

On Thanksgiving Day, November 26<sup>th</sup>, a day after receiving the Church Visitors advice, Rev. Lanning preached the sermon titled "The House of Mourning". Refer to sermon transcript.

On Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, the consistory met with the Church Visitors to further discuss the advice they brought to us at our request.

Consistory Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2020

- Article 1. Church Visitors welcomed. (Rev's DeVries, Haak, Koole, Slopsema, Spronk)
- a. Floor is open to the church visitors.
  - b. Discussion regarding the content of the material and questions asked.
  - c. Consistory is free to make adjustments to the content of the CV recommendation as we see fit. The motion is for the charges and does not have to include entire body.
  - d. Church Visitors exit the room
  - e. Motion to adopt the 1<sup>st</sup> recommendation in the advice of the church visitors. Recommendation reads: Byron Center consistory immediately to suspend its pastor, Rev Lanning, according to Articles 79 and 80 of the Church Order for the sin of public schism committed in his sermon on Jeremiah 23:4&14 preached on November 15, 2020. CARRIES
  - f. Motion to adopt the 2<sup>nd</sup> recommendation. Recommendation reads: Byron Center consistory to meet as soon as possible with a neighboring consistory in the Grand Rapids area to pass judgment on our decision to suspend Rev. Lanning. CARRIES
    - i. Ground: Article 79 of the Church Order stipulates that suspension of an office-bearer requires the sentence of the nearest Church.
  - g. Motion to pass judgement on our decision to Trinity PRC. CARRIES
  - h. Motion to adopt the 3<sup>rd</sup> recommendation. Recommendation reads: Byron Center consistory to relieve Rev. Lanning from his ministerial duties while the judgment of a neighboring consistory is sought. CARRIES
- Article 2. Motion to approve letter to congregation. Supplement #2 CARRIES

The consistory then met briefly on Sunday 11/29/20 to assign a committee to gather and organize material for the consistory to approve and then send on to Trinity PRC.

Consistory Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2020

- Article 1. Discussion is had regarding overall content of the Church Visitor's advice. Vice President to call church visitors about proper method to edit/add content with additional items since the Jeremiah sermon.
- Article 2. Motion to form committee to gather additional material to the consistory for approval to send to Trinity PRC. CARRIES. Clerks appointed