



Session #85

MEETING MINUTES

CLASSICAL EXAM of Candidate Shelby Gemmen

Thursday, October 29, 2015

12:00 noon to 2:45 PM

Immanuel Christian Reformed Church

3520 Kiel Street

Hudsonville, MI 49426

Officers of the Day

President: Rev. David Den Haan

Clerk: Ms. Dee VanHeuvelen

I. Prior meeting activity

Article 1

Credentials: Each church in classis submitted its credentials before this meeting, so every delegate received a name tag upon arrival. The Vision Team reviewed the credentials and there was nothing to report that needed attention.

Article 2

Delegates in attendance:

CHURCH

Alive Ministries
Baldwin Street
Bauer
Cottonwood Church
EverGreen Ministries
Fairway
First Hudsonville
First Jenison
Forest Grove
Friendship Chapel
Georgetown
Hillcrest
Immanuel
Jamestown
Messiah
Ridgewood
Searchlight Ministries
Trinity
Twelfth Avenue
Zutphen

PASTOR

Terry Scholten
Ken Dornbush
Tim Holwerda
Matt Palsrok
Larry Doornbos
David Den Haan
David Jolman
Adam Barton
Jeff Scripps

Marc Nelesen

Bob Huisman
Dan Gritter
Nate Meldrim
Len Kuyvenhoven
Stan Drenth
Gerry Koning
Mark Bennink
Joshua Van Drunen

ELDER

Al Solle
Ken Vander Kolk
Dave Sjoerdsma
Tom Kragt
Duane Addink
Ron Sterk
Donald Wierenga
Chris Bouma

Jim Roskam
Bruce Dykstra
Joe Lems
Gord Wolterink

Ray Dennis
Bruce Tanis
Dan Postma
Dave Baatenburg
Ed Curths

Other persons attending Classis for all or part of the meeting:

Duane VanderBrug
Vision Team
Chair/Facilitator

Kathy Jelsema
Assistant Treasurer
Web Keeper

Tricia Bosma
10:24 Coordinator
Alternate Stated Clerk

Dee VanHeuvelen
Stated Clerk
Vision Team/Admin. Ass't.

Mr. Shelby Gemmen
Candidate for Ministry

Rev. Terry Genzink
Sermon Critic

Rev. Sid Draayer
Synodical Deputy
Classis Grand Raipds North

Rev. Doug Fauble
Synodical Deputy
Classis Grandville

Rev. Stan Scripps
Synodical Deputy
Classis Holland

Mr. Robert Nesky
Elder
Immanuel CRC

Mr. Keith Bouwkamp
Grant Reformed Church

Mr. John Gort
Grant Reformed Church

II. Welcome, Devotions, Food and Fellowship

Article 3

A. Welcoming visitors and guests, President Den Haan:

1. The visitors and the Synodical Deputies were welcomed.
2. He read from Exodus 19:5-6 and talked about this text being the job description that God gave to Israel as they prepared for life in the promised land. Then he read from I Peter 2:9-10 where we see some of

the same titles now given to the church. The job description for the church, the new Israel, is to declare the praises of him who has called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.

3. President Den Haan offered prayer for the meal and for the meeting.

B. Food and Fellowship

1. A catered lunch was enjoyed by all.
2. During the fellowship time, Rev. Gerry Koning, a member of the Classis Vision Team, explained that the process that we are going through today of examining a candidate to be loaned to a Reformed Church in America Church on a first call is a very unique situation. Koning has been in close contact with the denomination's Office of Candidacy and others, to make sure that this is the correct procedure.

III. Classical Exam

Article 4

A. Introduction of Candidate Shelby Gemmen, Rev. Bob Huisman:

Rev. Huisman related that a couple of years ago when Immanuel CRC was going through the Renewal Lab, they hired Gemmen to be their intern. This led to a growing mentorship as he watched Gemmen prepare for the ministry.

B. Proper procedure:

1. **Motion was made by Immanuel CRC to loan Candidate Shelby Gemmen to the Grant Reformed Church upon successful completion of his classical exam.** Question was raised about Gemmen's salary and pension, and all were assured that Grant Reformed Church is responsible for these. **Motion was seconded and carried. The Synodical Deputies concurred with this motion.**
2. Rev. Tom Kragt conducted the practical exam. **This was followed by a motion to proceed which was MSC.**
3. Rev. Jeff Scripps reported favorably on the sermon that was preached on the previous Sunday at Grant Reformed Church. **Motion was MSC to proceed. The Synodical Deputies concurred with this decision.**
4. Rev. Stan Drenth presided over the theological exam. **Motion was made to accept Candidate Gemmen into the ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church.**
5. Executive session is declared (visitors are excused). Motion is to be voted on by paper ballot. **After a brief discussion and ballots counted, motion was seconded and carried to accept Candidate Gemmen into the ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church. The Synodical Deputies gave their concurrence to classis' decision.**

C. Executive session ends:

All who left the room are called back.

IV. Closing Moments

Article 5

A. Results announced:

Candidate Gemmen is congratulated and welcomed into the ministry.

B. Closing prayer:

All of the delegates and visitors come forward for laying on of hands and group prayers, led by Rev. Dan Gritter.

C. Ordination service:

This service is planned for Sunday, November 1, 2015, at Immanuel CRC.

D. Meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee VanHeuvelen

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

Classis meetings for 2016:

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Thursday, May **26**, 2016

Thursday, September 15, 2016