

# Classis Greater Los Angeles Meeting

[www.classisgla.org](http://www.classisgla.org)

**Tuesday**, May 2, 2017

**Anaheim CRC, Anaheim, CA.**

530 N. Dale Ave, Anaheim, CA 92801

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](http://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: Paul Hansen Vice Chair: Matthew Le Clerk: Cindi Fairchild

8:30 AM Opening welcome and devotions: CENT presentation

8:50 AM Introductions and Credentials and signing of Covenant for Office Bearers

9:00 AM CENT Report pg 4

9:10 AM CLT and Clerk Reports pg 5-6

9:20 AM LDT Report pg 6-7

9:30 AM Coffee Break

10:00 AM CCT and Article 8 Exam Rev. Sung Joo Lee pg 9

11:10 AM Church Credential Communication to Classis/Synodical Deputies action

11:40 AM Time for requested sharing  
Ben Katt, Western US Regional Leader  
Tom Byma – WCCR update

12:00PM Closing and Lunch

# **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 multi cultural 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: CENT**
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	Dr. Sherman Lii, Faith Lim		
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	Jin So Yoo, 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, Amos Park		
Long Beach	Brent Wassink		
Long Beach, New City	Carl Kromminga		
Los Angeles, Church of Joy	Rev. Heui Moon Lee		
Los Angeles, Community			
Los Angeles, Ttokamsa Mission	Ken Choe, Charles Oh, BJ Jun, Charles Kim		
Mangilao, Guam, Faith Presbyterian	Tom Van Engen		
Monterey Park, Chinese			
Pomona, Indonesian	Jonas Muljo		
Santa Fe Springs Together Comm.	Sung Chil Choi		
Sun Valley, Bethel	Micah Bruxvoort, Julius Umawing		
Westminster, Little Saigon	Matthew Le		

<b>Emerging Churches</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Parenting Church</b>
Anaheim, Bridge of Hope	Maged Fayez	Anaheim CRC
Artesia City Church	Eric Sarwar	Bethany Bellflower
Bellflower, Ethnos Community	Tomas Ivens	Anaheim, Latin American
Cerritos, Heaven Bound	Andrew Choh - CP	Rosewood, Bellflower
Fountain Valley, Emanuelu Samoan	Fatu Auau - CP	FoL Fountain Valley
Los Angeles, Grace Unlimited Fellowship	Melvin Jackson - O	L. A. Community
Rosemead, Sky City Church	Charles Ho	Hope International
Santa Ana, Hispano Americana	Ernesto Mejias	Latin American
Santa Clarita Community Church	David Kong - O	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 Church Empowerment & Networking Team (CENT) Report**

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, Rachel Van Dyk (recorder), Mirtha Villafañe (staff)

#### **I. ITEM FOR APPROVAL**

1. Approve \$10,000 from the Hawaii Fund to support the work of Pastor Tomas for one year.

Pastor Tomas Ivens was approved for a three year grant from Homes Missions from 2015-2017. He was expecting to receive \$10,000 in 2017. Home Missions has changed how they fund church planters and his funding has been cut to \$0 for this year. Pastor Tomas requested CENT to fund the \$10,000 from the Hawaii Fund. CENT discerned if other church planters are also facing the same situation with Home Mission not fulfilling their grant. New church planters are under the new system and therefore Pastor Tomas' situation is unique.

CENT approved the request and is presenting this to Classis GLA for approval to fund Pastor Tomas \$10,000 from the Hawaii Fund for one year.

#### **II. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

1. Andrew Nishimoto has expressed that he needs to step down from the team due to other obligations. CENT is thankful and appreciates Andrew's service on the team for a year and a half.

2. CENT discussed our purpose and mission at our April 2017 meeting. The team was united in affirming our mission that was approved by Classis in 2012. Here is a summary:

The purpose of CENT is to assist all churches in doing evangelism and mission outreach, assist all churches in planting churches, and assist non-CRC churches who desire to affiliate with us. We seek to accomplish these goals through Fan the Flame, the CENT Fund, and getting members of churches who are champions for evangelism together.

When you think of a member of your church who loves to share the gospel, who comes to mind? Will you please email their name and contact information to [pastor@anaheimcrc.org](mailto:pastor@anaheimcrc.org)? We would like to have a meeting with evangelism champions from our churches to share ideas and work together to train others.

