

Classis of North Grand Rapids Meeting Minutes

Stated Session
The Community - Ada
January 21, 2020

Opening: Devotion led by Billy and Mara Norden

Mara Norden led the worship service supported by The Community praise team members Paul Wesselink, Jessica Pear, and Martin Waalkes. She used readings from Psalm 27 and Matthew 4:12-23. Following those readings she led guided prayer.

Vision 2020 Presentation by John Messer

John presented an overview of the four scenarios developed by the Vision 20/20 team and to be presented to General Synod in June 2020. Since the four scenarios were identified a group of approximately 200 churches based in the Far West are intent on leaving the RCA regardless of decisions made at the 2020 General Synod. There was a good quality question and answer period. The Classis prayed for John and the rest of the Vision 20/20 team.

Business Meeting Called to Order by Tammy Schollaart, President at 7:51 PM.

Roll Call (completed by signature)

A – Excused Absence U – Unexcused Absence

Church	Clergy	Elder	Elder
Aberdeen Reformed	Matt Rose (MUC)	(U)	(U)
Central Reformed	Steven Pierce	Willa Brown	Jeff DeVree
The Community - Ada	William Norden	Bob Engelsman	
	Mara Joy Norden		
Faith Harvest	David Mayer	Deb Schmidt	
Fourth Reformed	Eric Schalk	(U)	
Knapp Street Reformed	Les Wiseman	Keith Hinkle	Dave Lampen, Scott Beckett
Oakview Community Church	Vacant	(U)	(U)
Orchard Hill Reformed	Bob Karel	Michael Bart	Bill Hahn
	Kathy Bartels (MUC)		
	Laura Dilley (MUC)		
Remembrance Reformed	Eric Cook	John Jacobitz	Lynne Samulson
	Todd Schmidt	Kurt Andrews	
	Dave Vander Woude (MUC)		
Resurrection Reformed	Doug Kiel	Katrina Towns	
Richmond Reformed	Christopher Westerbeek	Mark Mulder	
Rockford Reformed	Tim Meendering	Jim Scholten	Richard P Moll
Servant's Community	Mark Veldt	Jess Gress	
Standale	Jessica Shults	Lin Cline (A)	
	Matt Shults		
Third Reformed	Jeff Petersen	Ron Schollaart	Tam Schollaart (Pres)
Trinity Reformed	Ben Bruins	Katie Bush	
	Sarah Bruins		
Specialized Ministers/Ministers Without Charge/Inactive			
Katherine Baker	Eric Bogerd (U)	Nancy Claus	Jennifer Holmes Curran

John Delger	Lisa Henderson	Kristi Kiel (A)	Kate Kooyman (U)
Ryan Landt (U)	Steve Luchies	Diane Maodush-Pitzer	
Kristen Meyer	Cheryl Molhoek	Adam Navis (A)	Branson Parler
Rebecca Stegeman Riekse	Robyn Saylor (U)	David Veldt	Steve Wolters (A)
Nancy Boote	Eric Branch (U)	Rachel Bush (U)	Jennifer Petersen
Jonathan Tice (A)	Susan VanderWall (U)	Bill VanderWerp	Aaron Wetzel
			Andre Daley (U)
Guests/Retired Ministers			
Travis Buys	Marlene Feistamel	Cori Kahler	Bill Noordyk
Jared Feyer	Rick Visser	Karen Seitz	Main Jasper
Lou Lotz	Bill Fennema (A)	Ralph Robrahn	
Associates In Ministry, Commissioned Pastor			
Willa Brown	George VanderHyde (U)		
Joel Bengelink (A)	George Werkema		

Approval of the Agenda

Motion made, supported, and passed to approve the agenda as presented.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion made, supported, and passed to accept the minutes of the September 17, 2019.

Appoint Tellers

Tellers were appointed from Resurrection, Richmond, and Rockford.

Committee and Team Reports

Executive Committee

Received for information.

Nominations Committee

Motion made, supported, and passed to affirm the appointment of Rev. Nancy Claus to Student Care Committee.

