

MINUTES OF CLASSIS GRANDVILLE

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Meeting at: Faith Community Christian Reformed Church Wyoming, Michigan

Chairperson: Rev. Bob Huisman
Stated Clerk: Rev. Dan Kinnas (filling in for Rev. Dan Mouw)

Article 1

OPENING WORSHIP

Rev. Rick Vanderwal and Classis Prayer Mobilizer, Ruth Frederick, led us in a time of worship, by reading passages from Isaiah 61 and Psalm 126, and guiding us in a prayer of lament. We also sang our praises to God together in the songs, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" and "Christian Hearts in Love United." Rev. Bob Huisman also offered prayer for our Stated Clerk, Rev. Dan Mouw, who had come down sick and was in the hospital.

Article 2

CREDENTIALS

The following persons served as delegates:

CHURCHES	MINISTERS	ELDERS	DEACONS
Byron Center			
First	Jordan Nickell	*Joel Bosma	
Friendship	Dan Kinnas Eric Everhart	Scott VanWyk	
Heritage	Bob Huisman	Sione Polume	*Matt Frederick
Pathway	Jim Heethuis		
Second	Rick Vanderwal	Greg Boer	
Dorr	Duane Nieuwsma		*Andy Nienhuis
Grandville			
Fellowship		Sherri Funk Mary Bouma	Bruce Morren
Hanley		Jim VanWyke	Nate Kamps
Ivanrest	Brandon Haan	Tom Wright	*Kristie Buchholz
South Grandville	Rod Galindo	Mike Besteman	*Johnathan Bergsma
Wyoming			

Calvary			
Faith Community	Rog Groenboom	*Bill Stall	Doug Kuipers
Hahn-In	Phil Kim		Charles Lee
Hispana Emanuel			
Lee Street		*David Reiffer	Mark Koster

Note: All of the above delegates stood in affirmation of their agreement with the Covenant for Office-bearers.

Article 3

WELCOME

Chairperson Bob Huisman welcomed delegates and guests to this session of Classis Grandville, and gave a brief overview of our agenda for the evening.

Article 4

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The delegates from 2nd Byron CRC were appointed to serve as the Credentials Committee.

Article 5

REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF REV. TOM VANDER PLOEG FROM FELLOWSHIP CRC IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 17A OF THE CRCNA CHURCH ORDER

Executive session was declared as classis discussed this request. After some discussion, **a motion was made and supported to act on the Art. 17a separation and then to assign a team to work on the details of the separation agreement which are still pending.** This motion was **adopted.** **A motion was then made and supported to approve the request that Rev. Tom Vander Ploeg be released from his ministry at Fellowship CRC in accordance with Article 17a of the CRCNA church order.** This motion was **adopted.**

Present at this meeting were synodical deputies Rev. Gary Bekker (Classis GR South), Rev. Terry Slachter (Classis Zeeland), and Rev. Jeffery Scripps (Classis Georgetown). After a time of deliberation, the deputies **did not concur** with the decision of classis. Their recommendation was for classis to form a team to work with Rev. Vander Ploeg and Fellowship CRC to come to a separation agreement. Once that is approved and in place, the deputies would be willing to concur with the decision for an Art. 17a release from ministry.

The Classis Executive Team is charged to put together a team to work with Rev. Vander Ploeg and Fellowship CRC to finalize a separation agreement as soon as possible. Once a

recommendation is ready, a special meeting of classis will be scheduled to approve the separation agreement and Art. 17a separation.

*Note: Articles 6-12 were conducted in executive session, as classis awaited the decision of the synodical deputies on Article 5 above.

Article 6

EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORT

A motion was made, supported and passed to approve the work of the Executive Team

Article 7

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM REPORT

Rev. Dan Kinnas gave a brief update about the Albanian Christian Ministry which we support as a classis.

