

MINUTES OF CLASSIS CENTRAL PLAINS

Meeting at Connect Church, Pella, IA
 Saturday, February 28, 2026 at 8:00 AM

Art. 7690 – The Friday evening before Classis, delegates, officebearers and church members of Central Plains along with guests from Classis NorthCentral Iowa were invited to participate in a worship service at Connect. Pastors from Classis Central Plains along with guests Rev. Zachary King, - CRCNA General Secretary, and Rev. Christian Sebastia - Classis Rocky Mountain, led in scripture, song and prayer. Following the worship service, those gathered were invited to a time of fellowship and small group discussion that focused on the needs of our churches and the work of Classis.

Art. 7691 – Rev. Michael Bentley opened the Saturday Morning of Classis with devotions.

Art. 7692 – Constituting Classis

A. Roll call indicates the following delegates are present (* indicates first-time delegate to Classis and signed the Covenant of Officebearers):

CHURCH	MINISTER	ELDER	DEACON
CEDAR		Ron Groenendyk	Grant Van Den Heuvel
PEACE CR	Gary Brouwers		Nohn Wheagar*
LEIGHTON		Ben Lefevre*	Drew Van Kooten
TRINITY STL	Mike Bentley		Josh De Groot
NEW LIFE	Dave Gritters	Max Killoren	Marv Goodyk
NEWTON		Dave Nunnikoven Steve Holwerda	Damon Reynolds*
IC CHINESE	Johnlo Xu Daniel Gregory		
BETHEL OSKY		Greg Westra Dave Van Donselaar	Mark Spoelstra
FIRST OSKY	Jonathan Spronk	Lucas De Groot	Brad McMahan
CALVARY	Nate Klingenberg	Eric Vande Zande	Cindy Gritters*
FAITH	Brian Ochsner	Ron Groenenboom	Karen Spoelstra
CONNECT		Matthew Spoelstra Ron Zwiers*	Wayne VanWalbeek
GRACE		Joe Reigstad Larry Eggink	Ben Van Haaften*
PEORIA	David Swinney	Dale Fynaardt*	Matt Vander Hart
CORNERSTONE	Ryan Landt	Levi Nieuwsma	Brian De Vries*
PRAIRIE CITY	Brad Diekema*	Joel Meinders*	Tony DeRaad*
SULLY	Darren Kornelis	Joel Vos*	Lauren Van Wyk
TRACY		Marvin Ozinga	Bret Hoy*
CROSSROADS	Mark Jicinsky	Mike Bootsma Jason De Bruin	

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

Chair: Rev. Michael Bentley

Vice-Chair: Rev. Nate Klingenberg

Stated Clerk: Rev. Jonathan Spronk

- C. The Chair asked delegates to stand to affirm the Covenant of Officebearers and all do so.

- D. Throughout the meeting, the Chair recognized visiting speakers to Classis. Additionally, the Chair welcomed visitors from the House of Prayer Church, Cedar Rapids, a church that is currently worshipping in Peace CRC's location and is beginning discussions of affiliating with the CRCNA.

Art. 7693 – Church Order Art. 18 Retirement Request from Rev. John Ritsema

- A. Rev. John Ritsema has served Cedar CRC since 2018 and has requested Church Order Art. 18 retirement due to age from Classis Central Plains, effective for April 30, 2026

- B. Motion made and supported to grant Rev. John Ritsema an Article 18 retirement due to age, effective April 30, 2026.**

Carried

Art. 7694 – Discussion from Friday's Small Groups

- A. Classis is led in discussion about the topics that emerged from Friday's small group time concerning the mission and vision of our churches and Classis, specifically as it relates to discipleship, leadership development and church planting/revitalization.

- B. Motion made and supported for the Classis Leadership Team to form a 5-person, one-year, ad hoc committee to go over the small group reports and to come back to Classis over the next two meetings (Fall 2026, Spring 2027) with specific goals and actions for Classis.**

Carried

Art. 7695 – Communication from Peace Cedar Rapids

- A. A communication from Peace Cedar Rapids concerning the timing for Classis budgets the last few years is received for information.

