

**CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM**  
**Minutes of September 17, 2020 12:00 PM to 1:45 PM**

*Transforming Lives and Communities*

**Georgetown CRC - 6475 40th Ave, Hudsonville, MI 49426**

**9-1** Nate Meldrim shared the words of John 2:23 & 24. In these verses we see that Jesus knew how fickle humanity can be. Our focus as churches, pastors, classis, and Vision Team must be to remain faithful to God in all things. Nate opened in prayer.

**9-2** Vision Team (VT):

Roll Call

**MEMBERS (present):** Rev. Nate Meldrim, Rev. Marc Nelesen, Rev. Matthew Slack

**MEMBERS (absent with notice):** Rev. Len Kuyvenhoven, Rev. Susan LaClear

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

**9-3** Minutes of the August 20 Vision Team retreat were approved as written.

**9-4 AMP grant**

Due to Covid-19 it has been difficult to meet face to face for music lessons. Kathy Jelsema presents a request from Trinity CRC to reallocate the funds intended for music lessons to Worship technology lessons.

**Motion is made and seconded to approve Trinity's request to reallocate the funds from the AMP grant. Motion carried.**

**9-5 Financial Report**

A. 50% of student fund money has been paid. One student, Tricia Bosma, does not require funding for 2020-2021. She is in the CPE program at Pine Rest but will return to seminary. Nate will check into what this program means for Tricia and report at our next meeting.

B. The 2021 budget is ready to be presented at the Classis meeting.

C. Mel will distribute a form to each church asking for their member count and their ministry pledge.

**9-6 Stated Clerk's Report:**

A. Synodical deputies have been secured for the October 20 Classis meeting.

B. Sermon evaluations have been found for Mr. Brian Boucek.

C. Some churches have asked for advice in regards to re-opening protocols. Georgetown CRC has an excellent document which can be shared with other churches.

**9-7 October 20, 2020 Classis Meeting**

A. Rev. Matthew Slack will serve at Vice President.

B. Rev. Jack Dik will be honored for his recent retirement.

C. Classis Business:

i. Reports from staff

- ii. Choose a single nominee to represent our classis on the COD
- iii. Consider the requests of Rev. Josh Benton and Rev. Mark Bennink to extend their ministerial credentials for one year.
  - The Classis chair will read the letters from the pastors asking for an extension.
  - The chair will ask for a motion to be put on the floor.
  - As the motion is discussed, the VT will give their recommendations to these requests, which will be presented by the Classis coordinator.
- D. Classical examination of Mr. Brian Boucek to serve as a Commissioned Pastor at Bauer CRC.

**9-8 Regional Pastors Report**

We reviewed a draft of a letter that will be sent to churches regarding the new pledge system for Ministry Shares. This letter will be sent to the churches prior to the October Classis meeting.

**9-9 Classis Coordinator Comments:**

- A. Jim met with two members of Cottonwood CRC regarding their concerns about Neland Ave. CRC. Neland installed a deacon who is in a same-sex marriage. We thank Jim for meeting on our behalf.
- B. Fairway CRC has had a difficult time finding a pastor and their desire is to look outside the CRC and the RCA. The regional pastors and the church counselor have talked with the search committee and the Council of Fairway regarding procedure for extending such a call. They have been advised to consult David Koll to determine their options.

**9-10 Time to Connect about ourselves and our churches**

- A. As pastors and staff, we acknowledge that life and ministry is difficult in the midst of Covid-19.
- B. What will “church” look like after Covid-19? With the influx of live-stream, there will be a new realm of how we do church. As a Vision Team we can be proactive and offer advice to churches on how to anticipate and respond to this.

**9-11** Marc Nelesen closed our meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Glenda Tebben*

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING MEETING DATES**

**Vision Team:**

- Thursday, October 8, Georgetown CRC, Matthew opening; Kathy closing
- Thursday, November 19, Georgetown CRC, Susan opening, Jim closing
- Thursday, December 17, Georgetown CRC, Marc opening; Glenda, closing

**Classis Meetings:**

- October 2020 – Post Family Farm
- February 11, 2021
- May 20, 2021