glen United Reformed Church of Lansing, Illinois, convened the Synod using the facilities of Wheaton College for the week-long deliberations. A prayer service was held Monday afternoon, which included a meditation given by Rev. John Vermeer on 1 Peter 2:4-12, several scripture readings, and prayers offered for the various aspects of the Synod by ministers who serve churches in Classis Central U.S. Of particular joy was the singing of several songs from the recently published *Trinity Psalter Hymnal*.

After the prayer service, URCNA delegates and commissioners from the OPC enjoyed a meal and time of fellowship before the URCNA brothers met to convene the Synod while the OPC brothers met separately to begin their General Assembly.

Convening of Synod

The Chairman *pro tem*, Elder Fred Colvin of Oak Glen URC, called the meeting to order, and opening devotions were held. The roll of delegates was called, and all delegates declared their assent to the Form of Subscription by standing together. With this, Synod Wheaton was declared constituted.

Fraternal delegates and other visitors were welcomed to the Synod by the Chairman *pro tem*, after which the officers were elected. Rev. Bradd Nymeyer was elected as Chairman, Rev. John Bouwers as Vice-Chairman, Rev. Doug Barnes as First Clerk, and Rev. Talman Wagenmaker as Second Clerk. The provisional agenda, the advisory committee assignments, and the time schedule were adopted, and then the officers were seated. The Chairman spoke a word of encouragement and led the Synod in prayer. Closing devotions were held, after which the Synod was recessed until 8 A.M. Tuesday.