Motion made, supported, and passed to approve Rev. David Mayer as delegate to General Synod 2020.

Overtures and Judicial Business

Ben Bruins answered questions about the proposed amendments to the 2019 Book of Church Order. Members and delegated voted by paper ballot on the proposed amendments. The tellers collected and tabulated the results.

1. Procedure for Amending the Government, the Disciplinary and Judicial Procedures, the Formularies, and the Liturgy and the Directory for Worship (MGS 2019, EC 19-15, pp. 115–116)

23 Yes 33 No 1 Abstention

2. Affiliation of a Local Church with More Than One Denomination (MGS 2019, CO 19-1, pp. 236–237)

13 Yes 44 No

3. *“Transferring” Ministers to Other Denominations (MGS 2019, CO 19-3, pp. 247–248)*

54 Yes 3 No

4. *General Synod Responsibilities regarding Regional Synods (MGS 2019, CO 19-4, p. 248)*

56 Yes 1 No

5. *Formulary No. 3—Declaration for Ministers of Word and Sacrament (MGS 2019, CO 19-5, p. 249)*

57 Yes 0 No

6. *Permanent Record for Declarations (MGS 2019, CO 19-6, pp. 249–250)*

57 Yes 0 No

7. *Formulary No. 9—Certificate for the Transfer of a Minister of Word and Sacrament (MGS 2019, CO 19-7, pp. 250–251)*

57 Yes 0 No

8. *Textual Reference to Formulary No. 9 (MGS 2019, CO 19-8, p. 251)*

57 Yes 0 No

9. *Formulary No. 15—Provision for Articles of Incorporation for Congregations (MGS 2019, CO 19-9, pp. 251–252)* 10. *Transfers of Licensed Candidates from One Classis to Another (MGS 2019, CO 19-10, pp. 252–253)*

57 Yes 0 No

10. *Transfers of Licensed Candidates from One Classis to Another (MGS 2019, CO 19-10, pp. 252–253)*

57 Yes 0 No

11. *Formulary No. 17 (New)—Certificate of Transfer for a Licensed Candidate (MGS 2019, CO 19-11, pp. 253–254)*

57 Yes 0 No

Church Multiplication Team

Eric Cook presented an overview of the current Remembrance and River City Church partnership to plant a church in the Classis owned property at 940 Clancy Street. Eric introduced Brian Kidder, pastor of River City Church. Brad described the River City Church and his ministry there. 18 months old congregation, thankful for a stable place to meet. God and his sovereignty brought the Classis and River City together. He has an RCA background and thankful for he personally coming full circle through this relationship. Their ministry is to proclaim the truth of the gospel to the city around them. See gospel transformation through gospel living; reach lost people who are wandering—a push to pursue the lost through their communities; natural generosity flowing outside the body. Asks for continued prayer for the ministry to the haves and have nots. River City Church is on the dividing line between these two groups.

Remembrance is the mother church through adoption. Growing Remembrance younger and teaching the congregation to be part of the city. Eric Cook prayed for Brad and the ministry of River City Church.

Miscellaneous

Announcements/Reminders

Update on the life of The Community – Ada by Billy Norden. The church sold small strip of property north of church to Amway who donated the property to the township for construction of a library. The church tithed 10% of proceeds (\$240) among church members three years and older to do ministry in their communities. The church is developing a welcome statement that will challenge The Community – Ada to live missionally within the members' respective communities—to be proactive rather than reactive.

Billy and Mara received a Lilly Grant for a sabbatical to be used this summer. Billy is now half time at The Community – Ada because he joined the RCA Board of Benefits staff part-time. His focus is helping pastors do financial planning. The RCA has aligned with Everence which is a faith based financial planning organization that BOBs believes can be trusted.

The Stated Clerk reminded those in attendance to view the Church Growth Fund presentation on using this link <https://vimeo.com/339125569>.

Consistorial Reports are to be completed no later than February 28, 2020.

Constitutional Inquiries are past due by The Community – Ada (received immediately after the meeting).

Salary/Benefits Declarations were received from all churches; Remembrance owes the form for Todd Schmidt. Of those received, all state that they are meeting the terms of the call.