Article 8

HEALTHY CHURCH TEAM REPORT

Rev. Rick Vanderwal reported that we are continuing to work on developing a model for church visiting in the classis going forward. He also noted that we are continuing to search for a Regional Pastor, as that position is currently vacant. A word of thanks was expressed to Ivanrest CRC for their recent hosting of the Biblically Faithful, Courageously Loving Workshop.

Article 9

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Rev. Bob Huisman noted a change from our proposed budget for 2026 in regards to the seminary students we will be supporting. Jonatan Gonzales from Lee Street CRC will not be enrolled as a student this coming year and so won't be supported by classis, however, we will be supporting Luis DeKryger from 1st Byron CRC.

Article 10

CLASSICAL PRAYER MOBILIZER

Ruth Frederick reported on her opportunity to be part of the prayer team during Synod 2025. They saw the Lord work in many ways as they prayed over the delegates and proceedings. Ruth then offered a prayer for the pastors of our classis.

Article 11

REGIONAL PASTOR

No report.

Article 12

STEWARDSHIP TEAM REPORT

Rev. Rog Groenboom walked the delegates through the proposed classical budget for 2026. The proposed budget calls for a 6.76% decrease from 2025 and a 6.30% decrease per member in classis. **A motion was made, supported and passed to approve the proposed budget for 2026. The classical ministry share per professing member will be \$29.76.**

Article 13

CLASSICAL DIACONAL MINISTRY

Cori Scholten, Executive Director at VIS, gave a report, highlighting their mission to empower Christians to be equipped to serve and connected to serve. She also pointed us to their new website for additional resources.

Article 14

RESONATE

Scott Stark, the Great Lakes Regional Mission Leader, shared an update with us. He reported on the changing financial landscape in our denomination in regards to support for church planting. This financial support will now need to come from classis and churches rather than from Resonate. Scott asked our classis to specifically pray for a renewed church plant movement in our denomination during the week of November 9-16, to share some of our thoughts on the subject by taking a church planting survey, and to participate in the discussion by attending a conference at Sunlight CRC in Florida from November 9-11. They are hoping 3-4 members from each classis will attend.

Article 15

REQUEST FROM REV. TONY MEYER FOR EXTENSION OF HIS PASTOR ON LOAN STATUS

A motion was made, supported and passed to extend Rev. Tony Meyer's pastor on loan status for two years, as he continues to serve at the Mountainview International Church in Madrid, Spain. The synodical deputies concurred with this decision.

Article 16

CHURCH COUNSELOR REPORTS

Rev. Dan Kinnas reported that both First Byron CRC and Dorr CRC are continuing in their pastoral searches at this time. Hanley CRC does not have a counselor at this time, as they are currently working with church visitors to determine their next steps as a congregation.

Article 17

CHURCH VISITOR REPORTS

No reports given.

Article 18

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Pathway CRC asked for prayers for the Byron Center area churches as they embark on a daily Bible reading campaign together in 2026 (One Book, One Body)

Ivanrest CRC gave a report about the Biblically Faithful, Courageously Loving workshop they hosted on September 13. They might offer this workshop to a more broad participant base in the future. Ivanrest also invited the churches of classis to participate in their upcoming "Big Read" of Scripture, which will take place the week of November 17. They are looking for others from our classis who would help with the readings during that week.

Article 19

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CALVARY CRC

Calvary CRC is requesting that Commissioned Pastor Cisco Gonzales, who has been pastoring the emerging J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) ministry, be given the title of Commissioned Pastor Emeritus since he is of retirement age. **A motion was made, supported and passed to honorably release Commissioned Pastor Cisco Gonzales from his pastoral position at J.A.M. and to give him the title of Commissioned Pastor Emeritus in accordance with C.O. Art. 24e.**

A motion was made and supported to disband the emerging ministry of J.A.M.

Grounds: The ministry has not been meeting for the past several years, and with Pastor Cisco's retirement there are no plans for this to take place in the future.

This motion was passed.

