

MINUTES OF CLASSIS CENTRAL PLAINS

Meeting at Grace Fellowship, Pella, IA
Friday-Saturday, September 24-25, 2021

Friday September 24, 2021

Art. 7523 – Rev. Chris Allen opened with devotions and prayer.

Art. 7524 – Constituting Classis

A. Roll call indicates the following delegates are present:

CHURCH	MINISTER	ELDER	DEACON
CEDAR	John Ritsema	Calvin Rozenboom	Loren Bolkema
PEACE CR	Gary Brouwers	Floyd Wesselink*	Marie Vanourny
GENEVA	Tom Wolthuis	---	---
LEIGHTON	Al Bandstra (Sat.)	Ed Meinders	---
TRINITY STL	Mike Bentley	Tim Yakubu	---
NEW LIFE PRI.	Rick Admiraal	Dave Gritters	Tricia De Haan*
NEWTON	Aaron Gunsaulus	Steve Holwerda*	Nick Vasquez*
I.C. CHINESE	---	---	---
BETHEL OSKY	---	Ken Rozenboom Alan Veenstra*	Taylor Rikken
FIRST OSKY	Jon Spronk (Sat.)	John Ryken (Sat.)*	Brad McMahan
CALVARY	Brad Bierma	Ivan Mulder	Amy Bandstra
FAITH	Brian Ochsner	Claude Zylstra*	Gary Vandenberg (Fri.) Micah Nikkel (Sat.)*
CONNECT	Brad Meinders (Sat.)	Bruce Bandstra*	Cindy Blom*
GRACE	Chris Allen	Linda Groenendyk*	Nathan Blonk
PEORIA	George Den Oudsten	Larry Roozenboom	Calvin Bandstra*
CORNERSTONE	Paul Bradford	Les Nieuwsma*	---
PRAIRIE CITY	---	---	---
SULLY	---	Curt Vos* Brent Rolffs*	Jamie Van Kooten (Fri.) John De Berg (Sat.)*
TRACY	---	---	Dwain Holmes (Sat.)
CROSSROADS	Mark Jicinsky	Rodney Spoelstra	Laura Meyer

*First time delegates who signed the Covenant for Officebearers

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

Chair: Rev. Chris Allen

Vice-Chair: Rev. Mark Jicinsky

Stated Clerk: Rev. Brad Bierma (Friday); Rev. Jonathan Spronk (Saturday)

C. The chair welcomed the following Synodical Deputies:

Rev. Wendell Davelaar (Classis Northcentral Iowa)

Rev. Roger Sparks (Classis Minnkota)

Rev. Todd Zuidema (Classis Heartland)

Rev. Davelaar and Rev. Sparks attend the meeting via zoom.

Art. 7525 – Church Order Art. 23 – Approval of Commissioned Pastor Position

A. **Motion made and supported to approve that the calling of Calvary CRC for the position of Chaplain at Vermeer is in keeping with synodical guidelines for Commissioned Pastors. The position is to be filled by Mr. Dan Van Kooten.**

Carried

B. The synodical deputies concurred.

- a. One additional note is included on the synodical deputies' report: *Dan's past education and experience have prepared him for this new work. In consultation with David Koll and Calvary CRC, it was decided that additional education to qualify him for this role is not needed.*

Art. 7526 – Church Order Art. 23 - Examinations of Dan Van Kooten for Ordination as Commissioned Pastor

A. Practica

- a. Rev. Gary Brouwers led practica examination.
- b. Motion made and supported to proceed with the examination.**

Carried

B. Sermon Evaluation

- a. Rev. Will Verhoef and Mr. Greg Westra give the sermon evaluators report
- b. Motion made and supported to proceed with the examination.**

Carried

C. Biblical-Theological

- a. Rev. George Den Oudsten led the biblical-theological examination.

D. The chair declares Executive Session.

E. In Executive Session:

- a. Prayer for guidance from the Holy Spirit is offered.
- b. Motion made and supported to sustain Mr. Dan Van Kooten in his examination for ordination as Commissioned Pastor.**

Carried

F. Classis returned to open session. The chair announced classis' decision approving Dan Van Kooten as a Commissioned Pastor for the Christian Reformed Church. Ordination date is October 3, 2021 and will take place at Calvary CRC, Pella, IA.

Art. 7527 – The following speaker addressed Classis on behalf of their ministries:

A. Rev. Todd Zuidema – Dordt University

Art. 7528 – The evening session is closed with prayer.

