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ACTS OF SYNOD

2010



CHRISTIAN
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June 12-17, 2010
Martin and Janet Ozinga Chapel
Trinity Christian College
Palos Heights, Illinois

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2850 Kalamazoo Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49560 U.S.A.
Printed in the United States of America

The Christian Reformed Church is active in missions, education, publishing, media, pastoral care, advocacy, diaconal outreach, and youth ministry. To learn about our work in North America and around the world, visit www.crcna.org.

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Synod 2010 was held at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois, June 12-17, 2010. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the synod gathered to worship, pray, fellowship, and work together in a spirit of service and grace. The whole church owes these men and women a debt of gratitude for the leadership they have provided.

The *Acts of Synod 2010* contains the following:

- Supplementary reports of the Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America and those agencies and committees authorized to file them.
- Supplementary overtures and a communication to synod re matters completed at a spring classis meeting.
- Financial reports.
- The minutes of Synod 2010.
- An index for both the *Acts of Synod* and the *Agenda for Synod 2010*.

It is necessary for the user of the *Acts of Synod 2010* to keep the *Agenda for Synod 2010* at hand for ready reference. The *Agenda* is not reprinted in the *Acts*. The pagination continues from the *Agenda* to the *Acts*. Supplementary materials begin on page 713, following preliminary unnumbered pages. Financial reports begin on page 773. The minutes of synod follow, beginning on page 793. The index references both the *Agenda for Synod* and the *Acts of Synod*; the numbers in **boldface type** refer to pages in the minutes of Synod 2010.

The *Acts of Synod 2010* are more than simply the official record of actions taken. They also demonstrate the work of God in the CRC. This record reflects what God has done and continues to do in and through his church. The Lord has blessed the CRC with many resources, and he calls us to use those resources with care and compassion. As the Christian Reformed Church continues the work of transforming lives and communities worldwide, it does so only in the strength and the power of his Spirit.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

(Eph. 3:20-21)

Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director
Christian Reformed Church in North America

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SUPPLEMENT

I. Polity matters

A. *Interim appointments* (Committee 1)

The Board of Trustees approved on behalf of synod the following appointees:

	Classis	Deputy/delegate	Alternate	Term
Synodical				
Deputies	Alberta South/Sask.	Rev. J. Cameron Fraser	Rev. Jake Corvers	2013(1)
	California South	Rev. Neville L. Koch	Rev. William Verhoef	2013(1)
	Greater Los Angeles		Rev. Paul R. Hoekstra	
	Hamilton	Rev. Ralph Koops		2013(1)
	Hudson	Rev. Stephen J. Wolma		2013(1)
	lakota	Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper	Rev. Clifford Hoekstra	2013(1)
	Illiana	Rev. Calvin J. Aardsma	Rev. Bernard F. Tol	2013(1)
	Minnkota	Rev. Timothy J. Brown	Rev. Timothy J. Ouwinga	2013(1)
	Northcentral Iowa	Rev. Thomas J. Niehof	Rev. Frank E. Pott	2013(1)
	Northern Michigan	Rev. Jaclyn D. Guikema Busch	Rev. Chris Kostelansky	2013(1)
CRWRC	Hackensack	Rev. John Algera		2013(1)

B. *Board of Trustees membership* (Committee 1)

1. Trustees whose terms expire or who have resigned as of June 30, 2010:

Region/Classis	Member
Region 5	Rev. Rod Vander Ley
Region 10	Ms. Suzanne Van Engen
Region 11	Rev. Daniel B. Mouw
U.S. At-large	Mr. James Clousing
Eastern Canada	Rev. Paul Vanderkooy
Classis Hamilton	Rev. Arie G. Van Eek
Canada At-large	Mrs. Patricia Storteboom

2. Words of thanks

The services provided by members of the Board of Trustees deserve the recognition and appreciation of synod. The quality of CRC members who are willing to serve the church in governing functions is one of our strengths as a church and community. This year, six of the trustees are completing their second term of service on the Board. They are Mr. James Clousing, Rev. Daniel B. Mouw, Mrs. Patricia Storteboom, Rev. Paul Vanderkooy, Rev. Arie G. Van Eek, and Rev. Rod Vander Ley. In addition, Ms. Suzanne Van Engen has resigned from the Board due to a transfer to another church from outside of the region she represents on the Board. We thank God for each of these dedicated servants and for their contributions to the Board and the Christian Reformed Church.

3. Gratitude for Mr. Marten Mol

Board of Trustees delegate from Classis Toronto, Mr. Marten Mol, succumbed to brain cancer in March 2010. Mr. Mol's participation and contributions to the Board will be sorely missed. The Board of Trustees, in its adoption of the following resolution, expresses its sincere gratitude to the family of Mr. Marten A. Mol:

Resolution of Sympathy for the Marten Mol Family

The Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, in session in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on April 30, 2010, expresses its sympathy to Mrs. Anne Mol and family in the passing of Mr. Marten A. Mol on March 22, 2010. The Board gives thanks to God for Marten's deep love and dedicated service to the Christian Reformed Church and for his gifted and insightful leadership on the Board of Trustees. May the God of all comfort sustain and encourage you.

4. Classis Toronto member

Given the untimely passing of Mr. Mol, Classis Toronto approves and the Board of Trustees endorses presenting to synod for appointment to the Board of Trustees Mr. Peter Noteboom. Mr. Noteboom's biographical information was submitted on the slate for the Canada at-large position in the Board of Trustees Report found in the *Agenda for Synod 2010*.

Ground: Both the classis and Mr. Noteboom, as well as the BOT, by way of exception are in favor of the proposed single nominee to fill the vacancy on the Board of Trustees given the unforeseen circumstances.

5. Region 10 member

Because of the recent resignation from the Board of Region 10 member Ms. Suzanne Van Engen, the Board requests that synod elect the following single nominee to a first term as a Region 10 member:

Ms. Angela Taylor Perry is a member of Faith CRC, Holland, Michigan. She serves as a pastor of reconciliation ministries at her church, and has served as a facilitator and curriculum designer for the CRC Office of Race Relations. Ms. Taylor Perry was ordained as a ministry associate and served as a resident pastor of Church of the Servant CRC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She holds a B.A. degree from Spring Arbor University and a M.A. degree from Calvin Theological Seminary. Ms. Taylor Perry has served on the board of Midwest Counseling Services and the board of the Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony.

Grounds:

- a. Only one nominee was submitted by the classes within Region 10 in response to the requests for nominations.
- b. The BOT desires to fill the position and avoid a year-long vacancy.
- c. The nominee is well qualified and the Board would benefit by her contributions.

C. Officers of the Board of Trustees for 2010-2011 (Committee 1)

1. The CRCNA-Canada Corporation

President: Mr. Gary VanArragon
Vice president: Rev. Kenneth D. Boonstra
Secretary: Mrs. Grace Miedema

2. The CRCNA-Michigan Corporation

President: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire
Vice president: Rev. Robert A. Lyzenga
Vice-all: Rev. Sheila Holmes

3. The binational Board of Trustees officers

President: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire
Vice president: Rev. Kenneth D. Boonstra
Vice-all: Rev. Sheila Holmes

D. Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee (Committee 8)

The committee addressing Personal Appeals 3 and 4 to Synod 2009 have concluded their work. The Board of Trustees received the report of the committee and its recommendations on behalf of synod. The Board requests that synod receive the report of the Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee as information (see Appendix A).

E. Denominational Membership Mailing List Policy and Administration (Committee 1)

It has been ten years since synod adopted the Denominational Mailing List Policy. The policy serves the congregations of the denomination and approved organizations that wish to convey information or solicit financial support. The Board approved a revision of the policy, following a review by legal counsel both in the U.S. and Canada, and presents it to synod as information (see Appendix B).

F. Endorsement of the nomination for president of Calvin Theological Seminary (Committee 3)

As required by the bylaws of the BOT, the nominee for the presidency of Calvin Theological Seminary was interviewed by the BOT at its meeting on April 29, 2010. The Board, with thanks to God and with deep appreciation, endorses the nomination of Rev. Julius T. Medenblik as president of Calvin Theological Seminary.

G. Strategy/statement regarding diversity in leadership (Committee 1)

Synod 2009 requested the BOT to instruct the executive director to convene an ethnically inclusive group to develop a statement of vision and strategy for increasing multiethnic representation within the leadership of the denomination and report to Synod 2010. The Diversity in Leadership Planning Group has met and begun its work, including conducting a survey of senior denominational leadership as well as denominational board officers. A report is not ready at this time for presentation to Synod 2010, however, the group intends to complete its work and present a report to the BOT in September 2010.

H. *Board discussion on covenant, youth, and discipleship* (Committee 1)

The Board of Trustees spent some time in its April 29, 2010, meeting in conversation regarding faith formation and the place of children and youth in our churches. The Board undertook this conversation because it is very concerned with the continued disappearance of youth from the life of our congregations and from long-term membership or association with the CRC.

The Board was reminded of the “double grace and benefit from God in baptism.” It took note of both the action of God in acquitting and adopting us as his children, but also understands that God by his Spirit works daily in our lives, cultivating a relationship with us so that we will live for him. The Board noted that when churches fully recognize and embrace this truth, they will see

- children and youth involved in vital ways in the worship, service, and discipleship life of the church, both leading and participating.
- children and youth not only instructed but given opportunity to express their story to instruct us about their childlike faith.
- generations interacting with each other, valuing each stage of faith development, and understanding that faith is a life-long learning activity.

The Board will continue to engage in this discussion and asks that churches, classes, and synod take this matter seriously. The BOT invites the study and implementation of the work of the Faith Formation Committee and encourages members to read books together, such as *Helping Our Children Grow in Faith* by Robert Keeley.

I. *Revision of the Footnote of Heidelberg Catechism Q. and A. 80* (Committee 4)

The Committee to Propose a Combined RCA/CRC Translation of the Three Reformed Standards (see *Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 166-383) has prepared a new footnote for Heidelberg Catechism Q. and A. 80 (pp. 347-48) for inclusion in the proposed revision of the Heidelberg Catechism.

It is requested that synod adopt the following replacement wording for the footnote to Q. and A. 80 in the proposed Heidelberg Catechism translation (see *Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 348):

Q&A 80*

*Footnote

Q. and A. 80 was altogether absent from the first edition of the catechism but was present in a shorter form in the second edition. The translation here given is of the expanded text of the third edition.

In response to a mandate from Synod 1998, the Christian Reformed Church’s Interchurch Relations Committee conducted a study of Q. and A. 80 and the Roman Catholic Mass. Based on this study, Synod 2004 declared that “Q. and A. 80 can no longer be held in its current form as part of our confession.” Synod 2006 directed that Q. and A. 80 remain in the CRC’s text of the Heidelberg Catechism but that the last three paragraphs be placed in brackets to indicate that they do not accurately reflect the official teaching and practice of today’s Roman Catholic Church and are no longer confessionally binding on members of the CRC.

The Reformed Church in America retains the original full text, choosing to recognize that the catechism was written within a historical context that may not accurately describe the Roman Catholic Church's current stance.

II. Program and finance matters

A. Program matters

1. Director of Christian Reformed Home Missions (Committee 5)

The board of Christian Reformed Home Missions (CRHM) has implemented a search for a new director. It is anticipated that a candidate will be identified well before the convening of Synod 2011. At the request of the board of CRHM, the BOT requests that Synod 2010 empower the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA to ratify, on its behalf, the appointment of the new director of Christian Reformed Home Missions when one has been chosen.

Grounds:

- a. The search process will begin in June 2010 but will end by the end of 2010 or the beginning of 2011.
- b. The nominee will be interviewed by the BOT in February 2011, and waiting until Synod 2011 for ratification would further delay the appointment to this important position.

2. Safe Church Advocates (Committee 2)

The BOT, after consideration of a recommendation by the Safe Church Ministry Advisory Council, adopted changing the title of *Advocate* to *Safe Church Advocate* and asks that synod take note of this action with the following grounds:

Grounds:

- a. The advocate is trained by the office of Safe Church Ministry.
- b. The advocate is trained to serve victims of church leader misconduct through or apart from the advisory panel process.
- c. The advocate is certified by the office of Safe Church Ministry to assist in ecclesiastical settings.
- d. With certification, an ecclesiastical body is assured of a trained, competent advocate.

B. Finance matters (Committee 6)

1. The Board approved the unified budget for the denominational entities inclusive of the individual budgets of the agencies, the educational institutions, the denominational offices, the Loan Fund, and the Pension Funds of the CRC as presented in the report of the Budget Review Committee.
2. The Board recommends that synod approve a ministry share of \$316.76 (a 3% increase over the 2010 amount) per adult member (age 18 and over) for calendar year 2011 to partially support the approved unified denominational budget. In light of the present economic uncertainty, and because ministry-share adjustments do not affect the ministries until the first quarter of 2011, the income generated by the increased ministry share will be used to fund strategic priorities identified within the ministries

over the next twelve months. Staff recommendations on the specific use of these gifts will be presented to the BOT as appropriate. The Board desires to convey its understanding that some geographical regions were hit much harder than others by the recent economic downturn and wishes to encourage all churches to do what they are able to contribute to ministry share.

3. The Board recommends that synod approve the list of above-ministry share offerings as follows:
 - a. Denominational agencies recommended for one or more offerings
 - Back to God Ministries International
 - Calvin College
 - Calvin Theological Seminary
 - Christian Reformed Church Foundation
 - CR Home Missions
 - CR World Missions
 - CR World Relief Committee – one offering per quarter because the agency receives no ministry-share support
 - Denominational Ministry Programs
 - 1) Chaplaincy Ministries
 - 2) Committee for Contact with the Government
 - 3) Disability Concerns
 - 4) Pastor-Church Relations
 - 5) The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry
 - 6) Race Relations
 - 7) Safe Church Ministry
 - 8) ServiceLink
 - 9) Social Justice and Hunger Action
 - 10) Urban Aboriginal Ministries
 - Faith Alive Christian Resources
 - b. Denominationally related agencies recommended for one or more offerings
 - Dynamic Youth Ministries
 - 1) GEMS
 - 2) Calvinist Cadet Corps
 - 3) Youth Unlimited
 - Friendship Ministries (Friendship Ministries – Canada)
 - Partners Worldwide
4. The Board informs synod that it has approved the renewal of the following accredited agencies for offerings in the churches (year three) in a three-year cycle of support (2009-2011). Synod 2002 approved certain revisions to the guidelines for nondenominational agencies and changed the policy from a required annual application and synodical approval to one that requires an application and synodical approval every three years. In the intervening years, synod indicated that agencies were to submit updated financial information and information regarding any significant programmatic changes. Each nondenominational agency requesting approval submitted the full range of required triennial materials for consideration.

The nondenominational agencies recommended for financial support but not necessarily for one or more offerings are

a. United States

1) Benevolent agencies

Bethany Christian Services
Cary Christian Center, Inc.
Elim Christian Services
Hope Haven
The Luke Society
Mississippi Christian Family Services (MCFS)
Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
Quiet Waters Ministries

2) Educational agencies

Center for Public Justice
Christian Schools International
Christian Schools International Foundation (for textbook development)
Dordt College
Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of Institute for Christian Studies)
Hunting Park Christian Academy
International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE)
ITEM—International Theological Education Ministries, Inc.
John Stott Ministries
The King's University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
Kuyper College
Providence Christian College
Redeemer University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
Rehoboth Christian School
Roseland Christian School
Trinity Christian College
Worldwide Christian Schools
Zuni Christian Mission School

3) Miscellaneous agencies

Audio Scripture Ministries
Bible League
Crossroad Bible Institute
IDEA Ministries
IN Network
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (endorsed for local specified staff support only)
Middle East Reformed Fellowship, U.S.
Mission India
The Tract League
Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.

b. Canada

1) Benevolent agency

Beginnings Counselling & Adoption Services of Ontario, Inc.

2) Educational agencies

Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc. (for textbook development)

Dordt College

Institute for Christian Studies

The King's University College

Kuyper College

Ontario Association of Christian Schools Foundation

Redeemer University College

Trinity Christian College

Worldwide Christian Schools – Canada

3) Miscellaneous agencies

Bible League of Canada

Cardus (Work Research o/a Cardus)

Citizens for Public Justice (CJL Foundation)

Evangelical Fellowship of Canada

Gideons International in Canada

Global PartnerLink Society

IN Network

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of Canada

Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Canada

Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada, Inc.

5. The Board of Trustees recommends the following new request for inclusion on the list of affiliated recommended causes:

Timothy Leadership Training Institute

Timothy Leadership Training Institute was founded in 1997 by retired Calvin Theological Seminary professors and active missionaries to begin to meet the challenge of training leaders for the numerous new church congregations that have and will continue to develop. TLTI focuses on people with a call to lead who find it impossible to get formal training because of economic limits, geographical distance, and lack of preparation for advanced study. TLTI has grown to give training in 48 countries.

6. In addition, the Board of Trustees recommends the following new requests for inclusion on the list of unaffiliated recommended causes:

Canada

Shalem Mental Health Network

Shalem Mental Health Network (formerly Salem Mental Health Network) provides mental health services primarily in Ontario with training and consultation occurring in Edmonton, Alberta; Chicago, Illinois; and Grand Rapids, Michigan. To achieve their vision, they

seek, as a Christian Mental Health Association of Ontario, to stimulate, develop, demonstrate, promote, and share best practices in meeting mental health needs from a faith base.

United States

a. Association for a More Just Society
Association for a More Just Society is a Christian not-for-profit founded in 2000 dedicated to promoting justice in Honduras and elsewhere. In addition, this organization helps North American Christians discern God’s call to do justice. Association for a More Just Society partners with Christian Reformed World Missions and the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee within Central America.

b. CLC Network
CLC Network (formerly Christian Learning Center) was founded in 1979 when Pine Rest closed the Children’s Retreat. CLC Network promotes the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities. CLC Network works with schools in the states of Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

c. Kid’s Hope USA
Kid’s Hope USA partners with local elementary schools to provide mentors for at-risk students. The mentors are sourced from local Christian churches. Kid’s Hope operates in 29 states and has 563 church/school mentoring partnerships. Seventy of the 563 are with Christian Reformed churches in nine states.

d. Biblica (formerly known as the International Bible Society)
Biblica’s mission is to transform lives through God’s Word. Their work will only be complete when every person in the world is given the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ through the Word. The organization has completed translations in 47 languages and there are 37 translation projects under way. The materials are made available in print, audio, electronic, and video media.

7. The denominational salary grid
Hay Associates advises, and the BOT recommends, that Synod 2010 adopt the salary grid as detailed below for use in fiscal year 2010-2011. There is no proposed increase over 2009-2010 and no changes have been made since July 2008.

Level	2010-2011 Salary Grade and Range Structure Proposed U.S. Range			Proposed Canadian Range		
	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum
20	115,291	\$144,113	\$172,936			
19	\$103,936	\$129,921	\$155,905			
18	\$92,638	\$115,798	\$138,957	\$102,262	\$127,828	\$153,394
17	\$83,144	\$103,930	\$124,716	\$88,853	\$111,066	\$133,279
16	\$74,835	\$93,544	\$112,253	\$77,756	\$97,195	\$116,634
15	\$67,840	\$84,800	\$101,760	\$68,492	\$85,616	\$102,739
14	\$59,271	\$74,089	\$88,906	\$60,406	\$75,507	\$90,609
13	\$52,105	\$65,132	\$78,158	\$53,907	\$67,384	\$80,861

8. Summary of denominational investments and compliance with investment policy

Synod 1998 approved a number of measures dealing with investment guidelines and disclosures. The BOT's response to these requests is found in Appendix C.

9. Pension board matters

The Board of Trustees endorsed the Pension Trustees' recommendation that the 2011 per-member assessment for the Canadian Plan be set at \$37.32 and that the Canadian per-participant assessment be set at \$8,556. Similarly, the BOT endorsed that the 2011 per-member assessment for the U.S. Plan be set at \$32.28 and that the U.S. per-participant assessment be set at \$6,696.

III. Recommendations

A. That synod approve the interim appointments made by the Board of the synodical deputies as well as to the CRWRC board of delegates (BOT Supplement section I, A).

B. That synod by way of the printed ballot appoint members to the Board of Trustees from Classis Toronto and Region 10 (BOT Supplement sections, I, B, 4 and 5).

C. That synod receive the Report of the Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee as information and adopt the following recommendations contained therein (BOT Supplement section I, D and Appendix A):

1. That synod note that, because of a resolution document signed by the appellant pastors and the leaders of Classis Pacific Hanmi, Personal Appeal 4 to Synod 2009 has been withdrawn.
2. That synod note that elders A. Jae and Y. Min have withdrawn Personal Appeal 3 that was submitted to Synod 2009.
3. That synod encourage all parties to work toward reconciliation so that the pain caused by this matter does not cause permanent alienation between fellow Christians and does not hinder the ministries of classis and the congregation to fellow members and to Korean immigrants who may consider affiliation with the Christian Reformed Church in the future.
4. That synod discharge the members of the Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee.

