

Minutes of Classis Grand Rapids South

Hillside Christian Reformed Church

October 18, 2018

6:30 p.m.

WE GATHER TOGETHER-

1. Arrival- Delegates presented their credentials to the clerk, put on name tags and picked up new and materials not previously distributed. First-time delegates signed the *Covenant for Officebearers in the Christian Reformed Church* indicating their agreement as delegates to Classis Grand Rapids South. (*Pastors, elders, & deacons signed previously upon installation as officebearers.*)

2. Opening Devotions-Rev. Ron Kool, pastor of the hosting congregation led us in opening prayer and singing, integrating our worship with Pastor Amy Schenkel's presentation and exercise from *RESONATE* demonstrating and encouraging a strategy for engaging our neighborhoods.

3. Roll Call- Stated Clerk George Vink called the roll as listed on the submitted credentials:

Church	Minister	Elder(s)	Deacon
Alger Park		Brent Cottingham	Kim De Vries
Community	David Struyk		Cor Bruining
Covenant	Curt Walters	Bob VanderHeide	Jay Morren
Cutlerville East		Don Cok/Pete Dykstra	Ben Cok
Discovery	Paul Sauser	Dan Ziegler	
Ist Cutlerville		Gord Van Singel	Brian Bronsink
Hillside Community	Ron Kool	Rick Schrotenboer	
Ideal Park		Dan Seif	Andy Geelhoed
inSpirit	Randy Ledeboer	Tim Buist/Kristin VanderArk-Ministry Team	
Kelloggsville		Jason Slot/Julie Feenstra	Mark Oostema
LaGrave	Michael Hoogeboom	Alanna Rynders	Chris Blanker
Moline	Jim DeZeeuw	Randy LeFebre	
Monroe Community	Jim M. Boer	(Intern Joswa Starring)	
Providence	Bob Boersma	Rich Lenartz	
The PIER	Wayne Ondersma	Leader-Dave Holtrop	
Wayland		Ron Grassmid	Rick Oosterheet

4. Declaration- Upon completion of the roll call, chairperson Ron Kool declared Classis constituted and welcomed the delegates and guests. George Vink served as recording clerk.

5. Approval of May 17, 2018 Minutes- Moved, supported and passed.

6. Appointment of Committee(s)- Credentials: LaGrave's Delegates, Michael Hoogeboom, Alanna Rynders and Chris Blanker

OLD BUSINESS

7. Oversight Committee Report-Dr. Randy Blacketer- Ron Kool reported that the Blacketer membership and Ministerial Credentials have been accepted by Hillside CRC. Consequently, the Classical Interim Commitstee has replaced Pastor Kool and Elder Faber. Peter Jonker, Henry Schenkel, Mark Jansen and LeAnne Jansen have agreed to serve as the Oversight Committee.

NEW BUSINESS- Matters from the Classical Interim Committee

8. Retirements-As requested by way of correspondence or credentials, Classis approved the retirements of the following pastors per C.O. Article 18. Reason: age

~Rev. Maurice De Young-Kelloggsville CRC Effective Date: April 1, 2019

~Rev. (Dr.) Michael Williams- LaGrave CRC Effective Date: July 1, 2018 (Retro-active)

9. Safe Church-Referencing Synod 2018's mandate, CIC member Ron Kool detailed the work being done to implement a classical team as well as having every congregation be aware of its responsibility in this area of concern. Names of those willing to serve were requested.

10. Classis Meeting Date-Upon hearing rationale for moving the January date to a March one, Classis approved CIC's recommendation with the understanding that the various teams of classis will provide regular reports to the Stated Clerk for distribution as a means of keeping churches informed as well as involved in the ministry. Two annual meetings instead of three can be supplemented by a meeting to be called as may be required.

The **March 7, 2019** date allows time to forward the elected Synod delegates by the March 15th deadline.

