

# MINUTES OF CLASSIS GRANDVILLE

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Meeting at:  
Heritage Christian Reformed Church  
Byron Center, Michigan

Chairperson: Rev. Kent Rottman  
Stated Clerk: Rev. Daniel Mouw

Article 1

OPENING WORSHIP

Members of the Classical Renewal Team led opening worship.

Article 2

CREDENTIALS

The following individuals were present as delegates:

CHURCHES	MINISTERS	ELDERS	DEACONS
Byron Center First	Tom Groelsema	Tim Burgess Dick Norden	
Friendship Heritage Pathway Second	*Dan Kinnas Bob Huisman	*Mike Naber Randy Van Laar	Dan Ringnalda Jay Miedema
Dorr	Cedric Parsels	*Oz Seebert *Greg Boer Bruce Vanden Brink Larry Byker	
Grandville Fellowship	Tom Vander Ploeg/ Barb Sanders	*Mark Offringa	*Marcia Behrens
Hanley Hope Ivanrest	Joseph Vanden Akker Dale Fopma	Don Dykstra Don Van Solkema Karen Lepine Lois Knooihuizen	Don Nelson Mark Klawiter
South Grandville Wyoming		*Rodney Williams	Dave Struck
Calvary Faith Community Hahn-In	Mark Van Drunen Rog Groenboom Kiwoong Kim	Dale Elders Wes Norden	Wanda Kunzi Steve Talsma

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Hispana Emanuel  
Lee Street

Kent Rottman

Jim Jeluso

\*Judy Haan

\*First-time delegates signing the Covenant for Office-bearers

### Article 3

#### CLASSICAL OFFICERS

Rev. Kent Rottman assumed the chair. Vice-chairperson was Rev. Tom Groelsema. The chairperson welcomed guests and reviewed the schedule for the evening.

### Article 4

#### EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORT

The stated clerk reviewed the Executive Team report, which was received for information.

### Article 5

#### ESTABLISHED CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT

Rev. Barb Sanders announced that InterNos has been scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, at Panera Bread in Grandville, as a farewell for Rev. Tony Meyer (who leaves in August for Madrid, Spain) and a welcome for Rev. A.J. Gretz (incoming pastor at the South Grandville CRC).

### Article 6

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM REPORT

A written communication from Rev. Tony Meyer indicated that, to date, there have been no applicants for student fund assistance for the 2019-2020 school year. Congregations are urged to encourage prospective seminary students to apply for assistance.

One congregation has requested a grant toward the cost of mentoring a Calvin Theological Seminary student for the 2019 – 2021 school years.

### Article 7

#### PRAYER TEAM

No report.

### Article 8

#### DIACONAL TEAM

No report.

### Article 9

#### PASTORS' PASTOR

Rev. Art Schoonveld gave a verbal report.

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### Article 10

#### CHURCH COUNSELORS

Rev. Dale Fopma, counselor for the South Grandville CRC, reported that Rev. A. J. Gretz has accepted a call to serve as their next pastor and will be installed in early June.

### Article 11

#### CHURCH VISITOR REPORTS

Rev. Dale Fopma reported on a church visit he conducted on February 5, 2019 along with Mark Geerlings at the Heritage CRC and a church visit he conducted on March 5, 2019 along with Rev. Duane Nieuwsma at the First CRC of Byron Center (written reports on file).

### Article 12

#### FRIENDSHIP CRC

The Friendship CRC requested prayers for Rev. Tim Holwerda, currently serving the Bauer CRC, whom they have called to serve as pastor of congregational care and outreach. The chairperson led classis in prayer for Rev. Holwerda and his family, along with both the Bauer and the Friendship congregations.

### Article 13

#### STATED CLERK REPORT

Rev. Tony Meyer, pastor of the Ivanrest CRC, has received and accepted a call to serve as pastor of the Mountainview International Church in Madrid, Spain. He subsequently has been called by the Ivanrest CRC to be loaned to the Mountainview Church. The clerk has copies on file of both letters of call, and both letters of acceptance. The job description for the Mountainview Church was included in the printed agenda.

**A motion was made and supported to approve the loan of Rev. Meyer to the Mountainview International Church in Madrid, Spain, for a two year period, according to the provisions of Article 13-c in the church order. ADOPTED.**

This action received the concurrence of the following synodical deputies: Rev. Alvern Gelder (Classis Grand Rapids East), Rev. Mark Bennink (Classis Georgetown) and Rev. Paul De Vries (Classis Thornapple Valley).

