



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

AGENDA

September 19, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.

First Christian Reformed Church
201 – 4th Ave. W.

[NOTE CONSTRUCTION: CONSULT E-MAIL DIRECTIONS]

Owen Sound

The PURPOSE of Classis Huron

To support, equip and encourage our churches in the ministries as God has called us.

The VISION of Classis Huron

The churches of Classis Huron will foster deeper relationships with the Lord and each other through community and accountability as we support, encourage and equip one another to reach the lost, gather those made alive in Jesus Christ, and disciple all his people, through the ministries of individual churches and the joint ministries of Classis.

Each classis meeting has a specific focus: VHS – Visioning (January), Huddle with Family of Churches (May), Skill development (September).

1. Index of Agenda Items and the day's schedule

Timeline	Report No.	Reporter	Page
9 a.m.	Constituting Classis: Report of the Credentials Committee		
9:05 a.m.	Opening devotions		
9:30 a.m.	Opening of Classis: Officers take their seats, opening comments by chair, committees for the day, devotions for the day.		
9:40 a.m.	<i>Church Growth, Kingdom Growth: Continuing the Conversation</i>	Rev. John Vanderstoep	
10:10 a.m.	Synod delegates report	Rev. Harry Frielink, Rev. Ray Vanderkooij, Jamie Vandenberg, Janet Ryzebol	
	Re:Kindle Young Adult Conference report	Jamie Vanderberg	
10:45 a.m.	Break		
11 a.m.	Ministry Fair speakers: Mark VanderVennen (Shalem Mental Health Association) Hans Kater (Diaconal Ministries Canada) Gerald and Jackie Hogeterp (World Missions regional mobilizers)		
11:45 a.m.	Dr. Hubert Krygsman, Redeemer University College	Dr. Hubert Krygsman	9
12 noon	Lunch Credentials Committee meets		
1 p.m.	Delegates visit Ministry Fair displays		
1:30 p.m.	8.1 Examination of Andrew Nunn, Bethel (Acton) CRC's Commissioned Pastor	Rev. Andrew de Gelder (biblical/theological) Rev. John Vanderstoep (practica)	
2:15 p.m.	9. Classis Home Missions Committee	Rev. John Vanderstoep	3
2:25 p.m.	10. Financial Resources Team report Proposed 2013 Budget (addendum)	Clarence Louter Cindy Tamming	4 12
3 p.m.	11.1 Classis Ministry Committee	Rev. Ralph Wigboldus	5
	11.2 Administrative Committee (AdCom)	Rev. Ralph Wigboldus	5
	11.3 Stated Clerk	Rev. Ralph Wigboldus	6
3:20 p.m.	Credentials Committee reports		
3:30 p.m.	Coffee Break		
3:45 p.m.	12. Campus Ministry -- Waterloo	Rev. Brian Bork	6
	Nominations Committee: Clergy nominations for Back To God Ministries?		
4 p.m.	13. Diaconal Ministries report	Information	8
	14.Reports		
	14.1 Redeemer University College	Information	9
	14.2 Calvin Theological Seminary BOT	Information	10
4:30 p.m.	Church Counselors: Oral reports Blyth CRC – Rev. Ron Luchies Stratford – Rev. Carel Geleynse Maitland – Rev. Harry Frielink		
	15. Future Classis meeting dates	Stated Clerk	11
5 p.m.	SUPPER		

2. Constituting Classis

Call to Order, welcome.
Credentials Committee report on attendance.
Classis is declared constituted.

3. Devotions for the Day

Opening – AdCom
Pre-lunch – Palmerston
Post –lunch – Exeter
Pre-supper – Chair

4. Officers of Classis

Chair: Rev. Tom Van Milligen
Vice chair: Rev. Ralph Wigboldus
Stated Clerk: Keith Knight

5. Special guests

Dr. Hubert Krygsman, president, Redeemer University College
Ministry Associate candidate Andrew Nunn

Ministry Fair speakers:
Mark VanderVeenen, Shalem Mental Health Network
Hans Kater, Diaconal Ministries Canada
Gerald and Jackie Hogeterp, World Missions regional mobilizers

6. Committees for the Day

Credentials Committee – Collingwood and Goderich
Balloting Committee – Owen Sound and Guests
Overtures Committee – Kitchener and Waterloo

7. *Church Growth, Kingdom Growth: Classis Huron – The Bigger Picture*

8. Commissioned Pastors

8.1 Examination of Andrew Nunn, Commissioned Pastor (formerly Ministry Associate)

Classis Huron, at its meeting on May 9, 2012 agreed that the position of Ministry Associate (Synod has changed the designation to Commissioned Pastor) at Bethel (Acton) CRC fits the guidelines adopted by Synod 2001. The synodical deputies from classes Hamilton, Chatham and Toronto concurred.

Classis further decided that Andrew Nunn will be examined at the September meeting to fill the position of Commissioned Pastor.

Since Andrew Nunn will not be involved in preaching at Bethel CRC, he is not required to prepare and preach a sermon, and classis is not required to critique a sermon.

Andrew Nunn will be examined for his knowledge of Scripture, knowledge of Reformed doctrine, knowledge of the standards of the church and the Church Order, and practical matters regarding Christian testimony, walk of life, relationships with others, love for the church, approach to ministry, and promotion of Christ's kingdom.

