

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
OF THE
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF PREAKNESS

The undersigned, persons desiring to associate themselves into a corporation pursuant to an Act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, entitled "An Act to incorporate associations not for pecuniary profit," approved April 21, 1898, and the amendments or supplements thereto, do hereby certify:

1. That the name by which such corporation is to be known is CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF PREAKNESS.

2. That the purposes for which it is formed are; to worship God, supervise the doctrine, sacraments, ceremonies and christian discipline, and for the maintenance of good order in the Church of Christ in conformity with the standards of the Christian Reformed Church.

3. The corporation is to be located on Ratzer Road, in the Township of Wayne, in the County of Passaic and State of New Jersey.

4. The number of trustees shall be no less than five, and the names of the trustees selected for the first year are:

William L. Hardenberg _ _ _
Richard Meyer _ _ _ _ _
William Rosendale _ _ _ _ _
Orie Sikkema _ _ _ _ _
John Linstra _ _ _ _ _

5. The members of said church shall worship and labor together according to the discipline, rules and usages of the Christian Reformed Church in America as from time to time authorized and declared by the Synod of said Christian Reformed Church.

We recognize, as the fundamental principles of our Church, in Doctrine and Government, the Bible as the infallible Word of God, and as founded thereon the Formulas of Unity of the Christian Reformed Church and the Church Order as revised by the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church of 1914, and resolutions of General Synods before and after 1914 and not embodied in said Church Order. The said Formulas of Unity are: first, the Thirty-seven Articles of the Belgic Confession of Faith; second, the Heidelberg Catechism; third, The Five Articles against the Remonstrants.

The ownership of the property of a particular church of the Christian Reformed Church is in the congregation of such church and title may be held in any form, corporate or otherwise, consistent with the provisions of civil law of the State or Province in which said property is situated. The congregation, with respect to such property, may properly exercise the ownership possessed by the property owners in such jurisdiction, and without any right of revision whatsoever by a classis or synod of the Christian Reformed Church, and that classis or synod of the Christian Reformed Church will not undertake to attempt to secure possession of the property of any congregation against its will whether or not such a congregation remains within or chooses to withdraw from the denomination.

In the event of schism within a local congregation which requires a settlement of property, such settlement shall be made according to the scriptural injunction of I Corinthians 6. Every effort shall be made to achieve a just and fair division of property. If help is needed with such negotiations, such help shall be sought first of all from classis and/or synod. If these methods do not succeed, help may be sought from nonecclesiastical advisors.

Any person elected to the office of Elder or Deacon in said Church, according to the Church Order (Constitution) and usages of the Christian Reformed Church, and the Pastor, if there be one, shall become and be a member of the Board of Trustees of said church, and the corporate functions of all offices shall cease on the vacation of the ecclesiastical office, but a vacancy in the office of Pastor shall in no way affect such Board of Trustees.

Said Trustees may have a common seal and alter the same at pleasure, and shall take into possession and custody all the temporalities of the church, and shall make the rules and regulations for the management thereof, whether the same shall consist of real and personal estate, and whether the same have been given, granted, bequeathed or devised directly or indirectly to said church or to any person for its use.

Said Trustees shall have the power and authority to bargain, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or release any real estate belonging to said church or held by them as such Trustees, and to erect churches, parsonages, schoolhouses, and other buildings for the direct and legitimate use of said church, and to alter and repair the same, and to fix the salary of its minister or ministers (if, at any time, there be more than one) or anyone in its employ; PROVIDED, That no such purchase, sale or conveyance, mortgage, lease or fixing of salaries shall be made unless the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of this church organization, of which said Trustees are officers, shall be first obtained at a meeting of such members of this church or congregation present and entitled to vote, duly and specially called for that purpose by notice given for two successive Sundays at the usual place of meeting next preceding such meeting; PROVIDED, further that no sale, mortgaging or conveyance shall be made of any gift, grant, or donation, conveyance, devise or bequest, which would be inconsistent with the express terms of plain intent of the grant,

donation, gift, conveyance, devise, or bequest.