D. That synod receive as information the revised Denominational Membership Mailing List Policy and Administration (BOT Supplement section I, E and Appendix B).

E. That synod adopt the following replacement wording for the footnote to Q. and A. 80 in the proposed Heidelberg Catechism translation (see *Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 348) (BOT Supplement section I, I):

Q&A 80*

*Footnote

Q. and A. 80 was altogether absent from the first edition of the catechism but was present in a shorter form in the second edition. The translation here given is of the expanded text of the third edition.

In response to a mandate from Synod 1998, the Christian Reformed Church's Interchurch Relations Committee conducted a study of Q. and A. 80 and the Roman Catholic Mass. Based on this study, Synod 2004 declared that "Q. and A. 80 can no longer be held in its current form as part of our confession." Synod 2006 directed that Q. and A. 80 remain in the CRC's text of the Heidelberg Catechism but that the last three paragraphs be placed in brackets to indicate that they do not accurately reflect the official teaching and practice of today's Roman Catholic Church and are no longer confessionally binding on members of the CRC.

The Reformed Church in America retains the original full text, choosing to recognize that the catechism was written within a historical context that may not accurately describe the Roman Catholic Church's current stance.

F. That synod empower the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA to ratify, on its behalf, the appointment of the new director of Christian Reformed Home Missions when one has been chosen (BOT Supplement section II, A, 1).

Grounds:

1. The search process will begin in June 2010 but will end by the end of 2010 or the beginning of 2011.
2. The nominee will be interviewed by the BOT in February 2011, and waiting until Synod 2011 for ratification would further delay the appointment to this important position.

G. That synod take note that the Board of Trustees adopted a change in the title of Advocate to Safe Church Advocate (BOT Supplement section II, A, 2).

Grounds:

1. The advocate is trained by the office of Safe Church Ministry.
2. The advocate is trained to serve victims of church leader misconduct through or apart from the advisory panel process.
3. The advocate is certified by the office of Safe Church Ministry to assist in ecclesiastical settings.
4. With certification, an ecclesiastical body is assured of a trained, competent advocate.

H. That synod receive the agencies and institutional unified budget as information and approve a ministry share of \$316.76 for calendar year 2011 (3% increase over the 2010 amount) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 1-2).

I. That synod adopt the following recommendations with reference to agencies requesting to be placed on the recommended-for-offerings list:

1. That synod approve the list of above-ministry share and specially designated offerings for the agencies and institutions of the CRC and recommend these to the churches for consideration (BOT Supplement section II, B, 3).
2. That synod receive as information the list of nondenominational agencies, previously accredited, that have been approved for calendar year 2011 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 4).
3. That synod accept the following new request for inclusion on the list of affiliated recommended causes (BOT Supplement section II, B, 5):

Timothy Leadership Training Institute

Timothy Leadership Training Institute (TLTI) was founded in 1997 by retired Calvin Theological Seminary professors and active missionaries to begin to meet the challenge of training leaders for the numerous new church congregations that have and will continue to develop. TLTI focuses on people with a call to lead who find it impossible to get formal training because of economic limits, geographical distance, and lack of preparation for advanced study. TLTI has grown to give training in 48 countries.

4. That synod accept the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 6):

Canada

Shalem Mental Health Network

Shalem Mental Health Network (formerly Salem Mental Health Network) provides mental health services primarily in Ontario with training and consultation occurring in Edmonton, Alberta; Chicago, Illinois; and Grand Rapids, Michigan. To achieve their vision, they seek, as a Christian Mental Health Association of Ontario, to stimulate, develop, demonstrate, promote, and share best practices in meeting mental health needs from a faith base.

United States

- a. Association for a More Just Society

Association for a More Just Society is a Christian not-for-profit founded in 2000 dedicated to promoting justice in Honduras and elsewhere. In addition, this organization helps North American Christians discern God's call to do justice. Association for a More Just Society partners with Christian Reformed World Missions and the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee within Central America.

- b. CLC Network

CLC Network (formerly Christian Learning Center) was founded in 1979 when Pine Rest closed the Children's Retreat. CLC Network promotes the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities. CLC Network works with schools in the states of Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

c. Kid's Hope USA

Kid's Hope USA partners with local elementary schools to provide mentors for at-risk students. The mentors are sourced from local Christian churches. Kid's Hope operates in 29 states and has 563 church/school mentoring partnerships. Seventy of the 563 are with Christian Reformed churches in nine states.

d. Biblica (formerly known as the International Bible Society)

Biblica's mission is to transform lives through God's Word. Their work will only be complete when every person in the world is given the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ through the Word. The organization has completed translations in 47 languages and there are 37 translation projects under way. The materials are made available in print, audio, electronic, and video media.

J. That synod adopt the denominational salary grid for senior positions as proposed (no proposed increase over 2009-2010 and no changes made since July 2008) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 7).

K. That synod receive as information the BOT's confirmation of the matters presented by the Pension Trustees (BOT Supplement section II, B, 9).

Board of Trustees of the
Christian Reformed Church in North America
Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director

Appendix A

Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee Report

I. Background

A. *Synod 2009*

Synod 2009 received an appeal, Personal Appeal 3, from two elders of the Faith Korean CRC of Santa Maria, California, appealing a decision made concerning them by their classis, Classis Pacific Hanmi. Synod 2009 also received an appeal, Personal Appeal 4, from four pastors and their councils, appealing decisions made by the same classis regarding the pastors. Upon the recommendation of the advisory committee, Synod 2009 responded to the appeals by withholding action and instructing the denominational executive director

to appoint an ad hoc committee to meet with the appellants and leaders in Classis Pacific Hanmi to further review this matter. The committee would provide opportunities for a complete hearing of all parties involved in matters raised in Personal Appeals 3 and 4 that Synod 2009 was unable to accomplish. This committee would make recommendations to Synod 2010 as to whether or not to sustain these appeals, or if possible and desirable, to make these recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA for interim resolution.

(*Acts of Synod 2009*, p. 612)

B. *A brief history*

Faith Korean CRC had experienced a serious conflict for some time. The council was evenly divided in terms of their support for the pastor, with three deacons wanting the pastor to stay and two elders and one deacon

wanting him to leave. In August 2008 the council asked Classis Pacific Hanmi for assistance; thus a four-person team of classical church visitors met with members of the church. At its September 2008 meeting classis appointed a larger committee to address this matter. In November 2008 a special classis meeting was called because classis believed that some members of the committee had acted inappropriately in this matter and, at that meeting, classis revoked the classical membership privileges of the mentor it had appointed to assist the congregation. At this meeting classis also decided that one elder of Faith Korean CRC should leave the church for good and the other should take a leave of absence. At its February 2009 meeting classis revoked the classical membership privileges of three pastors and deposed the mentor. The decisions made at the November 2008 and February 2009 meetings of Classis Pacific Hanmi were appealed to Synod 2009, which decided to appoint an ad hoc committee to review the matter because

Grounds:

1. There was insufficient opportunity for the advisory committee to get a clear understanding of the complexity of the issues and individuals involved.
2. The work of such a committee would give direct opportunity for the parties involved to communicate and work toward understanding and reconciliation.

(Acts of Synod 2009, p. 612)

II. The work of our committee

A. Meetings

Our committee, comprised of seven pastors, three of whom are Korean, was appointed in July 2009. While doing its work, committee members conferred with each other by means of twelve conference call meetings. The full committee met with all parties in September 2009, and a three-person subcommittee met with the classis leaders and the appellant pastors in October 2009. In December 2009 the three-person subcommittee met with the appellant elders and with the leadership of Faith Korean CRC: the four deacons and a new pastor. Later in the week, six members of the committee met with the appellant pastors and Classis Pacific Hanmi leaders to discuss and secure signatures on a resolution document. In January 2010 a two-person subcommittee met with classis leaders, the steering committee of Faith Korean CRC, and elder Jae, one of the appellant elders. In February 2010 three of our members attended the meeting of Classis Pacific Hanmi and led a service of holy communion to celebrate the resolution that had been achieved.

B. Personal Appeal 4

After meeting with the appellant pastors and the classis leaders in September and October 2009, the Appeals Committee drafted a resolution document containing sections labeled “We Sorrowfully Acknowledge” and “We Agree.” In December 2009 the committee refined the draft document in order that committee members, the appellant pastors, and the classis leaders could honestly endorse the document. In signing the document, the classis leaders agreed to “withdraw the disciplinary measures we have adopted concerning the four pastors,” and the four pastors agreed to notify the synodical office that they were withdrawing the appeal made to Synod 2009. The resolution document also specifies that the previously deposed

pastor must receive counseling before he accepts a call to another Christian Reformed congregation. Thus Synod 2010 should take note that Personal Appeal 4 has been *withdrawn*. In coordination with these actions, the relevant report of the synodical deputies regarding the deposition of J.J. Choi has also been withdrawn.

C. *Personal Appeal 3*

Unfortunately, the conflict between the leaders of Faith Korean CRC was not resolved in a way that would allow them to continue to worship and serve together. Regrettably, both parties have decided to form separate congregations. Both will remain Christian Reformed and are being cared for by Classis Pacific Hanmi. In light of this development both elders have withdrawn their appeal to Synod 2009. Thus, Synod 2010 needs simply to note that Appeal 3 has been withdrawn.

D. *Other concerns*

This series of events illustrates the challenges our denomination faces as we seek to become a more diverse community. The advisory committee of Synod 2009 said, "The issue is complicated by the fact that Classis Pacific Hanmi frequently operates with ideas and definitions that resemble a Presbyterian form of church order and government rather than CRC church government" (*Acts of Synod 2009*, p. 602). The Appeals Committee notes that this is not surprising because the majority of our Korean pastors come from the Presbyterian tradition. The committee spoke to the classis leaders about this and provided them with names of people to contact when they have questions about CRC church polity. They were very appreciative of the suggestions and are eager to continue to grow in their understanding and application of the CRC Church Order. In fact, before making decisions at their February 2009 meeting they met with synodical deputies to make sure they were proceeding in an appropriate manner.

Korean culture also affected the decisions made by Classis Pacific Hanmi. Though the classis leaders repeatedly spoke of "justice" in addition to "reconciliation," classis did not discipline two retired pastors who were significantly involved in this issue and gave direction-setting advice to the pastors who were disciplined. While understanding the cultural dynamics involved, we indicated that all pastors, young or old, must bear responsibility for the actions they take. This, too, is part of a learning process, and we are confident that our advice will be seriously considered.

There are a number of other matters worthy of consideration by Classis Pacific Hanmi, the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA, and the board of Christian Reformed Home Missions. The Appeals Committee will communicate those observations to the BOT for their consideration.

III. Recommendations

A. That synod note that, because of a resolution document signed by the appellant pastors and the leaders of Classis Pacific Hanmi, Personal Appeal 4 to Synod 2009 has been withdrawn.

B. That synod note that elders A. Jae and Y. Min have withdrawn Personal Appeal 3 that was submitted to Synod 2009.

C. That synod encourage all parties to work toward reconciliation so the pain caused by this matter does not cause permanent alienation between fellow Christians and does not hinder the ministries of classis and the congregation to fellow members and to Korean immigrants who may consider affiliation with the Christian Reformed Church in the future.

D. That synod discharge the members of the Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee.

Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee
Ronald I. Chu
Ladan A. Jennings
David R. Koll, chairperson
Jin Namkoong
Andrew C.S. Narm
Mike Vander Pol
George F. Vander Weit, secretary

Appendix B

Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) Denominational Membership Mailing List Policy and Administration

I. Purpose

Synod authorizes the development and maintenance of a denominational membership mailing list (List) for the following purposes:

A. Serving the congregations of the denomination and approved organizations that wish to convey information or solicit financial support.

B. Providing statistical research for the maintenance of an accurate denominational profile.

This policy shall not apply to email and phone contact information, which will not be made available without the prior approval of the Office of the Executive Director.

II. Categories of authorized users

A. Each *denominational assembly, agency, and educational institution of the CRCNA* may use the List (or a portion thereof) up to three times per calendar year without charge and without obtaining prior approval from the Office of the Executive Director. Prior approval from the Office of the Executive Director is required for additional use of the List within a calendar year.

B. All *nondenominational organizations recommended by synod for financial support*, as listed in the Yearbook and Acts of Synod, may request use of the List (or a portion thereof) once per calendar year. Service fees will apply.

C. *Classes and church councils* shall be granted use of their own portion of the List for their own mailings, at no charge, by making a written request that is approved by the Office of the Executive Director, but not to exceed three times per calendar year.

D. *Organizations approved for financial support within a specific classis* may request the use of that classis's portion of the List if accompanied by a written authorization from that classis. Similarly, *organizations (including Christian schools) approved for financial support by a church council* may request use of that congregation's portion of the List once per calendar year. All such requests must be approved by the Office of the Executive Director. Service charges will apply.

III. Administration

A. Synod assigns responsibility for the administration of the List to the Board of Trustees, which, in turn, assigns that responsibility to the Office of the Executive Director.

B. All CRCNA staff dealing with the List will have access to and training on this Policy as well as any supplemental procedural guidelines by the CRCNA on issues surrounding privacy and personal information.

C. In order to maximize the List's accuracy and value for these purposes, synod urges each church council, upon request, to provide updated information to CRCNA Advancement Services. However, a church council may request that the membership of its particular congregation be excluded from

- all mailings of any kind to members' homes,
- all mailings by any agency *recommended by synod for financial support* other than denominational assemblies, agencies, and institutions, or
- all mailings except those that are for research purposes only.

Note: Requests of individual members of churches take precedence over church requests.

D. Consent to collect, use, or disclose the List will be obtained from individuals before or at the time of collection by way of oral or written consent.

E. Requests for the use of the List by the authorized users shall be submitted in writing to the Office of the Executive Director.

F. Organizations requesting the List (or a portion thereof) may be subject to a prorated service fee, as outlined above. Service fees are established annually by the Office of the Executive Director and shall reflect the actual cost incurred by the CRCNA in the development and maintenance of the List as well as the cost of producing the requested portions of the List.

G. When an authorized user contracts with a mailing service to process its mailing, the mailing service must agree to the same rules and guidelines for use of the data that apply to that authorized user, including, without limitation, the requirements of the statement under section III, M.

H. Each authorized user agrees to subscribe to the Fundraising Ethical Guidelines as approved by the Board of Trustees.

I. When disposing of the List, the CRCNA will prevent improper access by taking measures, including, but not limited to, the permanent deletion of electronic records and shredding of paper files.

J. The List shall be stored by the CRCNA so as to prevent loss, theft, or unauthorized access by taking measures, including, but not limited to, physical controls (locked filing cabinets) and organizational controls (password security on electronic data).

K. CRCNA staff will assist individuals making requests for access to personal information. Upon receipt of a request, the CRCNA will respond no later than 30 days after the request is made. Individuals making such a request will be informed of any costs associated in advance of processing.

L. Complaints by individuals regarding collection, use, or disclosure of personal information shall be handled by the Office of the Executive Director. The matter will be assigned to staff with the skills necessary to review the issue and provide the complainant with access to all relevant records, employees, or others who handled the personal information or access request. Individuals will be informed of the outcome of the investigations in a timely manner.

M. The following proprietary-rights statement will appear on the agreement/consent form submitted for each request:

Proprietary Rights in this Data: The data provided for this mailing is the exclusive property of synod and protected under synod's copyright. The data may only be used by an authorized user and no other person or entity. The data may only be used for the approved mailing and no other mailing and for no other purpose. These files shall not be copied in any manner, whole or in part. The ID Line (the first line) of each record is required to be printed on mailing labels. The information in this file may not be used to obtain further information about CRCNA members such as telephone numbers. Misuse of this file or any part thereof shall cancel the privileges of its use in the future. It is understood that the CRCNA may take such security measures as it deems appropriate to assure compliance with the copyright provisions. This data shall be retained for a period of sixty (60) days, after which it shall be disposed of by way of deletion of electronic data and shredding of paper files. The CRCNA will be informed of any complaints received by an authorized user with respect to the data. Acceptance and use of this data constitutes agreement with all rules and guidelines.

Note: This policy may change as necessary to comply with applicable U.S. and Canadian privacy laws.

Note: Church information contained in the CRCNA *Yearbook* is in the public domain. The electronic files of churches and pastors in the CRCNA may be obtained upon written request to the Office of the Executive Director and upon the payment of a nominal service fee if the use of the electronic files is consistent with the policies and purposes of the CRCNA.

Approved by Synod 1999
Updated 2010

Appendix C

Summary of Denominational Investments and Compliance with Investment Policy

Synod 1998 approved a number of measures dealing with investment guidelines and disclosures. Two of these appear on page 440 of the *Acts of Synod 1998*, as follows:

That the BOT annually provide synod and classical treasurers with a summary of all investments owned by the agencies and institutions of the CRCNA. The summary is to include groupings of investments listed in the investment policy.

That the BOT annually provide synod with a statement that the agencies and institutions are in compliance with the investment policy; any exception to the policy will be reported.

The accompanying summary and related footnotes constitute the Board of Trustees' response to the first of these requests. In response to the second request, the Board of Trustees reports that on December 31, 2009, all of the agencies and institutions are in compliance with the denomination's investment policy, including the guidance it provides for assets received as a result of gifts or gift-related transactions.

The Board of Trustees' discussions regarding these matters included the following:

1. As requested by synod, the investment summary contains information regarding assets held by the agencies and institutions of the denomination. In addition to these investments, the denomination is responsible for the administration of investments held by various benefit plans, including retirement plans. The BOT reports that assets held by the benefit plans also are in compliance with the denomination's investment guidelines.
2. As requested, the summary includes investments only. It tells nothing of the commitments, restrictions, and purposes attached to the investments. Persons interested in a full understanding of these aspects are encouraged to refer to the financial statements of the agencies and institutions on file with each classical treasurer or to direct their inquiries to the agencies and institutions themselves.

**THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA**
Agencies and Institutions
Investment Summary in US\$
As of December 31, 2009

Categories Specified by Investment Policy:

	Back to God Ministries International	Calvin College	Calvin Seminary	Faith Alive	Denominational Services
SHORT TERM					
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS					
Cash, money-market mutual funds, and CDs	2,035,689	778,551	164,223	408,349	2,991,709 (9)
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES					
Foundation Liquidity Fund (1)	295,880	-	-	-	-
Other short term	-	-	-	-	1,845,458
FOUNDATION BALANCED FUND (2)	2,946,154	-	-	2,864,283	-
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS					
Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock	388,405 (3)	4,629,676 (3)	52,862	-	-
Equity mutual funds	-	108,972,571	23,652,016	-	-
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)					
U.S. treasuries or Canadian govt bonds	-	17,819,443	-	-	9,401,442 (9)
Publicly traded bonds and notes	-	-	-	-	-
(investment grade, at least A-rated)	173,891 (3)	18,958,941	2,835,402	-	4,383,529 (9)
Bond mutual funds	-	-	-	-	-
CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts	-	-	-	-	(14,534,049) (9)
Interagency Investments (Obligations):					
Loans to CRCNA (Denom. Services)	769,870	-	-	-	(3,969,870)
Other Investments:					
Private equity fund	-	20,179,494 (4)	903,200 (4)	-	-
Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-
Land contracts	-	-	-	-	-
Life insurance cash value	372,946 (5)	448,920 (5)	101,164 (5)	-	-
Notes receivable	-	1,591,170 (6)	-	-	-
Common stock— non-listed	-	685,379 (7)	-	-	-
Real estate (non-operating)	43,115 (8)	19,414,910 (8)	1,180,498 (8)	-	-
Total	\$ 7,025,950	\$ 193,459,055	\$ 28,869,365	\$ 3,272,632	\$ 118,220

Numbers in parentheses are footnote numbers. See the footnotes that follow.

**THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA**
Agencies and Institutions
Investment Summary in US\$
As of December 31, 2009

	CRC Foundation	Home Missions	Loan Fund	World Missions	World Relief
Categories Specified by Investment Policy:					
SHORT TERM					
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ 772,493	\$ 897,763	\$ 8,892,495	\$ 1,024,565	\$ 5,563,840
Cash, money-market mutual funds, and CDs					
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES	-	1,912,848	-	-	23,524
Foundation Liquidity Fund (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Other short term					
FOUNDATION BALANCED FUND (2)	289,471	1,868,427	-	3,512,628	3,586,780
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS					
Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock	-	-	-	-	-
Equity mutual funds	-	864	-	171,281 (3)	-
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)					
U.S. treasuries or Canadian gov't bonds	-	-	-	-	-
Publicly traded bonds and notes	-	-	-	-	-
(Investment grade, at least A-rated)	-	-	-	-	-
Bond mutual funds	-	-	-	224,767 (3)	-
CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts	-	-	-	-	-
Interagency Investments (Obligations):					
Loans to CRCNA (Denom. Services)	300,000	-	-	900,000	2,000,000
Other Investments:					
Private equity fund	-	-	-	-	-
Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-
Land contracts	-	-	-	-	-
Life insurance cash value	11,046 (5)	-	-	-	30,834 (5)
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Common stock -- non-listed	-	-	-	-	-
Real estate (non-operating)	-	42,957	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,373,010	\$ 4,722,859	\$ 8,892,495	\$ 5,833,261	\$ 11,204,978

Numbers in parentheses are footnote numbers. See the footnotes that follow.

Categories Specified by Investment Policy:

SHORT TERM
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS
Cash, CDs, and money-market mutual funds
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES
Guaranteed investment contracts
Stable Asset Income Fund
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS
Publicly traded common, preferred,
and convertible preferred stock
Diversified/alternative mutual fund
Equity mutual funds
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)
U.S. treasuries, Canadian gov't bonds, or
publicly traded bonds and notes
(investment grade, at least A-rated)
Bond mutual funds
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Employees' Retirement Plan - U.S. in U.S. \$	Ministers' Pension Plan U.S. in U.S. \$	Special Assistance Fund U.S. in U.S. \$	Consolidated Group Insurance U.S. in U.S. \$	Employees' Retirement Plan - Canada in Canadian \$	Ministers' Pension Plan Canada in Canadian \$	Special Assistance Fund Canada in Canadian \$	Consolidated Group Insurance Canada in Canadian \$
\$ -	\$ 3,927,178	\$ 212,980	\$ 403,068	\$ 141,619	\$ 1,074,814	\$ 261,546	\$ 138,486
-	-	-	-	157,381	-	-	-
2,844,191	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	50,757,284	-	-	-	20,461,798	-	-
-	8,129,436	-	-	1,646,687	-	-	-
12,724,067	-	-	-	578,531	-	-	-
-	14,893,734	-	3,635,194	-	8,240,824	-	-
3,443,944	-	-	-	332,247	-	-	-
-	6,880,691	-	-	-	-	-	-
\$ 19,012,202	\$ 84,568,323	\$ 212,980	\$ 4,038,262	\$ 2,856,465	\$ 29,777,436	\$ 261,546	\$ 138,486

Total

Footnotes to the December 31, 2009, Investment Summary

1. Foundation pooled/unitized fixed income account for agencies.
2. Foundation pooled/unitized balanced account (fixed income 57.3%, equities 42.7%) for agencies.
3. Donated mutual funds.
4. Interest in private equity funds, including unrealized gains and reinvestments.
5. Cash value of life insurance contracts received as gifts.
6. Includes promissory notes received in the sale of real estate and land received as a gift, and notes outstanding on a life insurance policy.
7. Includes investment in Creative Dining Services, owned jointly with Hope College.
8. Real estate received as a gift, or held for investment purposes.
9. These investments, which provide security for the overdraft accounts, are part of a Canadian agency concentration/netting for interest cash management and investment program.

Calvin College Supplement

I. Introduction

The Calvin College Board of Trustees met May 21-22, 2010, and presents this supplement of additional matters relating to the college. At this meeting a dinner was held honoring retiring trustees, retiring faculty and staff, and distinguished alumni Ms. Anna Belle Engbers, Ms. Jacqueline Greenman, and Ms. Marjorie Van Kooten ('58), all three are Calvin graduates and nurses who have worked for 52 years in Alaskan health care; and Mr. Edward T. Begay ('58) of New Mexico, who has served the CRC church and Navajo Nation tribal leadership. The board interviewed four faculty or administrators with faculty status—one for tenure and three for first reappointment. The board members also attended commencement, which honored 955 graduates of Calvin College. The commencement speaker was professor of classics, Dr. Richard Mouw, president of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California.

II. Faculty matters

A. *Retirees*

The Calvin College Board of Trustees recommends that synod give appropriate recognition to the following individuals for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church and confer on them the titles presented here:

1. Bethany A. Gordon, M.S.N., assistant professor of nursing, emeritus
2. Janice B. Heerspink, M.A., associate director, Student Academic Services, emeritus
3. Raymond L. Slager, M.S., C.P.A., professor of business and accounting, emeritus

B. *Faculty reappointments*

The board recommends that synod ratify the following faculty reappointment with tenure (*italics indicate promotion to that rank*):

Adam R. Wolpa, M.F.A., *associate* professor of art (reduced-load)

The board also recommends that synod ratify the following faculty reappointments:

1. Philip B. Stegink, M.A., assistant professor of education (two years, reduced-load)
2. María N. Rodriguez, M.Ed., assistant professor of Spanish (three years)

C. *Administrative reappointments*

The college made the following faculty status administrative appointments and reappointments, effective as noted:

1. Jeffrey P. Boumand, Ph.D., director, Service-Learning Center (continuing administrative appointment)
2. Leanne W. Doornbos, M.Ed., instructor of English as a second language and academic counselor, Office of Academic Services (two years)
3. Kathi Groenendyk, Ph.D., codirector, Academic Writing Program (three years)
4. Stanley L. Haan, Ph.D., academic dean, Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (three years), effective August 1, 2010
5. William H. Katerberg, Ph.D., director, Mellema Program in Western American Studies (three years)
6. Michelle R. Loyd-Paige, Ph.D., dean for multicultural affairs (three years)
7. George M. Marsden, Ph.D., Scholar-in-Residence, Department of History (two years), effective September 1, 2010
8. Shirley J. Roels, Ph.D., director, Van Lunen Center for Executive Management in Christian Schools (three years)
9. David I. Smith, Ph.D., director, Kuyers Institute for Christian Teaching and Learning (three years)
10. Sarah E. TenBroek, M.S.W., counselor, Broene Counseling Center (two years)
11. Daniel Vandersteen, M.S.W., counselor, Broene Counseling Center (continuing administrative appointment)

D. *Changes in rank*

The board recommends that synod ratify the following faculty promotions, indicated in italics:

1. Adel S. Abadeer, Ph.D., *professor* of economics
2. Kevin J. Corcoran, Ph.D., *professor* of philosophy
3. Herman J. De Vries, Ph.D., *professor* of Germanic languages
4. Jennifer L. Holberg, Ph.D., *professor* of English
5. Rebecca Konyndyk De Young, Ph.D., *professor* of philosophy
6. Debra K. Rienstra, Ph.D., *professor* of English
7. David I. Smith, Ph.D., *professor* of Germanic languages
8. Alisa J. Tigchelaar, Ph.D., *associate professor* of Spanish
9. James R. Timmer, Jr., Ph.D., *professor* of physical education

III. Recommendations

A. That synod give appropriate recognition to the following individuals for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church and confer on them the titles presented here:

1. Bethany A. Gordon, M.S.N., assistant professor of nursing, emeritus
2. Janice B. Heerspink, M.A., associate director, Student Academic Services, emeritus
3. Raymond L. Slager, M.S., C.P.A., professor of business and accounting, emeritus

B. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointment with tenure (*italics indicate promotion to that rank*):

Adam R. Wolpa, M.F.A., *associate professor of art (reduced-load)*

C. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointments:

1. Philip B. Stegink, M.A., assistant professor of education (two years, reduced-load)
2. María N. Rodriguez, M.Ed., assistant professor of Spanish (three years)

D. That synod ratify the following faculty promotions in rank, indicated in *italics*:

1. Adel S. Abadeer, Ph.D., *professor of economics*
2. Kevin J. Corcoran, Ph.D., *professor of philosophy*
3. Herman J. De Vries, Ph.D., *professor of Germanic languages*
4. Jennifer L. Holberg, Ph.D., *professor of English*
5. Rebecca Konyndyk De Young, Ph.D., *professor of philosophy*
6. Debra K. Rienstra, Ph.D., *professor of English*
7. David I. Smith, Ph.D., *professor of Germanic languages*
8. Alisa J. Tigchelaar, Ph.D., *associate professor of Spanish*
9. James R. Timmer, Jr., Ph.D., *professor of physical education*

Calvin College Board of Trustees
Thelma Venema, secretary

This report includes actions and recommendations of the Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees resulting from its April 22-23, 2010, meeting.

I. Information

A. Board of Trustees

At their meeting on April 22-23, 2010, the following officers were elected for 2010-2011: Rev. Kevin Adams, chair; Dr. Henk Van Andel, vice chair; and Ms. Susan Keesen, secretary.

B. Graduates

Sixty-seven students will be graduated from our degree programs on May 22, 2010.

C. Finances

The budget of \$6,597,530 was approved as presented for 2010-2011.

D. Nomination for president of Calvin Theological Seminary

The Board of Trustees of Calvin Theological Seminary recommends that following a successful interview by Synod 2010, Reverend Julius T. Medenblik be appointed as president of Calvin Theological Seminary, effective August 1, 2011. The curriculum vitae for Rev. Medenblik can be found in the appendix to this report.

II. Recommendation

That following a successful interview by Synod 2010, Reverend Julius T. Medenblik be appointed as president of Calvin Theological Seminary, effective August 1, 2011.

Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees
Kevin J. Adams, secretary

Appendix Curriculum Vitae

Julius T. Medenblik

Education:

Calvin Theological Seminary, 1995; M.Div.
University of Florida Law School, 1984; Juris Doctor with honors
Trinity Christian College, 1982; B.A.

Professional Experience:

1995 - present

Founding Pastor for a New Church Development that reached organizational stage as a congregation in 2002; New Life Christian Reformed Church, New Lenox, IL

2007 - present

Church Planting and Development Point Team Leader; Christian Reformed Home Missions, Grand Rapids, MI

1994 - 1995

Full year internship; First Christian Reformed Church of Calgary, Calgary, AB

1985 - 1991

Attorney in a law firm; Stewart, Call, Byrd and Rozelle, Palm Beach, FL

Community Activities:

2004 - 2010

Board Member and Board Chair - Region 9; Calvin Theological Seminary

2001 - 2007

Board Member and Past President; Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund; Grand Rapids, MI

1999 - 2005

Board Member and Past President; Chicago Christian Counseling Center, Orland Park, IL

Past Chair and Member of the Regional Team for Chicagoland Home Missions; Classis Chicago South Home Missions Committee

2002 - 2008

Synodical Deputy; Classis Chicago South

1999 - 2008

Board Member; New Lenox Chamber of Commerce, New Lenox, IL

Other:

1998 - 2000, 2004 - 2007

Instructor for Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Theology and Worldview Courses; Trinity Christian College, Palos Heights, IL

1990, 2002, 2006

Christian Reformed Church Synod Delegate

Called by the Church for the Church

Julius Ted Medenblik, the eldest son of Lambert and Martha Medenblik (nee Vander Ploeg), was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1960. His family became charter members of Faith Christian Reformed Church, and for a short time he attended Kalamazoo North Christian School. In 1966 the family returned to the Fulton, Illinois, area, where his father purchased the family farm previously rented by Jul's grandfather. There Jul attended Fulton Christian Grade School and Fulton Community High School, and the family joined Bethel Christian Reformed Church, also in Fulton.

After high school, Jul attended Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois. He graduated with a major in philosophy and double minors in English and history while on a pre-law track that included a semester internship at a legal aid clinic in Harvey, Illinois. While at Trinity, he met Jackie Klain

from Lansing, Illinois. Three weeks after graduation, Jul and Jackie were married, and three days afterward they moved to Gainesville, Florida, where Jul entered the University of Florida Law School. During his law school days, Jul served as research assistant for Professor Joseph W. Little.

After graduating with a Juris Doctor degree *cum laude*, Jul obtained a position as an associate in the law firm of Stewart, Call, Byrd and Rozelle in Palm Beach, Florida. The Medenblik family joined Lake Worth Christian Reformed Church in Lake Worth, Florida, where Jul served as a Sunday school teacher and superintendent, catechism teacher, elder, and eventually chair of a pastoral search committee. It is during those years that he felt called by God to ordained ministry, and in 1991, Jul, Jackie and their four-year-old son, Joshua, left Florida and entered a Master of Divinity program at Calvin Theological Seminary. While at CTS, Jul did a summer assignment at Providence Christian Reformed Church in Holland, Michigan, and a full-year internship at First Calgary Christian Reformed Church in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. It was during the internship year that their daughter, Julianne, was born.

Following graduation in 1995, Jul accepted a call to Orland Park CRC in Orland Park, Illinois, to be the founding pastor of a church plant in New Lenox, Illinois. New Life Christian Reformed Church began worship services in a public high school auditorium in 1996, was organized as a congregation in 2002, and moved into its own building in 2003. During this time, the church expanded from one to three worship services with over 700 people in total attendance.

Jul has also served as a former board member and president of the CRC Loan Fund; former board member and president of the Chicago Christian Counseling Center; former board member and chair of the Classis Chicago South Home Missions Committee; Synodical Deputy from Classis Chicago South; board member and president of the Calvin Seminary Board of Trustees; synodical delegate to the synods of 1990, 2002, and 2006; and Church Planting and Development Point Team Leader for Christian Reformed Home Missions.

Upon receiving this latest appointment, Rev. Medenblik stated, "I am humbled by the opportunity to move from serving the church as a local pastor and in various denominational settings to the presidency of Calvin Theological Seminary. One picture that we have had in church planting in the Christian Reformed Church is embodied in the phrase, 'Deep Roots, New Branches.' Calvin Theological Seminary is deeply rooted in and nurtured by the church. We have a great opportunity to use those roots to nourish preachers and church leaders for the ministries and new opportunities that await us in the mission field around each and every one of us."

I. Introduction

The Canadian Pension Trustees and the U.S. Board of Pensions met April 15-16, 2010, and presents this supplement of additional matters relating to the ministers' pension plans.

II. Background

The recession and related fluctuation in financial markets has resulted in a significant decline in the value of the assets held in trust for the Ministers' Pension Plans in the United States and Canada from their highs in late 2007. Both the Canadian and the U.S. boards of Pension Trustees recognize the need to address the resulting large underfunded liability of the plans while being sensitive to the restricted capacity of local congregations to absorb increases to the required funding levels.

The plans currently include an annual benefit accrual rate of 1.1 percent for years of credited service prior to 1985, and 1.46 percent for years of credited service after 1984. The plans also provide for an early retirement option that includes a 0.3 percent reduction in the monthly benefit for each month that retirement occurs prior to age 65.

III. Recommendations

A. That synod endorse an adjustment to the annual benefit accrual rate from 1.46 percent to 1.3 percent for years of service after 2010.

Grounds:

1. The benefit accrued at the new rate during a 40-year career as a minister of the Word would be similar to the benefit that someone retiring in 2010 would accrue with similar service.
2. The lower annual benefit accrual rate will help moderate the contributions needed to fund the plan.

B. That synod endorse that the early retirement reduction factor be changed to 0.5 percent per month for each month that retirement occurs prior to age 65 for retirements on or after January 1, 2014.

Grounds:

1. The rate of 0.5 percent more closely reflects the actuarial cost of providing the early retirement benefit.
2. The effective date will enable those who have been planning for retirement to still receive the current early retirement reduction factors during a three-year window.
3. The higher reduction factor will help moderate the contributions needed to fund the plan.

C. That synod endorse setting the 2011 per-member assessment for the Canadian Plan at \$37.32 and the Canadian per-participant assessment at \$8,556. Similarly, that the 2011 per-member assessment for the U.S. Plan be set at \$32.28 and the U.S. per-participant assessment be set at \$6,696.

Ground: The new contribution rates reflect a 5 percent increase over 2010 levels.

D. That synod receive for information the results from the recent Ministers' Compensation Survey which sets the 2011 final average salary of \$46,255 in the U.S. and \$49,839 in Canada. (The 2010 final average salaries were \$45,454 and \$48,763 respectively.)

E. That synod designate up to 100 percent of a minister's early or normal retirement pension or disability pension for 2011 as housing allowance for United States Income Tax purposes (IRS Ruling 1.107-1) but only to the extent that the pension is used to rent or provide a home.

Ground: The recommendation in the *Agenda for Synod 2010* incorrectly listed the year as 2010 rather than 2011.

Pensions and Insurance

John H. Bolt, director of finance
and administration

STANDING COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTS

Candidacy Committee Supplement

I. Representation at synod

In our report to synod, printed in the *Agenda for Synod 2010*, we asked that Rev. Peter Choi be recognized as a representative of our committee. Since that time, Rev. Choi's schedule has changed and he is unable to be present. Thus, we ask that our committee chairman, Rev. Henry Jonker, be given the privilege of the floor.

II. Candidates for minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church

A. *Candidates for ministry*

Each year it is a privilege to meet and interview the applicants for candidacy. The interviews for these candidates were conducted this year by teams of four persons. The Candidacy Committee is pleased to recommend the following forty-one persons for candidacy to become ministers of the Word in the CRC. These candidates include those who graduated from other than Calvin Theological Seminary through the Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy. Biographical details for each of the candidates can be found in the Candidate Booklet, available for download at www.crcna.org/candidacy.

Richard J. Admiraal
Joshua O. Amaezechi
Amanda C. Bakale
Michael L. Bentley
S. Nicholas Bierma
Matthew J. Borst
John W. Burden
Anthony R. DeKorte
George N. Den Oudsten
Ben E. deRegt
Steven J. De Ruiter
Christopher W. de Winter
Matthew J. Eenigenburg
Scott A. Elgersma
Christopher D. Fulkerson
Aaron J. Greydanus
Elizabeth A. Guillaume-Koene
Chad A. Haan
Jennifer S. Holmes
John S. Huyser
John Y. Kim

Joseph J. Kim
Samuel J. Krikke
Philip W. Landers
George W. Lubbers
Erin M. Marshalek
Summer A. Mohrlang
Kristin E.K. Palacios
Daniel J. Rhee
Scott C. Stark
Mary B. Stegink
Adam J. Stout
Anthony D. Sytsma
Joshua C. Tuininga
Nathaniel E. Van Denend
Emily VanderWall-VandenHeuvel
Matthew D. VandenHeuvel
Ashley M. VanDragt
Geoffrey A. VanDragt
Andrew J. Vis
Laurie L. Zuverink

B. Extension of candidacy

The rules of synod require that a declared candidate by one synod must request an extension of candidacy status at the following synod if a call has not been accepted. The Candidacy Committee communicates with such persons in order to determine the validity of the request and to offer words of encouragement. The Candidacy Committee recommends the following twenty-one persons for candidacy extension approval:

Joshua S. Benton	Philip Rushton
Steven G. Boersma	David A. Salverda
Micah J. Bruxvoort	Ryan S. Schreiber
Samantha L. DeJong-McCarron	Brittney E. Stelpstra Salverda
Jason E. De Vries	David P. Stockdale
Jeffrey A. Dephouse	Brian D. Tebben
Adam T. Eisenga	Thomas S. VanderPloeg
Chelsey L. Harmon	Brian Willats
Mark E. Hofman	Anne Emile Zaki
Linda A. Johnson	
Lucas R. Lockard	
Nathan A. McCarron	

III. Presentation of the candidates to synod

It is recommended that the candidates be presented to Synod 2010 on Thursday, June 17, at 9:30 a.m. The director of candidacy, chair of the Candidacy Committee, and the president of Calvin Theological Seminary will formally introduce the candidates for 2010 to synod.

IV. Article 8 candidates approved

Our process for guiding pastors ordained in other denominations who wish to become ordained in the CRC is described in Church Order Article 8. Church Order Supplement, Article 8, F directs the Candidacy Committee to be intimately involved in this process, and to submit for synod's approval the names of those approved for Article 8. The Candidacy Committee has concurred on *need* for the following persons in the past year. In each case the appropriate documents are on file with the director of candidacy.

Date	Name of Applicant	Classis	Former Denomination
9/24/09	Maged Dakdouk	Greater Los Angeles	Church of Christ for Coptic Egyptians
8/14/09	Frederick Eng	Central California	Chinese Baptist Church
9/30/09	Felix Fernandez	Southeast U.S.	Independent Baptist
8/14/09	Cary Holbert	Southeast U.S.	PCUSA
8/14/09	SungHo Jung	Pacific Hanmi	Presbyterian Church in Korea
2/23/10	David Klumpenhower	Arizona	United Reformed Church
2/12/10	Joshua Lim	Pacific Hanmi	Korean Presbyterian Church
10/1/09	Matthew Ma	Greater Los Angeles	House Church of China
2/23/10	Jung Un Park	Lake Erie	Presbyterian Church in Korea
8/14/09	Kingston Tong	Central California	Independent Chinese Fellowship
9/24/09	Fernando Valencia	Greater Los Angeles	National Presbyterian Church of Mexico
5/29/09	John Westfall	Pacific Northwest	PCUSA
2/12/10	Taek Ho Yang	Pacific Hanmi	PCUSA

V. Exploring the concept of mandatory continuing education for pastors

In the Candidacy Committee report to Synod 2010, reference is made to the appointment of a subcommittee to consider the issues of continuing education (CE) for all pastors. Since submitting this report, the committee has been formed and has presented preliminary thoughts to the Candidacy Committee. The Candidacy Committee is eager to share these thoughts with Synod 2010 in order to advance the discussion of these important matters.

