

CLASSIS GEORGETOWN VISION TEAM

Minutes of November 19, 2020 ~ 12:00 PM to 1:35 PM

Transforming Lives and Communities

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

11-1 Susan LaClear opens the meeting with prayer.

11-2 Vision Team (VT):

Roll Call, PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Rev. Susan LaClear, Rev. Nate Meldrim, Rev. Marc Nelesen, Rev. Matthew Slack

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

11-3 Review of Minutes of the October 8, 2020 meeting

Motion is MSC to approve minutes of October 8.

11-4 Financial Report

- A. Money is coming in slowly and a little lower than expected but the hope is churches continue to give.
- B. The student fund (\$11,000) will be paid in January.
- C. By November 30, all churches must send to Mel a membership count for classis ministry shares as well as their denominational pledge. An email reminder about this will be sent to the churches.

11-5 Stated Clerk's Report:

- A. Motion is MSC made to accept the credentials of Rev. Cody Nederveld (First CRC, Grand Haven, MI - Classis Muskegon). Rev. Nederveld will be serving at Hillcrest CRC in Hudsonville.
- B. Rev. Stan Sturing will be leaving Fairway at the end of November. Mr. Jeremy Rhodes will begin work there in December
- C. Future Vision Team meeting dates are set as follows:
 - December 17 (meet via ZOOM)
 - In the year 2021: January 14, February 25, March 18, April 15, May 6
- D. A Classis Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10, via ZOOM. We thank Susan for her willingness to be the host and facilitator. At this meeting we will address:
 - a. Article 17 separation: The Council and Leadership team of Evergreen Ministries have notified our Classis that they will be moving forward with a mutually agreed upon Article 17 separation with Rev. Tom Kragt. A termination agreement has been drawn up and the clerk has requested a copy that has been signed by both parties.
 - b. Tabled motion from October 20; "to declare Rev. Josh Benton released from ministerial office in accord with Church Order Article 17-d". We will ask Evergreen Ministries to communicate their position on this motion with Rev. Benton prior to the December 10 meeting, Rev. Nate Meldrim and Rev. Matthew Slack, as representatives of the Vision Team, will also meet with Rev. Benton before the Classis Meeting.
For continuity, we will ask the synodical deputies that were present at the October 20 meeting to be present on December 10. We will ask the churches, if possible, to send the same delegates as were present in October.
- E. The Stated Clerk's report is received as written

11-6 Vision Team Membership

Nate will ask Rev. Sam Krikke of Searchlight Ministries if he is willing to join the Vision Team.

11-7 February 11 Classis Meeting

- A. As we remind ourselves what it means to be a classis together, we hope to have a “ministry fair” in which we invite our ministry reps to a panel discussion where they will share about their ministry, explain how our churches can be involved, and entertain questions. Glenda will come with a list of those who we will invite to the panel.
- B. We hope this will be an in-person meeting – Immanuel CRC is willing to host.

11-8 Regional Pastors report

Every pastor is feeling the weight of “Covid-crankiness”. Churches may need 18 months-2 year to figure out living and ministry through a pandemic means for the church.

11-9 Covid 19 responses

- A. Rev. Matt Palsrok sent an email to all pastors in the Classis expressing the weightiness of dealing with Covid-19.
- B. A video recorded by Rev. Len Kuyvenhoven was shared with the Vision Team.

11-10 Time to Connect about ourselves and our churches

- A. We continue to pray for Marc’s daughter. Her health is stable, and she is receiving emotional support to deal with the trauma.
- B. Nate asks for prayers for his son whose teammate (from his soccer club) committed suicide; this is the first time Nate’s son must grieve the death of a peer.

11-11 Jim Roskam closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Tebben

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING MEETING DATES

Vision Team:

- **Thursday, December 17, at 12 NOON by way of ZOOM**
Marc opening; Glenda closing
- **Thursday, January 14, at 12 NOON**
Nate opening; Kathy closing
- **Thursday, February 25 at 12 NOON**
Matt opening; Jim closing
- **Thursday, March 18 at 12 NOON**
Susan opening; Glenda closing
- **Thursday, April 15 at 12 NOON**
Marc opening; Kathy closing

- Thursday, May 6 at 12 NOON - Georgetown CRC
Nate opening; Jim closing

Classis Meetings:

Thursday, December 10 – 7 PM – ZOOM

Thursday, February 11, 2021– Immanuel CRC

Thursday, May 20, 2021