Art. 7696 – Classis Finance Committee/Treasurer Report, Don DeWaard, reporting:

- A. Financial report for the March 2025-Feb. 2026 is presented.
(Report is listed at the end of the Minutes)

- B. Motion made and supported to approve the financial report for March 2025-Feb. 2026.**

Carried

- C. **Motion made and supported to raise the Pulpit Supply honorarium from the current \$175 plus mileage to \$200 plus milage.** **Carried**
- D. 2026-27 Budget is presented.
(Budget is listed at the end of the Minutes)
- E. **Motion made and supported to approve the 2026-27 Budget.** **Carried**
- F. **Motion made and supported to approve the work of the Classis Treasurer and the Classis Finance Committee.** **Carried**

Art. 7697 – Church Order Supplement Art. 81 Request from Crossroads DSM for Classis approval of admonition and discipline of a member

- A. Chair declared Executive Session.
 - B. In Executive Session:
 - 1. Classis has discussion about pastoral care and discipline of a member of Crossroads DSM, hearing from the pastor and elder delegates of Crossroads.
 - 2. Classis is led in prayer for Crossroads, the consistory and the member.
 - 3. **Motion made and supported to approve the consistory of Crossroads to continue in the church discipline process as outlined in Church Order Supplement Art. 81.** **Carried**
- (Note: The approval of Classis does not obligate a consistory to exclude a person from membership since repentance and restoration to the full fellowship of the church are always possible.)
- C. Classis returned to Open Session.

Art. 7698 – Classis Leadership Team (Classis Interim Committee) – Rev. Mark Jicinsky, reporting

- A. Rev. Mark Jicinsky reported on the work of the Classis Leadership Team.
- B. **Motion made and supported to approve the work of the Classis Leadership Team.** **Carried**

Art. 7699 – Art. 55 Sacrament Request from Grace Fellowship

- A. In the Fall of 2024, Classis granted Elder Joe Reigstad to be allowed to administer communion as he has been licensed to exhort and is currently perusing training for ministerial ordination in the CRCNA.
- B. Grace Fellowship is requesting that Elder Joe Reigstad be allowed to administer baptism.
- C. **Motion made and supported to allow Elder Joe Reigstad to administer the sacraments, for a period connected to his two-year license to exhort renewal (next due in Fall 2026)** **Carried**

Art. 7700 – Nomination Committee

- A. The following nominations were presented to delegates for voting and approved by Classis:**
- 1. Classis Finance Committee Chair – Rev. David Swinney (Peoria)**
 - 2. Classis Finance Committee Lay Member – Matt Groenendyk (Cedar)**

Art. 7701 – Synod 2026 Delegate Selection

- A. Ballot was presented to delegates for voting. The following slate of delegates is approved:**
- 1. Minister: Rev. Gary Brouwers (Peace Cedar Rapids)**
 - 2. Elder: Drew Ryder (Crossroads Des Moines)**
 - 3. Other Officebearer: Rev. Darren Kornelis (Sully)**
 - 4. Minister Alternate: Rev. Michael Bentley (Trinity St. Louis)**
 - 5. Other Officebearer Alternate: Rev. David Swinney (Peoria)**
- B. Motion made and supported for the Classis Leadership Team to seek nominations for a Deacon or another Elder Delegate.**
- Carried**
- C. After the meeting, the CLT approved the following delegate:**
- 1. Deacon: Nohn Wheagar (Peace Cedar Rapids)**

Art. 7702 – License to Exhort renewals

- A. Motion made and supported to approve the following License to Exhort Renewals (effective Jan. 1, 2026 – Dec. 31, 2027)**
- a. Bryan Bandstra, Larry Hanthorn, Jon Neifert.**

Carried

Art. 7703 – Classis received the following written and verbal reports for information:

- A. Stated Clerk – Rev. Jonathan Spronk**
- 1. Classis notes the following transfers of supervision for the following retired ministers:**
 - a. Rev. Bernard Van Ee has had his supervision transferred from former First CRC, Ripon, CA to Faith CRC, Pella.**
 - b. Rev. James Chiang has had his supervision transferred from Palo Alto CRC, CA to the Chinese Church of Iowa City, IA.**
- B. Classical Ministry Leadership Team – Rev. Darren Kornelis**
- 1. CMLT notes that we are supporting four students currently at Calvin Seminary.**
 - 2. CMLT is working with Rev. Ryan Landt to transfer his ordination from the RCA to the CRCNA and anticipates a Colloquium Doctum this fall.**
- C. Church Counselors**
- 1. Rev. Will Verhoef for Connect Church**

2. Rev. Jonathan Spronk for Prairie City CRC
 - a. Rev. Brad Diekema, recently of First CRC of Mt. Vernon, WA, accepted the call from Prairie City CRC and was installed on Jan. 11, 2026.