A. *The need*

Ministry in the 21st century is a challenging calling. Pastoral effectiveness will be maintained not only by an excellent education leading into ministry, but by a devotion to the task of “sharpening the saw” through effective continuing education. Excellent ministry requires that pastors continue to grow spiritually, intellectually, and professionally. The term *continuing education* is being used here as an umbrella term to designate a variety of activities ranging from formal academic training, to informal seminars and events, to peer learning groups, sabbaticals, and private study.

B. *The current policy and practice*

The last time synod gave serious consideration to the issue of continuing education for pastors, the following recommendations were adopted.

2. That synod urge all councils (a) to establish a policy for continuing education, (b) to establish the expectation that their pastor(s) and ministry staff annually engage in an appropriate program of continuing education for ministry, and (c) to hold ministers and other ministry staff accountable for obtaining continuing education and for the content of the programs. This accountability is to be based on clear criteria adopted by the council in consultation with the minister(s) and ministry staff.
3. That synod urge church councils to grant pastors and ministry staff adequate time (approximately ten days per year) for annual continuing education and budget sufficient funds (approximately \$1,200) to cover this education.

(Acts of Synod 2000, p. 681)

In view of this statement of current policy, it is interesting to note the current practice as demonstrated through the recently published CRC Sustaining Pastoral Excellence (SPE) survey. (The full survey results are available from SPE.)

In the survey 64 percent of councils report that they are very supportive (ranked 5 on a scale of 5) of their pastor receiving continuing education and training (Survey Item 117.13). Another 25 percent of the councils surveyed rank themselves as a 4 out of 5. Yet a full 44 percent responded “No” to the question “Has the council encouraged your pastor to participate in a workshop/seminar on pastoral preaching/teaching in the last 12 months?” It may be that many of these councils have encouraged their pastors to participate in other types of workshops or seminars. Yet it is valid to ask how committed our councils are as a whole to encouraging pastors in continuing education.

In another line item of the survey 66 percent of churches report that they have a budget line for pastor’s continuing education (Survey Item 118.13a). Yet nearly one-half (49%) of pastors do not use all of the funds available to them each year (Survey Item 120.13c). The survey shows that one-half (50%) of the pastors are currently in a peer learning group (Survey Item 82.43). Nearly one-half (41%) are not engaged in either a mentor or a mentee

relationship (Survey Item 84.44). Over one-half of the pastors answered “No” to the question “Do you obtain systematic feedback from your council on your preaching?” (Survey Item 39.25). If feedback is not received on such a basic area as preaching, it seems legitimate to wonder whether feedback is received on other areas of pastoral work.

The SPE survey does not offer a bleak view of pastoral performance or the relationship between pastors and churches. However, the survey does demonstrate that there is legitimate cause for concern relative to the purposeful attention of pastors and councils to matters of CE and professional growth.

C. Should continuing education be mandatory for pastors?

The Candidacy Committee, within its discussions of standards and qualifications for ministry, has entered into discussions of continuing education. We have recognized this as an issue of importance for the health of pastors and of churches. We have consulted with Pastor-Church Relations, the denominational agency that administers CE funding for pastors. We have also consulted with the directors of SPE, Sustaining Congregational Excellence, Chaplaincy Ministries, and Christian Reformed World Missions. We have informally engaged a representative of Calvin Theological Seminary and Christian Reformed Home Missions in our discussion. We have polled a variety of pastors from all regions of our denomination. The overwhelming consensus resulting from these consultations is that more encouragement in this area is needed and a continuing education requirement for pastors should be seriously considered.

As was mentioned in the Candidacy Committee report to Synod 2010, a committee has been appointed to consider this issue and to present a proposal for consideration by Synod 2011. The initial assumptions of the committee follow:

Any effective CE policy for pastors in the CRC must

- be oriented toward growth (personal, spiritual, and professional).
- require heavy collaboration at the local congregational level.
- allow for a wide variety of experiences and events.

These three values were operative in the proposals adopted by Synod 2000 and are already part of the “status quo” in the present denominational CE policy. The committee believes that the following questions need to be addressed:

1. How can we ensure that more pastors and congregations incorporate CE into the pastoral experience?
2. How can we ensure that more CE experiences address the particular needs and growth challenges of pastors as determined in collaboration with elders or others who work with pastors?
3. Should CE for pastors be mandatory? Voluntary participation in CE may be more satisfying, or it may be that in many situations a mandatory requirement is not necessary, but what of those situations in which pastors will not make a plan for growth yet are in obvious need of growth? And what of those cases in which pastors desire to participate in CE but leaders of their congregation are not supportive?

The Candidacy Committee invites synod to offer direction to this discussion as it sees fit, and the committee welcomes the input of the churches and classes as this matter is considered in the coming year.

VI. Developing the Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy

The committee's report to synod, as printed in the *Agenda*, references a discussion about online learning in the delivery of the Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy (EPMC). As the committee has continued its discussions, there is a significant recognition that the relational elements gained in a normal classroom environment are essential to the process of evaluating potential candidates. There is, thus, a hesitancy on the committee's part to move in the direction of wholesale use of online learning for the EPMC. The committee has decided, instead, to formulate a pilot program aimed initially at those who are approved for residency exemption in the EPMC. The program will involve the use of local mentors and field work and will be patterned after a 24-month program used in the Reformed Church in America (RCA). The program is currently under development but may be given approval by the Candidacy Committee this summer for use by select students this coming fall.

VII. RCA pastor orientation

Church Order Supplement, Article 8, D gives a variety of guidelines for calling ministers from the RCA. Guideline 6 refers to the need for such an RCA pastor serving in the CRC to "demonstrate to the appropriate body of the inviting church a knowledge of and appreciation for the theological and liturgical identity, history, polity, and discipline of the church." In order to help RCA pastors serving in the CRC to learn about CRC polity, denominational ministries, history, and culture, the Candidacy Committee is pleased to offer to churches the new orientation program "Welcome to the CRC." This one-week program will be publicized to all stated clerks of classes and classical ministerial leadership teams for possible use by RCA pastors who accept calls in CRC congregations.

VIII. Recommendations

A. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Rev. David R. Koll, director of candidacy, and Rev. Henry Jonker, chair, when the Candidacy Committee report is discussed.

B. That synod declare those listed in section II, A as candidates for ministry in the Christian Reformed Church.

C. That synod approve the extensions of candidacy as recommended in section II, B.

D. That synod approve the declaration of need for those listed in section IV for affiliation under Church Order Article 8.

Candidacy Committee

David R. Koll, director of candidacy

I. Ecumenical visitors at Synod 2010

Several ecumenical visitors will be attending synod this year. The Ecumenical Relations Committee (ERC) recommends that such visitors be granted the privilege of addressing synod on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, on a schedule as determined by the officers of Synod 2010. The following fraternal delegates and ecumenical guests have been invited and have confirmed their presence at Synod 2010. Several others were invited but were not able to accept our invitation this year.

Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton	Canadian Council of Churches
Rev. Don Poest	Reformed Church in America
Elder Fred Bravo	Christian Reformed Church in the Philippines

II. Ecumenical observers at Synod 2010

The Presbyterian Church of Korea (Hap Dong) (PCK) has requested the privilege of being guest observers at Synod 2010, and the ERC is pleased to invite them to do so. The PCK has also invited CRC representatives to attend their General Assembly later this year. We look forward to getting to know each other better so that decisions about the level of ecclesiastical relationship can be made. It is recommended that an observer from the PCK be granted the privilege of addressing synod on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, along with the other ecumenical visitors, on a schedule as determined by the officers of Synod 2010.

III. Church Order Article 50

The Ecumenical Relations Committee reviewed the proposed revision of Church Order Article 50 and, after consulting with the Church Order Revision Task Force, recommends to Synod 2010 the following revision that will bring this article into alignment with the Ecumenical Charter:

Proposed Article 50

- a. Synod shall send delegates to ~~Reformed~~ ecumenical bodies in which the Christian Reformed Church cooperates with other Christian denominations, ~~that confess and maintain the Reformed faith~~ particularly those sharing the Reformed perspective.
- b. Synod may present to such gatherings matters on which it seeks the judgment of the Reformed churches throughout the world.
- c. Decisions of Reformed ecumenical bodies shall be binding upon the Christian Reformed Church only when they have been ratified by its synod.

IV. Recommendations

- A. That synod make time in its schedule to hear from ecumenical guests, including an observer from the Presbyterian Church of Korea (Hap Dong).

B. That synod adopt the following revisions to Church Order Article 50:

Proposed *Article 50*

- a. Synod shall send delegates to Reformed ecumenical bodies in which the Christian Reformed Church cooperates with other Christian denominations, ~~that confess and maintain the Reformed faith~~ particularly those sharing the Reformed perspective.
- b. Synod may present to such gatherings matters on which it seeks the judgment of the Reformed churches throughout the world.
- c. Decisions of Reformed ecumenical bodies shall be binding upon the Christian Reformed Church only when they have been ratified by its synod.

Ecumenical Relations Committee
Bruce G. Adema, ecumenical officer

OVERTURES AND COMMUNICATION

Overture 2: Approve Transfer of Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, from Classis Kalamazoo to Classis Minnkota

Note: The following version of Overture 2 as approved by classis replaces the one printed in the *Agenda for Synod 2010* (pp. 659-60).

I. A brief history

For over thirty years from 1977 to 2007 our denominational “experts” have oscillated regarding the reading of the biblical qualifications for office-bearers. In this divergence of opinion, many held firmly to the conviction that the Bible specifies in its instructions that the offices of minister, elder, and deacon be held by qualified males only. Others claimed that in the name of equality, justice, and sensitivity, women were “just as qualified” and ought to be granted equal status in these “positions of leadership.” In 1995 our synod sought to put an end to the back and forth debate and reached a compromise solution, saying that since “experts” on both sides came to these sincere interpretations, both positions were to be considered “equally valid and equally true” (*Acts of Synod 1995*, pp. 726-32). Synod also established a five-year moratorium so that the churches could each pursue their own desires and do some healing in the meantime.

Synods 2000, 2006, and 2007 revisited the question, each time granting more latitude to those who favored the “women in office” opinion. Although Synod 2006 voted for the opening of all the offices at the local, classical, and synodical levels to women, they also called for a seven-year rest before implementation of these decisions “to ready the churches for the changes,” and to allow for adjustment and healing. Synod 2007, however, abruptly threw out the additional “seven year moratorium” for adjustment and healing, because many strong voices argued in the name of equality and justice that this “freedom to serve” ought to be granted to women, effective immediately.

This decision meant that for all of the various classes within the CRC each was automatically “granted the right” to seat women at their assemblies unless that classis voted on “biblical convictions” that it was choosing not to do so. On the floor of Synod 2007 it was articulated that for those churches which believed this decision was unbiblical or wrong, there were four options open for them to pursue:

1. Go along with this decision, acquiescing to the majority vote, in the name of harmony and unity.
2. Attend their local classis meetings “under written protest.”
3. Seek realignment and transfer to a CRC Classis of like mind.
4. Leave the CRC in favor of another denomination.

A. Initial response

In the summer of 2007, the council of Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, grappled, pondered, and prayed earnestly for the Lord's guidance in view of these implications. In view of the decision of Synod 2007, in view of the makeup of Classis Kalamazoo, in view of some churches in Classis Kalamazoo desiring to immediately delegate women to classis, and in view of Synod 2007 having granted those churches that privilege effective immediately, Second CRC made a decision to abstain from attending Classis Kalamazoo and to pursue a realignment with a classis of like mind. It was sensed that to "attend classis under protest" would soon become a mere formality and would function as acquiescence to the majority voices in conflict with our reading of Scripture and in violation of conscience. Second CRC also was convinced that to go to classis and to continually keep voicing the conviction of objections to the seating of women would soon be viewed as being a "thorn in the side of classis" or worse, of being contentious, which the Bible forbids. In contrast, Second CRC decided to pursue realignment with another classis of like mind, since that option was sanctioned by synod and has many instances of precedent.

B. In the process

In the Fall of 2007 Second CRC appointed a realignment committee to do the careful and diligent work of pre-scouting for which neighboring classis would be the most receptive and the most harmonious with similar understanding of Scripture. From the Fall of 2007 to the Autumn of 2008, conversations were held with representatives of ten different classes to compare notes as to how they were reacting to the dilemmas resulting from the decisions of Synod 2007. Analysis revealed that four classes in the immediate proximity did not practice the seating of women at classical meetings.

In the Summer of 2008 Second CRC was approached by the council of Trinity CRC in Sparta, Michigan, asking if they could join in the search for a new classical realignment since they were facing the same conflict of conscience within Classis Grand Rapids North.

In the Fall of 2008 it was looking quite promising for Second CRC to realign with Classis Illiana, since numerous people there and members of their Classical Interim Committee had encouraged Second CRC to do so. However, when they polled their churches, the response was mixed. Some wanted two churches to "come aboard and join them." Others feared two transferring churches would find it "untenable . . . to participate with them due to distance and to their being an urban Chicago-land Classis." In late December 2008, both Second CRC and Trinity (Sparta) CRC councils felt it best to withdraw the request to join with Illiana and only realign with a classis where the welcome was wholehearted.

At this time some voices were asking if it would be possible to start a new classis within the CRC of like-minded churches which held to the time-honored position in this matter, one which had been without question in our denomination for almost 150 years. Synod had said that both positions were considered "equally valid." The churches were not asking for a change in theology but only wanted to remain consistent with their reading of Holy Scripture and remain in step with that time-honored position.

C. Consultation with the Executive Director of the CRCNA

In February and September 2009 council representatives from the two churches met with Rev. Gerard Dykstra, Executive Director of the CRCNA, to explain their findings to date and to ask for advice and counsel as to which direction to take. After listening to their grounds, and in a respectful, humble, and sincere manner, he commended the two churches for desiring to prayerfully, carefully pursue the options with the desire to stay within the CRC while so many churches over the past twenty years have simply chosen to leave. As to the possibility of joining an existing classis of like mind, he felt this would be the easiest avenue. As to the possibility of starting a new classis in Michigan, he said that if a sufficient number of churches desired to do this, they could write overtures and have their respective classes lay them before synod to consider the feasibility of this option.

D. Exploratory meetings

In July and, again, in October exploratory meetings were held with various churches scattered around Michigan which have been finding themselves increasingly distanced and disenfranchised from their home classes as a result of synod's decisions. At the July meeting there were eight churches present. In October eleven churches sent representatives to the meeting. Some of these churches were just starting to encounter the conflict of conscience problem at the classical level. But unanimously all of those present on October 8 were in favor of forming a new classis in Michigan, with the Lord's timing.

E. Invitation from Classis Minnkota

Simultaneously in the course of the past summer, on behalf of these churches, Second CRC was having some in-depth and supportive conversations with representatives of Classis Minnkota, which is on record as being a classis of like mind. Second CRC expressed to them the dual desire of either realigning with an existing classis or of forming a new classis in Michigan, one that would remain within the Christian Reformed Church and yet "be shaped by a confessional Reformed vibrancy and substance, along with biblically qualified male officebearers." Second CRC explained that it "believed this to be a God-honoring option for those churches who do not wish to violate their conscience when confronted with the ordination of women officers," nor does it wish "to be in the unpleasant position of continually protesting such classis meetings." Responding to the communications with them, Classis Minnkota in their September 17 meeting upheld Second CRC in prayer and offered the following advice: that the churches seek a new classis in Michigan within the CRC when the sufficient number of churches are ready for it and, in the meantime, join with their classis for mutual support, for encouragement, and for the option of serving our Lord with their classis without the conflict of conscience problem.

In view of the above, Classis Kalamazoo presents this overture, recognizing the sincere desire of Second CRC to align with Classis Minnkota, and as they go forward, seek to be faithful to the Lord, faithful to his Word, and faithful as a church within our denomination.

II. Overture

Classis Kalamazoo overtures Synod 2010 to permit the transfer of Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, from Classis Kalamazoo to Classis Minnkota.

Grounds:

1. Second CRC cannot in good conscience remain in a classis that promotes the ordination of women to the offices of minister, elder, deacon, and ministry associate.
2. Second CRC wishes to join a classis in which it can serve in harmony as opposed to serving in protest. Synod has provided such allowance (see Church Order Article 39 and its Supplement).
3. Synod 2007 permitted the churches to seek out like-minded classes with which to participate and has set precedent to do so (e.g., Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, 1997; Pine Creek, Holland, Michigan, 1997; South Bend, Indiana, 1999; First, Prinsburg, Minnesota, 2007).
4. Synod has declared that churches and delegates to classis should not be forced to participate against their convictions (see Church Order Article 3, and Supplement, Article 3-a, 1, b and c, 3, and 5).
5. Classis Minnkota has extended the invitation for Second CRC to join them, which would allow them to continue to serve within the Christian Reformed Church.
6. In its reading of Holy Scripture, Second CRC believes it is imperative to make this request. Biblical passages foundational to this request include Acts 6:3; 1 Corinthians 11:8-9; 1 Corinthians 14:33-40; 1 Timothy 2:3; Titus 1:5-11; and Titus 2:1-8.

1 Corinthians 11:3 – “Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”

Classis Kalamazoo

Jacob Weeda, stated clerk

Overture 20: Postpone Action on the Translation of the Three Reformed Standards

Classis Kalamazoo overtures Synod 2010 to postpone action on the Faith Alive Christian Resources recommendations for proposed changes to the translation of the Three Reformed Standards (Belgic Confession, Canons of Dort, and Heidelberg Catechism) until at least Synod 2011. (See recommendations and proposed translations by Faith Alive Christian Resources in the *Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 165-383.)

Grounds:

1. The printed *Agenda for Synod 2010* was not received until late April and too late for councils and classes to adequately review the material before Synod 2010.
2. Postponing actions will allow congregations an appropriate length of time to evaluate the proposed changes and communicate possible responses.
3. Church Order Article 5 advises the following for gravamen confessional-revisions: “A revision of the confessions shall not be adopted by

synod until the whole church membership has had adequate opportunity to consider it.”

4. Previous translation committees appointed by a synod gave the whole church membership adequate opportunity to consider and respond to those translations.

Classis Kalamazoo

Jacob Weeda, stated clerk

Overture 21: Postpone Action on the Proposed Changes to the Three Forms of Unity

Classis Holland overtures synod to postpone action until at least Synod 2011 on the recommendation by Faith Alive Christian Resources to adopt the proposed changes to the Three Forms of Unity (Belgic Confession, Canons of Dort, and Heidelberg Catechism). (See *Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 166-383.)

Grounds:

1. The Three Forms of Unity hold a significant place in the life and theology of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, requiring all officebearers to “teach these doctrines diligently” and “defend them faithfully” (Church Order Supplement, Art. 5).
2. The printed *Agenda for Synod 2010* was not broadly available until late April, giving most churches only a few weeks—an inadequate amount of time—before the classis meetings prior to synod to absorb and consider 216 pages of revisions to these vital standards of the Reformed faith. Although the *Agenda* is available online for a short time prior to the release of the printed *Agenda*, most churches did not even know such changes were being proposed to Synod 2010 and were therefore not looking for such a document. No other prior communication was provided to the churches that such changes were being considered.
3. Postponing action will allow churches a more appropriate length of time in which to examine the proposed changes and give proper prayerful and thoughtful response.

Classis Holland

Anthony L. Louwerse, stated clerk

Overture 22: Submit Translation of the Three Reformed Standards to the Churches for Review

Classis Grand Rapids East overtures Synod 2010 to submit the proposed revised translation of the three Reformed standards (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 166-383) to the churches for review prior to adoption by synod.

Grounds:

1. This is a frequent and preferred practice for testing such significant changes to documents so vital to the churches.

2. These proposed revisions need greater exposure to the churches and deserve adequate time for review and comment before adoption.
3. The timeline for potential inclusion in the 2013 scheduled publication of *Lift Up Your Hearts* (the new RCA-CRC bi-denominational hymn-book) allows for such a review.

Classis Grand Rapids East
Alfred E. Mulder, stated clerk

Overture 23: Instruct the Committee to Propose a Combined RCA/CRC Translation to Follow Accepted Textual Critical Methods with Regard to the Heidelberg Catechism

Classis Grand Rapids East urges Synod 2010 to instruct the Committee to Propose a Combined RCA/CRC Translation to follow accepted textual critical methods to establish the text of the original 128 questions and answers of the Heidelberg Catechism.

