



# The Christian Reformed Church Classis Alberta North

## Vision/Mission Statement (Adopted 22 October 2003)

The purpose of Classis Alberta North is:

- to encourage member congregations to faithful and creative ministry;
- to jointly undertake ministries of common interest; and
- to participate in denominational ministries and governance.

**\*To hold member congregations mutually accountable for their work of ministry; and to provide appropriate resources for the same.**

## AGENDA for 144<sup>th</sup> Session, March 3-4, 2009

The King's University College, Edmonton, Alberta

Tuesday starting at 1 p.m.

Wednesday starting at 9 a.m. (breakfast at 8 a.m.)

### General Information:

Please note that much of the information relating to Classis Alberta North is on our page at [www.classisalbertanorth.org](http://www.classisalbertanorth.org)

Here you will find the agenda and minutes of previous meetings, credentials forms, safe church policy information, schedules as well as links to the Classical Rules and the Church Order.

Also available is a list of churches and committees, and much more. Check it out!

Request: if there are changes in your committee make up, or changes in the information about your church, **please inform** Herman Berkenbosch [htberk@telus.net](mailto:htberk@telus.net), or the Stated Clerk of Classis at [naclerk@interbaun.com](mailto:naclerk@interbaun.com).

The quarterly denominational ministry reports to classis can be found here:

<http://crcna.org/pages/classisreport.cfm>

Serving Classis: Len Batterink, chair; John Luth, vice chair

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## **Nominating Committee**

The Classis Nominating Committee invites church councils to submit names of nominees for committee positions opening up by July 1, 2009. These positions may be found on the List of Functionaries, which is included with this agenda. To submit nominations by **February 16, 2009**, please contact Bill Wildeboer (at [wilel@telus.net](mailto:wilel@telus.net) or 403-782-2602), or Pieta Borkent (at [pborkent@shaw.ca](mailto:pborkent@shaw.ca) or 780-483-9597), or Corjan Buma (at [bumacj@superiway.net](mailto:bumacj@superiway.net) or 780-984-2862).

The Nominating Committee also requests councils to give serious consideration **now** to proposing names of elders who are considered qualified to serve as delegates or alternates to Synod 2009 (June 13-20, 2009). Please be reminded that Synod has committed to ethnic diversity among the delegates: “Synod 2005 encouraged each Classis to include at least one ethnic minority person in its synodical delegation beginning with Synod 2006” (*Acts of Synod 2005*, p. 748)

## Stated Clerk's Report

I (Rick Struik) have taken over the Stated Clerk duties from Rev. Allan Groen effective November 01, 2008. In this short time I have come to understand that there is much to do. There are many e-mails and other reports received on a weekly basis from many denominational agencies and ministries. I have attended 3 Classical Interim Committee (CIC) meetings and 2 Classical Ministry Committee (CMC) meetings.

It has become very apparent to me from the beginning that the Stated Clerk needs to be on top of things and be a good typist. The latter isn't one of my strengths, so I made a proposal to the CIC that I would give up the honorarium and ask for a paid assistant. Thus far having an assistant has been extremely beneficial and one that Classis Alberta North will have to approve should I stay on as Stated Clerk. I am still employed and work full-time.

I have also enclosed a CIC Report which outlines some of the work that I and my assistant Arlene VandeKamp and the CIC members have had to deal with. Here are some added Clerk activities:

1. Arranged for Classis representation (Ron DeVries) at the ordination of Rick VanManen on January 04, 2009.
2. Requests for air-time in addition to written reports from Classical Ministry Committee representatives at the March 2009 Classis meeting.
3. In consultation with Herman Berkenbosch made arrangements for future Classis meetings at King's.
4. Several communications with Dee Recker, Director of Synodical Services, regarding credentials for Synodical delegates, a request for Classis to include at least one ethnic minority person in its Synodical delegation and BOT is seeking additional nominations to bring diversity to the Board, especially a female nominee. Names of Nominees may be forwarded to the Stated Clerk, Rick Struik (naclerk@interbaun.com).
5. Invitation from Jerry Dykstra, Executive Director of the CRCNA, to all Stated Clerks to participate in an online group dialogue that may be beneficial in the work that we do (unfortunately the dates don't work out for me).

## Treasurer's Report: Ellen Vlieg-Paquette

The financial statements are now undergoing the annual audit and should be ready for distribution prior to the March Classis meeting. I can tell you this, however, the results are positive. The churches have provided sufficient ministry shares to support the various ministries of Classis, including campus ministry, youth ministry, NADC, pastor church relations, home missions, Cuba connection, safe church, and the student fund. The expenses incurred were within the limits provided by the budget approved by Classis in the Fall of 2007. Loans were provided to five individuals who are engaged in further studies, intending to enter full-time ministry in the Christian Reformed Church. These all bear witness to the Lord's blessings on the work of Classis in 2008.

I have taken up the duties and responsibilities as your Treasurer since mid-year. In the midst of taking care of regular transactions, writing cheques and making deposits, I have also instituted some changes in the procedures of requesting reimbursements. A "Classis Expense Form" (located on the Classis website) is now submitted along with the related receipts. The use of this form has improved the accountability documentation on hand for each payment made. Also, each cheque is now being signed by the Treasurer plus a member of the Classis Interim Committee so that there is increased oversight in disbursements made. This has also increased the frequency of communications between Treasurer and CIC. In an effort to assist Classis committees, I have sent quarterly statements to give periodic updates on finances.

Reports on the ministry shares paid by churches are attached. As you may notice, more churches have provided 100% of expected shares for Classis and Area College than for the Denomination. On average, over 100% of

expected shares were paid for Classis and Area College but only 70% for the Denomination. Although six churches have not yet submitted reports on Denomination shares, it would appear that several churches have paid less than 50% of expected shares. This may be an area of concern. There were four churches (Red Deer New Life, Edmonton The River, St. Albert and So Mang) that paid less than 50% of expected shares to Classis and Area College. Also, two churches (Edmonton Centrepointe and Leduc Ebenezer) paid the expected Classis shares but not the Area College shares. Perhaps these areas can be addressed in the coming year.

I have enjoyed good support from the Classis Interim Committee, church treasurers, consultants and committee members. Thank you also to my predecessor, Gerald Woudstra, for sharing so much of his experience in the ways of Classis. God's blessings to you.

