

MINUTES OF CLASSIS CENTRAL PLAINS

Meeting at Trinity CRC, St. Louis, MO
Friday-Saturday; September 15-16, 2023

Friday, September 15, 2023

Art. 7606 – Rev. Michael Bentley opened with devotions and prayer.

Art. 7607 – Constituting Classis

A. Roll call indicates the following delegates are present:

CHURCH	MINISTER	ELDER	DEACON
CEDAR	John Ritsema	Calvin Rozenboom	
PEACE CR	---	Russ Marcus**	Michelle Van Rheenen**
GENEVA	---	---	---
LEIGHTON	Al Bandstra**	---	---
TRINITY STL	Mike Bentley	Dan Frieswick	Josh Klyn*
NEW LIFE PRI.	Rick Admiraal	Glenda Vander Leest*	Linda Zuidema
NEWTON	Aaron Gunsaulus	---	---
I.C. CHINESE	---	---	---
BETHEL OSKY	---	Gordon Stuit (Fri.) Alan VanWaardhuizen	---
FIRST OSKY	Jon Spronk	Paul Van Donselaar	---
CALVARY	---	Ivan Mulder	Aaron Sandbulte
FAITH	---	Lee Talma Jerry Vermeer	Jean De Waard
CONNECT	---	---	---
GRACE	---	Virgil Jansen	Larry Hanthorn
PEORIA	---	Glen Fynaardt Jim Warden	---
CORNERSTONE	---	Robert Rus	---
PRAIRIE CITY	Matt McClure	Dennis Kadner	---
SULLY	---	Nolan Vos	Dennis Schut*
TRACY	---	---	---
CROSSROADS	Mark Jicinsky	Michael Bootsma	---

*First time delegates who signed the Covenant for Officebearers

** Delegates who attended via Zoom

B. The chair declared Classis Central Plains constituted with the following officers:

Chair: Rev. Matt McClure

Vice-Chair: Rev. Aaron Gunsaulus

Stated Clerk: Rev. Jonathan Spronk

Art. 7607 – Article 38-b Organized Church Status to Korean CRC of St. Louis

- A. Rev. Jaebok Choi presents to Classis the history of the ministry and the potential for growth among the Korean-speaking population of the St. Louis metro.
- B. **Motion is made and supported to grant the Korean CRC of St. Louis organized status via CO Art. 38.**

Carried

- C. Classis is led in prayer, thanking God for his provision for the KCRC and requesting his grace for the continuing mission and ministry at KCRC.

Art. 7608 – Classis Small Group Prayer

- A. Classis closes the evening session and breaks into small groups for prayer time.

Saturday, September 16, 2023

Art. 7609 – Rev. Mike Bentley opened with devotions and prayer.

Art. 7610 – Classical Leadership Team (Interim Committee) – Rev. Matt McClure, reporting.

- A. Rev. McClure presents the written report from CLT.
- B. **Motion is made and supported to approve the work of the CLT.**

Carried

Art. 7611 – Classical Missions Committee – Rev. Mark Jicinsky, reporting.

- A. Rev. Jicinsky verbally reports communications with the campus ministries at U of Iowa and ISU. New budget requests have been passed on to the Finance Committee. Delegates are also reminded that there are grants available through CMC for local church mission projects.

Art. 7612 – Classical Ministry Leadership Team (CMLT – Student Fund) – Rev. Aaron Gunsaulus, reporting.

- A. Rev. Gunsaulus verbally reports on the work of CMLT. Seminarian Will Brouwers is finishing his last year of study at Calvin Seminary while serving as an Interim Pastor at Dispatch CRC, Dispatch, KS.

Art. 7613 – Classical Financial Committee and Classis Treasurer

- A. Written financial reports from March 1 through August 25, 2023 from Mr. Don De Waard are received.
- B. **Motion is made and supported to approve the work of the Classis Treasurer.**

Carried

- C. The following Budget Proposal for 2024-2025 is submitted:

Classis Central Plains
 Budget Proposal
 2024-2025

	Actual 23-24	Requested 24-25	Pledged 24-25
Student Fund	\$11,000	\$11,000	
Home Missions			
Committee Expense	\$200	\$200	
Geneva Campus Ministries	\$23,500	\$30,000	
Areopagus Ministries	\$12,000	\$13,000	
New Life Prison	\$16,500	\$16,500	
Total	\$52,200	\$59,700	
Dordt University	\$80,150	\$159,575	
Church Development Grant	\$2,000	\$2,000	
New Church Plant	\$4,500	\$4,500	
Classis Expense			
Travel Expense	\$1,500	\$1,500	
Classis Meals	\$750	\$750	
Printing, Postage	\$50	\$50	
Treasurer Bond	\$100	\$100	
Conferences	\$1,750	\$1,750	
Clerk	\$3,000	\$3,000	
Treasurer	\$3,000	\$3,000	
Total	\$10,150	\$10,150	
Total	\$160,000	\$246,925	
Total active professing members		2306	
Ministry shares per member		\$107.08	

D. Motion is made and supported to approve the proposed 2024-25 budget and submit it to the churches of classis to receive pledges for the next Classis meeting.

Carried

Art. 7614 – License to Exhort Renewals

A. Motion is made and supported to approve the following License to Exhort Renewals (effective Jan. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2025)

a. Bryan Bandstra, Larry Hanthorn, Jon Neifert

Carried

Art. 7615 – Healthy Church Advocates (Church Visitors)

A. Written reports of contact to Faith, Prairie City and Peace churches are submitted for information.

Art. 7616 – Church Counselor Reports

A. Verbal Reports are given by Counselors for the following churches in their vacancies:

a. Chinese Church of Iowa City, Good News Chapel Oskaloosa, Grace Fellowship

Art. 7617 – The following speakers addressed Classis on behalf of their ministries:

A. Mr. Jeffery Bolt – CRCNA Director of Advancement

a. Mr. Bolt speaks on behalf of the Denominational Ministry Share program and about some upcoming changes to how the pledge system will work.

B. Ms. Elaine Lee – Global Coffee Break Ministries and Resonate

a. Ms. Lee speaks about the impact of Global Coffee break in the U.S. and worldwide.

C. Ms. Trudy Ash – Regional Connector for Thrive CRCNA

a. Ms. Ash presents information about the new organization of CRC Congregational Ministries under the title “Thrive” and shares about her work as a regional connector for the denominational agencies.

D. Rev. Rick Admiraal – New Life Prison Church

Art. 7618 – Written Reports from Denominational Ministry and Boards

A. Written reports from the following Denominational Ministries and Boards were received for information:

a. 2023 CRC Synod Delegate Report – Rev. Brian Ochsner, reporting

b. Calvin Seminary Board – Rev. Bob Drenten, reporting

c. World Renew Fall 2023 Report

d. Aug. 2023 Communication from CRCNA to US Classes

e. Resonate Fall 2023 Report to Classes

f. Dordt University Fall 2023 Report

Art. 7619 – Rev. Matt McClure closed in prayer.

Art. 7620 – Classis adjourned.

Next regular session of Classis will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 at Cedar CRC, Cedar, IA.
Agenda materials are due to statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com by Jan. 15, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jonathan Spronk
Stated Clerk, Classis Central Plains