

Press Release - Classis Ontario West, June 15 and 16, 2016

On behalf of the convening church at Glanbrook, Rev. R. Vermeulen welcomed the brothers and opened in the meeting in a Christian fashion. In his prayer, he remembered the work of the recently completed General Synod Dunnville, the six candidates presenting themselves for their preparatory exams, the work of the Theological Seminary and the needs of the current faculty, the health and families of the retired faculty, the continuing vacancies at Pilgrim and Providence Canadian Reformed churches, and the convening of the United Reformed Churches in North America's Synod. The delegates from the church at Glanbrook examined the credentials and found that all the churches were properly represented. Classis was declared constituted and the executive suggested by the previous Classis were invited to take their place. They were: Rev. J. Louwse as chairman, Rev. K.A. Kok as vice chairman, and Rev. J. Ludwig as clerk.

Brs. J. Chase, Wm. DenHollander, H. Jagersma, H. Lee, D. Pol, and J. Torenvliet presented themselves, with the proper documentation, for preparatory exams. Each of the brothers presented a sermon proposal, which was discussed in closed session. All of the sermon proposals were deemed sufficient to continue with the examinations. Each of the brothers was examined in Old Testament Exegesis, New Testament Exegesis, and Doctrine and Creeds. The examination of each brother was then discussed in closed session. Classis judged that all of the brothers sustained their examinations and, upon their promise not to teach, or preach anything contrary to Scripture as confessed in the Three Forms of Unity, they were, with thankfulness, declared eligible call.

An overture from Blessings Christian Church was discussed in closed session. After hearing the discussion, the delegates from Blessings Christian Church withdrew the overture to take it back to their consistory.

Brs. I. Borst and D. Winkel both requested that their permission to speak an edifying word would be extended. Classis extended this permission for a period of one year.

The church visits reports to all of the churches in the classical resort were discussed and received with thankfulness. The report of the classical treasurer and the report of the audit of the classical books were both received with thankfulness. The report of the inspection of the classical archives was received and certain suggestions about passing along material for the archives were discussed. Various classical appointments were made.

Personal question period was held. The preparing of the Acts and the Press Release was delegated to the executive. The chairman determined that nothing censurable was said, or done in the course of the meeting. He then closed the meeting in a Christian manner.

For the Classis.

Rev. K.A. Kok, Vice Chairman, e.t.