

# Classis Georgetown Agenda

Thursday, February 19, 2015

4 PM to 8 PM

## Trinity Christian Reformed Church (Basement)

0-60 Port Sheldon Road

Grandville, MI 49418

President: Dave Den Haan

Vice President: Gerry Koning

Clerk of Classis: Dee VanHeuvelen

**Theme: Daring Hospitality:** *Welcoming the stranger in ways that transform lives and community*

**Credentials:** As delegates arrive they receive name tags. First time delegates are asked to sign the Form of Subscription. All credentials will have been received electronically.

**Pre-Classis Exercise:** Please discuss these two questions in your council meeting prior to our Classis meeting.

- *What are 2-3 successes your congregation has had in the area of hospitality?*
- *What is your congregation's greatest struggle when it comes to welcoming the stranger?*

**4:00 PM: We are invited into worship:** Led by members of the Grace Episcopal Sudanese Church

**4:30 PM: We learn how to better welcome the stranger:** Sam Huizenga, Home Mission's Coach

**5:30 PM: Dinner**

**6:15 PM: We continue the work of Classis**

- **Appointment of prayer leaders**
- **Opening Prayer:** Dave Den Haan
- **Election of synodical delegates**
- **Vision Team report:** Gerry Koning
- **Motion from Hillcrest CRC:** That Classis Georgetown reverse its decision of September 18, 2014, to approve the retirement of Rev Humberto Casanova, and rather, accept his resignation from ministry in the CRCNA according to Church Order Article 14-c, with the status being "honorably released".
  - **Grounds:** 1. Such an action of "resigning in order to enter upon a non-ministerial vocation" accurately describes what actually happened over a

decade ago when Rev Casanova left his work at the CRC World Literature Ministries.

2. Such an action is an appropriate and gracious act on the part of Hillcrest CRC, Classis Georgetown and the denominational as a whole in view of the less than optimal level of connection we have had with him over the past decade.

3. Such an action complies with recent advice from the CRC Pension office and other advisors as it pertains to pension options for Rev Casanova.

- **Friendship Chapel:** Overture regarding non-ordained staff people (see attachment).
- **Regional Pastors report:** Marc Nelesen
- **Church 10:24 Team updates:**
  - Hillcrest and First Jenison
  - Fairway and Searchlight
- **Church Counselor reports** (see attachment)
- **SFC-CMLT update:**

The team is looking for advice on two items as it formulates policy.

  - 1) Which students are eligible to receive aid (all ministry areas, or specifically ordained ministry of the word and sacraments?).
  - 2) Can there be loan forgiveness or partial loan-forgiveness for those who go into ministry in sister churches (RCA and EPC)?
- **Financial report:** Mel Vander Bie  
Wrap-up report for the 2014 budget year.
- **Stated Clerk report:** Dee VanHeuvelen
- **Credentials Report**

#### **8:00 PM Closing devotions:**

- Scripture reading: 3 John
- Prayer, led by Dave Den Haan
- Next Classis meeting: May 21, 2015, time and location tbd
- Theme: Empowering Worship