

CLASSIS GREATER LOS ANGELES
OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

MINUTES OF MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009

HOSTED BY HOPE INTERNATIONAL, ARCADIA, CA

- 102009:1. President Dan Brink opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates.
 102009:1.1. A time for devotions, singing, and prayer was shared by all.
 102009:1.2. The Stated Clerk called the roll.

Church

Pastor

Elder

Anaheim	Joel Van Soelen	Bill Postma	
Anaheim Latin American	*Mirtha Villafañe	<i>absent</i>	
Arcadia Hope International	<i>absent</i>	Henry Oliverez	
Arcadia Hope Int. Chinese	*Elder Charles Ho	*Paul Lai	
Artesia, First	Ron Goudzwaard	Steven Van Noord	
Artesia, Trinity	Rick Westra	<i>absent</i>	
Artesia, Spirit Filled	*Ray Yeo	<i>absent</i>	
Bellflower, First	Paul Hoekstra	Harris Salie	
Bellflower, Bethany	Henry Lengkeek	Howard Tazelaar	Hank Vanden Berg
Bellflower, God's Grace Christian	Dionisio Aguhob	<i>absent</i>	
Bellflower, Rosewood	Dan Brink	Art Lapré	
Burbank, Bethany	Soo Min Bang	<i>absent</i>	
Camarillo, Iglesia CRC	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Carson, Grace Christian Fellowship	Elmer Tandayu	<i>absent</i>	
Covina, The Bridge	Saejung Paul Chang	<i>absent</i>	
Fountain Valley, Fountain of Life	Matt Ford	<i>absent</i>	
La Habra, Fountain of Life Mission	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Lake View Terrace, All Nations	Tae Young Kim	<i>Pastor</i> Rich Kim	
Long Beach	Brent Wassink	David Haberbush	
Long Beach, New City	Carl Kromminga	<i>Pastor</i> Daniel Mendez	
Los Angeles, Community	Richard Jones	Mattie Young	
Los Angeles, New Ground Harvest	*Ron Black	<i>absent</i>	
Mangilao, Guam, Faith Presbyterian	Neil Culbertson	<i>absent</i>	
Monterey Park, Chinese	*John Tong	* <i>Pastor</i> Matthew Ma	
Sun Valley, Bethel	Gary Stevens	<i>absent</i>	
Sun Valley, Sol del Valle	Carlos Aranguiz	<i>absent</i>	
Westminster, Little Saigon	Matthew Le	<i>absent</i>	

102009:1.2.1.1. * - Mirtha Villafañe, Charles Ho, Paul Lai, Ray Yeo, Ron Black, John Tong, and Matthew Ma – **Motion** to seat these delegates who did not bring credentials to the meeting. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:1.2.1.2. The following pastors of emerging churches were seated by credentials according to the Rules of Classis GLA:

Santa Clarita Valley Community	David Kong	Parent Church: Bethany CRC, Burbank
Westminster, Ekklesia CRC	Jonas Muljo	Parent Church: Hope International, Arcadia

102009:1.3. The President declared Classis constituted.

102009:1.3.1. Gary Stevens and Bill Postma were appointed to the Classical Credentials Committee and the Ballot Committee.

102009:1.3.2. Synodical Deputies Bruce Persenaire from Classis Central California, Peter Ryu from Classis Pacific Hanmi, and Neville Kock from Classis California South were introduced.

102009:2. Reports of Classical Teams and Functionaries

102009:2.1. Classical Leadership Team

102009:2.1.1. There were no items of action.

102009:2.1.2. The report is **received for information** (Agenda page 8).

102009:2.1.3. Report of the Peer Relations Developer was **received for information** (Agenda page 9).

102009:2.1.4. Report of the Stated Clerk

102009:2.1.4.1. **Motion** to approve the Minutes from the June 2009 meeting of Classis. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.1.4.2. There were no nominations for the boards of Calvin College and Calvin Seminary.

102009:2.1.4.3. **Motion** to nominate Rev. Dan Brink for the board of Christian Reformed Home Missions. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.1.4.4. There were no names submitted for the denominational Candidacy Committee.

102009:2.1.4.5. **Motion** to affirm Mr. Jay Sankey for a second term on the board of Christian Reformed World Missions. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.1.4.6. **Motion** to approve the work of the Stated Clerk. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.2. Leadership Development Team

102009:2.2.1. The Leadership Development Team presented a report including **recommendations** from the Southern California Race Relations Team.

