

Executive Committee: January 7, 2019

1. Call to Order by President Kate Meyer with devotions and prayer
2. Officer Reports
 - a) Treasurer (Marylynn)
 - Hiawatha property sold to Harbour Light Baptist church, land contract for \$1,000/month over 7 years.
 - Classis will use that income to pay off the Haven Shores debt.
 - Budget comparison shows some differences based on:
 - crisis expenses
 - new coordinator
 - consistory workshop
 - Latino workshop
 - Extra money for committees is usually carried over for Church Multiplication, but given our anticipated unbudgeted expenses for 2019, perhaps we should not carry over as much.
 - Motion: that \$38,143.31 not be carried over to 2019 CMT budget. M/S/C APPROVED
 - b) Coordinator/Clerk (Dan)
 - Minutes from September XC meeting will be distributed for approval at the next XC meeting.
 - Motion: to send an email to the classis, detailing the transition of coordinator/clerk from Larry Schuyler to Dan Griswold. M/S/C APPROVED
 - c) President (Kate)
 - Motion: to propose to the classis at its January session that we cancel the March stated session. M/S/C APPROVED
 - If canceling the March meeting yields positive results, the Executive Committee will likely ask the OJB to prepare changes to the classis bylaws that would eliminate the March stated session.
 - d) Vice President (Judy)
 - Judy will attend an event in Phoenix January 21–24, connected with the RCA's 2020 task force.

3. Committee Reports

a) Stewardship & Finance (Bill)

- Next steps on Marylynn's successor. Bill's had some preliminary interviews. He wants to have the new coordinator participate in the hiring.

b) Student Support & Supervision (Larry reporting on behalf of Phil)

- The committee has received requests to come under care from four or five students; the committee will be interviewing them soon.
- The committee will meet soon to plan the May examination session.

c) Church Support & Supervision (Jeanette)

- Consistory workshop, perhaps March 9.
- Dissolution of pastoral relationship with the following churches:
 1. Christ Memorial Church and Ross Dieleman
 2. Beechwood Church and Austin Vondracek
 3. Beechwood Church and Dawn Vagle
 4. Rose Park and Dave van Opstall
 5. Intersection Ministries and Jeff Meyer (CRC minister)
- Calls approved
 1. Ross Dieleman to Fellowship Reformed
 2. Phil Quinn and Deb Yurk as co-pastors Trinity Reformed Church (installation was January 6)
- Beechwood Church – approved a part time contract with Marlin Vis
- Rose Park - appointed Ken Eriks as supervisor
- Report on supersession of Fourth Church
 - Supersession team has been busy, meeting on an average of twice a month.
 - Memoranda of Understanding with all organizations using the church building have been written.
 - Sale of parsonage: assessment has been made.
 - Church memberships are being transferred to Third Reformed Church.
 - Both church secretary and custodian continue to work on part time basis.
 - Repairs to the church building are ongoing. Insurance will pay for floor covering to be replaced once the water problems have been resolved.

- d) Minister Support & Supervision (David)
 - Status of ongoing care for DeGraaf family.
 - Various ministerial transitions, already named under CSS.
 - David will be going off this committee following the January committee meeting.
 - e) Commissioned Pastor Support & Supervision (no report)
 - f) Church Multiplication Team: New church starts (Toby)
 - Working on various challenges, including the resignation of Enrique Cuevas from Alas Aguila-Allendale.
 - BLVD is doing well, exceeding projected numbers for attendance and stewardship.
 - g) Overtures & Judicial Business (Cindi)
 - Recommendations re: proposed amendments will be presented at January stated session.
 - h) Nominations
 - committee has not met in some time
4. January Stated Session
- Important agenda items to include:
 1. consent agenda
 2. Jeanette's CSS report can be written, except for the supersession report
 3. there will likely be student candidates introduced
 4. some sort of passing of the baton
 5. installation of Kate, Judy, and Dan
5. New Business
- May stated session scheduled for May 28 at Hope Church.
 - ExComm meeting: April 30, 4:00 pm, classis office.
 - Question about parameters for worship at stated sessions given to hosting churches.
 - Kate will draft something and share it with the Executive Committee
6. Adjournment
- Kate adjourned the meeting with prayer at 5:41 p.m.

