

**Highlights of October 7, 2010 Classis Toronto Meeting
held at Holland Marsh CRC, Newmarket, ON
(These are NOT official minutes.)**

Officers of Classis:

Elder Rika V.L. chaired the meeting of Classis. Stated Clerk, **John M.** took minutes. **Rev. Kobie d.P.** was Vice-Chair. The meeting was supported through the work of **Elizabeth G.-K.**, Classis Ministry Coordinator.

Opening Worship

Classis delegates were led in opening worship by **Rev. Richard B.**, pastor of the host church, Holland Marsh. He offered a reflection on Luke 10:1 - 17.

Ministry Equipping Session:

Elizabeth G.-K., Classis Ministry Coordinator, lead delegates in a discussion on **priorities for Classis Toronto and its various ministries.** For those interested, a report on the results will be attached to the official minutes.

Appointments:

- **Rev. Doug N.** was approved to serve on the Classis Diaconal Committee.
- **Rev. Joel K.** was approved to serve on the LOGOS Campus Committee for York University.
- **Jason P.** was approved to serve on the Classis Youth Committee.

Classis Committee Reports:

- **Terry V.H.** addressed Classis on behalf of the **Classis Safe Church Committee.** Ideally one representative from each church of Classis would attend the meetings of this group. They are still looking for representatives for the following churches: Alliston, Springdale, Brampton Heritage Fellowship, Meadowvale Community, Orillia First, All Nations, Toronto First, Friendship Community, Oakville ClearView, Cochrane, Brampton Immanuel, and Woodbridge Maranatha.
- **Rev. Herman P.** represented the **Classis Nominating Committee** and brought names forward for Classis approval to serve on various committees (see above).
- **Art N.** addressed Classis on behalf of the **LOGOS Campus Committee for York University.** He asked Classis for approval of a new three year contract for Campus Chaplain, **S. Chong**, which was approved.
- **Rev. Daryl D.K.** reported to Classis on the work of the **Classis Candidacy Committee** and Classis approved their recommendation for Classis to provide loan support to John W. and Ashley S. as they study for the ministry.

Classis Finances and Budget

- Classis received a report from **Classis Treasurer Cor B.** on behalf of the **Finance Committee.**
- Classis approved the **2011 Budget** for its ministries including Campus Ministries, Home Missions, Race Relations, and various other committees working on behalf of Classis. The budget for 2011 is \$326,300 which works out to \$77.70 per active confessing member.
- On recommendation of the Classis Executive, one church was granted forgiveness of prior unpaid Ministry Share commitments. New rules were approved for the process of churches requesting a reduction in ministry shares. The executive will continue to look at this and may have further suggestions in future.

Denominational Agency and other Guest Reports:

- Classis heard from **Peter N.**, new representative for Classis Toronto on the **denominational Board of Trustees**. He invites churches to contact him if they have questions or comments about things they read or hear regarding the denomination and its work.
- **Hank K.** addressed Classis on behalf of **Disabilities Concerns**, urging all churches to remember to show concern for those in their midst who have various kinds of disabilities.
- **Wendy G.** addressed Classis **on behalf of Calvin Theological Seminary (CTS)**, where she is a new board member. CTS has a new president, Rev. Julius M.. She urges congregations to encourage gifted people to consider a calling in ministry and a theological education at CTS.

Ministry Moves:

- **Oakville ClearView** asked Classis to approve their **Pastor of Worship** position as a position meeting the requirements for a person ordained as a Ministry Associate. Classis approved that request and indicated their intention is to bring forward a person for Ministry Associate ordination at a future meeting of Classis.

Other Items of Note:

- Classis heard reports from the **Classis Ministry Committee, Classis Executive Committee, John M., Stated Clerk and Elizabeth G.-K., Ministry Coordinator**.
- **Henry E.** reported on **Synod 2010** as one of the Classis Toronto delegates.
- Classis approved the honourable retirement of **Rev. Herman P.** effective October 31.
- Church Visitors reported on visits made to councils of **Willowdale, Alliston, Newmarket Bethel, Barrie First, and Holland Marsh**.
- **Church Counselors** reported on churches in Classis who have (or had) a ministry vacancies.
 - **Woodbridge Maranatha** presented ministry candidate **Nathaniel V.D.** who they have called to be their pastor. He will be examined by Classis for ordination on November 11.
 - New lead pastor **Rev. Geoff V.M.** of **Oakville ClearView** was introduced.
 - It was announced that **Rev. Michael B.** has accepted a call to **Barrie First** as their lead pastor to begin work there soon.
 - **Springdale** announced that **Rev. Ed V.** will be take up work with them as full-time interim pastor.
 - Other churches that are continuing to search for a pastor include **Alliston, Orillia First, and Brampton Heritage Fellowship**.
- Many times during the day **Classis prayed** for various people, churches and other ministries.
- In the afternoon, Classis was suspended for a brief meeting of the **CRC Extension Fund** (whose membership is made up of the delegates to Classis).

Next Meeting:

Classis meets for its next regular meeting on **January 20th, 2011** at **Georgetown**. A special meeting to examine ministry candidate Nathaniel V.D. will be held on **November 11, 2010** at **Community Richmond Hill**.

Notes by John M., Clerk. Questions/comments? Email clerk@classistoronto.org or call 416-587-7998.