

# Classis Greater Los Angeles

of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

## Minutes of Meeting Tuesday, February 22, 2011

Hosted by All Nations Church (ANC), Lake View Terrace, CA  
President: David Haberbusch; Vice-President: Peter Kang; Clerk: Sid Sybenga

- 022011:1.     **Spiritual Formation:** Rev. Jim Seung of ANC led Classis in a time of singing.  
 022011:1.1.     Mr. Luis Uriatre of the Latin America CRC in Anaheim gave a testimony sharing what God was doing in their church; and Rev. Tom Doorn, of the NCDT, introduced a time of extended small group prayer for the mission of Classis GLA.  
 022011:1.2.     The Stated Clerk collected the credentials and confirmed the delegates of Classis as follows:

<u>Church</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon or other</u>
Anaheim	Joel Van Soelen	Bud De Vries	
Anaheim Latin American	Mirtha Villafañe	<i>absent</i>	
Arcadia Hope International	Sid Sybenga	<i>absent</i>	
Arcadia Hope Int. Chinese	Faith Lim (candidate)	Charles Ho	
Artesia, First	Wayne Vande Brake (eld)	Rich Boersma	
Artesia, Trinity	Erick Westra	Randy Van Essen	
Bellflower, First	Paul Hoekstra	Tom Byma	Justin Vande Kerk
Bellflower, Bethany	Henry Lengkeek	Ervin Smidt	
Bellflower, God's Grace Christian	Dionisio Aguhob	Hans Tritten	
Bellflower, Rosewood	Bonny Mulder-Behnia	Art Lapré	Joy Shopfner
Burbank, Bethany	Soo Min Bang	<i>absent</i>	
Camarillo, Iglesia CRC	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Carson, Grace Christian Fellowship	<i>Absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Covina, The Bridge	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Fountain Valley, Fountain of Life	Matt Ford	Ed Mirth	
La Habra, Fountain of Life Mission	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Lake View Terrace, All Nations	Tae Young Kim	Rich Kim	Christina Kang
Long Beach	Brent Wassink	David Haberbusch	
Long Beach, New City	Carl Kromminga	Daniel Mendez	
Los Angeles, Community	Richard Jones	<i>absent</i>	
Los Angeles, New Ground Harvest	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Los Angeles, Ttokamsa Mission	<i>absent</i>	<i>absent</i>	
Mangilao, Guam, Faith Presbyterian	Jeff Nelson	Betwin Alokoa	
Monterey Park, Chinese	John Tong	Matthew Ma (candidate)	
Sun Valley, Bethel	Matt Sapp	Frank de Haan	Victor Lenl
Sun Valley, Sol del Valle	Carlos Aranguiz	Claudia Martinez	
Westminster, Little Saigon	Matthew Le	Danny Phan	

- 022011:1.3.     The following pastors of emerging churches were seated by credentials according to the Rules of Classis GLA:

Arcadia, Indonesian CRC	<i>Absent</i>	Hope International Church, Arcadia
Artesia, City Church	<i>Absent</i>	Bethany Bellflower
Bellflower, Lord's Love Mission	<i>Absent</i>	Bethany, Bellflower
La Crescenta, God's Dream Center	Tim Kwon	Korean CRC of Orange County
Cerritos, Heaven Bound	<i>absent</i>	Rosewood, Bellflower
Fountain Valley, Emanuelu Samoan	<i>Absent</i>	Fountain Valley Fellowship
Los Angeles, Grace Unlimited	Melvin Jackson	Los Angeles, Community
Montclair, Indonesian	<i>absent</i>	Grace Fellowship, Carson
Santa Clarita, Valley Community	David Kong	Bethany CRC, Burbank
Thousand Oaks, Community	Jeong Jin Yoo	All Nations, Lake View Terrace
Venice Beach, Talking Stick	<i>absent</i>	Trinity, Artesia
Westminster, Ekklesia CRC	Jonas Muljo	Hope International, Arcadia
Whittier, Ephesus Church	<i>absent</i>	Urim Church (Cal South)

022011:1.4. The President Haberbush welcomed everyone and constituted Classis.

022011:1.4.1. Carlos Aranguiz, Matthew Ford, and Mirtha Villafañe were appointed to the Classical Ballot Committee; and Joel Van Soelen and Christina Kang were appointed to the Classical Credentials Review Committee.

022011:1.4.2. Synodical Deputies George Vink from Classis Central California, Peter Ryu from Classis Pacific Hanmi, and William Verhoef from Classis California South were introduced.

## **022011:2. Reports of Classical Teams and Functionaries**

022011:2.1. President introduced the **Stated Clerk's** Report (page 4 of the agenda)

022011:2.1.1. **Motion** to accept the minutes of October 19, 2010. **Supported. Passed.**

022011:2.1.2. **Motion** to accept the Clerk's report with the addition of an email notice giving permission to proceed with the Colloquium Doctum for Rev. Palbo Sang Won Lee from David Koll. **Supported. Passed.**

022011:2.1.3. The first ballots for electing the Classis GLA minister and elder delegates to Synod 2011 were finalized and distributed for a Classical vote.