Church Multiplication Team

See CMT report in the Executive Committee report (above).

Church Support & Supervision Committee

November 15, 2018

1. Call to Order. Prayer. Jeanette offered prayer as she called the meeting to order.
2. Does anything need to be added to the agenda? NO
3. Approve: Minutes of the October 17, 2018 meeting. Note> The minutes were lost.
4. Church updates
 - a) Rose Park – Dissolution of Dave Van Opstall. Action> Paperwork was completed at the consistory on Nov. 7. Ken Eriks appointed as supervisor. La Roca church rental
 - b) Fellowship: Transition, update. Action> Larry met with Barb Eriks who set forth the plan. Church wants to do three calls to pastors Nate, Lindsay, and Ross Dieleman. Congregation meeting on Dec. 2. We want to do interviews when Dan Griswold is present. Sandra will attend the dissolution.
 - c) Trinity Church: Phil and Deb co-pastors. Congregational meeting on Nov. 18 to endorse the plan for the co-pastorate. Judy N will be present for the dissolution and call.
 - d) Beechwood: Dawn Vagle is leaving. Marlin Vis joining staff.
 - e) Embody Christ Fellowship: Jennifer Ryden is now a chaplain at Hope College. Sandra is working on getting in contact with Jennifer.
 - f) Intersection Ministries: Jeff Meyer leaving; this is CRC process. We will appoint a classis supervisor to assist the church. Possible candidates are Sharon Arendshorst, Larry will work with Don J to secure a supervisor and work with transition, appoint a supervisor and change the church from Federated to a Union church model.
 - g) Christ Memorial: Ross Dieleman is leaving.
 - h) Alas de Aguila-Allendale
 - i) Central Park would like to share their facility with another congregation.
 - j) others
5. Update from Fourth Church Supersession team
6. New Business
 - a) On classis report, remind churches that contracts of ministers are to be approved by CSS.
 - b) Talk with the classis about what the NC4 supersession team is doing.
 - c) Terry and MaryKay will follow-up with Maplewood, likely in December.
7. Churches prayer requests.
8. Topic for next time: Will we host a Consistory workshop in February/March?
9. Next Meeting dates

December 3, 2018: CSS/MSS meeting with Rev. Ross Dieleman

1. Larry called the meeting to order and offered prayer.
2. The group introduced itself to Ross (and one another).
3. The call to Ross from Fellowship Church (entry interview)
4. The dissolution of the call to Christ Memorial (exit interview)
5. Motion to Approve the Call. M/S/C to approve the calls from the Fellowship Consistory to Rev. Lindsay Small, Rev. Nate Schipper, and Rev. Ross Dieleman. **APPROVED**
6. Prayer of blessing. Chuck Kulier offered prayer for these calls, and the churches and ministers affected by them.
7. Group adjourned at 5pm.

December 20, 2018

1. We enjoyed treats and one another's company at this special meeting.
2. Call to Order. Jeanette offered prayer.
3. We sang "Happy Birthday" to Dan.
4. We approved the minutes for the November meeting. We approved with some corrections.
APPROVED
5. Fellowship Church. We formally ended the appointment of Jon Brown as Classis supervisor.
6. Beechwood. MSC to Approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between Dawn and the Church. Approved.
7. Intersection Ministries. Jeff Meyer is leaving. We appoint Dan Griswold as the Classis Supervisor for the period between now and the installation of Amy and Tito. What happens to Pastor Joseph is under the watchful eye of Dan. Jeanette has been involved with earlier discussions. We will assist them to become a union church. APPROVED
8. Trinity Church. Letters of acceptance read and response from consistory. Installation set for January 6. We formally conclude the appointment of Larry as supervisor.
9. Rose Park consistory requests Ken Eriks as Classis Supervisor. Terry was present the congregation meeting. MSC to appoint Ken as Classis Supervisor. APPROVED
10. Christ Memorial Church. We approved the dissolution of pastoral Relationship of Ross Dieleman.
11. Fourth Church. BLVD board asks to confirm the April 1 timetable. Supersession team approves this request.