Ellen Vlieg-Paquette, Classis Treasurer

## Reports

### Classical Interim Committee

March 2009

1. Excerpts from October 23, 2008 CIC meeting:
  - 1.1. Committee members for the Oversight Committee for WCCC: Neil DeKoning, Cora Hoekstra, Siebe Brouwer.
  - 1.2. Additional members for the Oversight Committee for Andrew Geleynse; Henry Steenberg, Mike VanDyke and Bernie Kolkman.
  - 1.3. As per the motion of the October Classis meeting, oversee the distribution of the \$5000 salary support for Fairview.
  - 1.4. Clarify a procedure to handle financial requests coming to the committee from individual churches. The CIC is reluctant to do this because it may imply there is permission to apply for funding and that there is money available.
  - 1.5. Set classical appointments for LaGlace CRC 1x/month.
  - 1.6. Discussion on a replacement for Stated Clerk position; at this time Rick Struik is prepared to do this if he is allowed to hire a paid assistant. **CIC recommends the appointment of Rick Struik as Stated Clerk.**
  
2. Excerpts from November 26, 2008 CIC meeting:
  - 2.1. Rick Struik expresses that he is unable to continue on as Stated Clerk unless he can hire an assistant to type minutes and check daily e-mails and correspondence received. Rick will come with a proposal next meeting.
  - 2.2. Covenant CRC will be asked to store Classis Alberta North files.
  - 2.3. Maranatha CRC Edmonton will be asked if they are prepared to lead a discussion on the second Sunday worship service.
  - 2.4. Neerlandia CRC will be asked if they are prepared too lead a discussion on ministry to young people.
  - 2.5. The Chair hands out Classical Appointment Schedule for Jan/09 to Sept/09.
  - 2.6. Several e-mail requests from various CRC churches asking for advice.

- 2.7. CIC decides if Fairview CRC requires \$5,000 for salary assistance it needs to make the case that it is needed. Rev. Walt Brouwer is asked to convey this to them.
  - 2.8. Committees and churches seeking additional funding are encouraged to advise the Classical Treasurer before the next Classis meeting.
  - 2.9. Oversight Committee for WCCC: Bill Lodewyk declines and Cora Hoekstra accepts.
  - 2.10. Elco VanderGrift, John Buist and Wytze Brouwer will be asked to serve on the Oversight Committee for WCCC.
3. Excerpts from January 14, 2009 CIC meeting:
    - 3.1. Maranatha CRC Edmonton informs CIC that they are withdrawing their request for a discussion on the second Sunday worship service.
    - 3.2. Neerlandia CRC advises the CIC they wish to delay leading a discussion on ministry to youth; most likely pick it up at the October 2009 Classis meeting.
    - 3.3. **CIC recommends to Classis that Rick Struik be appointed Stated Clerk of Classis Alberta North.**
    - 3.4. **CIC recommends to Classis that the Stated Clerk be given permission to hire a paid assistant not to exceed \$6500/year** (see job description below).
    - 3.5. The committee approves a new Classis Expense Form as requested by Treasurer.
    - 3.6. The committee receives correspondence from Director of Synodical Services that the BOT Executive may reconsider having Synod 2010 meet at King's University College Edmonton due to additional expenses at a time when the denomination may not be able to afford it. Although CIC or Classis is not asked for its approval, the CIC decided to offer support whatever the BOT would decide, with the understanding that King's may still be considered at a later date.
    - 3.7. The King's University College requested that any future Classis meetings held at King's be held Wednesday/Thursday instead of Tuesday/Wednesday due to scheduling availability. **CIC recommends to Classis that we schedule future Classis meetings, starting in March 2010, on Wednesday and Thursday.**
    - 3.8. **CIC recommends that Classis approve sending 3 people to the Classis Renewal Conference June 10 – 12, 2009 in Chicago.** (Suggest one Synodical delegate and two others; Classis responsible for travel and conference expenses for two reps – approximately \$2000).
    - 3.9. The Nominations Committee recommends several names for various committees.
    - 3.10. Bill Wildeboer advises CIC that he wishes to remove his name for the nomination to BOT.
    - 3.11. CIC approves a request from Bill Weenink to do a baptism in LaGlace CRC.
      - 3.11.1. **CIC recommends to Classis that we lift from the table Item 12e from the minutes of the October 2008 Classis meeting, which states: "Those who have served as Ministry Associates in Classis ABN and retire from their positions be granted emeritus status within the bounds of Classis ABN with permission to preach, perform sacraments and serve as stated supply under the authority of local Councils."**
      - 3.11.2. If Classis does not approve 3.11.1: **CIC recommends to Classis that we grant Bill Weenink Ministry Associate status for his continued work at LaGlace CRC.**
    - 3.12. Rev. Bill Tuininga has requested that his ministerial credentials be transferred from Covenant CRC Winnipeg to Centrepont CRC in Edmonton. As part of this process Centrepont CRC and Rev. Bill Tuininga have requested that Classis approve his present job at Urban Sanctuary as one compatible with the

calling of the Minister of the Word (article 12c of the Church Order). **CIC moves that the work that Rev. Bill Tuininga is doing at Urban Sanctuary is compatible with the calling of a Minister of the Word** (see information provided by Centrepont CRC below). Note: this information has been sent to the Synodical Deputies who must concur with the decision of Classis.

### Job description for the Stated Clerk Assistant

There are far too many things that the Stated Clerk of Classis is responsible for, especially if this individual is still employed elsewhere, full-time or part-time. The Stated Clerk may very well have abilities to do this job, but may be weak in typing or is requiring part-time assistance in various other areas. In order to help this matter, Classis should give consideration to employ a Stated Clerk Assistant who can help with certain aspects of the Stated Clerk's job. They are as follows:

1. Scrutinize email throughout the week, especially at certain times of the year relating to Classis meetings when agendas are set.
2. Advise Stated Clerk of e-mails that require immediate attention or are of an important nature requiring the Stated Clerk's attention. The Stated Clerk can simply respond back to the Assistant who can then forward the response.
3. The Assistant attends all 6 Classical Interim Committee (CIC) meetings, all 3 Classical Ministry Committee (CMC) meetings and all Classis meetings.
4. The Assistant takes minutes of the CIC, CMC and Classis meetings (chair of the CIC makes agendas for CIC and CMC meetings).
5. The Assistant types the agenda material for Classis meetings and once approved by the Stated Clerk and CIC forwards the agenda to the churches of Classis.

Classis Alberta North has approved an honorarium for the Stated Clerk; \$4,000 for 2009 and \$5,000 for 2010. If the Stated Clerk of Classis is prepared to waive the honorarium, he/she is free to hire an Assistant at \$25.00 per hour plus reasonable expenses with an annual maximum amount approved by CIC and ratified by Classis. The process for hiring this Assistant must also be approved by CIC and subsequently ratified by Classis.

Anticipated work hours and budget:

- Average 2 hours per week x 52 = 104 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 2,600
- 8 CIC mtgs x 3 hrs/mtg = 24 x \$25/hr = \$ 600
- 8 CIC mtg minutes @ 2hrs/mtg = 16 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 400
- 4 CMC mtgs x 3hrs/mtg = 12 x \$25/hr = \$ 300
- 4 CMC mtg minutes @ 2hrs/mtg = 8 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 200
- Spring Classis meeting 16 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 400
- Fall Classis meeting 16 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 400
- Spring Classis agenda prep 10 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 250
- Fall Classis agenda prep 10 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 250
- Spring Classis minutes 10 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 250
- Fall Classis minutes 10 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 250
- Miscellaneous hours per year = 20 hrs x \$25/hr = \$ 500
- 

Total \$ 6,400/year plus expenses



## The King's University College March 2009

Greetings from The King's University College! I'm pleased to have this opportunity to share with you the blessings we've enjoyed since our last report, and to look ahead to the exciting challenges of 2009.

