

Classis Georgetown MEETING MINUTES

Session #114

Meeting at Hillcrest Christian Reformed Church (3617 Hillcrest Road, Hudsonville, MI 49426)
Thursday, February 16, 2023; 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

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.

ARTICLE I. ASSEMBLING OF CLASSIS

A. Officers of the Day

President: Rev. Nate Meldrim

Vice-President: Rev. Matthew Slack

Stated Clerk: Ms. Glenda Tebben

B. Delegates in attendance:

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>PASTOR(s)</u>	<u>ELDER(s)</u>	<u>DEACON</u>
Alive Ministries		Mark Trumpie	Bruce Tebben
Baldwin Street			Duane Vork
Bauer	Dave TenClay	John Boelema	Travis Ellens
Cottonwood		Bill Corner Bernie VanderKlok	
Evergreen Ministries	Brandon Smith	Caleb Walcott	Jake Vollink
Fairway	Jeremy Rhodes	Geoff Lenters	Chris Plantinga
First Hudsonville	Dave Jolman	Doug Krikke	
Forest Grove	Jeffery Scripps	Randy Dozeman	Rick Van Dis
Georgetown	Doug Kamstra	Preston Kallemeyn	
Hillcrest	Cory Nederveld Curt Walters	Jim Holtrop	
Immanuel		Brian VanZanten	
Jamestown	Matthew Slack	Bill Kuiper	
Messiah	Gale Tien	Hank Bloem	Kyle Knoper
The Refuge	Gerry Koning Bryzon Masiboh		
Ridgewood	Cindy Holtrop	Deb DeVries	Bart DeJong
Searchlight	Sam Krikke		Kris VanHaitsma
Zutphen	Mark Elffers	Doug Aukeman	Jeff VanRhee

C. Other persons attending Classis:

Rev. Nate Meldrim, Vision Team

Staff:

Ms. Kathy Jelsema

(Assistant Treasurer/Web Keeper)

Mr. Mel VanderBie

(Treasurer)

Ms. Glenda Tebben

(Stated Clerk)

Guests:

Mr. Jim Roskam

Mr. Fig VanderMolen (Youth Champion)

Rev. Noelle Jacobs

Rev. Jerry VanGroningen

Mr. Gene TenHorst

Rev. Larry Baar

Mrs. Laura Keeley

Mr. Chad Schuer

ARTICLE II. OPENING and WELCOME

- A. Classis president Rev. Nate Meldrim calls the meeting to order.
- B. Opening Time of Worship
 1. We sing, "The Church's One Foundation".
 2. President Meldrim explains what a "classis" is (a fleet of ships all sailing in the same direction). Do we recognize ourselves as such in Classis Georgetown; are we a fleet of churches moving in the same direction? President Meldrim shares the words of Philippians 2:1-2 and highlights the vision of Classis Georgetown, reviewing our five values.
 3. Delegates and guest spend time praying with and for one another and our churches.
 4. We sing together, "Lead On, O King Eternal".
- C. Constitution of Classis
 1. President Meldrim welcomes delegates and guests.
 2. Roll Call of delegates is taken. First time delegates are asked to sign the Covenant for Office Bearers in the CRC.
 3. Credentials Committee
 - a. All credentials are in order.
 - b. Matters from the credentials; what aspect of ministry would you like to discuss at classis:
 - i. From Bauer CRC: At the January 18th council meeting we approved the following communication to classis: Bauer CRC fully supports Pastor Dave's willingness to attend Synod 2023 as a minister delegate.
 - ii. From Cottonwood Church: We nominate, as a potential delegate to Synod, Deacon Dan Winiarski.
 - iii. From Zutphen CRC: Zutphen CRC, in accordance with Church Order Supplement 40-b, believe that the seating of women delegates is in violation of the Word of God so we would like to record our protest on the appropriate credentials.

