

PRESS RELEASE CLASSIS CENTRAL ONTARIO
held on September 12, 2008 in Burlington

1. On behalf of the convening church of Burlington-Ebenezer Rev. G. Nederveen called the meeting to order. He read Psalm 65, and after a brief meditation on this passage he led in prayer. He then asked the brothers to sing Psalm 65: 1, 3 and welcomed the delegates
2. The credentials were examined by the delegates of the church of Toronto and found to be in good order. There were no instructions.
3. Classis was then constituted. Officers were: Rev. G. Nederveen, chairman; Rev. J. deGelder, vice-chairman; and Rev. W. den Hollander, clerk.
4. The Rev. G. Ph. van Popta, who is present for the first time since his installation as minister of the Word for the church at Ottawa, signs the Form of Subscription of the Canadian Reformed Churches and was welcomed in Classis Central Ontario.
5. The chairman expressed thankfulness that Rev. H Versteeg has accepted the call from the sending church of Toronto for the Mission in PNG. He wished the vacant church of Burlington-Waterdown the Lord's blessing in its search for a pastor. He also mentioned the health concerns of Dr. DeJong and Dr. Gootjes, as well as of Rev. J. Mulder, minister emeritus of the church in Burlington-Waterdown.
6. De proposed agenda was adopted with some minor adjustments.
7. The Church of Burlington Fellowship reported that the classical archives were in good order.
8. The classical treasurer reported that the August 31, 2008 balance was \$ 9470.19 plus a receivable of \$ 1996.00 minus an estimated expense of \$ 1000.00 for the remainder of 2008. He proposes to maintain the classical assessment at \$2.00 per communicant member for 2009. The 2009 assessment for Regional Synod East remains at \$ 2.00 per communicant member as well. Classis adopted the proposal of the treasurer.
9. The church of Burlington-Waterdown reported that the books of the classical treasurer were found to be in good order. The treasurer was released of his responsibilities for the fiscal year Sept.1, 2007 to August 31, 2008. Classis expressed appreciation for his work.
10. The Church of Flamborough reported that the Fund for Financial Aid to Students for the ministry has a balance of \$ 7,535.17 with one outstanding amount for 2007. In 2008 no funds were collected as per the decision of classis Central Ontario of September 2007. There is no proposal for an assessment. This will presented to the classis of December 2008, depending on the advice of classis concerning the eligibility for support of a brother who studies at a seminary of one of our sisterchurches. Classis received this report with gratitude.

11. The church of Burlington Waterdown reported that the books of the Fund for Financial Aid to students for the Ministry were found to be in good order.
12. The Committee for Needy Churches reported that a request for support was received from the church at Ottawa for 2009. The committee recommends that the request from Ottawa be accepted and that the assessment for Classis be set at \$18.00 per communicant member. Classis accepted the committee's recommendations. The delegates from Ottawa express their thankfulness for the classical support. They report growth and much enthusiasm for the work of the Lord in Ottawa.
13. The Church of Burlington-Waterdown reported that the books of the Fund for Needy Churches were found to be in good order.
14. In the question period according to Art. 44 CO all the churches answer the first two questions in the affirmative and the third one in the negative. The church of Burlington Fellowship informs classis of its decision to appeal a decision of the previous classis.
15. The Church of Flamborough, as Committee for Financial Aid to Students for the Ministry requested the advice of Classis as to the correct interpretation of art.1 of the mandate of the committee. Could a brother who is pursuing theological studies at a seminary of churches with which the Canadian Reformed Churches have ecclesiastical fellowship, instead of at our own Theological College, be eligible for receiving financial aid form the Fund? Classis advised not to grant the request for support.
16. Appointments
 - Convening church for the next Classis: Burlington Fellowship, Dec.12. 2008
 - Suggested officers: Rev. J.L. VanPopta, chairman; Rev. G. Nederveen, vice chairman; Rev. J. DeGelder, clerk.
 - Examiners coordinators: Rev. W. den Hollander and Rev. G. Ph. VanPopta
 Exegesis OT: Rev. G. Nederveen
 Exegesis NT: Rev. J. L. VanPopta
 Knowledge of Scripture: Rev. J. L. VanPopta
 Doctrine & Creeds: Rev. J. DeGelder
 Church History: Rev. W. den Hollander
 Ethics: Rev. J. DeGelder
 Church Polity: Rev. G. Nederveen
 Diaconiology: Rev. G. Ph. VanPopta
 - Church Visitors: Rev. J. DeGelder, Rev. W. den Hollander, Rev. G. Nederveen.
 - Church for taking care of the Archives: Burlington Ebenezer
 - Church to inspect the archives: Burlington Fellowship
 - Treasurer: H. J. Sloots, 568 Dynes Road, Burlington, ON, L7N 2V2, alternate: G. Nordeman.
 - Church for Financial Aid for students for the Ministry: Flamborough
 - Committee for Needy Churches: H. J. Sloots (2010), A. VanTol (2009), E. Schouten (2011).

- Church for auditing the books of the Classical Treasurer, the Fund for Needy Churches and the Fund for Financial aid for Students for the Ministry: Burlington-Waterdown.
- Observer Free Church of Scotland: Rev. W. den Hollander.

17. Classis chose the following brothers as delegates to Regional Synod East, to be convened on November 12, 2008 in Chatham:

Ministers: Rev. J. DeGelder and Rev. W. den Hollander

Alternates: Rev. G. Ph. VanPopta and Rev. J. L. VanPopta

Elders: B. Hordyk and K. Veltkamp

Alternates: R. Ludwig and H. Harsevoort

18. Question period was not made use off

19. The chairman judged that censure according to Art. 34 C.O. was not required.

20. The Acts were read and adopted, after which the Press Release was read and approved.

21. The chairman requested the singing of Psalm 65: 5, 6, after which the vice chairman led in thanksgiving prayer. The chairman then closed Classis Central Ontario of September 12, 2008.

For Classis Central Ontario of September 12, 2008

Rev. J. DeGelder,

vice-chairman of that Classis.