

Classis Niagara - Press Release of Classis Grassie, December 14, 2016

On behalf of the convening church, Rev. Rolf DenHollander welcomed the delegates, and led in opening devotions. He read Isaiah 42:1-9, requested that the delegates sing Hymn 19:3,4. Among the memorabilia, Rev. DenHollander noted that we're in the midst of the festive season, that Rev. Peter Holtvluwer had declined the call extended to him by the Byford Free Reformed Church in Australia, that Attercliffe continues to be vacant following Rev. Rodney Vermeulen's decision to decline the call extended to him, that Smithville is waiting to hear br. Johan Brintjes' decision about the call the church has extended to him, that the seminary students are taking final examinations, and that Rev. Ryan Kampen desires to receive a call to serve in the ministry of the Word among the churches. Rev. DenHollander led us in prayer, remembering these matters before the Lord.

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 Grassie for their work in convening the classis, and he welcomed Rev. Ryan Kampen to the meeting.

After the agenda had been adopted, the chairman asked the delegates the questions under Article 44 of the Church Order, the assembly dealt in closed session with a request from one of the churches for concurring advice in a matter of church discipline.

Classis dealt with an overture from the Dunnville church, proposing certain stipulations regarding voting, for inclusion in the classical regulations. The overture had been presented to the previous classis, and revised by the Dunnville church. Following discussion, the overture was adopted.

According to the schedule, Lincoln is appointed as the convening church for the next classis, scheduled for March 8, 2017, or alternatively, June 14, 2017. The suggested officers are Rev. Peter Holtvluwer, chairman, Rev. Clarence Bouwman, vice-chairman, and Rev. Rolf DenHollander, clerk.

Question period was made use of.

The chairman indicated with thanks that the meeting was conducted in brotherly 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 9, 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 Grassie December 14, 2016

Rev. D. Wynia, vice chairman at that time