Rev. Andrew de Gelder will examine him in biblical/ theological matters and Rev. John Vanderstoep will examine him in practical matters.

MOTION: That Classis Huron approve Andrew Nunn as Commissioned Pastor at Bethel (Acton) CRC.

8.2 Extend the term of Rick DeGraaf as Commissioned Pastor with CRWRC, serving in Cambodia.

MOTION: That Classis Huron extend Rick DeGraaf's term as Commissioned Pastor with CRWRC until his term ends.

9. Home Missions Committee

Over the past year the committee has seen Janet Ryzebol and Marguerite Ridder complete their terms, and has received John Zwart of Drayton and Rev. Andrew De Gelder from Palmerston in their place.

We have surveyed churches in Classis as to their situations with respect to mission activity in their communities, and how Classis could be of help. We are following up with those congregations that asked for input. We are working toward a project, hopefully in collaboration with the Classis Youth Ministries Committee, that will encourage youth ministries to stretch their missional muscles.

We have been in discussion with the Finance Committee about the pros and cons of continuing to collect for church plants and their facilities. We appreciate the stewardly approach they have taken, and have been spurred to get church plant plans in front of Classis on the near horizon. We would also note that the funds we have collected would cover our commitment to one church plant or one building project but not both, and not more than one of either. We feel that it is important for Classis to keep collecting funds.

Tom van Milligen, Chair

10. Presentation of 2013 Budget

The Financial Resources Team presents the attached budget is for Classis' consideration and action. The following are items of change in the current proposed budget:

MOTION 1: That the Home Missions Church Plant and the Home Missions Creative Venture Ministry Share budget lines be suspended until an action plan is presented and proposed for use of these funds.

Grounds: The Financial Resource Team feels that Classis should be stewardly with the funds entrusted for its purposes. Classis Huron should not make it its practice to accumulate funds without a direct intent to use the funds within a specified time period.

2. While the host church reimbursement has not increased, the amount budgeted for host church costs has been increased. This is due to the rising food costs that host churches are needing to purchase in order to host the classis meetings.

3. The rules of Classis Huron state that the following items must be adopted annually.

MOTION 2: That Classis adopt the following for 2013:

a. The rate for a church service be raised to \$125 per service.

b. The kilometer expense reimbursement be kept at the rate of \$0.50 per kilometer.

c. The host church for classis meetings be reimbursed \$500.

d. The remuneration for loss of wages while conducting the business of Classis (eg. Delegates to synod) remain at \$150 per day for up to five (5) per week.

e. The honorariums be raised to \$5,000 for the Stated Clerk and \$5,000 for the Treasurer.

After these have been acted upon, a full list of Classical and Denominational Ministry Shares for 2013 will be sent out to the treasurers of the churches within Classis Huron.

MOTION 3: That the 2013 Budget for Classis Huron be approved.

11. Classis Ministry Committee

11.1 CMC Report

The Classis Ministry Committee consists of representatives from the various committees and ministries within classis: Chair, Ralph Wigboldus; vice-chair, Rita Klein-Geltink; Classis Ministry Leadership Team, Brian Bork; Diaconal Ministries, Len Bakelaar; Safe Church Committee, Atie Ott; Home Missions, John Vanderstoep; Campus Ministry, Eva Joosse; Financial Resources Team, Clarence Louter; Youth Ministry, Lesli Van Milligen; Stated Clerk, Keith Knight, ex officio.

AdCom undertook a review of the stated clerk's job description and Financial Resources Team undertook a review of the treasurer's job description, with recommendations for their honorarium included in the proposed 2013 budget. Financial Resources Team continues to look for new members. They are especially looking for members with financial expertise.

CMC approved the appointments of Andrew de Gelder and John Zwart to the Classis Home Missions Committee. CMC is discussing the role of regional pastors, and ways in which their role can be enhanced. AdCom will arrange to meet with the regional pastors to continue the discussion.

The Eastern Canada Regional Development Network is being closed down and the classis Home Missions Committee is exploring ways to integrate that work into its committee. The committee is looking at creative ways to use the \$165,000 Church Plant Fund. If there is a change in focus (other than church planting), it will need to come to classis for approval.

Youth Ministry

Considerable time was devoted to the fact that Youth Unlimited no longer provides paid resource persons to support youth ministry in Canada. These resource persons have been vital in providing leadership to our youth leaders. CMC decided to recommend to classis and to the Director of Canadian Ministries that the denomination pursue creating a position for a youth ministry staff person.

MOTION: Classis Huron expresses its dismay in the loss of paid resource persons to support youth ministry in Canada and therefore strongly encourages the Director of Canadian Ministries to pursue creating a position (or more) for a youth ministry staff person.

Grounds:

1. These resource persons have been vital in providing leadership and training to our youth leaders.
2. The denomination's young people and young adults are a vital part of today's Christian Reformed Church. A vibrant ministry among young people and young adults leads to a vibrant denomination.

CMC will meet on Tuesday, October 30 at Waterloo CRC, Waterloo, focusing on the 2014-2017 Ministry Plan.

11.2 Administrative Committee (AdCom)

The Administrative Committee (AdCom) serves as classis' interim committee. It consists of chair Rev. Ralph Wigboldus, vice-chair Rev. Rita Klein-Geltink, and Rev. John Vanderstoep.

