

Executive Committee: January 7, 2019

1. Call to Order

- Kate called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm with a prayer drawn from *Prayers for Healing* and with an epistle reading. She offered devotional reflection on our privilege of being able to bring to God all our hurts and challenges, and the blessing of God receiving all that, the big things and the little things. She concluded the devotional time with 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 Dan Griswold participate in the hiring.

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

- The committee has received requests to come under care for 4 or 5 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
- 6. Ross Dieleman to Fellowship Reformed
- 7. Phil Quinn and Deb Yurk as co-pastors Trinity Reformed Church (installation was January 6)
- Beechwood Church - part time contract to 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.

- Rental agreement with Anglican All Saints church (worship on Sunday afternoons).
- Rental agreement to be negotiated with BLVD church plant.
- Sale of parsonage: assessment has been made.
- Church memberships are being held by Third Reformed Church.
- Both church secretary and custodian continue to work on part time basis.
- Repairs to the church building are on going. 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.
- They are gathering RSGL catechism responses.

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.

- 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 their report in the Executive Committee report.

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. Congregation 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. Action> We need to conduct dissolution. Jeanette is attend Beechwood dissolution.
 - e) Embody Christ Fellowship: Jennifer Ryden, left, now a chaplain at Hope College. Sandra is working on getting in contact with Jennifer. She has talked with Dan Gillett about things. Mark Poppen is the “interim” serving there.
 - 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 Aguilas-Allendale
 - i) Central Park would like to share their facility with another congregation.
 - j) others
5. Update from Fourth Church Supersession team. Nick reports.

- a) Many groups using the building. All are paying some amount of “donation” for facility use.
- b) Church has been cleaned of excess “stuff” via a “garage sale.”
- c) Financial shortfall each month, but facility donations help.
- d) All Saints Church is using the sanctuary on Sunday afternoons.
- e) Memberships will move to Third Church at the end of this year.
- f) Will get an appraisal of the parsonage.
- g) Ground water issues. A pump has now been replaced which will reduce ground water. The team will correct the drain inside the church. The insurance company will replace the floor and wall tile.
- h) BLVD directed by their advisory team to not pursue the NC4 building at this time. Will revisit issue in the spring.
- i) Classis treasurer advises us not to have the classis responsible for long-term care of the building.

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

CSS/MSS meeting with Ross Dieleman - Monday, December 3, 2018

- 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)
 - a. Ross is energized by the ministry leadership model (tri-pastorate) that Fellowship is embracing.
 - b. He is looking forward to the opportunity to preach more frequently and lead the vision team at FEL.
 - c. Since his wife is a teacher in West Ottawa school, the family feels like it has a more centered location focus for their lives and will likely relocate their home to the West Ottawa area in the future.
 - d. Ross praises the FEL search team for their process. Ross intends to start employment at FEL on January 7.
- 4. The dissolution from Christ Memorial (Exit interview)
 - a. He has appreciated the affirmation he has received over the years from CM. He has been connected with the church’s ministry for more than 10 years.
 - b. His final Sunday is this week. He will move out of his office soon. He will have vacation time starting in mid-December.

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 the 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. He will continue on the supersession team.
15. Adjourn with prayer. Sandra offered 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. Ministers seeking membership in our classis. Amber Taylor is seeking to transfer into Holland Classis from the Zeeland Classis as a Licensed Candidate. She would then like to be ordained by the Holland Classis. Ordination Application is attached. **Action>** The Zeeland Classis has informed Amber that they will not transfer her as a licensed candidate. Therefore, she chose to withdraw her Application at this time and did not meet with the committee.
- 4. 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.
- 5. Transfer request. **Action>** We transferred Austin Vondracek to the Great Lakes City Classis earlier this month.
- 6. 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.
- 7. Care Plan for the DeGraaf family/ Chris. Approve using the funds offered to the DeGraafs for local counseling services.
- 8. Ordination Applications. **Action>** None