ARTICLE III. WORK AND MINISTRY OF CLASSIS LEADERS

- A. **Thank you:** President Meldrim extends a thank-you and a farewell to Mr. Jim Roskam who retired from his position as Classis Coordinator. We are grateful to Jim for his experience, wisdom, and humor.
- B. **Ministry Reports**
1. **Stated Clerk, Ms. Glenda Tebben, reporting:**
 - a. Glenda reviews her written report.
 - b. Glenda is thankful for the opportunity to attend the Stated Clerk gathering
 - c. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the work of the Stated Clerk.
 2. **Treasurer's Report, Ms. Kathy Jelsema (ass't treasurer), reporting:**
 - a. President Meldrim offers a prayer for our treasurer, Mr. Mel VanderBie, who is undergoing treatments for cancer.
 - b. Kathy reviews the 2022 year-end and first five weeks of 2023.
 - c. Kathy thanks the churches for faithfully sending in ministry shares. These allow our classis to do the ministry we do.
 - d. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the work of the treasurer and the assistant treasurer.
 3. **Vision Team, Rev. Sam Krikke, reporting:**
 - a. Rev. Krikke reviews the written report.
 - b. The Vision Team presents the following motion:

The Vision Team recommends that classis approve \$25,000 for Strong Tower Ministries to help replace their 15 passenger van and to replace their worn out sound system. These funds will come from our Church Planting fund. Motion is discussed. Motion is carried.
 - c. Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the work of the Classis Vision Team.
- C. **Prayer of Thanksgiving:** Rev. Jeremy Rhodes offers a prayer of thanks for the work and ministry of our Classis Leaders.

ARTICLE IV. BUSINESS OF CLASSIS

- A. Classis Voting
1. **Election of Synodical delegates** to represent Classis Georgetown at the June meeting of the Synod of the CRCNA:

The following pastors were elected

 - First Pastor Delegate, Rev. Nate Meldrim
 - Second Pastor Delegate, Rev. Dave TenClay
 - First Pastor Alternate, Rev. Gerry Koning
 - Second Pastor Delegate, Rev. Cory Nedeveld

The following elders were elected:

 - Elder Delegate, Mr. Herb Kraker
 - Elder Alternate, Ed Steenbergen

The following deacons were was elected:

 - Deacon Delegate, Mr. Dan Winiarski
 - Deacon Alternate, Ms. Kathy Jelsema

2. Synodical Deputies appointment

Motion is made, seconded and carried to approve the reappointment to a three-year term of Synodical Deputy Rev. Jeffery Scripps and the appointment to a three-year term of Alternate Synodical Deputy, Rev. Curt Walters.

3. Overtures to Synod 2023

Two overtures are presented for consideration. President Meldrim explains that, if approved, the overtures would be adopted as our own and sent to Synod 2023 from Classis Georgetown.

a. Zutphen CRC overture: Rev. Mark Elffers presents the overture

Motion is made and supported that Classis Georgetown overture Synod to request that the Council of Neland Ave CRC to comply with the decision of Synod 2022 or come under church discipline.

After an adequate time of discussion, motion is voted for by ballot. Motion is carried to accept this overture.

b. Forest Grove CRC Overture: Rev. Jeffery Scripps presents the overture

Motion is made and supported that Classis Georgetown would overture Synod 2023 to require confessional revision gravamina on the occasion of clear disagreement with the confessions.

After an adequate time of discussion, motion is voted for by ballot. Motion is carried to accept this overture.

ARTICLE V. WORK AND MINISTRY OF CLASSIS REPRESENTATIVES

1. CMLT, Rev. Jeff Scripps, reporting

- a. Rev. Scripps reviews the written report. The committee welcomes more students to apply for aid and encourages churches who have members wanting to study to become involved in ministry to apply for aid. Only one person is receiving aid at this time.
- b. The CMLT continues to pursue students who are no longer in ministry.

2. Youth Champion, Mr. Fig VanderMolen

- a. As Youth Champion, Fig connects with youth leaders (staff and volunteers) in our classis.
- b. Fig highlights the collaborative relationship he has with the churches in Georgetown Township. There is monthly network meeting and churches partner together for an after-school program for youth.
- c. Fig distributes a prayer guide that highlights youth leaders and programs in our churches. He asks for churches to be in prayer for our youth.

3. Regional Pastors, Rev. Dave Jolman, reporting

- a. The goal of the Regional Pastors is to stay connected with pastors and churches.
- b. Rev. Jolman invites pastors, councils, church staff to First Hudsonville CRC on February 22 for a "Solving Your People Problems" seminar.

4. Prayer of Thanksgiving: Rev. Gerry Koning leads in a word of prayer of thanks and blessing for the work of our Classis representatives.

ARTICLE VI: DINNER AND TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

1. A delicious meal is served by the members of Hillcrest CRC.

ARTICLE VII. CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

1. President Meldrim thanks Hillcrest CRC for hosting the meeting.
2. President Meldrim leads us in the singing of *The Doxology*.
3. The meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Tebben

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown

Please note the date of next Classis meeting:

Thursday, May 11, 2023 – Strong Tower Ministries