The committee met on June 7 to go over the minutes of the May classis meeting and to subsequently set the agenda for the June 14 meeting of Classis Ministry Committee.

AdCom oversees the work of the Stated Clerk and regularly offers advice and undertakes administrative tasks to facilitate the smooth operation of classis.

AdCom undertook a review of the job description of the Stated Clerk and made a recommendation to the Financial Resources Team concerning his honorarium. This recommendation is not reflected in the proposed budget.

The committee approved the transfer of ministerial credentials of Rev. Bernard De Jonge from First (Guelph) CRC to Community (Kitchener) CRC.

Church Visitor Reports:

The current process of reading out church visitor reports on the floor of classis seems to be ineffective. The reports tend to focus on a congregation's 'good news' and a celebration of ministry. The reports seldom point out areas of concern, or address more serious areas within the life of a council or congregation.

AdCom suggests that church visitor reports become 'more honest' and respect confidentiality, and that they no longer be read out at classis meetings. Instead, that the reports be sent to church councils (as they are now), kept on file with the stated clerk (as they are now), and reviewed by AdCom for any possible future action.

11.3 Stated Clerk

The Stated Clerk's office often serves as the contact point between churches and classis as well as between individuals and classis. Where there is unresolved conflict between an individual and a church council, there is often a desire to 'appeal to classis' to resolve the conflict. At best, the Stated Clerk can connect with the church visitors to see if a visit has been made recently to that particular council.

Since the May classis meeting, the Stated Clerk works an average of 8 -10 hours a week on behalf of classis. I have been engaged in about 200 email conversations dealing with everything from denominational issues such as nominations to denominational boards, to providing guidance to vacant churches about the availability of pulpit supply or facilitating the appointment of a counselor.

Among the highlights:

- Prepared the agenda for the June 7 meeting of the Administrative Committee (AdCom), attended the meeting and created minutes.
- Prepared the agenda for the June 14 meeting of the Classis Ministry Committee, attended the meeting and created minutes.
- Contacted several Christian organizations about their possible involvement in a Ministry Fair at the September classis meeting.
- Processed various requests to address classis meetings.
- Arranged for the examination of Andrew Nunn, commissioned pastor at Bethel (Acton) CRC
- Regularly updating the Servants of Classis document to reflect changes in committee membership.
- Correspondence with Rev. John Kuperus, currently working with YWAM in Hawaii, on his ministerial status.
- Correspondence with Rick DeGraaf on his status as commissioned pastor (formerly ministry associate)
- Processed the ministerial credentials for Rev. Bill Hoogland from Stratford.
- Transfer of membership of Rev. Bernie de Jonge from First (Guelph) CRC to Community (Kitchener) CRC.
- Facilitated the need for a new classis rep to serve on the Redeemer University College's board of governors.
- In regular contact with the various committees of classis, AdCom and CMC.

MOTION: That the work of the CMC, AdCom and Stated Clerk be approved.

12. Campus Ministry – Waterloo

12.1 Board Report

As I write this report there are many athletes competing in the 2012 summer Olympics. It is fascinating to watch their performances. The skill, the strength, the endurance, the ability to focus are only a few of the attributes that are on display. Being a campus pastor is not an Olympic sport. It doesn't put you on international television and you don't win any gold medals. In fact campus pastors don't get a whole lot of attention even from the church. Similar to our missionaries, their skills and their performance goes, for the most part, unnoticed by the average person in the pew. Their attributes are known and appreciated by only the students and a few others.

I'm not sure if this is a bad thing and I guess it is the job of the campus committees to "get the word out there". However, in this day and age of information overload, it is hard to find, let alone keep, people's attention. (Thank you to those who are actually reading this!)

As I write this I am also listening to Akafist, a group of Russian Orthodox Priests who sing acappella music with powerful voices. I don't understand a word they sing but I trust it is beautiful and God glorifying none the less. So too it is with campus pastors and campus ministries. We may not know about or understand everything they do but we can trust that it is beautiful and God glorifying.

The university campus is a place where the minds of our future leaders are being shaped and formed. Also, more and more Reformed Christians are being found amongst the movers and shakers of society. Reformed Christians are making their way to the nooks and crannies of the world. This is where we see the results of campus ministry. When an engineer considers the human repercussions first or a scientist sees God in her work, this is a result of a campus pastor's performance. This is where we need to look to see the fruits of a campus pastor's labours, to see the blessings of campus ministry.

Here at Waterloo Pastor Brian Bork has 'pitched his tent' among the students, he has made his dwelling among them. He works quietly behind the church's regular scenes making beautiful, God-glorifying 'music'. The results of his labours are being felt in places like Toyota's engineering department.

Please pray for Brian. Pray for campus ministry and the students and faculty who are embraced by this much needed arm of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Bill Los, Board chair

12.2 Campus Minister's Report

The campus ministry in Waterloo continues to be abundantly blessed by God, and I'm overjoyed to be able to share with you a brief picture of the life of the ministry over the past year.

