

Press Release of Classis Ontario West on September 11, 2013

Representing the convening church of Chatham, Rev. David DeBoer welcomed delegates and guests and opened the meeting of classis with Scripture reading before inviting the assembly to sing an opening psalm of praise. Prior to leading in prayer, Rev. DeBoer recalled the following items of memorabilia: the sudden and tragic death of Rev. Al Korvemaker, pastor of the Bethel URC in Alymer, ON; the continuing vacancy of the Kerwood congregation; Hamilton-Cornerstone's call to Rev. Richard Wynia of the Vineyard Canadian Reformed Church in Lincoln, ON, to serve as co-pastor; the recent seminary convocation; and the ill health of Drs. DeJong and Gootjes and Prof. Geertsema.

Following the constitution of classis, Rev. DeBoer assumed the chair formally. Calvin Vanderlinde and Theo Wierenga, two recent seminary graduates, presented themselves for preparatory examinations and delivered sermon proposals on 1 Samuel 7:3-17 and 1 Samuel 2:1-10, respectively. Following examinations in Doctrine and Creeds, Old Testament exegesis, and New Testament exegesis, classis declared that Calvin Vanderlinde and Theo Wierenga are eligible for calls in the Canadian Reformed churches.

Reports from the classis treasurer and the Committee Administering the Fund for Needy Churches suggesting assessments per communicant member of \$3.00 and \$30.00, respectively, are adopted and an audit on classis finances is received with gratitude. The following individuals are appointed to serve as delegates for the upcoming Regional Synod: Revs. Wes Bredenhof and Rodney Vermeulen (alternates: Revs. Dave DeBoer and Reuben Bredenhof) and elders Art Witten and Ronn VanAndel (alternates: Bill Dokter and Stan Vanderveen)

The next classis will be held, the Lord willing, on December 11, 2013, location to be determined. Question period was utilized and the chairman ruled that fraternal censure per church order article 34 was not required and then invited the assembly to sing Psalm 93 and led in closing prayer.

For Classis Ontario West,

Rev. Bill DeJong, vice-chair