

Grounds:

1. This is in harmony with the provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 39 and the intent of Synod 1996 in approving the formation of Classis Pacific Hanmi.
2. Both Classis California South and Classis Pacific Hanmi agree to this action.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued in Article 51.)

ARTICLE 29

The general secretary welcomes and introduces fraternal delegates Dr. Seth Pitikoe (Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa) and Dr. Willie Botha (Dutch Reformed Church).

ARTICLE 30

The afternoon session is adjourned. Elder Calvin J. Hoogstra leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING, June 11, 2002

Fifth Session

ARTICLE 31

Rev. Merlin N. Buwalda announces *Psalter Hymnal* 169, “I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord Forever” and reads from Isaiah 40:28-31. He leads in opening prayer and announces *Psalter Hymnal* 490, “Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine.”

ARTICLE 32

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued from Article 26.)

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Michael Winnowski reporting, presents the following:

Committee to Give Direction about and for Pastoral Care for Homosexual Members

A. *Materials:* Committee to Give Direction about and for Pastoral Care for Homosexual Members Report, pp. 313-51

B. *Observations*

The advisory committee realizes that, as mentioned in the report (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, p. 315), there may be wisdom in developing a current response to the many recent treatments of the biblical passages pertaining to this issue. The advisory committee also realizes that the report does not address every type of pastoral situation related to this issue. As the study committee itself recognizes, this report does not and indeed cannot speak the last word on the

subject of pastoral care to persons who experience sexual attraction to others of the same gender. Therefore the church must continue its efforts to develop coherent and compassionate responses to the challenges faced by such individuals, their families, and the church communities that minister to them.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Dr. Melvin Huguen, Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma, and Rev. Herman Van Niejenhuis (Dr. Gerald Zandstra, alternate).

—Granted

2. That synod adopt one insertion to the report at the end of the second paragraph of section I, B, 1 (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, p.314). The end of the paragraph will now read as follows (addition in italic):

...including significant ministry with persons who have same-sex attractions and related issues. (Note: *The phrase "persons with same-sex attractions" is used throughout this report in the sense of persons who experience sexual attraction to others of the same gender.*)

—Adopted

3. That synod recommend this report (as amended) with its appendices to the churches for their use in ministering to persons who experience sexual attraction to others of the same gender.

—Adopted

(The voting results are reported as follows: 168 – Yes; 12 – No; 5 – Abstentions.)

4. That synod make the report available to the churches in suitable study format.

—Adopted

5. That synod dismiss the committee with thanks.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 33

The general secretary welcomes and introduces fraternal delegate Dr. Wayne R. Spear (Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America).

ARTICLE 34

The evening session is adjourned. Elder Joseph Koole leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 12, 2002 Sixth Session

ARTICLE 35

Faculty adviser Dr. Mariano Avila announces *Sing! A New Creation* 42, "We Bow Down" and leads in a service of litany from "Morning Worship—A Church Like Antioch." He announces *Sing! A New Creation* 294, vs. 4; "Go to