The said Trustees may at any time hereafter, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Trustees, amend these Articles of Association in any manner not inconsistent with the provisions herein contained; PROVIDED, That before such amendments shall become operative, a vote in favor thereof of at least two-thirds of the members of this church, present and entitled to vote, shall be obtained by said Trustees at a meeting of the members of this church, especially called for that purpose, and of which notice has first been given as is also provided for and required herein, and the requirements of the statutes of this State shall be fully complied with.

In the event of dissolution of this organization, the assets shall be distributed only to similar organizations that enjoy exempt status in accordance with the provisions of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

AMENDMENT TO
CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

OF
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF PREAKNESS
~~PREAKNESS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH~~

THE UNDERSIGNED trustees of the aforesaid Corporation did on December 14, 1970, at a regular meeting of the governing body, pass the following resolution;

That the trustees present to the membership of the Church at a meeting called for that purpose, their recommendation to amend the Certificate of Incorporation concerning the ownership of the real property and improvements of the Church, and the disposition of the same should there be a general dissolution of the Corporation.

Certified a True Copy

Alfred P. Hoogman
Secretary

Winston C. Beckins
President

On December 27, 1970, at a meeting of the membership, and by a valid vote the recommendations of the trustees were approved and the Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation originally filed on July 10, 1935, in the Clerk's Office of Passaic County in Book W-2 of Certificates of Incorporation be and is hereby amended as follows:

A. The second full paragraph on Page two shall be deleted and in its place the following is substituted:

The ownership of the property of a particular church of the Christian Reformed Church is in the congregation of such church and title may be held in any form, corporate or otherwise, consistent with the provisions of civil law of the State or Province in which said property is situated. The congregation, with respect to such property, may properly exercise the ownership possessed by property owners in such jurisdiction, and without any right of revision whatsoever by a classis or synod of the Christian Reformed Church, and that classis or synod of the Christian Reformed Church will not undertake to attempt to secure possession of the property of any congregation against its will, whether or

not such a congregation remains within or chooses to withdraw from the denomination.

In the event of schism within a local congregation which requires a settlement of property, such settlement shall be made according to the scriptural injunction of I Corinthians 6. Every effort shall be made to achieve a just and fair division of property. If help is needed with such negotiations, such help shall be sought first of all from classis and/or synod. If these methods do not succeed, help may be sought from nonecclesiastical advisors.

B. By the addition to the Certificate of Incorporation the following:

In the event of dissolution of this organization, the assets shall be distributed only to similar organizations that enjoy exempt status in accordance with the provisions of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we the undersigned current trustees have hereunto set our hands the 27th day of December, 1970, at the principal offices of the Corporation, 480 Valley Road, Wayne, Passaic County, New Jersey.

<u>W. Fred C. Hooyman</u>	<u>John Jellema</u>
<u>Wm. Hendrick</u>	<u>Howard Mylerson</u>
<u>Van G. [unclear]</u>	<u>Donald J. Hartensveld</u>
<u>Thomas [unclear]</u>	<u>Francis Jellema</u>
<u>Stephen T. Okker</u>	<u>Stanley Smith</u>
<u>Albert Steen [unclear]</u>	<u>Donald M. Paris</u>
<u>Wm. Handwick</u>	<u>Albert W. DeJong</u>
<u>Wm. [unclear]</u>	
<u>Adrian [unclear]</u>	

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COUNTY OF PASSAIC

On this 27th day of December, 1970, before me, An Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey, personally appeared.

<u>Alfred C. Hoorman</u>	<u>Francis Jellema</u>
<u>Winston C. Beckman</u>	<u>Ronald J. Hartenwald</u>
<u>Stephen T. O'Keefe</u>	<u>Stanley D. Smith</u>
<u>Winston C. Beckman</u>	<u>Donald A. Janis</u>
<u>Adrian Perntzen</u>	<u>Albert W. DeJongh</u>

known to me to be the same persons mentioned herein, and who executed the foregoing instruments, and severally acknowledged that they executed the same freely and for the intents and purposes therein mentioned.

