

Press Release of Classis Ontario West (Chatham), March 10, 2021 (meeting through Zoom)

On behalf of the convening church, Pastor Arjen Vreugdenhil welcomed the delegates. He opened with the reading of Acts 11:19-30 and the recital of the proposed hymn "How Shall They Hear the Word of God". In prayer, he remembered the needs within the classical region and the federation.

The credentials were examined and found to be in good order, and classis was declared constituted. The suggested officers from the last classis took their place: Pastor John Louwse as chairman, Pastor Arjen Vreugdenhil as vice-chairman, and Pastor Peter Holtvlüwer as clerk.

The chairman asked the questions in article 44 of the church order. All churches affirmed that the ministry of the office-bearers is being continued and the decisions of the major assemblies are being honored. Two churches made use of the opportunity to ask classis for advice regarding the proper government of the church.

A proposal was received from the Ancaster church to amend the regulations of Classis Ontario West concerning the examination of students. Instead of delivering a sermon proposal on the floor of classis, students will submit a video recording ahead of time. This proposal was adopted.

An overture was received from the Ancaster church to hold preparatory examinations in a student's home classis. This overture will be forwarded to Regional Synod East.

Upon his request, Candidate Chauncey Knegt was granted an extension of his eligibility for the ministry for another year.

With gratefulness, classis received a report from Ancaster concerning the Fund for Needy Churches.

Glanbrook is appointed as the convening church of the next classis, to take place on May 19 and June 2, 2021. The suggested officers are: Arjen Vreugdenhil as chairman, Peter Holtvlüwer as vice-chairman, and Ken Kok as clerk.

Question period was made use of. The chairman thanked the delegates for working together in a brotherly manner.

The acts were read and adopted, and the press release was read and approved. After reciting Psalm 48:4, the chairman, Pastor John Louwse, gave thanks in closing prayer.

On behalf of classis, Pastor Arjen Vreugdenhil (vice-chairman at the time)