Rev. Harold Veldman, who is serving as a STM at Calvary CRC, read a communication from the Calvary council which stated their intention as a congregation to disaffiliate from the CRCNA. As a next step, church visitors will be assigned to meet with the Calvary council in accordance with C.O. Art. 38f. Rev. Brandon Haan offered a prayer on behalf of Calvary and of lament over this situation.

Article 20

OVERSIGHT TEAM REPORTS

The oversight team for Rev. Mark Van Drunen noted that he continues to go through a time of discernment about what will be next for him.

Oversight team for Calvary CRC: nothing to report.

Article 21

REPORT ON SYNOD 2025

Two of our delegates to Synod this year, Jordan Nickell from First Byron CRC and Ken Frederick from Heritage CRC, offered insights and reflections from their experience.

Article 22

STATED CLERK'S REPORT

A motion was made, supported and passed to approve the work of the Stated Clerk.

A question was asked about the currently vacant Alternate Stated Clerk position. There has been some interest expressed in this position. The Executive Team will come with a recommendation to classis at our January meeting.

Article 23

CLASSICAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Our treasurer, Leon De Lange, distributed and gave information on our financial report from July 31, 2025. **A motion was made, supported and passed to approve the work of our Classical Treasurer.**

Article 24

SAFE CHURCH TEAM

We welcomed Annie Biggs, who is our new Safe Church Team leader. Annie shared a bit about herself and highlighted that there will be an educational conference in October regarding the issue of human trafficking.

Article 25

HAHN-IN 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

It was noted that Hahn-In CRC will be celebrating their 50th anniversary soon. Rev. Duane Nieuwsma plans to be there and will pass along congratulations on behalf of classis.

Article 26

CRCNA COUNCIL OF DELEGATES

Our C.O.D. representative, Rachel Bouwkamp, gave an update, including some recommendations that came out of their most recent meeting. Due to the changing landscape of the denomination, the C.O.D. is recommending we reduce the number of our total classes, and also that we would go to bi-annual Synod meetings due to costs.

Article 27

WORLD RENEW

Our World Renew representative, Bev Abma, gave a report. World Renew is feeling the financial pinch like many other ministries and lamenting some who have had to be let go from the ministry, but they is also joy at the work that is happening and the hope for a new Canadian Executive Director in the near future. Bev highlighted a Ride across Florida event that is coming up soon.

Article 28

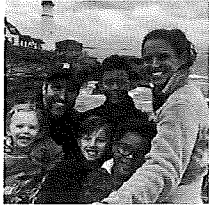
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, supported and passed to adjourn the meeting. Chairperson Bob Huisman led us in a time of closing prayer.

Next regular meeting of Classis Grandville:

Thursday, January 15, 2026

GREAT LAKES CHURCH PLANTS

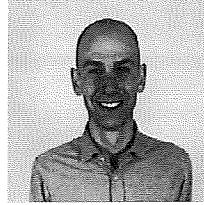


CITY ON A HILL

Mark Immink

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Plainwell, MI

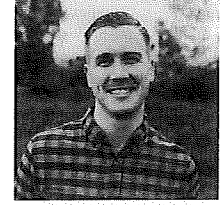


ENCOUNTER FULTON HEIGHTS

Eric Boer

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Grand Rapids, MI

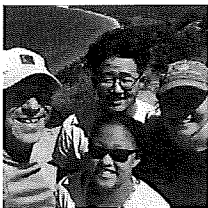


CALEDONIA GATHERING

Joel Klingenberg

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CITY HOPE

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INGLESIA TODAS LAS NACIONES

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THE WAY CHURCH HOLLAND

Arturo Rojas

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Holland, MI

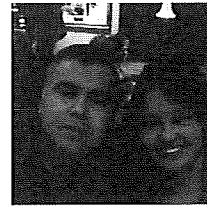


STRONG TOWER

Bryzon Masiboh

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Wyoming, MI

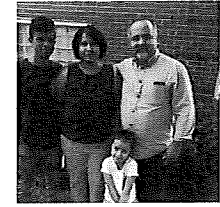


COMUNIDAD CRISTIANA INTERNACIONAL

Robert Garcia

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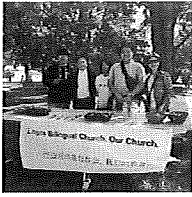


