



Session #88

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 15, 2016

3:30 PM to 4:45 PM

Ivanrest Christian Reformed Church

3777 Ivanrest Street, SW

Grandville, MI 49418

5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Fairway Christian Reformed Church

1165 44th Street

Jenison, MI 49428

Officers of the Day

President: Rev. Len Kuyvenhoven

Vice-President: Rev. Gerry Koning

Stated Clerk: Ms. Dee VanHeuvelen

I. CREDENTIALS

Article 1

Credentials: Each church in classis submitted its credentials before this meeting. An assigned seating arrangement was used with two pastors, two elders, and two deacons, all of different churches, at each table. The Vision Team reviewed the credentials and reported later in the meeting.

Article 2

Delegates in attendance:

CHURCH

Alive Ministries
Baldwin Street

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

PASTOR

Terry Scholten

Tim Holwerda
Matt Palsrok
Tom Kragt
Dave Den Haan
David Jolman
Jeff Scripps
Josh Benton
Marc Nelesen
Brian Bosscher
Bob Huisman
Dan Gritter
Nate Meldrim
Len Kuyvenhoven
Stan Drenth
Gerry Koning
Mark Bennink
Josh Van Drunen

ELDER

Cindy Mallekoote
Floyd Brouwer
Calvin Sall
Dave Waldner
Scott Fedders
Larry Doornbos
Ed Postma
Jeff Horstman
Chris Bouma

Jim Roskam
Steve Dykstra
Joe Lems
Hank Bosma
Ike Koetje

Herb Kraker
Viet Tran
David Holkeboer
Doug Aukeman

DEACONS

Brian Karsten

Matt Voss
Aaron Dozeman

John Bosscher
Derek Van Dam
Marcia Jasperse
Larry Osterbaan

Dot Vruwink
Jeff De Vries

Marcy Sterken

Bert Heyboer
Allen Broene
Craig Brouwer

Other persons attending Classis:

Duane VanderBrug
Vision Team
Chair/Facilitator

Kathy Jelsema
Assistant Treasurer
Web Keeper

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

Tricia Bosma
10:24 Coordinator
Alternate Stated Clerk

Mel Vander Bie
Treasurer

Pam Steenstra
Executive Director
Georgetown Harmony Homes

Brian Boucek
Music Director
Bauer CRC

II. First Session

Article 3

For the first segment of our meeting, beginning at 3:30 PM, we joined with Classis Grandville at the Ivanrest Christian Reformed Church. We listened to a presentation by the Executive Director of the denomination, Dr. Steve Timmermans, on the denomination's new Ministry Plan. He spoke about the five Desired Futures: Church and Community, Discipleship, Leadership, Identity, and Collaboration. At 4:45 Classis Georgetown delegates were released and reconvened at 5:00 PM at the Fairway Christian Reformed Church.

III. Second Session

Article 4

- A. Welcome and opening worship
 1. President Len Kuyvenhoven opened this segment of our meeting by welcoming all in attendance.
 2. Mr. Ed Postma read from Mark 2:13-17, and then led the delegates in a responsive reading of Psalm 98.
 3. Rev. Den Haan offered a prayer of thanks and praise.
 4. Mr. Brian Boucek on guitar, accompanied by Rev. Josh Van Drunen on the piano, led us in songs of praise.
 5. President Kuyvenhoven then offered prayer for our meal.

IV. Dinner for Delegates and Guests

- A. Synodical report by Rev. Gerry Koning
 1. Rev. Koning gave a brief and positive report on the meeting of Synod 2016.
 2. Rev. Koning, Rev. Terry Scholten, Mr. Jim Roskam, and Ms. Melissa Dykema, served Classis Georgetown as delegates this past summer.
 3. Reports from each individual can be found in the Classis newsletter, copies of which were made available on each table.

V. Worship time

- A. Scripture, focus questions and prayer
 1. Mr. Postma read from Luke 15:1-2, Luke 19:1-10, and Psalm 103.
 2. These readings were interspersed by focus questions for the delegates.
 3. Rev. Den Haan led the delegates in prayer for God to build into our community "Risky Compassion."

VI. Ministry Reports

Article 7

- A. Delegates entered into conversation about the responses to the **Risky Compassion** report which was compiled from comments made at the May Habit for Humanity project. Delegates were shown a video that introduced the ministry of Habitat for Humanity.
 1. Finances continue to come in on a more regular basis.
 2. Some of the funds need to be easily accessible for larger requests.
 3. Number of members of classis on which ministry shares are based is declining.
 4. The budget for 2017 was presented and discussed.
 - 5. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the budget.**
 - 6. Motion was MSC to approve the work of the treasurer.**

C. Vision Team, Rev. Koning reporting:

1. The Vision Team is restructuring and will be adding two new positions; a Classis Coordinator and a Point Person to oversee classis-wide projects. The position of Vision Team Chair/Facilitator will not be in the 2017 budget.
2. The Vision Team hopes to have a concrete proposal regarding classis involvement in a Habitat for Humanity project at the February classis meeting.
3. The Vision Team is aware of the issues at Friendship Chapel concerning finances and the decline in membership, and will continue to support, encourage, and resource leadership there. Delegates of classis surrounded the delegates from Friendship, Rev. Josh Benton and deacon delegate Mrs. Marcia Jasperse, with prayers of support and encouragement.

D. Stated Clerk, Ms. VanHeuvelen, reporting:

1. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to send the credentials of Rev. Adam Barton to the Vogel Center Christian Reformed Church of McBain, MI. His installation service was planned for August 28, 2016.
2. According to the Rules for Synodical Procedure, the overture from Forest Grove CRC that was approved by Classis Georgetown at their May 26, 2016, meeting did not meet the deadline criteria. However, the Office of Synodical Services requested permission to use information from that overture in their work on study reports. In order to make this possible, the Vision Team made a motion to accept this overture. This motion was MSC.
3. Classis approved the work of the Stated Clerk.

E. Credentials report, Rev. Koning reporting:

1. The council of Trinity CRC has requested retirement for Rev. Viet Tran under Article 18 of the Church Order. (Ministers of the Word shall be granted the privilege of retiring at the age of fifty-five years, with the approval of the classes.) Motion was MSC to approve this retirement, effective November 16, 2016.

VII: Closing Worship:

Article 8

A. Closing moments:

1. President Kuyvenhoven led the group in spoken prayer.
2. All in attendance sang "In Our Church, Lord"

Meeting dismissed

Respectfully submitted,

Dee VanHeuvelen

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

Please note the dates of the 2017 Classis meetings:

February 16 (location Forest Grove CRC), **June 15 (a variance from May,** and **September 21**