

Press Release of Classis Central Ontario, June 8, 2018

Classis Central Ontario was convened on June 8, 2018 in the Ebenezer Canadian Reformed Church at Burlington. On behalf of the convening church of Rehoboth, Burlington, Waterdown, Rev. Clarence VanderVelde opened the meeting with singing Hymn 52: 1,2, reading Eph. 4: 1-16, and prayer. All the churches were properly represented and the classis was constituted. Rev. Tony Roukema served as chairman, Br. Warner Reinink served as vice-chair and Rev. Jake Torenvliet served as clerk.

Rev. Anthony Roukema welcomed the Regional Synod Deputies. He noted that Rev. Ian Wildeboer received calls in this classis from Fellowship, Blessings and Brampton / Toronto.

Classis proceeded with the request for advice from Fellowship on the retirement of Rev John VanPopta. Classis and Regional Synod support the decision to grant early retirement, effective September 30, 2018, due to health issues. Ottawa, Jubilee will officially represent CCO at the retirement service held September 9, in the pm service. Words of thanks for the 25 years of service in the ministry were spoken by Rev. Dick Wynia, on behalf of Regional Synod. Rev. Tony Roukema spoke on behalf of CCO and Rev. John VanPopta took the opportunity to thank the delegates. Ps 67:1, 3 was sung and prayer was offered. Opportunity was taken by each delegate to personally thank Rev. John VanPopta.

Church Visitation Reports were given for the following churches: Ebenezer, Fellowship, Bethel, Rehoboth, Redemption, Jubilee and Blessings. These reports were received with thankfulness.

Questions were asked as per Article 44 of the C.O. Each of the churches answered in the affirmative indicating that the ministry of the office-bearers was being continued, that the decisions of the major assemblies were being adhered to. No churches required the advice of classis, except Fellowship church's request concerning Rev. John VanPopta's upcoming retirement.

Redemption, Flamborough will be the next convening church for classis. Classis will be held, Friday, September 7, 2018, in Ebenezer. Should the agenda be overly large, classis may need to be convened on the evening of Thursday September 6. The suggested officers are: Chairman: Rev. Jake Torenvliet, Vice Chair: Elder delegate from Redemption Flamborough, and Clerk: Rev. Bill DeJong.

Reports due next Classis: Inspection of the Archives, Inspection of the Treasurers Report, and the Inspection of the books for the Fund for Needy Churches.

Question Period was made use of.

The Acts of Classis were approved

Classis Central Ontario was closed with prayer and singing H 52: 4,5