LA CASA DE MI PADRE

Ricardo Tranquini

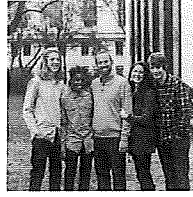
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LOGOS CHURCH

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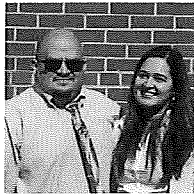
HESED COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mark Van Anandel
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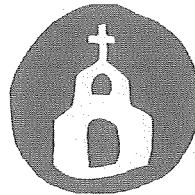
KAVOD FELLOWSHIP

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LA CASA DE MI PADRE

Jose & Linda Garcia
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CHRISTIAN MINISTRY WITH MUSLIM NEIGHBORS

Name not published for safety
West Michigan
Contact Great Lakes Regional
Leader for more info

EMERGING CHURCH PLANTS 2025-2026

LIVING WATER ANN ARBOR

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HILLSIDE SPANISH MINISTRY

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NEW ERA HISPANIC CRC

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ADA CHINESE CRC

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Forest Hills, MI

GIBSON CRC

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Holland, MI

THE WAY

Scott Branderhorst
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Aliquippa, PA



Daniel Mouw <danielbmouw@gmail.com>

Classis Communication

Brandon Haan <bhaan@ivanrestcrc.org>
To: Daniel Mouw <danielbmouw@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 23, 2025 at 9:20 AM

Hi Dan,

I'm not a fan of too many emails in my inbox, so how about we just have you send it out. The flyer is below, but here's a little blurb to go with it.

Thanks!

As we introduced at our September Classis meeting, Ivanrest Church is going to be hosting a public reading of scripture in November. Our plan is to read all the way through the entire Bible during the week of November 17-22. Lasting from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., we'll be dividing each day into half-hour time-slots, picking up where the previous reader left off. We're hoping to invite the entire Grandville-area community to this event. As Christians, we believe something happens when we hear God's Word, and so our hope is that people will come and be transformed by listening to scripture. To make this event happen, though, we need a lot of people to read. As a result, we're inviting the churches of Classis Grandville to join us. If anyone in your congregations are interested, they can sign up to be a reader or just come to listen! Together, let's share the Word of God with our community. Join us!

Brandon Haan
Senior Pastor

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Phone: 616.534.3114
Cell: 708.912.1566
Email: bhaan@ivanrest.org
Website: Ivanrest.org



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 **Big Read Community Flyer (2).pdf**
7190K



The Big Read: A Public Reading of the Bible

From Genesis to Revelation

8:00 AM – 11:00 PM | Monday – Saturday | November 17-22

Ivanrest Church Worship Center | Open to the Community

In a world overflowing with opinions, noise, and distractions, we invite you to pause and refocus by immersing yourself in the enduring truth of God's Word—read aloud, from beginning to end.

The Big Read is a continuous public reading of the entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, taking place over multiple days. Whether you come for a few minutes or a few hours, this is a chance to sit, listen, and center yourself on God's voice.

For centuries, scripture was shared aloud—connecting communities, teaching truth, and bringing clarity to life's questions. Today, we return to that tradition, believing that faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17).

How You Can Be Involved:

- **Come and Listen** – All are welcome to drop in and experience the Bible being read aloud.
- **Be a Reader** (30 minute time slots) – Be a voice that brings scripture to life.

Let's be a light in our community—offering peace, clarity, and the timeless words of God to Grandville and beyond.

Interested in reading?

Sign up for a time slot by scanning the QR code.

Questions? Contact Mary Westrate – Director of Discipleship
mwestrate@ivanrest.org

Come be part of something powerful. **Come hear the Word.**

