

## **Press Release of Classis Northern Ontario, convened by Guelph Living Word on September 19, 2013**

On behalf of the convening church Rev. Agema called the meeting to order and led us in opening devotions. We sang Hymn 41. The Scripture reading was taken from 1 John 1:1-4. In prayer Rev. Agema prayed for Rev. VanOene who had been admitted to hospital earlier in the week, the vacant churches in Classis, and regarding the calls received by brother Calvin Vanderlinde to Guelph Emmanuel and by brother Theo Wierenga to Fergus Maranatha. He welcomed Rev. D. Bylsma, a fraternal delegate from the Presbytery of Michigan/Ontario of the OPC.

All the churches were properly represented and classis was constituted. The agenda was adopted.

The regular reports dealing with the Archives, Church Visitations, the Classical Fund, and the Committee for Needy Churches were received. In response to the questions of Article 44 of the Church Order, all the churches indicated that the ministry of the office bearers was being continued and the decisions of major assemblies honoured. One of the churches requested the judgment and help of classis for the proper government of the church in a matter of discipline. In closed session, concurring advice was given.

The church at Orangeville was appointed as the convening church for the next classis, to be convened Dec. 20, 2013.

A letter of fraternal greetings written by Rev. B. Westerveld of the ERQ was read. Rev. Bylsma was given opportunity to address Classis. He brought greetings from the OPC and the Presbytery of Michigan/Ontario. He gave Classis some insight into the work going on in the Presbytery. The chairman thanked him for his greetings

The following were delegated to Regional Synod East, 2013:

Elders: K. Hutchinson, W. Wildeboer; alternates in order: J. Post, J. Jonker

Ministers: D. Agema, C. VanderVelde; alternates in order: J. Moesker and M. VanLuik.

Classis made a variety of appointments as specified by the classical regulations (e.g. Examiners, Church Visitors, and Committee for Appeals).

It was noted with thankfulness that censure was not necessary as the meeting was conducted in good harmony. The Acts were read and adopted and the Press Release was approved. After singing and prayer, Classis was closed.

On behalf of Classis, September 19, 2013

Rev. Peter Feenstra