

**CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM**  
**Redacted Minutes of April 22, 2014, 1:00 PM**

*Transforming Lives and Communities*

**Georgetown CRC**  
**6475 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hudsonville, MI**

**4-1:** Mark began our devotions by sharing the Easter message according to Mark. He asked the question of how well do we trust Jesus' promises. We sometimes limit the Lord, we want Him to do something and do it now, and we think we may have to wait for the last days for things to happen. Do we really believe His promises? God can transform us, people, congregations and classis, Yes, we believe this. His power is available now. These words were also included in Mark's opening prayer.

**4-2: Vision Team:**

**Roll Call, PRESENT:**

**MEMBERS:** Rev. Mark Bennink, Rev. Larry Doornbos, Rev. Gerry Koning, Rev. Dave Jolman, Rev. Marc Nelesen

**STAFF:** Ms. Kathy Jelsema (Assistant Treasurer/Web keeper), Mr. Mel Vander Bie (Treasurer), Rev. Duane VanderBrug (Chair/Facilitator); and Mrs. Dee VanHeuvelen (Administrative Assistant/Newsletter Editor/Stated Clerk)

**4-3: The Vision Team minutes of March 18, 2014, were accepted as written.**

**4-4: Regional Pastor report, Marc reporting:**

- A. Marc explained a new partnership between Classis Georgetown and Pine Rest.
  - 1. Classis Georgetown clergy, their immediate family, and their church staff members will have access to the following services at no cost.
    - a, Three face-to-face therapeutic consultations per person, per therapeutic theme.
    - b, A designated hotline/helpline for consultation for pastors.
    - c, Critical incident response consultation and debriefing, personally or for groups.
    - d, Education and Training opportunities for your congregation.
- B. These services will be available beginning June 1, 2014.
- C. Pastors will be receiving a pocket card that will detail these services and provide contact numbers and resource people.
- D. This agreement between Classis Georgetown and Pine Rest will be signed by the Vision Team.
- E. **Motion was made seconded and carried to accept this partnership with Pine Rest.**

**4-5: Collaborative Relationships, Larry reporting:**

- A. Cooperation and collaboration are not the same, but there is a place for each of them.
- B. By the next time we meet he will bring a one page paper about what he is doing to develop this value.

**4-6: Empowering Worship, Mark reporting:**

- A. Continue promoting joint worship services with smaller groups and then an occasional large group.
- B. Begin a contact center for worship information, seminars, and workshops, all for learning and ideas.
- C. Encourage worship as a core part of Classis meetings.
- D. Contact Tim Holwerda, who has agreed to serve as Classis Prayer Coordinator.

**4-7: Daring Hospitality, Dave reporting:**

- A. Determine what is out there and what will grow by contacting pastors.
- B. Potential groups to consider working with are exchange students, migrants, adoption and other support groups.

**4-8: Risky Compassion, Gerry reporting:**

- A. Rog Slagter was appointed by the CRCNA as Classis Georgetown Disability Advocate. An opportunity will be provided to meet each other.
- B. He will be meeting soon with Pam Steenstra, Executive Director of Georgetown Harmony Homes to discuss the great need for more housing for developmentally disabled adults, given the long waiting list.
- C. Trinity's Stream Team will be cleaning out Rush Creek soon.
- D. Several people from Trinity went to their sister church in Detroit and helped plant an urban orchard.

**4-9: Day Retreat:**

- A. This now seems like a fitting opportunity.
- B. Date will be Tuesday, June 3, from 9 AM to 3 PM.
- C. Larry will check availability at the DeVos Foundation in downtown Grand Rapids, and Dee will check out Teerman Lofts in Holland.

**4-10: Classis Planning, Josh, Gerry and Marc:**

- A. Presently there is no straight line into Classis from anywhere as to planning, so need to develop this.
- B. Need to plan ahead as much as possible, but not take away the need to have room for deliberative assembly when beneficial.
- C. Some reports such as Stated Clerk and Financial Report are standard agenda items.
- D. For the May meeting we will conduct an interview/exam for Candidate Caleb Walcott, pending endorsement from the Chaplain Committee of the CRCNA.
- E. Other items that may be addressed may be included with the submission of a church's credentials.
- F. Theme for September 18, 2014 Classis meeting is Risky Compassion, and for the February 19, 2015, it will be Daring Hospitality. Themes will be selected at least 2 months in advance. A future theme could be Classis' Best Practices.

**4-11: Other:**

- A. A question was raised as to whether the classis leaders understand the newly created classical structure.
- B. The Vision Team needs to keep reinforcing who we are now, and sharing our success stories.

**4-12: Closing prayer:** offered by Dave Jolman

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**4-13: Next meeting dates:**

**TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014, 1 PM, Trinity CRC, Kathy, devotions; Marc, prayer**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2014, 9 AM to 3 PM, DeVos Foundation office in Grand Rapids, Dave, devotions; Kathy, prayer**

Respectfully submitted,

*DeeVanHeuvelen*, Administrative Assistant/Stated Clerk

Classis Georgetown Vision Team

