

# Classis Greater Los Angeles Meeting

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

**Tuesday**, May 7, 2013

**Anaheim CRC, Anaheim.**

530 N. Dale Ave, 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: David Lee Vice Chair: Dan Brink Clerk: Sid Sybenga

8:30 AM Opening welcome and devotions: CENT presentation

9:00 AM Introductions and Credentials and signing of Covenant for Office Bearers

9:15 AM CCT report (p. 4) Examinations Myo Sook Cho and Hairon Chow

11:00 AM Coffee Break

11:15 AM CLT (p. 5) & Clerk reports (p.7)

11:30 AM CENT Report (p. 8) Hiring a Mission Leader Proposal (p. 12)

12:15 PM LDT: draft Assessment Fund Guidelines (p.16) Application form (p.17)

12:30 PM RRT report (p.19)

12:40 AM Church Credential Committee report to Classis: Overture (p.19)

12:50 PM Finance Team report (p. 20)

12:55 PM Synod 2013 issues, overtures and Synodical Delegates (p.20)

1:00 PM Closing Prayers 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 2013**

1. Create Learning, Encouragement, Accountability, Dreaming (LEAD) teams in which all pastors want to participate
2. Train new leaders together in our multi-ethnic Leadership Development Network
3. Provide resources and support for measurable growth in congregational health
4. Provide our healthy congregations resources and support to birth or adopt new congregations
5. Raise up multi-ethnic lay leaders who will participate in the teams of Classis.

**HOW ARE WE DOING; HOW HAVE WE DONE?**

1. 8:30 AM Opening devotions: Joel Van Soelen and Matt Sapp
2. 8:45 AM Empowering and Networking in Classis GLA
3. Introductions, Credentials, Covenanting, and convening a Church Credentials committee.

### Classis GLA Roster of Churches –

Established Churches	Pastor	Elder	Deacon
Anaheim	Joel Van Soelen, Maged Dakdouk		
Anaheim Latin American	Mirtha Villafañe		
Arcadia Hope International	Sid Sybenga, Adriana Sybenga, Faith Lim, Charles Ho, Gary Stevens		
	Marco Arandia		
Artesia, First	Paul Hansen, Petr Kornilov		
Artesia, Trinity	Rick Westra		
Bellflower, First	Don Byker		
Bellflower, Bethany	Henry Lengkeek, Lon Wagner		
Bellflower, God's Grace Christian	Dionisio Aguhob		
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	Elmer Tandayu		
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, Jin Phil Huh, Ken Hong, Peter Kang, Christina Kang, Jim Seung, Joseph Hyun, John Lee, Chris Choe, David Lee, David Jineung, Abraham Lee		
Long Beach	Brent Wassink		
Long Beach, New City	Carl Kromminga, Daniel Mendez		
Los Angeles, Community	Richard Jones, Alison Jones		
Los Angeles, Harvest Church of	Ron Black		
Los Angeles, Ttokamsa Mission	Ken Choe, Charles Oh, BJ Jun		
Mangilao, Guam, Faith Presbyterian			
Monterey Park, Chinese	John Tong (emeritus)		
Santa Fe Springs together Community	Sung Chil Choi		
Sun Valley, Bethel	Julius Amawing		
Westminster, Little Saigon (24)	Matthew Le		

Emerging Churches	Pastor	Parenting Church
Artesia City Church	Wallace Williams - CP	Bethany Bellflower
Bakersfield Campus of All Nations		All Nations Church
Bellflower, Lord's Love Mission	Jae Kun Lee - O	Bethany, Bellflower
Bellflower, The Church on "X Street"	Ryan Ver Wys - CP	New City, Long Beach
La Crescenta, God's Dream Center	Tim Kwon - O	
Cerritos, Heaven Bound	Andrew Choh - CP	Rosewood, Bellflower
Ewa Beach, Anuenue	Jerry Kraesig - CP	Carson, Grace Chrstn Flwshp
Fountain Valley, Emanuelu Samoan	Fatu Auau - CP	FoL Fountain Valley
Los Angeles, Grace Unlimited Fellowship	Melvin Jackson - O	L. A. Community
Santa Clarita Hope Community Church	David Kong - O	Bethany Korean
Venice Beach, Talking Stick		Trinity, Artesia
Westminster, Ekklesia CRC (11)	Jonas Muljo - O	Hope International
<i>CP = Commissioned Pastor O= Minister of the Word</i>		

## 4. 9:15 AM Classical Credentialing Team Report

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

### I. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OF CLASSIS

**A. To proceed with the colloquium doctum for the Rev. Myo Sook Cho**

*Grounds: Permission has been granted by the Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee.*

