

Minutes of the 152nd meeting of
Classis Lake Erie
of the Christian Reformed Church
 In session March 2, 2019, at Dearborn Christian Fellowship,
 Dearborn, Michigan

Amy Schenkel of Resonate Global Mission leads an opening session of devotion and reflection.

I. Constituting Classis

- A. Roll call indicates the presence of the following delegations from the churches and ministries of Classis Lake Erie.

| Church | Minister | Elder | Deacon |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| All Nations (Toledo) | Jung Un Park | David Lee | |
| Akron CRC | Harry Winters | Jeremy Garver-Hughes | Martha Blackford |
| Ann Arbor CRC | Ryan Boes | Bill VanderMolen | |
| Ann Arbor Chapel | Matt Ackerman | | |
| Ann Arbor Hope CRC | Joseph Hunsuk Bae | Manhoe Kim | |
| Cascades Fellowship CRC (Jackson) | | | |
| Cleveland Zion | Daniel Hong Youn Kim | | |
| Community CRC (Saginaw) | Nathan Gritter | Sam Dykstra | Kristen Ringel |
| Dearborn Christian Fellowship CRC | Rolf Bouma | Tim DeKruyter | Johanna Cameron |
| Detroit First CRC | Ben Van Arragon | Mary Kalmink | Helen MacDonald |
| Eastside CRC | | Vivian Louis | Alicia Durett |
| Han-Bit CRC | Pastor? | Joseph Jeoung | Seunghyun Yoo |
| Hmong Christian Ministry | Zongseng Vang | Khaizer Vang | Andy Yang |
| Imlay City CRC | Alex Snider | Dennis Brandt | Brian Rykowski |
| North Hills CRC (Troy) | Randall Engle | Janet van Veen | Erin Saxsma |
| Olentangy CRC (Columbus) | | | |
| River Terrace CRC (East Lansing) | Brent Wassink | Beth DeBoe | Dave Mulder |
| Willard CRC | Terence Visser | Curt Cok | Rachel Buurma |

- B. President Nathan Gritter welcomes delegates and guests.
 C. First-time delegates sign the *Covenant for Officebearers*.
 D. The president declares Classis to be constituted.

II. Ministry Priority: Leadership Development

- A. Examination, Candidate SangMyung Samuel Lee.
Practica: Alex Snider interviews candidate Lee on matters of faith, life and ministry practice. Classis delegates and synodical deputies present further questions.

Motion: That Classis proceed to the sermon evaluation portion of the examination.
Motion is *Adopted.*

Preaching: Gerald VanderHoek presents an evaluation based on his observation and that of fellow evaluator Sue DeZeeuw. Rev. VanderHoek recommends a motion to accept their evaluation, approve candidate Lee on the basis of preaching ability, and proceed with the examination.

Motion: To approve the candidate's preaching and proceed with the examination.
Motion is *Adopted.*

Biblical-Theological Position: Rolf Bouma interviews candidate Lee regarding Bible knowledge and Reformed doctrine. Classis delegates and synodical deputies present further questions.

Motion: To admit SangMyung Samuel Lee to the office of Minister of the Word and Sacraments.

Deliberation is made in executive session.

Motion is *Adopted.*
Synodical deputies *Concur.*

SangMyung Samuel Lee is congratulated and welcomed by Classis; delegates lay on hands and prayer is offered.

B. Colloquium Doctum, Rev. Marcia Fairrow.

Brenda Kronemeijer-Heyink interviews Rev. Fairrow regarding personal faith, vocational ministry experience, Bible knowledge and Reformed doctrine and practice. Classis delegates and synodical deputies present further questions and encouraging comments.

Motion: To admit Rev. Marcia Fairrow as candidate for Ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the CRCNA.

Motion is tabled for the duration of the colloquium doctum of Rev. Do Hyeong Kim.

Colloquium Doctum, Rev. Do Hyeong Kim. Daniel Kim interviews Rev. Kim regarding personal faith, vocational ministry experience, Bible knowledge and Reformed doctrine and practice. Classis delegates and synodical deputies present further questions and encouraging comments.

