

Minutes for Classis CA South Meeting

March 1, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: The River CRC, Redlands, CA 459 E. Highland Ave. Redlands, CA

Chair: Cor Pool. Vice-Chair: Ruben Aguilar. Clerk: Will Verhoef

8:30 am – delegates began to arrive, sign-in, and help themselves to coffee, juice, refreshments. Delegates also obtained name tags, submitted their classical credentials as well as nominees to Synod 2018. First time delegates also signed the Covenant for Officebearers.

Delegates from Organized Churches:

Chino, CA—CrossPoint CRC: Don Porter, Dale Feikema, Ruth Pacheco
Diamond Bar, CA—Good News Chapel CRC: none
Fontana, CA—Iglesia Cristiana El Sembrador CRC: Harold Caicedo, Derly Renteria
Fullerton, CA—Faith Community CRC: Albert Kae
Fullerton, CA—Orange Korean CRC: Yun Jin Kim
La Puente, CA—Hanaro Community CRC: Seung Jun Lee
Las Vegas, NV—Areumdawoon CRC: Daewoo Park
Las Vegas, NV—Grace Valley CRC: Man Sub (Lewis) Kim, Sharon Rowe
Las Vegas, NV—Yung Kwang CRC: Chulhan Cho, Steve Kim, Sam Kim
Moreno Valley, CA—Oasis Community CRC: Lee Johnson
Orange, CA—Korean-American CRC of Orange County: John Seho Oh
Redlands, CA—The River CRC: Scott Elgersma, John Kimm, Debbie Dahlin
Riverside, CA—Hope Community CRC: Andy Hanson, Ron Glass
San Diego, CA—Living Faith Community CRC: none
San Diego, CA—Trinity Fellowship CRC: Shirley Turner, Charles Granot, Lisa Nieblas
San Marcos, CA—Crossroads CRC: Darryl Pierce, Jeff Hickox, Inneke Burrie
San Marcos, CA—Iglesia Camino al Cielo CRC: Ruben Aguilar, Denaciano Ramirez
Westminster, CA—Korean CRC of Orange County: none

Representatives from Emerging Churches:

Chino, CA—Korean New Beginnings of Crosspoint: Dae Hoon Kim
Mead Valley, CA—Sovereign Grace CRC: Rudy Gonzalez, Emily Manrique
Ontario, CA—La Semilla CRC: Roberto Quinonez

Synodical Deputies: Rev. Rick Westra (GLA), Rev. Tong Park (Hanmi);
Rev. Ken Boonstra (Central CA)

A number of guests were acknowledged during the course of the meeting.

Theme for this Regional Meeting of CRCNA Churches - ***Birthing the Dream/Presence of God***

9:15 am – Chairman Cor Pool welcomed delegates and guests and outlined our hope for our time together.

- Renewed sense of vision, inspiration passion, energy and a fresh lens for local ministry (we invited speaker, author, San Diegan leader Christiana Rice to help us with this)
- Connected to regional and national resources (Lightning round)
- Learn and encourage one another (lunch)
- Help facilitate healthy regional ministries and healthy leaders through our connectional regional system of accountability

9:20 -- Cor offered an opening prayer.

9:25 – Cor introduced Nick In't Hout who guided delegates and guests in a mixer activity and then introduced three persons who spoke about how God was helping them see him in their neighborhoods and work: Kristen Rietkerk, Albert Kae, and Andy Hanson

9:40 – Nick introduced Christiana Rice who then led delegates and guests through a facilitated group learning/workshop. It included the concept of birthing God's presence in our local contexts - prayers for God-sized dreams, for things that seem too big for us, for areas where we don't see fruit (birth) but just the pain of child birth. More Stories: Roberto Quinonez and Emily Manrique.

11:20—Classis took a five-minute break.

11:25--Delegates voted for delegates to Synod 2018. Results of the election:
Minister Delegate: Mirtha Villafane. Alternate: Will Verhoef
Elder Delegate: Ron Glass. Alternate: vacant.
Deacon delegate and alternate: none.
Fourth delegate: Andy Hanson. Alternate: Lou Wagenveld.

Classis approved the Classis Vision Team recruiting persons to serve as the alternate elder delegate and deacon delegate and alternate.

11:30—Presentations were made by:

Kristen Rietkerk: she mentioned the Faith Formation work being done, Youth Champion Mario Perez and Camp Dunamis

Colin Watson, Director of Ministries and Administration of the CRCNA

Steve Wunderink, Resonate Global Mission - Egypt

Ted Mejan, Classical Treasurer

12 noon –12:45pm Pastor Scott Elgersma offered a prayer. Delegates enjoyed lunch and networking with others.

12:45 pm Rev. Harold Caicedo, chair of the Leadership Development Team presented the following matters:

Article 8 doctrinal conversations of Rev. Chulhan Cho (Yung Kwang CRC, Las Vegas) and Rev. Man Sub (Lewis) Kim (Grace Valley CRC, Las Vegas). Videos of their responses to the exam questions had been distributed ahead of time. Chairman Pool invited Rev. Cho and Rev. Kim up to the platform where, at the invitation of Cor Pool, they introduced themselves and spoke of a joy each experienced in ministry. Several follow up questions were answered. Executive session was declared. The chairman entertained a motion that each be declared eligible for call to ministry of the Word in the CRC. There was some discussion and then the delegates voted by ballot. The motion passed. Synodical Deputies concurred. Rev. Cho and Rev. Kim were invited back and Chairman Pool announced classis' decision to them and congratulated them.

