

MINUTES OF CLASSIS CENTRAL PLAINS

Meeting at Sully CRC, Sully, IA
Friday-Saturday; September 19-20, 2025

Friday, September 19, 2025 – 7:00 PM

Art. 7669 – Rev. Darren Kornelis opened with devotions and prayer.

Art. 7670 – Constituting Classis

A. Roll call indicates the following delegates are present:

CHURCH	MINISTER	ELDER	DEACON
CEDAR	John Ritsema	Ron Groenendyk	Grant Van Den Heuvel
PEACE CR	Gary Brouwers	Russ Marcus	John Van Rheenen
KOREAN STL	Jaebok Choi		
LEIGHTON		Ivan Van Kooten	Dan Hol
TRINITY STL	Mike Bentley	Philip Yakubu*	Celina Selvan Durairaj*
NEW LIFE PRI.	Dave Gritters (Fri.)	Sheldon Starkenburg (Fri.)	Max Killoren
NEWTON		Dave Nunnikohoven Matt Jennings*	Anthony Prichard
I.C. CHINESE	Johnlo Xu Daniel Gregory		
BETHEL OSKY		Ken Rozenboom Bryan Mulder	Brett Nieuwsma*
FIRST OSKY	Jon Spronk	Tim Jabaay	
CALVARY		Dan Van Kooten (Sat.)	Joe Goodyk*
FAITH		Brad Engbers* Paul Van Beek	
CONNECT		Wayne VanWallbeek (Fri.)	Jerry Janssen (Sat.)
GRACE			
PEORIA	David Swinney*	Tim Franje	Spencer Fynaardt*
CORNERSTONE	Ryan Landt	Bryan Harthoorn	Robert Rus
PRAIRIE CITY			
SULLY	Darren Kornelis	Jeff Pastoor	Clint Vos*
TRACY	Al Bandstra	Jim Scrivner	George Luhman (Sat.)
CROSSROADS	Mark Jicinsky	Drew Ryder*	Lance Dieleman*

*First time delegates who signed the Covenant for Officebearers

B. The chair declared Classis Central Plains constituted with the following officers:

Chair: Rev. Mark Jicinsky

Vice-Chair: Rev. Mike Bentley

Stated Clerk: Rev. Jonathan Spronk

C. The chair asked delegates to stand to affirm the Covenant of Officebearers and all do so.

Art. 7671 – Proposal from Council of Delegates Rep. Rev. Erik Kamp on Funding Church Plants in Classis Rocky Mountain

A. Rev. Erik Kamp presented a proposal to financially help support Hispanic church plants connected to Rev. Christian Sebastia in Classis Rocky Mountain in the aftermath of the loss of Resonate grant funding.

B. **Motion is made and supported to provide a \$25,000 grant in 2025 through the New Church Plant fund of Classis Central Plains.**

Carried

C. **Motion is made and supported to budget \$15,000 for each of the next two ministry years (2026, 2027) with \$4,500 from the New Church Plant fund and \$10,500 of additional Classis funding.**

Carried

D. **Motion is made and supported that Classis Central Plains try to send Classis CP members annually to the Houston area to worship with and encourage these churches.**

Carried

E. **Motion is made and supported that the Classis Missions Committee in Central Plains talk with Pastor Sebastia to see if he can help facilitate a similar vision/plan locally in our area, encourage local congregations to add some of these church plants/pastors to their regular offering schedule and perhaps create relationships with this budding ministry.**

Carried

Art. 7672 – Presentation from Unity Christian School, Fulton, IL/Clinton, IA

A. Mr. Dick Ritzema presents a proposal from Unity Christian School which is currently based in Fulton, IL and is building a new facility in Clinton, IA that will open in January 2026.

B. **Motion is made and supported to recommend to the Classis churches for Unity Christian School be put on our offering schedules.**

Carried

C. **Motion is made and supported to have Classis help Unity Christian find interest-free loans for the building project.**

Carried

D. **Motion is made and support to provide \$25,000 for Unity Christian for building project.**

Defeated

E. Delegate Drew Ryder led Classis in prayer on behalf of Unity Christian School.

Art. 7673 – The following speakers addressed Classis on behalf of their ministries:

- A. Mr. Jeffery Bolt – CRCNA Director of Advancement
 - 1. Mr. Bolt spoke on behalf of the Denominational Ministry Share program and thanked the Classis churches for their support.
 - 2. Classis is reminded that the new address for the denominational office is:
 - i. Christian Reformed Church in North America
300 East Beltline Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506-1208
 - 3. For giving purposes churches are asked to send gifts to:
 - i. CRCNA
P.O. Box 30006
Lansing, MI 48909-9760
- B. Mr. Brett Erikson – Geneva Campus Ministry
 - 1. Mr. Erikson spoke about the work of Geneva Campus Ministry and of upcoming lectures on the U of I campus.
- C. Rev. Lora Copley – Areopagus Campus Ministry
 - 1. Rev. Copley presented on the work of Areopagus Campus Ministry. Areopagus is in need of new board members and would like to have a board member from Classis Central Plains.
- D. Rev. Erik Kamp – Council of Delegates Representative
 - 1. Rev. Kamp spoke about a recent proposal from the CoD to Synod 2026 regarding Synodical costs and frequency of Synod.

Art. 7674 – Classis adjourned for the evening to resume at 8:00 AM on Saturday.

Saturday, September 20, 2025 – 8:00 AM

Art. 7675 – Rev. Mark Jicinsky called the meeting to order, opened with devotions and led in prayer.

Art. 7676– Classical Leadership Team (Interim Committee) – Rev. Mark Jicinsky, reporting.