The Hahn-In Christian Reformed Church requested that Classis Grandville approve the retirement of Rev. Kiwoong Kim on December 31, 2019 due to age.

**A motion was made and supported to approve the retirement of Rev. Kiwoong Kim due to age, effective December 31, 2019. ADOPTED.**

The stated clerk informed classis that the Council of Delegates is seeking nominations of ministers of the Word to fill a recent vacancy on the Judicial Code Committee. Ministers of the Word who have possible interest in serving in this position are asked to contact the stated clerk for more information. The deadline for submitting nominations is July 15, 2019.

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The stated clerk informed classis that Rev. Heather Strooboscher has stepped down from the position of minister delegate to Synod, 2019 because of family considerations. The Executive Team decided to move Rev. Dan Mouw from the 'other' delegate position to minister delegate; Wanda Kunzi, who was the deacon alternate, will now become the 'other' delegate to synod.

**A motion was made and supported to approve the work of the stated clerk. ADOPTED.**

### Article 14

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Rev. Rog Groenboom presented the treasurer's report in the place of Classical treasurer Terry Nyenhuis, who is now home recovering from serious injuries sustained in a recent fall.

**A motion was made supported to approve the work of the classical treasurer. ADOPTED.**

Rev. Groenboom led classis in a prayer for continued healing for Terry Nyenhuis.

### Article 15

#### STEWARDSHIP TEAM REPORT

Rev. Rog Groenboom reminded delegates that the deadline for 2020 grant requests is May 31, 2019.

### Article 16

#### CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The delegates from the First CRC of Byron Center served as the credentials committee. Rev. Tom Groelsema reported that there were no notations placed on the credentials. Classis welcomed ten first-time delegates to this meeting.

Rev. Groelsema also introduced Jonathan Cady, who anticipates being declared a candidate for Minister of the Word at Synod, 2019.

### Article 17

#### CLASSICAL RENEWAL TEAM

Rev. Bob Huisman gave a verbal update on the continued work of the Classical Renewal Team.

### Article 18

#### SAFE CHURCH TEAM

Classis received a written report from Bryna Parsels, our classical Safe Church Team director. Each church is strongly encouraged to send a representative to the Safe Church Team meeting on Thursday, May 28, at 7:00 p.m. at the Dorr CRC.

Abuse Prevention Sunday will be September 15, 2019.

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### Article 19

#### EDUCATIONAL EVENT

Classis welcomed Pastor Jim Halstead, who led classis delegates and visitors through a condensed version of his “Go and Tell Evangelism Seminar”, an easy and practical way to share the gospel that is based on the Heidelberg Catechism.

Congregations that may be interested in hosting this seminar can find more information at [www.declarethegospel.com](http://www.declarethegospel.com).

### Article 20

#### CRCNA COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

Tim Bosscher, who represents Classis Grandville on the Council of Delegates, presented a synopsis of the Council’s recent meeting.

The chairperson led classis in prayer for Tim and for the work of the Council of Delegates.

### Article 21

#### COMMUNITY IMPACT TEAM

Classis received updates from church planters Rev. Allan Pontarelli (Southwest Community Church) and Pastor Roland and Blerta Rizallaraj (Albanian Christian Ministry). Rev. Adam Nordyke led classis with prayers for these church planters and their ministries. Classis Grandville congregations are strongly encouraged to approach their mission teams and ask them to consider supporting these emerging congregations.

Classis also welcomed Ram Aryal, who is leading a Nepali Worship Group every Sunday afternoon at the Hanley CRC. Ram is seeking a mother church for this emerging congregation and is in conversation with Resonate and with Classis Grandville’s Community Impact Team.

Rev. Nordyke also updated classis on the progress of Alive Ministries satellite church plant in the greater Grandville area. Worship gatherings began on March 31 at the Potter’s House High School.

### Article 22

#### CLOSING

Chairperson Kent Rottman expressed thanks to the Heritage CRC for hosting this meeting of classis. He then led classis in closing prayer.

#### **Next meeting of Classis Grandville:**

**Date: September 19, 2019**

**Time: 4:00 p.m. (tentative)**

**Place: TBA**

