



Session #92

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 26, 2017
 6:00 PM to 8:45 PM
 Homefront Church
 6265 ~ 8th Ave SW, Grandville, MI 49418

Officers of the Day

President: Rev. Gerry Koning
Vice-President: Rev. Joshua VanDrunen
Stated Clerk: Ms. Glenda Tebben

I. CREDENTIALS

Article 1

Credentials: Each delegate received a name tag on arrival. All of the churches sent in their credentials prior to the meeting.

Article 2

Delegates in attendance:

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>ELDER</u>	<u>DEACON</u>
Alive Ministries	Susan LaClear Terry Scholten	Bob Palma	Dale Cammenga
Baldwin Street		Paul Mellema Carl Wiersum	
Bauer	Tim Holwerda	Dave Waldner	Bob Lutke
Cottonwood	Matt Palsrok	Jared Schuitema	Paul Smit
Evergreen Ministries		Bob Baker Ross DeJong	

Fairway	David DenHaan	Ken Miedema	Jeremy Rotman
First Hudsonville	Dave Jolman	Steve Schnyders	
Forest Grove	Jeff Scripps	Rich Beenen	Don Daniels
Georgetown	Marc Nelesen	Ed DeYoung	Greg Assink
Hillcrest	Brian Bosscher	Steve VanDyke	Nick VanDyke
Immanuel	Bob Huisman	Brian VanZanten	Dot Vruwink
Jamestown	Dan Gritter	Hank Bosma	Jack Lucas
Messiah	Nate Meldrim	Hank Bloem	Joe Vugteveen
Ridgewood	Len Kuyvenhoven	Ray Dennis	Deb DeVries
Searchlight	Sam Krikke	Herb Kraker	
Trinity	Gerry Koning	Jerod Aukeman	Kevin Kiekoover
Twelfth Avenue	Mark Bennink	David Holkeboer	Joel Dekker
Zutphen	Joshua VanDrunen	Cal Top	

Other persons attending Classis:

Staff:

Mr. Jim Roskam
(Classis Coordinator)
Ms. Kathy Jelsema
(Assistant Treasurer/Web Keeper)
Mr. Mel VanderBie
(Treasurer)
Ms. Glenda Tebben
(Stated Clerk)

Guests:

Rev. Marc VanBerkum
Rev. Jerry VanGroningen
Ms. Lynrae Frens (World Renew)
Ms. Eileen Zwart (Safe Church)
Rev. Al Mulder (Resonate)
Ms. Laura Posthumus (Resonate)
Mrs. Carol Woltjer
Rev. Josh Good (Homefront Church)
Ms. Paula Averill (Homefront Church)
Mr. Richard Britton (Trinity Intern)

II. Opening Worship

Article 3

1. President Gerry Koning opened this segment of our meeting by welcoming all in attendance and previewing the evening's format.
 - a. Welcome to pastors, deacons, and elders
 - b. Welcome to Rev. Sam Krikke, newly installed pastor at Searchlight Ministries.
 - c. A welcome and thanks is given to our hosts, Homefront Church, and introduce their pastor, Rev. Josh Good and Administrative Assistant, Paula Averill.
 - d. A special welcome is given to the guests. President Koning brought attention to the representatives from World Renew and Resonate Global Mission and invited delegates to peruse their materials.
2. Rev. David DenHaan introduces Rev. Josh Good, pastor of Homefront Church. Pastor Josh leads our opening devotions and reflects with us on the question: "What are you learning from the Messiah?" He opens our evening with prayer.

III. Dinner for Delegates and Guests

Article 4

Table Discussion on Church Renewal and Classis Values

1. Fifteen minutes after dinner began Pastor Dave Den Haan and Pastor Dave Jolman introduced discussion questions relating to Church Renewal and the Classis values.
2. Rev. DenHaan reviewed the Vision Statement of Classis Georgetown and invited delegates to share with one another how their churches are being renewed for the mission of transforming lives and communities.
3. By using the visual aid of a paddle, Pastor David Jolman highlighted the five classis values and introduced the stewards of each value:
 - Healthy Leaders – Rev. Marc Nelesen
 - Collaborative Relationships – Rev. Joshua VanDrunen and Mr. Jim Roskam
 - Empowering Worship – Rev. Mark Bennink
 - Daring Hospitality – Rev. Dave Jolman
 - Risky Compassion – Rev. Gerry Koning

Noting that lives will be changed for Christ and by Christ if the churches of Classis Georgetown are “in sync” and have our paddles moving together, Rev. Jolman invited delegates to share what God is calling our churches **to do** to express these values.

4. Table discussion followed this introduction. Delegates shared and recorded notes on their conversations.

IV. Business of Classis

Article 5

A. Rev. Koning offers a prayer for the guidance and wisdom of the Holly Spirit as we proceed with the business of classis.