Fall enrolment at King's increased by 7% to 625 students. The enrolment climate in Alberta in general, and in Edmonton in particular, continues to be very challenging, with intense competition from new degree programs at several institutions. King's is swimming against the current with these very positive enrolment results, and we are deeply grateful for the blessing represented by our enrolment increase.

In previous reports I've asked for prayer as we deal with the challenge of finding new professors to fill vacancies, replacing retiring faculty, and meeting program requirements. We look for professors who blend academic quality with the ability to carry our mission forward into the future. I'm delighted to report that God has answered our prayers with amazing blessings. Several times we've had the wonderfully difficult task of selecting among highly qualified and enthusiastic faculty candidates. We are thankful for challenge!

We're very pleased that the Alberta Government has extended its tuition cap policy to the six accredited University Colleges. In short, this policy limits annual tuition increases to the rate of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and commits the government to making up the difference between the CPI and a 6% tuition increase. Under the two-year cap agreement, King's students will see a tuition increase of only 2.1% in 2009-2010. We trust that this will give our student recruitment efforts a boost.

Plans are well underway to launch our new Bachelor of Education – Secondary program in September, 2009. This program promises to contribute significantly to the needs of Christian education, particularly in Western Canada, by providing well-prepared high school teachers with an integrated, faith-inspired vision for education. Plans call for a cohort of 25 students in each year of this two-year program. We trust that graduates of the program will, in turn, encourage their students to consider pursuing a university degree at King's.

The King's University College Foundation has made a major commitment to help fund the B.Ed. Secondary program for a period of six years. We are deeply grateful for the Foundation members' vision for the well-being of Christian education not only at King's, but at the secondary level as well.

Last fall King's again achieved outstanding results in *The Globe and Mail* Canadian University Report. King's ranked at or near the top of the "Very Small" university category in all the important academic categories. We are particularly proud of Chef Michel and our food service team; they scored an A-, tied for the highest rank in the entire country! We trust that our excellent rankings will continue to benefit our marketing and enrolment development efforts.

In July, 2009, King's will enter into a very significant partnership with the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. Roy Berkenbosch will leave his post of Vice President for Student Life and Campus Ministries to become full-time Director of the Micah Centre at King's. Under the terms of a contract with CRWRC, a significant portion of Roy's time will be dedicated to developing theological resource material in support of the ministry of CRWRC and its worldwide partners. His responsibilities will include presentations to local congregations and classes regarding biblical foundations for transformational community development. We are excited about the potential of this partnership to benefit all involved – CRWRC, local churches, as well as King's.

In the coming months high school students across the country will be making choices regarding their post-secondary education. Christian Higher Education Canada (CHEC; an organization of about 35 university colleges, graduate schools, Bible colleges, and seminaries) has prepared a nine-minute video, called "CHEC(K) Us Out," outlining the benefits of Christian post-secondary education. One of the students featured in the video is a recent King's grad, now enrolled in medical school. The video is designed for use in youth group meetings, worship services, or other contexts. Copies were mailed to all churches that are part of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, and are available free in Christian bookstores across Canada. The video is a helpful tool to assist high school students and their parents in discerning God's guidance in their crucial educational decisions. Please pray for these students and parents, and encourage them to make use of this new resource.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Christian higher education at King's. May God bless your work on behalf of his Church in your Classis meetings.



J. Harry Fernhout, President

## Campus Ministry

March 2009

Here's what's happening in the Campus Ministry at the University of Alberta.

### Home Missions Three Year Review

Every three years Home Missions representatives visit the U of A campus to review the campus ministry, a review that is tied to the \$10 000 grant Home Missions provides to the U of A campus ministry. Because I am new to the ministry, Home Missions has decided to visit the campus ministry this year, one year early. This is standard operating procedure for those new to the ministry. Home Missions will arrive in Edmonton in late March. They will meet with a variety of people on campus as well as the Campus Ministry Committee. I plan to arrange a meeting with the Classis Interim Committee as well. It would be beneficial to hear how Classis views the campus ministry. It is my hope, and the hope of the CMC that this review will help focus the vision and direction of the campus ministry.

### **Emerging Leader**

I'm pleased to report that Alyssa Cupido, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year student has agreed to join the ministry in the role of emerging leader. The emerging leader grant is provided to CRC campus ministries by Home Missions and is granted to students who demonstrate an interest and willingness to minister to their fellow students on campus. Alyssa has participated in a number of campus ministry programs and has most recently become a member of the Campus Ministry Committee. It was at these meetings that Alyssa stressed the importance of building Christian community on campus and of her desire to build such community. Alyssa will be leading a women's small group on campus as well as connecting with students individually. I'm very excited to be working with Alyssa and I ask Classis to keep her in your prayers.

### **Tuesday Lunch and Bible Study (12-15 people)**

This event has been by far the most popular. This is due in large part to the way the students' schedule works out. This past semester we had 12-15 people coming out every week for soup and a Bible study on Ecclesiastes. The first Tuesday of the current semester saw only three people come out. It's a reminder of just how much campus ministry is at the mercy of the university schedule. This semester we'll be studying the parables of Jesus from the gospel of Luke. The same parables that we'll reflect on at Wine Before Breakfast on Wednesday mornings.

### **Wine Before Breakfast (5-8 people)**

Last semester we spent our time reflecting on the book of Ecclesiastes. The book is very rich in wisdom but also quite challenging. This semester we'll be reflecting on the parables of Jesus found in the gospel of Luke. While not without their own challenges, the parables are a welcome relief from the darkness of Qoheleth. WBB continues to struggle in terms of community. I find that the attendees are still reluctant to take any ownership of the ministry. I also don't find the sense of community I was hoping to have by this time. This is now the fourth semester of WBB. At the end of this semester I plan to seriously evaluate the effectiveness of WBB to determine whether it will continue in the fall of 2009.

### **Soup and the Word (1-3 people)**

I continue to work with Richard Reimer, the Lutheran campus minister, in this lunch and Bible study. Richard leads this one and he continues to work through the Common Lectionary. This semester we'll be working through the gospel of Mark. Last semester there was very low turnout to this event. This has much to do with the fluctuation in students' schedules from semester to semester. But I sense it also has to do with Richard's style. The study tends to be less discussion and more teaching by Richard. I'm not convinced that this format is very appealing to students who spend the majority of their day listening to lectures. Richard and I continue to work together to make this time more fruitful for the participants.

### **Graduate Christian Fellowship (1-3 people)**

This past semester I made my second attempt at a Christian Graduate Student Group. This time I worked with Oceanna Hall, Presbyterian campus minister. We met on the first and third Wednesday of each month for dinner and some kind of discussion or film. The results were unsatisfying. Once again, very few students showed up, despite the fact that quite a few students I had met expressed interest. This is why Oceanna and I had decided to give it another try. By the end of October we had decided to scrap it. Ironically, within a week of that decision I again connected with a number of grad students who were interested in a GCF group. At the end of December,

Bryan Clarke, Presbyterian Reformed campus minister, approached me with the possibility of beginning a GCF group. I'm convinced that there is a need for such a group on campus. So I intend to give it yet another shot.

