

Classis Greater Los Angeles Meeting

www.classisgla.org

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Bethel CRC, Sun Valley, CA.

10725 Penrose St. Sun Valley, CA

Please print a copy of the full agenda and bring it to the meeting or download it to your computer and use your computer at the meeting.

(The Full agenda and the full financial report are available on the web at www.classisgla.org)

Also bring a signed copy of your Church Credential.

(blank pdf copy of Church credential is attached – print & fill out)

(emerging churches get your sponsor church to include you on their credentials or to sign yours)

8:00 – 8:25 AM Welcome reception

8:30 AM Worship & Business begins

Chairperson: Zachary Vandenberg Vice Chair: Dan Brink Clerk: Cindi Fairchild

- 8:30 AM Opening welcome and devotions: Classical Leadership Team
- 8:50 AM Introductions and Credentials and signing of Covenant for Office Bearers
- 9:00 AM Select Delegates for Synod 2017 – 1st vote
- 9:15 AM CLT and Clerk Reports pgs 4-6
- 9:25 AM CENT Report pgs8-9
- 9:35 AM LDT Report pgs 9-11
- 9:45 AM Coffee Break
- 10:15 AM Select Delegates for Synod 2017 – 2nd Vote
- 10:45 AM Finance Team 2017 Report pg 11
- 10:50 AM Church Credential Communications to Classis
- 11:00 AM Faith Formation Ministries Presentation – Sam Gutierrez
- 11:15 AM Church Planter Reports
- 12:00 PM Lunch and Closing

GLA FELLOWSHIP COVENANT

Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit. Ephesians 4:3

Prepare God's people for works of service. Ephesians 4:11

Be above reproach. 1 Timothy 3:2

Train yourself to be godly. 1 Timothy 4:7

We are a family of diverse Christian Reformed congregations,
whose pastors, elders, and deacons covenant together
to encourage and empower each other
to more effectively lead our congregations in the mission of God
in the greater Los Angeles region—a gathering place of all nations.

We believe we are ... Better Together

THE GLA PURPOSE

is to develop healthy congregations that work together and encourage one another in making disciples for God's Kingdom in our region.

THE GLA WAY

1. Discerning together God's leading in our region
2. Developing healthy leaders for healthy congregations
3. Demonstrating CRC hospitality to all nations
4. Discipling new congregations effectively

GLA GOALS for 2014

1. Maintained and supported the Learning, Encouragement, Accountability, Dreaming (LEAD) teams to support the collegial networking of GLA pastors.
2. Provided three training opportunities for multicultural leadership development
3. Communicated with the Churches the resources and activities for growth and involvement in GLA
4. Developed a strategic plan for GLA Church planting

HOW ARE WE DOING; HOW HAVE WE DONE?

1. **8:30 AM Opening devotions: Classical Leadership Team (CLT)**
2. **8:50 AM Introductions, Credentials, Covenanting, and convening a Church Credentials committee.**

Classis GLA Roster of Churches –

Established Churches	Pastor	Elder	Deacon
Anaheim	Joel Van Soelen		
Anaheim Latin American	Tomas Ivens		
Arcadia Hope International	Shu-Min Grace Cheng		
Artesia, First	Paul Hansen		
Artesia, Trinity	Rick Westra		
Bellflower, First	Zachary Vandenberg, Hairon Chow		
Bellflower, Bethany	Jim Kuiper, Lon Wagner		
Bellflower, God's Grace Christian			
Bellflower, Rosewood	Dan Brink, Bonny Mulder-Behnia, Fernando Valencia		
Burbank, Bethany	Soo Min Bang, HyukS Kwon, SunHo Bae		
Camarillo, Iglesia CRC	Ricardo Aragon		
Carson, Grace Christian Fellowship			
Covina, The Bridge	Saejung Paul Chang		
Fountain Valley, Fountain of Life	Matt Ford		
Lake View Terrace, All Nations	Tae Young Kim, Pablo Lee Rich Kim, Ken Hong, Peter Kang, Christina Kang, Jim Seung, Joseph Hyun, John Lee, Chris Choe, David Jineung, Abraham Lee		
Long Beach	Brent Wassink		
Long Beach, New City	Carl Kromminga		
Los Angeles, Church of Joy	Heui Moon Lee		
Los Angeles, Community			
Los Angeles, Ttokamsa Mission	Ken Choe, Charles Oh, BJ Jun, Charles Kim		
Ordot Chalan Pago, Guam, Faith Church	Tom Van Engen		
Monterey Park, Chinese			
Santa Fe Springs Together Comm.	Sung Chil Choi		
Sun Valley, Bethel	Micah Bruxvoort, Julius Umawing		
Westminster, Little Saigon	Matthew Le		

