

## Classis Niagara - Press Release of Classis Lincoln March 11, 2015

On behalf of the convening church, Rev. Dick Wynia welcomed the delegates and visitors, and led in opening devotions. He read II Timothy 1:3-14, requested that the delegates sing Hymn 51, and led in prayer.

The review of the credentials revealed that they were all in good order. Once the classis was declared constituted, the officers suggested by the previous classis took their places: Rev. Rolf DenHollander, chairman; Rev. Dick Wynia, vice-chairman; and Rev. Clarence Bouwman, clerk. Rev. DenHollander thanked the church of Lincoln for their work in convening the classis. Among the memorabilia, he drew classis' attention to sr. Dinie Huijgen's recent diagnosis with cancer, the flooding that took place in West Timor, and that the churches were prompt and generous in providing relief to the brothers and sisters there.

Rev. Norman VanEeden Petersman, minister of the Adoration United Reformed Church in Vineland, ON, addressed the classis on behalf of the United Reformed Churches in North America. Rev. Holtvluwer led in prayer for God's blessing on the URCNA, and on the relationship between our federations.

After the chairman asked the questions under Article 44 of the Church Order, the assembly dealt in closed session with requests from two churches for concurring advice in matters of church discipline. Rev. VanWoudenberg led the assembly in prayer for God's blessing on the work of discipline among the churches, and in particular, those churches which had presented requests for advice.

Classis decided to instruct the classical treasurer to distribute the funds remaining in the Fund for Needy Churches equitably to the churches of Classis Niagara.

In closed session, classis heard reports on church visits which were made to the churches of Attercliffe, Dunnville, Grassie, and Tintern. With thanks, it was noted that these reports indicated that these are all faithful congregations of the Lord Jesus Christ. Rev. Wynia led in prayer of thanksgiving, and seeking the Lord's continued blessing on the churches, through the work of the office bearers, and the decisions of the broader assemblies.

Classis appointed brs. B. Gritter and F. Ludwig to serve as Deputies for Fraternal Contact with Neighbouring Classes/Presbyteries.

According to the schedule, Smithville is appointed as the convening church for the next classis, scheduled for June 17, 2015, or alternatively, September 16, 2015. The suggested officers are Rev. Peter Holtvluwer, chairman, Rev. Clarence Bouwman, vice-chairman, and Rev. Rolf DenHollander, clerk. The newly appointed deputies for fraternal contact with neighbouring Classes/Presbyteries are appointed to serve as delegates to the upcoming meeting of Classis Niagara of the URCNA.

Question period was made use of.

The chairman indicated with thanks that the meeting was conducted in good harmony, and thus,

censure according to Article 34 CO was unnecessary.

The Acts and the Press Release were read and approved, and after we sang Hymn 46, the chairman led the body in prayer, giving thanks for the meeting, and bringing before the Lord the needs of the churches. The meeting was closed.

On behalf of Classis Lincoln March 11, 2015

Rev. D. Wynia, vice chairman at that time