Ralph V. Martin
An Attorney at Law of New Jersey

We, the undersigned, the president and secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Preakness Christian Reformed Church, do hereby certify that, at a meeting of said church and congregation held on the 27th day of December, 1970, at the regular and usual place of meeting the foregoing Articles of Incorporation were sanctioned and approved by a majority of the members of said church, present and entitled to vote; and that public notice of said meeting was duly given for two successive Sundays next preceding the date of such meeting.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names on this 27th day of December A.D. 1970.

FILED AND RECORDED

JAN 21 1971

Winston C. Beckman
President

Alfred C. Hoorman

MAR 17 1998

AMENDMENT TO
 CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
 CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF PREAKNESS

LONNA R. HOOKS
 Secretary of State

The undersigned council as trustees of the aforesaid Corporation did on December 22, 1997, at a special congregational meeting secure authority to amend the certificate of incorporation from the membership.

LeRoy G. Christoffels
 President
 LeRoy G. Christoffels

David L. Boardman
 Secretary
 David L. Boardman

The council as trustees unanimously amend the Certificate of Incorporation originally filed in the Clerk's Office of Passaic County July 10, 1933, with an amendment thereto filed by the Secretary of State on January 21, 1971, as follows:

A. Any provision of the original certificate or its amendment contrary to the provisions of this amendment or their intent is hereby superseded and rendered inoperative.

B. The amendment to the original certificate is hereby amended regarding paragraph A as follows:

Ownership of the real and personal property of the church is in the congregation of the church who hold title, consistent with the provisions of civil law of the State of New Jersey, The congregation, with respect to such property, may properly exercise the ownership possessed by property owners in such jurisdiction, without any right of revision whatsoever by a classis or synod. No classis or synod may undertake to or attempt to secure possession of the property of the congregation against its will, whether or not such a congregation remains within or chooses to withdraw from any denomination.

In the event of schism within a local congregation which requires a settlement of property, such settlement shall be made according to the scriptural injunction of I Corinthians 6.

C. The original certificate is hereby amended by paragraph as follows:

1. The name of the corporation is changed to Preakness Valley United Reformed Church.

2. The purposes for which it is formed are to worship God, supervise the Reformed doctrine, worship, sacraments, ceremonies, exercise christian discipline, and for the maintenance of good order in the Church of Christ.

3. The corporation is located at 480 Valley Road, Wayne, Passaic County, New Jersey.

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4. No change.

5. The members of said church shall worship and labor together according to discipline, rules, and usages of the United Reformed Church in North America as the same are adopted by the governing body of this church. We recognize, as the fundamental principles of our Church, in Doctrine and Government, the Bible as the infallible Word of God, and as founded thereon the Formulas of Unity. The said Formulas of Unity are: first, the Thirty-seven Articles of the Belgic Confession of Faith; second, the Heidelberg Catechism; third, The Five Articles against the Remonstrant (The Canons of Dort).

The ownership of the property of the church is in the congregation of the church, and title may be held in any form, corporate or otherwise, consistent with the provisions of civil law of the State of New Jersey. The congregation, with respect to such property, may properly exercise the ownership possessed by the property owners in such jurisdiction, and without any right of revision whatsoever by a classis or synod of the United Reformed church of North America, and that classis or synod may not attempt to secure possession of the property of the congregation against its will whether or not such a congregation remains within or chooses to withdraw from the denomination.

In the event of schism within a local congregation which requires a settlement shall be made according to the scriptural injunction of I Corinthians 6. Every effort shall be made to achieve a just and fair division of property.

Any person elected to the office of Elder or Deacon in said Church, according to its by-laws, and the Pastor, if there be one, shall become and be a member of the Board of Trustees of said church, and the corporate functions of all offices shall cease on the vacation of the ecclesiastical office, but a vacancy in the office of Pastor shall in no way affect such Board of Trustees.

