



Session #89

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 9, 2017

3:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Forest Grove CRC

3515 Perry Street

Hudsonville, MI

Officers of the Day

President: Rev. Len Kuyvenhoven

Stated Clerk: Ms. Glenda Tebben

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
EverGreen Ministries
Fairway

PASTOR

Susan LaClear

Tim Holwerda
Matt Palsrok
Larry Doornbos
David DenHaan

ELDER

Conrad VanderWerf
Ken Dornbush
Al Solle

Dave Waldner
Jim Poll
Tom Kragt
Paul Beebe

DEACON

Brian Karsten
Kevin Deppe

Nick Huizenga
Jared Schuitema

Kevin Quist

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| First Hudsonville | Dave Jolman | Jeff Horstman | Jake Vlietstra |
| Forest Grove | Jeff Scripps | Randy Dozeman | French Williams |
| Friendship Chapel | Josh Benton | Denise Stam | |
| Georgetown | Jack Dik | Preston Kallemeyn | Dan Wierenga |
| Hillcrest | Kevin VanWhye | Steve Dykstra | Doug Hall |
| Immanuel | Bob Huisman | Joe Lems | Dot Vruwink |
| Jamestown | | Hank Bosma | Jeff DeVries |
| | | Roger Slagter | |
| Messiah | Nate Meldrim | Jim VanDyke | Jared Engelsman |
| Ridgewood | Len Kuyvenhoven | Raymond Dennis | Marcy Sterken |
| Searchlight | Stan Drenth | Herb Kraker | Denise Millhopt |
| Trinity | Gerry Koning | Pete Ludwig | Kristi Schelhaas |
| Twelfth Avenue | Mark Bennink | Tom Visser | Jack Buys |
| Zutphen | Josh VanDrunen | Tom Doornbos | |

Other persons attending Classis:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kathy Jelsema Assistant Treasurer Web Keeper | Jim Roskam Vision Team Ministry Coordinator | Jeff Stam Pastor emeritus Friendship Chapel |
| Don VanSlyke Interim Pastor Baldwin Street CRC | Jerry VanGroningen Pastor emeritus Baldwin Street CRC | Glenda Tebben Stated Clerk |
| Don Wilkinson Executive Director Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity | Gale Mast Board Member Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity | Mel VanderBie Treasurer |

II. WELCOME AND WORSHIP

Article 3

A. Welcome and opening worship

1. President Len Kuyvenhoven opened this segment of our meeting by welcoming all in attendance. A special welcome is given to Rev. Don VanSlyke, the new interim pastor at Baldwin Street CRC, Rev. Jeff Stam, retired pastor of Friendship Chapel and Rev. Jerry VanGroningen, retired pastor of Baldwin Street CRC.
2. We are called to a time of silence through the song "Breathe".
3. After a time of silence, Rev. David DenHaan reads Psalm 84
4. This is followed by a prayer song, asking for God's leading, "Gift of Christ from God Our Father"
5. We profess our faith using the words of The Apostle's Creed

III. WE WORK TOGETHER TO DO THE BUSINESS OF CLASSIS

Article 4

A. Classis Voting

1. Election of Synodical delegates:

The following pastors were elected to represent Classis Georgetown at the June meeting of Synod of the CRCNA: First Pastor Delegate, Rev. Gerry Koning; Second Pastor Delegate, Rev. Josh VanDrunen; First Pastor Alternate, Rev. Nate Meldrim; Second Pastor Delegate, Rev. Dave Jolman. The following elders were elected: Elder Delegate, Mrs. Carol Woltjer; Elder Alternate, Mr. Dirk VanderSteen. No Deacon names were brought forth to represent Classis Georgetown. **Delegates are reminded to talk to the deacons of their respective churches and provide names for deacon delegates.**

2. Election of nominees for denominational Council of Delegate:

The following will be presented to Synodical Services as nominees for the Council of Delegates: Mr. David VanRandwyk and Rev. David DenHaan.

3. Nominations for the board of World Renew

No names were brought forth to be nominated for the World Renew board.

B. Ministry Reports

1. Vision Team, Rev. Koning reporting:

Gerry reviewed the highlights of the written report he presented with the agenda.

