



CLASSIS HURON
of the Christian Reformed Church in North America
www.classishuron.ca

AGENDA

May 24, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

Vanastra Community Christian Reformed Church

Vanastra, Ontario

The PURPOSE of Classis Huron

We will foster the Kingdom through shared resources toward spiritual renewal

The VISION of Classis Huron

The congregations, ministries, missional communities and people of Classis Huron will surrender to the work of the Spirit of Mission of Jesus, to embody the Kingdom of God. Recognizing the urgency of the times, we stand on the foundation laid for us by previous generations and step forward in the same faith we have been taught.

Index of Agenda Items and the day's schedule

TIMELINE	REPORT NUMBER AND NAME	REPORTER	Page
9:00 a.m.	Welcome, announcements	Vanastra CRC	
	Constituting Classis: Report of the Credentials Committee		
9:05 a.m.	Opening of Classis: Officers take their seats Chair: Rev. John Medendorp Vice Chair: Rev. Paul Droogers Comments from Chair		
9:10 a.m.	Opening Devotions	Rev. Paul DeWeerd	
9:30 a.m.	Classis Huron Home Missions Committee Presentation	CHHMC	
10:30 a.m.	REFRESHMENT BREAK		
10:45 a.m.	Board of Trustees/Council of Delegates Report	Rev. Darrell Bierman	
11:15 a.m.	Home/World Missions, New Mission Agency Report	Rev. Carel Geleynse	
11:45 a.m.	Diaconal Ministry Report/World Renew	Kathleen Lauder	
12:15 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK [Credentials Committee Meets]		
1:00 p.m.	Credentials Committee Report	Blyth/Clinton CRC	
1:15 p.m.	Faith Formation Presentation	Rev. Lesli Van Milligen	
2:15 p.m.	"Dialogue" ... <i>Growing the Church in a Post-Christian World</i>	Rev. Stephen Tamming Rev. Ralph Wigboldus	
3:15 p.m.	REFRESHMENT BREAK		
3:30 p.m.	Youth Ministry Report	Amy Baarda	
3:40 p.m.	CMC/AdCom/Stated Clerk Reports	Rev. Stephen Tamming	
4:00 p.m.	Treasurer's Report/ 2016 Audited Statements	John Bell	
4:10 p.m.	Safe Church Report	Atie Ott	
4:20 p.m.	<i>The Bridge</i> Fergus	Rev. John Vanderstoep	
.	Adjournment		
Reports	• World Renew	Report attached	

1. Constituting Classis

Call to Order, welcome by host church
 Credentials Committee reports on attendance.
 Classis is declared constituted.

2. Devotion for the Day

Opening: Vanastra Community
 Pre-Lunch – Exeter CRC
 Pre-Afternoon Session – Lucknow CRC
 Pre-Supper – Chair

3. Committees of the Day

Overture Committee: Owen Sound/Collingwood
 Credentials Committee: Blyth/Clinton
 Balloting Committee: Vanastra

4. Opening

5. Classis Huron Home Missions Committee Presentation CHHMC

6. REFRESHMENT BREAK

7. **Board of Trustees/Council of Delegates Report** Rev. Darrell Bierman
8. **Home/World Missions, New Mission Agency Report** Rev. Carel Geleynse
9. **Diaconal Ministry Report/World Renew** Kathleen Lauder
10. **LUNCH BREAK**
11. **Credentials Committee Report**
12. **Faith Formation Presentation** Rev. Lesli Van Milligen
13. **Dialogue: *Growing the Church in a Post-Christian World***
Rev. Stephen Taming and Rev. Ralph Wigboldus
14. **REFRESHMENT BREAK**
15. **Youth Ministry Report** Amy Baarda
16. **CMC/AdCom/Stated Clerk Report**

16.1 CMC Report

The Classis Ministry Committee consists of representatives of all ministries/committees within Classis: Chair, Rev. Stephen Tamming; Vice-chair, Rev. Vicki Verhulst Cok, Member at Large: Rev. Martin Dam; Classis Ministry Leadership Team, Rev. Brian Bork; Home Missions Committee, Rev. Henry Steenbergen; Safe Church Committee, Atie Ott; Huron Campus Ministry (Guelph), Rev. David Tigchelaar; Diaconal Ministries, Mary Blydorp: Huron Campus Ministry (Waterloo), Rev. John Medendorp; Youth Ministry, Amy Baarda; Treasurer John Bell, ex-officio, and Stated Clerk, Rev. Vic Vandermolen, ex officio.

CMC continues to support and encourage the various committees and ministries that are part of Classis, and shares the following information:

1. Andrew Nunn has resigned his position as Commissioned Pastor at Bethel CRC, Acton. By becoming part of the polity and practice of Forward Baptist Church in Cambridge, and the denomination it is part of, his status as Commissioned Pastor in Bethel CRC has come to an end.
2. CMC is reviewing the current procedure for obtaining a license to exhort. It is intended that the current format for examination re practica and theology will remain in place, but ask candidates to preach a sermon in a regular church service setting and having that service critiqued by appointed evaluators. This would be similar to the process for those seeking ordination. Changes to current rules of procedure in this area are also being considered. Classis will be asked for its approval once the review is concluded.
3. In response to an issue raised at the February 2017 Classis meeting, a short survey was recently sent to all churches re holding Classis meetings on a Saturday. Classis will be advised of results of this survey at the May 24 meeting.
4. CMC is reviewing the Classis Huron web site, and considering how best to update and reformat its current structure. Classis will be kept informed of progress and decisions.
5. Clarence Louter, a longtime member of the Finance Resources Team has resigned this position [*Thank you Clarence!*]. A new member for the Committee is being sought.
6. Ralph Bakker of Palmerston has resigned his position as Auditor for Classis. Jacinda Reitsma of Waterloo has agreed to take on that position.