Motion: To admit Rev. Do Hyeong Kim as candidate for Ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the CRCNA.

Deliberation is made in executive session.

Both motions are *Adopted.*
Synodical deputies *Concur.*

Revs. Marcia Fairrow and Do Hyeong Kim are congratulated and welcomed by Classis; delegates lay on hands and prayer is offered.

C. **Minutes Addendum**: Retirement of Rev. John Groen, Ann Arbor CRC. At its meeting in October, 2017, Rev. John Groen announced his intention to retire in

February, 2019. His retirement was formalized at Ann Arbor CRC on February 19, 2019.

On June 18, 2018, the Executive Committee, on behalf of Classis Lake Erie, approved Rev. Groen's retirement, effective February 19, 2019, for the reason of age, per *Church Order* Article 18.

III. Ministry Priority: Nurturing Communities

- A. President Nathan Gritter introduces new pastors to Classis Lake Erie: Bailey Sarver (Campus Chapel); Ryan Boes (Ann Arbor CRC); Brent Wassink (River Terrace).

IV. Ministry Priority: Specialized Ministries

- A. Nathan Gritter reports briefly on Specialized Ministries, and directs delegates to the application process for new ministries.
- B. Campus Edge Fellowship. Brenda Kronemeijer-Heyink reports on ongoing ministry at MSU.
- C. Campus Chapel. Matt Ackerman introduces new pastor at Campus Chapel Bailey Sarver. Bailey Sarver reports on ministry at Campus Chapel. Bailey also presents this year's AAC board for Classis Approval.

Motion: that Classis approve the presented slate of board members for the oversight of Ann Arbor Chapel in the 2019 ministry year.

The motion is

Adopted.

Mark Van Andel prays for campus ministries.

V. Ministry Priority: New Church Development

- A. Committee report. Mark Van Andel reports on several NCD activities, as well as interaction with members of Classis regarding urban, justice and mercy ministry initiatives. Mark invites all delegates to be attuned to the work of the Holy Spirit in all our communities. Mark introduces Nathan Groenewald, future CRCNA candidate and urban ministry developer in Classis Lake Erie.

VI. Ministry Priority: Denominational Involvement

- A. Council of Delegates. CLE representative Laurie Harkema (River Terrace) provides an update regarding the work of the COD, and invites questions and recommendations from CLE for the COD. Laurie also mentions the ongoing invitation for congregants and Classis members to forward prayer requests to the COD.
- B. World Renew. Mary Rupke reports ; invites nomination of new Classis representative.
- C. Synod. Matt Ackerman reports briefly on Synod 2018.
- D. Selection of Delegates to Synod. The following delegates are identified to represent CLE at Synod 2019:

Alex Snider

Randall Engle (alternate: Mark Van Andel)

Motion to accept these representatives

Motion is

Adopted.

VII. Administrative Matters

- A. Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Joe Creech gives a final report on the 2018 budget. Delegates are reminded of ongoing invitation for proposals regarding Classis surplus.

Motion: That Classis Lake Erie approve of the work of the treasurer.

Motion is

Adopted.

- B. Stated Clerk. Ben Van Arragon directs Classis' attention to report on p. 3 of the *Agenda*.

Motion: That Classis approve the work of stated clerk.

Motion is

Adopted.

- C. Executive Committee. President Nathan Gritter reports work of the Executive Committee. Harry Winters will assume the role of president for October 2019 and March 2020. Nathan Gritter requests volunteers to serve as vice president for upcoming term.

Motion: That Classis approve the work of the Executive Committee.

Motion is

Adopted.

VIII. Concluding Matters

- A. Next classis meetings:

1. October 5, 2019, 9:30 a.m., Dearborn Christian Fellowship
2. March 7, 2019, Ann Arbor CRC.

- B. President Nathan Gritter acknowledges and thanks delegates, guests, special presenters and members of Dearborn Christian Fellowship who helped host Classis.

- C. Rev. Gritter closes meeting with prayer.

- D. Motion: To adjourn the 152nd meeting of Classis Lake Erie.

Motion is

Adopted.