The structure of the ministry remained more or less the same as the past few years. We're intensely focussed at the University of Waterloo, while still finding some ways to be present at Laurier as well. We begin each week with a Communion and breakfast, at 7:50am in my office at UW. 6-12 students clamber out of bed earlier than most of their peers to make it out to this small service of liturgy, prayer, and acapella singing. It's amazing to see the way the sacrament affects the people who attend. Most folks (including me) arrive sleepy, grumpy, complaining about the weather, or the big midterm later that morning. Then we pause, worship together, and the group is transformed. The church teaches that sacraments are a transforming, tangible means of grace, and our Monday breakfasts are a regular, reliable reminder of this fact.

Monday afternoons we meet at Laurier for a pub gathering we call "Fermented Faith." It's an event hosted by myself and my Eastern Orthodox chaplain colleague. We have grads, undergrads, and the occasional faculty member join us over a pint and some fried food to discuss just about every topic that can be tangentially related to theology. It's the Reformed way.

Wednesday mornings I meet with faculty and a few grad students at Laurier for our breakfast book club. We read a wide variety of stuff, usually outside of our respective areas of expertise. Our best discussions this year came from reading Flannery O'Connor's short stories, which contain rich, theological insight into the kind of creatures we are.

Thursday evenings are the occasion for our dinner fellowship, "The Soup and Speaker Series." We met at Renison University College this year (the Anglican college at UW), and though soup was rarely on the menu, we decided to let the name stick. This year we reflected on the spiritual importance of silence, soul-care and sabbath. We discussed sexuality, evangelism, atheism, the ethics of food production, and the way that monster movies can help us understand the gospel. Each week 15-30 students show up, keen to learn, to talk, and of course to eat.

A couple vignettes that capture a bit of what the ministry was like last year:

UW is a hectic, busy place. Engineering students are no strangers to 60 or 70 hour work weeks, and the pressure to succeed is immense. Stress, anxiety and burnout abound in an environment like that. So, instead of seeking to actively schedule more and more things for students to do (volunteer opportunities, busy student leadership), I thought it'd be better if we took our foot off the gas a bit, and learned how to cultivate a sabbath rhythm into our workweek.

We focussed on sabbath, recreation, and leisure at our dinner fellowship, and the discussions after each talk were remarkable for their candor. Students expressed the difficulty of finding a space for sabbath and rest, and lamented how the University culture didn't encourage it at all. There was a definite sense among them that the *trust* needed to take a sabbath was perhaps the most challenging dilemma of all.

The ministry's "Tuesday Tea" time became a great place for students to come and rest. The event doesn't take a lot of planning, so it's easy to undercut its importance. This year, however, I realized how significant it was for students who

came each week. On one Tuesday in October, a student came in to the office, clearly harried from his assignments, and declared: “*I just need to get here, sit in my spot, and get my mug of coffee, and then everything’s right with the world.*” What a gift it is for this ministry to be the kind of place that echoes Jesus’ words in Matthew 11, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Another story that captures the nature of the ministry happened during the winter term. Three senior undergraduates and I were reading a book by the theologian David Bentley Hart. The last two chapters of the book are a profound explanation of the transformative influence of Christianity on western civilization. One chapter explores how Christianity revolutionized our understanding of what kind of creatures human beings are; our purpose, our nature, and our responsibility to God and each other.

In light of that, I asked the three guys what the University of Waterloo taught them about what it means to be human. They sat in silence for a long while. They seemed to be rather shocked that in the three or four years they’d spent at University, the question had never really come up in a significant way. They concluded their University had a very limited understanding of humanity: we are creatures who exist to work hard at a well-paying job.

The subject came up again and again over the next few meetings. I could tell they felt a lot of consternation about the matter, but also were encouraged that their faith offered a perspective that provided a critical and vital counterweight to the university culture. The University of Waterloo is a big place full of brilliant people; yet some of life’s important questions get overlooked. It was great to be able lead these three students into a deeper contemplation of not only their place in this world, but in their labs, classrooms and assignments.

It was a moment that demonstrated how deeply Reformed this ministry can be: it can show how our faith is not just about having a ticket to heaven, but it encourages a prophetic insight into the way our culture works, and cultivates the potential to transform that culture, or at the very least the way we participate in it.

These are the sorts of events that make me rejoice in the good work that God has given me. I have much gratitude to this Classis, too, for encouraging me in that work. Please join me in praying that our Lord continues to bless this ministry over the next year.

Rev. Brian Bork, Campus Minister

13. Diaconal Ministries Canada – Hans Kater

Transforming Communities in Christ! It is this vision that inspires Diaconal Ministries Canada (DMC).

Three highlights below provide a glimpse of some of the things God has been doing through the DMC network. DMC’s network consists of staff, Diaconal Ministry Developers, committee and board members. We are grateful for the opportunity to motivate and mobilize deacons and churches across the country to be agents of compassion and justice.

Engaging Community: “The question is - are we attracted to our community the same way God loves the people living in it?” Call staff at DMC to explore this question further - www.diaconalministries.com/about/staff.html.

We praise God for yearly offerings that average around \$210,000 for Operation Manna. Currently, there are 13 *Operation Manna partners* across Canada involved in their communities through innovative and exciting ministries like community gardens, art schools, pregnancy and youth centres, summer camps, single parent ministries, shelters for the homeless, etc.

Equipping Deacons: Diakonia is at the heart of the church’s mission! Read more about the important role that deacons have in your church in the Office of the Deacon Task Force report - www.crcna.org/pages/diakonia.