Emerging Churches	Pastor	Parenting Church
Anaheim, Bridge of Hope	Maged Fayez	Anaheim, Anaheim CRC
Artesia City Church	Eric Sarwar	Bellflower, Bethany CRC
Bellflower, Ethnos Community	Tomas Ivens	Anaheim, Latin American
Bellflower, Lord's Love Mission	Jae Kun Lee - O	
Cerritos, Heaven Bound	Andrew Choh - CP	Bellflower, Rosewood CRC
El Monte, Living Well CRC	Sam Lee	N. Long Beach, New City
Fountain Valley, Emanuelu Samoan	Fatu Auau - CP	Fountain Valley, Fountain of Life
Los Angeles, Grace Unlimited Fellowship	Melvin Jackson - O	Los Angeles, L. A. Community
Paramount, Centro Familiar Cristiano		Anaheim, Latin American
Riverside, Inland Jubilee	James Lee-O	Santa Fe Springs, Together
Santa Ana, Hispano Americana	Ernesto Mejias	Anaheim, Latin American
Rosemead, Sky City	Charles Ho	Arcadia, Hope International
Santa Clarita Community Church	David Kong - O	Burbank, Bethany Korean
Westminster, Little Saigon Nexgen	Duong Le	Westminster, Little Saigon
<i>CP = Commissioned Pastor O= Minister of the Word</i>		

3. 9:00 AM Select Delegates for Synod 2017 – 1st vote

4. 9:15 AM Classical Leadership Team (CLT) Report and Clerk Reports

Classical Leadership Team (CLT) Report

Our purpose is act on behalf of Classis between meetings, organize the Classis meetings, facilitate and coordinate the ministry of the Classical teams, and adjudicate issues that arise among the churches of Classis. The CLT serves as the administrative arm of Classis and serves as an access to Synod.

Team members: David Haberbush (leader); Mirtha Villafañe (Staff); Melvin Jackson; Dan Brink, Tae Kim, Cindi Fairchild (Clerk), Brent Wassink; Peter Kang, Julius Umawing (Staff) and David Kong (Staff)

1. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Questions concerning the employment status of employees of Classis staff and whether they are being properly classified arose. In response, the Leadership Team invited Donald Mulder and Goldene Byma to attend the January 12 meeting to discuss these issues. As a result of the information provided by Donald Mulder, it was determined that Classis needs to treat its staff, with the exceptions of David Kong and Denise Tamminga should be treated as employees instead of independent contractors. Failing to do so could expose Classis to claims by the Employment Dev. Department of the State of California as well as the IRS for failing to withhold and pay employment taxes for the employee staff. It was recognized that becoming compliant is important so that there is no confusion or exposure to Classis on the issue of the payment of compensation and the withholding of taxes from Staff employees. Additionally, by treating the staff as employees additional expenses for the employer's portion of payroll taxes and Workmen's Compensation will be incurred.

Don Mulder suggested, and the Leadership Team agreed, that to the extent possible, those persons who are to be treated as employees rather than independent contractors should be paid through the churches with which they are associated and to the extent any administrative expenses are incurred by such churches, they will be borne by Classis. Therefore, the following resolution was agreed and passed:

- *Classis GLA Treasurer, Stated Clerk, Denise Tamminga (Camp Dunamis) and Peer Relations Developer, David Kong are considered Independent Contractors and will receive 1099's. Peer Relations Developer, Julius Umawing and Mirtha Villafane will be paid by their respective churches plus 7.5%, plus any other administrative expenses the churches may incur as a result of carrying this expense on their payroll. This is subject to the approval of Bethel CRC, Sun Valley, Rosewood CRC, Bellflower and/or Classis CA South. Classis GLA also needs to get Workers Compensation Insurance. The additional expense related to this will come from the General Funds.*

An In-service idea was discussed to have the Finance Team present an idea at a future classis meeting to see what interest there might be among the churches within classis in having a resource person available for financial services for bookkeeping purposes. Several small churches may find it helpful to use one person to maintain their bookkeeping for consistency in reporting. If there is sufficient interest shown then classis will need to approve at a future meeting.

