

**CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM**  
**Minutes of May 11, 2017, 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM**

*Transforming Lives and Communities*

**Georgetown CRC, 6475 - 40<sup>th</sup> Ave., Hudsonville, MI 49426**

**1-1:** Mark B. shared his thoughts on “making the most of every opportunity.” By highlighting Paul’s words in Colossians 4:2-6, he emphasized how we are to pray the gospel, do the gospel and speak the gospel. Mark opened with prayer.

**1-2:** Vision Team (VT):

Roll Call, PRESENT:

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

**STAFF:** Mr. Jim Roskam (Classis Coordinator), Mr. Mel Vander Bie (Treasurer),  
Ms. Glenda Tebben (Stated Clerk)

Roll Call, ABSENT:

**STAFF:** Ms. Kathy Jelsema (Assistant Treasurer/Web keeper),

**1-3: Agenda additions:**

Alive Ministries (1-15)

**1-4:** The Vision Team minutes of April 20, 2017 were accepted as written.

**1-5: Financial Report from Mel:**

Mel offered a brief financial report stating that the balance shown reflects payments, grants and cost of the upcoming Classis meeting. Ministry share giving is up from last year.

**1-6: Report on Youth Formation Gathering in Chicago**

Fig VanderMolen, Youth Pastor at Messiah CRC, joined the meeting and reported on his time at the Youth Formation Gathering in Chicago. He gave a well-balanced report, highlighting the need for collaboration between churches in youth programming. Fig thanked Classis Georgetown for the opportunity to attend. The Vision Team in turn thanked Fig for representing the Classis.

**1-7: Stated Clerk’s Report:**

Action Items:

A. We received the transfer of ecclesiastical credentials for Rev. Caitlin Visser from Eastern Ave CRC in Classis Grand Rapids East to Ridgewood CRC.

B. We will grant honorable emeritation status to Rev. Stan Drenth as of June 25, 2017, for reason of age. This will be reported at the Classis Meeting.

The Stated Clerk’s report is received as written.

**1-8: Review of Classis meeting agenda for May 18, 2017**

Duane VanderBrug will attend. Larry will give words of thanks. Gerry K. will write cards for both Duane and Dee VanHeuvelen. Monetary gifts will be given.

**1-9: Clergy Mental Health:**

Marc reminds us of the importance of this. A reminder for pastors and councils will be available in Classis meeting packets.

**1-10: Candidacy/Student fund merging**

Gerry Koning, Marc Neleson and Dave Den Haan met with David Koll on May 8. Marc shared meeting notes, emphasizing how churches want to help form and shape students; good experiences are more meaningful than forms.

**1-11: Habitat for Humanity update**

- A. Jim had a breakfast meeting on April 29. He shares that 16/18 churches were represented and the meeting had a very positive tone. Dave W. from Habitat was present. It is noted that, at the present time, affordable housing is difficult to find in Ottawa County.
- B. Jim invited us to a luncheon on Thursday, May 25, in Holland. Let him know if you are able to attend.

**1-12: Vision Retreat update**

Reviewed ideas for discussion at the retreat meeting:

- Plan next three classis meetings
- Review stated values
- Decide on best vehicle(s) of communication within the classis (ie. Newsletter?)

**1-13: Replacement for Larry Doornbos on Vision Team**

**Motion was made, seconded, and carried to ask Dave DenHaan to join the Vision Team.**

Grounds: Dave is part of the Classis Planning committee and manages classis agenda.

Having him join the VT will bring historical continuity.

Jim will contact Dave and ask him to join the VT.

Note: In six months Gerry Koning will be finished with his term on the Vision Team. Other persons to consider for the team are Josh VanDrunen and Caitlyn Visser.

**1-14: News on our churches and other classis churches**

- A. Prayers are needed for Alive Ministries; re: recent news articles.
- B. Prayers continue for Rev. Josh Benton.
- C. Trinity CRC has received a \$14,000.00 grant from MI Core DEQ. A conference on macroinvertebrates will be held at Trinity.
- D. Friendship Chapel has tentatively agreed to sell their building and property to Sunrise Church (RCA). Once the sale is finalized they will pay their debts and distributes left-over funds.
- E. The Renewal Lab will be closing next June.
- F. An invitation is extended for everyone to attend a brown bag lunch/prayer time for the Classis meeting at Ridgewood CRC on Wednesday, May 17, at noon.

**1-15:** A thankyou is extended to Larry for his time on the Vision Team. His expertise and insights will be missed.

**1-16:** Gerry Koning closed our meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Glenda Tebben*

Stated Clerk  
Classis Georgetown

**PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING MEETING DATES:**

- **Classis Georgetown Meeting on Thursday, May 18, 4:00 PM, at Evergreen Ministries**
- **Thursday, June 1, 2017, 12:30 PM, 1<sup>st</sup> Hudsonville CRC, Dave J., opening, Marc N., closing**
- **Thursday, July 27, 2017, 12:30 PM, Georgetown CRC, Gerry K., opening, Glenda, closing**
- **Retreat – Monday, August 21, 2017, 9:00 AM – early afternoon**