In addition to these clerical issues, CMC submits the following recommendations for Classis' approval:

- A. Seeking to make the selection of delegates to Synod a more streamlined process, and easier to

administer, CMC recommends that Classis replace the process it approved at the February 2016 meeting by the following:

- i] That Classis Huron annually send two Minister delegates and one Elder Delegate and one Deacon Delegate to Synod as its delegates.
 - ii] That the two ministers receiving the most votes be declared Synod Delegates, with the minister receiving the highest number of votes being designated as the 'Minister Delegate' and the Minister receiving the second highest number of votes being designated as the 'Fourth Delegate'.
 - iii] That the Minister receiving the third highest number of votes be designated as the 'Alternate Minister Delegate' and the Minister receiving the fourth highest number of votes be designated as the 'Alternate Fourth Delegate'
 - iii] That the Elder delegate and his/her alternate be selected by vote from a list of approved elder nominees presented to Classis for delegation to synod, with the 'alternate elder delegate' being the person receiving the second highest number of votes.
 - iv] That the Deacon delegate and his/her alternate be selected by vote from a list of approved deacon nominees presented to Classis Huron for delegation to synod, with the 'alternate deacon delegate' being the person receiving the second highest number of votes.
- B] That in light of the number of persons already licensed to exhort within Classis Huron, Classis not accept any further requests for licensure to preach until May 2018.

16.2 Administrative Committee (AdCom)

The Administrative Committee of Classis (AdCom) works on behalf of classis between meetings. AdCom consists of Rev. Stephen Tamming, [chair], Rev. Vicki Verhulst Cok [vice-chair], Rev. Martin Dam, [Member] and Stated Clerk Rev. Vic Vandermolen, ex-officio. Since the last meeting of classis, AdCom has met to respond to issues raised at the last meeting of Classis, and also to address a number of new matters, which have subsequently been referred to CMC and are addressed above.

16.3 Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk serves as secretary of Classis Huron, its Classis Ministry Committee [CMC], and Administrative Committee (AdCom). The Clerk continues to respond to ongoing requests for information and direction from individual members, church leadership, classis committees, and denominational offices. Since February 2017 to the time of writing this report, the Clerk has:

- dealt with/responded to some 73 telephone conversations and requests for information.
- dealt with/responded to some 610 email messages and requests for information from Denominational agencies, Classis Huron churches, Classis Huron members, and more.
- participated in a video conference call with Canadian Ministries Director Rev. Darren Roorda, and other Canadian Stated Clerks.
- attended, prepared agendas for, wrote minutes for, and did follow-up work and correspondence for two AdCom meetings, one CMC meeting, and one Classis meeting: this is in addition to meetings and conversations with CRCNA/pastors/members and others re various issues dealing with matters relative to Classis and its member churches.
- prepared a summary of the February 2017 Classis meeting, and forwarded same to all Classis Huron churches.
- on behalf of Denominational agencies, para-church organizations, and others, forwarded numerous announcements and other information, to Classis Huron churches, on a regular basis.
- filed minutes and agendas of Classis meetings with both CRCNA Canada and the Denominational offices, and forwarded these to Classis Huron churches also.
- with the assistance of the Alternate Stated Clerk continued to develop the agenda, determine and contact speakers, and attendant information, for the Classis Huron Administrators' Day scheduled for November 1, 2017 at Bethel CRC in Listowel
- responded to numerous written and verbal request for opportunities to address Classis at this meeting, and upcoming meetings.
- prepared the agenda and attachments for Classis May 24, 2017

17. Treasurers Report: 2016 Audited Financial Statements [attached]

18. Safe Church Report Atie Ott

19. The Bridge Fergus Rev. John Vanderstoep

20. Closing/Adjournment

Future Classis Meetings

DATE	LOCATION	REPORTS DUE	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR
May 24, 2017	Vanastra	April 5, 2017	John Medendorp	Paul Droogers
Sept. 20, 2017	Maitland River Wingham	August 10, 2017	Paul Droogers	Gary Van Leeuwen
Feb. 14, 2018	Palmerston	January 10, 2017	Gary Van Leeuwen	Amanda Bakale
May 16, 2018	Cambridge Mar.	April 4, 2017	Amanda Bakale	Ralph Wigboldus
September 19 2018	Community CRC Kitchener	August 15, 2018	Ralph Wigboldus	
February 20, 2019		January 9, 2019		
May 15, 2019	Clinton CRC	April 3, 2019		

Delegates are reminded that you are expected to stay for the entire meeting. .If you must leave before adjournment, please consult with the chair of the day. The Classical Rules of Procedure state: "While Classis is in session, it is not permissible for any member to withdraw or to return homeward without consent of the chair."

NOTE: Please remember to pray for Synod 2017 as it convenes at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois, from Friday, June 9th at 8:30 AM thru Thursday June 15th at 12:00 PM.