REPORTS

11a Reports from Classical Support Ministry Individuals and Teams

i. **Stated Clerk,** George Vink supplemented his previously submitted written report. Motion passed to approve his work.

ii. **Classical Interim Committee-** Chairman Paul reviewed its report and encouraged classis' team leaders to seek replacements as needed with those gifted as well as having a vision for the specific work of each team. CIC's work was approved.

iii. **Treasurer-** Brenda Bosch distributed and highlighted the previously-distributed proposed budget. She noted that it is based on fewer members in Classis Grand Rapids South and "dipping into" reserves. Individual ministries and teams gave reports, videos and testimony supporting their inclusion. The Budget reflects a **1.5% increase in classical ministry shares**, making the **per member responsibility \$30.39**. The Budget was moved, supported and passed.

iv. **Credentials Committee-**Mike Hoozeboom reported the retirements requested as well as Kelloggsville's concern regarding "safety and abuse training for volunteers." Its concern for classical action and possible online resourcing were referred to pending safe church committee being formed. Kelloggsville's requesting a classical audit will be handled by the CIC.

11b Reports from Ministry Committees and Servants of Classis

i. **Classical Ministry Team(CMT)-**Dave Struyk reviewed its work during budget discussion.

ii. **Established Church Development(ECD)-Cityfest-** Mike Hoozeboom reported on behalf of Peter Jonker. Over 400 churches and 1000's of others cooperated and worked together to make an impact. Hundreds of "Commitments to Christ" were celebrated. Several ALPHA ministries are taking place while a focus on housing, education and racism will continue.

iii. **New Church Development (NCD)-**Dave Struyk reported on continuing efforts to support various ministries within classis as well as a cooperation with Classis Grandville. He introduced Robert Garcia who is doing radio ministry and more, using Community's facilities. Pastor Garcia shared his passion for reaching a Hispanic community.

iv. **Spiritual Growth and Prayer-**Bob Boersma highlighted its work and encouraged churches to contact Prayer Coordinator, Felecia Bud. The Pastor's Retreat video highlighted its importance.

v. **Diaconal Ministries** (DMC)-Sandy Nicely shared a video on the ministry of Streams of Hope during the budget presentation.

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11b Reports from Ministry Committees and Servants of Classis (Cont'd)

vi. **Ministry Leadership Team**(MLT)- Emily VandenHeuvel reported that MLT will be working with the CRCNA Candidacy Committee and its 24 month candidacy process being implemented at Calvin Seminary. She'll attend an information and training session on October 31st.

vii. **Church Visitors**-Visit to Moline CRC previously distributed with agenda.

viii. Church Counselors-

-Mike Hoozeboom reported that Alger Park has installed their new pastor, Rev. Sam Gutierrez, in August.

-Curt Walters reported that Cutlerville East will install Rev. Ed Visser on November 18. Tim Buist from inSpirit will represent classis to welcome him. Ideal Park is beginning their search.

ix. **Regional Pastor**- George Vink indicated that he's initiating meetings with pastors and welcomes their initiative to have times of encouragement and discussions together. Classis expresses its concern for the health of its pastors in this and other ways. Ie Retreat

x. **Prayer Coordinator**—Video on the retreat was shown. Church prayer coordinators are urged to be in touch with Felecia Bud.

xi. **Communications Coordinator** —Daniel Maat provided a colorful, explicit handout describing various activities of Classis as well as encouraging the regular viewing of **OneFaithManyFaces.**

xii. **Finance**-Brenda Bosch presented the Proposed Budget. -- Cf REPORTS-Treasurer 11a iii

11c. Reports related to our denominational relationship-

i. **Council of Delegates**-Dave Struyk reported on its October 2018 meeting in Chicago. Ministry shares and a possible different system were discussed. COD's work is divided into five committees, reflecting our "Five Streams." He served on BTGMI and Resonate "stream." A detailed report will be sent to Stated Clerks who'll distribute it to the congregations.

ii. **World Renew**-No Report

iii. Calvin Theological Seminary- Curt Walters highlighted the report distributed at the meeting.

iv. Calvin College-No report

11d. Reports Sharing Ministry Information for Delegates

i. **Friendship Ministries**-Tom Van Wingeren handed out "Ten Ways to be a More Inclusive and Welcoming Adult Small Group" and also demonstrated reasons and ways of doing so.

ii. **Resonate**-Amy Schenkel distributed a packet of material and led in the exercise of engaging our neighbors as part of opening devotions. ---Cf WE GATHER TOGETHER 2

WE DEPART

Chairman Ron Kool commended the host church for its hospitality and closed in prayer.

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 7, 2019 at IDEAL PARK CRC
Deadline for the March 7th Agenda: Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Vink, Stated Clerk

For convenience: <https://onefaithmanyfaces>