CRCNA Council of Delegates is seeking the nomination of a Classis GLA representative. Melvin Jackson is willing to be nominated as the Classis GLA representative. The Leadership team recommends that Melvin Jackson be approved at the next classis meeting as the classis GLA representative to the CRCNA Council of Delegates.

Stated Clerk Report

Clerk Communications September 20, 2016 to January 20, 2017

Received:

1. From Al Postma, Classis Renewal Coordinator, Classis Data request (Sept 23)
2. From Eric Sarwar, Psalm Fest Event information (Sept 28)
3. From Bonny Mulder-Behnia, Multi-Cultural Event at Rosewood CRC (Sept 29)
4. From Dee Recker, Inspire 2017 Event information (Oct 5)
5. From James VanderLaan, Home Missions' new video (Oct 6)
6. From Dee Recker, BOT Highlights (Oct 10)
7. From Mirtha Villafane, Fan the Flame event (Oct 10)
8. From David Kolls' office, E. Sarwar exam materials (Oct 11)
9. From Becky Vanderzee, World Renew job opportunities (Oct 30)
10. From Faith Formation Ministries, Youth Ministry Invite (Nov 11)
11. From Dee Recker, Nomination for New Council of Delegates (Nov 18)
12. From Dee Recker, Credentials for Synod 2017 and Delegate Information Forms (Dec 2)
13. From CRC Communications, Winter 2016 Quarterly Ministry Report (Dec 8)
14. From Eric Sarwar, Invitation to Christmas Dinner and Carols (Dec 9)
15. From Lis VanHarten, Sabbatical Grants for Pastors Information (Dec 9)
16. From Bethany CRC, Bellflower, Installation Bulletin for Eric Sarwar (Dec 15)
17. From David Kong, Inland Jubilee New Church Info & CENT funding request (Dec 15)
18. From Joel Van Soelen, Disability Workshop Information (Dec 28)
19. From Tomas Ivens, LACRC to Ethnos update (Jan 5)
20. From Dee Recker, Synod Review Task Force survey (Jan 6)

Sent:

1. To CLT final minutes of Sept 15 mtg. (Sept 23)
2. To GLA Churches, Psalms Fest Event information (Sept 28)
3. To GLA Churches, Oct 25 Classis meeting agenda and materials (Sept 29)
4. To GLA Churches, Multi-Cultural Event information (Sept 29)
5. To GLA Churches, Inspire 2017 Event information (Oct 6)
6. To GLA Churches, Home Missions' new video (Oct 6)
7. To GLA Churches, BOT Highlights (Oct 10)

8. To GLA Churches, Fan the Flame event (Oct 10)
9. To GLA Churches, Eric Sarwar exam materials (Oct 11)
10. To GLA Churches, Timothy Leadership Training reminder (Oct 12)
11. To GLA Churches, World Renew job opportunities (Oct 31)
12. To GLA Churches, Oct. 25, 2016 Classis meeting minutes (Nov 15)
13. To Denom offices, Oct. 25, 2016 Classis meeting minutes (Nov 15)
14. To Jonas Muljo, Oct. 25, 2016 Classis meeting minutes for classis website (Nov 15)
15. To GLA Churches, Eric Sarwar invitation to Christmas Dinner and Carols (Dec 9)
16. To GLA Churches, Sabbatical Grants for Pastors Information (Dec 9)
17. To Synodical Services & YB Office, Installation Bulletin & Art 8 for E. Sarwar (Dec 15)
18. To Yearbook Office, Inland Jubilee New Church Information (Dec 15)
19. To Rachel Van Dyk, Inland Jubilee CENT Application (Dec 15)
20. To GLA Churches, Disability Workshop Information (Jan 5)
21. To Synod Review Task Force, Completed Requested Survey (Jan 9)
22. To Bethany CRC, Latin American/T. Ivens issue (Jan 13)
23. To Latin American CRC, Bethany/T. Ivens issue (Jan 13)
24. To T. Ivens, Latin American/Bethany CRC issue (Jan 13)
25. To GLA churches, Synod 2017 Nominations (Jan 18)

