

Summary of Classis Heartland Meeting March 2, 2022 at First CRC of Sheldon

On March 2, 2022 Classis Heartland gathered at First CRC of Sheldon. Our host church led classis in a time of opening devotions and singing. Our business meeting went throughout the afternoon and in the evening Dr. Syd Hielema led delegates and other visitors through a time of guided prayer for our churches, classis, and denomination. Based on Revelation 5, his meditation and call to prayer was titled “John’s Tears lead to Restored Hope Through the Lamb who Reigns.”

In our afternoon business meeting of Classis Heartland we made the following decisions.

1. Classis approved Keith Hoekstra as Commissioned Pastor to serve at Hope CRC in Hull while he completes his candidacy process for being a Minister of the Word. Rev. Chad Van Ginkel facilitated the interview with Pastor Hoekstra and offered a prayer of blessing for him as he continues serving the congregation the Lord has called him to pastor.
2. Classis approved Mr. Dan Tracy, a member of Calvary CRC in Orange City, for Licensure to Exhort. Rev. Kevin Muyskens conducted the interview and Rev. Mark Vande Zande led classis in a prayer of blessing for his ministry among our congregations.
3. Classis selected the following to serve as delegates to Synod 2022:

Rev. Jesse Walhof – pastor delegate

Mr. Mike Krommendyk – elder delegate

Mr. Darin Dykstra – deacon delegate

Rev. John Klompier – at large delegate

Rev. Phillip Westra – pastor alternate

Mr. Bruce Lefever – elder alternate

Mr. Dave Wielenga – deacon alternate

Mr. Drew Heynen – alternate at large

4. Classis filled vacant positions with the following people: Mr. Eric Kroese (Classis Stewardship Committee), Ms. Leandra Hulstein (Classis Stewardship Committee Alternate), Rev. Jesse Walhof (Classis Education Committee), Rev. Brian Dunn (Classis Education Committee Alternate and church visitor to the south).
5. Classis increased the compensation for our Safe Church Team coordinator, Mrs. Tara Boer, from \$750 to \$1000 per year.
6. In celebration of the installation of Rev. Brian Dunn at First CRC of Sheldon, Rev. John Klompier’s service as their church counselor was considered complete.
7. In celebration of the ordination of Rev. Ben Wiersma at Sibley CRC, Rev. Tom De Does’ service as their church counselor was considered complete.
8. After some discussion, classis instructed the Interim Committee to explore holding one of the classis meetings in 2023 on a Friday/Saturday.
9. Classis asked the Stewardship Committee and treasurer to gather updated membership information from our churches if needed for ministry share calculations.
10. Classis asked the Stated Clerk to follow-up with Mr. Jeff Bolt for clarification about how churches can designate denominational ministry shares to certain CRCNA ministries.

Respectfully submitted,
Phillip Westra (Stated Clerk of Classis Heartland)