

Press Release Classis Northern Ontario, June 24, 2011

The meeting was opened in a Christian manner. All the churches were properly represented. It was noted that this was the first time the newly instituted "Living Word" Church at Guelph sent delegates to a classis. This church has extended a call to candidate Ted VanSpronsen.

Reports on visits made to all the churches in the classis were read. It could be noted with thankfulness that in all the churches effort is made to live according to the Word of God and the adopted order.

One church requested and received advice in a matter of discipline.

The Living Word Church at Guelph requested that Rev. J. VanWoudenberg be appointed as counsellor. This was granted.

Classis dealt with an overture from the Maranatha Church at Fergus to remove the sentences from Article 38 of the Church Order which specify that as a rule the minister shall preside at meetings of consistory. Classis did not adopt the overture. The main ground was, "The expression "as a rule," by common usage is understood to mean, "generally, usually, normally, customarily, ordinarily, more often than not" (Oxford Thesaurus 1992). Therefore the expression in the Church Order ought to be understood as the normal practice to be followed. It allows for exceptions but not so that they develop into a permanent situation."

The Church at Elora was appointed to convene the next Classis on September 23, 2011.

Classis adopted the Acts and approved the Press Release. After singing and prayer, Classis was closed.

Rev. E. Kampen

Vice Chairman at that time.