

Press Release of Classis Alberta held October 8th, 2019 in Neerlandia CanRC

Rev. Veurink opened the meeting with the reading of Psalm 69 and the singing of Psalm 69: 10, 11.

In memorabilia the following matters were remembered and prayed for: the installation of Rev. K. Wieske and Rev. J. Ludwig to the churches of St. Albert and Neerlandia South respectively; Candidate Mark ten Haaf accepted a call to Edmonton Providence; Rev C. Vanderlinde declined a call to the Free Reformed Church of Legana, Australia; Rev. E.J. Tiggelaar continues to undergo eye treatment; the Canadian Reformed Seminary began a new year and celebrated its 50th anniversary.

The credentials were examined and reported to be in good order. All the delegates were welcomed. A word of welcome was also extended to the deputies of regional synod, Rev. J. Poppe and Rev. B. Wielenga, and to Candidate Mark ten Haaf and his wife Stephanie.

After declaring Classis constituted, the following executive was appointed: as chairman, Rev. T. Vandergaag; vice-chairman, Rev. S. van Leeuwen; clerk, Rev. C. Vanderlinde.

The agenda was adopted and Classis proceeded to the examination of Candidate Mark ten Haaf. After the documentation was found to be in good order and Candidate ten Haaf shared his motivation for entering the ministry, he presented his sermon proposal on Luke 22:39-46. Classis went into closed session and decided the sermon was sufficient to continue the examination and the deputies gave their concurring advice. With thankfulness, Brother ten Haaf was informed that the sermon was sufficient to proceed, and the examination continued covering a variety of other subjects necessary for the ministry. In closed session, Classis concluded that the exam was sufficient. After receiving the concurring advice of the deputies of regional synod, the call to Edmonton Providence was approbated. With joy the chairman informed Candidate ten Haaf that he had sustained the exam. After giving thanks, the subscription form was read and signed by Candidate Mark ten Haaf, and by the newly installed ministers, Rev. K. Wieske and Rev. J. Ludwig.

A report from the treasurer and a report regarding the inspection of the Classical books were received and discussed. Church visitor reports were presented according to article 46 of the Church Order for the following congregations: Neerlandia, Neerlandia-South, Taber, Coaldale, and Barrhead.

The chairman asked the questions regarding article 44 of the CO. Advice was given to the churches that requested advice pertaining to matters of church government and pastoral oversight.

The Immanuel Canadian Reformed Church at Edmonton requested advice regarding the institution of a new congregation in Devon. With thanksgiving, Classis encouraged the Immanuel congregation to proceed.

The Neerlandia South Canadian Reformed Church was appointed as the next convening Church for Classis to be held DV December 10th, 2019 with the alternate date set for March 10th, 2020.

Various Classical appointments were reviewed with some changes made.

Opportunities for questions was given and made use of.

With thankfulness brotherly censure was not needed.

The acts of Classis and the press release were read and adopted.

The Chairman asked to sing Hymn 83 after which the vice-chairman gave thanks and the meeting closed.

Submitted on behalf of Classis Alberta,

Rev. S. van Leeuwen