

## **Classis Heartland Virtual Meeting – September 26, 2020 Report for the Churches**

Classis Heartland held its first “virtual meeting” by means of Zoom. Dordt University generously provided a video conference room to host the gathering over the internet. Rev. Kevin Muyskens served as chairman and Rev. Todd Zuidema as vice chairman.

### **Transitions**

Classis Heartland was pleased to welcome Rev. Phillip Westra, who accepted the call to serve Sanborn CRC.

Classis Heartland granted its long-time treasurer, Mr. Michael Van Surksun, his request to retire by March 31, 2020.

Classis also approved the following transitions:

Rev. Todd Zuidema – Accepted a call (Hope CRC, Hull) to serve at Dordt University as Director of Church Relations. Classis Heartland approved this position as consistent with the work of a Minister of the Word.

Rev. Norlyn Van Beek – Released from his service as Executive Director, Inspiration Hills, due to funding constraints experienced due to curtailed events at the retreat center.

Rev. Nevada De Lapp – Honorably released as a Minister of the Word in the CRCNA. Rev. De Lapp served Calvin CRC, Le Mars, and accept a call to serve the Reformed Episcopal Church in a parish in Jackson, Mississippi.

Rev. Marvin Leese – Honorably released as a Minister of the Word in the CRCNA. The United Reformed Church has approved his request to be eligible for call in their federation.

### **Classis Committee Highlights**

Classical Home Missions Committee – Classis Heartland received mission reports from Siouxland Unity Church in Sioux City, Pathway Community Church in Olathe, Arcopagus Campus Ministry at Iowa State University in Ames, and Geneva Campus Ministry at University of Iowa in Iowa City.

Classical Ministry Leadership Team – Classis adopted the committee’s recommendation to renew the license to exhort of Mr. Sherwin Bolkema, Mr. Greg Steggerda, and Mr. Kurt Rietema. Classis Heartland also recognizes those licensed to exhort by Classis Iakota: Dr. Jason Lief, Mr. Barry Miedema, and Mr. Nathan Nieuwendorp.

Classical Education Committee – The committee provided a pre-classis prayer meeting on Saturday morning through a conference phone call. They also arranged for a Timothy Leadership Training event at Prairie Lane CRC in Omaha on October 8-9, led by Rev. Sam Keyzer.

Classical Interim Committee – Classis adopted a proposal from the committee to schedule regular meetings of Classis Heartland on Tuesdays, beginning March 2021.

Classical Stewardship Committee – Classis adopted the proposed 2021 Ministry Share budget for *classis* ministry and mission, which asks \$111.72 per professing member. *Denominational* ministry shares are now based pledges submitted by the churches to the stated clerk of classis. The stated clerk submits the total of these pledges as the classis ministry share to the CRCNA. The approved budget is printed on page two of this report.

Classis Safe Church Team – Classis Heartland and Classis Iakota share in supporting the leadership of Ms. Tara Boer, who serves as Classis Safe Church Coordinator. Ms. Boer gave an update on a virtual seminar planned for October 31 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Members of all churches are encouraged to register and participate in this virtual event.

**Serving Classis**

The following have been elected or appointed to serve in these positions for three-year terms, beginning October 2020:

Stated Clerk Alternate	-	Rev. Mark Vande Zande
Classical Interim Committee	-	Rev. Mark Vande Zande
Classical Interim Committee	-	Rev. Kevin Muyskens
Classical Home Missions Committee	-	Dr. Allan Kramer
Classical Home Missions Committee Alternate	-	Rev. Jesse Walhof
Classical Education Committee	-	Rev. Phillip Westra
Classical Nominating Committee	-	Mr. Glenn Bouma
Classical Nominating Committee	-	Rev. John Klompier
Classical Ministry Leadership Team	-	Mr. Darrel Teerink
Classical Ministry Leadership Team Alternate	-	Rev. John Klompier
Church Visitor – North, Alternate	-	Rev. Sam Keyzer

**Classis of the Heartland**  
2020 and 2021 Ministry Shares

	Per Member		
	2020	2021	% Change
<b>Classical Ministry Shares</b>			
Dordt University	68.37	68.24	-0.19%
Classical Expense	5.50	5.00	-9.09%
Student Aid Fund	1.00	2.50	150.00%
<b>Campus Ministries</b>			
Geneva Campus Ministry - U of I	1.72	1.75	1.74%
Areopagus - ISU	1.72	1.75	1.74%
<b>Church Planting</b>			
Lincoln - Chaplain	1.72	1.75	1.74%
Lincoln - F Street	1.72	1.75	1.74%
Lincoln - F Street Immerse	1.72	1.75	1.74%
Pathway - Argentine	1.72	1.75	1.74%
Friendship Community	2.59	2.63	1.54%
Cornerstone Prison	1.72	1.75	1.74%
Ministry Opportunity Fund	3.45	3.51	1.74%
Residency Program	3.45	1.75	-49.28%
<b>Ethnic Ministries</b>			
Laotian Ministry - Sioux City	6.90	7.02	1.74%
Amistad Cristiana	3.45	3.51	1.74%
<b>Other</b>			
Established Church Development	1.38	1.40	1.45%
Education Committee	0.05	0.05	0.00%
Youth Consultant	3.45	3.51	1.74%
Classical Home Missions Committee	0.34	0.35	2.94%
	<u>111.97</u>	<u>111.72</u>	<u>-0.22%</u>

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