

Classis Huron Ministry Plan.

Recently, the Classis Ministry Committee (CMC), gave me the task of assisting Classis in developing a Classis Ministry plan. The Christian Reformed Church in North America has asked all Classis to develop these plans in relation to their [Our Journey 2025](#). This will consist of connecting with the various committees and working groups and updating and/or affirming mandates to create a collective vision for our work. I have begun the process with the assistance of the Classis Huron Mission Team who have agreed to be the first to experience a discernment process and offer feedback on an ongoing basis.

The Classis Huron Mission Team recently came together as 4 Christians, passionate about faith and intentional about the calling to serve Classis Huron and its Churches and Ministries as they seek to do his kingdom work. We grounded the exercise in prayer and had confidence that God was with us in the process.

We began by examining our current context. What is going on in the world, our country, communities, denomination and churches? What is this moment in time and how does it affect the work we are doing? What do we need to name and mitigate in order to move forward?

The next step in the process brought us to the blue sky – high above current adversity and challenges, we imagined what Classis would look like if we had achieved God's vision for us. From our respective musings the following themes emerged. Classis Huron would be rich in the following ways:

- Connectivity
- Church Renewal and Planting
- Prayer
- Leadership Development
- Community Connections

We chose to explore the theme of connectivity in Classis Huron/the Church in greater depth. We defined it as accepting and helping each other, listening, hearing and loving one another without reservation and sharing our stories. We asked a series of questions:

- What are the underlying obstacles to connectivity within Classis/the Church?
- How do these obstacles block connectivity?
- How can we address these obstacles?
- How do these solutions relate to our mission as Classis Huron Mission Team?

The result was exciting. We developed some goals and strategic directions in the area of connectivity that we can carry forward into the next five years.

CHMT would both emphasize and exemplify connectivity by:

- Being present, visiting first-hand, Church plants, and other transformational places.
- Inviting people to participate on our Team, in our discussions and in our vision.
- Providing information/training and orientation on:
 - Our mandate
 - New resources and opportunities in mission
- Facilitating networking to share experiences and build relationships.
- Promote ourselves and related work through new technology – video, zoom meetings, etc.

A morning spent together after 2 years of Zoom meetings was a blessing in itself. The group felt they had made a good start to defining what a Class Huron Mission Team could be and some actions and postures to carry with them. One participant expressed, “visioning was so fruitful and good”.

Next steps to this particular visioning process would be a similar conversation on Church Planting and Church Renewal. True to the above sentiments we will be issuing invitations to anyone with a heart for church renewal or church plants to join us - Please prayerfully consider joining for the session and look for an invitation soon.

In his name – Joan