

Classis Greater Los Angeles

of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday, May 5, 2015 8:00AM

Hosted by the Rosewood CRC, Bellflower, CA

President: Brent Wassink Vice-President: NA Clerk: Cindi Fairchild

050515: 1 Opening and Devotions: Brent Wassink opened the classis meeting in prayer. Joel Van Soelen and Janice De Vries led the group in singing . Joel Van Soelen then asked the group to gather in groups to share with each other what is happening in their church.

050515: 1.1 Introductions, Credentials and Covenant Signing President Wassink invited the three first time delegates to sign the Covenant of Office Bearers in the CRCNA. The Clerk read the names off of the credentialing sheets of the credentialed delegates and noted 15 of the possible 26 churches present as follows:

Established Churches	Pastor	Elder	Deacon
Anaheim	Joel Van Soelen	Pat Cali	
Anaheim Latin American		Tomas Ivens	
Arcadia Hope International	Sid Sybenga, Adriana Sybenga, Sam Lee		
Artesia, First	Absent		
Artesia, Trinity	Rick Westra	Randy Van Essen	
Bellflower, First	Zachary Vandenberg	Greg Cook, Jerry Westra	
Bellflower, Bethany	Lon Wagner	Mike Whitten	
Bellflower, God's Grace Christian	Absent		
Bellflower, Rosewood	Bonny Mulder-Behnia	Fernando Valencia	
Burbank, Bethany	Absent		
Camarillo, Iglesia CRC	Absent		
Buena Park, Grace Christian Fellowship	Absent		
Covina, The Bridge	Absent		
Fountain Valley, Fountain of Life	Absent		
Lake View Terrace, All Nations	Peter Kang, Chris Choe		
Long Beach	Brent Wassink	Bill Bull	
Long Beach, New City	Carl Kromminga	Tim Cordova	
Los Angeles, Community	Richard Jones		
Los Angeles, Harvest Church of	Absent		
Los Angeles, Ttokamsa Mission	Absent		
Mangilao, Guam, Chalan Pago Ordot	Tom Van Engen		
Monterey Park, Chinese	Absent		
Pomona, Indonesian Christian	Jonas Muljo		
Santa Fe Springs Together Community	Absent		
Sun Valley, Bethel	Micah Bruxvoort	Julius Umawing	
Westminster, Little Saigon (24)	Matthew Le		

<u>Emerging Churches</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Parenting Church</u>
Anaheim, Bridge of Hope	Maged Fayeze	Anaheim CRC
Artesia City Church	Absent	Bethany Bellflower
Anaheim Path of Life	Absent	Anaheim CRC
Bakersfield Campus of All Nations	-	All Nations Church

Bellflower, Lord's Love Mission	Absent	Bethany, Bellflower
Bellflower New Dawn	Absent	First Bellflower
Bellflower, The Church on "X Street"	Absent	New City, Long Beach
La Crescenta, God's Dream Center	Absent	
Cerritos, Heaven Bound	Absent	Rosewood, Bellflower
Ewa Beach, Anuenue	Absent	Carson, Grace Chrstn Flwshp
Fountain Valley, Emanuelu Samoan	Absent	FoL Fountain Valley
Los Angeles, Grace Unlimited Fellowship	Absent	L. A. Community
Paramount, Cento Familiar		Latin American
Riverside, Inland Jubilee		Santa Fe Springs, Together
Santa Ana, Hispano Americana		Latin American
Canyon Country, Hope Community Church	David Kong	Bethany Korean
Venice Beach, Talking Stick	-	Trinity, Artesia
Westminster, Ekklesia CRC (11)	Absent	Hope International
<i>CP = Commissioned Pastor O= Minister of the Word</i>		

050515:2 CEN Team Report

050515:2.1 The CEN team presented a motion to accept Andrew Nishimoto, Youth Pastor at Bethany CRC to the CEN team. The motion was **supported** and **approved**.

050515: 2.2 Matthew Le shared the vision for a 2nd generation English speaking Vietnamese church plant in Westminster. A motion was made to approve the church planting request and use of 5k/4k/3k from the Anuenue Fund for Little Saigon/Duong Le. The motion was **supported** and **approved**.

050515: 2.3 Tomas Ivens spoke about the desire for a dual language (English/Hispanic) church plant in Bellflower. He will lead the church plant that will meet at Bethany CRC in Bellflower. A motion was made to approve the church planting request and use of 15k/10k/5k from the Anuenue Fund for the dual language church plant in Bellflower led by Tomas Ivens. The motion was **supported** and **approved**.