9. Minister Breakfast – November 13, 7:30am at WTS Maas Hall. Who all do we want to invite? We have received responses from non-ministers.
10. 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. Perhaps Angel Lopez could serve as an examiner. This is to be accomplished by the January 29 Classis session. **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 not 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. Call to order. **Action**> 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 hesitantly advise the Classis to approve the proposal.
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. Eugene (Gene) Ryan interview. We agree to receive him under care when we receive the recommendation from Hope Church. He is a first-year student at WTS. He is anticipating pastorate ministry, especially in a rural setting. We enjoyed our time with him. He has an RCA-identity as he was born and raised in the RCA. He is choosing Holland Classis because he lives here. Phil offered prayer. Committee liaison assigned: Ron Bechtel. We approve receiving Gene under care.
3. Trey Tirpak Interview. Grew up in Hawaii at an evangelical church. Graduated from Calvin Seminary. He thought he would pursue education/teaching but discovered the local church ministry and interaction interested him more. He is a second-year student at WTS in the duel track for MSW. Committee liaison assigned: Izzy Rhodes. We approve receiving Trey under care. We will receive a recommendation from Hope Church. Izzy offered prayer. We approved receiving Trey under care.
4. Allysa Meuhmel interview. She grew up in the Detroit area. Baptized in the Catholic Church and became a member of a Baptist church as she matured. Graduate of Calvin College. She is second-year student at WTS and looking into ministry options, especially chaplaincy. She is a member at Fellowship Church. Leigh offered prayer. Committee liaison: Sally Tapley. We approve receiving Allysa under care. We will receive her written application soon.

5. Katherine (Katie) Alley interview. She grew up in NY within a military family. Church was the on-base chapel. She is a graduate of Calvin College. She is a member of Fellowship Church. She is a third-year student at WTS. She worked with YWAP but learned that wasn't where she was called. She enjoys preaching. She wants to have a denominational commitment in which to do ministry. Sally prayed. Committee liaison: Izzy Rhodes. We approve receiving Katie under care. We will receive her written application soon.
6. Counseling Funds for a student. M/S/C that the request for funds be denied. Reason: We do not have the budget to underwrite this request and it is not the type of request that we can address within our budget purpose.
APPROVED
7. 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.
8. Adjourn. Bob offered closing 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 5:40pm.

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 suggestions 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

Holland Classis Committee Reports, Part II

March 26, 2019

1. Executive Committee: March 5, 2019

A. Attendance

- Present: President Kate Meyer, Vice President Judy Nelson, Jeanette Beagley-Koolhaas, Marylynn Redder, Phil Quinn, Dan Griswold.
- Present by conference call: Jeff Elzinga, Cindi Veldheer-DeYoung
- Excused: Toby Gruppen, Bill Paarlberg, Celaine Bouma-Prediger.

B. Call to Order

- Kate called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm with prayer, then read “Ocean” from *Beyond Words* by Fredrick Buechner.
- Approval of Agenda: after some items were added and changed, Motion to approve the agenda.
MSC

C. Officer Reports

1. Treasurer (Marylynn)
 - (a) everybody's assessments are paid through February
 - (b) donations keep coming in for Latino Students Fund
 - (c) Bethel Fund is (as of Jan 31) \$709,000
 - (d) Hiawatha property is paying \$1000/month on land contract, and that money goes back into the Haven Shores debt
 - (e) the budget looks good at this early stage
2. Coordinator/Clerk (Dan)
 - (a) minutes from 8/27 & 1/7 Executive Committee meetings were **Approved by consensus**
 - (b) discussion about installation of officers at the classis meeting
 - (c) the Executive Committee restated that Daniel Griswold's first date of employment was December 2, 2018
 - (d) nominations brought to Executive Committee for their consent

3. President (Kate)

- (a) Discussion of the possibility of having three stated sessions. The weather cancellation of the January 2019 stated session suggests that the classis can survive with only three stated sessions.

