



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

MINUTES

Classis Meeting of September 17, 2014

Bethel Christian Reformed Church
345 Elizabeth St. East

Listowel

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.

Delegates to Classis

	Minister	Elder	Elder
Acton	Rev. Ray Vander Kooij	Ken Kamminga	
Blyth	Rev. Gary Van Leeuwen	Bert Reinhart	
Cambridge – Maranatha		Jason Dykstra	Mark Koiter
Cambridge – River City	Rev. Darrell Bierman	Chris Hutton	
Clinton		Ralph de Weerd	Alf Dykstra
Collingwood		Rev. Harry Bierman	Pieter de Groot
Drayton		Markus Frei	Jack Scholten
Exeter		Rick Branderhorst	Leo Weverink
Goderich	Rev. Stephen Tamming	Peter Bos	
Guelph – New Life		Eve Mazereeuw	Jamie Vanderberg
Guelph – First		Elly Skarratt	Lyn Marfisi
Guelph – Campus	Chaplain Jamie Vandenberg		
Kitchener – Community	Rev. Carel Geleynse	Phil Scheidel	
Kitchener – The Journey	Rev. Andrew Zantingh		
Listowel	Rev. Ralph Wigboldus	Bill Elisen	
Lucknow	Rev. Ken de Boer	Stuart VanderVaart	
Orangeville	Rev. Andrew Vis	Jan Scheurwater	
Owen Sound	Rev. Harry Zantingh	Marinus Noordermeer	
Palmerston	Rev. Andrew de Gelder	Marte Pronk	
Stratford	Rev. Martin Dam	Gene Veening	
Vanastra		John de Weerd	Leo Greidanus
Waterloo	Rev. Vicki Cok	Rev. Ron Fisher	
Waterloo – Campus	Rev. Brian Bork		
Wingham		Murray Ritsema	Doug Kuyvenhoven

Rev. Ralph Wigboldus of Bethel CRC, Listowel, welcomed delegates.
 Rev. Andrew Vis reported on attendance on behalf Credentials Committee.
 Classis is declared constituted.

Officers of the Day

Chair: Rev. David Tigchelaar
 Vice- Chair: Rev. Gary Van Leeuwen
 Stated Clerk: Rev. Vic Vandermolen

1. Opening Devotions

Steve Vogel of Bethel CRC, Listowel, led in devotions with a message based on Matthew 28:16-20, which was also part of his examination for Licensure to Exhort. After the devotional Steve was examined as per the Rules of Classis Huron regarding his knowledge of Scripture, Reformed doctrine, practica, and ability to exhort.

The Chair declared 'executive session' as the delegates reflected on the examination and responses to the questions [see Executive Committee minutes]. After the ballot vote was completed 'executive session' was declared ended The Chair advised Steve that Classis had granted him licensure to exhort in Classis Huron, and prayed that God would bless him in this new endeavor.

2. Classis Ministry Committee

CMC Chair Rev. Ralph Wigboldus reported on the work of both AdCom and CMC, as well as the Stated Clerk. Noted that there will be a discussion on "*Discipline as Healing*" at the Feb. 2015 meeting, with Rev. Jack Vos leading that discussion. CMC approved the addition of Luke Pucklicz [Stratford CRC] as a new member of the Youth Ministry Team. CMC gave final approval of the position description for representatives on the Safe Church Team. CMC determined that where there are two ordained pastors in one Congregation, the 'church' will be asked to respond to pulpit supply assignments, and the pastors may decide who will fulfill the assignment. A number of requests were approved [from BTGMI, Committee for Pastoral Guidance Re Same-Sex Marriages, Redeemer College University, Salaam Project] to address Classis at future meetings. CMC was advised that work is being done in seeking to register Classis Huron as a charity. Treasurer John Bell presented the 2015 Budget and answered a number of questions regarding it. Classis considered a number of recommendations from CMC.

Moved and seconded that Classis appoint Dr. Hazel Lynn of Owen Sound as its representative on the Redeemer Board. CARRIED

Moved and seconded that the proposed 2015 Budget be approved as presented. CARRIED

Moved and seconded that Classis approve an increase in the Clerk's stipend from \$5,000 to \$8,000 annually, effective January 1, 2015. CARRIED

Moved and seconded that Classis proceed with the steps needed to incorporate Classis Huron as a Charity. CARRIED

Moved and seconded that the work of CMC, AdCom and the Stated Clerk be approved. CARRIED

3. Campus Ministry

Chaplain Jamie Vanderberg reported on activities at Guelph University Campus, sharing with delegates both the challenges and joys of this ministry.

