

CLASSIS GEORGETOWN

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

Session #73

WORSHIP MINUTES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Signatures Coffee Shop
6375 Balsam Drive
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

Officers of the Day

President.....Rev. Gerry Koning
Vice-President....Rev. Mark Bennink
Clerk of Classis.....Harold Postma

Prior meeting activity

Article 1

As each delegate arrives he receives his name tag. Delegates attending Classis Georgetown for the first time sign the Form of Subscription. Churches that have not previously sent their credentials provide them at this time.

Article 2

The credentials are given to the delegates from the Georgetown Church who will serve as the Credentials Committee. They will report later in the meeting.

Welcome and Opening

Article 3

Rev. Gerry Koning, Pastor of the Trinity Church of Grandville, calls the meeting to order and calls the role of churches and delegates. He welcomes all the delegates to this meeting of Classis Georgetown. He especially welcomes visitors and those who are attending Classis for the first time. He then opens the meeting with prayer.

Article 4

The following are the delegates in attendance:

CHURCH	PASTOR	ELDER
Alive Ministries	Terry Scholten	Mel Vander bie
Baldwin Street	Gerard Van Groningen	Floyd Brouwer
Bauer	Tim Holwerda	John Boelema
Cottonwood Heights	Matthew Palsrok	Larry De Blaay
Evergreen Ministries	Larry Doornbos	John Lambers
Fairway	David Den Haan	Dan Kooima
First Hudsonville	David Jolman	Gary De Haan
First Jenison		Jack Hager
		Cal Sall
Forest Grove	Jeffrey Scripps	Randy Dozeman
Friendship Chapel	Leonard Troast	

Georgetown	Marc Nelesen	Dan Wierenga
Hillcrest		John Van Abbema
Immanuel	Robert Huisman	Larry Herweyer
		Charley Postma
		Paul Hoekwater
Jamestown	Steve Hasper	
Messiah	Terry Genzink	Wayne Boven
Ridgewood	Kevin Vande Streek	Evan Cuperus
Searchlight		
Trinity	Gerald Koning	Jay Milkamp
Twelfth Avenue	Mark Bennink	Del Dykstra
Zutphen	Joshua Van Drunen	Jack Elgersma

Other persons attending Classis:

Duane Vander Brug, Advisor Transition Chairman	Rev. Jim Vander Schaaf Criminal Justice Chaplaincy
Harold Postma Clerk of Classis	Rev. David Dethmers Interim Pastor, Ridgewood CRC
John Quist, Youth Pastor Jamestown CR Church	Rev. Norman Thomasma Director, CRC Pastoral Ministries
Kathy Jelsema Classis Assistant Treasurer	Dee Van Heuvelen, Secretary Classis Transition Team
Tricia Bosma Interim Classis 10:24 Coordinator	

Article 5

A motion is made to seat Rev. Leonard Troast, Interim Pastor of Friendship Chapel, who is representing the Chapel at this meeting. The motion is supported and carries.

Article 6

At this time, two elder delegates present a short skit demonstrating the need for "collaborative relationships" which is the theme for this meeting of Classis.

They are two old friends. They have not had contact in some time. They have moved to the same community and are living on the same street and were completely unaware of this. In their conversation they try to get together but nothing specific results. They part company, just as separated as when they met.

Revs. Marc Nelesen and David Den Haan use this skit to introduce the theme of "Collaborative Relationships" and how churches in the same community can be involved in the same work and not be aware of what their neighbor is doing.

They then introduce Rev. Norman Thomasma, Director of Pastoral Relationships for the Christian Reformed Church, who leads us in a study of doing things "Appreciably Better Together."

We Break for Dinner

We Hear from God's Servants in Classis

A. Transition Team

1. Progress Report by Dave DenHaan: "*Classis: From maintenance to ministry.*"

Rev. DenHaan asked for evaluation of the first part of our classis meeting. There were many appreciative comments about the group interaction and training time led by Rev. Thomasma. As part of his report Rev. DenHaan encouraged individual councils to have a conversation about 10:24 teams.

Rev. Duane Vanderbrug gave a report on the Transition Team's work with Jamestown CRC, their council, as well as with Pastor Hasper and family. We were encouraged to be in prayer for this matter.

2. **A new website demonstration by Kathy Jelsema and Mark Bennink**

Rev. Mark Bennink and Kathy Jelsema walked us through the new Classis Georgetown website. Delegates were encouraged Congregations are encouraged to put a link to the classis website on their church websites.

3. **A report from the 10:24 Teams by Mrs. Tricia Bosma**

Trish Bosma, Interim Classis 10:24 Coordinator, reported on her work with these teams. She encouraged us to demonstrate and live out our unity in Jesus Christ. We were challenged to invite a 10:24 team to our congregations or to volunteer as a 10:24 team member. Mrs. Bosma was thanked for her work with applause.

B. Classis Secretary

Rev. David Jolman, on behalf of Stated Clerk Harold Postma, passed out ballots for Region 10 as well as handouts from Home Missions and a ministry report from the C.R.C. **MMS to approve the work of the Stated Clerk – Motion Carried**

C. Classis Treasurer

Mel VanderBie reviewed the financial picture of Classis Georgetown. The classis budget is structured around the 5 Core Values of the classis. He mentioned some encouraging news with regard to church contributions to classis and denominational ministry shares. The Treasurer encouraged continued financial support of our joint ministries. **MMS to approve the work of the Treasurer – Motion Carried**

D. Student Fund Committee

Rev. Tim Holwerda reports for the student fund committee. It was mentioned that the committee meets with each student twice per year for coffee and conversation. The committee recommends financial aid for 5 students at a total of \$22,000. The Student Fund Committee was thanked for their good work.

MMS to approve this financial aid for 5 students – Motion Carried

E. Regional Pastor

No Report

F. Church Visitor

Rev. Len Troast commended Classis Georgetown for our innovative meeting. Rev. Troast spoke about his work at Friendship Chapel. He is encouraged by the congregation's mentoring and youth ministry programs. Friendship Chapel looks forward to working on discipling and outreach. Rev. Troast was thanked for his good work.

G. Credentials Committee

Georgetown CRC reported on credentials. All is in good order. This report is received for information.

H. Delegate to Synod 2012

Rev. Tim Holwerda gave a report on what's coming up at Synod. Items which will take up include: Inclusivity, Taking a stand against pornography, and the ratification of Michael LeRoy as president of Calvin College. Rev. Holwerda mentioned three big issues that will be addressed: 1) Form of Subscription Revision 2) The Belhar Confession and 3) Creation Stewardship Report

I. Closing Prayer.

Five individuals offered prayers focused on the 5 core values of Classis Georgetown.

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper was led by Rev. Marc Nelesen.