

PRESS RELEASE CLASSIS CENTRAL ONTARIO
held on September 14, 2012 in Burlington

1. On behalf of the convening church at Flamborough Rev. J. DeGelder called the meeting to order. He read Psalm 131 and led in prayer. He then asked the brothers to sing Ps.139: 1,2,3. He welcomed the delegates.
2. The credentials were examined by the delegates of the convening church and found to be in good order.
3. Classis was then constituted. Officers were: Rev. G. Nederveen, chairman; Rev. J. DeGelder, vice-chairman; and Rev. J. L. VanPopta, clerk.
4. The following memorabilia were mentioned:
 - Rev. C. Kleyn was installed as missionary in Toronto and has in the meantime arrived in PNG.
 - Rev. H. Versteeg has been in Canada on furlough.
 - The chairman wished the church at Toronto God's blessing as they work on fulfilling the vacancy for a minister of the Word, after the recent retirement of Rev. W. den Hollander
5. The agenda was adopted, after adding a number of reports that were not listed on the provisional agenda.
6.
 - a. Reports were read of Church visitations to the churches of Burlington Ebenezer (April 30, 2012), Burlington Fellowship (May 10, 2012), Burlington Waterdown (May 7, 2012); Flamborough (May 7, 2012); Ottawa (May 25, 2012) and Toronto (May 3, 2012). Classis received these reports with thankfulness to the Lord for his many blessings in the churches in Classis Central Ontario, as reflected in the reports.
 - b. Classis received a report from the church of Burlington Fellowship on the inspection of the classical archives. The archives were found to be complete and in good order.
 - c. Classis received a report from the treasurer, br. H. Sloots. The treasurer recommended that the assessment be left at \$2,00 per communicant member. Assessment for Regional Synod East for 2013 is \$ 1,00 per communicant member. Classis adopted the recommendation and the churches will be assessed \$3.00 per communicant member. Appreciation was expressed for br. Sloots' many years of faithful service as treasurer.
 - d. Classis received a report from the Church of Burlington Waterdown indicating that the books of the treasurer have been inspected and found to be in good order.
 - e. Classis received a report from the Committee for Needy Churches. The Committee recommended that the assessment for 2013 be reduced from \$14.00 to \$7.00 per communicant member to support the church in Ottawa. A new committee member needs to be appointed since br. L. Kampen's term is expiring. Classis adopted the assessment with much gratitude for the increasing numerical and financial growth in the Ottawa congregation. The delegates from Ottawa expressed appreciation for the ongoing support of classis.
 - f. A report from the Church of Burlington Waterdown of the audit of the books of the Committee for Needy Churches had not been submitted and will be presented at the next classis.
The chairman led in prayer to give thanks and praise to the Lord for his rich blessings in the churches.

7. In the question period according to Art. 44 CO all the churches answered the first 2 questions in the affirmative and the 3rd question in the negative.
8. The church of Toronto requested pulpit supply in particular for the Sundays that the Lord's Supper is to be celebrated. Classis decided to provide pulpit supply for one Sunday per month beginning in January 2013.
9. Upon request of the church at Toronto Classis appointed Rev. W. den Hollander as counselor of the Bethel church in Toronto, according to art.45 CO.
10. In closed session Classis dealt with an appeal.
11. Classis made the following appointments:
 - a. Convening church for the next Classis, scheduled for December 14, 2012 (or March 8, 2013): the church at Ottawa. Suggested officers are: Rev. D. Vandenburgt, chairman; Rev. G. Nederveen, vice-chairman and Rev. J. DeGelder, clerk.
 - b. Committee of Examiners:
 - * Co-ordinators: W. den Hollander and G. Ph. vanPopta
 - * Exegesis OT: G. Nederveen
 - * Exegesis NT: J. L. vanPopta
 - * Knowledge of Scripture: J. L. vanPopta
 - * Doctrine and Creeds: J. DeGelder
 - * Church History: W. den Hollander.
 - * Ethics: D. Vandenburgt
 - * Church Polity: G. Nederveen
 - * Diaconiology: G. Ph. vanPopta
 - c. Church Visitors: J. DeGelder, W. den Hollander, G. Nederveen, J.L. vanPopta
 - d. Church for taking care of the Archives: Burlington Ebenezer
 - e. Church to inspect the Archives: Burlington Fellowship
 - f. Treasurer: Br. H. Sloots, alternate G. Nordeman
 - g. Church to audit the books of the Treasurer: Burlington Waterdown
 - h. Committee for Needy Churches: K. Baartman (2013), E. Jans (2014), L.J. Kampen (2015).
 - i. Church to audit the books of the Committee for Needy Churches: Burlington Waterdown.
 - j. Observer Free Church of Scotland: Rev. W. den Hollander.
 - k. Delegates to Regional Synod-East, scheduled for November 14, 2012:
 - elders: L. Jagt and L. Kampen
 - alternates: W. Horsman , A. Blokhuis and P. Broekema.
 - ministers: Rev DeGelder and Rev. Vandenburgt
 - alternates: None. If one of the two delegated ministers is not available, the first alternate of the elders will attend.
12. Question period was made use of.
13. Censure according to Art. 34 C.O. was not needed. The chairman expressed his appreciation for the brotherly cooperation and harmony.

14. The Acts were read and adopted, after which the Press Release was read and approved.

15. The chairman requested the singing of Hymn 6 and led in thanksgiving prayer.

He then closed Classis Central Ontario of September 14, 2012.

For Classis Central Ontario of September 14, 2012

Rev. J. DeGelder,

vice-chairman of that Classis.