

# Classis Georgetown MEETING MINUTES

Session #117

Meeting at Bauer Christian Reformed Church (4958 Bauer Road, Hudsonville, MI 49426)  
Thursday, January 17, 2024; 12 noon – 1:00 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

### Officers of the Day

President: Rev. Sam Krikke

Vice-President: Rev. Jeffery Scripps

Stated Clerk: Ms. Glenda Tebben

### A. Delegates in attendance:

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>PASTOR</u>	<u>ELDER(s)</u>	<u>DEACON</u>
Alive Ministries		Paul VanZalen Lynn Zwart	
Baldwin Street		Paul Mellema	Duane Vork
Bauer	Dave TenClay	Dave Hovingh	Nick Huizenga
Cottonwood		Todd Billin Jeff DeKoning	Brian Lerch
Evergreen Ministries	Brandon Smith	Daena Vuyst	
Fairway	Jeremy Rhodes	John DeVries	
First Hudsonville	David Jolman	Doug Krikke	
Forest Grove	Jeffery Scripps	Randy Dozeman	
Georgetown	Doug Kamstra	Jan Dykstra Rog Dykstra	
Hillcrest	Cory Nederveld Curt Walters	Jim Holtrop	
Immanuel	Jake Porter		
Jamestown	Chris Bouma		
Messiah	Gale Tien	Scott Wustman	Lance DeYoung
Ridgewood	Michael TenHaken	Amy Zuehlke	Bart DeJong
Searchlight	Sam Krikke	Herb Kraker	Kris VanHaitsma
Trinity/The Refuge	Gerry Koning	Ross Jelsema	
Zutphen		Mel Kreuze	

## **B. Other persons attending Classis:**

### Vision Team:

Ms. Kathy Jelsema, Ass't Treasurer, Web keeper  
 Rev. Nate Meldrim  
 Rev. Marc Nelesen, Regional Pastor  
 Ms. Glenda Tebben, Stated Clerk  
 Mr. Mel VanderBie, Treasurer

### Synodical Deputies:

Rev. Al Gelder, Classis Grand Rapids East (Via Zoom)  
 Rev. Bryce Mensink, Classis Grandville  
 Rev. Doug Spoelma, Classis Holland

## **ARTICLE II. OPENING**

- A. A light lunch is enjoyed by all.
- B. Classis president Rev. Sam Krikke calls the meeting to order and thanks Bauer CRC for their hospitality in hosting.
- C. President Krikke welcomes delegates, synodical deputies, and members of the Classis Vision Team.
- D. President Krikke opens the meeting with prayer.

## **ARTICLE III. ARTICLE 17a RELEASE FROM ACTIVE MINISTRY**

- A. Executive Session is declared.
- B. **MOTION:** To approve the request for an Article 17a release of a mutually agreed separation between Rev. Rob Guessing and Bauer Christian Reformed Church. This includes the severance package. **Motion is supported.**

Regional Pastor, Rev. Marc Nelesen reviewed the documents explaining the background for the Article 17a separation. He gives a summary of the key issues, emphasizing that both Rev. Guessing and Bauer CRC have responded to this separation with grace.

A vote on the motion is taken. **Motion is carried.**

The Synodical deputies concurred with Classis' decision.

- C. **MOTION:** That Classis accept the Regional Pastors' recommendation that an Oversight Committee be assigned to Rev. Rob Guessing. An affirmation recommendation is required from the Oversight Team before the Classis declares Rev. Rob Guessing eligible for a call. **Motion is supported.**

Rev. Marc Nelesen presents recommendations regarding the Oversight Committee. The team will be chaired by Regional Pastor Rev. Marc Nelesen. Rev. Jack VanderPlate, and Mr. Hank Bosma have agreed to serve. Rev. Guessing will have a strong team offering discernment, assessment, and support.

A vote on the motion is taken. **Motion is carried.**

The Synodical deputies concurred with Classis' decision and were thanked for their work.

- D. Rev. David Jolman offered a prayer for Rev. Rob Gruessing, his wife, and his family and the council, leadership, and congregation of Bauer CRC.
- E. Rev. Dave TenClay, pastor of Bauer CRC, thanks Classis for their work. He offers a special thanks to our Regional Pastors and the Vision Team for their support.

**ARTICLE IV: CLASSIS IS ADJOURNED**

- A. As a closing prayer, President Sam Krikke invites all present to join in singing the song, *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying.”*
- B. President Krikke declares Classis is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Glenda Tebben*

Stated Clerk, Classis Georgetown