### **Crossroads (5-8 people)**

Crossroads is an undergraduate student group. For the past year momentum has been very slow. But I feel that a breakthrough has been made this past week. This is largely due to the fresh energy of the new Anglican campus minister. Together we led a discussion on New Year's resolutions and I was quite pleased by the way the students have begun to open up. Together we have planned a program around the area of building community. We'll be engaging in such topics as forgiveness, prayer, and relationships. We'll be watching three films:

"Bowling for Columbine" a film that focuses on the negative effects of fear in a community

"Lost in Translation", a film that focuses on finding connection in the midst of loneliness and despair

"The Shipping News", a film about forgiveness and discovering community

I'm convinced that word of mouth is the best advertising and it's my hope that the students who attend Crossroads will find it of enough worth to them that they'll invite others.

### **Dr. Otto Selles**

Dr. Otto Selles is professor of French at Calvin College. He will be on the U of A campus the first weekend of February, after spending some time at the University of Calgary and Northern B.C. Dr. Selles will be giving three lectures on the subject of tolerance. The first lecture will be about religion and humour and will take place at Theology on Tap on Sunday, February 8. The second lecture on an historical event from France that illustrates issues of tolerance will take place during the afternoon of February 9. This lecture is co-sponsored by the U of A Religious Studies Dept. The third lecture, entitled 'Tolerance: Virtue or Vice?' is a free public lecture that will be held at the TELUS centre at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9. I'm looking forward to Dr. Selles' arrival and am quite happy that the Religious Studies Dept. has agreed to partner with us for this event.

In addition to all this I continue to meet informally with students who drop by the office and who now use the common area as a place to hang out. I also preach occasionally in the classis. I'm continually grateful to Classis for its support of this ministry, both in its prayers and financially. It's clear that God is at work at the University of Alberta and it's exciting to be a part of that work.

Peace

Rick VanManen  
CRC Campus Minister  
University of Alberta

## **Classical Youth Ministry Committee**

March 2009

Since the last meeting of Classis Alberta North the CYMC has met to discuss several aspects of youth ministry within the classis. One of our major concerns is updating the guidelines for the grants that we disperse on behalf of youth ministry for the classis. Instead of making a complete change to the guidelines we revised them only to reflect the current mandate given to the committee in regards to Youth Ministry. These revised guidelines are being sent to all of the churches to be given to the Youth Leaders and Councils.

The changes will be that we will try to focus on leadership development with a view to multiple church involvement. We are emphasizing the accountability of churches in regards to the funds used and reporting to the committee about the event(s). There has been a rewording of the guidelines to clarify the intent of the grants being given/offered.

A few years ago the group RYNA (Reformed Youth of Northern Alberta) ceased functioning. We have made some efforts over that time to get them going again but have gotten to the point where nothing has happened. This committee has temporarily taken the functioning of RYNA with the intent of restarting it in the coming year. Ron will be taking a lead role in getting it going by inviting in members to work on restarting it with the view that it will be taken on by the members with Ron being able to have an advisory role, but not be the force running it.

## **Youth Ministry Consultant**

Report to Classis Alberta North

March 2009

The year has started, for us here in Canada and more specifically Northern Alberta, with a level of uncertainty and concern. Economically, our brothers and sisters in various parts of this country have felt and are enduring a time of unclear direction. People are asking, "How will the government lead us out of this mess?" or "Will I still have work tomorrow and be able to support my family?" I had just come back from a visit into Grand Rapids and hearing the conversations with many people there, have sensed the lostness of trying to exist during these tough times. And yet these same people have focused their hope and have decided to cling to the coattails of a man that on January 20th had made history by becoming the first African/American president of the United States of America. Sitting in an airport in Minneapolis waiting for my connecting flight that day, it was amazing to witness the many people glued to the television waiting for that moment when Barack Obama would be named the 44<sup>th</sup> president of the United States. So many hopes and dreams for this man to deliver change for an American people. Some may come but in the end, he is still one man.

What's interesting is that this picture also seems to reflect the view that most churches have of youth ministry. Churches will hire and turn to that hired gun to fix the problems that exist within their youth programs and then get upset when the results are not what they expected. For example, youth that seem engaged with the youth Pastor/Director/leader but yet still leave the church when they complete grade twelve; programs that run well and yet, the congregation members feel disconnected from their children; or the Youth Pastor/Director is burnt out and leaves his/her position.

This reality unfortunately, has become far too common a place within the ranks of youth ministry for a great number of denominations (including the CRC) here in Canada and the USA.

Why could this be happening? A few thoughts come to mind.

- From a local level, congregations tolerate the youth programs and their leaders and treat it as a second class ministry.
- Senior Pastors do not built relationships with the Youth person because youth ministry is looked upon as a separate body from the rest of the church.
- There is a lack of respect for the Youth Pastors/Leaders/Directors.
- Youth Pastors/directors are not given the support of the Councils. It is almost like they exist, no one really knows what they do and as long as the youth **seem** engaged, all is good.

Ephesians 4 speaks to us and shows a picture of a unified body of Christ. In it, the gospel message proclaims that same picture for the work we do as leaders for our churches, the many parts working together for His glory. And yet, as I listen to our Youth Leaders, more and more I am hearing that we need to bridge the communication gap that seems to exist between church leadership and those we hire to work with our children, youth and young adults. We need to adapt a holistic approach to our ministry models, equipping the Pastors, Youth Pastors/Directors with the opportunities to work together for the good of the congregation. AND our congregations need to understand their roles as parents within this ministry model framework.

I have had the opportunity to work with a few churches in addressing some of these issues over the last few months using various tools such as the Compass 21 program from Youth Unlimited and as 2009 continues to move along, I look forward to spending more time with other congregations entering into conversations about how we can respond to these and other concerns in regards to our youth.

As I conclude this report, I want to leave you with these same questions I had asked in my last report:

- Can your children see Christ through our church leadership? What can they learn from you as leaders?
- Can they see Christ in the lives of those persons who play a major role in their lives? Who are they listening to?
- And finally, can they see Christ in you, their parents? Where are you at in your walk?

Call me for coffee some time, I'd love to sit, chat and hear your thoughts.

Blessings,  
Ron deVries  
[mdevron@telus.net](mailto:mdevron@telus.net)

## **Classis Safe Church Committee** (“CSCC” formerly known as “CARTE”)

**Meeting** was held on Nov 19, 2008. A significant amount of this committee’s work is delegated to individual members. Primary interaction between members is via e-mail.

**Activities** during this reporting period (based on the 3 goals of the CSCC mandate):

### **GOAL I: Education:** *Define abuse and create awareness of its damaging effects*

- a. On Oct. 18 a RespectED seminar (training program offered by Canadian Red Cross) was presented at Inglewood CRC. Unfortunately, only 10 attendees (representing 8 congregations) availed themselves of this excellent program. The committee will focus on communicating the benefits of this program.
- b. On Oct. 31 the Committee Chair attended the first CRCNA Conference of Safe Church Team Chairs (in Grand Rapids) and this was an excellent opportunity to share challenges, successes and information.
- c. On Nov 8 the CSCC participated in the Day of Encouragement.
- d. On Nov 15 two committee members attended a RISEUP Seminar. The Committee recommends further utilization of the services provided by Riseup Ministries, a Leduc-based organization “seeking to educate and empower the Christian community to both identify family violence and respond to it with the mind and heart of Christ”.
- e. The “Safe Church Awareness” poster design has been revised (as per suggestions received at the G.R. conference), has been endorsed by Beth Swagman (CRCNA) and will be distributed shortly.

