

Member

- ◆ Alive Ministries
- ◆ Baldwin Street CRC
- ◆ Bauer CRC
- ◆ Cottonwood Church
- ◆ Evergreen Ministries
- ◆ Fairway CRC
- ◆ First Hudsonville CRC
- ◆ First Jenison CRC
- ◆ Forest Grove CRC
- ◆ Friendship Chapel
- ◆ Georgetown CRC
- ◆ Hillcrest CRC
- ◆ Immanuel CRC
- ◆ Jamestown CRC
- ◆ Messiah CRC
- ◆ Ridgewood CRC
- ◆ Searchlight Ministries
- ◆ Trinity CRC
- ◆ Twelfth Avenue CRC
- ◆ Zutphen CRC



Praises . . . and Prayer requests

~pray for all of the educational opportunities that churches are offering this fall to both young and old.

~pray that our members will continue to build relationships in order to share the gospel with the 30,000 people in our area who are not attending church on a given Sunday.

~praise God for completed building additions at both Evergreen Ministries and Fairway CRC. Pray that these buildings may be used for God's honor and glory.

Collaborative Relationships (10:24 Teams) Part 4

By the time you are reading this article it is hoped that you will have heard or seen something written about 10:24 Teams at least one time. They are a very important feature, among many others, of developing collaborative relationships in our churches. This is just one of the five values that were adopted by Classis at their September 15, 2011 meeting, and continue to be introduced at subsequent meetings.

Each 10:24 Team consists of two members, usually one pastor and one lay person. In this article, Rev. Dave Den Haan, of Fairway Christian Reformed Church shares some insights into his role as a 10:24 Team member. His thoughts are as follows:

- It's been great getting the training for being on a 10:24 team, developing the skills of asking potent questions and of listening without an agenda and of knowing when to be silent so that people have the opportunity to reflect and then share their reflections.
- It is an honor to be welcomed into a room full of church leaders and encourage them for their work—especially since encouragement is something that church leaders generally experience less often than they should.
- My team member and I do not enter such a church meeting with an agenda of our own, but simply listen for the church's leaders to name an issue or need and then come along side them to tackle that issue/need by helping them to see things in a new light, by asking questions that they haven't dared to ask before, and by making it safe for them to discuss painful or threatening issues in a safe way.
- Since all of us come from churches that have issues and needs, we aren't surprised to encounter them in other churches.
- What a gratifying experience to hear, later on, that our presence and ministry was felt to be helpful and greatly appreciated!

As a pastor or church leader, you are encouraged to contact Tricia Bosma, the 10:24 Coordinator for Classis Georgetown, at triciabosma@comcast.net, either to request a team or to find our more information on being part of a 10:24 Team.

*"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."
Hebrews 10:24.*

Vision Statement Classis Georgetown

Classis Georgetown is a community of Christian Reformed Churches in Eastern Ottawa County who live and minister together, in Christ, to transform lives and communities.

Classis Values

Healthy Leaders

We equip leaders to transform lives and communities.

Collaborative Relationships

We call out the strengths of each church and pursue ministry together to create new ways of transforming lives and communities.

Empowering Worship

We celebrate and are sustained by God's presence as he transforms lives and communities.

Daring Hospitality

We welcome the stranger in ways that transform lives and communities.

Risky Compassion

We extend uncommon generosity to the suffering and work to eliminate the causes of that suffering in order to transform lives and communities.

Church Sign

Worry does not
take away
tomorrows troubles;
It takes away
today's peace.

Classis Matters

Change in Unexpected Places

Harold Scholma is an octogenarian. He has lived his entire life in Ottawa County, but has experienced change in many other areas of his life.

Harold (also known at various times as Hiram, Highball and now Hi) is the youngest of nine children, five still living. His first eight years of school were at the former one room Hanley school. He went from this small school to the bigger Grandville High School where he graduated. During high school he worked for the original D & W grocery in Grandville, and after school was employed by Keeler Brass Company. His lifetime vocation became carpentry.

Another change was about to happen when he was drafted into the Army and served 2 years in the Korean War. While he was on furlough he dated Ruth Walcott, and when he was discharged they were married and settled in Jenison. Their family grew to four sons, and they have been further blessed with four daughters-in-law, 13 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren, most of whom live in this area.

When Hi was a child his family attended First Jenison Christian Reformed Church. At the age of 7 or 8, they moved to another church, but eventually returned to First Jenison, which is the church he and Ruth attended and where they raised their family.

When Hi was a young adult he made profession of faith in his church, much like many other people of similar age. When he looks back at that experience he feels that his beliefs were all mixed up. Although he knew the way of sal-

vation, he still felt that he was not saved unless he did all the right things or didn't do the wrong things.

All this changed for Hi some years ago. Their church was going to get involved in evangelism. Mr. Albert Bytwork was asked to teach a class on the Kennedy method of evangelism. It was during this class that he heard the words of John 6:47, "I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life." Suddenly it was if a light bulb went on and in his heart he felt secure in his salvation. His life was forever changed by that one verse.

Another event that happened about 4-5 years ago especially changed Hi's thinking about young people. His church was looking for another adult to go with the youth group to the Youth Unlimited convention. Since he had the time he volunteered to go along. This was an eye opener for him as he saw how these young people freely expressed their faith through singing and worship. At one of the meetings the youth were asked to meet together in groups of four, none of them people they knew. He saw how freely they prayed for one another, and how heartfelt their prayers were for strangers.

While these two things have greatly changed Hi's perception of the church today, another big influence in his life has been his grandchildren. He tells of one granddaughter who was handing

Classis Georgetown Transition Team
P.O. Box 31
Hudsonville, MI 49426
Phone: 616.669.5051
Email: classisgt@i2k.com
Website: www.classisgeorgetown.com

out food in the inner city and she and a friend experienced car problems. They literally prayed that car all the way back home. Another time their family was on a trip when the fuel pump went out. This granddaughter then prayed that God would help them through this situation, and although they were stranded for a couple of days, they experienced some quality family time that was an unexpected bonus.

About two years ago, Hi and Ruth made another big change in their lives. They decided to become part of a church plant in Jenison. Although Hi is the oldest member, he doesn't let that stop him from being fully involved in the work and worship that is part of this journey. He feels that generations change and worship styles change, but the Word of God does not change. He believes that all generations need to give and take for the church to continue its mission of outreach.

Another change has taken place in Hi's life. When he was younger he and three of his siblings sang in area churches. He enjoys the older hymns and the harmony of gospel songs. But he has come to appreciate the words of many of the contemporary songs of today and sings heartily along. He believes that there is a place for many different kinds of music.

What will the future bring? No one knows, but for Hi, he knows who holds his future, and he knows that he belongs to the Lord.



Hi at the Youth Unlimited Convention



Classis Georgetown Transition Team

Members and Staff

Rev. Mark Bennink
Rev. Dave Den Haan
Rev. Gerry Koning
Rev. Marc Nelesen

Rev. Josh Van Drunen
Ms. Kathy Jelsema, Classis Asst. Treasurer
and Web Keeper
Mr. Mel Vander Bie, Classis Treasurer

Rev. Duane VanderBrug, Chair/Facilitator
Mrs. Dee VanHeuvelen,
Administrative Ass't. and Newsletter Editor