

Synod 2018 Report - Monday, June 18

Synod first treated the reformulated advice of the committee dealing with Psalter revision. After a lengthy discussion, the following motion **failed**: That synod discontinue our involvement in the interdenominational Psalter revision project with two grounds:

1. Our consistories indicate that there is not sufficient support in the denomination for this Psalter revision.
2. This does not conflict with past synodical decisions involving us in the participation of the interdenominational Psalter revision committee.

This means that we will continue our involvement on the interdenominational Psalter revision project. Later synod approved the following subsequent motions regarding Psalter revision:

1. That synod declare the proposed revisions of Psalm 1-40 are in harmony with the principles of text, music, and format approved by Synod 2016.
 - a. This declaration of synod is not a final approval of the section and all the details but a statement that the synod judges that the principles have been followed.
 - b. The committee of pre-advice has gone over the changes in this section and is satisfied that the principles governing the changes have been followed.
2. That synod inform the Interdenominational Psalter revision committee, in response to their request for an indication of continued denominational support, that it is unlikely that our denomination would adopt the revised Psalter in its entirety. Grounds:
 - a. A survey of our consistories has shown that more than half are not in favor of continuing the project.
 - b. In the judgment of a majority of our consistories, too many changes have been made in the revision to be found acceptable by our congregations.
3. Synod also thanked Prof. Gritters, Prof. Kuiper, and Mr. Joshua Hoekstra for their work on the Psalter Revision Committee.

Synod adopted the budget for the PRCA of \$2,261,686 (adjusted to \$1,725,062 because of excess funds) for 2019 and approved assessments of \$800 per family in 2019, a \$25 increase per family from 2018 (\$775).

Synod plans to reconvene at 8:00am Wednesday morning, the Lord willing, which gives committees 3 and 4 time to work.