

Press Release of Classis Pacific East – December 12, 2019

The chairman of the convening church of Chilliwack, br. Dennis Flokstra, called the meeting to order. He read 2 Tim. 2:1-13 and provided some devotional comments based on this passage. He requested the singing of Psalm 19:1-2 and then lead in prayer. He welcomed everyone and noted that the church of Vernon had not been able to send delegates due to winter weather conditions. A special welcome was given to Sardis which for the first time after its institution has sent delegates to a Classis. With thankfulness, it was noted that Rev. Calvin Vanderlinde has accepted the call extended to him by the church of Nooksack Valley.

The delegates of Aldergrove inspected the credentials of the delegates and found them to be in good order. Classis was declared constituted. The following were appointed as officers of Classis: Chairman: Rev. W. Wielenga; vice-chairman: Rev. R. Schouten; clerk: Rev. R. Schouten (due to the absence of delegates from Vernon).

A letter was received from the church of Sardis requesting that Rev. R. Schouten be appointed as its counsellor as per Article 45, Church Order). Classis decided to so appoint Rev. Schouten.

The Church visitors read reports regarding visits made to the churches of Chilliwack, Lynden, Nooksack Valley and Yarrow. b. The Committee for Needy Churches reported that it had not received any requests for financial aid during the last year.

As per Article 44 of the Church Order, the chairman asked the churches whether the ministry of the office-bearers is being maintained and whether the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured. All the churches responded in the affirmative. One church requested and received advice in a matter of Christian discipline.

Classical pulpit supply for vacant churches was granted as requested to Chilliwack (once per month), Nooksack Valley (once per two months) and Sardis (once per two months). Classis decided to approach the next Classis Pacific West with a request for help in pulpit supply for vacant churches.

The church of Lynden was appointed to convene the next Classis. The next Classis will be convened, the Lord willing on March 12, 2020 (alternate date is June 4). Suggested officers for the next classis are: Chairman from Aldergrove, Vice-chairman from Vernon and clerk from Nooksack Valley.

Question period was held. Censure according to Article 34 of the Church Order was deemed unnecessary. The *Acts of Classis* were read and adopted. The Press Release was approved. The chairman requested the singing of Hymn 61:2 after which he offered prayer and thanksgiving to God. The meeting was closed. R. Schouten, clerk of the Dec. 12, 2019 Classis Pacific East.