### **GOAL II: Facilitation:** *Foster safety and well-being in the church communities*

- a. As requested by the Classical Interim Committee, the results of the Fall 2009 Classis “Safe Church Survey” (a survey mandated by Classis in Spring of 2008) were tabulated:
  - o 22 of 31 congregations responded to the “Classis-approved” survey. Survey responses were not received from Bethel, Centrepointe, Covenant, Fellowship, Maranatha, So Mang, Fairview Faith Fellowship, Red Deer New Life and Rimbey. However, of these 9 congregations, the Committee is aware that at least 6 have commenced or completed a Safe Church Policy but, since a survey response was not provided, the Committee cannot comment on the status or adequacy of these policies.
  - o Of those 22 congregations that did respond, 20 have policies (and 1 is “in the works”). However, there appear to be many policies that are inadequate in certain critical areas (e.g. only 75% require Criminal Record Checks).
- b. No Listening Panels were implemented
- c. The Committee Chair participated in the first CRCNA Conference Call (January 27) which allowed networking between the various Classical Safe Church Teams. Web Conferences are being scheduled along with enhanced “on-line” resources for committees and congregations.

### **GOAL III: Restoration:** *Aid in the creation of pathways to healing*

- a. The Committee is focussing attention on developing Victim Resources, to be used as necessary, to assist victims in accessing the assistance of Safe Church Policies & Teams.

**Challenges:**

1. We hope to facilitate increased communication between the various congregational Safe Church Teams of CAN so that resources, challenges and solutions can be more easily shared. It should be noted that Classis BC North and Classis BC South have pooled resources and jointly fund an "Abuse Prevention & Response Coordinator" (John Stellingwerff). For further information, see [www.bcsafechurch.com](http://www.bcsafechurch.com)
2. We continue to be challenged by (and disappointed with) the apparent apathy amongst some congregations as to the need for a valid, comprehensive Safe Church Policy.
3. Again, we would welcome suggestions as to TWO NEW MEMBERS!!

Current Members: Susan Schouten, Ria Cook, Pietie Boskers, Janet Toornstra, and Ron Knol (chair)

## Classis Prayer Coordinator

March 2009

In June of 2008 I attended an event for high school students who would be going to college/university in the fall and had the opportunity to share some prayer resources with the youth leaders/parents who were in attendance and to let the young people know that there is encouragement and support for prayer as well as being able to pray for them.

In November I attended the *Intermission*, which is the silent retreat organized by Ron Klok. It seems like it is never convenient or affordable to attend an event like this, so when the reminder call came it seemed like God may have been saying 'now is the time'.

I had never done anything like this before, and I recommend it to everyone at least once. It is safe and non-threatening and an experience that will be unique to you. Prayer takes many forms, and a retreat like this is an experience of prayer.

Because of my work commitments and the changes in our church life, I have been asking for God's leading and direction regarding this role. I do not anticipate spending a lot of time seeking out people, but I will gladly respond to anyone seeking information, encouragement, or assistance w/ prayer.

My main focus at this time is to pray for the church and its ministries.

Jane Graff

Contact: 780-963-1553

[cpc\\_can@shaw.ca](mailto:cpc_can@shaw.ca)

## Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

### Spring 2009

CRWRC has had another challenging and yet exciting year in 2008. Natural disasters and extreme financial situations have pushed the organization in a number of directions that have been responded to by God's grace.

Natural disasters around the world were responded to by CRWRC and its partners to quickly and effectively deal with the immediate needs of displaced communities. In countries such as Bangladesh, Ecuador, Haiti, Indonesia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, China, and the Philippines, CRWRC helped to relieve the effects of hurricanes, cyclones, and earthquakes. In a number of African countries including Kenya, Sudan, Chad, and Nigeria, political unrest and violence were the cause of suffering and displacement of families and communities that need assistance. Through God's grace and support of the Christian Reformed Church, CRWRC continues to work in these countries. A more detailed report and listing of areas that CRWRC's International Disaster Response works in can be found on CRWRC's website under "Projects". CRWRC has been involved in 30 countries in 2008.

The "Green Shirts" were also very busy in 2008. The DRS responded to those in need by donating almost 300,000 hours of their time in helping rebuild from the numerous storms that have crippled many lives. Our classis is well represented in the work crews that participate in these projects, and if given the chance these volunteers will passionately tell you of the value DRS has in providing outreach to our North American community. Please use these volunteers to speak to your congregations.

"Disaster Response Service's mission is to ...

- Show God's love and bring hope to disaster impacted communities in North America by restoring the homes and lives of those who are most vulnerable.
- Help communities build their capacity to prepare for and recover from disasters
- Provided opportunities for Christians to honor the Lord by using their time, talents and financial resources in service to others."

Financial extremes in the last year have had negative impacts on the world wide community. Oil prices at \$150/barrel have had a negative effect on the buying power of people everywhere, and now the other end of the extreme brings its own issues that have been created by the subprime lending crisis. In the end it is the poor that suffer the most. At the end of 2008, CRWRC is approximately \$900,000 short of program goals with a year end of June 30. The following is a letter from the co-directors Andy Ryskamp and Ida Kaastra Muntoigo in response to the current economic conditions.

**"Dear Friends,**

During 2008 the United States, Canadian, and world economies experienced a significant crisis. It's hard to miss the impact this crisis is having on the stock markets and real estate industry, as well as unemployment. A downturn in the economy also affects CRWRC, both in the realm of whom we seek to assist and the thousands whose financial gifts help make this ministry possible.

Part of CRWRC's ministry happens here in North America. Disaster Response Services work with individuals here

at home who are striving to overcome damages to their homes caused by natural disaster. The North America Ministry Team works together with churches and partner organizations to empower communities around the U.S. to work against poverty, hunger and other obstacles in their lives.

As unemployment grows, so too will the number of men, women, and children who could benefit from these domestic ministries.

Financially, an economic downturn impacts CRWRC's donors and therefore impacts CRWRC. Some donors who typically give a few dollars to a few thousand dollars a year will need to reduce or eliminate their donations. Other donors who have given stock donations in the past may not have stock gains to give. In churches, giving through offerings may similarly decline.

How do we as an organization respond to this crisis? And what do we tell our constituents when they ask about it?

First, we recognize that we serve a sovereign God. He is in control of all things including this financial situation, so we trust in Him through all of this. Second, we are grateful. We give thanks to God for the opportunity to engage in this ministry to help men, women, and children around the world. And we are grateful to our donors and supporting churches, who have given in the past and those who are continuing to give in this time. And third, we are hopeful that this, too, shall pass. God will help us weather this storm and continue in this ministry.