Specialized Minister and Without Charge Accountability Forms are now past due from Kristi Kiel, Kate Kooyman, Robin Saylor, David Veldt, Steve Wolters, Rachel Bush, Eric Branch, Jennifer Petersen, and Susan Vander Wall.

Ministerial Changes for 2019. No corrections made.

There won't be student exams in 2020.

Particularia

The President thanked The Community – Ada for hosting the meeting.

Orchard Hill is talking with a developer about building a senior living project on excess church owned property. They are on a dedicated financial plan that they estimate will make the church debt free in about 3 years. They are looking forward to other ministry opportunities in their locale.

Faith Harvest is engaged with its local community, actively working with people in transition from addiction, incarceration, and other societal needs.

Resolutions

Motion made, supported, and passed to excuse the absences of Joel Bengelink, Bill Fennema, Adam Navis, Jonathan Tice, Steve Wolters, and Lin Cline.

Closing

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

Closing Prayer by Tammy Schollaart.

Next Classis Meetings

Executive Committee Meetings: Third Tuesday of the Month except January, March, and September. 11:30 AM, Third Reformed Church


March 17, 2020, at 5:45 PM (dinner) 6:30 PM session at Third Reformed.

September 15, 2020 at 5:45 PM (dinner) 6:30 PM session at Trinity Reformed.

No Student Exams in 2020



Tamara Schollaart, President



Robert J. Teitsma, Stated Clerk

**Classis of North Grand Rapids
Overtures & Judicial Business Committee
Report for Classis Meeting on January 21, 2020**

Committee Members

Ben Bruins (chair)

Bill Fennema (consultant)

Bill Hahn

Branson Parler

Diane Maodush-Pitzer

Jeff DeVree

Sarah Bruins

Suggestions on Proposed Amendments from General Synod

1. Procedure for Amending the Government, the Disciplinary and Judicial Procedures, the Formularies, and the Liturgy and the Directory for Worship

OJB suggests voting “no” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: Any amendment to the RCA’s rules of government requires the approval of two-thirds of classes. A majority of OJB (5-1) believes that this level of approval should not be lowered for amendments related to the Vision 2020 report; we affirm our polity’s design of requiring more than a majority when making significant changes.

2. Affiliation of a Local Church with More Than One Denomination

OJB suggests voting “no” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The BCO already makes provision for federated churches. We see no need for an additional category for churches of different denominations desiring to unite with one another.

3. “Transferring” Ministers to Other Denominations

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reasons: It clarifies that when a minister transfers to another denomination he or she is no longer ordained in the RCA. For example, one may be ordained in the RCA and serve as a PCUSA church pastor, but one may not be ordained in the RCA and simultaneously be ordained in the PCUSA.

4. General Synod Responsibilities regarding Regional Synods

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment clarifies what is already believed and practiced. General Synod can form, combine, and disband regional synods.

5. Formulary No. 3—Declaration for Ministers of Word and Sacrament

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment clarifies what is already believed and practiced. If an ordained person who is not installed transfers into a classis, she or he reads the Formulary.

6. Permanent Record for Declarations

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment gives classes the freedom to preserve their records in new ways.

7. Formulary No. 9—Certificate for the Transfer of a Minister of Word and Sacrament

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment deals with transfers internal to the RCA (not to another denomination), making some stylistic improvements and adding a receipt.

OJB notes that the word “Dismission”, is potentially confusing because of its similarity to “demission”. When a pastor transfers **inside** the RCA, he or she is dismissed from his or her current classis. When a pastor transfers her or his ordination **outside** of the RCA then she or he is demitted.

8. Textual Reference to Formulary No. 9

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment matches the BCO text with the Formulary’s title.

9. Formulary No. 15—Provision for Articles of Incorporation for Congregations

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment provides a definition of a member church clarifying that an organizing church is a member church too.

10. Transfers of Licensed Candidates from One Classis to Another

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment clarifies the licensed candidate transfer process.

11. Formulary No. 17 (New)—Certificate of Transfer for a Licensed Candidate

OJB suggests voting “yes” to affirm this amendment.