**B. To approve the job description for Hairon Chow as Commissioned Pastor of New Dawn Church.**

**C. To proceed with the doctrinal conversation for Hairon Chow**

*Grounds: He has met the requirements set by classis for ordination as a Commissioned Pastor.*

Provided the above exams are completed successfully, the following motions may be made

**D. To declare Myo Sook Cho eligible for call as Minister of the Word with Hope International as her calling church.**

**E. To declare Hairon Chow eligible for call as a Commissioned Pastor in Classis GLA serving New Dawn Church, with First CRC of Bellflower as his calling church.**

### For Information

**Hairon Chow** was born in Nicaragua, lived in Honduras, and later came to Long Beach, CA, with his family. He graduated from Millikan High. He worked for 23 years in human resources in the oil, petro-chemical industry. For the past several years he has led New Dawn, the Spanish speaking congregation that worships at First CRC of Bellflower. He is married to Elizabeth, and together they have Alex (22), Kalindi (21), and Hanzel (15). He has been mentored by Paul Hoekstra, participated in LOGOS, and taken coursework through the Hispanic Center for Theological Studies. First Bellflower is his calling church.

**Myo Sook Cho** was born in Korea, the youngest of six kids. The godly influence of her mother played a big role in her coming to know Christ. She began her studies at Kynghoe University, majoring in tennis, but later transferred to a theological seminary. She came to the U.S. in January 1997, and has studied at Bethesda Christian University, Azusa Pacific, and Fuller. From 2005-2010 she served as pastor and church planter of Logos Church of Las Vegas. She is ordained in the Assemblies of God and has become aware of the CRC through Peter and Christina Kang. She has attended the KIM project at Calvin Seminary last year and has fulfilled the requirements set by the Candidacy Committee. Hope International is planning to call her to lead their Korean congregation.

## 5. 11:00 AM Coffee break for Networking and Fellowship

## 6. 11:15 AM 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; Sid Sybenga (Staff /Clerk); Brent Wassink; Peter Kang

### 1. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL BY CLASSIS

- a. CLT requests Classis to approve the appointment of Dan Brink as a new member of the Classical Leadership Team.
- b. CLT requests Classis to approve the appointment of David Lee as the Classis “clerk in training” with the goal of him assuming the full role of Classis GLA Clerk by July 1, 2014.
- c. CLT is requesting a special Classis Meeting of all the GLA teams, the pastors and one other leader from each church to meet for a Classis Mission reFocusing retreat. Date: May 23 from 9 AM – 2 PM at Bethany CRC in Bellflower. The goal is to understand our priestly vocation, know each other better, and develop a game plan as to how we can serve each other better. Hopefully our Classis Mission focus and our team goals will be clarified and the values by which we measure success established.

### 2. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- a. The CLT received an overture from First CRC of Bellflower requesting Classis GLA to set up a Safe Church Ministry team. The overture is printed below.
- b. The CLT encourages each church of Classis to serve on a Classis team. Our hope is to involve more non-clergy in the work of Classis. We have a small pool of willing and gifted individuals who serve as Classis. If you or a person in your congregation is willing to be trained and serve Classis in this capacity please send a note or email to David Haberbush ([dhaberbush@lbinsolvency.com](mailto:dhaberbush@lbinsolvency.com)) or Sid Sybenga ([glaclerkss@gmail.com](mailto:glaclerkss@gmail.com))
- c. The CLT received reports from: 1. Peter Kang about the Fountain of Life church credential request seeking advice about their church parenting role of the Samoan Emanuolu congregation. 2. Brent Wassink about the church credential request for advice about the closing of the Sol del Valle ministry. 3. Sid Sybenga about a classical church visitation request from God’s Grace fellowship Church in Bellflower.
- d. Church Counselor reports: Tom Doorn – Faith Presbyterian, Guam; Henry Lengkeek – Frist CRC Bellflower; Sid Sybenga – Bethel Sun Valley.
- e. Attached below is a chart for information about our Classical ministry teams.
- f. Our next Classis meeting will be held in All Nation Church in Lake View Terrace October 22. Our Race Relations Ministry Team will make a special presentation of their ministry.

3. PRAYER NEEDS - To provide new members for our Classis teams who reflect the diversity of Classis and can help serve the churches. To help us better serve each other for kingdom fruitfulness.

