

**CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM**  
**Minutes of November 15, 2018 12:30 PM to 2:45 PM**  
*Transforming Lives and Communities*

**Georgetown CRC, 6475 ~ 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hudsonville, MI 49426**

**11-1:** Josh VanDrunen opened our meeting by reading an excerpt from “The Soul of Shame” by Curt Thompson, highlighting the need for us to be a body and part of a community. We are better together than alone. Josh opened with prayer.

**11-2:** Vision Team (VT):

Roll Call, PRESENT:

**MEMBERS:** Rev. Mark Bennink, Rev. Dave Jolman, Rev. Susan LaClear, Rev. Marc Nelesen,  
Rev. Josh VanDrunen

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

**GUESTS:** Travis Steinhoff and Stacey Korecki (Lakeshore Habitat)  
Rev. Chris DeVos (Colossian Forum)

**11-3 Habitat for Humanity Presentation**

We welcome Travis Steinhoff (Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator) and Stacey Korecki (Development Coordinator) from Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity presented us with the 2018 Church Donor Award - Classis Georgetown CRCNA. The Vision Team receives this award on behalf of the classis.

**11-4 Chris Devos – Colossian Forum**

- A. We welcome Rev. Chris DeVos, Chris shares with us what Colossian Forum is and how it could make a difference to the pastors and church leaders in our classis. It is not a means to solve issues but rather a way for Christians to listen to each other and respond to each other in love.
- B. Discussion is held on how we could use this in our classis. Would this be something to use at a Classis meeting or offered as a daytime retreat for church leaders? How many church leaders acknowledge conflict? We realize it is important to equip leaders to live in grace.
- C. The discussion is tabled until our December meeting to decide how to move forward with this.

**11-5: October Vision Team Meeting Minutes**

Minutes are accepted as written.

**11-6 Financial Report from Mel:**

Mel reports that the finances are in good shape. We are ahead of last year.

**11-7: Stated Clerk’s Report:**

The Stated Clerk’s report is received as written.

**11-8: October Classis Meeting review**

Glenda reported on the many positive comments on the classis meeting surveys:

- The time around the tables was very much appreciated.
- There were some comments about the budget and what churches should or should not know about classis financials. Perhaps at future meetings the budget presentation should be done by means of a narrative rather than facts.

**11-9: Brian Bosscher - Discipleship**

- A. As he looks ahead to his retirement, Rev. Brian Bosscher, is hoping to begin a “One to One Discipleship Gospel Fluency” program and would like Classis Georgetown to partner with him.
- B. Unsure of the interest such a program would gain, we are unable to offer our support at this time. Marc Nelesen will follow-up with Brian.

**11-10: Bauer CRC**

Bauer CRC asks us to bless their effort as they go forward in helping prepare their Youth and Discipleship Director, Brian Boucek, become a commissioned pastor. They will come up with a learning plan for Brian and Marc Nelesen will approve the plan.

**11-11: Vision Team Executive**

Marc Nelesen presents the idea of having a Vision Team Executive (body of three) to weed through material and topics before the Vision Team meetings. This would expedite our meeting time. This team would not make decisions but could perhaps form the agenda for Vision Team meetings.

**11-12: 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue CRC/Rev. Mark Bennink**

- A. A formal classis meeting is required for an Article 17 separation between Mark Bennink and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The meeting will be held on Thursday, December 6. It is suggested we have the meeting over the lunch hour. We will ask each church to try to send at least two delegates.
- B. Glenda will inform the classis churches of the upcoming meeting, formulate a meeting agenda, and contact synodical deputies to be present at the meeting.
- C. Mark Bennink will prepare a one-page narrative background to be included with the classis meeting agenda.
- D. Glenda will connect with Main Street Pub in Allendale to secure a meeting room on December 6 at 12 noon.

**11-13: Disability Concerns Committee**

Laura Koning is the new Classis representative. She spoke with Susan and requested a time at a classis meeting to offer training and information. Susan will talk to Laura and explain that she is more than welcome to come to a meeting and set up materials and visit with delegates but will not be given time to speak unless our meeting theme relates to disability concerns.

**11-14: Grant Request from Alive Ministries**

- A. Susan shared about a new ministry for moms that Alive has started. It was planned in the summer to offer mentoring and support from older moms to younger moms. The ministry has grown quickly and needs additional funding.
- B. Motion is MSC to offer a grant of \$2,000 to help support this ministry. We see this falling under the “Daring Hospitality” value.

**11-15: Time to Connect about ourselves and our churches**

- A. We continue to pray for 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue CRC as they close their church and ministry at the end of the year.
- B. Mark Bennink will remain on the Vision Team.

**11-16:** Kathy Jelsema closed our meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Glenda Tebben*

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING MEETING DATES**

**Vision Team:**

- Thursday, December 13, Georgetown CRC, **Marc N, opening; Glenda, closing**

**Classis Meetings:**

- Thursday, December 6 – Main Street Pub in Allendale – 12 noon
- Thursday, February 28, 2019 – time and location TBD
- Thursday, May 30, 2019 – time and location TBD