

Press Release of Classis Pacific West April 05, 2010

Opening by the convening church of Maranatha – Surrey: After welcoming the delegates, Pastor Ted Van Raalte read from Hebrews 11:1-16 and led in prayer. We sang Psalm 89:1. In memorabilia the church of Houston and its pastor, Rev. Alkema, were noted, in connection with the call to Albany, Western Australia, which he declined. From the neighbouring Classis, Rev. Schouten's health and Rev. Ijbema's return to active preaching were remembered.

The credentials were examined by the church of Smithers. All primi delegates were in attendance except for an alternate from the church of Houston.

The convening church declared that Classis was constituted. Rev. R. DeJonge was chosen as chairman, Rev. T. Van Raalte as vice-chairman, and Rev. H. Alkema as clerk.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

Classis received a report from its Committee for Theological Students and a proposal from the church of Cloverdale. Concurring with the committee and in light of the decision of the previous Classis, Classis decided to disband the committee and adjust the regulations of Classis accordingly. The remaining funds have been forwarded to the church of Grassie for the new federative committee. A letter of thanks will be sent to the committee, together with the request that they pass on their archives to the church of Smithers. The adjusted regulations will be sent by the clerk to the churches. The church of Langley was appointed to audit the committee's financial books before all the material is sent to Smithers.

In closed session an appeal was received by a br. and sr. in one of the churches. It was judged to be admissible. Classis sustained the appeal.

A report was received from the treasurer of Classis with thankfulness. The assessment for 2011 will be \$6 per communicant member. The financial books were audited by the church of Cloverdale and were found to be in good order. The treasurer was discharged from his duties for the year ended December 31, 2010. The church visitation coordinator advised Classis that the church visitations for 2009-2010 had been completed and that a new round for 2011-2012 would begin this year.

The churches stated that the ministry of the office bearers is being continued and that the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured. No church requested the judgment and help of classis for the proper government of their church.

The date for the next Classis was set for June 07, 2011, or, if that is not needed, September 13, 2011. Suggested officers for the next Classis are Rev. Van Raalte, chairman, Rev. Alkema, vice chairman, and Rev. Slaa, clerk. Appointments to committees were made, as well as churches for various duties. The Reverends Visscher, Slaa, Souman, and Lodder were re-appointed as church visitors. Br. Ken Bulthuis was appointed as the treasurer of Classis for 2011.

Several questions were asked in the personal question period, including an announcement that a church plant study group made up of men from the Cloverdale, Willoughby, Surrey, and Langley CanRCs, and the New Westminster URC has been meeting. They hope to present a proposal to all the CanRCs and URCs in the Fraser Valley to call a man for church planting work in the Greater Vancouver Area.

The chairman decided that censure according to article 34 of the Church Order was not necessary.

The clerk read the Acts and Classis adopted them. The press release was read and approved.

The chairman led in closing prayer.

Vice-chairman at that time, Ted Van Raalte.