

**Classis Chatham Highlights**  
**Tuesday, September 27, 2011**  
**Redeemer CRC**  
**Sarnia, ON**

- Rev. Jim Poelman of the host church led opening devotions.
- The Credentials Committee reported that all churches were present. A total of 75 delegates, including 15 first-time delegates, were registered. The first-time delegates all signed the Form of Subscription.
- Classis was declared constituted with Rev. Pieter Pereboom of London-First as Chair and Rev. Willemina Zwart of London-Good News as Vice-Chair.
- Steve van de Hoef of the CRCNA led a “Blanket Exercise” where delegates walked through the history of the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada.
- Classis decided not to overture Synod 2012 at this time with either of two overtures addressed to Classis regarding the Belhar Confession. One was a request to adopt the Belhar as a testimony, and the other was a request to adopt the Belhar as a Confession.
- Candidate John Moelker successfully sustained his examination to become a Minister of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. His installation service will be held on Friday, October 21, 2011 D.V. at Dresden CRC at 7:30 pm.
- Classis approved the 2012 budget. The classical ministry share request is \$52 per professing member, an increase of 1.96% over the 2011 classical ministry share.
- With sadness, Classis Chatham approved the retirement of Rev. Vic Vandermolen of St. Thomas-First under Article 18-a of the Church Order. Rev. Vandermolen has received medical advice that due to his ongoing illness, he is unable to continue his ministry.
- Classis adopted the revised Safe Classis Policy.
- Classis will meet next on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 D.V. at Westmount CRC, Strathroy, ON