ADDENDA - CLASSIS LAKE SUPERIOR



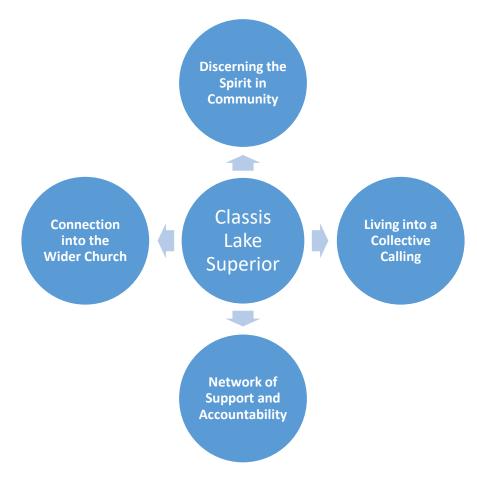




THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH September 18-19, 2023, In person at

Lake Geneva Christian Center, 605 Birch Ave, Alexandria, MN 56308

Classis Lake Superior is a covenanted fellowship of churches that seek to be faithful Reformed expressions of the body of Christ, honoring the triune God through worship and prayer, making disciples for Jesus Christ, and proclaiming and portraying His love in their communities and the world.



We help each other fulfill our calling to be Christ's Church in the following ways:

II. ON ARRIVAL AT CLASSIS

A. Please have your treasurer make out a check for Classis Meeting Expenses

of <u>\$5 per active professing member</u> of your congregation and Either <u>send it</u> to our new Classis Treasurer, Kristi Santema, 3698 150th Ave, Princeton, MN, USA 55371

Or

bring it along to place in the box on table or give it to her personally.

V. PRE-CLASSIS PRESENTATION SESSIONS

Presenters: David Huizenga, Pastor Bridgewood CRC, Savage, MN. Mary Sterenberg, Pastor of Prayer and Spirituality, Discovery CRC, Grand Rapids, MI.



Dave Huizenga is a husband, a father of four, and a grandfather to 11. He has been a church planter, a staff pastor, and a senior pastor of both mid-sized and mega churches. Through all this, Dave has realized that there is only one way that a life, or a church, or a city, or a country will shift or change toward God's Kingdom: by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, he has studied extensively, surrendered himself regularly, and taught consistently concerning the Holy Spirit. He has participated with PRMI and has been a teacher for the "Dunamis Project" for many years.

Currently, Dave is the Lead Pastor of Bridgewood Church in Savage, MN.



Mary Sterenberg is an ordained pastor in the Christian Reformed Church. Prior to serving in staff positions in church and denominational ministry, Mary worked as a Registered Occupational Therapist, most recently as a consultant to business and industry. Mary served as the Prayer Mobilizer for the Christian Reformed Home Missions Great Lakes Region for eleven years, and served for ten years as Prayer Coordinator for Classis Grand Rapids South. Mary served seven years on the board of directors for Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International (PRMI). Mary served as co-chair of the Grand Rapids CityFest Prayer Team for

the Luis Palau Association in 2018. She serves as pastor of prayer and spirituality at Discovery Christian Reformed Church. Mary is a certified Leader Breakthru coach, and serves pastors and leaders as coach and mentor. Mary is a member of the faculty of the Dunamis Institute (PRMI)

and teaches on prayer and the Holy Spirit throughout North America. Mary resides in Caledonia, MI with her husband Bruce. They have three grown and married children, and nine grandchildren. Mary's passion is for the bride of Christ to be healed, holy, unified, restored, revived, and empowered!

VII. SCHEDULE.

Monday:

08:00 - 10:00 – CIC meeting

- 10:00 10:30 Registration
- 10:30 12:00 Pre-Classis Seminar- Pastors David Huizenga, Mary Sterenberg
- 12:00 1:00 Lunch
- 12:15 First Time Delegate Orientation
- 1:00 2:30 Pre-Classis Seminar Cont'd
- 2:30 2:45 Break
- 2:45 5:30 Classis Convenes, Roll call, Business
- 5:30 6:45 Dinner
- 6:45 8:45/9:00 Worship –Pastors Huizenga and Sterenberg speaking And churches/ministry sharing and prayer

Tuesday

- 7:00 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:00 8:30 Devotions, Classis Business
- 8:30 - Examination of Candidate Matthew Guichelaar
- 12:00 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 2:30 Ministry Agenda
- 2:45 Closing Reflections, Evaluation, Prayer
- 3:00 Adjournment!