Reason: The amendment clarifies the licensed candidate transfer process.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Bruins
OJB Chairperson

2019 Proposed Amendments to the Book of Church Order Ballot

Please print this ballot and bring to the January Classis meeting.

1. Procedure for Amending the Government, the Disciplinary and Judicial Procedures, the Formularies, and the Liturgy and the Directory for Worship (MGS 2019, EC 19-15, pp. 115–116)

Yes No

2. Affiliation of a Local Church with More Than One Denomination (MGS 2019, CO 19-1, pp. 236–237)

Yes No

3. “Transferring” Ministers to Other Denominations (MGS 2019, CO 19-3, pp. 247–248)

Yes No

4. General Synod Responsibilities regarding Regional Synods (MGS 2019, CO 19-4, p. 248)

Yes No

5. Formulary No. 3—Declaration for Ministers of Word and Sacrament (MGS 2019, CO 19-5, p. 249)

Yes No

6. Permanent Record for Declarations (MGS 2019, CO 19-6, pp. 249–250)

Yes No

7. Formulary No. 9—Certificate for the Transfer of a Minister of Word and Sacrament (MGS 2019, CO 19-7, pp. 250–251)

Yes No

8. Textual Reference to Formulary No. 9 (MGS 2019, CO 19-8, p. 251)

Yes No

9. Formulary No. 15—Provision for Articles of Incorporation for Congregations (MGS 2019, CO 19-9, pp. 251–252)10. Transfers of Licensed Candidates from One Classis to Another (MGS 2019, CO 19-10, pp. 252–253)

Yes No

10. Transfers of Licensed Candidates from One Classis to Another (MGS 2019, CO 19-10, pp. 252–253)

Yes No

11. Formulary No. 17 (New)—Certificate of Transfer for a Licensed Candidate (MGS 2019, CO 19-11, pp. 253–254)

Yes No

NGRC CHURCH REVITALIZATION TEAM

CLASSIS REPORT

January 2020

The following represents the most recent activities of the NGRC Revitalization Team:

1. Oakview Community and Aberdeen continue under supervision as they are without ordained/installed pastors. Les Wiseman (Knapp), and David VanderWoude (Remembrance) are their supervisors. Oakview leaders have met with Classis and Regional Synod representatives to explore potential next steps that might include a part-time interim/transition pastor.
2. There is also one church continuing with coaching assistance provided by the Revitalization Team.
3. The Team is again preparing to provide the 2019 consistorial minutes exams for all NGRC churches. The Stated Clerk has sent notice to all churches including the recommended format to follow.
4. Currently there are no churches requesting financial assistance. Again, financial assistance is provided for some financial needs other than staffing.

The next scheduled Revitalization Meeting is scheduled for February 18th, 1:30 Third Reformed Church.

Respectfully Submitted

John Jacobitz/Tim Meendering – co-chairs



Classis of North Grand Rapids
1460 Banbury Drive
Grand Rapids MI 49505

statedclerk@northgr.org

Executive Committee Report of Actions October – December 2019

October

- Voted to combine the Belknap properties at 242 Cedar with 940 Clancy (ministry building) into one parcel.
- Approved paying the \$1,835.17 property taxes owed on the Casnovia property (lost its tax exemption by not being used as a church during 2019).
- Discussed the handling of the request to resend the 2019 delegates to the 2020 General Synod and the attendant confusion. During discussion it was opined that a unanimous approval is too high of a standard. Referred to OJB to revise the Classis Rules of Order to a standard greater than simple majority.

November

- Transferred Nancy Claus from Pastoral Care to Student Care requiring Classis confirmation at the January 2020 meeting.
- Decided to invite John Messer to the January meeting to make a presentation on the Vision 2020 options to be presented at the 2020 General Synod meeting. Discussion and questions will be limited to only the options, not the underlying issues.

