



CLASSIS CHATHAM
of the Christian Reformed Church in North America



As a Classis, we would like to specifically focus on particular values as part of our ministry reflection to open classis.

The value that we are focusing on at this meeting of classis is ***Prayerful Dependence on God***.

Three reporting churches are asked to share on the floor of classis on the joys and struggles of their church on this value, and how they discern God working through their church. Following each report another church is asked to offer prayer for the church assigned them.

	Reporting Church	Praying Church
1.	London-Good News	Woodstock-Covenant
2.	Strathroy-East	Essex
3.	Wallaceburg	London-Forest City

To aid the reporting churches, you are invited to work through the questions below with your council.

Prayerful Dependence on God

1. Describe a way that your congregation is giving opportunity for prayer.
2. What are some ways that God has answered the church's prayers?
3. In what areas are you trying to discern God's will right now?
4. What are some of the struggles with this value?
5. How can we pray for your church?

CLASSICAL CREDENTIALS

For ministers, elders, and deacons

To: Classis Chatham

To convene at:

Wallaceburg CRC
150 Bruinsma Ave., Wallaceburg, Ontario
on
Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 9:00 am
(Registration begins at 8:15)

The council of _____ of _____ has appointed:

Pastor:

Elder:

Deacon:

Alternate Delegates are:

First-time Delegates are:

We instruct and authorize them to take part in all deliberations and transactions of classis regarding all matters legally coming before the assembly and transacted in agreement with the Word of God according to the conception of it embodied in the doctrinal standards of the Christian Reformed Church, as well as in harmony with our Church Order.

We testify that our council faithfully adheres to the doctrinal standards of the Christian Reformed Church and diligently and effectively attends to ministry within our congregation, community, classis, denomination and the broader kingdom of God.

Questions under Church Order Article 41

Church Order Article 41 calls classis to assist its member churches in the following way:

In order to assist the churches, the classis shall allocate sufficient time at its meetings to respond to requests for advice or help from the churches, and at a minimum of one meeting annually shall allocate sufficient time to discuss at least one ministry issue that the classis considers to be especially important.

1. In what aspect of your ministry would you like the assistance of classis?

2. What aspect of ministry would you like to discuss at classis?



By order of the council,

_____, Chair of Council

_____, Clerk of Council

_____, Date

Please include any additional comments or items of information and requests for advice or help of classis on a separate page.

ADDENDUM TO THE CLASSICAL CREDENTIALS FORM

Classis Chatham

Please consider the following when answering the Questions under Church Order 41 on the Classical Credentials form.

Re. Question 1: “In what aspect of your ministry would you like the assistance of classis?”

The assistance of classis can take a variety of forms. It would be helpful if you would identify more specifically what kind of assistance classis can provide, such as:

- Would you like a meeting with church visitors?
- Would you like a meeting with one of the regional pastors?
- Would you like your area regional pastor to arrange a visit with your pastor?
- Would you like the immediate advice of delegates by way of a brief discussion at this meeting on the issue you have identified?
- Would you like to have an issue or matter reviewed by one of the committees of classis?
- Would you like to know whether your question can be discussed at a subsequent meeting of classis?

Re. Question 2: “What aspect of ministry would you like to discuss at classis?”

To make any classical discussion as meaningful and efficient as possible, please consider the following:

- Have you clearly stated the issue you wish to discuss?
- State how the aspect of ministry you would like discussed is of interest or relevance to other churches in classis.
- What background information or explanations are you able to provide either on the credentials form or by way of a separate document that could accompany the credentials form?
- Identify, if possible, specific questions on the aspect of ministry you wish discussed, as opposed to a general statement that might not get good answers.
- Are you prepared to lead a discussion on this aspect of ministry? If not, can you suggest someone who can serve as a discussion facilitator?
- Would you like to have the discussion of this aspect of ministry at the present meeting, or can it be discussed at a subsequent meeting of classis?