3. Team members were assigned to be liaisons to the six church planters in our Classis. Members will connect with church planters to see how they and their family are doing, how the work is going, and how we can be praying for them.
4. We started the process of simplifying the CENT Fund Application. We plan to present a simplified application at the fall Classis meeting for approval.
5. CENT Fund Applications for 2018 are due before December 1, 2017. The CENT Fund Team encourages churches to submit proposals that seek to train members for evangelism and outreach.
6. Save the Date for Fan the Flame on September 23, 2017. Please encourage your Councils and Congregations to attend to hear stories of what God is doing through our churches and be encouraged in evangelism and outreach.
7. As of this report, CENT's next meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2017 at 6pm at Bethany CRC.

#### **4. 9:10AM Classical Leadership Team (CLT) and Clerk Reports**

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); Cindi Fairchild (Clerk); David Kong (Staff); Julius Umawing (Staff); Mirtha Villafaña (Staff); Dan Brink, Melvin Jackson, Peter Kang, Tae Kim, and Brent Wassink.

##### **1. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- a. Joel Van Soelen agreed to be the church counselor for Latin American in their search for a new pastor and that Bethany CRC become the calling church for Tomas Ivens/Ethnos Community upon request from classis.
- b. At the Feb. 28 classis meeting, a few people asked if CLT could discuss changing the day that classis meets. The reasoning was that more people could attend if the meetings were held on weeknights or on Saturdays. CLT noted that Classis CA South had tried meeting on Thursday nights, Saturdays and Sunday evenings and had almost no participation. CLT decided to continue holding the classis meetings on Tuesdays.
- c. First Artesia CRC is requesting a call extension for Hitomi Kornilov who is currently in Virginia and credentials are being held by First Artesia.
- d. First Artesia CRC has received a request to hold the ministerial credentials for Rev. Doug Warners and has agreed to do so. Doug and his wife, Judy, served at First Artesia for 12 yrs and are now members at Trinity United Presby. Church, Tustin, CA. Retired pastors need to have their credentials held by a CRC if they are to retain the ordination title and privileges as a CRC Minister of the Word. CLT approved the request.

#### **Stated Clerk Report**

Clerk Communications January 21, 2017 to March 31, 2017

##### **Received:**

1. From Rick Westra, Learning Opp. Trip (Feb. 8)
2. From Charles Kim, Prayer Summit Information (Feb 9)
3. From Ron Chu, Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) Information (Feb 14)
4. From Yearbook Office, Membership Reporting (Feb 28)
5. From Synodical Services Office, BOT Highlights (March 7)
6. From First Artesia, H. Kornilov call extension request (Feb 20)
7. From All Nations, C. Choe information (March 17)
8. From Karl VanHarn, CRC-Pine Rest-RCA CPE Collaborative (April 5)

##### **Sent:**

1. To GLA Churches, Feb 28 mtg agenda and materials. (January 30)
2. To Denom. Office, Feb 28 mtg agenda (January 30)
3. To GLA Churches, Learning Opp. Trip Information (Feb 8)
4. To GLA Churches, Prayer Summit Information (Feb 9)
5. To GLA Churches, Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) Information (Feb 16)

6. To Synod Delegates/Alternates, Synod 2017 materials (March 6)
7. To GLA Churches, BOT Highlights (March 7)
8. To GLA Churches, Feb 28, 2017 Classis minutes (March 27)
9. To Jonas Muljo, Feb 28, 2017 Minutes and updated Pulpit Supply List (March 27)
10. To Denom. Offices, Feb. 28, 2017 Classis minutes (March 27)
11. To Jonas Muljo, updated Pulpit Supply List for website (March 28)
12. To GLA Churches, updated Pulpit Supply List (March 28)
13. To CLT, March 16 CLT Minutes (March 28)
14. To GLA Churches, CRC-Pine Rest-RCA CPE Collaborative (April 6)

## 5. 9:20AM 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) Mirtha Villafañe (staff) (Hispanic Ministry Developer); Carl Kromminga (Evangelist Training Program, Project Timothy); Lon Wagner (youth development); Julius Umawing (Regional Pastor/Peer Relations, LEAD teams, Timothy Leadership Training, SEAPI churches); Katie Venhuizen (Camp Dunamis)