050515:2.4 The CEN team will report back to classis on how they will monitor the health and growth of the church planter grants.

050515: 3 Classical Leadership Team (CLT) Report

050515: 3.1 An email with a job description was sent to all churches announcing the opening of the Regional Pastor/Peer Relations position opening. This can be a single position or a shared role and those interested were asked to reply back with a letter of interest indicating their preference for the single or shared role as well as a resume by April 21. David Kong of SCV Community Church, Santa Clarita and Julius Umawing of Bethel, Sun Valley have expressed interest in the shared role for this position and the Classical Leadership Team is suggesting they be approved for the shared role of the Regional Pastor/Peer Relations position. This motion was **tabled** for further discussion.

050515:3.2 Clerk Report

050614:3.3.2 The clerk presented the following list of communications for information, action and approval:

Clerk Communications January 30 – April 2, 2015

Received:

1. From Sid Sybenga, World Renew Invitation (Feb 5)
2. From Sid Sybenga, GLA January Newsletter (Feb 6)
3. From Sid Sybenga, Pastors on Point Wilderness Retreat Information (Feb 7)
4. From Ed VanNoord, Position opening for Pastor of Faith Formation at Kitchner Community CRC. (Feb 9)
5. From Sid Sybenga, reminder of Feb 26 classis mtg and TogetherLA registration (Feb 9)
6. From Sam Huizenga, Prayer Summit information (Feb 11)
7. From Kim DeVries, Denominational Board Position ballot for voting (Feb 17)
8. From Tim Postuma, CRC Appoints Colin Watson Sr. to be the new Director of Ministries and Administration (DMA) (Feb 26)
9. From Steven Timmermans an Invitation for a day of conversation and fellowship for two GLA leaders. (March 3)
10. From Sid Sybenga, Timothy Leadership Training opportunity information. (March 3)
11. From Sid Sybenga, the passing of Wallace Williams. (March 8)
12. From Bonnie Talsma-Vandermeid, World Renew Delegate position opening for Classis GLA (March 13)
13. From Dee Recker, February 2015 BOT Highlights (March 16)

Sent:

1. Sent to GLA churches information regarding the position opening at Kitchner Community CRC (Feb 10)
2. Sent to GLA churches the agenda for the Feb 26 classis meeting (Feb 24)
3. Sent to GLA churches the Spring 2015 Quarterly Ministry Report. (March 3)
4. Sent to Dee Recker, Synod 2015 Delegate information (March 3)
5. Sent to GLA churches Prayer Summit Information. (March 3)
6. Sent to GLA churches the February 2015 BOT Highlights (March 17)
7. Sent to GLA churches Regional Pastor/Peer Relations position opening (March 20)
8. Sent to GLA churches World Renew Delegate position opening (March 20)
9. Sent to GLA churches minutes from Feb 26 classis meeting. (March 23)
10. Sent information to Yearbook office regarding CLT decision to release Isay Alvarez from ministry in the CRC if Classis GLA holds his credentials. (March 23)
11. Sent to Steven Timmermans reply to Invitation for a day of conversation and fellowship. (March 24)

The Stated Clerk noted that no interest was received for the World Renew Delegate position opening.

It was also noted that Maged Fayez is unable to attend Synod 2015 as the Elder Delegate and Chris Choe has agreed to attend Synod 2015 in his place. The Stated Clerk is checking to make sure that the Classical Leadership Team can replace an Elder Delegate with an ordained minister.

050515: 3.3.3 A motion was made to accept and approve the Clerks Communication. This motion was **supported** and **approved**.

050515:4 Coffee Break

050515:5 Classical Credentialing Team (CCT) Report

050515:5.1 Rick Westra expects there will be exams needed at the October classis meeting.

CLASSIS TEAMS & TEAM MEMBERS

Classis GLA Ministry Teams May 2015			
<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>			
Sid Sybenga	sshope10@yahoo.com	Staff Leader	
Carl Kromminga	newcitylb@juno.com	Secretary	
Mirtha Villafane		staff	
Julius Umawing			
Lon Wagner			
John Lee			
Bill Postma			
Race Relations Team - RRT			
<i><u>promotes intercultural appreciation, cooperation, and multicultural values</u></i>			
Mattie Young			
Frank DeHaan			
Richard Jones	lcommunitychurch@att.net	Leader	
Daniel Mendez	pastordanielmendez@yahoo.com	Leader	
Ruth Palma			
Alison Jones			
Fatu Auau			
Classical Credentialing Team - CCT			
<i><u>oversees the credentialing processes for examinations for ordination</u></i>			
Rick Westra	rwestra@mac.com	Leader	