4. Special Guests

Delegates heard from Rev. Jeff Klingenberg, Classis' regional representative to Calvin Theological Seminary, and also from Seminary President Dr. Jul Medenblik, as he shared some of his personal history and faith journey, as well as an overview of CTS current activity. He thanked Classis for its support, and asked for both continued prayer and financial support, as the Seminary responds to its students, and the Churches.

LUNCH BREAK

5. Campus Ministry

Rev. Brian Bork referred to his report as circulated with the Agenda and shared with delegates both some of the high points and also some of the challenges that are part of his ministry at Waterloo University. Bill Los, chair of the Waterloo Campus Ministry Committee shared with delegates about the comprehensive review the ministry had recently undergone, and how helpful this had been in both reflecting on the past, as well as focusing on the future, of Waterloo Campus Ministry.

6. Ordination Exam of Amanda Bakale

Candidate Amanda Bakale of Waterloo CRC was examined for ordination as a Minister of the Word, openly sharing her faith and knowledge. The Chair declared 'executive session' as the delegates reflected on the examination and responses to the questions [see Executive Committee minutes]. After the ballot vote was completed, 'executive session' was declared ended. With the concurrence of the Synodical Deputies, Classis joyfully declared that she had sustained the exam, and declared her eligible for call.

7. Nominating Committee

Classis approved the addition of new members to the Safe Church Committee, and appointed the following to the Committee: Catherine Brown of Lucknow; Tom de Vries of Drayton; Harm Garritsma of Exeter; Joanne Hunse of Guelph New Life.

It was moved and seconded that Rev. Ray Vander Kooij be appointed to the Board of Guelph Huron Campus Ministry. CARRIED

8. Safe Church

Classis was updated re the work of the Safe Church Committee and was advised that brochures and other information is available to assist churches in making churches 'safe'. Representatives of the Safe Church Team are available to speak at Classis Huron churches.

10 Home Missions Committee

Classis received a brief update on the Home Missions Committee activities re a new Church plant in Classis, potentially in the Fergus area. Home Missions is seeking a partner-support church, and also a new church planter.

10 Credentials Committee

On behalf of the Credentials Committee, Rev. Andrew Vis reported regarding three issues raised on the credentials forms.

- **Maranatha CRC** [Cambridge] asked that Rev. Vic Vandermolen be appointed as their Church Counselor. **Moved and seconded to approve this request. CARRIED**
- **Collingwood CRC** asked permission to begin the calling process for a new pastor. The Chair ruled that this would be addressed through the Church Counselor report.
- **Drayton CRC** asked about the 'evening service' survey results; the Clerk indicated that only a few responses had been received and that the survey would be sent out again. Drayton also asked for an indication when a 'church plant' was no longer considered as such, and instead considered to be an 'organized church'. This was referred to the Home Missions Committee. Drayton shared that Rev. Paul Droogers had accepted a call to be their new pastor, and would be installed on October 1, 2014 at 7:30PM.

11 Church Counselors Reports

Collingwood: Rev. Harry Zantingh reported that Collingwood was ready to begin the calling process for a new pastor. In keeping with the decision of Classis May 2013, **Classis moved and seconded that Collingwood be approved to take this next step. CARRIED**

Drayton: Rev. Andrew de Gelder reported that Rev. Paul Droogers had accepted a call to Drayton and that the installation service is on Wednesday, October 1, 2014, at 7:30PM

Exeter: The Stated Clerk reported that Rev. Kevin te Brake had accepted a call to Exeter and that information re the installation service would be forwarded when this had been finalized.

Stratford: Rev. Carel Geleynse reported that Rev. Martin Dam had accepted a call to Stratford and that the installation service had been held on September 14, 2014.

Vanastra: Rev. Gary Van Leeuwen reported that the calling process was ongoing and that Candidate Paul de Weerd was acting as an Interim Pastor until December 2014.

Maranatha [Cambridge]: no report

12. Former Treasurer Bert Fluit

Rev. Harry Bierman shared with the delegates that Bert Fluit, longtime Treasurer of Classis Huron had recently passed away and asked delegates to remember that family in prayer.

13. Closing

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned. He closed the meeting by sharing a passage from Philippians 1 and leading in prayer.

The next meeting of Classis will be on February 11, 2015 at the Palmerston CRC.

14. Future Classis Meetings

DATE	PLACE	REPORTS DUE	CHAIR	VICE-CHAIR
Feb 11, 2015	Palmerston	January 9, 2015	Gary Van Leeuwen	Henry Steenbergen
May 13, 2015	Waterloo	April 10, 2015	Henry Steenbergen	