



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

AGENDA

February 15, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

Drayton Christian Reformed Church

Drayton, 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	Drayton CRC	
	Constituting Classis: Report of the Credentials Committee	Collingwood and Owen Sound CRCs	
9:05 a.m.	Opening of Classis: Officers take their seats Chair: Rev. Stephen Tamming Vice Chair: Rev. John Medendorp Opening Comments from Chair		
9:10 a.m.	Worship/Devotions based on Luke 9:18-27	Jim Williams	
	License to Exhort Exam re Jim Williams, Guelph First C Practica: Rev. John Medendorp Theology: Rev. Martin Dam		
10:20 a.m.	REFRESHMENT BREAK		
10:40 a.m.	<i>Our Journey 2020</i>	Rev. Darren Roorda	
11:30 a.m.	CMC/AdCom/Stated Clerk Reports	Rev. Stephen Tamming	
11:50 a.m.	Treasurer's Report	John Bell	
12:00 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK [Credentials Committee Meets]		
1:00 p.m.	Credentials Committee Report	Collingwood and Owen Sound CRCs	
1:15 P.M.	Election of Synod Delegates [First Ballot]	Chair	
1:30 p.m.	<i>Better Together Project</i> Discussion	Lis Van Harten, Al Postma	
2:30 p.m.	<i>The Bridge</i> Fergus	Rev. John Vanderstoep	
2:50 p.m.	Youth Ministry	Amy Baarda	
3:00 p.m.	REFRESHMENT BREAK		
3:15 p.m.	Election of Synod Delegates [Second Ballot]	Chair	
3:30 p.m.	Campus Ministry - Guelph	Chap James VanderBerg	
4:30 p.m.	Home Missions Committee	Rev. Henry Steenbergen	
4:50 p.m.	Diaconal Report	Mary Blydorp	
5:10 p.m.	Overture re Belhar Confession	Blyth/Lucknow CRCs	
5:25 p.m.	Blyth Church Visit report	Rev. Martin Dam	
5:30 p.m.	Regional Advocates for Disability Concerns	Len Bakelaar	
5:35 p.m.	Safe Church Report	Atie Ott	
5:45 p.m.	Election of Synod Delegates [Third ballot if needed]	Chair	
6:00 p.m.	Adjournment		
Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Renew • Sea to Sea • Redeemer University College 	Reports attached to the Agenda	

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 led by Jim Williams, Guelph First CRC, based on Luke 9:18-27
 Pre-Lunch – Drayton CRC
 Pre-Afternoon Session – Orangeville CRC
 Pre-Supper – Chair

3. Committees for the Day

Credentials Committee – Collingwood CRC and Owen Sound CRC
Balloting Committee, Drayton CRC and Guests
Overture Committee Lucknow CRC and Blyth CRC

4. License to Exhort Examination: **Jim Williams, Guelph First CRC**

- . Practica: Rev. John Medendorp
- . Theology Rev. Martin Dam

5. REFRESHMENT BREAK

6. *Our Journey, 2020* Director of Canadian Ministries, Rev. Darren Roorda

7. CMC/AdCom/Stated Clerk Reports Rev. Stephen Tamming

7.1 CMC Report

The Classis Ministry Committee consists of representatives of all ministries/committees within Classis Huron: 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; Financial Resources Team, Clarence Louter; Huron Campus Ministry (Guelph), Rev. David Tigchelaar; Diaconal Ministries, Mary Blydorp: Huron Campus Ministry (Waterloo), Rev. Brian Bork; Youth Ministry, Amy Baarda; Treasurer John Bell, ex-officio, and Stated Clerk, Rev. Vic Vandermolen, ex officio.

CMC continues to monitor and encourage the various ministries that are part of Classis.