12. Consistory Workshop. Coordinator directed to present ideas for the workshop at the next meeting.
13. Aaron VanderVeen has announced his intention to leave Maplewood Reformed Church.
14. Thanked Larry for his service on the committee. We thank Nick for his service on the committee as well. Nick will continue on the supersession team.
15. Adjourn with prayer.

Commissioned Pastor Support & Supervision Committee

No report.

Minister Support & Supervision Committee

October 1, 2018

1. Call to Order and Prayer. Action> Psalm 62 was read.
2. Review and approval of minutes from our August 28 meeting.
3. Ministers seeking membership in our classis.
Action> We did receive Carolyn Raar at the September 25 Classis session, and we did receive Marlin Vis that evening also.
4. Change in Minister Status.
 - i. Mark Poppen. Classis approved declaring him “retired.” Action> David brought the motion to the classis because we learned this news/request late.
 - ii. Eric Nichols. Designated as a minister-without-charge.
 - iii. JP Sundararajan is now the “Director of RCA Missions.” Specialized minister-denomination staff. That changes his status from RCA missionary.
 - iv. Katy Sundararajan’s status changes from RCA Missionary to SpMin-Education with her position at WTS.
 - v. Lindsay Bona has a new position as VP of Mission and Spiritual Care for Advocate Children’s Hospital in Chicago. She would like to remain in our classis for the present time.
 - vi. Ciela Ledbetter-Guckian has remarried. Her name is now Ciela Tonge.
5. Transfer request. Jim Heneveld request transfer to the North Michigan Classis RCA. He has sold his house here and moved to the Ellsworth area. Action> Approve the transfer.
Action> Austin Vondracek. Accepted a call to Rosewood Church. We approve transfer to the Great Lakes City Classis.
6. David VanOpstall – Pastor at Rose Park Church. Change is in the works. Just found out today. More details at our meeting. Action> CSS Committee will work on the severance package. MSS recommends Minister-to-Minister retreat for Rev. VanOpstall.
7. Care Plan for the DeGraaf family/Chris.
8. Ordination Applications. None received

9. Minister Breakfast – November 13 7:30am at WTS Maas Hall. Announcement. Action> Larry will give the “Top Ten Things I Learned about being the Classis Coordinator” Due November 6.

October 30, 2018

1. Call to Order and Prayer.
2. Review and approval of minutes from our October 1 meeting.
3. Change in Minister Status.
 - i. Ciela Tonge is requesting to be declared “Retired.” **Action**> We declare her retired now and report this action to the Classis in January.
 - ii. The transfer of Smirna Postmus to Classis of the Americas should finally completed.
 - iii. Grace Miguel is missing (in AZ apparently) and not responding to contact efforts. Classis of Americas doesn’t know her.
4. Transfer request. **Action**> We transferred Austin Vondracek to the Great Lakes City Classis earlier this month.
5. David VanOpstall – Pastor at Rose Park Church. Dave has agreed to a November 30 conclusion to his service at RP. We declare him a minister-without-charge after he leaves his position at Rose Park.
6. Care Plan for the DeGraaf family/ Chris. Approve using the funds offered to the DeGraafs for local counseling services.
7. Ordination Applications. **Action**> None
8. Minister Breakfast – November 13, 7:30am at WTS Maas Hall. Who all do we want to invite? We have received responses from non-ministers.
9. Adjourn. Charles offered closing prayer.

December 3, 2018

1. Call to Order and Prayer. **Action**> David called the meeting to order and offered prayer.
2. 4:00pm > Meet with the Church S&S committee to interview Ross Dieleman.
3. Review and approval of minutes from our October 30 meeting.. **APPROVED with corrections**
4. Ministers seeking membership in our classis.
 - a. Tito Venegas to be received into Holland Classis. Classis Examination needed. **M/S/C** to authorize the Classis Coordinator to establish an exam time and proceed with receiving Tito into the Classis. **APPROVED**

