

Press Release of Classis Manitoba convened in Carman East on December 10, 2010

On behalf of the Canadian Reformed Church of Carman East, brother Talbot Bergsma called the meeting to order. He requested that the brothers sing Psalm 108:1,2, read Hebrews 11:1-13, and led in prayer. He welcomed all present in the audience, in particular the grade 12 class from Dufferin Christian School. The credentials of the delegates were examined by the brothers from the Canadian Reformed Church of Carman East and reported to be in order. The delegates from the churches, the deputies of Regional Synod West, Rev. R. Aasman and Rev. W. Weilenga, and fraternal delegates from the Providence Reformed Church, Rev. R. Anjema and brother H. Nagtegaal, were introduced. Classis was declared constituted. The following officers were appointed: Chairman: Rev. R.J. den Hollander; Vice Chairman: Rev. J. Poppe; Clerk: Rev. A.J. Pol. The agenda was adopted.

The fraternal delegates were seated, and it was noted that they had privileges to speak, but not to vote. A letter from Classis Central US of the URCNA was read. Rev. D. Barnes, stated clerk of this classis extended greetings, and expressed the desire that the Lord sustain brother Kampen in his exam, and Classis in evaluating it.

Candidate Kampen was welcomed to come to the front. The deputies of Regional Synod and fraternal delegates were seated. At this Classis Candidate R. Kampen, who has accepted the call extended to him by the Emmanuel American Reformed Church of Denver, presented himself for a peremptory examination. Classis examined the documentation; all the documents were found to be in order. Candidate Kampen proceeded to read Luke 7:1-10, and to deliver his sermon proposal on this text. Classis deemed this sermon proposal sufficient to continue with the rest of the examination, and the deputies of regional synod gave their concurring advice. Candidate Kampen was informed, and the exam was continued.

Candidate Kampen was examined in exegesis Old Testament, exegesis New Testament, knowledge of the contents of Holy Scripture, doctrine and creeds, church history, ethics, church polity, and diaconiology. Classis went into closed session to evaluate the exam. It deemed the exam sufficient, and the deputies of regional synod concurred, opening the way for Candidate Ryan Kampen to be ordained as Minister of the Word. The chairman read from 1 Timothy 4, read the Form of Subscription, and Candidate Kampen was asked to sign it, indicating his willingness to preach and teach the Word of God as summarised in the Three Forms of Unity. We sang from Hy.64:1, and the chairman led in thanksgiving prayer. Classis adjourned and an opportunity was given to congratulate Candidate Kampen.

A report from the Committee for Students of Theology explained that it provided support for needy theological students from our classical district for the fall term (Sept.-Dec. 2010). According to Synod 2010's decision, the church of Grassie has taken over the task to provide for needy students of theology, with support beginning in January 2011. Classis adopted a mandate for the committee to be actively involved with the promotion of theological study for the ministry. Its goal is to encourage men in our classical district to consider studying for the ministry of the Word and sacraments.

In closed session, the church visitors reported on a visit to the Emmanuel American Reformed Church of Denver. The visitors' report was received with thankfulness, and prayer was offered for this church. An appeal was also dealt with in closed session. Question Period according to Art. 44 C.O. was held.

Brother H. Nagtegaal brought greetings from the Providence Reformed Church and expressed thankfulness for the unity between the Providence Reformed Church and the Canadian Reformed Churches. He spoke about Carman East's vacancy, and wished consistory and

congregation God's blessing during this time. He also rejoiced with Denver that they may receive a pastor and teacher in Candidate Ryan Kampen. Brother F. Dewit thanked the delegates from Providence Reformed Church for coming, expressing appreciation for good relations, and led in prayer for the United Reformed Churches of North America.

The following appointments were made. The convening church for the next classis is the Canadian Reformed Church of Carman West. The classis is scheduled to be held, the Lord willing on March 25, 2011. The suggested officers for the next classis are: Chairman: Rev. J. Poppe; Vice-chairman: Dr. A.J. Pol; Clerk: Rev. R.J den Hollander. Brothers R. Leach and C. Kamminga were appointed to serve on the Committee for Students of Theology. Rev. J. Poppe was appointed to represent Classis at the ordination of Candidate Ryan Kampen.

Personal question period was held. No censure according to Art. 34 of the Church Order was necessary. The Acts were adopted and the Press Release approved for publication. The chairman requested that the brothers sing from Psalm 100:3,4 and led in closing prayer.

For Classis Manitoba
December 10, 2010

J. Poppe
Vice-chairman at that time.