Approval of Article 23 Commissioned Pastor job descriptions for Bryan Vander Tuig, Jeff Liou, and Charlie Wang (CrossPoint CRC, Chino) and Nick In't Hout (The River CRC, Redlands) were presented. Motion was made and passed that the job descriptions are in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastors. Synodical Deputies concurred.

(Since Bryan and Nick had both been examined for Commissioned Pastor ordination in our classis in the past, their examinations were waived.)

Examination of Jeff Liou and Charlie Wang for ordination as Commissioned Pastors. Written responses to the exam questions had been distributed ahead of time. Chairman Pool invited Jeff Liou and Charlie Wang up to the platform where, at the invitation of Cor Pool, they introduced themselves and spoke of a joy each experienced in ministry. Several follow up questions were answered. Executive session was declared. Chairman Pool entertained a motion that their examinations were acceptable. There was discussion. The delegates voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman Pool invited Jeff and Charlie back in and announced classis' decision. He then invited all four (Rev. Cho and Rev. Kim, Jeff and Charlie) to the front, presented them with certificates and invited the vice-chairman of the classis, Ruben Aguilar, to offer a prayer—which he did.

1:35 pm Updates on Local Churches/Support

Other matters requiring Synodical Deputy concurrences were dealt with:

- Rev. Mark Vermaire: Extension of loan for another two years to the American Protestant Church of The Hague (ACPH), The Netherlands (Church Order Article 13-c). Motion passed and synodical deputies concurred.
- Rev. Matthew Kim: Honorable release from CRC. He has been a pastor in non-CRC churches since 2003 (Church Order Article 14-b). Motion passed and synodical deputies concurred.

- Rev. Charles Hong: Available for call due to closure of Poongsunghan Church, a non-CRC to which he had been loaned (Church Order Article 17-a). Motion passed and synodical deputies concurred.
- Rev. Yi-Ming Kao: Release from CrossPoint Chinese Church and available for call (Church Order Article 17-a). Motion passed and synodical deputies concurred.
- Rev. Edward Kim: Release from CRC. He has accepted a call to Good Shepherd Church (ECO), a non-CRC (Church Order Article 14-b). Motion passed and synodical deputies concurred.
- Rev. Joe Nasvytis: Available for call due to end of term call from Living Faith Community Church (Church Order, Article 17-a). Motion passed and synodical deputies concurred.

Stated Clerks Report (written). Stated Clerk Will Verhoef offered two motions:

- After receiving a report from the clerks of Classis Hanmi, GLA, and CA South, we acknowledge that Rev. Tim Kwon is now a pastor at Olympic Presbyterian CRC in Classis Hanmi, and that the body known as God's Dream Center has merged into the Olympic Presbyterian Church of Classis Hanmi. Classis approved the motion.
- Rev. Darryl Pierce, having accepted the call to be the next pastor of Crossroads CRC in San Marcos—and welcomed on January 7, 2018—is appointed by classis to serve as Interim Pastor while completing his Article 8 ordination process. Classis approved the motion.
- Chairman Pool declared approval of the Stated Clerks report.

Chairman Pool referenced the Church Counselor Reports (written).

Ray Hommes—Oasis Community, Moreno Valley
 Phil Du Bois—Hanaro, La Puente
 Phil Du Bois—Yung Kwang, Las Vegas
 Cor Pool—Grace Valley, Las Vegas
 Lou Wagenveld—Trinity Fellowship, San Diego
 John Poortenga—Crossroads, San Marcos
 Harold Caicedo—Camino al Cielo, San Marcos
 Scott Elgersma—Good News Chapel, Walnut Creek
 Nick In't Hout—Faith Community, Fullerton

Chairman Pool referenced the written report submitted by Rev. Al Breems about the Evangelism Training Program that he leads.

Classis approved the following motion from the Classis Vision Team: “Due to an oversight at the last classis meeting the CVT recommends that classis welcome and receive all New Beginnings Church members and Rev. Dae Hoon Kim as members of the CRC effective October 12, 2017. New Beginnings Church (now Korean New Beginnings of CrossPoint) is an emerging church under the supervision of CrossPoint CRC in Chino with a total membership of 45 including children.”

Chairman Pool noted that on the credentials of Faith Community CRC, Fullerton there were two notes: 1. "Discipling/formation of leaders (only one elder and one deacon currently.)" 2. The request to restart yearly church visits. Chairman Pool stated that these items are being assigned to the Classis Vision Team.

Classis received a communication from CrossPoint CRC in Chino that CrossPoint Chinese Church (emerging) has merged with CrossPoint CRC. Charlie Wang was hired to join the staff at CrossPoint to lead the Chinese congregation.

2:00 pm Pastor Scott Elgersma, Chairman of the Classis Vision Team shared information about classis vision for Future of Classis (Restructure) and Formation of New Teams. He spoke passionately about the diversity of our classis--perhaps second to none in the denomination. He mentioned with gratitude the presence of many Korean delegates and encouraged all to participate in the work of classis.

2:15 pm Nick In't Hout led a closing exercise at tables

- In light of our time together...what is...
 - 1 step God is inviting you to take in your local ministry?
 - 1 person from this group that you will connect with before the end of March?
 - 1 person/group that you will share the story of Classis with?

2:25 pm Rev. Man Sub (Lewis) Kim prayed us out - Korean Style (everyone out loud)

2:30 pm Classis CA South adjourned.

Next meeting of Classis CA South is scheduled for October 18, 2018!