Richard Jones		
Fernando Valencia		
Matt Ford		

Classical Leadership Team - CLT		
<u>Oversees the ministries of Classis and organizes Classis meetings</u>		
Brent Wassink		
Melvin Jackson		
Dan Brink		
Tae Kim		
Mirtha Villafane		Staff
David Haberbush	dhaberbush@lbinsolvency.com	Leader
Peter Kang		
Sid Sybenga	sshope10@yahoo.com	Staff
Cindi Fairchild	cindif@CRMinistryCenter.net	Clerk

Church Empowerment & Networking Team – CENT		
<u>Oversees and promotes evangelism and church planting in the Classis</u>		
David Kong		
Rachel Van Dyke	rvandyk@verizon.net	Secretary
Tom Doorn	Tcdoorn5@aol.com	Leader
Joel Van Soelen		
Elmer Tandayu		Staff
Mirtha Villafane		Staff
Alison Jones		
Matt Sapp		
Maged Fayez		
Chris Choe		
Sid Sybenga, CML		Staff

Finance Team FT		
<u>Develops and oversees the budget of Classis</u>		
Goldene Byma	classistreasurer@hotmail.com	Treasurer
Don Mulder		Secretary
Jim Zoetewey		Leader
Rich Hoeksema		

050515:6 Race Relations Team (RRT) Report/Camp Dunamis

050515: 6.1 Richard Jones encouraged churches to continue to pray for the racial tensions around the United States. Camp Dunamis helps teach the youth about unity.

Denise Tamminga gave a brief history of Camp Dunamis and then introduced Akilah Bess, Director of Promotion, for Camp Dunamis and Kattrena Swasey, a former camper, counselor and now mom of Camp Dunamis campers. Both ladies shared their testimony of how Camp Dunamis impacted their young lives and how important it is for churches to continue to send kids and to support Camp Dunamis.

050515:7 Leadership Development Report (LDT)

050515: 7.1 Sid Sybenga shared that Camp Dunamis is a “blue ribbon” program for Classis Greater Los Angeles and that classis supports in the training of their leaders.

A.J. McCloud is in the process of organizing the youth leaders.

The Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) is training up lay leaders and is now holding trainings in Los Angeles and La Puente. They offer 6 modules in 20 different languages and TLT is a M.I.N.T.S. accredited program. Classis Greater Los Angeles also has at least 2 Master Trainers: Sid Sybenga and Julius Umawing. TtoKamsa church is in the process of setting up a fund for helping Classis GLA fund the TLT training in Los Angeles.

050515:8 Classis Missional Leader (CML)

050515:8.1 Sid Sybenga reminded all that the GLA Newsletter is full of resources to be used.

Peter Kang has been commissioned by All Nations Church to be a pastor to missionaries around the world. Peter shared stories from some of his visits and said that the missionaries are in need of cell phones and to contact him if anyone has a cell phone(s) to donate.

Sid shared that the South East Pacific Asian Island (SEPAI) churches are gathering for their annual retreat in Indiana this year and that Classis GLA and TtoKamsa Church are helping to fund the pastors in their travel and retreat costs.

Calvin Seminary has a magazine, **Focus**, with an article this month on a Pakistani/Indian pastor who hopes to minister to Pakistani/Muslim and Indian people in the GLA area.

050515:9 Church Credential Communications

050515: 9.1 Carl Kromminga and Lon Wagner reviewed the Church Credentials and nothing needed reporting.

050515:10 Finance Team Oral Report

050515: 10.1 The Finance Team is looking to add a new member to the team. The team meets 1-2 times per year. Please contact Goldene Byma at classistreasurer@hotmail.com if you are interested in being part of this team.

President Wassink closed the meeting with prayer.

050515:11 Listening and discussion event by the Committee to Provide Pastoral Guidance for Same Sex Marriage

050515:11.1 President Wassink welcomed all back from a short break and then introduced Jess Dreisenga who explained the various Synod directives and why this committee was formed and the need for this listening and discussion event. She shared an update on the current legal status of same sex marriage in the United States. She then explained the questionnaire for the small groups to discuss and share during the group feedback. Each table was asked to have one person at their table take notes from their discussion and those were given to Jess Dreisenga at the conclusion of the event.

The Committee to Provide Pastoral Guidance for Same Sex Marriage will give an interim report on their findings at Synod 2015.

Next Classis meeting is: October 27, 2015 at First Bellflower CRC, Bellflower, CA.