4. Vice President (Judy)

- (a) Judy reported on her participation in the Phoenix event in January hosted by the Vision 2020 team
- (b) Discussion about Holland classis president and vice president having 2 year terms; we will continue to have conversation about this at the next executive committee

D. Committee Reports

1. Stewardship & Finance (Dan/Marylynn)

- (a) Bill and Dan will meet soon to talk about hiring a treasurer

2. Student Support & Supervision (Phil)

- (a) several new candidates will be introduced to the classis at the March 26 stated session
- (b) the committee is preparing for April luncheon and May exams
- (c) work proceeds on a committee binder/handbook

3. Church Support & Supervision (Jeanette)

- (a) classis consistory workshop on the sacraments will be held on April 13
- (b) formal action to disband Fourth Reformed Church will be included in the consent agenda
 - August 26 was the closing service
 - Sept 30 was the date of the consistory's last meeting
 - the congregation's membership was transferred on Dec 31
- (c) Marylynn raised cautions about any changes to the name "Fourth Reformed Church" that might affect insurance coverage of the property. Committee agreed that there would be no changes to the name until all insurance issues are resolved.

4. Minister Support & Supervision (Dan)

- (a) Dan reported several changes of status, these listed in the stated session agenda

5. Commissioned Pastor Support & Supervision (Jeff)

- (a) Jeff is wanting to conclude his service as chair of the committee, and is working on finding new leadership for the committee
- (b) Kate encouraged him to do what he needs to do in order to care for himself

6. Church Multiplication Team: New church starts (Dan)

- (a) Dan read a brief report from Toby regarding a classis-wide focus on discipleship; more information will be coming

7. Overtures & Judicial Business (Cindi)
 - (a) Recommendations re: proposed amendments will be presented at March stated session.
8. Nominations
 - (a) committee has not met in some time
 - (b) see committee assignments named in coordinator's report above

E. March Stated Session

1. Draft agenda was reviewed, and corrections were suggested

F. New Business

1. May stated session scheduled for May 28.
2. ExComm meeting: April 30, 4:30 pm, classis office. (Cindi will call in.)

G. Adjournment

1. Kate adjourned the meeting with prayer at 5:31 p.m.

2. Church Support and Supervision Committee: January 17, 2019

A. Attendance

- Present: Jeanette Beagley-Koolhaas, Judy Nelson, Sandra Cammenga, Mary Kay Schoon, Don Jansen, Dan Griswold
- Excused: Terry DeYoung

B. The meeting was opened with prayer by Jeanette at 3:13 pm

C. The minutes of the Dec 3 and Dec 20 (2018) meetings were approved, with corrections, by consensus

D. Discussion of Calvin Worship Symposium grants

- inquiries about these grants have come in
- the committee has been too busy to have considered this in time for this month's symposium
- Jeanette proposes that we consider this at the November meeting, and that we have a policy that the grants are for first time attendees, and maybe for those who don't have resources

E. Information about Charly Peña

- Charly had inquired about funding for a conference
- Toby Gruppen, as chair of the Church Multiplication Team, helped Charly with this request

F. Consistory Workshop

- March 9 possible date?
 - challenges with that date; some large churches have events that date
 - ACTION: Dan will check with Prof. Sue Rozeboom if she is available on March 2
- Location? ACTION: Judy will ask Trinity, once she hears from Dan
- Action: Dan will ask Albany Synod for materials from their event from 2015 (?)
- Workshop topics
 1. how to do frequent communion
 2. children at the table, and teaching children about communion
 3. history of the sacraments (?)
 4. living into our baptism
- Deadlines
 - flyer sent out by Feb 1

G. Church updates

1. Rose Park

- ACTION: Jeanette will ask Rev. Ken Eriks to submit a bi-monthly report

2. Fellowship

- ACTION: Dan will ask for the decision about installation date

3. Trinity

- it was lovely installation service
- the committee discussed ongoing care for previous pastor and his family
- the committee discussed the possibility of facilitating conversations with other ministers engaged in collaborative ministry
- ACTION: Sandra will visit with Revs. Deb Yurk and Phil Quinn

