

Classis of North Grand Rapids Meeting Minutes

Special Session – Student Exams

Standale Reformed Church

May 21, 2019

Opening: Devotion Service led by

Rev. Jess Shults. She offered a meditation on noticing God's presence in our everyday lives. She closed with prayer.

Examination Meeting Called to Order by Tammy Schollaart, President at 6:43 PM

Roll Call (completed by signature)

A – Excused Absence U – Unexcused Absence

Church	Clergy	Elder	Elder
Aberdeen Reformed	Vacant	(A)	(A)
Central Reformed	Steve Pierce	Jeff DeVree	Willa Brown
Faith Harvest Church	David Mayer	Scott Rose	
The Community - Ada	William Norden (A)	Bob Engelsman	
	Mara Joy Norden (A)		
Fourth Reformed	Eric Schalk	Tom Boehm	
Knapp Street Reformed	Les Wiseman	(U)	
Oakview Community Church	Vacant	(U)	(U)
	Bob Karel (A)	(U)	(U)
Orchard Hill Reformed	Kathy Bartels (MUC) (A)		
	Laura Dilley (MUC)		
	Eric Cook (A)	John Jacobitz (A)	John Jongsma
Remembrance Reformed	Todd Schmidt	(U)	
	David Vander Woude		
Resurrection Reformed	Doug Kiel (A)	Bruce Holleboom (A)	
	Kristi Kiel (A)		
Richmond Reformed	Christopher Westerbeek (A)	(U)	
Rockford Reformed	Tim Meendering	Jim Scholten	
Servant's Community	Mark Veldt (A)	Josh Gress	
Standale	Jessica Shults	Mark Beyerlein	Lin Cline
Third Reformed	Jeff Petersen	Ron Schollaart	Tam Schollaart (President)
Trinity Reformed	Ben Bruins	Kerri Vryhof	
	Sarah Bruins		
Specialized Ministers/Ministers Without Charge/Inactive			
Katerine Baker (U)	Eric Bogerd (U)	Nancy Claus (U)	John Delger (U)
Lisa Henderson (U)	Jennifer Holmes Curran	Kate Kooyman	Steve Luchies (A)
Diane Maodush-Pitzer	Kristen Meyer	Cheryl Molhoek (U)	Adam Navis
Branson Parler	Rebecca Stegeman Riekse	Robyn Saylor (U)	David Veldt (U)
Steve Wolters			
Nancy Boote (A)	Eric Branch (U)	Rachel Bush (U)	Ryan Landt (U)
Jennifer Petersen	Jonathan Tice (A)	Susan VanderWall (U)	Bill VanderWerp
Aaron Wetzel			Andre Daley (U)
Retired Ministers/Guests			
Bill Fennema (A)	Lou Lotz	Ralph Robrahn	Rick Tigchon
Anne Elzinga	Steven Steenwyk		

Associates In Ministry, Commissioned Pastor			
Willa Brown (U)	George VanderHyde (U)		
Joel Bengelink (A)	George Werkema (U)		

Committee and Team Report

Student Care Committee

Approval of the Examiners

- Sacraments - Bill VanderWerp
- History of RCA Missions – Eric Schalk (Written Exam)
- Theology – Adam Navis
- Polity/Standards – Steve Wolters

Motion made, supported, and pass to approve Bill Vander Werp, Eric Schalk, Adam Navis, and Steve Wolters as examiners.

Introduce Examiners

Introduce Candidates and Announcements Regarding Exam Protocols

Matthew Shults, Western Theological Seminary

Prayer for Students and Examiners

Aaron Wetzel offered a prayer for the examiners and candidate during the interviews.

The Nature and Administration of the Sacraments

Motion made, supported, and passed to arrest the examination for Matthew Shults.

Theology

Motion made, supported, and passed to arrest the examination for Matthew Shults.

Knowledge of and Adherence to the Constitution (the Standards, the Government and Disciplinary Procedures, and the Liturgy) of the RCA

Motion made, supported, and passed to arrest the examination for Matthew Shults.

History of the Reformed Church and Commitment to Its Mission

Motion made, supported, and passed to arrest the examination for Matthew Shults.

Motion made, supported, and passed to call the meeting into Executive Session. All guests and non-delegates were asked to leave the assembly.

Executive Session

Sacraments

Motion made, supported, and passed to sustain the examination in Sacraments for Matthew Shults.

Theology

Motion made, supported, and passed to sustain the examination in Theology for Matthew Shults.

RCA Constitution, Polity and Standards

Motion made, supported, and passed to sustain the examination in Polity and Standards for Matthew Shults.

History of the Reformed Church and Commitment to Its Mission

Motion made, supported, and passed to sustain the examination in History of the Reformed Church and Commitment to Its Mission for Matthew Shults.

Licensed Candidates

Motion made, supported, and defeated to declare Matthew Shults as a licensed candidate.

Renew Licensed Candidate Status

Motion made, supported, and passed to renew the status of licensed candidate to Craig Vereeke.

Motion made to remove Kerri Vryhof from under the care of Classis and not renew her status as licensed candidate.

Motion made, supported, and passed to end the Executive Session. Non-delegates and guests were invited to return to the meeting.

Reading and Signing of the Declaration for Licensed Candidates

Matthew Shults read and signed the declaration for licensed candidates.

Rev Jess Shults offered a prayer of blessing for Matthew Shults and his future ministry.

Introduce Student to Come Under Care

Aaron Wetzel introduced Anne Elzinga as a student at Western Theological Seminary to come under care of Classis. Anne described her call to ministry.

Motion made, supported, and passed to take Anne Elzinga under care of Classis.

Revs. Steve Pierce and Jeffery Petersen offered prayers for Anne during her seminary studies.

Welcome New Classis Members

Rev. Todd Schmidt introduced specialized ministers Jennifer Holmes Curran and Kristen Meyer as new members of the Classis. Each briefly described their ministries.

Jennifer Holmes Curran read and signed the declaration for ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Kristen Meyer read and signed the declaration for ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Particularia

The Stated Clerk thanked Standale Reformed Church as the host church for the meeting.

Resolutions

Motion made, supported, and approved to excuse the absences of Kathy Bartels, Nancy Boote, Bill Fennema, John Jacobitz, Bob Karel, Doug and Kristi Kiel, Steve Luchies, Tim Meendering, Billy and Mara Norden, Jonathan Tice, Mark Veldt, Christopher Westerbeek, and elders from Aberdeen.

Closing

Motion made, supported, and approved to close the meeting.

Closing Prayer by Tammy Schollaart

Next Classis Meetings

Stated Session – September 17, 2019 Servant’s Reformed Church, Dinner 5:45 PM; session 6:45 PM
January 21, 2020, The Community – Ada, Dinner 5:45 PM; session 6:45 PM



Tammy Schollaart, President



Robert J. Teitsma, Stated Clerk