

Classis Georgetown Agenda

Date: Thursday, May 21, 2015

Value Theme: Empowering Worship

Location: Friendship Chapel, 7754 28th Avenue, Jenison, MI

Time: 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM

President: Dave DenHaan **Vice President:** Gerry Koning **Clerk:** Dee VanHeuvelen

3:00 PM – Welcome

Introduction of Theme
State expression of that theme for today

Introduction of Dr. Steve Timmermans and other guests

Church Counselor's Report

Welcome Pastor Nate Meldrim, new pastor at Messiah CRC

Worship -- Praise and Worship Team of Friendship Chapel

3:15 PM -- Vision Team Report

Regional Pastor's report
Church 10:24 Team reports
Credentials Committee report
Student Fund Report

Election of Calvin Theological Seminary Board Member

3:45 PM – Listening Prayer Exercise

Prayer conference experiences: Tim Holwerda and Bob Huisman
Delegates are led in prayer

5:30 PM – Dinner

6:15 PM -- Worship – Praise and Worship Team of Friendship Chapel

Prayer exercise— led by Dave Den Haan

7:15 PM – Final reports

Financials report

Stated Clerk's report

7:30 PM – Closing Worship – Praise and Worship Team of Friendship Chapel

Celebration of Holy Communion

Vision Team Report

First of all, the Vision Team of Classis Georgetown would like to thank the Classis for the opportunity to represent Classis in serving as the body which does the work of Classis in between Classis meetings, but also dreams of new directions and ministries for Classis. As we do both of things thing we want to make sure that neither gets cast aside for the other. We ask that Classis continues to remind us of these tasks.

In regard to the work of Classis concerning governance, the VT approved the emeritation of Rev. Joel Boot in accordance with Article 18 of the Church Order as requested by the Ridgewood CRC Council. His retirement will take effect June 1, 2015.

Concerning our Five Values of Healthy Leaders, Empowering Worship, Daring Hospitality, Collaborative Relationships and Risky Compassion we want to inform Classis of the following:

Healthy Leaders

Every classis has a designated Regional Pastor (or pastors) who serve classis by functioning as Pastors to our Pastors. Classis Georgetown has appointed Revs. Bob Huisman and Marc Nelesen to be a help and support for our Classis clergy and councils. Since the last meeting of Classis, our Regional Pastors have been meeting with Classis pastors on a one-on-one basis and have been sponsoring gathering opportunities for pastors. In this period, this has included two book clubs and a lunch and conversation with an Old Testament scholar. Plans for the summer include ongoing support for individual pastors, another book club, a lunch gathering for Classis clergy, and a Whitecaps baseball game for pastors and their families. We wish to continue to promote our relationship with Pine Rest; a relationship that offers educational opportunities for churches, free consultations with pastors, and three free visits (per issue) for pastors and their family members, as well as for their support church staff members (see attachment). Though 75% of Regional Pastors in our denomination are available "as needed", our Regional Pastors are trying to be proactive to initiate visits, provide support, and promote learning opportunities.

Additionally, the Student Fund is requesting Classis to fund an additional student for 2015-2016.

Empower Worship

Andrew Murray once said, "A much praying minister will receive an entrance into God's will he would otherwise know nothing of." In an effort to encourage the prayer ministry in our churches we are focusing on worship and prayer at this Classis meeting. Please join us all in praying for the preparation and worship which we will share as we come together as a Classis. We will together learn from prayer summits and also spend time praying together. Prayer, wherever it happens is beautiful worship to our Lord.

Collaborative Relationships

Besides the good activities and worship services our churches participate in together, we also come together to do things that are beyond the scope of any one church. In fact, it could be said that we can

manage "normal" by ourselves, but when we take on a "God sized" project, we will NEED to collaborate. With this in mind, we have a proposal to participate with Trinity CRC in the planting of a church focused primarily toward Somali refugees. We have already responded to the call to assist by giving chairs, tables, drums, desks, and a sound system. Blessings to all who helped.

Daring Hospitality

Christian Hospitality is a wonderful way to transform people and communities. Caring for children at risk in families shows the love of Christ. Mr. Tim Nolan, from Bethany Christian Services, spoke to Classis leaders on May 14 about Safe Families for Children at First Hudsonville CRC. We will be looking to do something similar in the future in regard to adoptive families.

