

## Press Release of Classis North – 19 April 2024

On behalf of the convening church of Legana, Rev. A. van Delden welcomed all of the delegates to classis – those present in person and those present online. He then led in opening devotions. The chairman remembered the continuing vacancy of Mt. Nasura, as well as the pending vacancy of Melville after Rev. S. t'Hart accepted the call to FRC Southern River. He also rejoiced with the church of Southern River that Rev. S. t'Hart recently accepted the call from their church. After the credentials were examined and found to be in good order, classis was declared constituted.

The chairman extended a special word of welcome to br. John Coles as elder from the Southern Presbyterian Church (SPC) and expressed gratitude for his presence, and also to br. Matthew Griffioen, from the Free Reformed Church of Launceston, who is serving as an intern with Rev. W. Bredenhof.

As suggested by the previous classis, Rev. A. Souman served as chairman, Rev. A. van Delden as vice-chairman, and Rev. W. Bredenhof as clerk. The brothers of the convening church were thanked for their work in preparing for the classis, and the agenda was adopted. All of the delegates stood to indicate their agreement with the Three Forms of Unity.

The questions outlined in Article 41 of the Church Order were asked, and all of the churches answered that the ministry of the office bearers was being continued, and that the decisions of the major assemblies were being honoured. The Free Reformed Church of Melville church requested advice from classis; namely, that, according to Article 43 of the Church Order, Rev. Souman be appointed as counsellor in view of their pending vacancy. This request was granted.

Br. John Coles is given the opportunity to address classis on behalf of the Southern Presbyterian Church. He outlined the relationship and collaboration that exists (and has existed for many years) with the Free Reformed Churches, especially those churches in Tasmania.

FRC Mt. Nasura was appointed as the convening church for the next classis, to be held on 26 July 2024 if necessary, or else 20 September 2024 DV. The suggested officers will be Rev. S. t'Hart (chairman), Rev. A. Souman (vice-chairman), and Rev. A. van Delden (clerk).

Classis also made the following appointments:

- Church visitors: Rev. S. t'Hart (convenor), Rev. R. Bredenhof, Rev. A. Souman.
- Church for keeping the archives: FRC Kelmscott
- Church for auditing the archives: FRC Mount Nasura
- Treasurer: Louisa Brand (alternate: Alastair Kleyn)
- Church for auditing the books of the Treasurer: FRC Southern River
- Committee for Needy Churches: D.C. de Vos, G. VanBurgel, C. Huizinga
- Church for auditing fund for Needy Churches: FRC Southern River
- Committee of Examiners
  - Co-ordinator: Rev. W. Bredenhof
  - Sermon proposal: Rev. A. Souman & S. t'Hart

- Old Testament: Rev. A. van Delden
- New Testament: Rev. W. Bredenhof
- Doctrine and Creeds: Rev. A. Souman
- Church History: Rev. W. Bredenhof
- Knowledge of Scripture: Rev. A. van Delden
- Ethics: Rev. S. 't Hart
- Diaconiology: Rev. W. Bredenhof
- Church Polity: Rev. A. Souman

One brother made use of personal question period, and censure according to Article 47 of the Church Order was considered unnecessary. The Acts were adopted and the press release was approved. Rev. A. Souman closed the meeting in prayer.

For Classis North, Rev. Anson van Delden.