

**CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM**  
**Redacted Minutes of May 20, 2014, 1:00 PM**

*Transforming Lives and Communities*

**Trinity CRC**

**0-60 Port Sheldon Road, Grandville, MI**

**5-1:** Kathy began our devotions by reading from I Peter 4:7-11, where the Apostle Peter talks about the many gifts that we receive, as gifts of God's grace. These include such things as showing hospitality, speaking, and serving. This also includes the five values that classis has adopted that can be referred to as God's gifts as well. She opened with prayer asking for wisdom in our work.

**5-2: Vision Team:**

**Roll Call, PRESENT:**

**MEMBERS:** Rev. Mark Bennink, Rev. Gerry Koning, 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)

**ABSENT WITH NOTICE:** Rev. Larry Doornbos, Rev. Dave Jolman

**5-3: The Vision Team minutes of April 22, 2014, were accepted as written.**

**5-4: Retreat:**

- A. Planned Day retreat is scheduled for June 3, 2014, at the DeVos Foundation Building in downtown Grand Rapids. A preference was expressed to have the lunch catered in. Dee will check with Larry to see if this is still a possibility.
- B. What is expected for the outcomes of this retreat?
- C. Need to determine the next steps for the five values that create provocative outcomes, new thinking.
- D. Values need to be interactive, interrelated and energized.

**5-5: Review of May 15 Classis meeting:**

- A. The exercise that Marc did with pastors and elders, positive comments:
  - 1. Healthy thing to do, pastoral ministry is unique, where can pastors download if not at classis, need a time to share what it is like to be in ministry.
  - 2. Next step is pastoral support and encouragement.
- B. Local congregations:
  - 1. How can classis help local congregations.
  - 2. Should/could a similar exercise be beneficial for elders.
  - 3. What do elders need or expect in their roles.

**5-6: Review of September 18 Classis meeting:**

- A. Possibility of Commissioning Pastor exam for Caleb Walcott, who will be serving as a Hospice Chaplain.
- B. Possibility of a meeting place is Sunset Manor, and suggested speaker would be on the topic of end of life issues. Gerry will discuss this with the Classis Meeting Planner, the Rev. Josh Van Drunen.

**5-7: Classis Contracta meetings, Duane reporting:**

- A. Is there a way to simplify the process, maybe by having less representation from classis?
- B. Possibility of doing as much as possible before hand, and then address them at regularly scheduled Classis meetings.
- C. Duane will draft a proposed revised plan for classis contracta meetings.

**5-8: SPACT report from CRCNA, Duane reporting:**

- A. How can we discern the future of the CRC?
  - 1. First step is awareness of who we are and where we are going.
  - 2. How much risk will we take?
  - 3. We need to ask hard questions and build on our best practices.
- B. Duane was encouraged to continue to work through this report and present suggestions on how to respond for Classis Georgetown.

**5-9: Financial report, Mel reporting:**

Mel reported that some expenses are over budget, but others are under, so there remains a good balance.

**5-10: Other:**

Gerry reported that he has been meeting with the directors of homes for developmentally challenged adults. There appears to be a high level of interest in this area of ministry in Classis Georgetown. Further discussions are likely.

**5-11: Next Meeting dates:**

- A. Theme for September 18, 2014 Classis meeting is Risky Compassion, and for the February 19, 2015, it will be Daring Hospitality. Themes and suggested tones will be selected at least 2 months in advance. A future theme could be Classis' Best Practices.
- B. Future Vision Team meeting dates are to be determined later.

**5-12: Closing Prayer:** offered by Marc

**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

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