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IX. Materials for Classis

CLASSIS IS...

I. A Place of Discerning the Spirit in Community: When classis delegates gather, they are to discern God's will with others on behalf of their larger church community. Classis, as a deliberative assembly, is a community where this discernment happens.

A. Examination Candidate sermon on Assigned Text: Matthew Guichelaar Assigned Sermon for Classical Examination Text: Luke 16:1-16 Submitted August 22, 2023 (in Agenda)

I am in that stage of life where people start to seriously make long-term plans if they haven't already. In the last year-and-a-half, I have finished my schooling, gotten married, and found employment. Now is the time for Erica and I to think about and act on our future, and make sure we have some sort of plan for our lives going forward. Part of that planning involves how we use our money now that we both have salaries. How much are we aiming to save? What sort of investments should we make? How much are we able to give? These are crucial decisions that have the power to affect us for good or for ill many years from now.

People put a lot of thought and effort into their future. We are told to start thinking about and planning our retirements from a young age, before we even get full-time jobs. I think I was taught as much about planning for my retirement in school as I was taught about getting a job in the first place. People spend a lot of time and money saving, investing, and hiring accountants that will help them save as much money as possible, and avoid paying as much tax as they can get away with. All of this is done in hopes that they can live their last 10, 20, or 30 years of life relaxed, carefree, and financially independent, with something left over to give their kids.

The manager in our parable has to think about his financial future as well. How is he going to secure his future now that he is about to lose his job? He is about to have an early, involuntary retirement, and he needs to figure something out quickly if he doesn't want to end up on the streets. He is the manager for a rich man. These managers were given the power and responsibility to make legal transactions with third parties in their master's name. The manager had full control of the books. This particular manager hasn't been doing a very good job of managing his master's money, and he obviously hasn't done a very good job of hiding it from anyone other than his master either. His master has gotten wind of the rumors people have been spreading about his manager, and has called him into the office. The manager has squandered what has been entrusted to him, and his master tells him to get his things together and hand over the books. He is fired.

The manager has to think fast. It's unlikely that he will be able to get another management job. It's unlikely that his master will be giving him a good reference. He briefly considers his other options: manual labour and begging. He says he is not strong enough to dig and it is below his dignity to beg. With these two ideas off the table, the manager is quickly running out of options. Suddenly, he has a eureka moment. He hatches a plan that will allow him to live comfortably by freeloading off of people who are in his debt. He quickly gets to work to pull off his scheme.

So while the manager still has his master's books, he calls in his master's debtors one by one. These men who owe his master must be men of considerable means because their debts are huge. He tells them to change their bills, slashing their debts by up to 50%. If all went to plan, the master would not catch on to the manager's scheme. His master would not have known the debt amounts, and by having the debtors rewrite their bills, the manager could be confident that his master would have no idea that anything was amiss. By allowing them to change their debts, the manager puts his master's debtors under obligation to him. Once he is fired, the manager can go back to these debtors and say to them, "remember when I saved you 450 gallons of olive oil? 200 bushels of wheat? I've come on some hard times and I really need a place to stay. I did something for you, now you can do something for me." He could then live quite comfortably in the houses of his master's debtors.

In verse 8, we get to the tricky part of the passage, where things can get confusing. "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly." A lot has been written about why the master would commend the manager. Many different and contradictory theories have been put forward, and some scholars have simply thrown up their hands in bewilderment at this confusing parable. Why would the manager's master commend the dishonest manager for cheating him out of even more money? That's the same type of behavior that he fired the manager for in the first place. The master should be even more mad at the manager than he already was. He should not be commending the manager for wasting his money.

One explanation for the master's commendation is a begrudging respect for how brilliant the manager's plan was. Much like a general can be impressed by and praise the courage and cunning of the enemy who has defeated him, the master can't help but marvel at how the manager has fleeced him. He is not happy, but he is impressed. Even though it cost the master dearly, he had to admit that the manager's plan was smart.