December

- Authorized applying a tax exemption on the 940 Clancy property (separate application submitted for 242 Cedar pending approval of the petition to combine the properties). Exemption application submitted.
- Approved demolishing the house at 242 Cedar creating a green space that can eventually be used to facilitate worship at River City Church.
- Approved contracting with Pitsch Companies for demolition in the amount of \$17,800 and possible additional cost for asbestos removal if detected.

Classis of North Grand Rapids Meeting Minutes

Stated Session

Servant's Community Church

September 17, 2019

Opening: Devotion led by Rev. Mark Veldt and student Anne Elzinga

A reading and meditation by Anne Elzinga on John 17.

Business Meeting Called to Order by Tammy Schollaart, President at 6:48 pm.

Roll Call (completed by signature)

A – Excused Absence U – Unexcused Absence

Church	Clergy	Elder	Elder
Aberdeen Reformed	Matt Rose (MUC)	Ted Myers	
Central Reformed	Steven Pierce	Willa Brown (A)	Jeff DeVree
The Community - Ada	William Norden (A)	Katie Musick-Reynhout	
	Mara Joy Norden (A)		
Faith Harvest	David Mayer	Scott Rose	
Fourth Reformed	Eric Schalk	(U)	
Knapp Street Reformed	Les Wiseman	(U)	
Oakview Community Church	Vacant	(U)	(U)
Orchard Hill Reformed	Bob Karel	Bill Hahn	Mike Bart
	Kathy Bartels (MUC)		
	Laura Dilley (MUC) (A)		
Remembrance Reformed	Eric Cook	John Jacobitz	Stan Kragt
	Todd Schmidt	Kurt Andrews	Travis Buys – Finance Chair
	Dave Vander Woude		
Resurrection Reformed	Doug Kiel (A)	Bruce Holleboom (A)	
Richmond Reformed	Christopher Westerbeek	Mark Mulder	
Rockford Reformed	Tim Meendering	Steven Steenwyk	
Servant's Community	Mark Veldt	Josh Gess	
Standale	Jessica Shults	Lin Cline	
	Matt Shults		
Third Reformed	Jeff Petersen	Ron Roden	Tam Schollaart (Pres)
Trinity Reformed	Ben Bruins	(U)	
	Sarah Bruins		
Specialized Ministers/Ministers Without Charge/Inactive			
Katherine Baker (A)	Eric Bogerd (A)	Nancy Claus	Jennifer Holmes Curran (A)
John Delger (A)	Lisa Henderson (U)	Kristi Kiel (A)	Kate Kooyman (A)
Steve Luchies	Diane Maodush-Pitzer	Kristen Meyer	Cheryl Molhoek
Adam Navis (A)	Branson Parler	Rebecca Stegeman Riekse	Robyn Saylor (U)
David Veldt (U)	Steve Wolters		
Nancy Boote	Eric Branch (U)	Rachel Bush (U)	Ryan Landt (U)
Jennifer Petersen (A)	Jonathan Tice (A)	Susan VanderWall (U)	Bill VanderWerp
Aaron Wetzel			Andre Daley
Retired Ministers			
Bill Fennema (A)	Ralph Robrahn		

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

Approval of the Agenda

Motion made, supported, and passed to approve the agenda as presented.

Appoint Tellers

Tellers were appointed from Orchard Hill and Remembrance.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion made, supported, and passed to accept the minutes of the January 13, installation; January 22, stated session; May 21, student exam; June 6, ordination/installation.

Welcome

Reception of Rev. Matt Rose, Minister Under Contract, Aberdeen; transfer from Zeeland Classis. Kathy Bartels, supervisor, introduced Matt who provided his background and ministry history. He read and signed the declaration.

Recommendation to take Luke Harkema, Trinity, under student care. Luke described his call to ministry and faith story.

Recommended by the Student Care to take Luke Harkema under the care of Classis during his studies at Western Theological Seminary. Rev. Sarah Bruins offered prayer of gratitude for Luke answering the call to ministry and for blessings on his studies.

Recommended by the Commissioned Pastor Team to take Scott Rose into a training program for a Commissioned Pastor role. Kathy Bartels introduced Scott who described his call to ministry.

