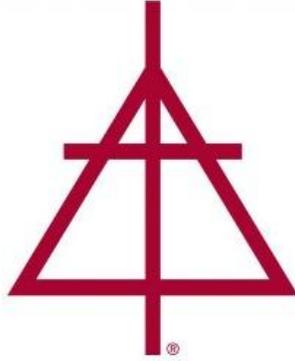


Minutes for the Meeting of



Classis Alberta South and Saskatchewan
of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

March 6, 2026

Emmanuel CRC, Calgary Alberta



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Minutes of the Meeting

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Vision Statement

Classis Alberta South and Saskatchewan is a regional group of Christian Reformed Churches dependent on the Holy Spirit, striving to function together as one body in Christ, share in worship, promote evangelism, diaconal ministries and nurture through mutual accountability.

Chair: Rev. Matthew VandenHuevel
Vice Chair: Rev. Kevin Vanderveen
Clerk: Judy Heim

Classis was held at Emmanuel CRC in Calgary, Alberta on March 6, 2026 starting at 9 am.

- 1. Opening Worship:** The worship team of Emmanuel led in song and Harry Fritschy, elder of Emmanuel led in a devotion and prayer.
- 2. Welcome to delegates and visitors by the Chair.**
- 3. Classis called to order**
 - 3.1** Credentials and roll call for attendance and Classis was constituted.
 - 3.2** First time delegates signed the Covenant for Office Bearers upon arrival.
 - 3.3** Chair had the delegates stand while he read the Covenant for Office Bearers.
 - 3.4** Any representative that is not willing to stand will have the right to speak but not the privilege to vote.
 - 3.5** Delegate list:

Church	Minister	Elder	Deacon
Bethel	Jimmy Jo	Maarten Prinsloo	Ethan Nienhuis
Brooks	Paul Droogers	Bonnie Spragg	Wendy Bekkema
Burdett	Rick Roeda	Teun Varekamp	Bert Schusler
Covenant	Matt VandenHeuvel	Lee Himbeault	n/a
Emmanuel	n/a	Jerry Borst	Jesse Bydevaate
Granum	Peter Weggeman	Jon Hummel	Aaron Morrill
High River	n/a	Herman Kielstra	Martha deKlerk
Iron Springs	Brian Corr	Daniel Knop	Tyler Scholten
Lantern Community	n/a	n/a	n/a
Living Hope	Kevin VanderVeen	Dirk Vis	Jeremy Williamson
Maranatha (Calgary)	n/a	John Stiel	Peter deJonge
Maranatha (Lethbridge)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nobleford	Gary van Leeuwen	Delbert Kooy	Jason Hoetmer
River Park	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sonlight	n/a	Ronald Off	Craig Abernathy
Taber, (First)	Brian Kuyper	Peter Kempe	Dylan Tams

4. **Advisors:** Peter VandenDool, Treasurer; Judy Heim, Stated Clerk

5. **Motion** to approve the agenda

Seconded/carried

6. **Committee reports:**

6.1 Credentials Committee – Brooks CRC and Iron Springs CRC

6.2 Nominations: Judy Heim, Stated Clerk

6.2.1 Alternate Synodical Deputy (Pastor) – no nominations received

6.2.2 Alternate Stated Clerk – Emmanuel CRC nominated Yvonne Bosgra, (bio attached to agenda)

Seconded/Carried

6.2.3 CIC (layperson): no nominations received

6.2.4 Synod 2026 Elder/Deacon nominations:

- Received nominations for Deacon on credentials:

o Emma Deslippe from Maranatha CRC Calgary

o Jeremy Williamson from Living Hope CRC, Medicine Hat

▪ Ballots distributed: results were:

• Jeremy Williamson chosen as Deacon delegate

• Emma Deslippe to be the Alternate Deacon delegate

- Received no Elder nominations from credentials. Floor was opened to nominations.
 - o Peter de Jonge from Maranatha, Calgary was nominated
 - **Motion** to approve Peter de Jonge as Elder delegate to Synod 2026 **Seconded/carried**
- **Motion** to destroy the ballots **Seconded/carried**
- 6.2.5 To reappoint Judy Heim to 2nd term as Safe Church Coordinator **Seconded/carried**
- 6.2.6 To reappoint Peter Vandendool to 2nd term as Classis Treasurer **Seconded/carried**

7. Classical Administrative Reports:

7.1 Classical Ministries Committee:

7.1.1 Summary of meetings of CIC/CMC received

7.1.2 **Motion:** That Classis ABSS adopt the **revised** overture to Classis ABSS from March 2025 submitted by Iron Springs CRC regarding Classis CIC chairperson rotation and make the appropriate changes to the Rules and Procedures as necessary.

That the Classis Interim Committee consist of the following:

Members: Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair and Ex Officio- Stated Clerk and Treasurer.

Members of the CIC shall serve a three year term and shall hold their positions as follows:

Fist Year – Vice Chair

Second Year – Chair

Third Year – Past Chair

An individual may serve a second three year term but must be re-elected by classis and will serve in the rotation as above.

Positions on the CIC will alternate between a pastor and a lay person.

Ordinarily the lay person shall have experience as an office bearer and must fist receive the approval of their council to be nominated to the CIC.