Grounds:

1. The original synodical instructions to the CRC translation committee referred to “the original German [language] text.”
2. Copies of the 128-question-and-answer original German text are extant (without printed numbers).
3. Even if the original were lost, a literary analysis clearly points to the current Q. and A. 80 as an addition to the definitive text; as a Calvin Theological Seminary professor observed, “Question and Answer 80 sticks out like a sore thumb.”
4. Whereas Q. and A. 79 flows naturally to the respectful “Who should come to the table of the Lord?” of currently numbered Q. and A. 81, these words are an awkward join with “a condemnable idolatry” of the intrusive Q. and A. 80.
5. Although creeds and confessions can be changed after achieving definitive form, as with the 8th-century addition to the Nicene Creed and the 20th-century change in Article 36 of the Belgic Confession, the addition of a hundred and twenty-ninth Q. and A. (i.e., 80) to the catechism was not an improvement but the opposite, as acknowledged by Synod 2004.
6. If Q. and A. 80 is a mistaken statement of what others believe and practice, it should not be added to the 128 questions and answers about what we believe. It should certainly not be dignified with references to biblical texts implying a scriptural basis for mistaken judgment.

Classis Grand Rapids East
Alfred E. Mulder, stated clerk

Overture 24: Postpone Decision to Adopt New Translation of the Three Reformed Standards until Synod 2011

I. Background

The report of Faith Alive Christian Resources to Synod 2010 includes a recommendation to adopt a new translation of the three Reformed standards.

II. Overture

Classis Zeeland overtures Synod 2010 to postpone any decisions in regard to the recommendation by Faith Alive Christian Resources (see Recommendation IV, C, *Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 165-66) to adopt the new translation of the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort until Synod 2011.

Grounds:

1. The first appearance of the proposed new translation was first shown to the churches in the *Agenda for Synod 2010*, which was received in April. This was not sufficient time for church councils to consider before the May classis meetings.
2. The grounds given by Faith Alive (IV, C, 2, a-c, p. 166) for this translation are for the benefit of Faith Alive and its other customers, not the Christian Reformed churches.
3. These are the three forms of unity to which all church officials must sign agreement, according to Church Order Article 5, in which we declare and believe that all these articles fully agree with the Word of God and that we promise to defend them faithfully.
4. The guidelines for a confessional revision gravamen that were approved at Synod 1976 state: "A revision of the confessions shall not be adopted by synod until the whole church membership has had adequate opportunity to consider it" (*Acts of Synod 1976*, p. 70). This wisdom should also apply here.

Classis Zeeland

Ronald J. Meyer, stated clerk

Overture 25: Do Not Adopt the Proposed Revisions to the Reformed Confessions

The council of North Blendon Christian Reformed Church overtures Classis Zeeland to overture Synod 2010 to not adopt the new translation of the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort, as proposed by the committee appointed by Faith Alive Christian Resources (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 166-383).

Grounds:

1. Eliminating masculine pronouns for God in any measure is inconsistent with biblical language for God and out of character for our denomination, going against previous synodical decisions on language for God.

- a. Synod 1997 declared, “The endorsement or use of contemporary inclusive language for God—i.e., the broad gender-egalitarian and/or gender-neutral approach . . . is unacceptable to the Christian Reformed Church” (*Acts of Synod 1997*, p. 690), and affirmed that “it is linguistically necessary and appropriate to use masculine pronouns” in reference to God (*Acts of Synod 1997*, p. 692).
 - b. The proposed revisions to the three Reformed Confessions remove not just some but over half of the masculine pronouns for God. The proposed Heidelberg Catechism removes 49 masculine pronouns for God and retains only 29. The proposed Belgic Confession removes 74 masculine pronouns for God and retains only 28. The proposed Canons of Dort removes 81 masculine pronouns for God and retains only 51.
 - c. One quotation from the Scripture itself (Phil. 2:13) inserts “God” where the utilized NRSV text has “he” (Art. 14 in the proposed Belgic Confession).
2. The revisions to the three Reformed Confessions have been produced and presented in haste.
 - a. Because these proposed revisions appear in the 2010 *Agenda*, which was released in April, congregations and classes do not have adequate time to review the changes to the statements of faith which are pivotal for organizing our understanding of Scripture and play a critical role in our denominational unity as stated in the Form of Subscription.
 - b. The proposed texts themselves show signs of being rushed into production and presentation without thorough proofreading, which does not show proper respect to the importance of these statements in our denomination.
 - 1) The committee has “The Belgic Confession” in Addendum 3 as the heading for the Canons of Dort introduction (p. 241).
 - 2) The revision committee sought to change all exclusive terms such as “men” to inclusive terms as “human” (*Agenda*, p. 168), yet the committee had at least one oversight, leaving “men” unrevised in the Canons of Dort, 2.II (p. 261).
 - 3) The committee appeared to revise “Lord’s Supper” to “Holy Supper” in the Heidelberg Catechism except they apparently overlooked one instance and left a “Lord’s” Supper instead of a “Holy” supper (Q&A 75).
 - 4) The committee conveniently made highlights to the updates made in the texts, except that there are a number of instances when updates are unhighlighted or unaltered words are highlighted.
 - In the Canons of Dort 1.7, “to justify them” is highlighted but not a revision.
 - The committee failed to highlight revisions in many places. In the Heidelberg Catechism revisions are left unhighlighted in Q&A 26, 43, 58, 63, 64, 69, 70, 102, and 122.

3. Expanding Faith Alive's market to other denominations (Ground c, *Agenda*, p. 166) does not constitute a good ground for revising our confessions of faith.

Council of North Blendon CRC,
Hudsonville, Michigan
Don Mulder, clerk

Note: The above overture was presented to Classis Zeeland but not adopted.

Communication 2: Classis Toronto

After reviewing the report of the Committee to Study the Migration of Workers (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 535-85), Classis Toronto has the following comments:

1. The purpose of the report is to make recommendations to the denomination regarding the church's treatment and acceptance of illegal migrants in Canada and the United States. The problem is that illegal migrants live in North America in violation of our laws and the church is called to love the alien. What is the appropriate response?
2. Overall, we would agree with the conclusion of the report. The conclusion is that the church is called to extend grace and fellowship to anyone, regardless of civic status, who is seeking a relationship with Jesus Christ. This is the mandate of the church.
3. However, the explanatory path taken to arrive at this conclusion is riddled with questionable rationale and a heavy reliance on a particular perspective that some may find troubling.
4. For example, the report states, "Biblically it is clear that unless a given person—no matter what his or her background or current social circumstance—threatens the faith or life of the Christian community, then that person is to be embraced and witnessed to in deeds and words that reflect Christ" (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 557). The problem with this analysis is that it only contemplates the harm to one institution to the exclusion of all others. The church abides in a wider community, a community that provides security, freedom, and order from which the church benefits and is able to pursue its mission. Applying this narrow threshold of harm does not contemplate the church's responsibility to contribute to the good order that all institutions and people benefit from. Upholding and respecting the law is the church's responsibility too.
5. The report should state unequivocally that it is the obligation of countries to establish laws and regulations regarding the acceptance of immigrants and refugees for the protection and preference of its own people. The general tone and the specific recommendations at the end of the report make clear that the committee members do not believe current laws are facilitating the "just and humane treatment of immigrant peoples" (*Agenda*, p. 565) or that we have "fair, just, and equitable laws regarding those without status in Canada and the United States" (*Agenda*, p. 566). There is not enough evidence provided to support these claims.

6. Our sense is that the committee is not distinguishing between the necessity of immigration laws that serve to protect the economic well-being and security of a nation, and the necessity of assisting those who find themselves without status after entering the country illegally. Both necessities are required. The authors of this report emphasize the necessity of compassion to the alien over the necessity of maintaining and respecting appropriate immigration law. The church's activities in this area are overlapping with the responsibilities of the state to monitor and protect our borders. Our response, as a body of believers called to respect our legal authorities, is to honor these laws in the first place and then offer suggestions for the mitigation of harm to illegals.
7. The existence of sin means that people will make decisions that are contrary to the law—state laws and the law of nature. For example, although the church discourages abortion and gay lifestyles, it embraces and loves people who have nevertheless made decisions to abort babies and enter gay lifestyles. The fact that it “loves the sinner” does not mean it endorses abortion and gay lifestyles. We should take a similar approach to treatment of immigrants seeking entrance to Canada and for those who find themselves here illegally.
8. Nowhere does the report deal with the reasons why so many people want to come to North America and why they wish to leave their own countries. Many immigrants and refugees would rather remain in their homeland and not take the risks associated with moving to another country. The church and our government have a responsibility to promote practices and trade relationships that build the internal capacity of poorer nations to provide for their own populations. This will help reduce the numbers of people who wish to leave their home countries for ours. We think we should encourage the committee to include recommendations that deal with the factors that cause mass migration from poorer countries to wealthier countries. These recommendations could include foreign aid tied to good governance practices; fair trade agreements that encourage the importation of goods from poorer nations; the transfer of technology and training to equip the next generation of knowledge workers; and debt cancellation tied to economic restructuring that supports entrepreneurial and free market activity.
9. There is little consideration given to the demand side of the migrant worker issue. Migrant workers come to North America because there is a demand for their labor. In 2008, 200,000 temporary foreign workers came to Canada. This in itself is not an issue, since we need more labor to meet our demands. However, migrant workers are forced to go underground when they become vulnerable to unscrupulous Canadian employers who fail to follow through on promises of housing, pay, and steady employment. This is a Canadian enforcement issue, and it is the responsibility of our government to ensure that migrant workers who come here under legitimate circumstances are not forced into the underground economy by shifty employers. We should recommend that our governments enforce regulations and penalize unscrupulous employers. This is

one means of reducing the source of illegal migrants in Canada and the United States.

10. We should caution the committee against making statements that stigmatize people who disagree with the report's conclusions and recommendations. On page 563 the authors insinuate that people who disagree with their position are like those Christians who did not support Dietrich Bonhoeffer during WWII or Martin Luther King, Jr., during the civil rights movement. Such statements stunt productive conversation, which requires the inclusion of reasonable disagreement when seeking truth and consensus on any matter. In any case, correlating unjust and oppressive laws in Hitler's Third Reich and Jim Crow laws in the United States with immigration laws in North America is hyperbolic and unnecessary for their argument.
11. Considering the objective of this committee's report, it is unclear why there is a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to "engage in, as a priority, a campaign to educate and raise cross-cultural sensitivity across our denomination and provide tools and resources . . . to deal with cross-cultural conflict that may arise from time to time" (*Agenda*, pp. 565-66). By making this recommendation, the committee infers that migrant worker issues are a race and cultural sensitivity issue. This case is not made in their report and should not be included as a recommendation. Again, setting up the issue of illegal migrants in North America as a race or xenophobia concern biases the report and distracts the church from its real challenge: caring for vulnerable people when they enter our churches. The CRC has an organization established to ensure our denomination is sensitive to race and cultural issues.
12. Finally, a statement at the bottom of page 541 (*Agenda*) is incorrect. There is an appeals process for refugee claims that are refused by the Immigration and Refugee Board. They are sent to the Federal Court of Canada, where a judge determines whether a decision has violated natural justice principles.

Note: Chris Bosch, who contributed to this communication, is the director of research and education at the Christian Labour Association of Canada in Mississauga, Ontario. He is a graduate of Calvin College, the University of Waterloo (Master of Arts), and the Institute for Christian Studies (Master of Worldview Studies). He attends ClearView CRC in Oakville, Ontario.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important discussion. We hope our insights are helpful during your deliberations.

Classis Toronto
John Meiboom, stated clerk

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 4,009	\$ 3,622	\$ 3,430	\$ 3,430
% of Total Income	35.0%	40.1%	42.1%	39.8%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 5,072	\$ 3,954	\$ 3,525	\$ 3,898
Estate Gifts	\$ 2,194	\$ 1,483	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,200
Total Gift Income	7,266	5,437	4,625	5,098
% of Total Income	63.4%	60.2%	56.8%	59.2%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants-Animation/Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 188	\$ (30)	\$ 85	\$ 85
Total Other Income	188	(30)	85	85
% of Total Income	1.6%	-0.3%	1.0%	1.0%
TOTAL INCOME	11,463	9,029	8,140	8,613
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
English	\$ 2,508	\$ 2,468	\$ 2,094	\$ 2,194
FTEs	10	10	12	12
International	\$ 5,927	\$ 5,050	\$ 3,826	\$ 4,084
FTEs	13	13	14	14
Education		\$	130	\$ 136
FTEs			2	2
Total Program Service \$	\$ 8,435	\$ 7,518	\$ 6,050	\$ 6,414
Total Program Service FTEs	23	23	28	28
% of Total \$	73.9%	72.3%	74.3%	74.5%
% of Total FTEs	67.6%	67.6%	73.7%	73.7%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,051	\$ 957	\$ 700	\$ 739
FTEs	4	4	4	4
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,933	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,390	\$ 1,460
FTEs	7	7	6	6
Total Support Service \$	2,984	2,880	2,090	2,199
Total Support Service FTEs	11	11	10	10
% of Total \$	26.1%	27.7%	25.7%	25.5%
% of Total FTEs	32.4%	32.4%	26.3%	26.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 11,419	\$ 10,398	\$ 8,140	\$ 8,613
TOTAL FTEs	34	34	38	38
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 44	\$ (1,369)	\$ -	\$ -

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.)
Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,731	\$ 2,603	\$ 2,731	\$ 2,731
% of Total Income	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 2,701	\$ 2,450	\$ 2,783	\$ 2,783
Estate Gifts	\$ 27	\$ 12	\$ 17	\$ 17
Total Gift Income	2,728	2,462	2,800	2,800
% of Total Income	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%	2.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 108,531	\$ 113,408	\$ 115,724	\$ 115,724
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,918	\$ 1,121	\$ 1,777	\$ 1,777
Total Other Income	111,449	114,529	117,501	117,501
% of Total Income	95.3%	95.8%	95.5%	95.5%
TOTAL INCOME	116,908	119,594	123,032	123,032
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Education	\$ 97,960	\$ 100,720	\$ 105,297	\$ 105,297
FTEs	611	612	594	594
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 97,960	\$ 100,720	\$ 105,297	\$ 105,297
Total Program Service FTEs	611	612	594	594
% of Total \$	86.1%	85.0%	85.6%	85.6%
% of Total FTEs	77.4%	76.1%	76.3%	76.3%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 6,556	\$ 7,743	\$ 7,672	\$ 7,672
FTEs	71	76	72	72
Plant Operations	\$ 6,736	\$ 7,179	\$ 7,477	\$ 7,477
FTEs	71	78	76	76
Fund-raising	\$ 2,580	\$ 2,796	\$ 2,581	\$ 2,581
FTEs	36	38	36	36
Total Support Service \$	15,872	17,718	17,730	17,730
Total Support Service FTEs	178	192	184	184
% of Total \$	13.9%	15.0%	14.4%	14.4%
% of Total FTEs	22.6%	23.9%	23.7%	23.7%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 113,832	\$ 118,438	\$ 123,027	\$ 123,027
TOTAL FTEs	789	804	778	778
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 3,076	\$ 1,156	\$ 5	\$ 5

Calvin Theological Seminary

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 06-07 Actual	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Budget	Fiscal 09-10 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,898	\$ 3,178	\$ 3,296	\$ 2,802
% of Total Income	46.1%	47.4%	46.4%	41.3%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 801	\$ 668	\$ 1,228	\$ 1,020
Estate Gifts	\$ 13	\$ 13	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	814	681	1,228	1,020
% of Total Income	12.9%	10.2%	17.3%	15.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 2,026	\$ 2,106	\$ 2,176	\$ 2,295
Grants	\$ 442	\$ 635	\$ 319	\$ 605
Miscellaneous	\$ 108	\$ 98	\$ 89	\$ 59
Total Other Income	2,576	2,839	2,584	2,959
% of Total Income	41.0%	42.4%	36.4%	43.6%
TOTAL INCOME	6,288	6,698	7,108	6,781
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Instructional	\$ 2,715	\$ 2,688	\$ 2,819	\$ 2,593
FTEs	28	29	30	28
Public Service	\$ 51	\$ 44	\$ 57	\$ 78
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Academic Support	\$ 932	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,032	\$ 1,025
FTEs	4	4	4	4
Student Services	\$ 524	\$ 505	\$ 585	\$ 561
FTEs	4	4	4	5
Student Aid	\$ 226	\$ 662	\$ 557	\$ 467
FTEs	2	2	2	1
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	4,448	4,999	5,050	4,724
Total Program Service FTEs	39	40	41	39
% of Total \$	72.1%	73.5%	71.0%	69.7%
% of Total FTEs	75.0%	76.9%	77.4%	79.6%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 913	\$ 905	\$ 1,061	\$ 1,108
FTEs	7	7	7	6
Plant Operations	\$ 435	\$ 497	\$ 509	\$ 463
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Fund-raising	\$ 377	\$ 396	\$ 488	\$ 486
FTEs	5	4	4	3
Total Support Service \$	1,725	1,798	2,058	2,057
Total Support Service FTEs	13	12	12	10
% of Total \$	27.9%	26.5%	29.0%	30.3%
% of Total FTEs	25.0%	23.1%	22.6%	20.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,173	\$ 6,797	\$ 7,108	\$ 6,781
TOTAL FTEs	52	52	53	49
	(429)			
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (314)	\$ (99)	\$ -	\$ -

* \$-429 Cumulative effect of change in retirement accounting principle

Christian Reformed Home Missions

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)

Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 4,216	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,451	\$ 3,500
% of Total Income	60.1%	68.2%	54.1%	58.9%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 1,782	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,907	\$ 1,715
Estate Gifts	\$ 543	\$ 300	\$ 398	\$ 399
Total Gift Income	2,325	1,730	2,305	2,114
% of Total Income	33.1%	32.2%	36.1%	35.6%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ 178	\$ 147	\$ 150	\$ 74
Miscellaneous	\$ 300	\$ (170)	\$ 474	\$ 255
Total Other Income	478	(23)	624	329
% of Total Income	6.8%	-0.4%	9.8%	5.5%
TOTAL INCOME	7,019	5,372	6,380	5,943
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Ministry Teams	\$ 6,170	\$ 6,363	\$ 5,517	\$ 4,639
FTEs	26	26	27	23
Ministry Devel & Planning	\$ 1,023	\$ 907	\$ 874	\$ 594
FTEs	6	6	6	5
Total Program Service \$	\$ 7,193	\$ 7,270	\$ 6,391	\$ 5,233
Total Program Service FTEs	32	32	33	28
% of Total \$	78.3%	79.3%	77.0%	76.8%
% of Total FTEs	74.4%	74.4%	75.0%	77.8%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 965	\$ 895	\$ 850	\$ 751
FTEs	3	3	3	2
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,023	\$ 1,005	\$ 1,064	\$ 831
FTEs	8	8	8	6
Total Support Service \$	1,988	1,900	1,914	1,582
Total Support Service FTEs	11	11	11	8
% of Total \$	21.7%	20.7%	23.0%	23.2%
% of Total FTEs	25.6%	25.6%	25.0%	22.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 9,181	\$ 9,170	\$ 8,305	\$ 6,815
TOTAL FTEs	43	43	44	36
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (2,162)	\$ (3,798)	\$ (1,925)	\$ (872)

Christian Reformed World Missions

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)

Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 5,024	\$ 4,602	\$ 4,675	\$ 4,675
% of Total Income	37.1%	35.2%	35.1%	34.5%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 6,980	\$ 6,853	\$ 7,024	\$ 7,620
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,253	\$ 1,125	\$ 638	\$ 683
Total Gift Income	8,233	7,978	7,662	8,303
% of Total Income	60.8%	61.0%	57.5%	61.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 281	\$ 489	\$ 982	\$ 560
Total Other Income	281	489	982	560
% of Total Income	2.1%	3.7%	7.4%	4.1%
TOTAL INCOME	13,538	13,069	13,319	13,538
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Africa	\$ 4,088	\$ 3,992	\$ 3,767	\$ 3,723
FTEs	31	29	29	28
Eurasia	\$ 2,975	\$ 2,965	\$ 2,508	\$ 2,167
FTEs	24	24	18	18
Latin America	\$ 4,036	\$ 4,357	\$ 4,142	\$ 3,634
FTEs	27	27	26	25
Global/other Int'l program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,213
FTEs	-	-	-	11
Education	\$ 640	\$ 682	\$ 869	\$ 773
FTEs	8	8	9	8
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 11,739	\$ 11,996	\$ 11,286	\$ 11,510
Total Program Service FTEs	90	88	82	90
% of Total \$	84.0%	84.6%	84.7%	84.9%
% of Total FTEs	85.6%	85.4%	84.8%	85.7%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,066	\$ 1,004	\$ 877	\$ 889
FTEs	5	5	5	5
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,175	\$ 1,172	\$ 1,156	\$ 1,156
FTEs	10	10	10	10
Total Support Service \$	2,241	2,176	2,033	2,045
Total Support Service FTEs	15	15	15	15
% of Total \$	16.0%	15.4%	15.3%	15.1%
% of Total FTEs	14.4%	14.6%	15.2%	14.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 13,980	\$ 14,172	\$ 13,319	\$ 13,555
TOTAL FTEs	105	103	97	105
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (442)	\$ (1,103)	\$ -	\$ (17)

Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)

Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	-	-	0.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 16,952	\$ 14,721	\$ 17,022	\$ 15,190
Estate Gifts	\$ 2,487	\$ 1,447	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000
Total Gift Income	19,439	16,168	18,522	16,190
% of Total Income	51.2%	51.3%	72.3%	68.8%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ 16,721	\$ 14,140	\$ 6,812	\$ 6,995
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,820	\$ 1,224	\$ 285	\$ 350
Total Other Income	18,541	15,364	7,097	7,345
% of Total Income	48.8%	48.7%	27.7%	31.2%
TOTAL INCOME	37,980	31,532	25,619	23,535
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Overseas programs	\$ 12,101	\$ 12,748	\$ 13,855	\$ 11,447
FTEs	56	32	56	42
No. America programs	\$ 1,579	\$ 1,690	\$ 1,049	\$ 784
FTEs	5	7	-	-
Disaster relief programs	\$ 18,048	\$ 1,582	\$ 1,736	\$ 1,294
FTEs	14	14	15	11
Above-budget relief costs	\$ -	\$ 12,925	\$ 6,756	\$ 9,500
FTEs	-	-	-	2
Education	\$ 1,034	\$ 1,320	\$ 1,522	\$ 1,138
FTEs	5	11	7	5
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 32,762	30,265	24,918	\$ 24,163
Total Program Service FTEs	80	64	78	60
% of Total \$	89.4%	88.8%	85.2%	87.4%
% of Total FTEs	75.5%	75.3%	71.6%	75.9%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 2,115	1,886	2,000	\$ 1,609
FTEs	8	6	6	5
Plant Operations	\$ -	-	-	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,775	1,917	2,317	\$ 1,862
FTEs	18	15	25	14
Total Support Service \$	3,890	3,803	4,317	3,471
Total Support Service FTEs	26	21	31	19
% of Total \$	10.6%	11.2%	14.8%	12.6%
% of Total FTEs	24.5%	24.7%	28.4%	24.1%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 36,652	34,068	29,235	\$ 27,634
TOTAL FTEs	106	85	109	79
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 1,328	(2,536)	(3,616)	\$ (4,099)

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2010-2011**

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 1,234	\$ 1,090	\$ 974	\$ 975
% of Total Income	19.4%	19.5%	16.0%	16.4%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 393	\$ 309	\$ 305	\$ 305
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	393	309	305	305
% of Total Income	6.2%	5.5%	5.0%	5.1%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 4,410	\$ 4,038	\$ 4,353	\$ 4,253
Grants	\$ 238	\$ 197	\$ 266	\$ 285
Miscellaneous	\$ 73	\$ (30)	\$ 176	\$ 144
Total Other Income	4,721	4,205	4,795	4,682
% of Total Income	74.4%	75.0%	78.9%	78.5%
TOTAL INCOME	6,348	5,604	6,074	5,962
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Banner	\$ 1,270	\$ 1,326	\$ 1,439	\$ 1,367
FTEs	4	3	3	4
Education	\$ 3,422	\$ 3,393	\$ 3,514	\$ 3,817
FTEs	17	19	19	19
World Literature	\$ 282	\$ 326	\$ 475	\$ 429
FTEs	1	2	3	2
Teacher Training	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 150	\$ 150
FTEs	1	1	1	1
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 5,114	\$ 5,185	\$ 5,578	\$ 5,763
Total Program Service FTEs	23	25	26	25
% of Total \$	85.1%	85.6%	86.2%	88.4%
% of Total FTEs	92.0%	92.6%	92.9%	93.3%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 897	\$ 869	\$ 890	\$ 754
FTEs	2	2	2	2
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	897	869	890	754
Total Support Service FTEs	2	2	2	2
% of Total \$	14.9%	14.4%	13.8%	11.6%
% of Total FTEs	8.0%	7.4%	7.1%	6.7%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,011	\$ 6,054	\$ 6,468	\$ 6,517
TOTAL FTEs	25	27	28	27
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 337	\$ (450)	\$ (394)	\$ (555)

Denominational Services

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 3,215	\$ 2,817	\$ 2,844	\$ 3,109
% of Total Income	68.3%	56.3%	80.0%	81.3%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 1,391	\$ 1,294	\$ 30	\$ 20
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	1,391	1,294	30	20
% of Total Income	29.6%	25.9%	0.8%	0.5%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 239	\$ 274
Services & Misc	\$ 98	\$ 889	\$ 442	\$ 420
Total Other Income	98	889	681	694
% of Total Income	2.1%	17.8%	19.2%	18.2%
TOTAL INCOME	4,704	5,000	3,555	3,823
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Synodical Services & Grants	\$ 1,788	\$ 1,678	\$ 1,431	\$ 1,420
FTEs	5	5	5	5
Communications	\$ 327	\$ 405	\$ 408	\$ 475
FTEs	3	3	4	4
CRCPlan	\$ 126	\$ 145	\$ 88	\$ 21
FTEs	1	1	-	-
Sea to Sea payout	\$ -	\$ 1,749	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Leadership Exchange	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 219	\$ 254
FTEs	-	-	1	1
Program Expansion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 2,241	\$ 3,977	\$ 2,146	\$ 2,295
Total Program Service FTEs	9	9	10	10
% of Total \$	60.0%	74.8%	60.4%	61.6%
% of Total FTEs	60.0%	60.0%	55.6%	58.8%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,000	\$ 889	\$ 860	\$ 864
FTEs	4	4	4	3
D.D.M.	\$ 142	\$ 190	\$ 198	\$ 238
FTEs	1	1	2	2
Fund-raising (Foundation & LE)	\$ 355	\$ 261	\$ 351	\$ 330
FTEs	1	1	2	2
Total Support Service \$	1,497	1,340	1,409	1,432
Total Support Service FTEs	6	6	8	7
% of Total \$	40.0%	25.2%	39.6%	38.4%
% of Total FTEs	40.0%	40.0%	44.4%	41.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,738	\$ 5,317	\$ 3,555	\$ 3,727
TOTAL FTEs	15	15	18	17
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 966	\$ (317)	\$ -	\$ 96

incld \$1,374 Sea to Sea

incld \$1,256 Sea to Sea

Specialized Ministries

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.) Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,848	\$ 2,649	\$ 2,264	\$ 2,419
% of Total Income	80.7%	78.6%	77.4%	78.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 414	\$ 474	\$ 413	\$ 432
Estate Gifts	\$ 26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	440	474	413	432
% of Total Income	12.5%	14.1%	14.1%	13.9%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 204	\$ 185	\$ 199	\$ 251
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Services & Misc	\$ 38	\$ 61	\$ 50	\$ -
Total Other Income	242	246	249	251
% of Total Income	6.9%	7.3%	8.5%	8.1%
TOTAL INCOME	3,530	3,369	2,926	3,102
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Chaplaincy Services	\$ 185	\$ 139	\$ 240	\$ 212
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Race Relations	\$ 433	\$ 384	\$ 419	\$ 411
FTEs	3	3	3	3
Pastor-Church Relations	\$ 552	\$ 620	\$ 631	\$ 599
FTEs	3	3	3	4
Safe Church Ministry	\$ 172	\$ 174	\$ 179	\$ 188
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Disability Concerns	\$ 271	\$ 250	\$ 258	\$ 238
FTEs	2	2	2	2
Social & Restorative Justice	\$ 396	\$ 580	\$ 427	\$ 390
FTEs	4	4	5	4
Ministries in Canada	\$ 1,033	\$ 941	\$ 794	\$ 990
FTEs	4	4	5	5
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 3,042	\$ 3,088	\$ 2,948	\$ 3,028
Total Program Service FTEs	18	18	20	20
% of Total \$	98.7%	98.4%	97.3%	97.1%
% of Total FTEs	94.7%	94.7%	95.2%	95.2%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 7	\$ 9	\$ 43	\$ 47
FTEs	-	-	-	-
D.D.M.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 32	\$ 40	\$ 38	\$ 44
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Total Support Service \$	39	49	81	91
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	1.3%	1.6%	2.7%	2.9%
% of Total FTEs	5.3%	5.3%	4.8%	4.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,081	\$ 3,137	\$ 3,029	\$ 3,119
TOTAL FTEs	19	19	21	21
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 449	\$ 232	\$ (103)	\$ (17)

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.)
Fiscal Year 2010-2011

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 500	\$ 655	\$ 979	\$ 824
% of Total Income				80.2%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 103
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-	-	103
% of Total Income				10.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100
Services & Misc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Other Income	1,000	-	-	100
% of Total Income				9.7%
TOTAL INCOME	1,500	655	979	1,027
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Network for Congregations	\$ 12	\$ 316	\$ 364	\$ 364
FTEs	1	2	2	2
Sust. Pastoral Excellence	\$ 457	\$ 276	\$ 250	\$ 229
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Sust. Congregational Excellence	\$ 500	\$ 643	\$ 663	\$ 663
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Total Program Service \$	\$ 957	\$ 931	\$ 1,229	\$ 1,256
Total Program Service FTEs	2	3	4	4
% of Total \$	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General				
FTEs				
Plant Operations/Debt Serv.				
FTEs				
Fund-raising				
FTEs				
Total Support Service \$	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$				0.0%
% of Total FTEs				0.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 957	\$ 931	\$ 1,229	\$ 1,256
TOTAL FTEs	2	3	4	4
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 543	\$ (276)	\$ (250)	\$ (229)

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2010-2011**

	Fiscal 07-08 Actual	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Budget	Fiscal 10-11 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-	-	-
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,896	\$ 1,905	\$ 1,727	\$ 1,452
Total Other Income	1,896	1,905	1,727	1,452
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL INCOME	1,896	1,905	1,727	1,452
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Loan Interest	\$ 1,279	\$ 1,245	\$ 1,470	\$ 1,174
FTEs	1	1	1	1
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 1,279	\$ 1,245	\$ 1,470	\$ 1,174
Total Program Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	86.1%	82.5%	83.9%	80.7%
% of Total FTEs	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 207	\$ 265	\$ 283	\$ 280
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	207	265	283	280
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	13.9%	17.5%	16.1%	19.3%
% of Total FTEs	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,486	\$ 1,510	\$ 1,753	\$ 1,454
TOTAL FTEs	2	2	2	2
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 410	\$ 395	\$ (26)	\$ (2)

Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Fund - Canada

Changes in Net Assets (000s of Canadian \$)

	MPF 2008 Actual	MPF 2009 Actual	SAF 2008 Actual	SAF 2009 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 35
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	89.4%	97.2%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Participant Assessments	\$ 1,996	\$ 2,094	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ (6,030)	\$ 3,809	\$ 5	\$ 1
Total Other Income	\$ (4,034)	\$ 5,903	\$ 5	\$ 1
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	10.6%	2.8%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	\$ (4,034)	\$ 5,903	\$ 47	\$ 36
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Distributions	\$ 2,128	\$ 2,291	\$ 13	\$ 11
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 2,128	\$ 2,291	\$ 13	\$ 11
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$	83.5%	83.6%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%		
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 421	\$ 451	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	1	-	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	\$ 421	\$ 451	\$ -	\$ -
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	-	-
% of Total \$	16.5%	16.4%	0.0%	0.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 2,549	\$ 2,742	\$ 13	\$ 11
TOTAL FTEs	1	1	-	-
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ (6,583)	\$ 3,161	\$ 34	\$ 25

Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Fund - U.S.

Changes in Net Assets (000s of U.S. \$)

	MPF 2008 Actual	MPF 2009 Actual	SAF 2008 Actual	SAF 2009 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85	\$ 95
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	93.4%	97.9%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Participant Assessments	\$ 4,758	\$ 4,729	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ (33,551)	\$ 16,062	\$ 6	\$ 2
Total Other Income	(28,793)	20,791	6	2
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	6.6%	2.1%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	\$ (28,793)	\$ 20,791	\$ 91	\$ 97
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Distributions	\$ 7,242	\$ 7,576	\$ 88	\$ 102
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 7,242	\$ 7,576	\$ 88	\$ 102
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$	88.1%	88.4%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%		
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 978	\$ 995	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	1	-	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	\$ 978	\$ 995	\$ -	\$ -
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	-	-
% of Total \$	11.9%	11.6%	0.0%	0.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 8,220	\$ 8,571	\$ 88	\$ 102
TOTAL FTEs	1	1	-	-
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ (37,013)	\$ 12,220	\$ 3	\$ (5)

Employees' Retirement Plan - U.S.

Changes in Net Assets (000s)

	2008 Actual	2009 Actual
ADDITIONS:		
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%
Other Gift Income:		
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:		
Contributions	\$ 1,656	\$ 1,513
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ (5,965)	\$ 3,656
Total Other Income	(4,309)	5,169
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	(4,309)	5,169
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):		
Program Services:		
Distributions	\$ 1,601	\$ 1,691
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 1,601	\$ 1,691
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-
% of Total \$	89.9%	84.3%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%
Support Services:		
Management & General	\$ 180	\$ 315
FTEs	1	1
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Total Support Service \$	180	315
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1
% of Total \$	10.1%	15.7%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 1,781	\$ 2,006
TOTAL FTEs	1	1
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ (6,090)	\$ 3,163

Consolidated Group Insurance - U.S.

Changes in Net Assets (000s)

	2008 Actual	2009 Actual
ADDITIONS:		
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%
Other Gift Income:		
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:		
Participant Premiums	\$ 10,577	\$ 10,785
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 203	\$ 197
Total Other Income	10,780	10,982
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	10,780	10,982
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):		
Program Services:		
Claims Expense	\$ 9,561	\$ 9,303
FTEs	-	-
Insurance Premiums	\$ 698	\$ 818
FTEs	-	-
TPA & PPO Fees	\$ 623	\$ 628
FTEs	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 10,882	\$ 10,749
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-
% of Total \$	98.2%	97.7%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%
Support Services:		
Management & General	\$ 198	\$ 250
FTEs	3	3
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Total Support Service \$	198	250
Total Support Service FTEs	3	3
% of Total \$	1.8%	2.3%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 11,080	\$ 10,999
TOTAL FTEs	3	3
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ (300)	\$ (17)

REPORT OF SYNOD 2010

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PRAISE

Sunday, June 13, 2010

3:00 p.m.

Grace Community Christian Reformed Church

Oak Lawn, Illinois

We Gather to Worship

(* Please stand if able)

Organ Prelude. "Be Thou My Vision"

Call to Worship. Psalm 95:1-7, (NRSV)

*Songs of Praise Mrs. Eleanor Lamsma and Mrs. Diane Ritzema
"Rejoice, the Lord Is King" *Psalter Hymnal* 408
"The Kingdom of God"

God's Greeting Rev. Michael Kooy

Welcome Mr. Bill Weidenaar

We Greet Each Other

Chimes selections. Grace Community CRC Friendship Club

Global Songs of Praise and Prayer Praise Team
"Kwake Yesu Nasimama"—Kenya
"Abana in Heaven"—Lebanon

Prayer for the Kingdom Mrs. Joan Schutt

*Song of Preparation Praise Team
"Speak, O Lord"

Scripture: Luke 14:15-24 Mrs. Tess Beukema
Mr. John Rosier

Message Rev. Michael Kooy
Rev. John Wilczewski
"The Kingdom Banquet"

Lord's Supper

LiturgistsRev. Jerry Dykstra, Rev. Michael Kooy

SongsPraise Team

 "Beneath the Cross"

 "Behold the Lamb"

Prayer of ThanksRev. Michael Kooy

*Benediction

*DoxologyPraise Team

 "There's No God as Great"*Psalter Hymnal* 517

As you exit the sanctuary, an offering will be taken for
Christian Reformed Home Missions – Church Planting

PostludePraise Team

 "Hear the Call of the Kingdom"

Worship Participants

Preaching Rev. Michael Kooy, Grace Community CRC

Rev. John Wilczewski, Jacob's Well Church Community

OrganMrs. Eleanor Lamsma

Piano/vocalMrs. Diane Ritzema

Vocalists Mr. Pedro and Mrs. Maria Kialanda,

Mrs. Eleanor Lamsma, Mr. Gordon VanderMeulen

GuitarMr. Harry Beezhoud

Drums Mr. Brian Kamper

Chimes Grace Community CRC Friendship Club

Prayer for the KingdomMrs. Joan Schutt

Scripture ReadersMrs. Tess Beukema, Mr. John Rosier

Sound and ProjectionMr. Jim Kamper, Mr. Dave Phillips

MINUTES OF SYNOD 2010

SATURDAY MORNING, June 12, 2010 First Session

ARTICLE 1

President pro tem Rev. Michael J. Kooy, pastor of Grace Community Christian Reformed Church, Oak Lawn, Illinois, the convening church of synod, welcomes the delegates to Synod 2010.

The president pro tem introduces Dr. Steven Timmermans, president of Trinity Christian College, who welcomes delegates to the Trinity Christian College campus.

The president pro tem introduces Mrs. Diane Ritzema, who leads in a litany, calling delegates to worship, and announces *Psalter Hymnal* 246, "Come, Thou Almighty King." She reads from Luke 14:15-24.

The president pro tem addresses synod about "The Kingdom Banquet"—synod is a sign of the kingdom of God, and delegates are welcomed to the "party" where they are brothers and sisters, where we see what God is doing around the world, in our communities, and here in our midst.

Rev. Kooy leads in prayer. Mrs. Ritzema announces *Contemporary Songs for Worship* 4, "One Generation Will Call to the Next."