Approved the recommendation to take Scott Rose under the supervision of Classis during his training to become a Commissioned Pastor. Rev. David Mayer offered prayer of gratitude for Luke answering the call to ministry and for blessings on his studies.

Committee and Council Reports

Executive Committee

President Schollaart highlighted portions of the Executive Committee report. The Classis now owns the house on 242 Cedar St that was part of the Clancy Street Ministry property and discerning its use and future. The Casnovia property sale to a Philippine Church of Christ congregation. Highlighted the November 9, 2019 Vision 2020 overview meeting conducted by the Regional Synod of the Great Lakes.

Nominations Committee

Motion made, supported, and passed to appoint the following to the respective committees for the terms indicated.

Finance Committee

Jon Lunderburg, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Travis Buys, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Billy Norden, 1 year, unexpired term

Pastoral Care Committee

Janis deVree, Central, 2 years, unexpired term ending 9/20/2022
John Delger, Specialized Minister, 3 years second term ending 9/20/2022
Clergy, 3 years, term ending 9/20/22 **Volunteer Requested at the Session**
Dale Millard, Elder Knapp, 3 years second term ending 9/20/2022

Overtures and Judicial Business

Diane Maodush-Pitzer, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Branson Parler, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Sarah Bruins, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Elder, 2 years, term ending 9/21/2021 **Volunteer Requested at the Session**

Specialized Ministry Committee

Clergy, 2 years, term ending 9/21/2021 **Volunteer Requested at the Session**
John Kozminski, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Steve Luchies, 2 years, second term ending 9/21/2021
Layperson, 2 years, term ending 9/21/2021 **Volunteer Requested at the Session**
Layperson, 1 year, term ending 9/21/2020 **Volunteer Requested at the Session**

Student Care Committee

Aaron Wetzel, 3 years, second term ending 9/20/2022
Paul Troost, 3 years, second term ending 9/20/2022

Regional Synod Finance Committee

Tim Elzinga, 4 years, second term ending 4/30/2023

Delegates to General and Regional Synod

General Synod

At the 2019 General Synod much discussion was held regarding the Vision 2020 study. The General Synod recommends that classes send the 2019 delegates to the 2020 meeting to provide continuity. At the 2020 meeting delegates will be voting on the recommendations of the Vision 2020 task force as to the future structure of the RCA.

Motion made, supported, and defeated to suspend the Classis Rules of Order that state *“The ministers shall be nominated as follows: the delegates from those who for the longest time have not attended a meeting of General Synod or Regional Synod and the alternates from those next following (Article 4, Section 1, Rules of Order).*

And,

Elder delegates shall be nominated from the various churches of the Classis in rotation, in alphabetical order. A delegate and an alternate shall be nominated from the same church (Article 4, Section 4 Rules of Order)."

Motion made, supported, and passed to send the following delegates to the 2020 General Synod.

Rev. Nancy Boote
Rev. Ben Bruins
Elder, Servant's
Elder, Third

Motion, made, supported, and passed to rescind the vote to reconsider the vote to suspend the rules of order. There are 44 eligible voters requiring 29 votes to rescind.

Motion made, supported, and defeated to suspend the Classis Rules of Order that state *"The ministers shall be nominated as follows: the delegates from those who for the longest time have not attended a meeting of General Synod or Regional Synod and the alternates from those next following (Article 4, Section 1, Rules of Order).*

And,

Elder delegates shall be nominated from the various churches of the Classis in rotation, in alphabetical order. A delegate and an alternate shall be nominated from the same church (Article 4, Section 4 Rules of Order)."

Regional Synod

Motion made, supported, and passed to send the following delegates to the 2020 Regional Synod.

Year 2

Rev. Christopher Westerbeek
Rev. Steve Luchies [fill an unexpired term]
Elder Bill Hahn, Orchard Hill
Elder Bob Engelsman, The Community – Ada

Year 1

Rev. Billy Norden
Rev. Sarah Bruins
Elder, Third, Ron Roden
Elder, Trinity

Alternates

Rev. David Mayer
Rev. Steve Wolters

Elder, Fourth
Elder, Knapp

Pastoral Care Committee

Rob Teitsma gave a brief overview of the Classis process for churches calling an installed pastor. He emphasized that it is critical for churches to follow the process to avoid potential problems. These procedures may be found on the Classis website under the Resources tab, which is public.

