

MINUTES OF CLASSIS CENTRAL PLAINS

Meeting at Tracy CRC, Tracy IA

Saturday, September 22, 2018

Art. 7422 - Constituting Classis

A. Roll call indicates the following delegates are present:

<u>CHURCHES</u>	<u>MINISTERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>DEACONS</u>
Cedar		Matthew Groenendyk Calvin Rozenboom	
Cedar Rapids, Peace Iowa City, Chinese Iowa City, Geneva Leighton Newton	Gary Brouwers Tom Wolthuis Richard Loerop*	Russ Marcus Ed Meinders Aaron Gunsaulus Kyle Reynolds	Sharon Everts Wugen Dai* Calvin Vande Voort Collin Reynolds
Newton, New Life Oskaloosa, Bethel	Rick Admiraal	Mike Veenstra Alan Van Waardhuizen	Russel Terpstra
Oskaloosa, First Osk., Good News Pella, Calvary Pella, Faith Pella, First Pella, Grace Fellow. Pella, Second Peoria Prairie City Saint Louis, Trinity Sully Tracy West Des Moines, Crossroads Fellowship	Jon Spronk Sheldon Starkenburg Ryan Faber Brad Meinders Paul Bradford* George Den Oudsten Michael Bentley Brian Ochsner	Harold De Bruin* Harold Van Wyk Ron Groenenboom Ralph De Haan Virgil Jansen Jon Van Woerkom Jim Warden Gene Steenhoek Jeff Pastoor* Doug Veenstra Tom Vos Kevin Vryhof	Ryan Brink* Scott Roose* Courtney De Ronde* Jerry Janssen Jodi Tukker Robert Rus John Fultz* Jason Lowry* Brad Ozinga Logan Kingma*

• First time delegates who signed the Covenant for Officebearers

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

Chair:	Rev. Gary Brouwers
Vice-Chair:	Rev. Tom Wolthuis
Stated Clerk:	Rev. Ryan Faber

B. The chair welcomed the following visitors throughout the course of the classis meeting:

Piet Van Waarde, interim pastor at Grace Fellowship, Pella
Doug van de Pol, pastor of Bethel, Oskaloosa
Tyler Helfers, Areopagus (ISU)
Peter Kelder, Resonate Global Mission
Rose Admiraal, Office of Social Justice (CRCNA)
Carol Van Klompenburg, World Renew

Art. 7423 - Jeremy Engbers (candidate for licensure to exhort) opened with devotions and prayer.

Art. 7424 - Examination of Jeremy Engbers for licensure to exhort.

- A. Practica ~ Rev. Brad Bierma led practica examination.
- B. Biblical-Theological ~ John C. Roose led biblical-theological examination.
- C. The chair declares executive session.
- D. In executive session - Motion made and supported to grant Mr. Engbers licensure to exhort within the bounds of Classis Central Plains for one year (through December 31, 2019).
Motion carried.
- E. Classis returns to open session. The chair announces classis' decision and offers prayer for Mr. Engbers.

Art. 7425 - Licensure Renewal Requests

- A. Motion made and supported to renew the following persons' license to exhort within the bounds of Classis Central Plains for two years (through December 31, 2020): Nathan Schelhaas; Royce Spoelstra; Joel Vander Molen.
Motion carried.

Art. 7426 - Nominating Committee

- A. Classis elected the following persons:

Stated Clerk - Rev. Jon Spronk (First, Oskaloosa)
Alt. Stated Clerk - Rev. Brad Bierma (Calvary, Pella)
Interim Committee - Ivan Mulder* (Calvary, Pella)
Home Missions Committee - Russ Marcus (Peace, Cedar Rapids)
Home Missions Committee - Tim Franje* (Peoria)
Diaconal Committee - Al Kopaska* (First, Pella)
Diaconal Committee - Scott Roose (Calvary, Pella)
Continuing Education Committee - Bruce Nikkel* (Faith, Pella)
Finance Committee - Calvin Bandstra* (Peoria)
Church Visitors (Team 1) - Steve Ver Meer (Calvary, Pella)
Church Visitors (Team 2) - Rev. Rich Loerop (Leighton/Tracy)
Church Visitors (Team 2) - Aaron Gunsaulus (Newton)
Church Visitors (Team 3) - Mike Rye (Crossroads, West Des Moines)

Art. 7427 - Counselors' Reports

- A. Written reports were received from the counselors for Leighton, Tracy, and Second, Pella for information. Rev. Richard Loerop has been installed as pastor of Leighton-Tracy; Rev. Paul Bradford has been installed as pastor of Second, Pella. This concludes the work of their respective counselors.

Art. 7428 - Treasurer's Report

- A. Written and verbal reports received for information.

Art. 7249 - Finance Committee

- A. Overture from Peace, Cedar Rapids

1. Motion made and supported to not accede to the first and third requests in the overture. Motion carried.
2. Motion made and supported to not accede to the second request in the overture. Motion carried.
3. Motion made and supported to not accede to the fourth request in the overture. Motion carried.