022011:2.2. **Classical Credential Team** Report by Erick Westra (pages 8-11 agenda)

022011:2.2.1. **Motion** to accept the official introduction of Charles Ho, Suni Tsai and Kathy Xu as the first step toward declaring them eligible for call and ordination as "Ministry Associates" in the CRCNA according to article 23 of the Church Order. **Supported. Passed**

022011:2.2.2. **Motion** to accept the official introduction of Rev. Peter Jin as the first step toward declaring him eligible for call as a "Minister of the Word" in the CRCNA according to Article 8 of the Church Order. **Supported. Passed.** Support was conditional on submitting the proper documentation.

022011:2.2.3. **Motion** to proceed with the Colloquium Doctums for Revs. (Ken) Kyung Hong and (Jim) Kwangchul Seung **Supported. Passed.**

022011:2.2.4. The Colloquium Doctum discussion was led by Peter Kang with translation by Tae Young Kim. Further questions were received from the delegates and the Synodical Deputies.

022011:2.2.5. President Haberbush declared executive session. **Motion** to declare Revs. (Ken) Kyung Hong and (Jim) Kwangchul Seung eligible for call in the CRCNA according to Article 8 of the Church Order. **Supported. Passed.** Synodical Deputies **Concurred.**

- 022011:2.2.6. President Haberbush adjourned executive session, welcomed back Rev. (Ken) Kyung Hong and (Jim) Kwangchul Seung and other guests. Classis congratulated them, presented them with the Classical Diploma, and prayed over them.
- 022011:2.3. **Classis and Team Action Items:** President Haberbush requested the first ballot voting results for Synodical delegates. 38 ballots were cast and no majority votes were received. The **motion** to reduce the ballot slate of nominees to those who received the five highest number of votes on the first ballot was **Supported. Passed.**
- 022011:2.3.1. Second ballot was distributed and the vote was taken.
- 022011:2.3.2. **Motion** to declare the submitted “ministry description” for Faith Lim Geok Keng to be in keeping with the synodical guidelines for “ministry associates” and to proceed with her Classical Examination was **Supported. Passed.** Synodical deputies **Concurred**
- 022011:2.3.3. **Motion** by Hope International Church that Classis GLA approve the merger of three Hope International Church congregations - namely the Indonesian CRC, Hope International Church Chinese, and Hope International Church English - into one CRC (see pages 4 & 7 of agenda - Church order article 38 e) **Supported. Passed.**
- 022011:2.3.4. **Motion** by the Classical Leadership Team to approve the appointment of Rev. Tom Doorn as the counselor for Faith Presbyterian CRC of Guam during their search for a new pastor was **Supported. Passed.**
- 022011:2.3.5. **Motion** by the Leadership Development Team to approve the use of up to \$2000 per year from the Classical Student fund budget for Classis GLA high school students to attend the Facing Your Future program at Calvin Seminary. **Supported. Passed.**
- 022011:2.3.6. **Motion** by the New Church Development Team to remove Rev. Ron Black from NCDT membership was **Supported. Passed.**
- 022011:2.3.7. Classis heard reports from the Camp Dunamis leaders and from Rev. Al Breems about the Evangelist Training Program (ETP)
- 022011:2.4. Classis takes coffee break
- 022011:2.5. President calls meeting to order,
- 022011:2.5.1. Balloting committee reports the results of the Synodical Delegate elections. Rev. Bonny Mulder-Behnia and Rev. Peter Kang were chosen as minister delegates and Rev. Paul Hoekstra as first alternate and Rev. Christina Kang as second alternate. Tae Young Kim and Thomas Byma were chosen as elder delegates and Julius Umaning as first alternate and Mark Hugen as second alternate.
- 022011:2.5.2. **Motion** to proceed with the Colloquium Doctum for Rev. Pablo Sang Won Lee was **Supported. Passed.**
- 022011:2.5.3. The Colloquium Doctum discussion was led by Erick Westra. Further questions were received from the delegates and the Synodical Deputies.
- 022011:2.5.4. President Haberbush declares executive session. **Motion** to declare Rev. Pablo Sang Won Lee eligible for call in the CRCNA according to Article 8 of the Church Order was **Supported. Passed.** Synodical Deputies **Concurred.**

022011:2.5.5. President Haberbush adjourns executive session, welcomes back Rev. Lee and other guests. Classis congratulated Rev. Lee, presented the Classical diploma, and prayed over Rev. Lee.

022011:2.5.6. The World Missions report with a DVD presentation was made by Henry Karsten our regional World Missions representative.

022011:2.6. Classis breaks for lunch.

022011:2.7. **Classis and Team Action Items Continued:** President Haberbush opens afternoon session and requests the Credentials Review Committee to report the communications on the credentials submitted by the GLA churches.