CLASSIS TEAMS & TEAM MEMBERS

Classis GLA Ministry Teams January 2017			
<i>The goal is to have every church participating on a Classis team</i>			
<i>Where could you or a church member serve Classis?</i>			
Leadership Development Team - LDT			
<i><u>Develops and oversees training, retreats, and scholarships for leaders</u></i>			
Julius Umawing	suiluj64@yahoo.com	Staff Leader	
Carl Kromminga	newcitylb@juno.com	Secretary	
Mirtha Villafane		Staff	
Ron Chu			
Katie Venhuizen			
Lon Wagner			
Race Relations Team - RRT			
<i><u>promotes intercultural appreciation, cooperation, and multicultural values</u></i>			
Fatu Auau			
Frank DeHaan			
Ruth Palma			

Classical Credentialing Team - CCT			
<u>oversees the credentialing processes for examinations for ordination</u>			
Rick Westra	rwestra@mac.com	Leader	
Matt Ford			
Richard Jones			
Fernando Valencia			
Classical Leadership Team - CLT			
<u>Oversees the ministries of Classis and organizes Classis meetings</u>			
David Haberbush	dhaberbush@lbinsolvency.com	Leader	
Cindi Fairchild	cindif@CRMinistryCenter.net	Clerk	
David Kong		Staff	
Julius Umawing		Staff	
Mirtha Villafane		Staff	
Dan Brink			
Melvin Jackson			
Peter Kang			
Tae Kim			
Brent Wassink			
Church Empowerment & Networking Team – CENT			
<u>Oversees and promotes evangelism and church planting in the Classis</u>			
Joel Van Soelen	pastor@anaheimcrc.org	Leader	
Rachel Van Dyke	rvandyk@verizon.net	Secretary	
Ron Chu		Staff	
David Kong		Staff	
Mirtha Villafane		Staff	
Chris Choe			
Tomas Ivens			
Jim Kuiper			
Andrew Nishimoto			
Finance Team FT			
<u>Develops and oversees the budget of Classis</u>			
Jim Zoetewey		Leader	
Don Mulder		Secretary	
Goldene Byma	classistreasurer@hotmail.com	Treasurer	
Rich Hoeksema			

5. 9:25 AM Church Empowerment and Networking Team (CENT)

To assist classical churches in doing evangelism/mission outreach and in planting churches; and to assist non CRC churches who desire to affiliate with the CRC.

Team members: Joel Van Soelen (leader), Chris Choe, Ron Chu (staff), Tomas Ivens, David Kong (staff), Jim Kuiper, Andrew Nishimoto, Rachel Van Dyk (recorder), Mirtha Villafañe (staff)

Church Empowering and Networking Team (CENT) Report

I. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. CENT Fund Applications for 2018 are due before December 1, 2017.
2. The CENT Fund Team encourages churches to submit proposals that seek to train members for outreach and evangelism.
3. Evaluation reports received from CENT funded projects in 2016 were:
 - Bridge of Hope Outreach - Pastor Maged Fayez
Outreach to Muslims - \$3,000
 - Bethany Bellflower – Youth Pastor Andrew Nishimoto
Youth Ministry Internship - \$5,000
 - Hope International Church Arcadia – Pastor Sam Lee
Awana & Breathing Space Ministry - \$2,600
 - Rosewood, Bellflower – Pastor Bonny Mulder-Behnia
“Renew 16” for High School Youth and Young Adults - \$4,000
4. An evaluation report for a CENT funded project in 2016 was not received from:
 - Hope International Church Arcadia – Pastor Sherman Li
Chinese Christmas Outreach - \$1,200
5. CENT met on December 13, 2016 @ 6pm at Bethany CRC.