## CLASSIS TEAMS & TEAM MEMBERS

<b>Classis GLA Ministry Teams May 2013</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>		
<i><u>Develops and oversees training, retreats, and scholarships for leaders</u></i>		
Sid Sybenga		staff
Carl Kromminga	newcitylb@juno.com	Secretary
Mirtha Villafane		staff
David Lee		
Lon Wagner		
Bill Postma	bill.postma@gmail.com	Leader
<b>Race Relations Team - RRT</b>		
<i><u>promotes intercultural appreciation, cooperation, and multicultural values</u></i>		
Mattie Young		
Frank DeHaan		
Richard Jones	lacomunitychurch@att.net	Leader
Daniel Mendez	pastordanielmendez@yahoo.com	Leader
Ruth Palma		
Alison Jones		
Fatu Auau		
<b>Classical Credentialing Team - CCT</b>		
<i><u>oversees the credentialing processes for examinations for ordination</u></i>		
Rick Westra	rwestra@mac.com	Leader
Richard Jones		
Fernando Valencia		
Matt Ford		

<b>Classical Leadership Team - CLT</b>		
<u>Oversees the ministries of Classis and organizes Classis meetings</u>		
Brent Wassink		
Melvin Jackson		
Mirtha Villafane		Staff
David Haberbush	dhaberbush@lbinsolvency.com	Leader
Peter Kang		
Sid Sybenga	sshope10@yahoo.com	Staff/Clerk

<b>Church Empowerment &amp; Networking Team – CENT (formally NCDT)</b>		
<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 Dakdouk		
Chris Choe		
Sid Sybenga		CLT Liaison

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

## 6b. 11:25 AM Clerk Report

## 7. 11:30 PM Church Empowerment and Networking Team Report (CENT) (Previously, NCDT)

### I. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL BY CLASSIS

1. Decision on Motion A. (see **Classis Mission Leader Proposal** p.12 )
2. Decision on Motion B (see **Hiring Plan** p.15)

### II. INFORMATION

- a. Update on the CENT FUND.
  - b. Update on the CENT FUND team. We have one person who is willing to serve on the team. We are asking the churches to submit other names. We need at least 3 non-CENT individuals on the team.
  - c. Fan the Flame Evangelism conference will be May 18 at Anaheim CRC. Rev. Mirtha Villafane will share more about it at this time.
  - d. The New Church Developer will give an update on Ablaze campaign for training churches in evangelism and church planting.
  - e. Rev. Alison Jones is currently putting together a young adult evangelism team, which was approved by classis as part of our plan.
  - f. We continue to discuss how best to develop communication and networking between churches on outreach and church planting. We would appreciate your suggestions. We are asking each church to give us a name and email address of a liaison from your church to CENT. The person needs to have a passion for mission and evangelism.
  - g. As part of our approved plan we are providing different resources for the churches to possibly use in their efforts to do evangelism and mission outreach. The attached Evangelism training tool box is the beginning of that process. If you have other resources that churches might be able to use, please email them to Mr. Matt Sapp who is putting together this tool box.
  - h. CENT met with a rep from Kingdom Causes and is looking at ways classis and churches can work together with Kingdom Causes to do evangelism in a community context. This would also include ways of networking churches that are already doing some type of "diaconal community outreach/ evangelism."
2. Hawaii Fund update: Larry Doornbos from Home Missions is discussing with CENT and Anuenue CRC different possibilities of using the fund for outreach.
  - 3 Please check with the monthly classical newsletter for stories from churches on things they are doing in the area of community outreach and evangelism.
  4. Hispanic Developer report
  5. The Talking Stick /Venice Beach Fellowship Update
  6. We continue to discuss developing an evangelism training program that can fit individual church's needs.

7. New Church Develop continues to work on guidelines for church planters and the relationship between the parent-daughter church.

**NCDT 2012 Plan** (already approved by classis)

Structure

1. As of March 2012, change NCDT's name to the CENT (Church Empowerment and Networking Team) with the mandate to:
  - assist churches in doing evangelism/ mission outreach
  - assist churches in planting churches
  - assist non CRC churches who desire to affiliate with us
2. As of March 2012, change the name and focus of the New Church Development Fund to the CENT Fund which would be open to all churches. Funds would assist churches in the area of evangelism /mission outreach or church planting.
  - a. Guidelines for the use of the fund would be defined by the CENT Team and must be approved by classis at the Oct 2012 meeting before any funds are dispersed.
  - b. The CENT Team would seek recommendations from churches on such guidelines.
  - c. Dispersion of funds will not happen until 2013.
  - d. CENT can tap into the fund for 2012 for up to \$5000 in order to fund changes based on the overall plan if the plan is approved by classis in Feb 2012
  - e.. CENT would be free to find ways to locally supplement the fund ( in addition to classical ministry shares), including working with churches to seek donations from church members.
  - f. The Fund, beginning in 2013, would be managed by a team identified and defined by CENT and approved by classis at Oct 2012 meeting. This team should include CENT members as well as lay church members such as business people. Guidelines for membership on the team would be defined by CENT and approved by classis.
  - g. The classical building fund would be folded into this fund and the money from the sale of the Crenshaw property would go into this fund.
  - h. There would be a yearly report to classis on the use of the funds. The report would include an evaluation of the success of the grants given out to churches. Churches can only receive grants if they are organized churches and have paid classical ministry shares the year before or are emerging churches and have paid a tithe of a tithe the year before.
- 3.. Have a yearly church evaluation of CENT to see how the Team can improve.
4. By Oct , 2012, add 3 new lay members to the team