Student Care Committee

At the January 22, 2019 Stated Session the Classis voted to not renew Craig Vereeke's status as a Licensed Candidate due to inactivity in pursuing ordination. A quick search of past Classis minutes did not reveal that his license was in fact renewed at the May 17, 2016 Student Examination meeting. The Stated Clerk regrets this error of information at the January meeting.

Church Multiplication Team

Rev. Eric Cook reported on the new Belknap church start in conjunction with River City Church and Remembrance. Remembrance will provide financial support with this established church start and the Classis will provide the building.

Church Revitalization

Report received for information.

Finance Committee

Recommendation to approve the 2020 Salary Guidelines proposed by the Regional Synod.

Recommendation to approve the Classis' 2020 budget.

	2020
General Synod	\$54.22
Regional Synod	\$20.00
Classis	\$ 6.50
Salary Aid	\$ 2.00
Student Aid	\$.50
Church Multiplication	\$.50
Total	\$83.72

Miscellaneous

Announcements/Reminders

- Consistorial Report documents for 2019 will be emailed to churches on November 15, 2019. Data entry must be completed by February 28, 2020. Now is the time to review your membership to identify inactive members.
- Constitutional Inquiries are due to the Stated Clerk by January 31, 2020. Side Note: Elders Minutes must indicate that at every meeting the elders identified members in need of special care regarding their spiritual condition and/or are not making faithful use of the means of grace, i.e., attending worship and participating in the sacraments and shall provide the means of extending Christian ministry to such persons. Many minutes from 2019 omitted this.
- Specialized Minister Accountability Forms are due to the Stated Clerk by January 15, 2020.
- Standing Dates were distributed via email. Please note the first of the year dates.

Particularia

The Stated Clerk thanked Servant's for hosting church for the meeting.

Resolutions

Motion made, supported, and passed to excuse the absences of Katherine Baker, Joel Bengelink, Eric Bogerd, Willa Brown, Jennifer Holmes Curran, John Delger, Laura Dilley, Bill Fennema, Bruce Holleboom, Doug and Kristie Kiel, Kate Kooyman, Adam Navis, Billy and Mara Norden, Jen Petersen, Jonathan Tice.

Closing

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

Closing Prayer by Tammy Schollaart.

Next Classis Meetings

January 21, 2020, at 5:45 PM (dinner) 6:30 PM session at The Community-Ada.

March 17, 2020, at 5:45 PM (dinner) 6:30 PM session at Third Reformed.

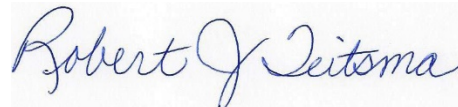
September 15, 2020 at 5:45 PM (dinner) 6:30 PM session at Aberdeen.

Student Exams (Tentative)

May 19, 2020, no dinner 6:30 PM special session at Trinity Reformed.



Tamara Schollaart, President



Robert J. Teitsma, Stated Clerk

CHANGE REPORT
Classis of North Grand Rapids
Reformed Church in America
2019

Examination for Declaration of Licensure:

Matthew John Shults, May 2019

Ordinations:

Matthew John Shults, June 2019

Installations:

Tim Meendering, Rockford, January 2019

Matthew John Shults, Standale, June 2019

Received from Other Classes:

Kristen Meyers, May 2019; Holland

Jennifer Holmes Curran, May 2019, Northern Michigan

Matthew Rose, September 2019, Zeeland

Transfers to Other Classes:

Lisa Henderson, September 2019, Holland

Received from Other Classis/Denomination:

None

Transfers to Other Classis/Denomination:

None

Dissolutions:

Kristi Kiel, Resurrection, June 2019

Change in Ministerial Status within the Classis:

Kristi Kiel from parish to specialized minister, June 2019

Without Charge:

None

Demitted:

None

Retired:

None

Inactive:

None

Deceased:

None