- a. Gerry shared words of thanks for the work of Rev. Duane VanderBrug and Ms. Dee VanHeuvelen. Both Duane and Dee have retired after many years of service to Classis Georgetown.
- b. Gerry introduced Mr. Jim Roskam, Vision Team Coordinator. Jim will chair Vision Team Meetings, execute the Vision Team's responsibilities between Classis Meetings, and serve as a liaison between Classis and our churches.,
- c. Gerry introduced Mrs. Glenda Tebben, new Stated Clerk. **Motion is MSC to approve Glenda as Stated Clerk for a three year term.**
- d. **Motion is MSC to approve the term adjustments of the Stewards of the Vision Team in order to stagger the terms for the future:**
 - Gerry Koning will have a one year term as the Steward for Risky Compassion.
 - Dave Jolman will have a two year term as the Steward for Daring Hospitality.
 - Marc Neleson will serve as the steward for Healthy Leaders for a three year term.
 - Mark Bennink will be the steward for Empowering Worship for a term of four years.
- e. Gerry shared events that are unfolding at Friendship Chapel. Rev. Josh Benton and Friendship Chapel will part ways under Article 17 of the Church Order. On Sunday, February 12, members of Friendship Chapel will vote to decide whether to restart or disband.
- f. A Biblical Diversity Conference will be held on March 24 and 25 at Trinity CRC.

2. Classis Georgetown Community Project: Habitat for Humanity

- a. President Kuyvenhoven welcomed Mr. Don Wilkinson, Executive Director of Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity.
- b. Mr. Wilikinson introduced Mr. Gale Mast, a Habitat board member.
- c. Mr. Wilkinson presented statistics of how many families have benefited from the work of Habitat. He shared stories of families who have been blessed and explained the many opportunities for Classis Georgetown to be involved in this ministry.
- d. **Motion is MSC that Classis Georgetown collaborate with the building a Habitat for Humanity home.**
- e. Our Vision Team Coordinator, Mr. Jim Roskam, will coordinate this effort in Classis Georgetown. He is asking for a contact person to be appointed in each church.

3. Stated Clerk, Ms. Glenda Tebben, reporting:

Glenda reviewed her written report. Nothing additional was added to the written report, which was distributed with the agenda. **Motion was MSC to approve the work of the Stated Clerk.**

4. Student Fund Committee, Rev. Jeff Scripps, reporting:

There are seven students receiving aid at this time. Jeff shared how the work of the committee is expanding to meet the mandate set out by Synod 2015 to monitor students at Calvin Seminary. The intention is good because this will keep a shepherding eye on the students. Jeff doesn't believe the committee is set up for this monitoring and it will require work to meet the mandate.

5. Financial Report, Mr. Vander Bie, Treasurer, reporting:

Mel reviewed the budget and shared that it is encouraging to see the financial support in classis. **Motion was MSC to approve the work of the treasurer.**

IV. DINNER IS SERVED FROM 5:30 - 6:15 PM

Rev. Kuyvenhoven leads us in prayer, giving thanks for the new stated clerk and Vision Team coordinator, as well as offering thanks for dinner.

V. WE CONTINUE WITH THE BUSINESS OF CLASSIS

6. Credential Report, Rev. Len Kuyvenhoven and Glenda Tebben, reporting:

- a. Alive Ministries would like to know if the classis has designed any kind of pathway for those who would like to become Commissioned Pastors. They are encouraged to be in discussion with Trinity CRC and Strong Tower Ministries.
- b. The request from Searchlight Ministries for the retirement of Rev. Stan Drenth was passed to the Vision Team for action.
- c. The request from the Council of Zutphen CRC to combine the Classis meetings of May 18 and June 15 was referred to the Vision Team.
- d. **Motion was MSC to approve the credential report**

VII: Closing Worship:

Article 5

Rev. Tim Holwerda and Rev. Stan Drenth led a shared time of prayer as we heard requests from and for the churches of Classis Georgetown.

Article 6

Closing moments:

1. Thanks to our host church, Forest Grove CRC and Rev. Jeff Scripps, and all the delegates.
2. President Kuyvenhoven led the group in reciting the words of Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 26.
3. President Kuyvenhoven led a closing prayer.
4. All in attendance sang "He is Lord"

Meeting dismissed at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Jebben

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

Please note:

Next meeting dates:

- May 18, 2017 - time and location TBD
- June 15, 2017 - time and location TBD (This is a special classis meeting to conduct a classical examination of Mr. Cody Zuiderveen)