

Classis Chatham Highlights  
Tuesday, January 24, 2012  
Westmount CRC, Strathroy, ON

- ◆ Rev. Peter Hoytema of the host church led opening devotions based on 1 Cor. 1:20-31
- ◆ 79 delegates were registered, including 13 first-time delegates. All 28 churches were represented.
- ◆ Rev. Willemina Zwart of London-Good News and Rev. Eric Groot-Nibbelink of London-Bethel were seated as chairperson and vice-chairperson for the day.
- ◆ An overture from Sarnia-Living Hope that the CRCNA not adopt the Belhar Confession as a Confession was passed by a recorded vote of 54-19.
- ◆ Recently retired pastor Vic Vandermolen thanked classis for its support, love and encouragement during his ongoing illness.
- ◆ Ministry Associate Beth Fellingner of St. Thomas-Destination Church gave a compelling presentation on “How to be an Engaging Community.” A copy of her presentation is on file with the Stated Clerk.
- ◆ With the concurrence of the Synodical Deputies, classis approved a separation of Tillsonburg CRC from its pastor, Rev. George Rowaan according to the provision of Church Order, Article 17-a.
- ◆ With the concurrence of the Synodical Deputies, the position of Campus Chaplain at Fanshawe College was declared to be consistent with the office of Ministry Associate.
- ◆ St. Thomas-First CRC reported that George Lubbers has accepted their call and will begin his ministry on Feb. 20, 2012 D.V. and Strathroy-East reported that Rev. Derek Bouma has accepted their call and will begin his ministry on April 1, 2012 D.V.
- ◆ Rev. Craig Hoekema (Sarnia-Living Hope) and Rev. Bob Loerts, (Woodstock-Coventant) along with Elder Jenny Douma (Sarnia-Redeemer) and Elder Martin Bosveld (Chatham-Calvary) were chosen to represent Classis Chatham at Synod 2012 at Redeemer University College in Ancaster, ON in June. Rev. Jack Kerkhof, Rev. Dr. William Koopmans, Elder Pete Weeming and Elder Peter Beerda were chosen as alternate delegates.
- ◆ Classis Chatham will meet next at First CRC, London, ON on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 D.V.