Saturday, September 24, 2021

Art. 7529 – Rev. Chris Allen opened with devotions and prayer.

Art. 7530 – Finance Committee – Don DeWaard, Classis Treasurer, reporting.

A. Treasurer's Report was received for information.

B. Motion made and supported to approve the proposed FY2022 budget.

Carried

C. Churches are asked to consider pledged giving for Classis Central Plains at \$100.30/member for FY2022. Please submit your pledge for FY2022 to the stated clerk (statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com) by December 15, 2021.

Art. 7531 – Classis received the following written reports for information:

A. Classical Leadership Team (Interim Committee)

B. Classical Missions Committee

C. Classical Ministry Leadership Team (Student Fund)

D. Church Visitors

Art. 7532 – Nominations Committee

A. The following positions are voted via ballot and approved by Classis:

a. Synodical Deputy: Rev. Brad Meinders (second term)

b. Alternate Synodical Deputy: Rev. Sheldon Starkenburg (second term)

c. CRC Council of Delegates: Rev. Thomas Wolthuis

d. Stated Clerk: Rev. Jonathan Spronk

e. Alternate Stated Clerk: Rev. Brad Bierma

f. Treasurer: Don De Waard

g. Classis Leadership Team: Fran De Haan, Brad Van Kooten

h. Classis Missions Committee: Rev. George Den Oudsten, Rev. Johnlo Xu, Dave Gritters

i. Classis Finance Committee: Keith De Bruin, Cal Rozenboom

j. Classis Ministry Leadership Team: Greg Westra, Royce Spoelstra

k. Church Visitors: Rev. Tom Vos, Rev. Kevin Vryhof

Art. 7533 – Demonstration of new Classis database.

A. Mr. Rodney Spoelstra demonstrated to Classis the new database that will host Classis files. It is via Office 365 and will be hosted by Crossroads CRC.

Art. 7534 – Church Counselors report

- A. Rev. George Den Oudsten gives the counselor's report for Faith CRC that Rev. Brian Oschner has accepted the call to Faith and was installed this past month.
- B. Rev. Jon Spronk gives a verbal report of counselor's report for Tracy CRC and Leighton CRC.
- C. Rev. Brad Bierma has been appointed by the Classis Leadership Team to be the counselor for Sully CRC.

Art. 7535 – Mentor for Mr. Dan Van Kooten

- A. Classis instructed the Regional Pastors to inquire with Dan Van Kooten to determine if a vocational mentor is needed as a newly ordained Commissioned Pastor.

Art. 7536 – Verbal Communications from Churches

- A. Cedar CRC will be celebrating an 80th Anniversary service on Sept. 26.
- B. New Life Prison Church will have a worship service on October 3 to ordain a new elder and deacon.

Art. 7537 – The following speakers addressed Classis on behalf of their ministries:

- A. Mr. Jeff Bolt – CRCNA Ministry Shares –
 - a. Mr. Bolt reminded the delegates that pledges for denominational ministry shares need to be sent to the Classis clerk or treasurer by Jan. 31, 2022.
- B. Pastor Juan Sierra – Global Coffee Break
- C. Ms. Carol Van Klompenberg – World Renew
- D. Mr. Tyler Helpers – Areopagus Campus Ministry

Art. 7538 – Rev. Chris Allen closed in Prayer.

Art. 7539 – Classis adjourned.

Next regular session of Classis will be held on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022 at Faith CRC, Pella.
Agenda materials are due to statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com by Jan. 15, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jonathan Spronk

Stated Clerk, Central Plains

Classis Central Plains			
Budget Proposal			
2022-2023			
	Actual	Requested	Pledged
Student Fund	21-22	22-23	22-23
Total	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Home Missions			
Committee Expense	\$200	\$200	
Geneva Campus Ministries	\$22,000	\$23,500	
Areopagus Ministries	\$10,500	\$12,000	
New Life Prison	\$16,000	\$16,500	
Total	\$48,700	\$52,200	\$0
Dordt University	\$80,150	\$165,380	
Church Development Grant	\$2,000	\$2,000	
New Church Plant	\$9,000	\$4,500	
Classis Expense			
Travel Expense	\$2,500	\$2,500	
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	\$11,150	\$11,150	\$0
Total	\$161,000	\$245,230	\$0
Total active professing members		2445	
Ministry shares per member		\$100.30	