The chair of the CIC shall serve as chair of the CMC during his/her tenure.

Grounds:

1. The work of the CIC is substantial, and another member would be beneficial.
2. The rotation of individuals would ensure that the work of Classis is distributed and shared by more than just a few people.
3. There are many gifted individuals, besides pastors, in Classis ABSS who would serve well in this capacity.

For reference: This would replace the makeup of the committee, changing the Rules and Procedures under C.1.: “The Classical Interim Committee shall be integrated into the Classical Ministries Committee. The administrative details to be dealt with by a subcommittee of the Classical Ministries Committee (Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk and Treasurer).” **Seconded/carried**

Motion: To approve the work of the Classical Ministries Committee (CMC)
Seconded/carried

7.2 Classis Stated Clerk report: report attached to agenda

Motion: To approve the work of the Classical Stated Clerk **Seconded/carried**

7.3 Classis Treasurer Report: Peter VandenDool reporting

7.3.1 Presentation and discussion/questions of the 2025 Financial Report

Motion: To approve the work of the Classis Treasurer **Seconded/carried**

7.4 Classical Ministerial Leadership Team: Gary Van Leeuwen presented in the absence of Gerhardt Venter, Chair

7.5 Church Visitor Team: Kevin Vanderveen shared the vision of the team and the work being done.

8. Denominational Agencies/Visitors Reports:

8.1 COD: Lee Himbeault reported

8.2 Resonate Global Missions: Ben Verkerk reported

8.3 Canadian Executive Director: Al Postma reported on Canadian National Gathering

8.4 Diaconal Ministries Canada: John Wildeboer and Rachel Vroege reported.

Deacons had lunch together

8.5 The Ministry to Seafarers: Gary Roosma reported

8.6 Calvin Seminary: Shaw Brix reported

8.7 Ecclesiastical Governance: Joel VandeWerken shared about the various ways the levels of the church (local, classis and synod) work together and support each other.

8.8 Global CoffeeBreak: Lisa Boonstoppel-Pot reported

8.9 Thrive: Rick Zomer shared about studies done regarding Faith Formation

9. Church Order Motions: Synodical deputies (Andrew Beunk Classis BCNW, Wout Brouwer Classis BCSE, Bryan Lanting Classis North Cascades) joined the meeting virtually.

9.1 Motion: Recognizing his years of service and giving thanks to God for his good work, Classis ABSS grants Bert Adema an honorable release from the office of Commissioned Pastor. **Seconded/carried**

Grounds: Bert Adema has asked that he be released from ordination upon his retirement.

9.2 Motion: Classis ABSS appreciates the years of faithful service of Ed Top, Minister of the Word Emeritus, and recognizes his decision to allow his ministerial credentials to lapse in the CRCNA. **Seconded/carried**

9.3 Motion: That Classis ABSS acquiesces to the The Lantern Christian Reformed Church's decision to disaffiliate from the Christian Reformed Church in North America under Church Order, Article 38f, effective March 6, 2026 and that Classis ABSS offer pastoral care and guidance to those members who wish to remain part of the CRCNA.

Seconded/carried

From River Park CRC:

9.4 Motion: That Classis ABSS honorably release Harrison Cho as a Commissioned Pastor of ABSS in accordance with Article 24-d of the Church Order of the CRCNA.
Seconded/carried

9.5 Motion: Classis ABSS appreciates the years of faithful service of John Van Sloten, Minister of the Word Emeritus, and recognizes his decision to allow his ministerial credentials to lapse in the CRCNA.
Seconded/carried

9.6 Motion: That Classis ABSS honorably release Rev. Adrian R. de Lange as Minister of the Word of the CRCNA in accordance with Article 14-b of Church Order of the CRCNA*
Seconded/carried

9.7 Motion: That Classis ABSS honorably release Rev. Cari Fydirchuk as Minister of the Word of the CRCNA in accordance with Article 14-b of Church Order of the CRCNA*
Seconded/carried

9.8 Motion: That Classis ABSS honorably release Rev. Paul W. Verhoef as Minister of the Word of the CRCNA in accordance with Article 14-b of the Church Order of the CRCNA*
Seconded/carried

*Requires Synodical Deputy concurrence: **Synodical Deputies concurred**

*Article 14-b : A minister of the Word who resigns from the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church to enter a ministry outside the denomination shall be released from office by the classis with an appropriate declaration reflecting the resigned minister's status and with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies.

9.9 Motion: That Classis ABSS acquiesces to River Park Christian Reformed Church's decision to disaffiliate from the Christian Reformed Church in North America under Church Order, Article 38f, effective March 6, 2026 and that Classis ABSS offer pastoral care and guidance to those members who wish to remain part of the CRCNA.
Seconded/carried

10. Classis discussion on ongoing shared ministry: Gary Van Leeuwen, Chair CIC/CMC
It was decided to return this document to the local churches for further reflection, discussion and discernment and bring this discussion to the Fall Classis meeting.

11. Closing:

11.1 The Chair thanked those who served.

11.2 Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Seconded/carried

11.3 Closing prayer and doxology

12. Fall meeting date and location to be determined in October, 2026