ARTICLE 2

The president pro tem requests the executive director (ED), Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, to call the roll of delegates listed on the credentials of the forty-seven classes:

DELEGATES TO SYNOD 2010

Classis	Ministers	Elders
Alberta North	Daniel Meinema Henry F. Steenbergen	August Guillaume Co J. VanderLaan
Alberta South/Saskatchewan	Philip F. Reinders Kevin L. Jordan	Peter DeBoer Roy Bil
Arizona	Eduardo A. Gonzalez Derek Van Dalen	Larry L. Edsall Rodney Huguen
Atlantic Northeast	Christopher P. Mitchell Nicholas W. Monsma	William M. Hanchett Timothy C. Brown
B.C. North-West	Peter Lim Mary-Lee Bouma	Elisabeth TerMaat John A. Buikema
B.C. South-East	Henry Jonker Carel Geleyense	Sam Wind John Bandstra
California South	William Verhoef Mark D. Vermaire	Ron L. Glass John Jansen

Central California	Lloyd S. Wicker	Donald W. DeWitt
Central Plains	George G. Vink	Fernando L. del Rosario, Jr.
Chatham	Thomas E. Pettinga	Morry Blankespoor
Chicago South	James T. Petersen	Greg Westra
Columbia	Dirk Miedema	Stewart Van Schepen
Eastern Canada	Michael R. Wagenman	Sharon D. Broersma DeVries
Georgetown	Julius T. Medenblik	Hilda M. Ragon
Grand Rapids East	Gerry G. Van Dam	Elsa M. Fennema
Grand Rapids North	Virgil L. Michael	Ivan R. Imig
Grand Rapids South	Daniel R. Wolters	David R. Stewart
Grandville	Winston J. Visser	Louise C. Boutin
Greater Los Angeles	Chad M. Vandervalk	Jacob Rook
Hackensack	Robert Huisman	Vacant
Hamilton	Jerry Van Groningen, Jr.	Richard D. Kennedy
Heartland	Michael F. Abma	Stedford Sims
Holland	Ruth Boven	Lori A. Keen
Hudson	Jack D. DeJong	Martin Boersma
Huron	William G. Vis	Marvin De Boer
Iakota	Kenneth E. Van Wyk	Nancy L. Bolt
Illiana	Robert L. Boersma	Paul R. LaGrand
Kalamazoo	Daniel B. Mouw	Tom Vryhof
Lake Erie	G. Duane Nieuwsma	Robert J. Schippers
Lake Superior	Erick D. Westra	Richard G. Haagsma
Minnkota	Richard A. Jones	Art Lapre
Muskegon	Norman B. Steen	Karen J. Abbas
Niagara	Paul J. Van Dyken	Stan R. Tyvoll
Northcentral Iowa	Stephen F. Terpstra	Mark Vandervliet
Northern Illinois	Kevin P. DeRaaf	Timothy Sheridan
Northern Michigan	Robert D. Drenten	Erv Hibma
Pacific Hanmi	Paul A. Hansen	Kevin A. Schutte
	James M. Boer	Bill Ryckbost
	Jeffrey M. Meyer	Wes Lemmen
	Craig E. Broek	Peter Hagedoorn
	Norman F. Brown	Steven B. Eichhorn
	Darren C. Roorda	John Ridder
	Harry J. Frielink	John K. Oosterhof
	Calvin Hoogendoorn	Wilbert J. Vanden Bos
	Aldon L. Kuiper	Orlan Gulker
	Gerald L. Hoek	Jerry McClurg
	Kristin J. Vos	Richard A. Smits
	Jacob Weeda	David J. Wagner
	Timothy L. Raakman	George Vander Wey
	Rolf T. Bouma	George F. Vander Weit
	Bret L. McAtee	Bruce W. Holleboom
	Robert W. Vance	Jim Lipscomb
	Harrison A. Newhouse	Ken Douma
	LeRoy G. Christoffels	Chester Vander Zee
	Roger W. Sparks	David A. Mohlenkamp
	David J. Sieplinga	Michael Wissink
	Michael Borgert	Carol R. Spelman
	Rudy W. Ouwehand	Louis den Bak
	Derek A. Bouma	Ineke Bezuyen
	Thomas J. Niehof	John G. Verkade
	Kyle E. Haack	Douglas W. Kallemeyn
	Gregory D. Schuringa	Allen J. Van Der Dyke
	Merle Den Bleyker	Richard S. Wright
	Brian D. Seifert	Paul J. Hizelberger
	Steve J. Van Noort	Marilyn Visser
	Hyung Ju Park	Sung Chang Choi
	Roger Y. Ryu	Jang Ho Park

Pacific Northwest	Ladan A. Jennings	Stuart R. Johnson
Quinte	David N. Snapper	Roger H. Butz
	Peter Slofstra	Gregg C. Lawson
Red Mesa	B. Bernard Bakker	Pete Oussoren
	Bobby Boyd	Ronald Donkersloot
Rocky Mountain	Robert J. Byker	Esther Voss
	Robert L. Westenbroek	Edward J. Schans
Southeast U.S.	Kenneth M. Vander Horst	Terry M. Gray
	Scott A. Vander Ploeg	Vacant
Thornapple Valley	Robert R. Broekema	Vacant
	Paul R. De Vries	Chris L. Van Spronsen
Toronto	James A. Kralt	John Vander Wall
	A. Dirk Evans	A. Henry Eygenraam
Wisconsin	Samuel Cooper	Wendy Gritter
	Daniel J. Roeda	Christopher J. Ganski
Yellowstone	Karl H. Bratt	David Van Buren
	Peter J. DeVries	Donald L. Jabaay
Zeeland	Jack Huttinga	Dan Lubbers
	Ronald D. De Young	Mike Meyer
	William J. Renkema	Tim Miedema

The roll call indicates that the following delegates are absent with notice: Christopher P. Mitchell (Atlantic Northeast), Dirk Miedema (Chatham), Jang Ho Park (Pacific Hanmi), Kenneth M. Vander Horst (Rocky Mountain), and William J. Renkema (Zeeland).

ARTICLE 3

The ED welcomes and individually introduces the faculty advisers who are present: Dr. Mariano Avila, Dr. John W. Cooper, Dr. Henry De Moor, Dr. Duane K. Kelderman, Rev. Kathy Smith, and Dr. Jeffrey Weima.

The ED welcomes and individually introduces to synod the ethnic advisers who are present: Ms. Pearl S. Banks, Rev. John J. Gonzales, Rev. Andrew W. Henry, Mrs. Verney Kho, Mrs. Alice S. Rivers, and Mr. Thurman S. Rivers.

The ED welcomes and individually introduces to synod the youth observers who are present: Mr. Paul DeWeerd, Mr. Mark Eekhoff, Ms. Elizabeth Jennings, Mr. Peter Keep, Ms. Violet Mutoigo, Ms. Amy Vander Vliet, and Mr. Robert Van Lonkhuyzen.

ARTICLE 4

The assembly proceeds to elect officers. The following are elected:

President: Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper
Vice President: Rev. Peter Slofstra
First Clerk: Rev. William Verhoef
Second Clerk: Ms. Wendy Gritter

ARTICLE 5

Rev. Kooy welcomes the officers to the podium and congratulates them.

Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper expresses the appreciation of synod to Rev. Kooy for his participation in the opening of synod.

On behalf of himself and the other officers, Rev. Kuiper thanks synod for the confidence it has placed in them to lead synod and asks for prayer for the officers in the coming week.

ARTICLE 6

The president asks delegates to rise and proceeds with the reading of the Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity. The delegates give their verbal assent in unison.

ARTICLE 7

The ED introduces the synod news office staff, *The Banner* staff, the synod office staff, the prayer coordinator, Trinity Christian College staff, and denominational staff present.

ARTICLE 8

The following schedule is presented for information: morning session, 8:15-11:45 a.m.; afternoon, 1:15-5:00 p.m.; evening, 7:00-9:00 p.m.; coffee breaks at 9:45 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 9

The ED calls the attention of delegates and visitors to the following matters:

I. Confidentiality of the executive sessions of synod

The Board of Trustees calls the matter of confidentiality to the attention of Synod 2010 and urges that all necessary precautions be taken to prevent violations of confidentiality.

Synod 1954 stated that “the very principle of executive sessions or sessions that are not open to the public, involves the practical implication that reporters may not ‘report’” (*Acts of Synod 1954*, p. 15). “If reporters are not permitted to report on executive sessions of synod, it is certainly a breach of confidentiality also for delegates to the synodical assembly to report—publicly, orally, or in print—on the discussions held in an executive session of synod” (*Acts of Synod 1982*, p. 16).

II. Audio and video recordings of synod

Synod 1979 authorized the making of an official audio recording of the entire proceedings of the general sessions of synod as a way to verify the written record of the synodical proceedings. Although the general sessions of synod are recorded, executive sessions are not recorded. Delegates to synod are informed at the opening session of synod that all the general sessions are being recorded. Synod has designated that the office of the executive director be responsible for the use and storage of these materials.

The following regulations were adopted by Synod 1989 concerning audio and video recordings of synodical sessions by media representatives and visitors:

- A. Representatives of the media are permitted to make video recordings of synodical proceedings provided they observe the restrictions placed upon them by the synodical news office under the direction of the general secretary of synod.
- B. *Visitor privileges*
 1. Visitors are at liberty to make audio recordings of the public proceedings of synod provided they do so unobtrusively (i.e., in no way inhibiting or disturbing either the proceedings of synod, the synodical delegates, or other persons).

2. Video recordings are permitted provided the following restrictions are observed:
 - a. Video cameras are permitted only at the entrances, not backstage or in the wings.
 - b. Auxiliary lighting is not permitted.
 - c. Videotaping is to be done unobtrusively (i.e., in such a way that it in no way inhibits or disturbs either the proceedings of synod, the synodical delegates, or other persons).

(*Acts of Synod 1989*, p. 445)

ARTICLE 10

The ED presents the report of the Program Committee, which recommends the following advisory committees for Synod 2010:

Committee 1—Synodical Services I – Polity Matters

Chair: Kevin P. DeRaaf; **reporter:** B. Bernard Bakker; **ministers:** Bobby Boyd, Karl H. Bratt, Robert R. Broekema, Ronald D. De Young, Gerald L. Hoek, Kevin L. Jordan, David N. Snapper, Erick D. Westra; **elders:** Nancy L. Bolt, Sharon D. Broersma DeVries, Jim Lipscomb, John K. Oosterhof, Stan R. Tyvoll, Allen J. Van Der Dyke, George F. Vander Weit, Chris L. Van Spronsen, John G. Verkade; **advisers:** Henry De Moor, Verney Kho, Kathy Smith.

Committee 2—Synodical Services II – Program Matters

Chair: Derek A. Bouma; **reporter:** Gregory D. Schuringa; **ministers:** Robert L. Boersma, Robert J. Byker, A. Dirk Evans, Richard A. Jones, Hyung Ju Park, Brian D. Seifert, Paul J. Van Dyken; **elders:** Peter DeBoer, Donald W. DeWitt, Elsa M. Fennema, Rodney Huguen, Donald Jabaay, Gregg C. Lawson, Mike Meyer, David R. Stewart, David Van Buren; **advisers:** Thurman Rivers, Calvin Van Reken; **youth observer:** Robert Van Lonkhuyzen.

Committee 3—Candidacy and Education

Chair: Calvin Hoogendoorn; **reporter:** Mark Vandervliet; **ministers:** James M. Boer, Samuel Cooper, Henry Jonker, Virgil L. Michael, Christopher P. Mitchell, Jerry Van Groningen, Jr., Kristin J. Vos, Robert L. Westenbroek, Lloyd S. Wicker; **elders:** Larry L. Edsall, Ron L. Glass, Peter Hagedoorn, Douglas W. Kallemeyn, Tim Miedema, Jang Ho Park, Esther Voss, Richard S. Wright; **advisers:** Duane K. Kelderman, Alice Rivers; **youth observer:** Violet Mutoigo.

Committee 4—Publications and Form of Subscription

Chair: Paul R. De Vries; **reporter:** Daniel B. Mouw; **ministers:** Rolf T. Bouma, Robert Huisman, James A. Kralt, Peter Lim, Harrison A. Newhouse, Thomas J. Niehof, Peter Slofstra, Scott A. Vander Ploeg; **elders:** Morry Blankespoor, Louise C. Boutin, Timothy C. Brown, Steven B. Eichhorn, Christopher J. Ganski, August Guillaume, Ivan R. Imig, John Jansen, Carol R. Spelman; **advisers:** Pearl Banks, Cornelius Plantinga; **youth observer:** Elizabeth Jennings.

Committee 5—Mission and Ministry

Chair: William G. Vis; **reporter:** Thomas E. Pettinga; **ministers:** LeRoy G. Christoffels, Kyle E. Haack, G. Duane Nieuwsma, Timothy L. Raakman, Daniel J. Roeda, Robert W. Vance, Daniel R. Wolters; **elders:** Ineke Bezuyen, Roger H. Butz, Paul R. LaGrand, John Ridder, Edward J. Schans, Kevin A.

Schutte, Stedford Sims, Elisabeth TerMaat, Sam Wind; **advisers:** Mariano Avila, Andrew W. Henry; **youth observer:** Mark Eekhoff.

Committee 6—Financial Matters

Chair: George G. Vink; **reporter:** A. Henry Eygenraam; **ministers:** Peter J. DeVries, Robert D. Drenten, Eduardo A. Gonzalez, Darren C. Roorda, Gerry G. Van Dam, Steve J. Van Noort, Winston J. Visser; **elders:** John Bandstra, Louis den Bak, Richard G. Haagsma, William M. Hanchett, Lori A. Keen, Bill Ryckbost, Richard A. Smits, Chester Vander Zee, Co J. VanderLaan; **adviser:** Calvin Van Reken; **youth observer:** Paul DeWeerd.

Committee 7—Interdenominational Matters

Chair: Merle Den Bleyker; **reporter:** Fernando L. del Rosario, Jr.; **ministers:** Norman F. Brown, Ladan A. Jennings, Daniel Meinema, James T. Petersen, William J. Renkema, David J. Sieplinga, Norman B. Steen, Chad M. Vandervalk; **elders:** Roy Bil, Martin Boersma, Wendy Gritter, Erv Hibma, Richard D. Kennedy, Dan Lubbers, Robert J. Schippers, Timothy Sheridan; **advisers:** John Cooper, Andrew W. Henry; **youth observer:** Mark Eekhoff.

Committee 8—Church Order and Appeals

Chair: Carel Geleynse; **reporter:** Rudy W. Ouwehand; **ministers:** Ruth Boven, Craig E. Broek, Jack Huttinga, Dirk Miedema, Nicholas W. Monsma, Stephen F. Terpstra, Kenneth E. Van Wyk; **elders:** John A. Buikema, Terry M. Gray, Paul J. Hizelberger, Art Lapre, David A. Mohlenkamp, Wilbert J. Vanden Bos, George Vander Wey, Michael Wissink; **advisers:** Henry De Moor, Kathy Smith; **youth observer:** Peter Keep.

Committee 9—Migration of Workers

Chair: Philip F. Reinders; **reporter:** Michael F. Abma; **ministers:** Jack D. DeJong, Harry J. Frielink, Bret L. McAtee, Henry F. Steenbergen, Derek Van Dalen, Jacob Weeda; **elders:** Karen J. Abbas, Sung Chang Choi, Ken Douma, Orlan Gulker, Wes Lemmen, Jerry McClurg, Hilda M. Ragon, Stewart Van Schepen, Tom Vryhof, Greg Westra; **advisers:** Mariano Avila, John J. Gonzales; **youth observer:** Paul DeWeerd.

Committee 10—Faith Formation

Chair: Mark D. Vermaire; **reporter:** Jeffrey M. Meyer; **ministers:** Michael Borgert, Mary-Lee Bouma, Paul A. Hansen, Julius T. Medenblik, Roger Y. Ryu, Roger W. Sparks, Kenneth M. Vander Horst, Michael R. Wagenman; **elders:** Marvin De Boer, Ronald Donkersloot, Bruce Holleboom, Stuart R. Johnson, Pete Oussoren, Jacob Rook, John Vander Wall, Marilyn Visser, David L. Wagner; **adviser:** Jeffrey Weima; **youth observer:** Amy Vander Vliet.

Recommendation: That synod adopt the report of the Program Committee, including membership on the advisory committees for Synod 2010.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 11

The president of synod, Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper, leads in closing prayer. Synod is adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Synod will reconvene Monday at 8:15 a.m.

MONDAY MORNING, June 14, 2010

Second Session

ARTICLE 12

Rev. Stephen F. Terpstra introduces the theme for worship during the week of synod, "Thy Kingdom Come," and notes the theme texts: Mark 1:15, 17 and Revelation 22:12-14, 17. He announces *Sing! A New Creation* 177, "O Christ, the Great Foundation." Youth observer Amy Vander Vleit leads in the Call to Worship and announces *Hymns for Worship* 170, "I Love Your Church, O Lord." She offers the prayer of illumination. Rev. Norman Brown reads from Matthew 4:17-23 and addresses delegates regarding "The Call of the Kingdom." Delegates sing *Global Songs for Worship* 11, "Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord." Rev. Terpstra leads in prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer in unison. He announces *Sing!* 14, "God, You Call Us to This Place."

ARTICLE 13

The roll indicates that all delegates are present. The following delegates who were absent on Saturday are now present: Christopher P. Mitchell (Atlantic Northeast), Dirk Miedema (Chatham), Jang Ho Park (Pacific Hanmi), Kenneth M. Vander Horst (Rocky Mountain), and William J. Renkema (Zeeland). They rise to show their assent with the Forms of Unity.

ARTICLE 14

The officers of synod announce the following appointments:

Testimonial Banquet Committee:

Elder delegate Rod Hugen
Ethnic adviser Verney Kho
Rev. Kenneth M. Vander Horst
Elder delegate George Vander Weit

Hospitality Committee:

Rev. Bruce G. Adema
Dr. William T. Koopmans

Sergeant at Arms:

Elder delegate John K. Oosterhof

Worship Planning Committee:

Elder delegate Karen Abbas
Rev. Paul Lomavatu
Rev. Albert Sideco
Rev. Stephen F. Terpstra

Minutes-Review Committee:

Elder delegate Morry Blankespoor
Dr. Ronald D. De Young

The officers of synod announce the following protests filed on the Credentials for Synod forms and request that they be noted in the minutes of synod:

A. Classis Minnkota: Rev. LeRoy G. Christoffels and Rev. Roger W. Sparks (along with Rev. Timothy J. Brown, alternate) attend synod under protest because of the seating of women delegates, which they believe is contrary to Scripture.

B. Classis Wisconsin: I believe that the ordination of women as elders and ministers violates the Word of God, and I protest their seating as delegates to synod—Rev. Karl H. Bratt.

C. Classis Yellowstone: The following delegates of Classis Yellowstone, believing the seating of (or election of) women delegates (or synodical deputies) is in violation of the Word of God, wish to record their protest of

Synod 2007's decision to ratify Synod 2006's decision to delete the word *male* from Church Order Article 3—Rev. Jack Huttinga, Elder delegate Donald L. Jabaay, and Elder delegate Dan Lubbers.

ARTICLE 15

The president presents the following recommendations by the officers of synod:

A. That synod approve the following requests for privilege of the floor by the BOT, agencies, educational institutions, standing committees, and study committees of synod contained within the reports to Synod 2010:

1. Board of Trustees of the CRCNA – Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair; and Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director
2. Task Force to Develop Guidelines for Proposed Structure Changes – Members of the BOT executive committee
3. Back to God Ministries International – Ms. Ellen Hamilton, board member; and Rev. Robert C. Heerspink, director
4. Calvin College – Dr. Gaylen J. Byker, president of the college
5. Calvin Theological Seminary – Rev. Paul R. De Vries, member of the Board of Trustees
6. Christian Reformed Home Missions – Mr. Ben Vandezande, interim director
7. Christian Reformed World Missions – Mr. Colin Watson, president of World Missions-U.S.A.; and Dr. Gary J. Bekker, director
8. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee – Mr. Andrew Ryskamp, co-director of CRWRC; and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, co-director of CRWRC
9. Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. – Mr. Carl Gronsman, director
10. Faith Alive Christian Resources –
For the board: Mr. Mark Rice, director
For *The Banner*: Rev. Robert De Moor, editor in chief
For the Editorial Department: Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, director
11. Translation of the Three Reformed Standards – Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, Dr. Lyle Bierma, and Dr. Todd Billings
12. Pensions and Insurance – members of the Canadian Pension Trustees and of the U.S. Board of Pensions, and Mr. John H. Bolt, director of finance and administration
13. Candidacy Committee – Rev. David R. Koll, director of candidacy; and Rev. Henry Jonker, member of the Candidacy Committee

14. Ecumenical Relations Committee – Dr. William T. Koopmans, chair; and Rev. Bruce G. Adema, ecumenical officer
15. Historical Committee – Dr. Richard H. Harms, CRC archivist
16. Abuse Victims Task Force – Ms. Kathy Vandergrift; Ms. Laura V. Triezenberg; and Ms. Beth Swagman, director of Safe Church Ministry
17. Church Order Revision Task Force – Rev. Kathy Smith, chair; and Dr. Rolf Bouma, reporter
18. Committee to Study the Migration of Workers – Mrs. Teresa Renkema, chair; Mr. Chris Pullenayegem, reporter; and Dr. Scott E. Hoezee, adviser
19. Faith Formation Committee – Dr. John D. Witvliet, Jr., chair; and Dr. Howard Vanderwell, secretary
20. Form of Subscription Revision Committee II – Rev. James C. Dekker, chair; and Rev. Michael Borgert, reporter

—*Granted*

B. That synod approve the following requests for special offerings for the agencies, ministries, and educational institutions of the CRC that are contained within the reports to Synod 2010:

1. That synod approve two offerings for Calvin Theological Seminary (the Facing Your Future program and the Ministry Incentive program) (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 118).
2. That synod encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize Easter Sunday and Reformation Day Sunday as significant opportunities to receive an offering for Christian Reformed Home Missions (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 130).
3. That synod and the Board of Trustees encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize Pentecost Sunday as a significant opportunity to pray for and take an offering for Christian Reformed World Missions (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 140).
4. That synod commend the work of mercy carried on by CRWRC and urge the churches to take at least four offerings per year in lieu of ministry-share support (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 150).

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 16

The ED presents the ballot for board and committee elections, and the delegates vote. Voting for agency and committee members is done electronically. The ballot results (boards and committees lists) will later be ratified by synod.

The president announces that all ballot-related recommendations in the *Agenda for Synod 2010* and the Supplementary Reports (for appointment, reappointment, or ratification of members for denominational boards or committees) have been satisfied upon completion of the ballot.

ARTICLE 17

The ED welcomes and introduces staff and guests of synod who are present.

The morning session is adjourned at 9:40 a.m. so that delegates can work in advisory committees. Rev. Jacob Weeda leads in closing prayer.

MONDAY EVENING, June 14, 2010

Third Session

ARTICLE 18

Elder delegate Louise C. Boutin leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 19

The executive director addresses synod on the “state of the church and the denomination” in creating and sustaining healthy congregations for the purpose of transforming lives and communities worldwide. He is happy to see churches around the world transforming lives and communities, collaboration among the ministries in the CRC, and people of all abilities that are a part of the church. He is concerned as he sees the need to address diversity and reconciliation into the body of Christ. He shares that he is proud to be a follower of Jesus Christ and part of a church that is transforming lives and communities worldwide. Our church belongs to God, and we are on a journey together. The president of synod expresses thanks on behalf of synod.