Another explanation put forward by some scholars is that the manager's actions enhanced the master's reputation. Perhaps the debtors thought the change in the bills was an act of generosity on the master's part, not something done without his knowledge and against his wishes. The master gains a reputation for his generosity and is loved by all who deal with him, generating even more business and wealth than the master would have gained otherwise. Rather than point out that the manager was acting against his wishes, the master decides to go with the flow. The master acts like it was his idea all along and enjoys his improved reputation. This theory requires a lot of guesswork and assumes details that are not in the parable.

And yet another explanation could be that "the master" in verse 8 is not the same master mentioned in verses 3 and 5. David Garland, in his commentary, points out that the word translated "master" is the same Greek word for "Lord." Verses 3 and 5, say "my master" (or lord) and "his master (or lord)," clearly a reference to the rich man the manager serves. Verse 8; however, says, "the master (or lord)" with no reference back to the manager. That title, "The Lord," is often applied to Jesus in Luke. So, based on the language used, you could translate verse 8 to say, "The Lord [that is, Jesus] commended the dishonest manager..." Garland argues that the parable ends at verse 7 in a cliffhanger. We do not know if the manager was successful or not, or whether his master caught wind of his scheme. Garland argues that verse 8 is the beginning of Jesus' application, not the conclusion of the parable, while the other theories assume that at least the beginning of verse 8 is still part of the parable. If Jesus is "the master" or "the Lord" of verse 8, the problem of why the manager's master would commend him disappears. I find Garland's explanation quite convincing, but I also think that it's possible that the master could show begrudging respect for his manager's shrewdness as the first theory claims.

No matter which theory we think is the most likely, we know that Jesus is not making a moral statement and telling us that fraud and underhanded dealings are good. He is not encouraging us to go out and do what the manager did. He is instead making a parallel. As the manager, this person of the world, is shrewd in securing his earthly future, so the disciples, as children of the light, should be equally shrewd in securing their eternal future. That is the crux of verses 8 and 9.

And just to make sure that the disciples did not get the wrong idea and think that Jesus was telling them to literally act like the manager, he includes a couple of additional teachings. "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?" This is good advice in both the worldly and heavenly financial worlds. If the manager in the parable had heeded these words, he would not have lost his job in the first place. If his master had been more careful about who he was employing, he would not have lost so much of his money. Likewise, as Christians, when we use our worldly resources well and "store up treasures in heaven," we can expect to be blessed in eternity.

Jesus continues, "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." We are faced with a constant struggle. Our allegiance is constantly pulled between these two forces, service to God, and service to money. We can make our money an idol, the thing we put our trust in instead of relying on God's provision. Try as we might, we cannot divide our loyalties. There is no middle ground in service to God or money. This is a hard truth to accept. We can easily be like the Pharisees and hear Jesus' words and scoff at them. We can think that we are fully capable of serving God and our money at the same time. After all, we can keep God's commandments, at least on the surface, regardless of how we use our money. As long as we give our small part, the 10% required of us, we do not have to account for what we do with the rest. We might be able to trick those around us, but we cannot pull the wool over God's eyes. He knows where are hearts are at. He knows what we truly love more, him or our possessions. So we must be careful to always examine our hearts and check where our true loyalties lie.

In case we start thinking that Jesus is being a bit greedy by asking us to use our wealth in his service, we need to remember that our wealth is all ultimately God's wealth. God created and sustains the universe, and so everything we have is a blessing from him. In Deuteronomy 8:17-18 the Israelites were warned not to take this provision for granted when they entered the Promised Land and were enriched. "You may say to yourself, 'my power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today." Our lives and our wealth are gracious gifts from God. God has given them to us to enjoy, but he also asks us to show that same generosity to others who do not have enough. We give out of gratitude for all that God has blessed us with, not out of compulsion. If we are faithful with what we have been given, more will be added, true riches that will never spoil or fade.

There are many ways we can be faithful with what God has entrusted to us. There are many ways that the children of the light can use their possessions shrewdly. In my relatively short time here at First, I have already seen one particularly shrewd way that we are using our resources in service to God and our neighbours. Every other Tuesday, a number of ladies, both from the church and the community, gather at the church and weave mats made out of milk bags. These milk bag mats are sent overseas and used for bedding in hospitals. What a brilliant way to use what we have for good! Even our trash can be used in God's service. If our trash can be used in these amazing ways, how much more are we able to use our precious resources. There are all sorts of local, provincial, national, and international ministries that we can and do support that are carrying the Good News of the Kingdom of God and giving people a foretaste of the better life that Kingdom offers.