4. Christ Memorial Church

- Sandra and Dan met with Terry Edewaard and Sue Hemmeke (two of CMC's lead elders) on Jan 16
 - lead elders at CMC have conducted a (confidential) survey of the staff
 - Terry and Sue asked Sandra and Dan to meet again in a month or so
 - the committee entertained the idea of this committee facilitating a forum for CMC, perhaps with help from Colossian Forum or local specialized ministers. There needs to be greater definition of this before we proceed

5. Beechwood

- no action needed at this time

6. Intersection Ministries

- things proceeding with plans to examining Tito Venegas for transferring his membership into the RCA and Holland Classis
- appropriate call forms need to be crafted
- Dan anticipates that efforts to make them a union congregation must wait until about June

7. Maplewood

- Dan and Scott Lokers met with the consistory on Jan 7
- Aaron Vanderveen will leave in the spring

8. Maple Avenue

- They did not pay their assessments, so we used their grant to pay their assessments
- ACTION: Dan will ask Marylynn and Larry if MAM has been told of this action, and if not, write to MAM

9. Central Park

- Sandra and Don will attend worship at Central Park Reformed Church on Jan 20

10. Embody

- Sandra will ask Rev. Mark Poppen (interim) how things are going there

11. Update from Fourth Church Supersession Team

- things are proceeding

H. Larry's Retirement Celebration

- the event is scheduled for January 18 (the day after this meeting)
- currently, the RSVPs show 87 yes and 17 maybe

I. Committee membership

- This is Jeanette's last term, ending 12/31/19

J. Closing prayer

- Sandra prayed for God's blessing on and guidance for our work and for our congregations, after which the meeting was adjourned, at 4:56 pm.

3. Church Support & Supervision Committee: February 21, 2019

A. Attendance

- Present: Jeanette Beagley-Koolhaas, Judy Nelson, Sandra Cammenga, Mary Kay Schoon, Don Jansen, Dan Griswold
- Excused: Terry DeYoung

B. Opening

- Location: third floor conference room at City on a Hill, Zeeland
- The meeting was opened with prayer by Jeanette at 3:07 pm
- Motion: to approve the minutes from the Jan 17, 2019 meeting, with corrections (M/S/C)

C. Consistory Workshop

- April 13 at Trinity
- Workshop leaders: Dan Griswold, Prof. Sue Rozeboom, perhaps Kyle Lake (on children at the table) and Tim Nelson (on frequency of communion). **ACTION:** Judy will ask Kyle and Tim.
- We should invite church worship coordinators
- **ACTION:** Dan will draft a save-the-date flyer
- Intended deadlines
 - March 1-5: send out save-the-date flyer
 - March 13: send out full descriptive flyer
- Consider using Lori at NC/4th as the registrar
- Sandra agreed to work registration on the event date
- Mary Kay and Jeanette agreed to handle refreshments
- **ACTION:** Judy will check Trinity about coffee service
- Proposed Schedule
 - 9:00 plenary: keynote with Q&A
 - 10:15 workshops
 - 11:00 Q&A
 - 11:45 Communion service
 - 12:00 dismiss

D. Information

- Bob VanVoorst has let Dan know that he is available for preaching or teaching in churches
- **ACTION:** Dan will update pulpit supply list

E. Church updates

1. Christ Memorial Church
 - Ongoing interactions
2. Rose Park
 - **ACTION:** Dan will ask Ken Eriks to ask him to query Rose Park about Inquiries and CRFs
3. Beechwood
 - Discussion of recent staff departures
4. Intersection Ministries
 - Tito will be examined for transferring into RCA, perhaps on March 20
5. Maple Avenue
 - they did pay assessment
6. Maplewood
 - Dan has asked two ministers if they'll be supervisor, and they each declined
 - **ACTION:** Jeanette will ask Bob VanVoorst if he'll be Maplewood's supervisor, then Kevin Kleiheksel, Janelle Lopez-Koolhaas, Dan Carter, and Ross Dieleman.
 - Sandra would also consider being supervisor.
 - **ACTION:** If Bob VanVoorst agrees, then Jeanette will ask him to attend the March 4 meeting. Otherwise, she will attend.
7. Fellowship
 - Dan met with the three pastors over coffee
8. Central Park
 - Don and Sanda will be meeting with Central Park's consistory in May 1

