

Press Release of Classis Central Ontario March 14, 2008

On behalf of the convening church of Ottawa, Br. Schriemer called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened in the Christian manner: the assembly sang Ps 133:1 and Br. Schriemer read from 1 Corinthians 1: He then welcomed the delegates.

The Church at Flamborough examined the credentials. The delegates of that church reported that all the churches were properly represented. There were no instructions. Classis was then constituted.

The following officers took their places: Rev. J.L. van Popta as vice-chairman and Rev. Dr. G. Nederveen as clerk. The suggested officer for the chair was not present (Rev. de Gelder was in Cyprus, at a meeting of the MERF board of directors.) The assembly appointed Rev. W. den Hollander in his place. Rev. den Hollander took the chair.

The chairman noted that since the last regular classis Rev. J. Huijgen accepted a call to the Church at Attercliffe. Last December, Rev. Jagt departed to the west and has taken up a charge in Taber. The Chairman commended the Church at Ottawa and Rehoboth Church to the grace of God, as their calling committees did their work. Rev. W. den Hollander declined a call to Elora.

The church of Toronto's missionary has received two calls to churches in Australia. We commend Rev. 't Hart and the church at Toronto to the Lord's care during this time. Some comments were made concerning joys and sorrows in some of the ministerial families. The assembly noted with thankfulness that Dr. Gootjes' health concerns are not as serious as was feared.

The provisional agenda was adopted with some changes.

The chairman asked the delegates of the churches the questions required by the Church Order in Article 44. In response, all the churches reported that the ministry of the office-bearers is being continued, and the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured. Classis decided to invite the deputies for regional synod (CO 48) to assist the churches in determining whether or not one of the churches is honouring the decisions of the broader assemblies.

The Church at Ottawa requested that the churches of classis provide pulpit supply for one Sunday per month. This request was granted.

An appeal was judged inadmissible (Art 30 CO).

The Church of Toronto was appointed to convene the next classis to be held on June 13 (with an alternate date, September 19) in the Ebenezer Church building at 9:00 a.m. The following officers were suggested: Rev. J. de Gelder as chairman; Rev. W. den Hollander as vice-chairman; Rev. J.L. van Popta as clerk.

Question period was held. The chairman asked whether censure as per Art. 34 C.O. was necessary. It was not required. The Acts were read by the clerk and adopted by the assembly. The Press Release was approved for publication. The chairman, Rev. W. den Hollander, thanked the brothers for their good co-operation. After the assembly sang Psalm 134, he closed the meeting with prayer.