Jesus' parable about this shrewd manager is designed to make us ask, what would it look like to prepare for my eternal retirement? What can I do now to ensure that I will have a place to stay in God's kingdom when I lose my life rather than my job? How can I use my material resources for eternal good? How can I avoid serving money as an idol, and instead use my money wisely in service to God? We cannot serve both God and money, but that does not mean we cannot have money or use it in service to God. But we must be wise, we must be shrewd, like the manager in the parable. He acted quickly and decisively. He used the resources at his disposal, even if they were not really his to use. He found a way to exploit the situation to get as much out of it as he could. Jesus is calling us to do the same, but as children of the light rather than as children of the world. He is calling us to plan as much for the coming Kingdom as we are for our retirements. He calls us to find creative and effective ways to use the resources God has given us to help the poor and oppressed in this world. How can you answer that call with the goods that God has entrusted to you?

B. Canadian National Gathering Report -- Fred Rekman

This gathering of representatives from the Canadian CRC's was held in Ottawa, Ontario from May 25 till May 28 2023. We gathered at Algonquin college to listen, learn and share stories of how God is at work in this land.

The focus was on The Hearts Exchanged program, this program was developed by CRC staff, Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee and the Committee for contact with the Government. This program focused on reconciliation with our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

The Gathering was led by many gifted people who work in CRC ministries across Canada. We were blessed to learn about indigenous culture thru teachings, music and drama. We were taught about the effects of residential schools, broken treaties and the trauma inflicted on many generations as the culture of the Indigenous was destroyed.

I was encouraged by the participants willingness to learn, a desire to see God's healing Spirit change and direct us.

We as a Canadian CRC have much to atone for and the call for reconciliation with our Indigenous brothers and sisters cannot be ignored. We ask for your prayers for our churches and government as we strive to restore a relationship of respect and trust among all Canadians. Pray for God's grace and guidance for the Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee as they along with The Canadian CRC strive to do God's work. Thank You. Fred Rekman Info about Hearts Exchanged can be found at <u>crcna.org/hearts-exchanged</u>

C. Synod Report

Delegates were Pastors Aaron Greydanus of Raymond, and Steve Zwart of Unity, Prinsburg, and Elder Gaye Rieger of Bridgewood.

D. Ballot – Updated after Agenda version BALLOT Classis Lake Superior September 18-19, 2023

- I. Officers for the Meeting of Classis on March 6-7, 2023
 - a. Rules of Procedure:

At each meeting of Classis, Classis <u>shall elect a vice-president</u> from a list of at least three nominees presented by the Classical Interim Committee. This person shall serve as vice-president at the next meeting of Classis and as president at the subsequent meeting.

b. CIC Nominations:

Vote for one –

e.g. Circle – the one with the highest number of votes will be Vice President. David Zigterman; Marg Rekman; David Huizenga

c. Other Nominations from councils. _____

- II. Functionaries of Classis
 - 1. CIC-Shall consist of five members plus the Secretary of Classis (ex officio). There shall be one alternate.

Person	term	date	Yes	No
Alt.	2 nd	Sept 23 thru Aug 26		

2. Finance Committee = CIC + Treasurer, Alt and 1 other member. Calendar Yr Term

Need to replace Tim Huber

term	date	Yes	No
1st	Jan 1, 24 to Dec 31, 27		

3. CHMC-CA -shall have 5 members: 2 clergy, 3 lay, with 2 alts, 1 clergy, 1 lay. Need 1 clergy

Person	term	dates	Yes	No

4. CMLT – Classical Ministerial Leadership Team

There shall be four regular members and at least one clergy and one non-clergy Member, and either a clergy or non-clergy alternate.

