

Classis Alberta of October 1, 2013 convened by Barrhead Canadian Reformed Church

On behalf of the convening church, the Church of Barrhead, Br. Marinus Helmus welcomed all to the meeting. He invited the assembly to sing from Psalm 71:1, 10. He read from Ephesians 4: 1-16 and then led in prayer.

The credentials were examined and found to be in good order. The classis was declared constituted.

The following memorabilia was noted: the impending retirement of Rev. W.B. Slomp, and the calls that Rev. D. Poppe has to the Churches of Bunbury and Southern River, Australia; the Church at Barrhead has extended a call to candidate Calvin VanderLinde; Dr. T. van Raalte was recently installed as professor at CRTS. The passing on of Rev. W.W.J. VanOene was also remembered, as well as the health concerns of Prof. J. Geertsema, Prof. J. DeJong and Prof. N.H. Gootjes.

The officers suggested by the previous classis took their respective positions: Rev. D. Poppe as Chairman; Rev. H. Kalkman as Vice-chairman, and Rev. R. Aasman as clerk. The agenda was adopted.

The following reports were received: 1) A report from the church at St. Albert for the inspection of the books of the treasurer. The books were found to be in good order. 2) In closed session reports for the church visits to the Churches of St. Albert, Taber, Coaldale and Neerlandia were given.

Rev. R. Pontier, fraternal delegate from the URCNA brought greetings and expressed thankfulness for the strengthening bond between the two federations. At this time the URC is in Phase 2 which is Ecclesiastical Fellowship with CanRC, OPC, RCUS, ERQ and PRCNA. Rev. W. B. Slomp responded in kind.

Question period according to Article 44 CO was held.

The upcoming retirement of Rev. W. B. Slomp effective Feb 1, 2014 is approved. Classis thanks Rev. W. B. Slomp for the work he has done in Classis Alberta as well as in his congregation. The sentiment was expressed that Rev. W. B. Slomp and his wife may enjoy their years of retirement. Rev. W. B. Slomp responded with some appropriate words, including that he is more than willing to serve Classis with any help that they might require. The chairman read Psalm 92:12-15.

A letter is received from deputies for Regional Synod West providing concurring advice to Classis supporting the proposed retirement of Rev. W. B. Slomp.

In light of the upcoming vacancy in the Church at Edmonton-Immanuel; Rev. W. B. Slomp is appointed as counsellor with Rev. R. Aasman as alternate. Starting after the time of retirement of Rev. W. B. Slomp pulpit supply will be given to both Barrhead and Immanuel once per month.

Rev. R. Aasman was appointed to represent Classis at the retirement of Rev. Slomp.

The date for the next classis is set for December 10, 2013 with March 11, 2014 as alternate date. The convening church is the Church at Calgary. Suggested Executive officers for the next classis are as follows: Rev. M. Jagt for Chairman; Rev. D. Poppe as Vice-chairman, and Rev. H. Kalkman as clerk.

Appointments are as follows:

- 1) Treasurer: J. Buitenbos
- 2) Church to audit the books of the treasurer: St. Albert
- 3) Church for care of the archives: Edmonton Providence
- 4) Church to inspect the archives: Edmonton Immanuel.
- 5) Church Visitors: Revs. R. Aasman, J. Louwerse (convenor), W. B. Slomp, H. Kalkman, M. Jagt, and D. Poppe.

Rev. A. B. Roukema is to take over from Rev. W. B. Slomp when he retires.

6) Committee for examiners: Rev. R. Aasman, Rev. W. B. Slomp

7) Examiners:

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| 1) Exegesis Old Testament | Rev. R. Aasman. |
| 2) Exegesis New Testament | Rev. J. Louwarse. |
| 3) Knowledge of Scripture | Rev. A. B. Roukema. |
| 4) Doctrine and creeds | Rev. W. B. Slomp. |
| 5) Church History | Rev. H. Kalkman. |
| 6) Ethics | Rev. D. Poppe. |
| 7) Church Polity | Rev. H. Kalkman. |
| 8) Diaconiology | Rev. M. Jagt. |

8) Committee for Financial Aid to Needy Churches: C. DeBoer, W. Noot, J. Vanderdeen.

9) Deputy for contact with the provincial government: Rev. E. J. Tiggelaar. He is requested to submit an annual written report each spring.

10) Appointment of Observer to RCUS: Rev. H. Kalkman, alternate Rev. D. Poppe

11) Appointment of Observer to URCNA: Rev. A. B. Roukema

12) Since there will be no Regional Synod this year, no delegates were chosen.

Question Period was made use of.

The chairman noted with thankfulness that brotherly censure was not necessary.

Acts and press release were read and adopted.

The chairman Rev. D. Poppe closed the meeting. He asked that Psalm 92: 1, 6, 7 be sung and then led the delegates in prayer.

For classis, Rev. H. Kalkman, Vice-chairman