- A. Rev. Jicinsky presented the written report from CLT.
- B. Motion is made and supported to approve the work of the CLT.**

Carried

Art. 7677 – Classical Ministry Leadership Team (CMLT – Student Fund) – Rev. Darren Kornelis, reporting.

- A. Rev. Kornelis presented the written report from CMLT. Currently, four students have requested financial support from Classis as they attend seminary, while a fifth student has connected with CMLT but is not requesting financial support at this time.
 - 1. Motion is made and supported to budget an additional \$3,250 this year to cover expenses for the additional students.**

Carried

- B. Later in the meeting it is noted that a mistake was made on the amount initially requested in the previous motion.

- 1. Motion is made and supported to budget a further additional \$2,750 this year**
(Note: \$2,750 + the \$3,250 from the initial motion = \$6,000 in total additional monies; would make the 2025-2026 budget for the Student Fund \$11,000).

Carried

Art. 7678 – Stated Clerk – Rev. Jonathan Spronk, reporting

- A. Rev. Spronk gave his Stated Clerk report. He noted that he and Rev. Erik Kamp are looking at attending an upcoming Multiply Conference that is being sponsored by Classis Southeast US and Resonate on Nov. 8-11 in Port St. Lucie, FL. If anyone is interested in attending from Classis, please let Rev. Spronk know.

Art. 7679 – Classical Financial Committee and Classis Treasurer

- A. Written financial reports from March 1 through Sept. 17, 2025 from Mr. Don De Waard are received.

- B. Motion is made and supported to approve the work of the Classis Treasurer.**

Carried

Art. 7680 – Proposal about Christian College Scholarships from Classis Central Plains

- A. Rev. Mark Jicinsky relinquished the Chair to Rev. Mike Bentley
B. Rev. Jicinsky presented a proposal from Crossroads Des Moines for Classis Central Plains to provide scholarships to students attending Christian colleges.
a. Motion is made and supported to provide \$1000 scholarships to students attending a CRC-designated college or \$500 if they continue in an acknowledged Christian college.

Defeated

- C. Rev. Jicinsky resumed the Chair from Rev. Bentley

Art. 7681 – Nominations Committee

- A. The following nominations were presented to delegates for voting and approved by Classis:
a. Synodical Deputy: Rev. Brian Ocshner (Faith Pella)
b. Stated Clerk Alternate: Rev. David Swinney (Peoria)
c. Classis Finance Committee: Mr. Drew Ryder (Crossroads DSM)
d. Classis Ministerial Leadership Team: Mr. Rick Fopma (Sully)
B. Classis was also notified that Rev. Will Verhoef has finished his second three-year term on the CMLT, but is willing to serve another term. Classis approved a renewal of a three-year term for Rev. Verhoef.

Art. 7682 – Healthy Church Advocates (Church Visitors)

- A. Rev. Gary Brouwers reported on the need for volunteers to serve as Healthy Church Advocates.

Art. 7683 – Regional Pastors

- A. Rev. Gary Brouwers reported on behalf of the Regional Pastors of Classis. Rev. Brouwers reminded the delegates of the recent actions of Synod 2025 regarding pastor spouse support and of an upcoming Pastor's Gathering for pastors and spouses for Oct. 27-29 in Niagara Falls, ON.

Art. 7684 – Church Counselor Reports

- A. Written and verbal reports are given by counselors for the following churches in their vacancies:
 - 1. Connect and Good News Chapel

Art. 7685 – The following speakers addressed Classis on behalf of their ministries:

- A. Mr. Jason De Bruin – Classis Central Plains representative for World Renew
 - 1. Mr. De Bruin presented on the work of World Renew. He also highlighted a recent work trip of 9 Classis members to Rock Valley for Disaster Relief following the floods.
 - 2. **Motion is made and supported to reimburse Jason De Bruin \$250 for the cost of food for the work trip.**

Carried

- B. Ms. Linda Menninga – Sully CRC and GEMS International
 - 1. Ms. Menninga spoke about the work of GEMS clubs locally and around the world.
- C. Ms. Kaysha Steiger – Director of Alumni and Parent Relations, Dordt University
 - 1. Ms. Steiger presented on Dordt University's work and ministry.
- D. Rev. Brad Meinders and Rev. Seongjun (SJ) Kim
 - 1. Rev. Meinders and Kim spoke about the ministry of Church Beyond Borders, an English and Korean-language virtual church plant that has developed in the Des Moines metro and the ongoing desire to set up in-person gatherings in the DSM area.
- E. Rev. Zach King – Executive Secretary CRCNA
 - 1. A video is shown to the delegates from Rev. Zach King.

Art. 7686 – Written Reports from Denominational Ministry and Boards

- A. Written reports from the following Denominational Ministries and Boards were received for information:
 - 1. 2025 CRC Synod Delegate Report – Rev. Jonathan Spronk, reporting
 - 2. World Renew Fall 2025 Report
 - 3. Resonate Fall 2025 Report to Classes

Art. 7687 – Classis Delegates have sessions of small group prayer, bringing items of prayer and praise to our heavenly Father.

Art. 7688 – Rev. Mark Jicinsky closed the meeting in prayer.

Art. 7689 – Classis adjourned.

Next regular session of Classis will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026 at Connect CRC, Pella, IA. Agenda materials are due to statedclerk.centralplains@gmail.com by Jan. 15, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jonathan Spronk
Stated Clerk, Classis Central Plains

Note: After the meeting, Crossroads Fellowship let the Classis know that they will be celebrating their 75th anniversary with an anniversary service on Sunday, November 2, 2025.