We also welcome new opportunities. A time of financial downturn forces us to look at new ways of collaborating with others. It even forces us to look at new ways of partnering with the communities we serve. The poor teach us much about hope and faith. This is the reciprocal nature that ministry offers. It can expand dramatically during tight financial times. We must be open to this reciprocity.

While we are hopeful of the improvement of the economic situation, we are also realistic about what it means for CRWRC's budget. While we have some reserves that our Board has insisted we have, we still want to reduce expenses to meet income. We are projecting our budget for the next fiscal year on reduced income projections. CRWRC staff recognize the importance of operating a lean budget in an economy such as this.

Please remember the work of CRWRC in your prayers."

CRWRC responds to the Micah call by:

- Listening to those in need and collaborating with local partners to ensure community development is relevant for those CRWRC seeks to help.
- Making the most of our resources-including staff, donations, partners and programs.
- Building long-term relationships with communities during disaster response.
- Assisting local church leaders become resources for the poor in their community.
- Promoting justice, advocacy and civil society through Biblical justice education.

## THANK YOU

The CRWRC makes a difference because of its many supporters. Your continued prayerful and financial support is whole heartedly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Quentin Nanninga

CRWRC Delegate for Classis Alberta North

quentin.nanninga@supremegroup.ca

## Chaplains Report

**Sini den Otter:** Retired from work in active treatment hospitals. Sini has been providing pastoral care in Inglewood Church during pastor John Ooms' sabbatical.

**Wendell Gelderman:** I work full time at the Misericordia. Almost five years already, very rewarding and challenging work. I spend a significant amount of my time working with people who have mental illness; a place of suffering and often deep spirituality. I feel very blessed to be working as a chaplain and appreciate the support of my local church (Fellowship) and the larger denomination.

**Janet Greidanus:** Retired from a counselling position at The King's University College. Serves on the Pastoral Relations Committee of Classis AB North.

**John Jansen:** Retired from the chaplaincy at Alberta Hospital .

**Harry Kuperus:** Works part time at the Kipnes Veteran Centre.

**Harold Roscher:** Tansi. As a pastoral counselor at the Edmonton Native Healing Centre in this new year we are pursuing abuse training with staff so we can be better equipped to deal with the scope of the hurts people present to us. Over several years we have come to recognize abuse in its various forms as the root causes to many of the aboriginal communities' problems. Our goal is to build up the aboriginal community to its fullest as the Creator intended. Although it is a hard ministry to be in sometimes, I thank the creator for the CRC support financially and with their prayers.

**David Sutherland:** I am still working full time in military chaplaincy for 1 Combat Engineer Regiment. Although I was told I would be moving to a new position in Edmonton this spring, recently that the plan has changed and I am staying here for the time being. I trust that God is in control of the big picture, because at this point in time I sure do not know what it is. I thank the Edmonton chaplain cluster for their support.

**Denis Vander Wekken:** Works full time at the Grey Nuns Hospital.

**Margaret Van Ginhoven:** Works as Student Counsellor at The King's University College.

**Harry Vriend:** Works full time at Alberta Hospital.

Norma Vriend: Serves on our behalf on the Chaplaincy Ministries Advisory Council, which meets at the same time as the chaplains conference in Grand Rapids. The search for a new Director for chaplaincy services in the Christian Reformed Denomination has been postponed due to the economic situation in the US and Canada.

The chaplains appreciate your prayers and support as they continue to serve in different capacities.  
For the Edmonton chaplains, Sini den Otter

# C L A S S I S renewal

MOBILIZING CLASSES FOR MINISTRY

## Classis Renewal Conference

In 1995 At the invitation of the Classis Renewal Ministry Team representatives of nearly every classis gathered in Glen Eyrie, Colorado, to discuss “The Role of Classis in the 21st Century.” That conference stimulated a number of classes to take steps to create a healthier classis able to minister more effectively to its member congregations. Over the past fourteen years exciting revitalization has occurred in many classes. As you know, “healthy congregations” is the stated priority of our denomination for the years to come, and healthy classes can assist in the realization of that goal. Thus, we invite you to a June 2009 conference to share “classis success stories” and to be encouraged in regional ministry as we celebrate what has been accomplished and commit ourselves to further progress.

The conference will be held at the Lombard CRC in suburban Chicago just before Synod 2009 convenes at Trinity Christian College. The conference begins on the afternoon of June 10 and ends at noon on June 12. Each classis is encouraged to send four people: one of its synodical delegates (synod will pick up travel costs for this person), a deacon, a prayer coordinator and another leader who has demonstrated interest in the work of classis. Attendees will have opportunities to share best practices, to interact with representatives of other classes and to be challenged in the unique work of classis.

The majority of the cost for the conference itself will be borne by the Classis Renewal Ministry Team so we will only be asking each classis to fund the cost of transportation to Chicago and to contribute a small amount (we anticipate no more than \$200) for each attendee in addition.

We are currently completing details of the conference and will email those to you and will post them on the [www.crcna.org/classisrenewal](http://www.crcna.org/classisrenewal) website. We send this preliminary information now because some of you meet in January. Please make this a matter of discussion at your upcoming meeting so your classis will be part of this exciting renewal effort that is changing how classis does its work.

Sincerely yours,

George Vander Weit  
For the Classis Renewal Ministry Team  
(248) 659-8135

## CentrepoinTE Community CRC

To the delegates of Classis Alberta North,

CentrepoinTE Community Christian Reformed Church wishes to serve as the calling church (and therefore hold the ministerial credentials) for Pastor Bill Tuininga during the time he is employed at The Urban Sanctuary, a retreat centre in Edmonton, AB (located on the campus of Taylor Seminary) that provides training in Spiritual Formation.

This request falls under article 12c of the church order:

“A minister of the Word may also serve the church in other work which relates directly to the calling of a minister, but only after the calling church has demonstrated to the satisfaction of classis, with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies, that said work is consistent with the calling of a minister of the Word.”

Background: Urban Institute (for more information: [www.urbansanctuary.ca](http://www.urbansanctuary.ca) or see below).

The Urban Sanctuary has been in existence for a number of years in Edmonton, and calls itself The Centre For Evangelical Spiritual Formation. The centre provides opportunities to individuals seeking to retreat for solitude, prayer and spiritual direction, trains individuals for the ministry of Spiritual Direction, and offers various training courses, lectures and workshops along with an annual conference. They also work with churches in the area of spiritual formation.

Classic Christian Spiritual formation includes four focal points: **Listen:** increase your ability to tune in to God’s conversation with you. **See:** sharpen the eyesight of your heart to 20/20 and see how God is at work in your life. **Cleanse:** take your heart through a deep cleansing for optimal spiritual health. **Do:** Live a life that places your hands into action and lives from a place of experiencing more of God’s presence in your life.

Consistency with the calling of a Minister of the Word.

Pastor Bill Tuininga’s position includes four areas of responsibility: to serve as lead role in all operational aspects of Urban Sanctuary; to promote the work of Urban Sanctuary and classic Christian spiritual formation (which may include teaching, preaching and writing); to develop and maintain relationships and partnerships with local churches; to engage in fundraising for the ministry of Urban Sanctuary.