- In November 2016 Classis again hosted an "Administrators' Update Day", designed to provide current and developing information for administrative staff at Classis churches, re denomination and classis issues that impact Classis Huron.
- With appreciation for their work and effort, Classis thanks Rev. Paul Stadt and Rev. Ron Fisher for their time as Regional Pastors. This position is under the direction of the Denominational Pastoral Resources office, who have approved the new appointments of Rev. Henry Steenbergen and Rev. Vic Vandermolen as the new Regional Pastors effective February 2017.
- In support of encouragement from the Home Missions Committee to allow time on Classis agendas for the sharing of 'stories', CMC has structured Classis agendas to allow for this in three areas: Home Missions, Diaconal Ministries, 'The Bridge' – Fergus church plant.
- In response to suggestions received, future CMC minutes will include a section outlining CMC responses to issues raised on Credentials forms and this information will be shared with Classis churches.
- A request was received to allow for time at a Classis meeting to discuss the issue of designating full-time post-secondary school students as "inactive members' for purposes of determining ministry shares to be paid [classis and denomination]. The Church Order [C.O.] is very clear that churches are to count ALL professing members for purposes of ministry shares [see C.O. Art 67 Supplement], and we are bound by common consent to follow the C.O. Any changes to it would need to come about as a result of an overture to be considered by Classis and then Synod.
- The incorporation process for Classis Huron is currently in the hands of the CRA [Canada Revenue Agency] and, subject to approval by government departments, will be addressed by our lawyer [Teresa Douma] at the May 2017 meeting of Classis. At that time, Classis will be asked for final approval to complete the incorporation process.
- Because a large majority of Classis Huron pastors will be on a tour of Israel in early May, it has been decided that the **May 2017 meeting of Classis will be held on May 24, 2017.**

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

- a] That Classis approve the job description for Rick de Graaf as Commissioned Pastor at Cambridge Maranatha CRC [attached] since it is in keeping with the requirements of Church Order Supplement Article 23-a. [*This will further require the concurrence of Synodical Deputies*]

b] That Classis forego the usual examination for Rick de Graaf, for ordination as a Commissioned Pastor at Cambridge Maranatha CRC, based on his previous work as Commissioned Pastor and his ongoing role as Pastor of Congregational Life at that congregation.

c] That the pulpit supply stipend for leading a service in Classis Huron churches be increased from \$125 per service to \$150, effective March 1, 2017.

d] That because the first three-year term of the Stated Clerk expires in May 2017, Classis approve the re-appointment of Rev. Vic Vandermolen as the Stated Clerk for a further term of three years, to May 2020.

e] That Classis approve retention of administrative files for the last five years only, and that older files be forwarded to the Denominational offices. Files that are not needed/requested by the Denominational Archives and Historical Committees would be shredded.

f] That Classis approve the work of CMC, AdCom and the Stated Clerk.

7.2 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. 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 in its report above.

7.3 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. In the period of September 2016 to the time of writing this report, the Clerk has:

- dealt with/responded to some 78 telephone conversations and requests for information.
- dealt with/responded to some 500 email messages and requests for information from Denominational agencies, Classis Huron churches, Classis Huron members, and more.
- participated in a video conference calls with Canadian Ministries Director Rev. Darren Roorda, and other Canadian Stated Clerks.
- Attended a Canadian Classis Leaders Conference [January 16 – 18] at CRCNA Burlington, meeting with Youth Ministry Leaders, discussing issues such as 'What is Classis anyway?', how the agenda of a meeting reveals values and visions, the Better Together Project, a review of the CRC's Ministry Plan, and more.
- 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.
- 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 developed the agenda, determined and contacted speakers, and attendant information, for the Classis Huron Administrators' Day scheduled for November 1, 2016 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 February 2017

8. Treasurer's Report John Bell
9. **L U N C H B R E A K**
10. Credentials Committee Report
11. Election of Synod Delegates [First Ballot]
12. *Better Together Project* Lis Van Harten. Al Postma
13. *'The Bridge'*, Fergus Rev. John Vanderstoep
14. Youth Ministry Amy Baarda
14. **REFRESHMENT BREAK**
15. Election of Synod Delegates [second ballot]
17. Guelph Campus Ministry: Chaplain Jamie Vander Berg
18. Home Missions Report Rev. Henry Steenbergen
19. Diaconal Report Mary Blydorp
20. Safe Church Report Atie Ott
21. Election of Synod Delegates [third ballot if necessary]
22. Closing/Adjournment

Future Classis Meetings

DATE	LOCATION	REPORTS DUE	CHAIR	VICE CHAIR
Feb. 15, 2017	Drayton	January 13, 2017	Stephen Tamming	John Medendorp
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 2018	Clinton		Ralph Wigboldus	

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: Synod 2017 will convene at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois, from Friday, June 9th at 8:30 AM thru Thursday June 15th at 12:00 PM.