- b. Dan Griswold transfer from Rochester. We asked Dan the question. He comes to be the coordinator of the Classis. **M/S/C** to receive Dan into Holland Classis. **APPROVED**
- 5. Change in Minister Status.
 - i. Tom Boogaart requests to be declared “Retired” as of January 1, 2019. **M/S/C** to declare him retired and notify the Classis. **APPROVED**
 - ii. Larry Schuyler requests to be declared “Retired” as of January 1, 2019. Larry is joining the staff of the Central Reformed Church in Grand Rapids MI in a part-time position. **M/S/C** to declare him retired notify the Classis. **APPROVED**
 - iii. Dawn Vagle requests to be declared “Without Charge” as of January 1, 2019. **M/S/C** her status is without-charge. **APPROVED**
 - iv. Jeff Meyer no longer a member of classis since he is leaving Intersection. **Action**> we recognize he is dismissed. **APPROVED**
- 6. Letter of Demission from Wayne Bowerman. **M/S/C** approved his request to demit from ministry and **recommend** Classis approve this action. **Action**> We will acknowledge to the classis that no disciplinary action is behind this action. Wayne took this action at his own initiative for his own reasons.
- 7. Review the Minister Breakfast event. Good event. Should have been better attended. We thank Beth for her work at hosting the event.
- 8. Ordination Application. Joel Boersma submits his application for ordination. **M/S/C** we approve application and authorize the Coordinator that once the written contract is received, to negotiate the date and place for ordination.
- 9. Next meeting. Propose January 22. That would be the normal date for our meeting. **APPROVED**
- 10. Closing prayer offered by Larry Schuyler

Nominations Committee

No report.

Overtures & Judicial Business Committee

November 28, 2018

- 1. Cindi called the meeting to order and offered prayer.
- 2. The Proposed Amendments to the RCA Constitution. The OJB committee offers advice to the Classis on how to vote for each proposal. See the attachment for details on each proposal.
 - 1) Classes Authorized to Vote on Constitution Amendments. We agree with the proposed amendments and will advise the classis to vote in favor.
 - 2) Regional Synod Formation of Classes. We agree with this proposal and advise the classis to vote in favor of proposal.
 - 3) Consistory Responsibility of Costs Borne by Minister: We are troubled by the possibility of a minister’s family taking advantage of the church, while we recognize that the

proposal addresses the church taking advantage of the minister. Our other issue is the fact that the variety of forms of insurance (tradition vs High-deductible HSA) is not addressed in the Call form. This is step toward better equity for pastors. It doesn't address the issues of insurance possibilities. We advise classis approval of these BCO changes primarily because they are a step in the right direction.

3. Overtures. Action > None
4. Adjournment at 6:15pm. Prayer was offered by Cindi.

Stewardship & Finance Committee

No meeting since last stated session of classis.

Student Support & Supervision Committee

October 11, 2018

1. Call to Order by Phil who offered prayer.
2. Meetings/interviews with students seeking to come under care: Eugene (Gene) Ryan, Trey Tirpak, Allysa Meuhmel, and Katherine (Katie) Alley. The committee decided to receive each of these under care.
3. Confidential discussions regarding particular candidates.
4. Date for Practice of Ministry. We chose Thursday, November 29, 3pm – 5pm at the seminary for our meeting date. We will schedule 20-minute interviews with seniors.
5. Adjourn with prayer.

November 29, 2018

1. Call to Order by Phil who offered prayer.
2. Discussion of correspondence from a member of classis.
3. Enrique Cuevas has resigned from the Allendale church pastorate and from the care of the classis. M/S/C to release him being under care of the Classis. APPROVED
4. Meetings with students and discussion of their case studies: Nathan Longfield, Tim DeCamp, Alex Arthurs, Emmett Brown, and Laurel Pals.
5. Adjourned at 5:40 pm.

December 3, 2018

1. Call to Order by Phil who offered prayer.
2. Followup reports on a few items before the committee.
3. We need time as a committee to think through how we will do better with the “Practice of Ministry” exam. Izzy volunteered to research the history of the exam, and perhaps make suggests so that candidates can better anticipate this exam and the committee can prepare better questions.
4. Meetings with students and discussion of their case studies: Cassie Nelson-Rogalski, Qiaoqiao Chen, Rebecca Cooper, Kyle Lake, and Matt Nelson-Rogalski. Leigh offered prayer
5. Next meeting date is January 24, starting at 3:00pm. We have four candidates who are looking forward to meeting the committee to come under care.
6. We adjourned at 5:20pm.

END OF COMMITTEE REPORTS