Christian Spiritual Formation is at the heart of the church’s ministry and has received renewed focus in recent years as Christians continue to seek a deeper life in God. We believe this position, especially since it is intended to serve the church, is completely consistent “with the calling of a minister of the Word.”

Accountability:

As the calling church, CentrepoinTE will invite Pastor Bill to report on his work at the Urban Sanctuary at least 3 times each year. This report would also include aspects of his own spiritual formation and journey.

Request:

CentrepoinTE Community Christian Reformed Church requests that Classis Alberta North and the Synodical Deputies approve this work at the Urban Sanctuary as being “consistent with the calling of a minister of the Word,” in the Christian reformed Church, and therefore make it possible for CentrepoinTE to extend a call to Bill Tuininga.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the CentrepoinTE Executive,

Daryl Hagens, Chair

## Urban Sanctuary

### The Centre for Evangelical Spiritual Formation of Edmonton

**Vision Statement** - *The primary focus of CESF is to listen to God's voice and obey His commands. This organization ministers to the Body of Christ as a center for evangelical spirituality. We are committed to impacting and transforming Canadian churches in their understanding and practice of sanctification.*

**A community** - In a society that is becoming more and more individualized, it is sad to see the church often becoming a collection of individuals who happen to congregate together once a week but hardly know each other. Our vision is to try to encourage churches to become communities because we believe this is a primary tool God uses in developing our spiritual character. It is in the struggles and joys of community that Christ is formed in us. We cannot afford to be isolated individuals – the price is too high.

**Listens to God's voice** – The whole Christian journey can only be navigated by listening and following the direction that comes from the dialogue we have with God. It is too easy to become sidetracked in various good directions that have nothing to do with God's intention for the community. It is essential to us that we learn how to hear God in a collective sense rather than follow the vision of one person. We are convinced that God does not need help in writing the story of redemption and transformation for our lives so we will try to keep out of His way so that He can do His work.

**Obeys His commands** – The organization will have an important role in the transformation of each member into an obedient image bearer of Christ. While we affirm that legalism leads nowhere, we also believe that love will result in a changed heart. We do not have the power to accomplish this change on our own – we also need the power of the Spirit, the word and the depth of love exhibited in community.

**Ministers to the Body of Christ** – We do not see ourselves as a church or as an expression of the Body of Christ. To carry the metaphor further, we see ourselves as an organ of the Body and so we desire to be integrally connected to the Body. We envision empowering individuals until they have reached the level of maturity where they know and are able to carry out their calling in the Body of Christ. Our goal is to send people back into the Body after being brought to a place of maturity and to stimulate the Body to a new way of thinking (spiritual theology), a new way of living ( the hope of sanctification) and a new way of relating (loving deeply).

**A Canadian centre for evangelical spirituality** – Allister McGrath has commented that the evangelical church is in danger of losing its spirituality in another generation if we keep going the way that we have in the last generation. We desperately want to keep that flame alive and so feel that our mission is to safeguard and teach an understanding and practice of spirituality that once marked evangelical churches over a hundred years ago.

- **Impacting and transforming Canadian churches** – our burden is for Canadian churches becoming the kinds of communities where deep transformation takes place naturally and changes the communities they live in. As St. Patrick invited people to live in the monastic communities of Ireland and changed the character of a nation so we believe that the only way to make an impact on our culture is to invite people into community. Their lives and beliefs would be dramatically changed if we could invite them into places of deep relationships with God and each other. Sadly, most churches are not those kinds of community. We desire, by God's help, to impact and transform churches into life-changing communities.
- **Understanding and practice of sanctification** – We feel a revolution must take place to recover the power of sanctification in the life of a Christian. We need a Biblical theology of spirituality, a practical knowledge of the spiritual journey and a humbleness to learn and help each other in the journey.

**Mission Statement** – *We train spiritual directors, model what community could be, host gatherings that develop evangelical spirituality and support individuals in their spiritual journey.*

**Values** – we believe in:

**Biblical spirituality** – We desire to be Biblical, where the center of everything is God rather than man. Spirituality will include the concepts of repentance, surrender, soul rest and deep joy.

**Safe and Loving Community** - Our new purity creates the passion to accept each other by celebrating God's grace. As a spiritual family, we will accompany and honor each other on the journey of receiving and living in God's grace.

**Sustainability** – We will work, both corporately and privately, so that we will not be a burden to the body of Christ. This will involve living a simple lifestyle and learning skills that can support us financially.

**Hospitality** - We welcome and accept all people without prejudice, providing them with refreshment. This hospitality is practiced to foster an environment that will promote reflection and soul rest.

**Growth** – We will focus on spiritual growth so that we can present every member as mature before Christ

**Solitude and Rest** - We offer the opportunity for people within the context of community to experience God in solitude and silence and be transformed through meditation, reflection and worship.

**Healing** - We invite people to enter into a God-directed process of healing to restore His original design of inner harmony and healthy spiritual, emotional and physical balance.

### **Statement of Faith**

Vital to our message is a statement of faith that provides the theological “river banks” for the development of resources. This statement of faith intends to do this while not unnecessarily alienating those we desire to reach.

*We believe* in one God, Creator and Lord of the Universe, the co-eternal Trinity; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*We believe* that Jesus Christ, God's Son, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary atoning death on the cross, rose bodily from the dead and ascended to heaven where, as truly God and truly man, He is the mediator between God and man.

*We believe* that the Bible is God's authoritative and inspired Word. It is without error in all its teachings, including creation, history, its own origins, and salvation. Christians must submit to its divine authority, both individually and corporately, in all matters of belief and conduct, which is demonstrated by true righteous living. True Christians *desire* to submit to the Bible and obey God.

*We believe* that all people are lost sinners and cannot enter the Kingdom of God except through the new birth. Justification is by grace through faith in Christ alone. Good works have no place in justification. We are fully dependant on God for *both* justification and sanctification.

*We believe* in one holy, universal, and apostolic Church. Its calling is to worship and witness concerning its Head, Jesus Christ, preaching the Gospel among all nations and demonstrating its commitment by compassionate service to the needs of human beings and by promoting righteousness and justice. Its central calling is to become a spiritual community where people profoundly connect with God and each other.

*We believe* in the necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit for the individual's new birth and growth to maturity, and for the Church's constant renewal in truth, wisdom, faith, holiness, love, power, and mission. The resources of the New Covenant provide salvation and empower personal growth.

*We believe* that Jesus Christ will personally and visibly return in glory to raise the dead and bring salvation and judgment to completion. God will fully manifest His kingdom when He establishes a new heaven and new earth, in which He will be glorified forever, and exclude all evil, suffering, and death.