Person	term	dates	Yes	No
Alt.	1st	Sept 23 thru Aug 26		
	1st	Sept 23 thru Aug 26		

6. BOT Calvin Seminary Formerly Region 8 -- US only.

(Robert Drenten completed 2 terms)

Person	term	dates	Yes	No
Alt.	1st	Sept 23 thru Aug 26		
	1st	Sept 23 thru Aug 26		

- COD –Need to NOMINATE someone to replace Michael Ten Haken as COD rep. COD is a board or committee, so membership is open to any CRC member. Process:
 - 1. Classis is asked to nominate **one person** for the COD position.

2. Where there is already a vacancy, nominations from classis are accepted at any point. These folk are voted in at the next COD meeting as *interim delegates* right away, and then ratified at the next synod.

Person	term	dates	Yes	No
	1st	July 2024 ff ??		
	1st			

8. Church Visitors

Central

Person	term	dates	Yes	No
Clergy needed		Sept 23 thru Aug 26		
		Sept 23 thru Aug 26		

E. Overtures - None

CLASSIS IS...

II. A Network of Support and Accountability:

Because disciples are made to live in relationships, church leaders need a community of churches with which to share joys and struggles, to be encouraged and challenged.

A. Monday evening worship, sharing and prayers –

- **B. CIC report** Verbal update
- C. Clerk report

(in Agenda)

(in Agenda)

D. Church Visitor Reports

East Region

Revs. Dan DeGraff, David Huizenga -as Oversight Committee

<u>Faith CRC (New Brighton, MN) Oversight Committee Report</u> Revs. Dan De Graff (Ch. Vis.), Dave Huizenga (Ch. Vis.), and Nick Van Beek (Ch. Couns.)

The Oversight Committee met with Faith's Council in May to receive an update, review the mandate, and address the main goals and hopes of our relationship. We acknowledged a mix of anxiety, apprehension, and excitement in the group as they're stepping into a challenging transition. We offered three conversation prompts for them to discuss and address some of the recurring themes from listening circles and initial work: 1) Processing grief, 2) missional focus and increased participation from the congregation without burning out leaders, and 3) Christian Reformed identity and understanding terms like "openness, tolerance, flexibility, and diversity."

Throughout the summer, Faith's leadership has been concentrating on visioning and transitional leadership. Dave has recommended a process intended to help them hone in on their identity—not just what Faith does, but who Faith is and why they do what they do. This includes recognizing assets and strengths, naming core values, identifying their audience, and working toward specific actions. We met in August with Faith leaders to give feedback on preliminary work and how to present this to the church. We communicated that vision-casting and revitalization are long-term aspects of church life and will go well beyond the work of our committee. We encouraged them to listen to the Faith family, but also boldly lead into the desired future.

While our mandate includes helping to secure an interim or specialized transition minister, the pool of those available is extremely limited. Early in the summer, Pastor-Church Resources had hoped to provide someone but there were complications that did not allow the candidate to move. Faith has continued to seek if there are any available ministers as the summer has gone on. Through conversations with the office, they are hopeful about

the prospect of a new hybrid relationship with an STM that may involve shortened onlocation time and counseling/skilled leadership mainly long-distance. Preaching is shared by Commissioned Pastor Travis Deur and two members of their congregation. They also continue to receive input and advice from Sean Baker and Larry Doornbos, who were consulted before and after the Article 17 release.

We are grateful to see the work and commitment Faith is putting in during this time. We believe it will serve them well when the time to begin a search process comes. We pray God would provide clarity, growth, and hope as they continue to listen, discuss, and implement what they discern for their church in this time.

Report To Classis Lake Superior

August 20, 2023 Support Committee for Adam and Erin Stout

Dear Classis

Kindly accept the following report from the support committee for Adam and Erin Stout. The committee is comprised of Stan DeVries (Chair), Lisa DeKam (Secretary), Matt DeKam, and Gaye Rieger. To reiterate in part, the mandate for this group is to maintain contact with Adam and Erin in a pastoral and supportive manner as they receive counseling from Full Strength Network to help them process this time of transition and prepare themselves for what lies ahead in terms of housing, work, ministry, church, family, etc.

