



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

statedclerk@northgr.org

## Classis of North Grand Rapids Meeting Minutes

Stated Session  
Trinity Reformed Church  
November 9, 2021

### Opening:

Devotion led by Revs. Ben and Sarah Bruins

Psalm 146 and a reflection on justice and trust in God.

Business Meeting Called to Order by Tim Meendering, President at 6:55 PM.

### Roll Call (completed by signature)

A – Excused Absence    U – Unexcused Absence

Church	Clergy	Elder	Elder
Central Reformed	Steven Pierce	Willa Brown	Jeff DeVree
The Community - Ada	William Norden	Katie Music-Reynhout	
	Mara Joy Norden		
Faith Harvest	David Mayer	Scott Rose	
Fourth Reformed	Eric Schalk	Norma Boehm (U)	
Knapp Street Reformed	Les Wiseman (A)	Chuck Bailey (A)	
Oakview Community Church	Vacant	Jane Dykema (U)	(U)
Orchard Hill Reformed	Bob Karel	Lee Van Putten	Bill Hahn
	Laura Dilley (MUC)		
Remembrance Reformed	Eric Cook	John Jacobitz	Jascon Kober
	Todd Schmidt	Nancy Schoofs	Travis Buys (Finance)
Resurrection Reformed	Doug Kiel (A)	(U)	
Richmond Reformed	Christopher Westerbeek	Mark Mulder	
Rockford Reformed	Tim Meendering	Scott Jacobs	
Servant's Community	Mark Veldt (A)	William Beatty (U)	
Standale	Jessica Shults	Lin Cline	
	Matt Shults		
Third Reformed	Jeff Petersen	Ron Schollaart	
Trinity Reformed	Ben Bruins	Katie Bush	
	Sarah Bruins		
<b>Specialized Ministers</b>			
Katherine Baker (A)	Kathy Bartels	Nancy Claus	Jennifer Holmes Curran
John Delger	Kristi Kiel (U)	Ryan Landt (U)	Steve Luchies
Kristen Meyer	Cheryl Molhoek	Adam Navis (U)	Branson Parler (A)
Rebecca Stegeman Riekse (A)	Robyn Saylor (U)	Matt Rose (U)	Dave Vander Woude
David Veldt	Steve Wolters (U)		

<b>Ministers Without Charge/Inactive</b>			
Eric Bogerd	Nancy Boote	Eric Branch (U)	Rachel Bush (U)
Kate Kooyman (U)	Jennifer Petersen	Jonathan Tice (A)	Susan VanderWall (U)
Bill VanderWerp	Aaron Wetzel (A)		
Andre Daley (U)			
<b>Retired Ministers/Guest</b>			
Bill Fennema	Lou Lotz	Ralph Robrahn	Jim Van Zetten
Lisa Vanlonkhuyzen (student)			
<b>Associates In Ministry, Commissioned Pastor</b>			
Willa Brown		George Werkema (U)	

## Approval of the Agenda

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

## Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion made, supported, and passed to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2021 and May 18, 2021 meetings.

## Appoint Tellers

Tellers were appointed from Servant's Community and Standale.

## Committee and Council Reports

### Executive Committee

Recommendation made and passed ratify the email vote to supersede the Aberdeen Reformed Church and disband the congregation.

### Finance Committee

Recommendation made and passed that the Classis adopt the Regional Synod of the Great Lakes' 2022 minister salary guidelines.

Recommendation made and passed to approve the 2022 assessment and 2022 Classis budget as indicated below.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>2022</b>
General Synod	\$54.22
Regional Synod	\$18.50
Classis	\$ 6.50
Salary Aid	\$ 3.15
Total	\$ 82.37
<b>Total Income Assessments</b>	<b>\$235,496</b>
<b>Total Budget Expenditures</b>	<b>\$320,285</b>

Recommendation made and passed by 21-18 that in the interest of a grace filled separation, any churches wishing to leave the RCA/NGR Classis be granted proportional credit of the Reserve Fund balance against future assessments due, based on their proportional membership numbers.

Motion made, supported, and passed to amend the recommendation to state that the end time of this action coincide with the grace period of General Synod that expires on June 1, 2026.

Recommendation made and passed by a 21-18 that in the interest of a grace filled separation, any churches wishing to leave the RCA/NGR Classis be granted proportional credit of the Reserve Fund balance against future assessments due, based on their proportional membership numbers and the end time of this action coincide with the grace period of General Synod that expires on June 1, 2026.