Ron Chu, Rachel Van Dyk, and Mirtha Villafane were tasked with evaluating the CENT Fund applications received for 2017 and submitting their recommendations to the team for approval. Eight CENT Fund Applications were received by December 1, 2015. The following eight were approved for a total of \$35,280:

- Anaheim Latin American CRC – Pastor Victor Mendez
Jesus Loves My Family Outreach - \$4,400
- Bethany Bellflower – Pastor Andrew Nishimoto
Youth Ministry Internship - \$5,000

- El Monte Living Well Church Plant – Pastor Sam Lee
Church Planting - \$5,000

- Ethnos Community Church Plant – Pastor Tomas Ivens
Church Planting - \$5,000

- Inland Jubilee – Pastor Heung Rok (James Lee)
UC Riverside Outreach - \$5,000

- Long Beach CRC - Pastor Brent Wassink
Daycare Outreach - \$880

- Rosemead Sky City Church Plant – Pastor Charles Ho
Church Planting - \$5,000

- Rosewood CRC – Pastor Bonny Mulder-Behnia
Kids’ Day Out Events - \$5,000

6. Debriefed on Fan the Flame held at Anaheim CRC on October 15, 2016. Please encourage your councils and congregations to attend Fan the Flame 2017 being planned for September or October.

7. As of this report, CENT’s next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2017.

6. 9:35 AM Leadership Development Team (LDT)

Leadership Development Team (LDT) Report

Our purpose is to help all Classis GLA churches become healthy ministries
by identifying, training, and supporting leaders for effective service.

Team members: Ron Chu (Timothy Leadership Training, SEAPI churches); Carl Kromminga (Evangelist Training Program, Project Timothy); Katie Venhuizen (Camp Dunamis); Lon Wagner (youth development); Mirtha Villafañe (staff) (Hispanic Ministry Developer); Julius Umawing (Peer Relations, LEAD teams)

1. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- a. The LDT Scholarship Fund helps pay half the registration or tuition costs for leadership training events for church leaders. Applications are available at www.classisgla.org and are submitted to Bill Postma.

- b. The Leadership Development Network: Evangelist Training Program (ETP): Al Breems leads a three year leadership training program that qualifies for commissioned pastor ordination in the CRC. There are currently 7 students; 1 from GLA. For more information, contact Al at Breems1@juno.com.
 - c. MINTS is our Spanish Leadership Training program. Five modules are offered every year and can lead to a BA degree and ordination as commissioned pastor in the CRC. Six (6) students graduated at the end of 2016 – two from Anaheim who received associate’s degree and the other four are from Sun Valley. For questions about the MINTS program, contact Mirtha Villafañe at mvillafane21@yahoo.com.
 - d. The Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) will offer two, 4-day training sessions; one in March and the other in October 2017. TLT will also be offered to the students at the International Theological Seminary in El Monte. For inquiries, contact Ron Chu at pastorronchu@gmail.com
 - e. Camp Dunamis will be held on June 18-23. See www.campdunamis.org to register online. If you register before May 15, the cost is \$200. The cost after May 15 goes up to \$225. Pray for the staff as they continue to prepare for the camp this year. For questions, contact Katie Venhuizen at bethelsunvalley@gmail.com
 - f. The LDT YOUTH FUND supports youth ministries initiatives.
 - g. The Classis Student Fund extends financial assistance to Brian White, currently enrolled in the EPMC at Calvin Theological Seminary.
 - h. Leadership Development Team is scheduled to meet on March 21 at New City Church in Long Beach.
- a. LDT Goals for 2017.**
1. Talk to pastors in Classis GLA to determine the desire to host another two-day preaching seminar or to replace this with some other gathering event.
 2. Host the May Classis meeting and showcase the various LDT programs.
 3. Encourage and, if necessary, empower with financial support, individual churches or church partnerships in Classis GLA to organize, host and invite the churches of Classis to local training seminars, workshops and other leadership development events that meet local church needs. Examples: Small group leader training, elder/deacon training, safe church training, evangelism and outreach, youth leader training, etc. Such training opportunities will be promoted at GLA Classis meetings, through emails, the monthly newsletter, and visits by the Classis mission leaders.
 4. **Timothy Leadership Training Institute**
 - A) Communicate to all the GLA churches the nature, value, opportunities, and requirements of becoming a “Master Trainer” of the Timothy Leadership Training modules at our February Classis meeting.
 - B) Organize, promote and invite all the leaders in Classis GLA and California South to the LA based Timothy Leadership Training Institutes to be held in March and October, hosted by Ttokamsa Mission Church in partnership with the TLTI staff.

