

Agenda for Meeting of Classis Georgetown

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Registration – 4:15 PM; Meeting Time - 4:30 PM

Location: Fairway CRC, 1165 44th Ave, Jenison, MI 49428

Rev. Nate Meldrim, President

Rev. Matthew Slack, Vice President

1) Welcome and Devotions

- a) Welcome to delegates and guests
- b) Roll Call
- c) Opening Devotions and Prayer

2) Our Classis' Vision and Our Five Values

- a) Our Vision: Classis Georgetown is a community of Christian Reformed Churches in Eastern Ottawa County who live and minister together, in Christ, to transform lives and communities.

- b) Our Five Values:

Healthy Leaders:

We equip leaders to transform lives and communities

Collaborative Relationships:

We call out the strengths of each church and pursue ministry together to create new ways of transforming lives and communities.

Empowering Worship:

We celebrate and are sustained by God's presence as he transforms lives and communities.

Daring Hospitality:

We welcome the stranger in ways that transform lives and communities.

Risky Compassion:

We extend uncommon generosity to the suffering and work to eliminate the causes of that suffering in order to transform lives and communities.

3) Classis Work

- a) Reports from classis leaders:
 - i. Mrs. Glenda Tebben, Stated Clerk
 - ii. Mrs. Jeanne Kallemeyn, Council of Delegates representative
 - COD update from meeting held on May 4-6, 2022
 - iii. Mr. Mel VanderBie, Treasurer
 - iv. Rev. Jeffery Scripps, Student Fund Committee
 - Recommendations for student aid for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - v. Rev. Marc Nelesen, Regional Pastors
 - vi. Credentials Committee Report

4) **Video from Resonate: A Place to Call Home: Strong Towers Ministries**

5) **A Time of Prayer for Synod 2022**

6) **DINNER BREAK**

7) **Colloquium Doctum for Rev. Jeremy Rhodes**

a) Background

i. At our meeting on May 20, 2021, Rev. Rhodes became a Commissioned Pastor under Article 23 of the Church Order.

He underwent a Classis Examination that included:

1. An evaluation of the sermon, "Alive in Christ" (Colossians 2:6-15) by Rev. Gerry Koning and Rev. John DeVries. The sermon was discussed and approved by Classis.

2. An examination on:

a) Knowledge of Scripture

b) Knowledge of Reformed Doctrine

c) Knowledge of the standards (creeds and confessions) and Church Order

d) Practical matters regarding Christian testimony, walk of life, relationships with others, love for the church, approach to ministry, promotion of Christ's kingdom.

This examination was led by Rev. Ed Tamminga.

ii. At the same meeting we determined that Rev. Rhodes, upon completing a learning plan endorsed by the CRCNA Candidacy Committee, would undergo a colloquium doctum to become ordained as a Minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church under Article 8(c) of the Church Order:

Ministers ordained outside of the CRCNA who desire to become ministers in the Christian Reformed Church shall be required to complete a learning plan endorsed by the Candidacy Committee.

Rev. Rhodes has met the requirements laid out for him by the Candidacy Committee of the CRCNA.

Church Order Supplement, Article 8.E.4.:

At the completion of the affiliation process the classis, with authorization from the Candidacy Committee, shall conduct a colloquium doctum inquiring into the applicant's soundness of doctrine, sanctity of life, and knowledge and appreciation of Christian Reformed practice and usage. Synodical deputies must be present, and a successful examination will require the approval of classis and the concurrence of the synodical deputies.

b) Introduction of Rev. Jeremy Rhodes and prayer for guidance of the Holy Spirit, **John Wilks, (Fairway CRC).**

c) Practical portion of examination (personal faith/practical ministry matters)

i) Questions from classis examiner, **Rev. Terry Scholten**

ii) Questions from delegates and synodical deputies

iii) Motion to proceed

- d) Sermon portion of examination
 - i) The sermon, "Alive in Christ" (Colossians 2:6-15), by Rev. Jeremy Rhodes was evaluated, discussed and approved at the May 20, 2021 Classis Meeting. The CRCNA Candidacy Committee deems one sermon evaluation to be sufficient. The Vision Team concurs with this recommendation.
 - ii) Motion to proceed.

- e) Biblical/Theological portion of examination
 - i) Questions from classis examiner, **Rev. Gerry Koning**
 - ii) Questions from delegates and synodical deputies

- f) Motion to admit Rev. Jeremy Rhodes (consideration of this motion in executive session)
 - i) Classis discussion of motion
Synodical deputies, **Rev. Al Gelder, Rev. Doug Fauble, Rev. Ron Goudswaard** excused to conduct their deliberations
 - ii) Classis vote (by ballot) on motion
 - iii) Report from synodical deputies

8) **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

9) **Adjournment**

10) **Next meeting:** October 27, 2022