

Press Release of the meeting of the churches in the region of Classis Niagara on SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 at the COVENANT CANADIAN REFORMED CHURCH – GRASSIE.

On behalf of the convening Church of Grassie, rev. R.J. DenHollander welcomes all and invites us to sing psalm 66: 1 and 7 and after that, reads Ephesians 3. He reflects on the passage for a brief moment. He leads us in prayer. There are no fraternal delegates. The credentials are in order and classis is constituted.

The following officers take their place. Chairman: Rev. C. Bouwman Clerk: Rev. D. Wynia Vice-Chairman: Rev. J. Huijgen. After this, the agenda is adopted. Memorable facts are that rev. DenHollander is present for the first time, rev Wynia declined a call to Coaldale and the convocation of the CRTS took place. Rev. DenHollander expresses his agreement with the Subscription Form and signs the form. He is welcomed in the Niagara classis.

In Question Period ad Art. 44 C.O. the chairman asked the pertinent questions, which are then answered. Three churches request advice in matters of discipline. Advice is given.

The church at Spring Creek tabled a Revised Fraternal Delegates Proposal. At a previous classis, a similar proposal was tabled but sent back for revision. After discussion, the proposal is adopted and reads as follows:

Classis Niagara of September 10, 2014 appoints two brothers to function as Deputies for Contact with Neighbouring Classes/Presbyteries of churches with whom we (as a federation) are in ecclesiastical fellowship or with whom we are seeking to develop fraternal contact. These men are to have experience in the office of elder (or minister), an aptitude for the work, and enough time available to allocate to this task.

The practical aspects will be incorporated in the classis regulations.

Under correspondence an Invitation to Classis Ontario-East of the United Reformed Churches of North America to convene D.V. on September 25, 2014 at Adoration URC (Vineland, On) is acted on.

Another invitation to a Joint meeting of the Presbytery of Michigan & Ontario of the OPC and Great Lakes Presbytery of the PCA to be held D.V. September 19 & 20, 2014 in Gowan, Michigan USA is received.

Regrets and greetings were conveyed by sister churches in the area, as well as the FRCNA.

Reports are received. Report of inspection of classical archives (Dunnville). Generally speaking, the archives are in order, some practical suggestions are made to simplify the archiving and retrieving. The audit report on the books of the classical treasurer (Grassie). The books are in order. The treasurer is discharged for the year audited. The treasurer proposes to keep the assessment the same at 2 dollars. This will be the assessment. The report on the Fund for Needy Churches (Smithville) reveals a surplus and no request for support. The assessment will be 0 dollars.

Appointments

- a. Convening church for next classis: the church of Lincoln
- b. Date of the next classis December 17, 2014 (alternate date March 11, 2015)
- c. Suggested officers for the next classis. R.J. DenHollander chairman, C. Bouwman clerk, D. Wynia vice-chairman.
- d. The committees for church visitation and the classical examination are reappointed.
- e. Delegates to Regional Synod East, D.V. November 12, 2014 (Toronto CanRC) Rev Bouwman and Wynia are delegated. The revs. Vanwoudenberg and Huijgen are alternate delegates in that order. The elders C. Feenstra and H. Olij are delegated. The elders H. VanderVelde and L. Kingma are delegated as alternate, in that order.
- f. The classical treasurer (D. VanAmerongen) is reappointed

- g. The appointment for the ecumenical deputies will be at the next classis. The churches are requested to suggest names for this committee.
- h. The delegate to the upcoming URCNA will be rev. Bouwman. The joint meeting of the OPC and PCA will receive a notice of regrets.

Personal question period is made used of. During censure according to Article 34, C. O. the chair observes with gratitude that censure is unnecessary.

The Acts are adopted as read, and the Press Release approved. The chairman requests the meeting to sing Hymn 61, and leads in prayer. The classis is closed.

Rev. J. Huijgen, clerk e.t.