DMC provides skilled Diaconal Ministry Developers (DMDs) to equip deacons. Diaconal Ministries Canada also provides many resources for deacons. Visit our website www.diaconalministries.com and feel free to download resources or call our office in Burlington at 905-336-2920 (ext 278).

Doing Justice: DMC supports deacons and churches as they walk with refugees, immigrants, aboriginals, mental illness, single parents and others in your church and your community. You can read the stories of those who are vulnerable on our website - www.diaconalministries.com/justice.

DMC offers resources as well as links to other websites that can help churches become more aware of injustice and how best to respond. “And, what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).

Summary: DMC thanks you for your prayers and financial support through Diaconal Ministry Shares, the Operation Manna offering and church offerings that makes our work possible. We thank you for your partnership in the gospel. We look forward to another year of partnering together for the sake of His Kingdom.

14. Reports

14.1 Redeemer University College

Greetings from Redeemer University College! We pray that God has blessed and refreshed you this summer, notwithstanding the drought that we have experienced. This year Redeemer will celebrate its 30th anniversary, and we are grateful to our Lord for His faithfulness. Now that Redeemer's roots are secure and our branches broad, we continue to grow in His grace as we approach enrolment of 1,000 students and count more than 4,000 alumni. We are looking forward to the arrival of our students in September, and we pray that the Lord will bless our preparation for an exciting 2012-13 academic year.

Despite the summer season, the Redeemer campus has been lively during the past months. Redeemer served as the venue for the CRCNA Synod, with over 200 delegates and officers. Our campus services, physical plant and maintenance, and IT staff provided excellent service, and we received much appreciation from synod delegates. In late July Redeemer also provided the venue for the United Church Women's Conference – the largest annual church conference in Canada. During June and July Redeemer has been hosting the Summer Institute for teachers through our continuing education program, Summer Rays camp, and a large number of groups (church and others) who use our facilities for summer retreats, etc.

We expect that Redeemer's 2012-13 academic year will be no less busy with many new developments. With the retirements of Ineke van Bruinessen and Bill van Staalduinen, we have welcomed Fred Verwoerd as VP Administration & Finance, and Elsje Zwart as VP Advancement, to Redeemer's leadership team. We also have begun our search for a provost and VP Academic to succeed Dr. Jacob Ellens in 2013. We thank God for providing able leaders in the past, and also for preparing and calling new leaders to serve Him at Redeemer today. Please uphold our search process with prayers that God will give us discernment to know the person He is calling to serve as Redeemer's next provost and VP Academic.

In our academic division, we will be launching our new Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Health Sciences, and we are exploring opportunities for expanded programs in education leadership and ministry leadership. Our newly-launched Office of Faculty Development, comprised of the VP Academic, the two academic deans, the director of research, the director of teaching, the director of mentoring, and the chaplain, will assist in faculty development and ensuring Redeemer's strengths of excellent teaching and scholarship that is deeply rooted in Christ. In addition, we also have been blessed with new faculty appointments, including Dr. Heather Strong in Health Sciences, and Ms. Lauri Busuttill and Mr. Dennis Ursov in Business. We also pray God's blessings on faculty who will be leaving Redeemer during the coming year, including Dr. Mary Ashun in Education, Dr. Ben Dunson in Religion and Theology, and most notably Dr. Jitse van der Meer in Biology, who has announced that he will retire effective June 30, 2013. Dr. van der Meer holds the distinction of being the only person to be employed at Redeemer each year since Redeemer first opened its doors to students in 1982. We are grateful to Dr. van der Meer for his contributions to the Biology Department, and, in recent years, for his leadership as the director of faculty mentoring.

Our student development division also will see several new initiatives. We continue to miss our colleague, John Krueger, after his passing this spring. We also pray for God's blessing on Eileen Fallon as she leaves her role as assistant dean of student life after many years of service. Ms. Hennie Schoon has been appointed as community life director, and we are in the process of finalizing the appointment of a residence life director. We look forward to expanded and new programs in student life, including expanded RA/HA training, student leadership development, and international student orientation. In addition, we are very pleased that we will be appointing a full-time co-op and career services coordinator, and expanding our disability and academic support services. With the help of last year's grant from the Christian granting consortium, Stronger Together, we will continue our "Hamilton Downtown" project, lead by Steven Dykstra, that is enabling us to strengthen our student volunteer and service-learning opportunities, and a new grant also from Stronger Together will help us to develop a comprehensive strategy for assisting students with mental health concerns – an issue that is regarded as at crisis levels at other universities in Canada. We are grateful and excited for these new initiatives that will help us to better serve our students' needs and implement our vision for comprehensive "whole life" Christian education.

Finally, we are deeply grateful for the support that comes to Redeemer through our advancement team. In addition to the transition in vice-presidents, we also are seeking a senior development officer to replace James Vanderlaan due to his appointment as Canadian director of CRC Home Missions, and we are seeking a new recruitment director to replace Dory Strikwerda. We are grateful to both James and Dory for their service to Redeemer, and pray that God will bless their new kingdom service. Even during this transition, however, we received record donations from individuals and our supporting churches during 2011-12, and the enrolment numbers that we are tracking for the 2012-13 year continue to give promise for surpassing last year's enrolment of 892 FTE. We are grateful for the continued hard work of our recruitment and

registrar staff, and for the work of all who have helped to welcome prospective students or encouraged them to apply.