F. Fourth Church Supersession Team

- New leases or MOUs have been written for all groups
- Recent plumping/flooding problems, at the church and in the parsonage
- The classis needs to disband, or declare disbanded, the congregation. Dan and Jeanette will bring this to the Executive Committee meeting. Then maybe the supersession team can be reconfigured to handle property management.

G. Review of minutes of church consistory meetings

- we will also look at congregational reports and constitutional inquiries

H. Closing prayer

- Dan closed the meeting with prayer at 5:02, after which the meeting was adjourned.

4. Minister Support and Supervision Committee: January 22, 2019

A. Attendees

- Present: David Blauw (chair), Celaine Bouma-Prediger, Dan Griswold (clerk), Joyce Magee, Beth Smith, Sharon VanGelder
- Regrets: Chuck Kulier, Alvin Padilla

B. Opening

- The meeting was opened with prayer by David Blauw at 4:38 pm.
- The minutes from the MSS meeting on Dec 3, and the joint meeting with CSS on Dec. 3 **MSC**

C. Administrative Matters

1. The roster of the committee

- David Blauw's term (which had already been extended) has ended, so he will leave the committee at the end of the meeting. We are grateful for his service.
- Linda Kallemyn has already said her term has ended, and presumably she won't continue. We are grateful for her service.
- Beth Smith has decided to conclude her service on the committee. We are grateful for her service.
- Dan will ask Carol Ann Bailey, Kama Jongerius, and Jon Brown about serving on the committee.
- Celaine intends to accept the role of chair for this committee.

2. Conversation about the focus and function of this committee

- a number of valid ways in which this committee functions, together and as individual members: advocacy, advice, prayer, instruction, pastoral care.
- we have the shared sense that 80% of our work is processing transitions of pastors.
- occasionally, crises arise that occupy a lot of time.
- from time to time we work with Congregational Support and Supervision committee to sponsor networking and cordial gatherings of Classis members.

D. Discussion about ministers seeking membership in the classis

- Tito Venegas: he's waiting patiently for his examination

E. Change in minister status

- Peg Hoekstra: possibly requesting retirement
- Sally Hovenga: will likely ask that her licensure be renewed
- Christopher Dorn is a WTS alumnus who was a licensed candidate in Zeeland Classis. He is currently serving as (interim?) pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Ionia. His licensure with Zeeland lapsed. He is interested in seeking ordination with Holland Classis. Dan will have further conversation with Chris.

F. Ordination Applications

- none at this time

G. Mentoring and Networks in our Classis

- not any development on this since previous discussions
- Dan had a conversation about Ken Eriks about his groups

H. Chair of committee

- David nominates Celaine to serve as chair of the committee
- The committee elects Celaine as the chair, **APPROVED by consensus**

I. Adjournment

- Next meeting: Feb 26, 3:30 pm
- Prayers of Intercession
 - for the transition that's happening in the committee
 - for each minister in the classis
 - for those who rejoice, and for those who weep
 - we lifted all these up in prayer, after which we Adjourned at 6:04 pm

5. Minister Support & Supervisor Committee: February 26, 2019

A. Attendees

- Present: Celaine Bouma-Prediger (chair), Dan Griswold (clerk), Joyce Magee, Sharon VanGelderden, Chuck Kulier, Kama Jongerius, Ned Meurer
- Regrets: Alvin Padilla

B. Opening

- The meeting was opened with prayer by Celaine at 3:35 pm.
- The minutes from the MSS meeting on January 22, 2019 were **approved by consensus**.
- The agenda met with everyone's approval.
- New members Ned and Kama were welcomed.

