

Press Release of Classis Niagara December 19, 2007

On behalf of the convening church at Lincoln, br. G. VanIperen called the brothers to order. He read 2 Corinthians 4, we sang Psalm 81:1,9, and br. VanIperen led in prayer.

The credentials were found to be in good order. The church at Blue Bell was able to send only one delegate. Two churches came with instructions. Classis was constituted, with Rev. K.A. Kok as chairman, Rev. C.J. VanderVelde as vice-chairman, and Rev. D. DeBoer as clerk. The chairman of Classis thanked the convening church for making the arrangements for Classis. He noted several items of memorabilia, including the continuing vacancies in Attercliffe and Lincoln, and the fact that sr. Geertsema has returned home from the hospital. The agenda was established.

Question Period according to Article 44 of the Church Order was held. The ministry of the office bearers is being continued in all the churches, and the decisions of the major assemblies are being honoured by all the churches. The church at Attercliffe requested the approval of Classis for extending a second call to Rev. J. Huijgen. Approval was granted. One church requested and received the judgement and help of Classis in a matter of discipline.

Classis dealt with a proposal from the church at Attercliffe in regard to the nine points adopted by Synod Schererville 2007 of the United Reformed Churches in North America, especially point six about the covenant of grace. The proposal was defeated.

The next Classis will be held at Smithville on March 26, 2008, the LORD willing. Suggested officers: Rev. A. Souman – chairman; Rev. D. DeBoer – vice-chairman; Rev. K.A. Kok – clerk. Rev. Kok was appointed to be the fraternal delegate to the next Classis Ontario of the URCNA.

Question Period was held. Rev. Souman stated that the mission post in Timor will soon be instituted as a church. Censure according to Article 34 of the Church Order was not necessary. The Acts were adopted and the Press Release was approved. We sang Hymn 15:3,4, and Rev. Kok led in prayer. The chairman declared Classis closed.

C.J. VanderVelde
Vice-chairman e.t.