In March, Stan met with Adam to assess their needs and discuss questions about chaplain training. The committee met for dinner twice with Adam and Erin and communicated ad hoc several other times. Our rapport is good, and we enjoy our time together. Both Adam and Erin have felt free to process their feelings of loss and the challenges related to their uncertain future. They indicated the committee has been a valuable place for them to process their pain and loss. Adam, Erin and Family are managing through the transition as gracefully as anyone might hope to do. This report will delve briefly into the 5 topics outlined at an appropriate level for Classis

Housing: The family moved from the parsonage to an apartment near Erin's work. This was a key point of concern in our first meeting, especially regarding the disposition of pets. The transition complete, this was not a major topic in our 2nd meeting.

Work and Ministry: Erin continues in her prior role. Adam has a part time role as a food taster. On weekends, he is DJ'ing. Adam characterizes himself as underemployed (correctly) and is engaging with a networking group at a local mega church to explore more options. At this point, his job search is not focused on a formal ministry position, though he has been providing pulpit supply, has conducted several funerals, and shows an ongoing passion for Jesus. Recently, Adam was asked to conduct a funeral at Faith CRC

for a member whom he had mentored into membership. He felt this service had gone well.

Church: The family is worshipping regularly at a neighborhood church. The pastors of this church have embraced the family and are providing loving pastoral care.

Family: Adam and Erin are wisely taking advantage of local counseling opportunities provided to them individually and collectively. They are showing genuine love and concern for each other and their girls. Family seems to be a source of strength in the transition.

To reiterate, the Stouts are undergoing major transitions in terms of housing and vocation, and while things are not settled, they are managing through as gracefully as any family might. The committee has good rapport with each other and with the Stouts, and we expect we will continue meeting in a friendly manner for at least the next 6 months.

Matt DeKam on behalf of the Stout Support Committee <u>matthewdekam@gmail.com</u> 612-559-4242

E. Church Counselor Reports (Reports in Agenda unless otherwise noted here)

- 1. Brandon First, CRC Brian Bolkema
- 2. Brooten -- Steve Zwart
- 3. Bunde Steve Zwart
- 4. First CRC, Thunder Bay Marg Rekman No report
- 5. Faith, CRC, New Brighton -- Nick Van Beek cf. Oversight report above.

6. Good News Fellowship -- Ben Verkerk No report

7. Grace CRC, Inver Grove Heights – Nick Van Beek

- 8. Pease CRC, Pease, MN Mark Brouwer
- 9. Trinity Hill Mark Brouwer
- 10. Willmar, Rock of Life CRC Steve Zwart.

F. Regional Pastor Reports

(in Agenda)

III. Living into a Collective Calling:

At some point, churches that are in healthy relationships with one another will begin to ask how God might be calling them to serve their city or region together. Many ministry opportunities go beyond the ability of any one church. Some of these will be classis wide, while others may be in major urban centers of a large, geographically spread classis.

A. Finance Committee/Treasurer's Report Note: The 2022 Financial Report will be posted on the Classical Web site

(in Agenda)

Revised Finance Committee Report and Recommendations

Finance Committee (Revisions in Yellow) Classis Lake Superior August 7, 2023

- CIC Charman Rev. Brian Bolkema called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at Faith CRC and opened with prayer. Those attending in addition to Brian were Rev. Henry Gunnink, Rev. Harrison Newhouse, Carol Veldman Rudie, Jim Lipscomb, Kristi Santema, Hendrik Stel and Tim Hubers. Rev. Margaret Rekman was not able to attend. Brian welcomed everyone and turned the meeting over to Kristi as Classical Treasurer.
- 2. There was discussion about the appropriate mileage reimbursement. Some members thought there should be more ride sharing for meetings whenever possible or maybe use car rentals, although car rentals have been very expensive recently. With gas prices increasing the last several months, motion was made, seconded and approved that we continue the current reimbursement of 60 cents per mile or kilometer. This will be reviewed again next year.
- 3. Kristi reviewed receipts for Classical Ministry Shares and only 32% have been collected YTD. This excludes prior year surpluses. Tim will draft a letter for Kristi to send to churches asking them to submit their half year Ministry Share payments soon and consider making quarterly payments if possible.
- 4. Classical member headcount was discussed. Motion was made, seconded and approved to use 2,800 members for calculation of 2024 Classical Ministry Shares. This is the same headcount used for 2023.
- 5. The cash balance of all funds as of December 31, 2023 totaled \$574,821.57, which includes some prior year surpluses.
- 6. Classical expenses were reviewed from prior years. It was noted that Classis Contracta meeting expenses should be broken out separately from regular scheduled meetings in the spring and fall. Motion was made, seconded and approved for Classical expense fund of \$16 per member for 2024 i.e. (\$8 @ for spring and fall Classis meetings of 2024).