Art. 7704 – The following speakers addressed Classis throughout the meeting on behalf of their ministry:

- A. Ms. Mollie Abkes – Midwest B.A.S.I.C. Youth Bible Camp
- B. Rev. Seongjun Kim – Church Beyond Borders
 1. Church Beyond Borders is an English and Korean-language virtual church plant that has developed in the Des Moines metro and has begun in person gatherings.
- C. Rev. Randy Raak – Resonate Midwest Regional Leader and on behalf of the Areopagus Campus Ministry at Iowa State University
- D. Rev. Gary Brouwers – on behalf of the Geneva Campus Ministry at University of Iowa
- E. Mr. Rick Zomer – CRCNA Faith Formation Consultant – Christian Parenting and Caregiver Initiative
- F. Rev. Christian Sebastia – Classis Rocky Mountain and Houston area church planter
- G. Rev. Zach King – General Secretary of the CRCNA

Art. 7705 – Written reports from Denominational Boards and Ministries received for information:

- A. Zach King – Spring Classis Meeting Letter
- B. Calvin University BOT January 2026 Report
- C. Calvin Seminary BOT Spring 2026 Report
- D. Reframe Ministries
- E. Trudy Ash – Thrive Playlist
- F. CRCNA Council of Delegates Highlights
- G. Dordt University

Art. 7706 – Recognition of Rev. Doug Vander Pol

- A. Classis recognized and thanked Rev. Doug Vander Pol for his years of Stated Supply service to Bethel CRC, Oskaloosa. Rev. Vander Pol will finish at Bethel at the end of July 2026.

Art. 7707 – Rev. Michael Bentley closed the Classis meeting in prayer.

Art. 7708 – Classis adjourned.

Next regular session of Classis will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 18 and 19, 2026 at Prairie City CRC, Prairie City, IA. Agenda materials are due to statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com by August 15, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jonathan Spronk - Stated Clerk, Central Plains

Classis Central Plains
 Budget
 2026 - 2027

	Actual 25-26	Requested 26-27	Pledged 26-27
Student Fund	\$11,000	\$23,000	\$23,000
Home Missions			
Committee Expense	\$200	\$200	\$200
Geneva Campus Ministries	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Areopagus Ministries	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
New Life Prison	\$16,500	\$16,500	\$16,500
Total	\$59,700	\$59,700	\$59,700
Dordt University	\$71,650	\$169,596	\$71,650
Church Development Grant	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
New Church Plant	\$4,500	\$15,000	\$15,000
Classis Expense			
Travel Expense	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Classis Meals	\$750	\$750	\$750
Printing, Postage	\$50	\$50	\$50
Treasurer Bond	\$100	\$100	\$100
Conferences	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750
Clerk	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Treasurer	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Total	\$11,150	\$11,150	\$11,150
Total	\$160,000	\$280,446	\$182,500
Total active professing members		2367	
Ministry shares per member		\$118.48	

Clasiss Central Plains
Balance Sheet
As of February 28, 2026

	Feb 28, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Cash	101,805.98
Total Checking/Savings	101,805.98
Total Current Assets	101,805.98
TOTAL ASSETS	101,805.98
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Fund Balance	
Designated fund balance - NCP	26,500.00
Undesignated fund balance	97,243.76
Total Fund Balance	123,743.76
Retained Earnings	2,682.33
Net Income	-24,620.11
Total Equity	101,805.98
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	101,805.98

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Accrual Basis

Clasiss Central Plains
Profit & Loss
March 2025 through February 2026

	<u>Mar '25 - Feb 26</u>
Income	
Interest Income	168.56
Ministry Shares	162,762.87
Total Income	<u>162,931.43</u>
Expense	
Classis expense fund	
Classis meeting expense	639.71
Office expense	159.37
Stated Clerk fee	4,000.00
Travel	1,602.46
Treasurer fee	3,000.00
Total Classis expense fund	<u>9,401.54</u>
Dordt University	71,650.00
Home missions	
Areopagus	13,000.00
Geneva Campus Ministry	30,000.00
New Life Prison Church	16,500.00
Total Home missions	<u>59,500.00</u>
New church plant fund	25,000.00
Student fund	
Brett Erickson	5,500.00
Christopher Brown	5,500.00
Michelle De Bruin	5,500.00
Ryan Bouwkamp	5,500.00
Total Student fund	<u>22,000.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>187,551.54</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-24,620.11</u></u>

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Accrual Basis

Clasiss Central Plains
Sales by Customer Summary
March 2025 through February 2026

	<u>Mar '25 - Feb 26</u>
Bethel CRC	5,600.00
Calvary CRC	22,612.12
Cedar	1,860.72
Chinese Church of Iowa City	3,500.00
Christian Church	2,000.00
Connect Church	5,000.00
Cornerstone Church	9,370.00
Crossroad Fellowship	13,128.00
Faith	26,803.25
FIRST	18,000.00
Grace Fellowship	5,721.75
Korean	1,400.00
Newton CRC	2,000.00
Peace CRC	3,785.28
Peoria CRC	13,462.00
sully	23,100.00
Tracy	4,000.00
Trinity	1,419.75
TOTAL	<u><u>162,762.87</u></u>