These training sessions will be promoted using TLTI generated promotion materials, Classis newsletters, emails, and announcements at Classis meetings.

5. Promote leadership training resources and opportunities provided by ministries under the direction of the LDT through Classis meetings, mass emails to pastors, LEAD teams, the Classis newsletter, and the classisgla.org website. These include the Evangelist Training Program, MINTS, Student Aid Fund, Project Timothy, the Scholarship Fund, LEAD teams, Timothy Leadership Training, Camp Dunamis, and the Timothy Leadership Training Institute.
6. Recruit new members for the Leadership Development Team.
7. Participate and support the South East Asia Pacific Island (SEAPI) Churches conference and the pastors in GLA who are a part of this group.

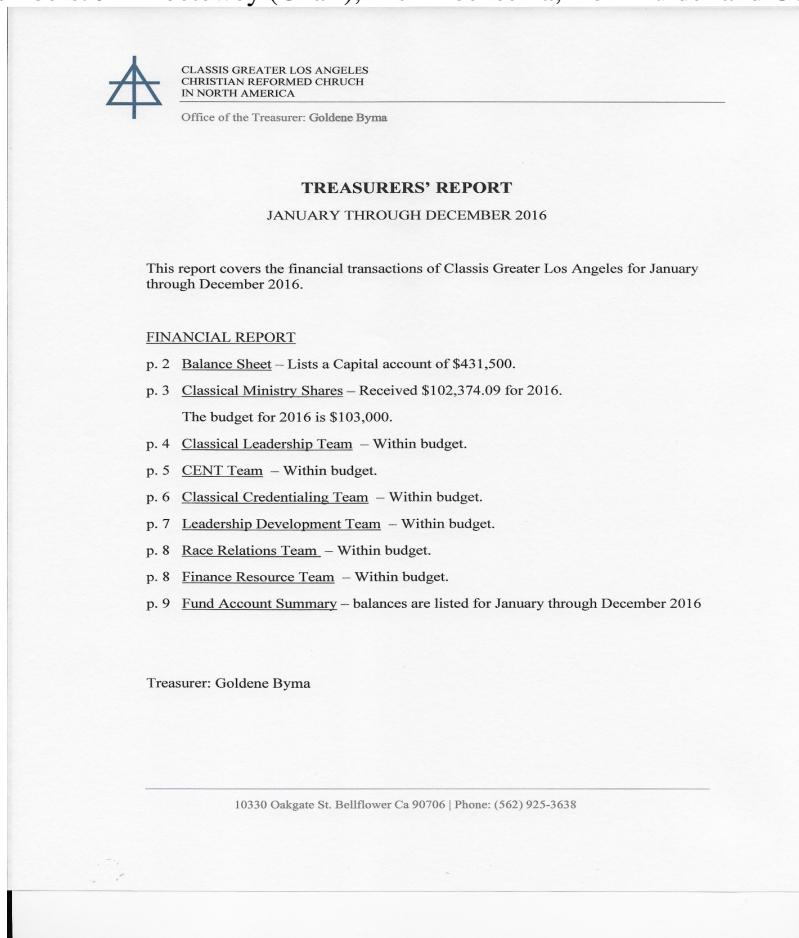
7. 9:45 AM Coffee Break

8. 10:15 AM Select Delegates for Synod 2017 – 2nd Vote

9. 10:45 AM Finance Team Report

Finance Team 2017 Budget

Team members: Jim Zoetewey (Chair), Rich Hoeksema, Don Mulder and Goldene Byma



- 10. 10:55 AM Church Credential Communication to Classis**
- 11. 11:05 AM Faith Formation Ministries Presentation – Sam Gutierrez**
- 12. 11:20 AM Church Planters Reports**
- 13. 12:00PM Lunch and Closing**

**Next Classis Meeting: May 2, 2017 Location: Fountain of Life Fellowship,
Fountain Valley, CA.**