During the 2012-13 year we will celebrate Redeemer's 30 anniversary with much thanks to God for His provision and leading, and especially for sending to Redeemer growing numbers of students, committed and gifted faculty and staff and leaders, dedicated volunteers to serve and lead on our board and committees, and generous donors who share with us Redeemer's mission of Christian post-secondary education.

Our celebrations will begin with our opening convocation on Sept. 5 at 10:45 a.m. in the auditorium, and with Redeemer's annual general membership meeting on Sept. 28, starting with a reception at 5 p.m., followed by the AGM and dinner at 5:30 p.m. Following the AGM will be the annual free faculty artists' concert at 8 p.m. in the auditorium to celebrate Redeemer's 30th anniversary. You are invited to join us.

We have indeed seen God at work throughout the past years, and look forward to the next academic year in the confidence of God's provision and leading. Our theme for 2012-13 is based on Col 1:17 – "in Him all things hold together," which is reflected in Redeemer's tagline "Discover all things in Him". We praise God for upholding Redeemer in Christ, and we pray that we may faithfully continue to discover all things in Him during the coming year.

Dr Hubert R. Krygsman, President

14.2 Calvin Theological Seminary (CTS) Board of Trustees (BOT)

On May 17, the CTS BOT gathered in Grand Rapids (GR) to meet for 2 days and then to attend commencement. The president of the BOT, Pastor Paul DeVries (Brookside CRC in GR), opened with prayer and devotions from Psalm 47; the psalmist praises God, simply because God IS God and, therefore, awesome and amazing! We were reminded that it was Ascension Day (Acts 1:1-11); so often, we are like the Apostles, looking dumbly up into the heavens, asking, "ok, what now?" While Jesus is not physically present with us in body, we have the Spirit to bless, encourage, and empower us to share the Gospel and equip God's people and the church to do God's work in the world. And that Spirit is at work in the hearts and minds of the people at CTS!

If the Spirit is poured out in abundance when God's people need strength and support through transition and change, then the Spirit is overflowing at CTS! Continuing changes have called CTS staff to clearly articulate the vision of what God is doing at CTS: new administrative staff, new administrative structure, new faculty members, new evolving curriculum (including the Distance Learning Program), new efforts to strengthen the endowment (including the Capital Campaign) and to engage lapsed/new donors, and new efforts to engage and collaborate with church planters and missionaries (in the Institute for Global Church Planting and Renewal).

President Medenblik and Dr. Michael Goheen reflected upon developing the 'rhythms' of one's life through transition. They continue to be open to God's leading and to listening to those around them in adopting new routines, balancing spiritual health and wholeness, time with family, and work in service to the seminary community and the greater church it serves. Rhythms ordained by God to transform lives are Biblical in nature: "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." Isaiah 43:19. Discernment of and submission to God's call is the beginning of every task in God's service, a concept CTS is honoring every day!

President Medenblik reflected upon the State of the Seminary: a new culture of team, encouragement, and empowerment is developing. Teaching and learning, like worship, are best done in community; budgeting and development efforts continue to evolve to strengthen the seminary's financial position to improve our ability to educate ministers of the Word; the dream of distance education is becoming reality; the president marks his first full year at CTS on June 6. God IS faithful.

Interviews for board approval were conducted to welcome two new people into the CTS family: Jeff Sajdak (Dean of Students and International Student Advisor) and Al Gelder (Director of Mentored Ministries).

Michael Goheen was interviewed to fill the Professor of Missiology position. In reflecting upon Luke 14, in which the banquet is prepared, Dr. Goheen declares our mission is to call people to God's feast of plenty. Making that invitation relevant and compelling is the task of the church as God opens hearts and minds to the Word (Michael was approved by Synod 2012 to serve this position at CTS).

An interview for faculty reappointment was conducted with Darwin Glassford (Associate Professor of Church Education and Director of M.A. Programs).

Committee meetings were convened and reports offered from Development and Finance, Academic Affairs, and Student Affairs.

Executive Director of the CRCNA, Joel Boot, shared the work being done by the denomination to reach out to and partner

with Christian people throughout the world, in Asia, the Middle East, and elsewhere. The Reformed perspective on following Jesus is alive and well and growing in our churches throughout the world, which is transforming CTS from a denominational church seminary into a seminary called to serve the international Christian community. Exciting times! Faculty Handbook revision was considered: brainstorming vision for change, with details to be undertaken by the faculty and administration, this revision is daunting, but will assure lines of authority and accountability are clearly drawn, while offering a transparent process to manage the governance of all faculty activities within CTS.

Departing Board Members were graciously thanked for their 6 years of service: John Ratmeyer (Gallup, NM), Doris Ridders (Grand Rapids, MI), Byron Noordewier (Orange City, IA), and Greg Dyk (New Era, MI).

We meet again October 18-19, 2012, D.V.