102009:2.2.1.1. **Motion** to approve the Recommendations of the Southern California Race Relations Team which are:

102009:2.2.1.1.1. Southern California Classes work within their Classis to promote ministry that is racially and culturally inclusive and work with other Classes.

102009:2.2.1.1.2. The focus of Race Relations Ministry should be the local congregation. Materials should be selected and adapted for congregational use and adapt DORR for congregational use such as small groups and Sunday school programs.

102009:2.2.1.1.3. Southern California Classes urge their pastors and congregations to create time in their worship services for the vision of God's diverse and unified family.

- 102009:2.2.1.1.4. Race relations teams and the Race Relations Advocate [staff] develop a strategic plan for race relations ministry that identifies and mobilizes local champions to promote Race Relations ministry.
- 102009:2.2.1.1.5. Race Relations teams should function as a standing ministry of Classes for mutual accountability.
- 102009:2.2.1.2. **Supported. Passed.**
- 102009:2.3. New Church Development Team
- 102009:2.3.1. **Report was received** from the Hispanic Ministry Developer, Mirtha Villafañe.
- 102009:2.3.2. **Video Report was presented** by New Church Development Specialist Elmer Tandyu.
- 102009:2.3.3. The West Coast Regional Team **distributed videos** to each church for use in worship.
- 102009:2.3.4. **Motion** to approve the current members of the New Church Development Team for the 2010 year. **Supported. Passed.**
- 102009:2.3.4.1. **Motion** to accept the resignation of Rich Braaksma from the Team. **Supported. Passed.** The Classis thanks Rich for his service.
- 102009:2.3.4.2. The New Church Development Team **asked the Classical Leadership Team** to determine policies which clarify participation on Teams such as the length of service.
- 102009:2.3.5. The **Classis thanked Tom Doorn** for his ministry in Classis and expressed appreciation for his work leading the New Church Development Team. This is Tom's final meeting of Classis before retirement in January 2010.
- 102009:2.4. Classical Credentialing Team
- 102009:2.4.1. **Motion** to accept the introduction of Rev. Maged Dakdouk as the first step toward ordination in the CRC according to Article 8. **Supported. Passed. Matt Ford was appointed** as Dakdouk's Mentor.
- 102009:2.4.2. **Motion** to accept the introduction of Rev. Fernando Valencia as the first step toward ordination in the CRC according to Article 8. **Supported. Passed. Dan Brink was appointed** as Fernando's Mentor.
- 102009:2.4.3. **Motion** to accept the introduction of Rev. Matthew Ma as the first step toward ordination in the CRC according to Article 8. **Supported. Passed. John Tong was appointed** as Matthew's Mentor.
- 102009:2.4.3.1. The record notes that all three have submitted their initial paperwork, have met with the Classical Credentialing Team, and the denominational Candidacy Committee has concurred with the Credentialing Team's declaration of need. The Candidacy Committee has given permission to proceed.
- 102009:2.4.3.2. The completion of this step of the process entitles each candidate a **license to exhort.**
- 102009:2.4.4. **Motion** to revise Classical Policy to declare that all candidates seeking to become ordained by way of Article 8 or Article 23 of the Church Order pay the costs for the required Psychological Assessment. **Supported. Passed.**
- 102009:2.5. Finance – Resource Team
- 102009:2.5.1. **Motion** to approve the Treasurer's Report. **Supported. Passed.**
- 102009:2.5.2. **Motion** to approve the proposed Health Insurance Grant:

Name	Total Cost	Individual	Classis GLA	Sponsoring Church	Home Missions
Richard Braaksma	\$ 9,180	\$ 4,590	\$ 1,530	Artesia Trinity \$ 1,530	\$ 1,530
Elmer Tandayu	\$11,100	\$ 5,550	\$ 1,850	Carson Grace \$ 1,850	\$ 1,850
Z. Patimukay	\$11,400	\$ 5,550	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900
Jonas Muljo	\$11,400	\$ 5,550	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900
Wallace Williams	\$11,400	\$ 5,550	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900
Total	\$54,480	\$27,240	\$ 9,080	\$ 9,080	\$ 9,080

102009:2.5.2.1. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.5.3. Proposed Budget

Classical Leadership Team	\$ 24,640
Prayer Communication Team	\$ 500
New Church Development Team	\$ 27,000
Classical Credentialing Team	\$ 1,000
Leadership Development Team	\$ 14,500
Finance – Resource Team	\$ 14,500