Evangelism/mission outreach

1. By Dec. 2012 develop a communication system (through use of website, newsletter, contact persons in each church, etc.) between CENT and churches that would allow the sharing of resource information on evangelism /mission outreach and church planting. Such information could include testimonies, best practices, books to read, workshops to go to, web site contacts, funding sources, legal cover for music, how to start a church plant, etc.
2. By Oct 2112, meet with any churches in the same geographic area who desire to work together in evangelism/mission outreach and assist them in identifying shared resources.

3. By Oct , 2012, meet with the CRC churches who are connected with Kingdom Cause to see how, if at all, the team can assist the churches and Kingdom Cause. Also by July 2012, meet with churches who are already working with CRWRC to see how classis can assist in the work.
4. By Nov ,2012, develop an evangelism training program
5. By Oct 2012, create a Young Adult Evangelism Team (YAET) ages 18-35 that would be under the NCDT. The team would consist of 5-6 non-clergy members. The mandate of the team would be to assist churches in learning how to reach the younger generation. The Team's mandate would also include assisting willing churches from different ethnic groups to plant a multi-ethnic church in a strategically placed multi-ethnic community. The Team once formed would present a plan to CENT and classis for their approval.
- 6 . By July , 2012, hold an evangelism conference
7. By Oct, 2012, find ways CENT ( Classis GLA) can work with Classis Ca South in the area of evangelism / mission outreach and church planting so as to maximize the effectiveness of both classes in assisting churches. This would include a yearly joint Evangelism Conference. It also includes a review by the two classes of the Hispanic Developer position and a report to classis in Feb 2013.

### **Church planting**

1. By Oct , 2012, define clearly agreed upon relationships between church plant and mother church
2. By Oct, 2012, develop clear guidelines for starting churches and present them to classis. It should include:
  - the church already has gathered a group that is functioning
  - the church needs to show record of offerings and fund raising
3. Work with Reformed Church classis to see if their assessment center and boot camp is usable and make a decision by Oct, 2012.
4. Work with Reformed church and Cal South to use Reformed Church Institute for Spanish speaking church planters and make a decision by Oct 2012.
5. Develop by Oct 2012 a new mentoring, coaching program for all church planters.
7. Work with the Reformed church locally and Cal South Classis to review Kingdom Enterprise Zones and make a decision by Oct, 2012.
8. By Oct 2012, do a feasibility study with interested churches about starting another Talking Stick
9. Contact each church yearly to see if they have someone in their church who is interested in planting a church. Also see if any churches are interested in working with NCDT/EMOT to start a church plant.
10. Work with the Young Adult Evangelism Team to see if there are churches from different ethnic groups who want to start a multi-ethnic church.
11. Work with Classis Ca South to review the role of the Hispanic Developer who works jointly for our two classes, the New Church Developer in our classis, the New Church developers in Cal South and the Korean church developer who works in the two classes and, by Oct 2012, give recommendations on how best to structure these positions to maximize potential.

### Church affiliations

1. Ask each church yearly to see if they are interested in helping a church become affiliated
2. By Oct 2012, develop guidelines for the relationship between the parent church and the affiliated church.
3. Throughout the year, seek out churches who are interested in the Reformed faith and who might want to be affiliated with us.

## **PROPOSAL FOR CLASSIS GLA MISSION LEADER**

### **1/5 Position (Funded by Home Missions)**

The West Coast regional ministry team (WCRMT) has served the 5 Classes along the west coast for nearly seven years. This team functioned as a partner with Home Mission and was led by Rev. Peter Holwerda who served as team leader and Home Mission's Regional Leader. Peter brought this team of 12 proven church practitioners together; trained them, motivated them, and held them accountable for serving the churches and the Classes along the west coast. The purpose was/is to build relationships and resource leaders and their churches for health and multiplication. Classis envisioned God using the WCRMT to expand His Kingdom through dynamic movements of synergistic leaders, contagious believers; and healthy, reproducing churches. The team was deeply involved in the ministry of Classis. The team is currently operating without a regional leader.

