Press Release on the International Dialogue
Between
The World Communion of Reformed Churches
And
Classical Pentecostals

Representatives of various classical Pentecostal churches and a delegation from the World Communion of Reformed Churches met in Baguio City, Philippines, October 23 - 30, 2019. This meeting was the sixth session of the third round of dialogue, which focuses on the understanding of mission.

At the beginning and end of each day, participants gathered to pray, sing, read and reflect upon the Bible together. This time of sharing in spirituality and worship helped to contextualize the discussions that took place, and to build greater community between the participants.

This year, the dialogue teams focused on distilling the essence of the past five years of discussions, which focused on the following aspects of the church and mission: mission and salvation, the Holy Spirit and mission, mission and the unity of the church and mission and eschatology. The document of this round of dialogues will be published in 2020. It is hoped that this publication will be useful for Reformed and Pentecostal churches to better understand each other and encourage common witness in word and action.

The dialogue teams were graciously hosted on the campus of the Asia Pacific Theological Seminary. Asia Pacific Theological Seminary is a cooperative ministry of the Assemblies of God national churches of Asia, Pacific Oceania, and the Assemblies of God World Missions-USA, serving theological students throughout Asia and Oceania. Its President, Rev. Tham Wan Yee, and all members of the faculty expressed their enthusiastic support for this ecumenical endeavor. The students were invited to learn about the value of bilateral dialogues during an open panel session, through a time of questions from the students. Rt. Rev. Dr.
David Daniels preached during a chapel service. On Sunday, the
dialogue group attended a Pentecostal worship service at the Epicenter
Church in Baguio. The next evening, the dialogue participants enjoyed
a dinner with the faculty of the seminary, hosted by President Yee.

The Pentecostal team included Rev. Dr. Cecil M. Robeck, co-chair
(Assemblies of God, USA), Rt. Rev. Dr. David Daniels (Church of God
in Christ, USA), Dr. Jean-Daniel Plüss (Swiss Pentecostal Mission) and
Dr. Olga Zaprometova (Church of God, Russia). The Rev. Dr. Teresa
Chai (Assemblies of God, Malaysia/Philippines) and Rev. Dr. Jacqueline
Grey (Australian Christian Churches) were unable to attend.

The Reformed team included the Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll, co-chair,
(Presbyterian Church USA/Costa Rica), Rev. Dr. Hans Lessing
(Executive Secretary, World Communion of Reformed Churches), Rev.
Dr. Setri Nyomi (Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Ghana), Rev. Dr.
Bas Plaisier (Protestant Church in the Netherlands) and Rev. Dr.
Gabriella Rácsok (Reformed Church of Hungary) and Rev. Dr. Nadia
Marais (Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa). The Rev. Dr.
Carmelo Alvarez (Disciples of Christ, Puerto Rico) was not able to
attend.

Baguio City, Philippines
October 29, 2019