

*Press Release of
Classis Niagara June 15, AD 2016*

Opening of classis

On behalf of the church at Attercliffe, Rev. J. Huijgen opened the meeting in a Christian manner. An examination of the credentials revealed that one church was found to be without. After promising to submit credentials to the church for the archives at a later date, the brothers were welcomed along with the delegates from all the other churches. Classis was declared constituted.

The following brothers formed the moderamen as per the suggestion of the previous classis: chairman – Rev. D. Wynia; vice-chairman – Rev. P.H. Holtvlüwer; clerk: Rev. J. VanWoudenberg. Some memorabilia was mentioned as follows: Rev. Huijgen's immanent departure to serve in the church at Coaldale and the pending vacancy in Attercliffe church; Candidate G. Veurink's recent decline of the call from the church in Smithville and their continuing need for a second pastor; the examination of several students for candidacy in a neighbouring classis; the recent health concerns of Dr. G.H. Visscher and his continuing recovery; the recent premature birth of son to Rev. R.J. Kampen and his wife and the resulting health concerns.

With some slight adjustments, the agenda was adopted as proposed.

Question period ad Article 44, C.O.

All the churches are continuing the ministry of the office-bearers as well as honouring the decisions of the broader assemblies. The church in Attercliffe requested and received supply for one service to administer the Lord's Supper. Rev. Holtvlüwer, as unofficial exchange coordinator, was asked to work this out with Attercliffe consistory. One church sought and received the concurring advice of classis in two situations of discipline.

Proposals

The church at Dunnville had submitted a proposal but unfortunately, due to an oversight, it had not yet been discussed by a number of local churches. Dunnville, as the convening church for the next classis, was instructed to send the proposal out to the churches for that time.

Correspondence

The church at Attercliffe requested and received the honourable release of their pastor Rev. J. Huijgen from all his classical duties.

Appointments

The church at Dunnville was appointed to convene the next classis on Sept 14, 2016 or, if cancelled, then Dec 14, 2016. Suggested officers for the next classis are Rev. C. Bouwman (chair); Rev. J. VanWoudenberg (vice-chair); Rev. D. Wynia (clerk).

Closing of Classis

During personal question period some reflective comments were made. The chairman declared that censure according to Article 34 CO was, thankfully, not necessary. The Acts and the Press Release were each read and approved by the assembly. Rev. Wynia, as chairman, expressed appreciation for the work of Rev. Huijgen among the area churches and wished him the blessing of the Lord in his new church in Coaldale. At the same time he wished the Lord's care and blessing over the church in Attercliffe. After leading in thanksgiving prayer, classis was declared closed.

For Classis Niagara June 15, 2016 - Rev. P.H. Holtvlüwer (clerk at that time)