022011:2.7.1. Joel Van Soelen of the Credentials Review Committee reported that 21 out of 27 established churches were present and submitted credentials and that 5 out of 15 emerging churches were present at the meeting. Credential communications from three churches were received.

1. All Nations Church of Lake View Terrace reported that their Thousand Oaks Community Church -plant under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Jeong Jin Yoo has closed. Accepted for information and communication to the denomination.

2. Rosewood CRC of Bellflower requested classical approval for the retirement of Rev. Peter Holwerda, our regional Home Missions leader. Motion below.

3. Bethel CRC of Sun Valley requested direction and advice for Classical pulpit supply as they search for a new pastor. They will communicate with the clerk.

4. Four churches nominated elders to serve as synodical delegates and one church nominated one of their pastors to serve as a minister synodical delegate.

022011:2.7.2. Guam delegates to Classis shared challenges of Faith CRC and their search for a pastor.

022011:2.7.3. **New Church Development Team (NCDT)** report was presented by Tom Doorn (pages 12-13 agenda)

022011:2.7.4. Tom Doorn alerted Classis to an upcoming questionnaire/survey (approved at the last meeting of Classis) to be distributed to the pastors of GLA through the clerk. Pastors are asked to distribute this questionnaire/survey to their congregation so the NCDT can gauge the evangelistic-missional passion of the churches in Classis GLA.

022011:2.7.5. Mirtha Villafañe reported on the NCDT sponsored **Fan the Flame** conference scheduled for May 14, 2011 and encouraged all congregations to participate in this evangelism event.

022011:2.7.6. Tom Doorn introduced the NCDT proposal/motion that Classis approve "that the combined Hawaii Funds (Fund #1 plus Fund #2) be divided equally between the three partners -- one-third goes to Anuenue CRC, one-third goes to Classis Greater Los Angeles, and one-third goes to Christian Reformed Home Missions in accordance with the [published and agreed to] guidelines." **Supported**

022011:2.7.7. Peter Holwerda presented the history and context of the Anuenue CRC and the rationale for this proposal.

022011:2.7.8. Tom Doorn read a letter from the President of the CRC Home Missions Board requesting that Classes GLA not deal with this proposal since the Home Missions board and executive have not agreed to the proposal.

022011:2.7.9. Discussion ensued clarifying that if Classis GLA and Anuenue CRC, two of the specified partners, approve the proposal, this gives them authority to discuss with Home Mission the proposal without delay.

022011:2.7.10. The question was called and supported; and the motion **Passed**.

022011:2.7.11. **Motion** by the council of Rosewood Church that Classis GLA: Approve the pending retirement of Rev. Peter Holwerda due to reaching retirement age, and that the CLT be given the authority to establish the effective date should it precede our next Classis meeting in October 2011. **Supported**

022011:2.7.12. Rev. Peter Holwerda addressed Classis and reported on his ministry with Home Missions for 26 years and his ministry with the West Coast Regional Team over the last six years. With negotiation between Classes, the West Coast Regional Team, and CRC Home Missions proceeding as to how best to partner in serving the church, Peter shared that it is time for new leadership to lead this next phase of ministry.

022011:2.7.13. Motion **Passed**

022011:2.8. **Classical Credential Team** proceeded with the Classical examination of Faith Lim Geok Keng (pages 8 & 11 agenda). The examination was led by Stan Kruis. Further questions were received from the delegates.

022011:2.8.1. President Haberbusch declares executive session. **Motion** to declare Faith Lim Geok Keng eligible for call in the CRCNA as a “ministry associate” according to Article 23 of the Church Order was **Supported. Passed**.

022011:2.8.2. President Haberbusch adjourns executive session, welcomes back Faith and other guests. Classis congratulated Faith, presented the Classical certificate, and prayed over her.

022011:2.8.3. The ballot with two nominees (Mr. Hyung Jung Kim and Dr. Ronald Vender Molen) to serve as Calvin Theological Seminary board member for region 6 were distributed for a Classis GLA vote. Mr. Kim received 26 votes and Dr. Vander Molen received 9. The results will be forwarded to the denominational office and tabulated with the votes of Classis Cal South, Central and Pacific Hanmi.

022011:2.8.4. Bill Postma highlighted some items from the **Leadership Development Team** report on page 14. Dick Van Eck gave a CRWRC report. Both were accepted for information.

022011:2.8.5. Goldene Byrna presented the **Finance Team** Report on pages 17 and 18 of the agenda. Churches were encouraged to pay their share of the ministry burden. It was noted that Classis GLA still operates under a deficit budget. Motion to accept the Finance Team report was **Supported. Passed**.

022011:1. **Motion** to adjourn the meeting of Classis. **Supported. Passed**. Vice President Peter Kang closed the meeting in prayer.

Note 1: These minutes will be approved at our scheduled October 18, 2011 Classis Meeting

Note 2: The agenda for this meeting including all team reports and the supplemental Hawaii Report and Proposal can be accessed at [www.classisgla.org](http://www.classisgla.org)

Respectfully submitted,  
*Sid Sybenga*, Stated Clerk