Total **\$121,840**

Contributing Members **1730**
Per Member Contribution \$ 70.43

102009:2.5.3.1. **Motion** to maintain the per member contribution at the 2009 level of \$ 62.00, resulting in a deficit to the budget of \$ 14,580. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.5.3.2. **Motion** to cover the deficit by using the overages saved from the Team Funds in past years. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.5.3.3. **Motion** to approve the 2010 budget. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.6. Credentials Committee

102009:2.6.1. The Council of First Christian Reformed Church of Artesia

102009:2.6.1.1. **Motion** to approve the retirement of Rev. Ron Goudzwaard on July 1, 2010. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.6.1.2. **Request** that Rev. Rick Westra be appointed as church counselor for First Church. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.6.1.3. The Council **asks permission** of the Classis to use the ministry share reduction formula for smaller churches in determining denominational ministry shares according to the Acts of Synod, 1987, 1989. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:2.6.2. The Council of Anaheim Christian Reformed Church **notified Classis** that it is anticipating an action of deposition. The Council of the Anaheim Latin American CRC has been working with Anaheim and the individual as required by

the Church Order Supplement, Articles 82-84, d. The Anaheim Council hopes to conclude this matter at the February 2010 meeting of Classis.

102009:2.6.2.1. The matter was **received for information** and **forwarded** to the Classical Leadership Team to ensure proper handling of the issue.

102009:2.6.3. The Spirit Filled Church of Artesia

102009:2.6.3.1. A letter was submitted explaining the separation between the Church and Rev. Ray Yeo. Rev. Yeo was unable to relocate from Colorado to California within a reasonable time from his acceptance of the Church's call. The letter was signed by both Sam Ohm, President of the Council and Rev. Ray Yeo.

102009:2.6.3.1.1. Spirit Filled was **informed** that such a separation requires the approval of Classis with the concurrence of Synodical Deputies according the Church Order, Article 17.

102009:2.6.3.1.2. The request for separation was **forwarded to the Classical Leadership Team** to guide Spirit Filled through the process and place this item on the agenda of the February 2010 meeting of Classis.

102009:2.6.3.2. Spirit Filled CRC **informed** Council that the church plant in Classis California South known as Hope Church of the World had **disbanded** and the members of that emerging congregation had **joined** with Spirit Filled Church. The church planter of Hope Church was **called** as the pastor of Spirit Filled Church.

102009:2.6.3.2.1. **Classis assigned** this issue to the Stated Clerk to insure all procedures are properly followed and that Classis California South is involved.

102009:2.6.3.2.2. The immediate question was the status of the new pastor in the Christian Reformed Church. The matter was **forwarded to the Classical Credentialing Team**.

102009:2.6.3.3. Spirit Filled CRC **notified Classis** that they have changed their name from Spirit Filled Church to Cerritos Woo-Ri Church. Classis **directed the Stated Clerk** to work with the leaders of Woo-Ri to properly inform the Yearbook Committee of the Change.

102009:2.6.4. **Motion** to approve the work of the Credentials Committee. **Supported. Passed.**

102009:3. Synodical Committee to revise the Form of Subscription

102009:3.1. Rev. John Van Schepen presented a draft of a Covenant for Officebearers in the CRCNA and led a "conversation" with the members of Classis on it.

102009:4. Colloquium Doctum with Ministry Candidate Mirtha Villafañe

102009:4.1. Rev. Rick Westra introduced Mirtha to Classis.

102009:4.2. The Colloquium Doctum was conducted by Rev. Henry Lengkeek.

102009:4.3. Time was provided for questions from the delegates to Classis and the Synodical Deputies.

102009:4.4. **Motion** to approve Mirtha Villafañe for Ordination to the Office of Minister of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church. **Supported.**

102009:4.5. Dan Brink led those in attendance in prayer then called for Executive Session.

102009:4.5.1. The delegates of Classis were given time for deliberation.

- 102009:4.5.2. The Synodical Deputies were dismissed and a vote by ballot was taken.
- 102009:4.5.3. **Passed.**
- 102009:4.5.4. The Synodical Deputies returned and concurred with the decision of Classis.
- 102009:4.5.5. Executive Session was terminated.
- 102009:4.6. Congratulations were given to Mirtha from the entire body of Classis and she was presented with a Diploma.
- 102009:5. **Motion** to adjourn the meeting of Classis. **Supported. Passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gary M. Stevens
Stated Clerk