B. The proposed FY2019 budget was received for information. Churches are asked to consider pledged giving at \$103.50/member for FY2019. Please submit your pledge for FY2019 to the finance committee via the Stated Clerk (statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com) by December 15, 2018.

Art. 7250 - Classical Ministry Leadership Team (Student Fund)

A. Motion made and supported:

1. To instruct the treasurer to retain any and all unused portions of the student fund budget as funds designated for the purpose of supporting students.
2. That future classis budgets allocate money to be added to these funds designated for the purpose of supporting students. (This budget allocation would be independent of disbursements of the designated funds and not be connected to any named student.)
3. That disbursements from these designated funds be approved by classis, or its interim committee, upon recommendation from the CMLT. Motion carried.

B. Motion made and supported to forgive all previous loans granted within Classis Central Plains that were not repaid according to the current policy. Motion carried.

C. Motion made and supported to instruct the CMLT to contact previous loan recipients who can be contacted, informing them of the forgiveness of their loans and asking them to contribute to classis' support of future students. Motion defeated.

D. Motion made and supported to move from a loan to a scholarship approach for funding students for ministry, retaining the rest of the requirements as set by classis. Motion carried.

Art. 7251 - The following persons addressed classis:

- A. Carol Van Klompenburg (World Renew)
- B. Rose Admiraal (Office of Social Justice)
- C. Tyler Helfers (Areopagus)
- D. Peter Kelder (Resonate Global Mission)

Art. 7252 - Rev. Gary Brouwers closed the morning session in prayer.

Art. 7253 - Classical Interim Committee

A. Motion made and supported to adopt the following meeting schedule, to begin in 2019, and instruct the Stated Clerk to revise the classical rules of procedure accordingly: the second Saturday of February (8am-noon); the third Thursday of May (7-9pm); and the third Saturday of September (8am-???) Motion carried.

Note: The September meeting should always include a continuing education portion to which all officebearers in classis and the public are invited. Should there be need to examine a candidate for the ministry of the Word at the September classis meeting, this will take place at an additional meeting on the Friday evening prior to classis.

Art. 7254 - Church Health Team

A. Motion made and supported:

1. To increase the the frequency of church visits to yearly visits to comply with Church Order article 42a;
 2. To increase the number of church visitor teams from 3 to 4 (from 6 to 8 visitors);
 3. To remove mandatory term limits on church visitors, retaining a vote of affirmation at the end of each 3-year term;
 4. To provide training for each church visitor, including using the following resources;
How Your Church Family Works (Peter Steinke)
A New Way of Church Visiting document (CRCNA)
 5. To appoint the church health team to nominate to classis those who will serve as church visitors.
- Motion carried.

B. Motion made and supported to:

1. Affirm the development (and/or refinement) of a stated ministry plan for our classis;
 2. To instruct the CIC in cooperation with the Church Health Team to appoint a team to find out what a ministry plan entails and looks like, with the goal of Classis receiving this information by our second 2019 meeting so Classis Central Plains can determine what it takes to develop a ministry plan for Classis Central Plains.
 3. Send the appointed team to participate in a gathering, tentatively scheduled for March 2019 in Des Moines.
 4. Set aside time at the meeting directly after the gathering in order to hear a report from the appointed team and explore any recommendations or considerations for moving forward.
 5. Fund this team's expenses to attend the gathering, tentatively scheduled for March 2019, on behalf of classis, up to \$1000. (Estimated cost for 4 persons to participate is \$750.)
- Motion carried.

Art. 7255 - Classical Diaconal Committee

A. Motion made and supported:

1. That the Diaconal Committee be disbanded.
2. That Classis ask the Classis Mission Committee to continue to support short term mission trips/work trips.
3. That Classis make a decision regarding the role of the Coordinator of Diaconal Ministries.
4. That the current phone line be discontinued.

B. Motion made and supported to refer the above motion to the team appointed to investigate a ministry plan for classis (Minute 7255 B). Motion carried.

Art. 7256 - The following written reports were received for information:

- A. Classical Interim Committee
- B. Church Health Committee
- C. Diaconal Committee
- D. Mission Committee
- E. Classical Ministry Leadership Team (Student Fund)
- F. Finance Committee
- G. Classical Mentor

H. Church Visitors
I. Regional Pastors
J. Synodical Delegate
K. Calvin Seminary
L. Calvin College

Art. 7257 - Mission Committee

- A. Rev. George Den Oudsten shared an update on ministry at Peoria CRC.
- B. Rev. Tom Wolthuis shared an update on ministry at Geneva Campus Ministries.

Art. 7258 - Rev. Tom Wolthuis led in closing devotions and prayer.

Art. 7259 - Classis adjourned.

**Next regular session of Classis Central Plains: Saturday, February 9, 2019. Location TBD.
Please send all agenda materials to statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com by December 31, 2018.**