

Press Release of Classis Alberta (Coaldale), convened Sept. 13, 2022.

The chairman of the convening church called the meeting to order and welcomed the special guests, the grade 9 class from Coaldale Christian School. He led the delegates in reading, singing, and prayer. The following matters were brought before God in prayer: Pastoral vacancies of the Barrhead and Devon congregations; G. Veurink declined calls extended to him and remains pastor in Neerlandia; new season of CRTS and the appointment of Dr. R. Bredenhof as professor; thankfulness that general synod was able to be convened in 2022.

The credentials were examined and reported to be in good order, and the classis was then constituted. The officers suggested by the previous classis were appointed: Rev. J. Ludwig as chairman, Rev. M. ten Haaf as vice-chairman, and Rev. J. VanSpronsen as clerk. The agenda was adopted after some discussion.

Classis dealt with the following reports: 1) report of treasurer (no report); classis appointed the church at St. Albert to propose refinements to the mandate of the treasurer and discussed the changes necessary to accommodate synodical decision regarding preparatory exams; 2) the audit of the treasurer's books was reported; and 3) the report from fraternal delegate to the URCNA was given.

The church of Devon requests the advice of classis on behalf of a member, ordained to the ministry of the Word in a non-sister church, who wishes to seek eligibility for call within the Canadian Reformed churches. Classis gave advice to Devon including the mentioning of precedents that have occurred, as well as the lawful steps that would be required, especially with respect to Art. 4 of the Church Order.

The reports from the church visitors were given in closed session. The church visits reported on were: Barrhead, Coaldale, Hope (Neerlandia), Neerlandia, St. Albert, and Taber.

The churches report per Art. 44 CO concerning the ministry of their office-bearers, the honoring of the decisions of major assemblies, and whether the judgment or advice of the classis were needed.

The Devon and Barrhead congregations request regular pulpit supply from the churches, and these requests are granted.

A case of church discipline was dealt with in closed session. Following discussion, classis gave concurring advice, and the brothers brought the matter before God in prayer.

An appeal is dealt with in closed session. The appeal was declared inadmissible, and the matter was brought before God in prayer.

Devon CanRC is to be the convening church for the next classis, to be convened Dec. 13, 2022, with the alternate date of March 14, 2023. The suggested officers are: Rev. G. Veurink as chairman, Rev. J. Ludwig as vice-chairman, and Rev. M. ten Haaf as clerk.

The appointments to the standing committees were made, and delegates to the next regional synod were appointed. Delegates are: Ministers: Revs. J. Ludwig and T. Vandergaag as primaries with Revs. G. Veurink and J. VanSpronsen as alternates. Elders: P. Dejong and E. Van Kammen as primaries, with H. Bosch and B. Van Beek as alternates.

Opportunity was given to the delegates to ask questions and for the practice of brotherly censure. The acts of classis was adopted and the press release was approved, and the meeting was closed in a Christian manner.

Rev. M. ten Haaf, vice-chairman extempore