In Classis GLA the ministry of the WCRMT was implemented through Mirtha Villafane, Elmer Tandayu, and Sid Sybenga, and often the LEAD team mentors were included in the training retreats. As a result LEAD teams were enhanced and resourced through the WCRMT, church assessment/ministry mapping /congregational coaching resources were developed and offered to the churches, evangelism resources and church planting resources were developed and offered to the churches, spiritual growth and discipleship resources were promoted and offered to the churches. Small group training events were held, preaching workshops were organized, fan the flame conferences were offered, church planting workshops were held and celebration events were held in Classis GLA, Leadership Development Networks like ETP and Logos were envisioned and supported, and WCRMTers served on many of our Classical teams with heightened vision and passion. Most often the WCRMT influence was hidden and behind the scenes. Home Mission supported this ministry and participated with WCRMT in resourcing the pastors, churches, and Classis. It has been a fruitful and rewarding seven years. The WCRMT was often an inspiration to other regional teams and leaders.

Since Rev. Holwerda's retirement two years ago, Home Mission has not been able to find a suitable Regional Leader for the west coast. Therefore they have taken a different path. Their current proposal is that each of the five Classis choose a Classis person to serve as the local regional leader/coordinator who can continue the ministry of Home Missions and the WCRMT in resourcing the churches. Home Mission and the WCRMT are asking Classis to choose a person who can continue to train, motivate, and hold accountable the local church practitioners in the Classis and even expand and improve the ministry of the WCRMT. This person would also be the contact person with the other four Classical leaders/coordinators, and with them plan and motivate west coast events as needed. Home Missions will financially support and is hoping each Classis will choose a person who can offer one day a week to this ministry. Since this is not the usual way Home Missions organizes regions this distributing the Regional Leader's position to five persons will be a 18-24 month experiment. Home Mission is hoping the west coast will attempt this experiment since quite a

number of regional leader are also on the verge of retirement and Home Mission is exploring new and better ways to serve the churches in the face of great cultural changes in the denomination. What excites all the parties involved is that the resources are/will be closer to and better connected to the churches they serve.

Currently Classis GLA has the following Mission-oriented staff positions who are also on the WCRMT:

1. The Hispanic Ministry developer. The task is to recruit, train, and place Hispanic leaders in the Classes of California South and GLA. The Developer gathers the present Hispanic pastors, motivates and supports them as their LEAD team mentor. She initiates renewal by helping pastors focus their ministries by calling, vision and ministry strategies. She serves on the Classical Leadership team, Leadership Development team and the CENT team and has spearheaded such events as the Fan the Flame conference and Hispanic leader retreats. The position is paid by both Classis Cal South and GLA.
2. The New Church Development Specialist. This person works 40 hours a month for the Classis and is paid by both Home Missions and Classis GLA through the WCCR fund. The specialist oversees all the emerging churches in Classis GLA and is the point person for creating parent-new church plant relationship, and supporting the church planters. He serves on the Classical CENT team and through this team promotes church planting.
3. The Peer Relations Pastor and the clerk in Classis GLA and is paid by Classis. He dedicates 20 plus hours a week to serving Classis. He meets with pastors individually to support their ministries and deals with challenges, and participated in most of the five LEAD teams in Classis. He serves on the CLT, LDT, and CENT and functions as the liaison between many of the leaders and Classis teams. Much of his ministry today is coordinating, communicating, and organizing Classis.

**The new part time (1/5) Home Missions funded GLA Classical Mission Leader position can be a new position or it can be blended into one of the above positions. Below is the CENT proposal (job description, requisite qualifications and skills, administration, budget) for the GLA Classical Mission Leader that Home Missions and classis must approve.**

**Once the 5 Regional leaders from the 5 classes have been selected, they will work with the WCRMT to develop a path forward for the future of the WCMRT and present the proposal to Home Missions and the classes.**

## **Motion A. Position of CLASSIS GLA Mission Leader**

**Role Description** (The position may be a new position in classis or it may simply be blended into one of the above positions; it is funded by Home Missions for one day a week. *The description below is a general statement. One person, working one day a week, can not do all of this fully. CENT understands that. Once the general description is approved by classis and Home Missions and the position is filled, then CENT and the classical mission leader will write up SMARTER yearly goals, based on the description below and the skills set of the chosen person, that will be shared with the classis.*)

**I. Networking**

- A. Work with CLDT to support and resource Clusters, LEAD teams and enhance relationships among established & emerging church leaders
- B. Work with Classical teams to promote ethnic relationships among leaders, established churches and emerging churches.
- C. Develop relationships with other Classical Mission Leaders of West Coast region for resourcing our mission.
- D. Enhance the partnership between local congregations, Classis, and Christian Reformed Home Missions, and where applicable, explore new relationships with the RCA for the purpose of possible mutual missional engagement.