## Functionaries

	Function	Term Expiry		Function	Term Expiry
<b>STANDING COMMITTEES</b>					
<b>Interim Committee</b>			<b>NADC Board</b>		
Martin Mobach	Chair	2011 (1)	Richard Vriend		2009 (1)
Neil DeKoning		2009 (2)	Loretta Stadt		2010 (1)
Bill Wildeboer		2010 (1)	Walter Land		2011 (1)
Herman Berkenbosch		2011 (2)	Marilyn Hunt		2009 (2)
Allan Groen	Stated Clerk	Interim			
<b>Classical Ministry Committee</b>			Martin Wikkerink		2009 (1)
Int Comm + the ff. reps:			Terence DeVries	Chair	2010 (2)
Herman Berkenbosch	Student Fund		Henry Bosch		Ex Officio
Henry Bosch	NADC		Harry Zanting	Pastoral Adv	2009 (1)
Melle Huizinga	Cuba Conn.		Quentin Nanninga	CRWRC rep	2008 (1)
Ron Knol	CARTE		<b>Student Fund Committee</b>		
Dan Meinema	CYMC		Herman Berkenbosch	Chair	2010 (2)
Rick VanManen	Campus Min		Andrew Geisterfer	Secretary	2009 (2)
William VandenBorn	Home Missions		Fred Bultman		2010 (2)
Janet Greidanus	Chaplains		Ellen Vlieg-Paquette	Treasurer	Ex Officio
Jane Graff	Prayer Coord.		<b>Youth Ministry Committee</b>		
<b>Stated Clerk</b>			Robin Koning		2011 (1)
Rick Struik			Charlene Nanninga		2010 (2)
Neil De Koning	Alternate	2010 (1)	Rick Abma		2009 (2)
<b>Treasurer</b>			Cindy Tuininga		2011 (2)
Ellen Vlieg-Paquette		2011 (1)	Dan Meinema	Chair	2011 (2)
Gerald Woudstra	Alternate	2011 (1)	Ron DeVries	Consultant	Ex Officio
<b>Campus Ministry Committee</b>			<b>Cuba Connection Committee</b>		
Neil Vriend	Chair	2011 (2)	Sim VanderVinne	Chair	2009 (1)
Joanne Romyn		2011 (1)	Edith Dening		2010 (1)
Leo Mos	Faculty rep.	2009 (3)	Melle Huizinga		2009 (2)
Stefan Slomp	Student rep.	2009 (1)	James Josse		2011 (2)
Alyssa Cupido	Student rep.	2011 (1)	Wilf Opdendries		2009 (2)
Janet Wesselius	Faculty rep.	2011 (2)	Tracy Lanza		2009 (1)
Rick VanManen	Campus Min.	Ex Officio	Joe Grootenboer		2010 (1)
<b>Home Missions Committee</b>			<b>Safe Church-Education Panel</b>		
Ron Klok		2009 (2)	Vacancy		2010 (1)
Henry Steenbergen	Chair	2011 (1)	Ria Cook	Secretary	2009 (1)
Ann VanderHoek	Secretary	2010 (1)	Pietie Boskers		2010 (1)
William VandenBorn		2009 (2)	Ron Knol	Chair	2009 (3)
Peter Tuininga		2012 (3)	Janet Toornstra		2010 (1)
			Susan Schouten		2011 (2)

Bernie Kolkman 2010 (2)

#### **Nominating Committee**

Cor-Jan Buma 2011 (1)  
Pieta Borkent 2011 (1)  
Bill Wildeboer Chair 2009 (1)

#### **Pastor - Church Relations Committee**

Walt Brouwer 2010 (1)  
Janet Greidanus 2010 (1)  
Joanne Munro 2010 (1)  
Mike VanDyk Chair 2010 (1)  
Melle Pool Consultant Ex Officio  
Allan Groen Regional Pastor Ex Officio

#### **Safe Church - Listening Panel**

Margaret Bakker Appointed 1998  
Jim Joosse 1998  
John Sneep 1998  
Ary DeMoor 1998  
Henry Visscher 1998  
Joanne Buisman 1999  
Rita Nyman 2003  
Wendell Gelderman 2004  
Alyce Oosterhuis 2004  
Margaret Van Ginhoven 2004  
Hilda Fernhout 2008

### **REPRESENTATIVES OR APPOINTEES**

#### **Denominational Boards and Committees**

##### **Board of Trustees**

##### **CRCNA**

John Pasma (alt. Neil DeKoning) 2009 (2)  
Gayle Monsma At Large 2011 (2)

##### **CRWRC**

Bany Castellanos Joint Exec. 2009 (2)  
Quentin Nanninga 2011 (2)  
Roy Berkenbosch Vice-chair 2011 (2)  
Gerda Kits At Large 2011 (2)  
Judy Stork Service Link Coord  
Job Denotter Disaster Response

##### **Inter-Church Relations Committee**

Rebecca Warren 2011 (1)

##### **Other Representatives**

##### **Synodical Deputy**

Harry Vriend (alt. Cecil VanNiejenhuis) 2009 (2)  
Cecil VanNiejenhuis Alternate 2009 (2)

##### **Committee for Contact with Gov't**

Ria Cook 2012 (1)

##### **Regional Rep's to Den. Boards**

##### **(Western Canada)**

##### **Back To God Hour**

Gerrit Bomhof 2011 (1)

#### **Other agents or appointees**

##### **Refugee Coordinator NADC**

August Guillaume

##### **Youth Unlimited Board**

Rick Abma

#### **Church Visitors**

##### **North**

Fred Bultman 2011 (1)  
Russ Graff 2010 (5)  
Art Verboon 2011 (3)  
John Pasma 2011 (1)  
Harry Cook 2011 (4)  
Vacancy  
Vacancy Alternate

##### **South**

Len Batterink 2011 (1)  
Tom Oosterhuis 2011 (7)  
Gerrit Bomhof 2011 (1)  
Harry Zantingh 2011 (1)  
Nic Wolmarans 2010 (3)  
John Luth 2011 (1)  
Bill Nieuwenhuis Alternate 2010 (1)

**Calvin College**

Alyce Oosterhuis (alt. C. Fluit)	Region 1 & 2	2011 (2)
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**Calvin Seminary**

Henk VanAndel (alt. H. Bekkering)		2011 (2)
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**Home Missions**

Phil Reinders (alt. Ron Klok)		2009 (2)
Karen Wilk	Small Groups Min	

**Faith Alive Christian Resources**

Bill Nieuwenhuis (alt. Anita Veeneman)		2011 (2)
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**World Missions**

Edward Jager		2010 (1)
Hans Huizinga	Mission Mobilizer	

**Regional Pastor**

Allan Groen		
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**Aboriginal Ministry Comm (Canada)**

Ella Land		
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**Leadership Institute**

Neil DeKoning	At Large	2011 (1)
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**Classical Licensees to Exhort**

Harry Cook	2009
Harry Fernhout	2008
Harry Schuld	2008
Karen Wilk	2008
Maurice Boonstra	2009

**Counselors**

John Ooms	Edson - Peers
Bill Weenink	Fairview
Bill Weenink	La Glace
Melle Pool	Stony Plain

**ADHOC COMMITTEES****Liaison Emmanuel Home Chaplaincy**

Martin Mobach	Convener
Dick Meindersma	
Mary Hebers	

**Insurance and Liability Matters**

Rick Struik	Convener
Ron Knol	Reporter
Dave Greidanus	
Rita Nyman	