C. Discussion about ministers seeking membership in the classis

- Tito Venegas:
 - March 20 anticipated exams
 - Dan will endeavor to calibrate the examiners expectations
 - the committee wants him treated as a peer
- John Chen:
 - Attends Christ Memorial Church
 - Is inquiring about transferring into RCA from CRC
 - **ACTION:** Joyce will contact John.

D. Christopher Dorn

- **ACTION:** Dan will tell Chris what he's learned, and ask Chris what his intentions and hopes are.

E. Minister in Crisis

- Dan gave a confidential update.

F. Changes of Status

- Dave VanOpstall: recommend that classis change status from "Without Charge" to "Minister Under Contract" **APPROVED BY CONSENSUS**
- Isaias: after hearing of Isaias's change in employment, the committee agreed not to change his status as a Specialized Minister

- Peg Hoestra: she is pondering retirement
- Sally Coppersmith-Hovenga: recommend to approve her request to renew licensure **APPROVED BY CONSENSUS**
- Leslie Bolt: recommend that classis change status from “Minister Under Contract” to “Without Charge”

G. Application for ordination

- Licensed candidate Emily Rosendahl spoke with the committee about her work at FRC and Bethany, and her interest in being ordained as a MWS by Holland Classis.
- **ACTION:** Dan will send the application to Emily
- **ACTION:** Chuck will speak with Jim Baar and with the installed pastors

H. Adjournment

- The meeting was concluded with prayer at approximately 5:27 pm
- Next meeting: April 23, 3:30 pm

6. Student Support and Supervision Committee: January 24, 2019

A. Attendees

- Present: Phil Quinn, Izzy Rhodes, Sally Tapley, Dan Griswold, Leigh VanKempen.
- Absent/Excused: Ron Bechtel, Bob Luidens, Keith Derrick.

B. Opening

- The meeting was opened with prayer by Phil Quinn at 2:38 pm.

C. Discussion about development of a committee binder

- Izzy's taking the lead on this, in collaboration with Phil and Dan. She's been gathering documents from the classis SSS data folder. She's edited a number of these documents and shared them with the committee.
- She asks members of the committee to look at what she distributed.
- Some thoughts about terms and memberships.

D. Discussion about concern with an incident related in a student's case study

- Leigh did speak about the incident with Rev. Aaron VanderVeen and with a WTS faculty staff member.
- Members of the committee feel that more perhaps should be done, as they feel that there was potential child abuse.
- Leigh will speak more with Aaron about our concerns.

E. Interview with WTS student Rita Loyola

- sees herself as a worshiper on a continuous journey of self-discovery, seeking God's will.
- Argentine immigrant.
- she's in 2nd semester of 4th year at WTS, part time, expects a 2020 graduation date.
- used to work for the denomination, in center California, then GR.
- questions probing "why come under care now?" — she feels ready now.
- when asked about her strongest gift, she has found that God has given her the gifts she's needed when she's needed them; her preferred gift is preaching and worship.
- Rita and Phil offered prayer to conclude our time together, after which Rita left.
- Sally agreed to serve as Rita's liaison.
- Members have some concern about Rita.

- Motion: to accept Rita under care, contingent on our receiving a recommendation from First Reformed Church MSC APPROVED.

F. Interview with WTS student Kyle Boer

- Kyle talked about his call to ministry.
- What do you do for self-care? Kyle admits that this was a lesson that was tough to learn. He's learning: from WTS, from his wife. At this point, it is for him intentionally setting aside time for devotions, and occasionally having a day without a schedule so he can center on the present.
- Why RCA, developing familiarity through experiences. Sees the RCA as a little more receptive to the possibility of change.
- Some discussion about timeline and next steps.
- Leigh prayed, after which Kyle was excused.
- Motion: to accept Kyle under care MSC APPROVED.
- Izzy agreed to serve as Kyle's liaison.
- Action: Dan will send Kyle an acceptance letter.

