

**Classis Iakota**  
**MINUTES**  
**Special Session on October 29, 2021, at 6:00pm**  
**Platte Christian Reformed Church**  
**Platte, South Dakota**

**Art. 3639:** Rev. Joel Kok, Chair for this special classis meeting, welcomes the delegates. Rev. Drew Hoekema opens in prayer, reads Ezekiel 34:1-16, and offers devotions. Ezekiel’s words are both haunting and comforting; they help us understand our purpose this evening in finding a good and faithful shepherd-leader for God’s people at Lakeview CRC.

**Art.3640:** Presentation of Credentials and Roll Call

<u>Churches</u>	<u>Ministers</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>
Corsica	Scott Nichols	Chad Vander Pol	Dick Bordewyk
Harrison	Gary Maas	Steve Veenstra	Ryan Erickson
Inwood	Adam Eisenga	Dale Kollis	Darrin VanDeStroet*
New Holland		Darcy Jongejeugd	Randy Veurink
		Dave Vander Pol	
Platte	Drew Hoekema	Darrel Kraayenbrink	Randy Pheifer*
Rapid City – Hope	no delegation		
Rock Rapids	no delegation		
Rock Valley – Calvin	Gideon Wamala	Jim Vande Kerk	
Rock Valley – First	Matthew Haan	Vern Van Beek	Steve Hoekstra*
Rock Valley – Trinity	Stanley Grootthof		
Amistad Christiana	no delegation		
Sioux Center – Bethel	John Lee	Rod Zomermaand	Wade Vanden Berg*
Sioux Center – Bridge of Hope	no delegation		
Sioux Center – Covenant	Joel Kok	Len Rhoda	Kris Vander Plaats
Sioux Center – Faith	Cliff Hoekstra	George Bierma	Pete De Boer*
Sioux Center – First	Kurt Monroe	Derick Roos	Drew De Vries
Sioux Center – Lebanon		Wayne Dekkers	
		Orlan Gulker	
Sioux Falls – Cornerstone Prison	no delegation		
Sioux Falls – First	no delegation		
Sioux Falls – Shalom (via Zoom)	Kyle De Young	Tim Mulder	Pam Ten Napel
Valentine – Lakeview		Jay Gunnink	
		Gary Peters	

\* Indicates first time delegates who signed the Covenant for Officebearers

**Art. 3641:** Classis is declared constituted. The Chair welcomes the delegates and visitors, including the Synodical Deputies, namely Rev. Russell W. Boersma (Classis Northcentral Iowa), Rev. Scott M. Muilenburg (Classis Minnkota), and Rev. Todd M. Zuidema (Classis Heartland), as well as Candidate Joshua Stammis and his parents. The Chair assigns Bethel CRC to the Credentials Committee and Platte CRC to the Tallying Committee.

**Art. 3642:** The Examination of Candidate Joshua Stammis (part 1)

A. Practica:

1. Rev. Gideon Wamala conducts the examination, asking about Mr. Stammis’s background, sense of call, spiritual habits, and commitment to the CRC.
2. Opportunity is given the delegates and Synodical Deputies to ask questions.
3. **Motion** to proceed with the examination. *– Adopted*

B. Sermon Evaluation:

1. Rev. Cliff Hoekstra gives his and Rev. Dan De Groot’s sermon evaluation report. Mr. Stammis’s candidacy sermon was based on 1 Samuel 3 and titled “The Lord in the

Silence.” He also submitted a sermon on 1 Peter 4:12-19 titled “I Didn’t Sign Up for This” and a sermon on Isaiah 40:1-5 and Lord’s Day 1 titled “Road Work Ahead.”

2. Opportunity is given the delegates and Synodical Deputies to ask questions.

3. **Motion** to proceed with the examination.

– *Adopted*

4. The Synodical Deputies concur in the decision.

C. Biblical-Theological Examination:

1. Rev. Kurt Monroe conducts the examination, covering biblical knowledge and theology, Reformed distinctives, ethics, the sacraments, and the confessions. Mr. Stammis states his agreement with the Reformed creeds and confessions.

2. Opportunity is given the delegates and Synodical Deputies to ask questions.

D. **Motion** to admit Candidate Joshua Stammis to the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

1. The Chair declares executive session and leads Classis in a prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Opportunity is given the delegates and Synodical Deputies to discuss the examination.

2. The Synodical Deputies are excused to prepare their recommendation.

3. Classis votes by ballot. (Continued in Art. 3644 below.)

**Art. 3643:** Credentials Committee Report

Rev. John Lee reports on Covenant CRC’s request for approval to commission elders to administer their weekly celebration of the Lord’s Supper when a minister is in not available. Covenant CRC also provides information pertaining to their desire to call Rev. Paul Birnbaum to the fulltime chaplaincy position at Monument Health in Rapid City. Both of these matters will be included in the agenda of the next Classis meeting.

**Art. 3644:** The Examination of Candidate Joshua Stammis (part 2)

A. **Motion** to admit Candidate Joshua Stammis to the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

– *Adopted*

1. The Synodical Deputies concur in the decision of Classis and provide Classis with the Candidate Admission document.

2. The Classical Interim Committee agrees to assign a mentor to Mr. Stammis.

3. Executive session ends.

B. The Chair informs Mr. Stammis of Classis’ decision to admit him into the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the CRCNA. Mr. Stammis receives his Classical Diploma. The Chair offers a prayer after which all present are given the opportunity to extend congratulations to him.

C. Lakeview CRC will inform Classis of the date of Mr. Stammis’s ordination. [Stated Clerk’s note: it was decided the next day that the ordination has been set for November 14, 2021.]

**Art. 3645:** The Chair offers closing remarks and a closing prayer. The delegates sing the Doxology. Classis adjourns at 8:30pm.

**Upcoming meetings of Classis Iakota:**

Special meeting: Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 6:00pm at Shalom CRC Sioux Falls.

Regular meeting: Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 9:00am at Inspiration Hills in Inwood, hosted by Bridge of Hope Ministries.

*Stanley J. Groothof*  
*Alternate Stated Clerk*