B. Ministry Reports

1. Vision Team, Mr. Jim Roskam, reporting:

- a. Classis Values: The team continues to keep the Classis Values in front of them as they plan the meetings. In February we will focus on the value of Healthy Leaders and in May we plan to focus on Empowering Worship.
- b. Grants: Recommendations for grant funding are part of the 2018 Budget Presentation.
- c. Classical Ministry shares: Full-paying churches carry the load for churches that are paying less than full ministry shares. We may have to look at doing budgeting differently in the future if we don't have more consistent valuing in our churches for the payment of ministry shares.
- d. The Vision Team has continued to work with Josh Benton and with Evergreen Ministries in efforts to make sure Josh is cared for during this time of transition.
- e. Facebook page: We hope to use this avenue of social media to share stories and ideas among our churches. Our page is called “Classis Georgetown of the CRCNA”.
- f. Regional Disability Advocate: Roger Slagter, our Regional Disability Advocate, passed away in September. Information about this position and how to apply is available from the Stated Clerk.

2. Treasurer's Report, Mr. Mel Vander Bie reporting

- a. Our Treasurer, Mr. Mel Vander Bie, reviewed financial report. He noted that we are doing well against the current year budget.
- b. **Motion was MSC to approve the work of the treasurer.**
- c. Our Treasurer, Mr. Mel Vander Bie, presents the budget for 2018.

- d. **Motion from the Vision Team to approve the 2018 budget. Motion is seconded and carried.**
- e. President Koning thanks Mr. Vander Bie for his work as our treasurer.

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

- a. Received credentials of Rev. Sam Krikke from Inwood CRC of Inwood, IA (Classis lokata)
- b. **A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the work of the Stated Clerk.**

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

- a. The committee is looking for more students. The deadline to apply is spring of 2018.
- b. In response to the seminary's new guidelines, the committee is becoming more involved in the lives of the students we support. They are walking with students through the candidacy process and Rev. Scripps assures delegates that the forms are not nearly as scary to complete as they look.
- c. The committee is discussing ways to collect from persons who received aid but are not working as pastors or involved in ministry.

5. Regional Pastors, Rev. Marc Nelesen reporting:

- a. Rev. Nelesen highlights a few resources and tools available for pastors and church staff:
 - i. Regional pastors: They are pastors for pastors. They see their role as praying for and encouraging the pastors in Classis Georgetown and they encourage pastors to reach out to them.
 - ii. Pine Rest Ministry: Brochures are available for every church. This is a partnership to provide professional counseling as well as other support.
 - iii. Conversation and Consultation: The Classis coordinator and regional pastors are available as a sounding bard for councils and pastors and anyone involved in church leadership
- b. One of our regional pastors, Rev. Bob Huisman has accepted a call to Byron Center. Rev. Nelesen thanked him for his work as a regional pastor. Rev. Huisman has served Immanuel CRC and Classis Georgetown for 22 years and we pray that God will bless him as he begins his work and ministry in Byron Center.

6. Credentials Committee, Ms. Glenda Tebben and Mr. Jim Roskam reporting

- a. All credentials are in order.
- b. EverGreen Ministries noted that they have begun a Thursday night worship service and have a support gathering for families dealing with addictions on Thursday nights. The pastors lead these gatherings, so they are not available to meet on Thursdays nights. The Vision Team will address this at their next meeting.

C. Council of Delegates report by Rev. Dave DenHaan

- 1. Rev. DenHaan attended his first Council of Delegates (COD) meeting in early October. The CRCNA has shrunk its footprint into one board. There is one representative (delegate) from each classis.
- 2. All delegates of the COD are placed in one of three categories:
 - a. Congregational Ministries
 - b. Global Mission (newly formed Resonate Global Mission: prayer is needed for this new ministry as two ministries must come together and work together)
 - c. Justice and Mercy (World Renew, Social Justice)

3. A handout explaining the ministry plan for the denomination is given to each church. In the handout a video is listed which gives a picture of what the CRCNA values together. Rev. DenHaan encourages churches to show the video to their congregations.

D. Synod 2017 report by Mrs. Carol Woltjer

1. Mrs. Woltjer gave a brief and positive report on the meeting of Synod 2017, thanking Classis for allowing her to represent us. She went with an attitude of “submitted willingness”.
2. Rev. Dave Jolman, Rev. Joshua VanDrunen, and Mrs. Woltjer served Classis Georgetown as delegates this past summer.
3. President Koning thanks Mrs. Woltjer for representing us and reminds delegates that at our February meeting we will be choosing delegates for Synod 2018.

E. Classis Georgetown Project: Habitat for Humanity report by Mr. Jim Roskam

1. A Unity Build Meeting was held on September 14. The Swieringa family, who will receive the house, was present.
2. An area wide worship service was held on October 15.
3. On October 24 a session was held in Holland.
4. Each church received a copy of the book, “The Theology of the Hammer”.
5. Three things are most needed:
 - a. Funds: Thus far, \$16,000 of the needed \$60,000 has been received. Each church is asked to give \$3,000.
 - b. Land: A lot is still needed.
 - c. Prayer: Please pray for God’s continued guidance on the project and pray for “a lot”!

V: Closing Worship:

Article 6

1. Rev. Koning thanked the delegates for their cooperation and positive attitude.
2. All in attendance recited together the words of The Apostles’ Creed.
3. Rev. Koning led a closing prayer and read the benediction from 2 Peter 3:18
4. The meeting was dismissed by President Koning

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Tebben

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

Please note the date of next Classis meeting:

Thursday, February 15, 2017 – Time and location TBD