

## Press Release of Classis Niagara, September 12, 2012

On behalf of the convening church of Dunnville, br Ed Feenstra called the meeting to order in a Christian manner. He duly welcomed all present, and mentioned that the church of Blue Bell could not be present at this assembly. The credentials were found to be in good order, and so classis was constituted.

Rev Huijgen as chairman mentioned the following items of news: the church of Dunnville was gladdened with Rev vanWoudenberg's accepting their call; he hopes to arrive around the turn of the year. The church of Grassie is now vacant with the departure of Rev vanDam, and the chairman wished the brothers of Grassie God's blessing. The Chairman mentioned too that Prof Geertsema's health has improved somewhat. The Seminary is doing well, with graduates from the Seminary scattered over the world – one being Rev Dethan who is currently vacationing in our land. He is present at classis, warmly welcomed, and granted the privilege of joining classis in advisory capacity.

After the adoption of the agenda, the chairman directed classis' attention to Article 44 of the Church Order. In response to the questions asked, advice was given to one church in an effort to assist the brothers to governing their congregation. On further matters: an appeal from a brother in the churches was declared inadmissible on the grounds that the substance of the appeal was not yet finalized by his consistory. The anticipated report of the inspection of the archives was not available.

Report of the classis treasurer was tabled covering the period Sept 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012. An assessment of \$2 per communicant member was suggested for the following year and agreed to. The audit of the treasurer's books was also presented, reporting that the books for the period covered were in good order.

The church responsible for the Fund for Needy Churches reports that no church has requested financial assistance for the coming year. This was noted.

Appointments were made as follows:

- Convening church for next classis is Grassie, Dec 12, 2012 (alternative date March 6, 2013)
- Suggested officers would be Chairman, Rev Wynia; Vice: Rev Holtvluwer; Clerk: Rev Huijgen
- Committees: all four ministers currently serving in Classis Niagara are appointed as church visitors, with Rev Bouwman as convenor.
- Examination organizers are Revs Holtvluwer and Huijgen.
- Delegated to the upcoming Regional Synod East were: Rev Bouwman & Holtvluwer, with alternates Wynia and Huijgen (in that order); also brs Al Schutten & Ken Jager, with alternates Carl Oosterhoff and Harold Olij (in that order).

At the conclusion of the meeting it was noted with gratitude that the work of the meeting could be done decently and in good order. The Acts and Press Release were read and approved, after which Rev Huijgen led in closing devotions.

For the Classis,  
Clarence Bouwman