Risky Compassion

With the state cuts in funding for the care of disabled people, Georgetown Harmony Homes and Harbor House are facing the task of caring for their residents with the same level of care as they have always given, but now with less funding. Truly, now is the time for a tighter partnership between the church and these important facilities. What can your church do to provide opportunities for care and involvement in the lives of their residents?

Dear Dee,

The Classis Georgetown Student Fund Committee met on March 27, 2015 and recommends the following grant amount for the following students as our classis financial support for school year 2015-2016 in their preparation for ministry.

Chris Bouma (Forest Grove) Full time @ CTS

\$5,750.00

Jordan Kuiper (Immanuel) - Full Time @CTS

5,750.00

Jessica LaMer (Evergreen) - Full time @ Western

3,000.00

Steve Mann (Georgetown) - Full time @ Western

3,000.00

Cory Nederveld (Cottonwood) - Half time @ CTS

2,250.00

Greg VanderHorn (Trinity) - Half time at CTS

2,250.00

Cody Zuiderveen (Hillcrest) - Full time @ GCTS

3,000.00

Total: \$25,000.00

Note: Bradley Diekema has transferred out of Georgetown classis.

Members of the committee this year are:

Rev. Stan Drenth, ch

Rev. Jeff Scripps

Milly Holtvluwer

Kathy Jelsema

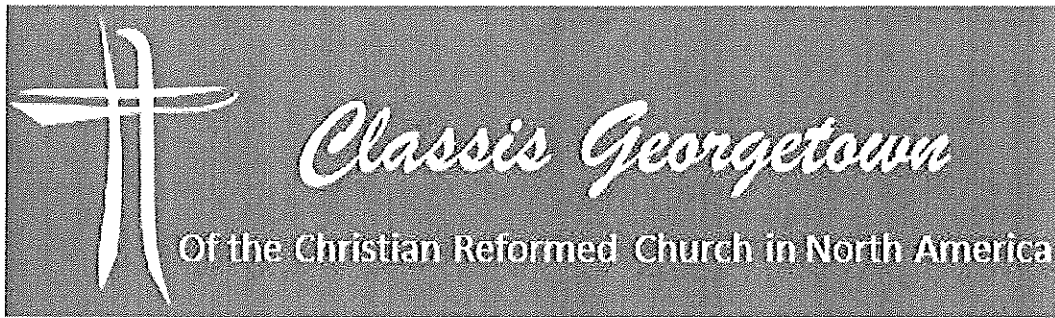
Winky Meyer

Mel VanderBie

Respectfully submitted for the Student Fund Committee, Milly Holtvluwer

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Stated Clerk Report for Classis Georgetown

Classis Delegates to the May 21, 2015, meeting of Classis Georgetown:

FOR INFORMATION:

- Created and sent out minutes from February 19, 2015 meeting
- Wrote and sent out several thank you notes to those outside of classis that helped with the meeting
- Directed the newly elected synodical elder delegates to the forms that need to be completed and sent to the CRCNA headquarters
- Sent the synodical delegate information to Dee Recker at the Office of Synodical Services
- Sent notes to Guiding Light Mission, Safe Church Ministry, and others that wish to address a meeting of Classis GT, and informed them that we will keep their requests on hand and contact them when our value/theme aligns with their presentations
- Spent teaching/learning time with Tricia Bosma, who will be assisting as Alternate Stated Clerk
- Received signature from Dave Den Haan to make our synod credentials official
- Attended the first meeting of the Classis Planning Task Force
- Created the invitation letter to the next Classis meeting in May and sent this out with the tentative agenda
- Confirmed Dr. Steve Timmermans visit to classis as our guest
- Created Stated Clerk reports for 2 Vision Team meetings and the upcoming Classis meeting

- Worked with the CPTF in drawing up the agenda and working out details of the upcoming Classis meeting
- At the March 17 meeting of the Vision Team a motion was Made, Seconded, and Carried to grant honorable emeritation for reasons of age to the Rev. Joel Boot. This information was submitted on the credentials form from Ridgewood CRC to Classis Georgetown at the February 19, 2015 Classis GT meeting, and was dated February 5, 2015, but was referred to the Vision Team for action. This retirement is effective on June 1, 2015. Notice has been sent to Rev. Boot, the council of Ridgewood CRC, the office of Synodical Services, and the Ministers Pension Fund.

I believe that all of this work is in line with the vision and values of Classis Georgetown, which is to live and minister together, in Christ, to transform lives and communities in our area.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee VanHeuvelen

Dee VanHeuvelen, Stated Clerk
5/6/2015