Said Trustees may have a common seal and alter the same at their pleasure, and shall take into possession and custody all the temporalities of the church, and shall make the rules and regulations for the management thereof, whether the same shall consist of real or personal estate, and whether the same have been given, granted, bequeathed or devised directly or indirectly to said church or to any person for its use.

Said Trustees shall have the power and authority to bargain, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or release any real estate belonging to said church or held by them as such Trustees, and to erect churches, parsonages, school facilities, and other buildings for the direct and legitimate use of said church, and to alter and repair the same, and to fix the salary of its minister or ministers (if, at any time, there be more than one) or anyone in its employ: PROVIDED, That no such purchase, sale or

conveyance, mortgage or lease shall be made unless the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the church organization, of which said Trustees are officers, shall be first obtained at a meeting of such members of this church or congregation present and entitled to vote, duly and specially called for that purpose by notice given for two successive Sundays at the usual place of meeting next preceding such meeting; PROVIDED, further that no sale, mortgage or conveyance shall be made or any gift, grant, or donation, conveyance, devise or bequest made which would be inconsistent with the express terms of this certificate or the plain intent of the grant, donation, gift, conveyance, devise, or bequest.

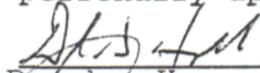
The said Trustees may at any time hereafter, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Trustees, amend these Articles of Incorporation in any manner not inconsistent with the provisions herein contained; PROVIDED, That such amendments shall be authorized or general authority given to amend by a vote in favor thereof at least two-thirds of the members of this church, present and entitled to vote, at a meeting of the members of this church, especially called for that purpose, and of which notice has first been given as is also provided for and required herein.

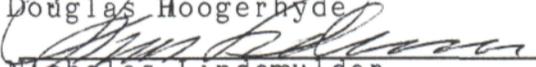
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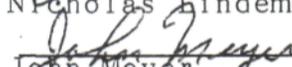
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

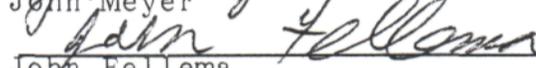
COUNTY OF PASSAIC

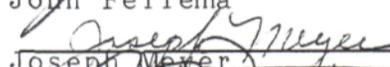
On this 10th day of MARCH, 1998, before me personally appeared.

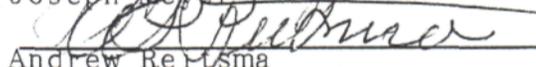


Douglas Hoogerhyde


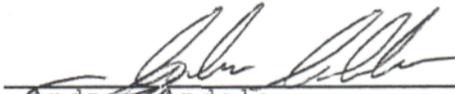
Nicholas Hindemulder


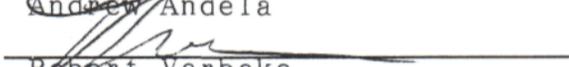
John Meyer


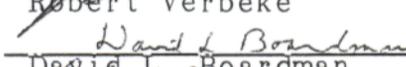
John Fellema


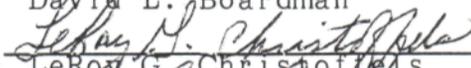
Joseph Meyer


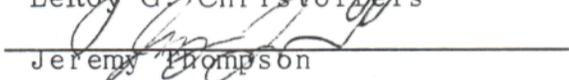
Andrew Reitsma



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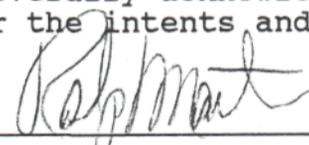
Robert Verbeke


David L. Boardman


Leroy G. Christoffels


Jeremy Thompson

known to me to be the same persons mentioned herein, and who executed the foregoing instruments, and severally acknowledged that they executed the same freely and for the intents and purposes therein mentioned.



Ralph V. Martin
Attorney At Law
State of New Jersey