**II. Catalyze and Resource Church Revitalization and Church Planting**

- A. Work with the Hispanic Developer, the New Church Developer, and CENT to provide coaching for church planters, leaders of established and emerging church leaders, and parent churches.
- B. Work with CENT to provide coaching, assessments and mission mapping for church renewal
- C. Work with Hispanic Developer , the New Church Developer and CENT to identify, recruit and train new leaders for new missional communities and churches
- D. Work with CLDT to develop a mentoring program for future pastors. For example, five vibrant healthy churches could be chosen by CLDT to mentor new Classis pastors. Two successful programs like this have been the Church of the Servant internship program and the World Renew Hope program.

**III. Facilitate a Missional Culture in Classis & the Churches**

- A. Work with CENT to promote a climate of prayer for the Classis and local mission
- B. Work with CENT to develop a network of trained coaches for Classis Work alongside classical structures to encourage classical renewal and mission momentum.
- C. Visit the churches on Sundays to give a face to Classis and Home Missions and is able to preach and teach about how to care for your pastor, the importance of discipleship and evangelism for the health of the churches, sharing the stories of Classis.

**IV. Develop Funding Resources**

- A. Encourage expanding financial support between established churches and emerging churches .
- B. Provide fund development training together with Christian Reformed Home Missions, and possibly other classes in the West Coast region, for church planters, and leaders of other missional communities.
- C. Discover new funding sources and develop with local churches and classis.

**Requisite Qualifications and Skills:*****Qualifications***

**Heart for the lost:** A heart for the lost and a passion to reach people with the Gospel and be part of the gospel movement of God

**Mature:** Mature in faith; humble listener and learner. Enables other leaders and yearns to see them flourish.

**Demonstrated fruitfulness:** Significant fruit in church multiplication and renewal in mission shaped ministry

**Catalytic / visionary leader:** A, visionary, apostolic leader who can catalyze vision in others; flexible and a non-anxious presence amidst diversity and ambiguity.

**Trust Builder:** Relationally trusted bridge builder; loves engaging in dynamic church context

**Embraces Diversity:** Have a multicultural vision and a passion to embrace and enhance diversity. Multi-cultural experience and savvy that is able to work with diverse cultures.

**Credentialed:** Be an ordained minister in the CRC who knows the workings of Classis GLA.

### *Skills*

**Strategic / Vision Mobilizer:** Strategic thinker who understands systems and how to build them through practical next steps. Manage ambiguity of transitions and change. Engage theological visioning with practical structuring.

**Team Builder / Coach:** Works through teams; demonstrated ability to relationally teach, encourage and coach individuals and teams. Able to lead in the “next generation” environment

**Networker / Collaborator:** Collaborative leadership skills to lead diverse groups toward synergy, significant consensus and communal identity. Can connect with and build the classical network.

**Communicator:** Effective communicator - able to inspire; develops communication networks and influences through them; Demonstrated skill/ability to build support (financial and emotional) for the kingdom; has a vision to connect people via technology. The health of the churches in Classis GLA will also be enhanced when neighboring churches participate in joint outreach programs. Again a Classis regional coordinator could facilitate or promote such endeavors.

The regional coordinator will also administer new Home Mission projects in the Classis and be able to promote and implement national resources and initiatives.

### **Administration**

1. The Classical Mission leader will be an employee of Classical GLA. The 1/5 salary will be paid by a grant from Home Missions.
2. The Classical Mission leader will be supervised by Classis GLA. The leader will present yearly goals to the CENT and CLT teams as well as Home Missions.
3. The Classical Mission leader will be mutually accountable with the other 4 Classical Mission Leaders and the WCRMT to make sure the WCRMT meets its goals.
4. Meeting yearly goals, based on classical evaluations of the Classical Mission Leader, will determine if funding will continue.
5. The Classical Mission leader will work with the leaders from other classes as a team with one serving as team point person who will also be the liaison to Home Missions.
6. This point person will be provided up to 1 half-time administrative assistant funded by Home Missions.
7. The 5 leaders and the West Coast Regional Ministry Team will collaborate in transitioning into this new leadership approach.

