

Press Release of Classis Manitoba convened in the Redeemer Canadian Reformed Church in Winnipeg on September 25, 2009

1. On behalf of the Emmanuel American Reformed Church in Denver, the convening church of the September 25th, 2009, classis, br. R. Bruintjes called the meeting to order. He asked the brothers to sing Psalm 87:1,5, read Psalm 84, and led in prayer. He then welcomed all present.
2. The credentials of the delegates were examined by the brothers of the convening Church and reported to be in order.
3. Classis was declared constituted.
4. The following officers were appointed:
 - a. Chairman: Rev. J. Poppe
 - b. Vice Chairman: Dr. A.J. Pol
 - c. Clerk: Rev. P.H. Holtvliüwer.
5. Rev. Poppe thanked the Emmanuel American Reformed Church in Denver for the preparations involved in convening the classis. He mentioned that since the last classis the Denver congregation extended a call to candidate Ryan DeJonge, which was declined. He also wished the church at Denver the Lord's guidance and blessings in their continuing search for a pastor. Dr. A.J. Pol was also congratulated on receiving the degree of Doctor of Ministry since the last classis. The agenda was adopted after some adjustment.
6. There were no fraternal delegates.
7. The report from the Committee for Aid to Needy Churches was received and it was noted that due to an increase in membership in the church at Denver, less support is needed. The suggested amount for supporting the church at Denver (\$28 per communicant member) was approved. The Church for Auditing the books of the Committee for Aid to Needy Churches reported that the books were found to be in order. The amount recommended by the Committee for Students of Theology as per Art 20, C.O. (\$25 per communicant member), was approved. The Church for Auditing the books of the Committee for Students of Theology reported that the books were found to be in order. The Deputies for Contact with Neighbouring Classes and Presbyteries reported on their activities. A deputy represented the churches of classis at the OPC Presbytery meeting at Volga, South Dakota, September 23-24, 2008, and also attended the RCUS Northern Plains Classis, March 2-3, 2009, in Pierre, South Dakota. Attention was focused on home mission activity undertaken in Watertown, South Dakota, since the Redeemer Canadian Reformed Church in Winnipeg could benefit from how the work in Watertown is being undertaken. A letter of greetings was sent to Classis Central US, since the deputies were unable to attend several classes due to prior commitments and the long distance. Classis decided that if a deputy is not available to attend, at their recommendation someone else could be mandated to represent the churches of Classis Manitoba at such an assembly. Br. T. Beijes led in intercessory prayer for the churches with which we have fraternal relations.

The Church Visitors reported in closed session on their visit to the Emmanuel American Reformed Church at Denver on August 14, 2009. Br. R. Buist led in prayer for the church at Denver after this report.

8. The Grace Canadian Reformed Church submitted a proposal for amending the Regulations for Classis Manitoba. This led to amendments to Article 4.B.7 of the Regulations to ensure that fraternal delegates are invited to the Fall classis and otherwise to the Spring classis if they are unable to attend the Fall classis. The description of the role of the deputies for contact with neighbouring classes/presbyteries as formulated in several other articles of the Regulations was also fine-tuned.
9. Question Period according to Art. 44 C.O. was held. The Redeemer Church of Winnipeg requested advice and it was given in closed session.
10. There was no speech by a fraternal delegate since there were none present at this classis.
11. Correspondence: None.
12. Appointments.
 - a. The convening church for the next classis is the Grace Canadian Reformed Church in Winnipeg. The classis is scheduled to be held on December 4, 2009. Alternate date: March 26, 2010.
 - b. The suggested officers for the next classis are:
 - i. Chairman: Rev. R. den Hollander
 - ii. Vice-chairman: Rev. J. Poppe
 - iii. Clerk: Dr. A.J. Pol
 - c. Classis made various appointments. They include the following: br. H. Veldman continues as classis treasurer. The following brothers were chosen as delegates to the upcoming Regional Synod, November 3, 2009: Rev. den Hollander and Dr. A.J. Pol as primary delegates, and Rev. J. Poppe as alternate. The elders R. Buist and B. Raap were chosen as primary delegates, B. van Beek as 1st alternate and T. Veenendaal as 2nd alternate.
13. Personal question period was held.
14. No censure according to Art. 34 of the Church Order was necessary.
15. The Acts were adopted and the Press Release approved for publication.
16. The chairman requested that the brothers sing Psalm 84:3,4 and led in closing prayer.

For Classis Manitoba
September 25, 2009

A.J. Pol
Vice-chairman at that time.