### **Nominations Committee**

Recommendation made and passed to approve the following appointments in a single vote.

#### **Finance Committee**

Recommendation to affirm the Executive Committee vote to appoint Travis Buys, chairperson, and John Lunderburg, member, to third two-year terms ending September 19, 2023.

#### **Overtures and Judicial Business**

Appoint Rev. Bill Fennema and Rev. Jeffrey Petersen (extra) to a two-year term ending September 19, 2023.

Appoint Bill Hahn, elder Orchard Hill, to a second two-year term ending September 19, 2023.

Need an elder/layperson nominee for an unexpired first term ending September 20, 2022.

#### **Pastoral Care Committee**

Appoint Kristen Meyer to an unexpired three-year term ending September 19, 2023.

Appoint Elder Kerry Vryhof to an unexpired three-year term ending September 19, 2023.

Need an elder nominee for a first three-year term ending September 17, 2024

Appoint; ministers Rebecca Stegeman Riekse and Lou Lotz (chairperson) to second three-year terms ending September 17, 2024.

Need an elder nominee to a first three-year term ending September 17, 2024.

#### **Specialized Ministry Committee**

Appoint minister Cheryl Molhoek to a second two-year term ending September 19, 2023.

Need two elder/layperson nominees to first two-year terms ending September 19, 2023.

Need an elder/layperson nominee to fill an unexpired two-year term ending September 20, 2022.

#### **Student Care Committee**

Appoint minister Eric Schalk to a second three-year term ending September 17, 2024.

Appoint minister Sarah VanZetten Bruins to a first three-year term ending September 17, 2024.

#### **Regional Synod Executive Committee Classis Delegate**

Appoint minister Nancy Boote to a second three-year term ending May 31, 2025.

## **Regional Synod Overtures and Judicial Business Committee**

Affirm the Executive Committee vote to appoint minister Diane Maodush-Pitzer to a second four-year term ending May 31, 2025.

### **Overtures and Judicial Business**

Recommendation made and passed to approve The Community – Ada's request to change the method of selecting Elders and Deacons.

### **Pastoral Care Committee**

Received for information.

### **Specialized Ministry Committee**

Recommendation made and passed to ordain Anne Elzinga to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament.

### **Student Care Committee**

Recommendation made and passed to take Lisa Vanlonkhuyzen under care of Classis during her studies at Western Theological Seminary. The Classis and Lisa read the liturgy for students coming under

## **Miscellaneous**

**Announcements/Reminders:** Consistorial Reports, Constitutional Inquiries, Salary and Benefits Validations, Specialized Minister and Without Charge Accountability Forms, Nominees to General and Regional Synod Delegates

Questions regarding General Synod actions on Vision 2020 recommendations.

Eric Schalk gave an update on Aaron Wetzel who is in need of a heart valve replacement and is currently under treatment in preparation for surgery. He offered a prayer for healing and comfort.

**Welcome:** Reception by transfer of Rev. Jim Van Zetten, retired, from Great Lakes City Classis.

**Request for Retirement:** Rev. Mark Veldt

Motion made, supported, and passed to approve the request for retirement from the Rev. Mark Veldt effective December 31, 2021.

## **Resolutions**

Motion made, supported, and passed to excuse the absences of Katherine Baker, Doug Kiel, Kristen Meyer, Branson Parler, Rebecca Stegeman Riekse, Jonathan Tice, Mark Veldt, Aaron Wetzel, Les Wiseman.

## **Particularia**

The Stated Clerk thanked Trinity for hosting the meeting.

## **Closing**

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

Closing Prayer by Tim Meendering

## Next meetings:

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

January 18, 2022 Central Reformed Church, Dinner 5:45 PM, Session 6:30 PM

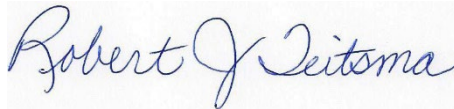
March 15, 2022 5:45 PM, Session 6:30 PM

May 17, 2022 Fourth Reformed, No Dinner, 6:30 PM

September 20, 2022 Knapp Reformed, Dinner 5:45 PM, Session 6:30 PM



Tim Meendering, President



Robert J. Teitsma, Stated Clerk