G. Interview with WTS student Wayne Otten

- Kyle talked about his call to ministry, struggles and opportunities in his life that led to his being here.
- Did an internship at a CRC church before he started at WTS.
- His path has led to some estrangement from his home church.
- He has felt affirmed and nurtured by people at First Reformed (Holland); feels this as an affirmation of his call.
- He acknowledged that he carries some grief over the estrangement he has with his church-of-origin.
- We answered Wayne's questions.
- Sally prayed, after which Wayne was excused.
- Motion: to receive Wayne under care MSC APPROVED.
- Dan will send Wayne a letter.
- Leigh agreed to serve as Wayne's liaison.

H. Other items

- Dan met with Matt Nelson-Rogalski to discuss whether and how Matt might transfer as a student under care from Chicago Classis to Holland Classis. Dan advised Matt to speak with a pastor at Hope Church about becoming a confessing member there by letter of transfer. This is the necessary first step to the process of transferring as a student under care from Chicago to Holland.
- motion: to recommend that the classis appoint Beth Carroll to the SSS committee MSC.
- Action: Dan will include this in the agenda, and Phil will speak about our need for an elder.
- the members of the committee will think about elders who would contribute well to our work.
- For May meeting, we anticipate needing six breakout rooms, as well as the sanctuary plus two other large areas that can accommodate 20 people. Action: Dan will let Hope Church's Megan know.
- next meeting: Feb 21, 2:30 pm.

I. Adjournment

- Leigh prayed, after which the meeting was adjourned at 5:21 pm.

7. Student Support and Supervision Committee: February 28, 2019

A. Attendees

- Present: Phil Quinn (chair), Izzy Rhodes, Sally Tapley, Dan Griswold, Leigh VanKempen, Beth Carroll
- Absent/Excused: Ron Bechtel, Bob Luidens, Keith Derrick, Ken Beukelmann

B. Opening

- The meeting was opened with prayer by Phil Quinn at 2:32 pm.

C. Interview with WTS student Hannah Nickolay

- Hannah spoke warmly about her upbringing in a family of faith, and the “baby seeds” that led to her call to ministry
- Leigh prayed, after which Hannah was excused.
- Motion: to recommend to the classis that we receive Hannah under care, pending recommendation from her church. **MSC**
- **Action:** Dan will send Hannah a welcome letter.
- Beth agreed to serve as Hannah’s liaison.

D. Housekeeping

- We welcomed the Rev. Beth Carroll to the committee
- Motion: the minutes of the January 24 meeting were **approved by consensus**.
- Motion: the agenda was **approved by consensus**.
- The date of the next meeting was set for March 28 at 2:30.
- **Action:** Dan will inform the SSS members about the date and time of the next meeting.
- **Action:** Dan will request for space at WTS for the next meeting.

E. Committee Binder/Handbook

- Izzy led a productive discussion of the draft committee binder.
- **Action:** Liaisons to new students will tell their students that the Candidate’s Support Group is no longer a Holland Classis requirement.

F. Student Luncheon and Exams

- **Action:** Sally will secure proctors for the exams.
- **Action:** Leigh will ask Cherri for the Maas Room for the luncheon on April 11 or 25, and will speak with Beth Smith about other logistics.

G. Interview with WTS student Renée Jelsma

- Renée shared her story of being called to ministry, through significant activity leading small groups and then Ridder and Faithwalking, then her experience of coming to Michigan, following a bad situation in her last church.
- Beth prayed, after which Renée was excused.
- Motion: to ask Wisconsin Classis to transfer Renée's candidacy to Holland Classis, once Pillar informs Dan that they have received her as a member **MSC**.
- **Action:** Dan will send Renée a welcome letter (revised from the standard one).
- Izzy agreed to serve as Renée's liaison.

H. Adjournment

- Phil prayed, after which the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.