

Press Release of Classis of Northern Ontario, at Owen Sound, September 30, 2016.

Classis Northern Ontario was convened on September 30, 2016 in the Canadian Reformed Church at Owen Sound. Elder Henry Bosscher on behalf of the convening church of Owen Sound opened the meeting in a Christian manner. All the churches were properly represented and classis was constituted. Delegates of Regional synod, Rev. J. Ludwig and Rev. J. VanPopta were also welcomed. Rev. P. Feenstra served as Chairman of classis, Rev. M.H. VanLuik as Vice-chairman and Rev. D.G.J. Agema as Clerk.

Classis proceeded with the Peremptory Examination of br. Jonathan Chase at the request of the Church at Elora after finding that the necessary documents were in order. Br. Chase then presented his sermon proposal on 1 Kings 22:1-40. Classis determined that he had sustained his sermon proposal and that the examination could proceed. At the conclusion of the examination on other areas concerning ministerial work, Classis judges that br. Chase had sustained the exam. Br. Johnathan Chase signed the subscription form for Classis and the Chairman gave thanks in prayer. Classis then appobated the call by the church at Elora. Rev. Agema is appointed to represent Classis at his ordination on October 23.

During the course of the exam, Rev. B. Westerveld of the Reformed Churches of Quebec was given the opportunity to address Classis. He brought greetings from the churches in Quebec and expressed appreciation for the relations with the Canadian Reformed Churches as well as the financial support that is being given through the church at Owen Sound for the work done by Rev. P. Bedard.

Reports were given on church visits to the following churches: Fergus Maranatha, Fergus North, Grand Valley, Guelph Living Word, Orangeville and Owen Sound. The visits were received with thankfulness.

Reports were received from the church at Orangeville that that archives of Classis kept by Owen Sound were found to be in good order. A report was received from the treasurer with the recommendation that there be no assessment this year. An audit of the books of the Classical treasurer indicated the financial books were in good order. A report from the Needy Churches Committee indicated there were no needy churches in Classis and an audit of the books of this Committee indicated they were in good order.

The churches answered in the affirmative that the ministry of the office bearers is being continued and the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured (Art. 44 C.O.). No churches requested the advice of Classis.

The next Classis was scheduled for December 16, 2016, to be convened by the Church at Brampton.

Classis delegated to Regional Synod on November 9, as elder delegates the brothers Charles Groen and Brian Niezen and as alternates, brothers Archie Bax, and Jerry

Hutten. Rev. P. Feenstra, and Rev. E. kampen are appointed as minister delegates with Rev. M.H. VanLuik and Rev. R. Visscher as alternates.

The delegates from the Church at Brampton expressed thankfulness for the financial support that was received from the churches of Classis for the Urban Mission work in the Greater Toronto area. The churches at Brampton and Toronto will now, under the blessing of the Lord, proceed with this Mission work.

The chairman noted with thankfulness that the meeting could be conducted in brotherly harmony. After thanksgiving in prayer, the meeting was closed.

Rev. M.H. VanLuik

Vice chairman at that time.