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### 1. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- a. **Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) Track 1** was held on March 21 – 24 at the International Theological Seminary (ITS) in El Monte. There were nine (9) participants, mostly students at ITS – 2 from Nigeria; 2 from Cameroon; 1 from Malawi; 1 from Kenya; 1 Taiwanese; 1 Filipino; and 1 from Visalia, CA. Another TLT will be scheduled in October 2017. For more information about TLT and the schedule of the next training, contact Ron Chu at [pastorronchu@gmail.com](mailto:pastorronchu@gmail.com)
- b. **CAMP DUNAMIS** starts on June 18, thru the 23<sup>rd</sup>, in Idyllwild, CA. See [www.campdunamis.org](http://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](mailto:bethelsunvalley@gmail.com)
- c. **Scholarship** for Leadership Training is AVAILABLE! The LDT Scholarship Fund helps pay half the registration or tuition cost for leadership training events for church leaders. Applications are available at [www.classisgla.org](http://www.classisgla.org) and are submitted to Bill Postma.
- d. **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](mailto:Breems1@juno.com).
- e. **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. For questions about the MINTS program, contact Mirtha Villafañe at [mvillafane21@yahoo.com](mailto:mvillafane21@yahoo.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 met last on April 4 at New City Church in Long Beach.

- i. **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 a Classis GLA 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. 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. Recruit new members for the Leadership Development Team.

## CLASSIS TEAMS & TEAM MEMBERS

<b>Classis GLA Ministry Teams May 2017</b>			
<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>			
<b>Leadership Development Team - LDT</b>			
<u><i>Develops and oversees training, retreats, and scholarships for leaders</i></u>			
Julius Umawing	suiluj64@yahoo.com	Staff Leader	
Carl Kromminga	newcitylb@juno.com	Secretary	
Mirtha Villafane		staff	
Lon Wagner			
Ron Chu			
Katie Venhuizen			

<b>Classical Credentialing Team - CCT</b>			
<i><u>oversees the credentialing processes for examinations for ordination</u></i>			
Rick Westra	rwestra@mac.com	Leader	
Matt Ford			
Richard Jones			
Fernando Valencia			
<b>Classical Leadership Team - CLT</b>			
<i><u>Oversees the ministries of Classis and organizes Classis meetings</u></i>			
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			
<b>Church Empowerment &amp; Networking Team – CENT</b>			
<i><u>Oversees and promotes evangelism and church planting in the Classis</u></i>			
Joel Van Soelen	pastor@anaheimcrc.org	Leader	
Rachel Van Dyk	rvandyk@verizon.net	Secretary	
Ron Chu		Staff	
David Kong		Staff	
Mirtha Villafane		Staff	
Chris Choe			
Tomas Ivens			
Jim Kuiper			
<b>Finance Team FT</b>			
<i><u>Develops and oversees the budget of Classis</u></i>			
Goldene Byma	classistreasurer@hotmail.com	Treasurer	
Don Mulder		Secretary	
Jim Zoetewey		Leader	
Rich Hoeksema			



## **6. 9:30 AM Coffee Break**

## **7. 10:00AM Classical Credentialing Team Report**

Team: Rick Westra, Richard Jones, Matt Ford, Fernando Valencia

### **I. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OF CLASSIS**

**a. To receive the Jesus Heart Church as an organized congregation in the Christian Reformed Church as part of Classis GLA.**

Grounds: Members of classis have met with the church, and the church has officially decided to affiliate with the CRC.

**b. To proceed with the colloquium doctum for the Rev. Sung Joo Lee**

Grounds: Permission has been granted by the Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee. Provided the above exam is completed successfully, the following motion may be made

**c. To declare the Rev. Sung Joo Lee eligible for call as Minister of the Word and Sacraments with Jesus Heart Church, Los Angeles as his calling church.**

Sung Joo Lee was born in South Korea but came to the U.S. with his family when he was eighteen years old. He grew up in a devoted Christian family and gave himself to the Lord's service while on a retreat in Yosemite. He has studied at Chong Shin University here in Los Angeles as well as Fuller Seminary and the International Reformed University and Seminary of L.A. He is ordained in the Korean Presbyterian Church, California Classis. He is married to Mi Sook, and has two sons, James and Joseph. He attended the KIM project in 2015. Jesus' Heart Church will be his calling church.

## **8. 11:10 AM Church Credentialing Communications to Classis & Synodical Deputies Actions**

## **9. 11:40 AM Time for requested sharing**

Ben Katt, Western US Regional Leader

Tom Byma, WCCR update

## **10. 12:00 PM Lunch and Closing**

### **Next Classis Meeting**

**October 31, 2017 First Bellflower, Bellflower, CA**