On a different note, I have been blessed these summer months in seven ways:

1. The new friendships I have gained by serving CTS and the CRC in this capacity.
2. The good words expressed by the churches of Southern Ontario toward CTS interns who preached the Word of God in their worship centres this spring and summer.
3. The opportunity to serve as president pro-tem of Synod 2012, witness President Medenblik address the gathering, hear the wise counsel of CTS faculty on the floor of Synod, and celebrate the new pastors standing ready to serve God.
4. The privilege of working closely with Hank VanderLaan (CTS Zone 4 rep) and Robert Knor (CTS Director of Development) in building a stronger bridge of communication, fundraising and student support between the Calvin Theological Seminary community and the Christian Reformed Church in Canada. By the time this report has been received at your classis' meetings, Hank and I hope to have met with many CTS supporters at the Forest City Community Church on Saturday, September 22. President Medenblik will have also preached at Talbot Street CRC in London on Sunday, September 23.
5. The tremendous support of my family and friends at Ancaster Christian Reformed Church
6. The honour of receiving and accepting a call to serve as Pastor to the Hagersville Community Christian Reformed Church in Classis Hamilton (October 2012).

As we continue to serve God and neighbour together, may we see God doing a new thing in the life of God's church.

May we continue to follow the God who is making a way in the wilderness.

May we splash with joy in the streams that God has gathered in the wasteland!

Rev. Jeff Klingenberg, Region 4 CTS BOT Representative

15. Future Classis Meetings

Date	Place	Reports due	Chair	Vice-chair
Sept. 19, 2012	Owen Sound	Aug. 15, 2012	Tom Van Milligen	Ralph Wigboldus
Jan. 9, 2013	Listowel	Dec. 12, 2012	Ralph Wigboldus	Darren Roorda
May 8, 2013	Acton	April 3, 2013	Darren Roorda	Rita Klein-Geltink
Sept. 18, 2013		Aug. 14, 2013	Rita Klein-Geltink	John Vanderstoep

A.
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR CLASSIS HURON
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013
GENERAL FUND

	2011 ACTUAL	2012 BUDGET	2012 JAN-JUL YTD	2013 BUDGET
OPENING BALANCE	47,178.25		30,985.00	
RECEIPTS				
EXPENSE MINISTRY SHARES	42,426.43	48,900.00	36,943.99	52,900.00
INTEREST	2,693.76	1,500.00	1,488.33	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	45,120.19	50,400.00	38,432.32	52,900.00
DISBURSEMENTS				
DELEGATES TRAVEL	3,432.35	3,500.00	2,162.10	3,500.00
CLASSICAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE	1,329.93	2,000.00	1,087.76	2,000.00
CHURCH VISITATION	707.38	1,000.00	198.80	1,000.00
HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE	2,583.58	3,500.00	56.00	3,500.00
EASTERN CANADA LEADERSHIP		2,000.00		2,000.00
SOUTHERN ONTARIO LEADERSHIP SUMMIT				
HOST CHURCH EXPENSES	3,975.87	3,500.00	1,916.87	4,000.00
SPECIAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES	294.80	1,500.00	110.00	1,500.00
DELEGATES AND APPOINTEES	545.73	1,000.00	167.50	1,000.00
STATED CLERK'S EXPENSES	831.63	800.00	382.41	800.00
TREASURER'S EXPENSES	849.84	1,000.00	743.66	1,000.00
HONORARIUMS	6,500.00	8,000.00	4,000.00	10,000.00
YOUTH COMMITTEE	9,702.49	16,000.00	5,692.32	16,000.00
SAFE CHURCH	685.88	1,000.00	156.50	1,000.00
DIACONAL CONFERENCE	726.00	1,000.00	400.00	1,000.00
MINISTER'S RETREAT	750.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
INSURANCE PREMIUMS	2,316.60	2,500.00	2,208.60	2,500.00
WEBSITE	1,081.36	1,100.00	250.00	1,100.00
TRANSFER TO CAMPUS MINISTRIES	25,000.00			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	61,313.44	50,400.00	20,532.52	52,900.00
CLOSING BALANCE	30,985.00	-	48,884.80	-

	2012 MINISTRY SHARE PER MEMBER	2013 MINISTRY SHARE PER MEMBER
CLASSICAL EXPENSE	\$ 10.70	\$ 12.60
CLASSIS MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP FUND (STUDENT FUND)	\$ 9.70	\$ 10.00
HURON CAMPUS MINISTRY		
GUELPH	\$ 17.50	16.34
WATERLOO	\$ 17.85	\$ 16.34
HOME MISSIONS		
CHURCH PLANTS	\$ 10.00	
CREATIVE OUTREACH	\$ 0.50	
TOTAL CLASSICAL MINISTRY SHARES	\$ 66.25	\$ 55.28

**B.
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR CLASSIS HURON
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013**