8. The Classical Mission Leader will continue to pastor their congregation and initially spend 20% of their time (1 day per week equivalent) serving the mission of Classis GLA. Home Missions will fund the first 20% of time for Classis GLA. Additional time can be arranged and funded through each classis.

**Budget**

Expenses

1/5 salary (one day a week) 12000

Income

Home Missions Grant 12000

**Motion B**

**Classis, if the Classical Missions Leader position is approved by classis and Home Missions, approve the following process for selecting a person to fill this position:**

- 1. CENT will send a letter out to all churches inviting pastors to apply for this position. Interested pastors need to send in their resume to CENT.**
- 2. CENT will review applications, interview applicants, and then submit a single name to classis for approval.**

## 8. 12:15 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: Mirtha Villafañe (Hispanic Ministry); Carl Kromminga (Evangelist Training Program, Project Timothy); Sid Sybenga (staff) (Mentoring, Peer Relations, LEAD teams, & special projects ); Lon Wagner, David Lee, Bill Postma (Scholarship Fund, Student Fund) – team convener

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### 1. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL BY CLASSIS

- a) At our March Classis meeting we approved the establishment of a separate Church Assessment Fund to assist churches fund a Church assessment - ministry mapping - congregational coaching process. Grants from the fund would be available to churches upon the adoption of guidelines approved by Classis. The LDT presents the following draft guidelines for Classis consideration:
  - a. The church must also apply to the CRCNA Sustaining Congregational Excellence for partial funding of the assessment.
  - b. The church has paid their approved ministry shares.
  - c. The church is committed to paying one third of the cost of the assessment.
  - d. If the church is too large to apply for funding from Sustaining Congregational Excellence, the Church Assessment Fund will pay up to 50% of the cost.
  - e. The grant is for an LDT approved Assessment Process.

### 2. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- a. Leadership Development Network/ETP: Rev. Al Breems leads a three year leadership training program that qualifies for commissioned pastor ordination in the CRC.
- b. The Scholarship Fund: Our \$7500 scholarship fund helps pay the registration or tuition for leadership training events for church leaders. The scholarship application is online at [www.classisgla.org](http://www.classisgla.org).
- c. In the future, scholarships for the Prayer Summit will be processed through our regular scholarship fund application process, since this is a leadership training event.
- d. Project Timothy: A leadership development retreat for high school youth is planned for October. Youth leaders and their high school youth are urged to make plans to attend.
- e. The Southern California winter Youth retreat was held March 1-3. See report below.
- f. Calvin Seminary's Kathy Smith and Duane Kelderman will lead a two day workshop entitled "Effective Leadership in the Church: A training tool to help congregations, pastors, and other church leaders effectively work together to accomplish God's mission." The workshop will be held May 2 & 3 at Fountain of Life Fellowship CRC 9 am – 2:30 pm. Call Fatu Auau to register. (714- 487-8652) They will also offer two evening workshops on Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 PM. One on the CRC Church Order and the other on CHANGE as our Friend.

- g. LDT Goals for 2013 .
1. Increase youth participation by 10 % in Camp Dunamis, Winter Retreat, Project Timothy, Facing Your Future.
  2. Increase our understanding of the Leadership Development needs of the churches by participating in 5 church visiting and listening sessions.
  3. Populate the LDT with more diverse and younger members.
  4. Research the Timothy Leadership Institute as a possible training program.
  5. Partner with 2 churches as they go through an assessment process.

#### Report to Classis on the Southern California Youth Winter Retreat

At the fall classis meeting we agreed to contribute \$2500 to the joint High School Winter Retreat that took place this past March 1-3. The camp was held at Thousand Pines Christian Camp in Lake Gregory and was organized through the joint effort of youth leaders from our churches in Classis GLA and Classis Cal South.

We were very pleased that 289 young people and counselors attended to hear the inspiring messages given by band leader and church planter, Tommy Green. He challenged all to be open to the Holy Spirit's leading in worship and in ministry. His own personal story of transformation inspired confidence in God's ability to change lives. Other highlights included hiking, frisbee golf, chocolate malts, and the Talent Show, which featured a lip synced rendition of "Achey Breaky Heart" by an autistic student. The positive, warm reaction of the audience was a joy to see. Then of course there was the ride down the mountain filled with stimulating and informative conversation nourished by the all important stop at In-N-Out Burger.

All together, 9 Christian Reformed churches were represented, along with two other churches related to Cornerstone Church of San Dimas. Next year we hope to see even more young people attend and an even greater representation of churches in Classis GLA and Cal South. The tentative dates for Winter Retreat 2014 are February 28 - March 2.