- 7. Motion was made, seconded and approved that support for Dordt University be recommended for Classis Lake Superior churches in the requested amount of \$69.20 per member for 2024.
- 8. Kristi then took the committee members through the financial statements of each ministry that was requesting funds for 2024. The committee looked at submitted financial statements, cash on hand, specific needs of the Ministries and the financial request for 2024. Total requests for 2024 were \$137,800 compared to \$106,800 for 2023 or 29% more, a sizable increase. All requests were approved by the committee with the exception of The Broken Church. New financial information for The Broken was received shortly before the meeting. This new information showed estimated net income for 2023 approximately \$29,000 more than previously thought. This new information also showed a cash balance on hand at the end of 2022 of \$46,000. Hendrik is going to discuss this new information with The Broken to make sure that the committee is understanding everything correctly and report back to the committee. Given the information we had at the meeting, the requested funding was reduced from \$34,800 to \$20,000. Based on Hendrik's discussions with The Broken, this request can be adjusted at the September Classis meeting. Motion was made, seconded and approved to set the 2024 Classical Ministry Shares as follows:

The Gathering Place	\$25,000	\$8.93 per member
Hope Centre	25,000	8.93
Seminary Scholarship	10,000	3.58
Prayer Mobilization, Canada	2,000	.71
New Life Church	20,000	7.14
The Broken Church	<mark>34,800</mark>	13.86 Adjusted because of new info
Youth Champion	19,000	6.79
Ministry Partnership	2,000	<u>.71</u>
Total	\$ <mark>137,800</mark>	<mark>\$49.21</mark>

9. Tim's term is up at the end of this year. Henry will contact 3 people in specified order and they will be asked to join the Finance Committee next year. Jim closed in prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Hubers

B. Classical Home Missions Committees

 CHMC – David Zigterman, chair (in Agenda)
Home Missionary/Church Planter Reports – New Life SEA (South East Asian) Faith, New Brighton,- Phonh Sinbondit no report

The Broken - Chris Alle (in Agenda)

Youth Champion's Report – Travis Deur

(in Agenda)

2. CHMC – CAN, Ben Verkerk – Chair	(in Agenda)
The Gathering Place – Yvonne Schenk	(in Agenda)
Hope Centre – Shellie Power	video report
Canadian Prayer Mobilizers – Sonya Cahais	(in Agenda)
C. CMLT – Dan De Graff	(in Agenda)
D. Safe Church	No report

A Connection into the Wider Church:

For many people, their main experience of being part of the broader family of the Christian Reformed Church is via classis. Churches participate in their denomination through classical structure and opportunity. Classis also connects the broadness of North American ministry into the individual church's own regional and local context, providing an avenue for a meaningful relationship with the denominational ministries.

In addition, Classis should encourage churches to live outside themselves into the broader Christian community.

A. Chaplaincy Reports		
1. Mayo Hospice Chaplaincy	Dan Crapo	(in Agenda)
2. Elim Village, Surrey BC	Gerald VanSmeerdyk	no report
B. Classical Delegates		
1. BOT Calvin University Region 2 CAN		no report
2. BOT Calvin University Region 8 US		no report
3. Board of Trustees: Calvin Seminary	Robert Drenten	(in Agenda)
4. Calvin Seminary Can. Church Liaison	Shawn Brix	no report
5. Resonate Global Missions	Brad Meinders	(in Agenda)
6. World Renew		(in Agenda)
7. Council of Delegates: COD, and Canada Cor	ps	no report
8. Canadian Ministries Director	Al Postma, Trans. Exec. Dir.	(in Agenda)
9. Diaconal Ministries Canada	Ron Vanden Brink	(in Agenda)

C. AGENCIES AND OTHER CHRISTIAN ORGS

Todd Zuidema	(in Agenda)
	Todd Zuidema

2. Redeemer University

3. Thrive Ministries

Trudy Ash is now our Regional Connector working on behalf of Thrive. Lesli Van Milligen will bring a verbal report on this new denominational umbrella ministry.