GENERAL FUND

	2011 ACTUAL	2012 BUDGET	2012 JAN-JUL YTD	2013 BUDGET
OPENING BALANCE	47,178.25		30,985.00	
RECEIPTS				
EXPENSE MINISTRY SHARES	42,426.43	48,900.00	36,943.99	52,900.00
INTEREST	2,693.76	1,500.00	1,488.33	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>45,120.19</u>	<u>50,400.00</u>	<u>38,432.32</u>	<u>52,900.00</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
DELEGATES TRAVEL	3,432.35	3,500.00	2,162.10	3,500.00
CLASSICAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE	1,329.93	2,000.00	1,087.76	2,000.00
CHURCH VISITATION	707.38	1,000.00	198.80	1,000.00
HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE	2,583.58	3,500.00	56.00	3,500.00
EASTERN CANADA LEADERSHIP		2,000.00		2,000.00
SOUTHERN ONTARIO LEADERSHIP SUMMIT				
HOST CHURCH EXPENSES	3,975.87	3,500.00	1,916.87	4,000.00
SPECIAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES	294.80	1,500.00	110.00	1,500.00
DELEGATES AND APPOINTEES	545.73	1,000.00	167.50	1,000.00
STATED CLERK'S EXPENSES	831.63	800.00	382.41	800.00
TREASURER'S EXPENSES	849.84	1,000.00	743.66	1,000.00
HONORARIUMS	6,500.00	8,000.00	4,000.00	10,000.00
YOUTH COMMITTEE	9,702.49	16,000.00	5,692.32	16,000.00
SAFE CHURCH	685.88	1,000.00	156.50	1,000.00
DIACONAL CONFERENCE	726.00	1,000.00	400.00	1,000.00
MINISTER'S RETREAT	750.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
INSURANCE PREMIUMS	2,316.60	2,500.00	2,208.60	2,500.00
WEBSITE	1,081.36	1,100.00	250.00	1,100.00
TRANSFER TO CAMPUS MINISTRIES	25,000.00			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>61,313.44</u>	<u>50,400.00</u>	<u>20,532.52</u>	<u>52,900.00</u>
CLOSING BALANCE	<u>30,985.00</u>	-	<u>48,884.80</u>	-

	2012 MINISTRY SHARE PER MEMBER	2013 MINISTRY SHARE PER MEMBER
CLASSICAL EXPENSE	\$ 10.70	\$ 12.60
CLASSIS MINISTERIAL LEADERSHIP FUND (STUDENT FUND)	\$ 9.70	\$ 10.00
HURON CAMPUS MINISTRY		
GUELPH	\$ 17.50	16.34
WATERLOO	\$ 17.85	\$ 16.34
HOME MISSIONS		
CHURCH PLANTS	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
CREATIVE OUTREACH	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.50
TOTAL CLASSICAL MINISTRY SHARES	<u>\$ 66.25</u>	<u>\$ 65.78</u>

**HURON CAMPUS MINISTRY -- WATERLOO CAMPUS
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC 31, 2013**

	BUDGET 2012
RECEIPTS	
LOCAL FUNDS RAISED	
GRANTS	
DONATIONS	14,932.00
CLASSIS CONTRIBUTION	62,000.00
OTHER INCOME	
CR HOME MISSIONS CONTRIBUTION	
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	17,000.00
OTHER	2,000.00
UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTION	10,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	105,932.00
DISBURSEMENTS	
EXPENSES FOR PERSONNEL	
SALARY	47,277.00
BENEFITS	14,355.00
HOUSING COSTS/ALLOWANCE	16,000.00
UTILITIES & MAINTENANCE	
AUTO EXPENSES & TELEPHONE	1,250.00
CONFERENCES AND TRAINING	2,000.00
EXPENSES FOR OTHER PERSONNEL	2,000.00
ALL PROGRAM COSTS	
ADMINISTRATION	750.00
EDUCATION	1,000.00
CARING/FELLOWSHIP	1,500.00
WORSHIP SERVICES	
SOUP AND SPEAKER	7,200.00
ANNUAL CRCMA DUES	250.00
PUBLICITY	750.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE	1,000.00
FACILITIES & GROUNDS	
UTILITIES	
RENT, MAINTENANCE	600.00
MISCELLANEOUS	
COMPUTER/SOFTWARE	
OFFICE SERVICES	10,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	105,932.00
CLASSIS CONFESSING MEMBERS	4,400
MINISTRY SHARE PER MEMBER	16.41

**HURON CAMPUS MINISTRY -- GUELPH CAMPUS
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC 31, 2013**

	BUDGET 2012
RECEIPTS	
LOCAL FUNDS RAISED	
GRANTS	16,000.00
DONATIONS	26,000.00
WINTER RETREAT FEES	5,000.00
TUMAINI - KENYA	18,000.00
CLASSIS CONTRIBUTION	64,600.00
OTHER INCOME	
CR HOME MISSIONS CONTRIBUTIONS	
PERSONNEL EXPENSES	15,900.00
OTHER	
UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTIONS	10,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	155,500.00
DISBURSEMENTS	
EXPENSES FOR PERSONNEL	
SALARY	50,250.00
HOUSING COSTS/ALLOWANCE	20,800.00
CAMPUS MINISTRY ASSOCIATE	24,000.00
BENEFITS	17,000.00
AUTO EXPENSES	1,000.00
CONFERENCES AND TRAINING	2,000.00
MINISTRY AREA	
EDUCATION	6,500.00
HOSPITALITY	1,000.00
WORSHIP	1,000.00
SOCIAL JUSTICE	500.00
TUMAINI - KENYA	18,000.00
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	1,000.00
ADMINISTRATION	
FUNDRAISING/PARTNERSHIP	1,000.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE	850.00
CRCMA & CCCC DUES	400.00
MINISTRY HOUSE RENT	
OFFICE SERVICES	10,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS	200.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	155,500.00
CLASSIS CONFESSING MEMBERS	4,400
MINISTRY SHARE PER MEMBER	16.34