#### **Does your youth leader know about this event?**

(Is your youth leader in contact with other youth leaders in classis?)

Please make sure your youth leader knows about the retreat. He or she might be thrilled to hear that they don't have to plan a winter retreat all by themselves. If you have any questions, please contact either Rick Westra, Pastor at Trinity CRC, (562)865-7311 [rwestra@mac.com](mailto:rwestra@mac.com) or

Nick In't Hout, Youth Pastor at The River, Redlands, (909)798-2221  
[nick.inthout@gmail.com](mailto:nick.inthout@gmail.com)

And thank you once again for helping make this event possible through the contribution of classis. In Christ, Rick Westra

## **CHURCH ASSESSMENT FUND Application form**

Submit the completed form to the LDT  
Bill Postma ([bill.postma@gmail.com](mailto:bill.postma@gmail.com))

1. Current Date:
  
2. Name of church:
  
3. Name of senior pastor:
  
4. Contact person and their email address:
  
5. Anticipated time frame for the assessment:
  
6. What Assessment process do you intend to use? And what is the cost of this assessment?  
(LDT recommends the West Coast Regional Ministry Team Assessment,  
but others are grantable)
  
7. Have you applied to the CRCNA Sustaining Congregational Excellence fund for a grant?  
What is the amount of their grant?
  
8. What is the number one challenge of your congregation? What do you hope to gain by  
doing this assessment?
  
9. How much is your church prepared to share in the cost of this assessment? (LDT guideline:  
one third the cost for churches of less than 150 members, and one half the cost for churches  
over 150 members as listed in the CRCNA year book.)
  
9. Churches receiving a grant from the GLA Assessment Fund will have paid 100% of their  
agreed to Classical Ministry shares in the previous year. So please check one  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ We affirm that we have paid the agreed upon ministry shares for last year.  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ We were not able to pay the agreed upon ministry share for last year.

## 9. 12:30 PM Race Relations Team (RRT) Report

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

### Our purpose

is to help all of Classis Greater Los Angeles to promote ministry that is racially and culturally inclusive in congregations and their local communities.

**Team members:** Mattie Young; Richard Jones; Ruth Palma; Frank De Haan; Daniel Méndez; Alison Jones; Fatu Auau

### 1. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL BY CLASSIS

### 2. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

RRT goals for 2013

### 3. PRAISES/Prayers

## 10. 12:40 PM Church Credential Communications

### Overture Received

*The Council of First CRC of Bellflower petitions Classis GLA to form a Safe Church Team to serve the churches of our classis by providing:*

1. *"opportunities for **awareness and education**, so that churches can recognize abuse, develop strategies to prevent it, and respond effectively."*
2. *"**support**, so that churches can provide invaluable spiritual support to those who have been impacted by abuse."*
3. *"the **Advisory Panel Process**, for use in handling an allegation of abuse against a church leader. This process brings the allegation into a more neutral place and provides important safeguards for all parties."*

*The above-quoted material comes from the packet provided by the Safe Church Ministry of the CRCNA to churches at our February 2013 meeting. It was noted in that handout that "Synod has encouraged each classis to have a Safe Church team made up of representatives from each church." While it may not initially be possible for each church to send a representative, having a Classical Safe Church Team would be a means toward the end of equipping all of our churches become safe church environments with appropriate policies and safeguards in place.*

*Given the imperative of the gospel and ethical necessity of preventing abuse and creating safe and nurturing ministry environments in our churches, First CRC of Bellflower hereby overtures Classis GLA to begin the process of forming a Classis GLA Safe Church Team according to the guidelines of and in consultation with our denomination's Safe Church Ministry. This overture includes the provision that classis provide necessary start-up funds (estimated at \$1000) to initiate this ministry. As part of the plan for establishing this Safe Church Team, the ongoing expenses of this ministry should be incorporated into the annual budget of Classis GLA.*

## **11. 12:50 PM Finance Team Report**

Team members:

Jim Zoetewey-chairperson, Rich Hoeksema, Don Mulder, and Goldene Byma

1. ITEM FOR APPROVAL BY CLASSIS:  
The finance team requests Classis to approve the appointment of Rev. Henry Lengkeek as a member of the team.

## **12. 12:55 Issues related to Synod 2013 and the commissioning of our Synodical Delegates.**

Rev. Dan Brink and Rev. Fernando Valencia

Mr. Tom Byma and Rev. Melvin Jackson

## **13. 1:00 Closing Prayer and Fellowship Lunch**

### **Next Classis Meetings**

**May 23, 2013 Bethany CRC, Bellflower**

**October 22, 2013 ANC, Lake View Terrace**