ARTICLE 20

Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Rudy W. Ouwehand, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*

1. Board of Trustees Report (section II, A, 19), pp. 31-32
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section I, D, including Appendix A)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director; Rev. David Koll; and members of the executive staff

C. *Recommendations*

That synod receive the Report of the Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee as information and adopt the following recommendations contained therein (BOT Supplement section I, D and Appendix A):

1. That synod note that, because of a resolution document signed by the appellant pastors and the leaders of Classis Pacific Hanmi, Personal Appeal 4 to Synod 2009 has been withdrawn.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod note that elders A. Jae and Y. Min have withdrawn Personal Appeal 3 that was submitted to Synod 2009.

—*Adopted*

3. That synod note that the relevant report to Synod 2009 of the synodical deputies regarding the deposition of J.J. Choi has also been withdrawn.

—*Adopted*

4. That synod encourage all parties to work toward reconciliation so that the pain caused by this matter does not cause permanent alienation between fellow Christians and does not hinder the ministries of classis and the congregation to fellow members and to Korean immigrants who may consider affiliation with the Christian Reformed Church in the future.

—*Adopted*

5. That synod discharge the Pacific Hanmi Appeals Committee with thanks.

—*Adopted*

Rev. Roger Ryu leads in a prayer of reconciliation.

II. Response to Personal Appeal 1

A. *Materials*: Personal Appeal 1 (materials distributed to advisory committee members)

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not sustain Personal Appeal 1.

Grounds:

1. Nothing new or substantive was alleged against the process or the decision of Classis Holland.
2. Classis Holland has done due diligence in this matter.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued in Article 71.)

ARTICLE 21

Advisory Committee 4, Publications and Form of Subscription, Rev. Daniel B. Mouw reporting, presents the following:

Form of Subscription Revision Committee II

A. *Materials*: Form of Subscription Revision Committee II Report, pp. 647-53

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. James C. Dekker, chair, and Rev. Michael Borgert, reporter

C. *Observations*

The advisory committee is pleased with the direction taken in the working document “A Covenant for Officebearers in the Christian Reformed Church.” We believe it to be a meaningful way for officebearers to affirm their commitment to the confessions of our denomination. The Form of Subscription Revision Committee II has already taken into account many changes suggested by classes, councils, and individual church members.

We anticipate that, following further dialogue with the churches and any final revisions, Synod 2011 will give final approval to the proposed Covenant.

D. Recommendations

1. That synod encourage churches to give particular consideration to how the Form of Subscription or its revision can help encourage officebearers to vitally engage with the Reformed confessions and suggest these to members of the Form of Subscription Revision Committee II.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod encourage the churches and classes to engage in earnest prayer and discussion on these matters.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued in Article 34.)

ARTICLE 22

Advisory Committee 9, Migration of Workers, Rev. Michael F. Abma reporting, presents the following:

Committee to Study the Migration of Workers

A. Materials: Committee to Study the Migration of Workers Report, including Appendices A-E, pp. 535-85

B. Recommendation

That synod give the privilege of the floor to Mr. Chris Pullenayegem, reporter of the Committee to Study the Migration of Workers, to present a cross-cultural sensitivity exercise for 30 minutes.

Grounds:

1. This is one way of serving synodical delegates by raising awareness and sensitivity around cross-cultural conflict.
2. This is a helpful exercise in preparing to deal with the report of the Committee to Study the Migration of Workers.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued in Article 53.)

Mr. Chris Pullenayegem is introduced by the president of synod and welcomed. He presents a cross-cultural sensitivity exercise to delegates and advisers to synod.

ARTICLE 23

Advisory Committee 6, Financial Matters, Mr. A. Henry Eygenraam reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (section II, C, including Appendix H), pp. 36-38, 69-100
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, B, and Appendix C)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director; Mr. John Bolt; and members of the executive staff

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod take note of the action plan developed in response to the request of Synod 2009 that will further engage new church plants and emerging churches in the ministry-share program (II, C, 1).
—*Adopted*
2. That synod receive as information the condensed financial statements for the agencies and educational institutions (see Appendix H).
—*Adopted*
3. That synod receive the agencies and institutions unified budget as information and approve a ministry share of \$316.76 for calendar year 2011 (3% increase over the 2010 amount) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 1-2).
—*Adopted*
4. That synod adopt the following recommendations with reference to agencies requesting to be placed on the recommended-for-offerings list:
 - a. That synod approve the list of above-ministry shares and specially designated offerings for the agencies and institutions of the CRC and recommend these to the churches for consideration (BOT Supplement section II, B, 3).
—*Adopted*
 - b. That synod receive as information the list of nondenominational agencies, previously accredited, that have been approved for calendar year 2011 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 4).
—*Adopted*
 - c. That synod accept the following new request for inclusion on the list of affiliated recommended causes (BOT Supplement section II, B, 5):

Timothy Leadership Training Institute

Timothy Leadership Training Institute (TLTI) was founded in 1997 by retired Calvin Theological Seminary professors and active missionaries to begin to meet the challenge of training leaders for the numerous new church congregations that have and will continue to develop. TLTI focuses on people with a call to lead who find it impossible to get formal training because of economic limits, geographical distance, and lack of preparation for advanced study. TLTI has grown to give training in 48 countries.

—*Adopted*
 - d. That synod accept the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 6):

Canada

Shalem Mental Health Network

Shalem Mental Health Network (formerly Salem Mental Health Network) provides mental health services primarily in Ontario with training and consultation occurring in Edmonton, Alberta; Chicago, Illinois; and Grand Rapids, Michigan. To achieve their vision, they seek, as a Christian Mental Health Association of Ontario, to stimulate, develop, demonstrate, promote, and share best practices in meeting mental health needs from a faith base.

—Adopted

United States

1) Association for a More Just Society

Association for a More Just Society is a Christian not-for-profit founded in 2000 and dedicated to promoting justice in Honduras and elsewhere. In addition, this organization helps North American Christians discern God's call to do justice. Association for a More Just Society partners with Christian Reformed World Missions and the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee within Central America.

—Adopted

2) CLC Network

CLC Network (formerly Christian Learning Center) was founded in 1979 when Pine Rest closed the Children's Retreat. CLC Network promotes the development of people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to live as active, integrated members of their communities. CLC Network works with schools in the states of Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

—Adopted

3) Kid's Hope USA

Kid's Hope USA partners with local elementary schools to provide mentors for at-risk students. The mentors are sourced from local Christian churches. Kid's Hope operates in 29 states and has 563 church/school mentoring partnerships. Seventy of the 563 are with Christian Reformed churches in nine states.

—Adopted

4) Biblica (formerly known as the International Bible Society)

Biblica's mission is to transform lives through God's Word. Their work will only be complete when every person in the world is given the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ through the Word. The organization has completed translations in 47 languages, and there are 37 translation projects under way. The materials are made available in print, audio, electronic, and video media.

—Adopted

5. That synod adopt the denominational salary grid for senior positions as proposed (no proposed increase over 2009-2010 and no changes made since July 2008) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 7).

—Adopted

II. Pensions and Insurance

A. Materials

1. Pensions and Insurance Report, pp. 384-88
2. Pensions and Insurance Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Mr. John H. Bolt, director of finance and administration

C. Recommendations

1. That synod endorse an adjustment to the annual benefit accrual rate from 1.46 percent to 1.3 percent for years of service after 2010.

Grounds:

- a. The benefit accrued at the new rate during a 40-year career as a minister of the Word would be similar to the benefit that someone retiring in 2010 would accrue with similar service.
- b. The lower annual benefit accrual rate will help moderate the contributions needed to fund the plan.

—Adopted

2. That synod endorse that the early retirement reduction factor be changed to 0.5 percent per month for each month that retirement occurs prior to age 65 for retirements on or after January 1, 2014.

Grounds:

- a. The rate of 0.5 percent (0.3% currently) more closely reflects the actuarial cost of providing the early retirement benefit.
- b. The effective date will enable those who have been planning for retirement to still receive the current early retirement reduction factors during a three-year window.
- c. The higher reduction factor will help moderate the contributions needed to fund the plan.

—Adopted

3. That synod receive for information the 2011 per-member assessment for the Canadian Plan at \$37.32 and the Canadian per-participant assessment at \$8,556. Similarly, that the 2011 per-member assessment for the U.S. Plan be set at \$32.28 and the U.S. per-participant assessment be set at \$6,696.

Ground: The new contribution rates reflect a 5 percent increase over 2010 levels.

—Adopted

4. That synod receive for information the results from the recent Ministers' Compensation Survey, which sets the 2011 final average salary of \$46,255 in the U.S. and \$49,839 in Canada. (The 2010 final average salaries were \$45,454 and \$48,763 respectively.)

—Adopted

5. That synod designate up to 100 percent of a minister's early or normal retirement pension or disability pension for 2011 as housing allowance for United States Income Tax purposes (IRS Ruling 1.107-1), but only to the extent that the pension is used to rent or provide a home.

—Adopted

III. CRC Loan Fund, Inc., U.S.

A. *Materials*: CRC Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. Report, pp. 151-52

B. *Observation*: The Loan Fund, which exceeds \$34 million, has been able to maintain near zero delinquencies on its outstanding mortgages during this challenging economic time.

(The report of Advisory Committee 6 is continued in Article 50.)

ARTICLE 24

The evening session is adjourned at 8:56 p.m. Elder delegate Ron L. Glass leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY MORNING, June 15, 2010

Fourth Session

ARTICLE 25

The chair introduces REACH Youth Group: Ms. Sarah Huisenga, Mr. Brian Kamper, Ms. Maria Kialanda, Mr. Pedro Kialanda, Mrs. Diane Ritzema, and Mr. Kyle Wessels, who lead in opening worship. Mrs. Diane Ritzema leads in the Call to Worship and singing of "Here I Am to Worship." REACH participants lead in opening prayer and in reading Matthew 6:33. They lead in singing "Seek Ye First" and in a Litany Prayer of Confession (from Embrace AIDS 2010). They announce "You Are My King" and read from Mark 8:34-9:1, followed by singing "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" and "For the Troubles" (first in Portuguese and then in English). The time of fellowship concludes with a reading from Revelation 7:15-17 and the singing of "In Christ Alone."

The roll indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 26

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. B. Bernard Bakker reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (Polity sections II, A, 1-20), pp. 23-33

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod approve the interim appointments made by the Board of the synodical deputies as well as to the CRWRC board of delegates (II, A, 1; BOT Supplement section I, A).

—Adopted

2. That synod accept the invitation from Madison Square CRC, Grand Rapids, Michigan, to be the convening church of Synod 2011 and that Synod 2011 be held at Calvin College (II, A, 8, a).

—Adopted

3. That synod accept the invitation from Ancaster CRC, Ancaster, Ontario, to be the convening church of Synod 2012 and that Synod 2012 be held at Redeemer University College (II, A, 8, b).

—Adopted

4. That synod invite a special team of worship planners, appointed by Faith Alive Christian Resources, to serve on the synodical Worship Planning Committee for Synods 2011, 2012, and 2013, supplementing the membership appointed each year by the Program Committee. Faith Alive will propose a team of planners from the RCA and CRC to be supported by the editorial committee of *Lift Up Your Hearts: Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs* (the CRC/RCA hymnal to be released in 2013) and the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship (II, A, 9).

Grounds:

- a. The hymnal committee is seeking to test the songs in live worship settings and seek feedback from key leaders and potential users in the CRCNA.
- b. Part of Faith Alive's mandate is to support the worship and music needs of the Christian Reformed Church.
- c. This participation will make use of the hymnal committee's knowledge of and familiarity with Reformed congregational songs from multiple genres.
- d. This collaboration supports synod's mandate to find ways to cooperate with the RCA, strengthening the ties between the two denominations.

—Adopted

5. That synod allow for time at each synod to deliberate on a topic of church-wide interest without the pressure of a vote or decision and that this topic be proposed by the BOT, current synodical study committees, and CRC agencies to the synod Program Committee (II, A, 10).

Ground: Such discussion time would enhance the work of synodical delegates as well as the overall work of the church.

—Defeated

6. That synod allow time in its schedule to receive a presentation regarding the Denominational Survey summary, followed by a time of discussion to help raise the awareness of the data (II, A, 14).

—Adopted

II. Historical Committee

A. *Materials:* Historical Committee Report, pp. 452-56

B. *Privilege of the floor:* Dr. Richard H. Harms

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod remind the classes and congregations that Synod 1912 instructed that all records from discontinued ministries be sent to the Archives. Archives staff will organize and sort the material to ensure that contents with legal or historical significance are preserved. (Contact the committee at crcarchives@calvin.edu.)
—*Adopted*
2. That synod encourage classes to request that member churches more than ten years old submit copies of council minutes to the Archives if they have not yet done so.
—*Adopted*

III. Sermons for Reading Services

A. *Materials*: Sermons for Reading Services Report, p. 457

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod approve the work of the committee and encourage the churches to avail themselves of the sermons for reading services on the CRC website.
—*Adopted*
2. That synod increase the honorarium to \$100 for submitted sermons approved for use by the Sermons for Reading Services Committee.
—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 40.)

ARTICLE 27

Advisory Committee 10, Faith Formation, Rev. Jeffrey M. Meyer reporting, presents the following:

Faith Formation Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Faith Formation Committee Report, including Appendices A and B, pp. 586-646
2. Overture 9, pp. 664-68
3. Overture 10, pp. 668-79
4. Overture 11, pp. 680-81

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Dr. John D. Witvliet, Jr., chair; and Dr. Howard Vanderwell, secretary

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod endorse the following guiding principle as the basis for the committee's continuing work:

All baptized members who come with age- and ability-appropriate faith in Jesus Christ are welcome to the Lord's Table and called to obey the scriptural commands about participation

(e.g., to “examine themselves,” to “discern the body,” to “proclaim the Lord’s death,” to “wait for others”) in an age- and ability-appropriate way, under the supervision of the elders. The elders have responsibility to nurture in the congregation grateful and obedient participation through encouragement, instruction, and accountability.

The following statements clarify the guiding principle above:

- a. A formal public Profession of Faith prior to participation in the Lord’s Supper is not required by Scripture or the confessions.
- b. A formal public Profession of Faith is a vital practice for faith formation and is one pastoral approach to consider prior to participation in the Lord’s Supper.
- c. Professing faith regularly in and outside of corporate worship is a natural practice for lifelong faith formation which the church should encourage, enhance, and express.

Grounds:

- a. This position honors the covenant status of all who are baptized and affirms their membership in the church.
- b. This position is faithful to the instruction of 1 Corinthians 11, which calls for a response of obedience on the part of those that come to the table.
- c. This position acknowledges that, though members of the body of Christ respond to the promises of God in ways that are shaped by their age and abilities, their responses are nevertheless valid responses.
- d. This position implements the instructions of Heidelberg Catechism, Q. and A. 81, that those who come to the table must be repentant, trusting, and desirous of growth in obedience.
- e. This position honors the polity of the CRC, in which the sacraments of the church are to be celebrated under the supervision of the elders.
- f. This position allows for diversity of local practice within a standard principle.
- g. Adopting this principle will give the Faith Formation Committee sufficient guidance to continue to carry out its mandate by proposing Church Order changes and working with church agencies to develop pastoral resources for congregations.

—Adopted

2. That synod remind the churches that changes in local practice arising out of this principle should be delayed until changes to the Church Order are adopted at a future synod.

Grounds:

- a. This approach reflects the covenant we share about changes to Church Order Article 47.
- b. This reminder is necessary because congregations have recently been confused about the status of synodical decisions on this topic.

- c. Working together as a denomination in discerning faithful practices for Lord's Supper celebrations is particularly important in an age of congregationalism.

—Adopted

3. That synod

- a. Receive the document "Children at the Table: Toward a Guiding Principle for Biblically Faithful Celebrations of the Lord's Supper" (Appendix A) as a sufficient foundational basis for the adoption of the guiding principle and refer it to the churches for study and feedback, with the understanding that the Faith Formation Committee will continue to incorporate changes and suggestions to the document.
- b. Specifically encourage the Faith Formation Committee to include (1) a more detailed study of the command to "examine oneself" as stated in 1 Corinthians 11:28 and (2) a comparison and contrast with the "confirmation" process of other Christian traditions.

—Adopted

4. That synod

- a. Receive the draft document "Affirming Baptism and Forming Faith" (Appendix B) for information and refer it to the churches for study and feedback, with the understanding that the Faith Formation Committee will return to a subsequent synod so that the document can be given to the churches as a shepherding document to guide and encourage the churches.
- b. Specifically encourage the churches to consider the *common criteria for evaluating practices* enumerated in Appendix A, section VI, E (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 615-16) and provide feedback to the Faith Formation Committee.

—Adopted

5. That synod consider this its response to Overtures 9, 10, and 11.

—Adopted

6. That synod acknowledge with gratitude the ongoing work of the Faith Formation Committee.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 28

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod instruct the Faith Formation Committee to submit any Church Order changes it will propose according to the study committee schedule so that those changes may be adopted at Synod 2011 instead of being proposed at Synod 2011 for adoption at Synod 2012.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 29

The ED introduces Dr. Rodger Rice, Mr. Neil Carlson, and Ms. Christina Vanden Bosch-der Nederlanden of the Calvin College Center for Social Research, who address the delegates regarding the survey results of the

Christian Reformed Church 150th Anniversary Denominational Survey 2007-2008. The chair thanks the presenters for their participation.

ARTICLE 30

The ED welcomes ecumenical guest Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton, general secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches, who has arrived.

The morning session is adjourned at 11:52 a.m. Rev. Darren C. Roorda leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, June 15, 2010

Fifth Session

ARTICLE 31

Abuse Victims Task Force member Kathy Vandergrift leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 32

The chair welcomes Dr. Gaylen Byker, president of Calvin College, who introduces a video on the life of Calvin College students. Dr. Byker gives a presentation on the Calvin College Statement of Reformed Identity and Mission: "Calvin College is a comprehensive liberal arts college in the Reformed tradition of historic Christianity. Through our learning, we seek to be agents of renewal in the academy, church, and society. We pledge fidelity to Jesus Christ, offering our hearts and lives to do God's work in God's world." He thanks the delegates for their support of the college, not only for recommending Calvin but also for the generous financial support that is given.

ARTICLE 33

Advisory Committee 3, Candidacy and Education, Mr. Mark Vandervliet reporting, presents the following:

I. Calvin College

A. Materials

1. Calvin College Report, pp. 111-14
2. Calvin College Supplement

B. Privilege of the floor: Dr. Gaylen J. Byker, president of the college

C. Recommendations

1. That synod ratify the following reappointments with tenure (*italics indicate promotion to that rank*):
 - a. Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim, Ph.D., *associate professor of German*
 - b. Chad Engbers, Ph.D., *associate professor of English*
 - c. Todd Kapitula, Ph.D., *associate professor of mathematics*
 - d. Linda Naranjo-Huebl, Ph.D., *associate professor of English*
 - e. Marcie Pyper, Ph.D., *associate professor of Spanish*
 - f. John Ross, Ph.D., *associate professor of physical education*
 - g. David Urban, Ph.D., *associate professor of English*

—Adopted

2. That synod give appropriate recognition to the following individuals for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church and confer on them the titles presented here:
 - a. Bethany A. Gordon, M.S.N., assistant professor of nursing, emeritus
 - b. Janice B. Heerspink, M.A., associate director, Student Academic Services, emeritus
 - c. Raymond L. Slager, M.S., C.P.A., professor of business and accounting, emeritus

—Adopted
3. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointment with tenure (*italics* indicate promotion to that rank):

Adam R. Wolpa, M.F.A., *associate* professor of art (reduced-load)

—Adopted
4. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointments:
 - a. Philip B. Stegink, M.A., assistant professor of education (two years, reduced-load)
 - b. María N. Rodriguez, M.Ed., assistant professor of Spanish (three years)

—Adopted
5. That synod ratify the following faculty promotions in rank, indicated in *italics*:
 - a. Adel S. Abadeer, Ph.D., *professor* of economics
 - b. Kevin J. Corcoran, Ph.D., *professor* of philosophy
 - c. Herman J. De Vries, Ph.D., *professor* of Germanic languages
 - d. Jennifer L. Holberg, Ph.D., *professor* of English
 - e. Rebecca Konyndyk De Young, Ph.D., *professor* of philosophy
 - f. Debra K. Rienstra, Ph.D., *professor* of English
 - g. David I. Smith, Ph.D., *professor* of Germanic languages
 - h. Alisa J. Tigchelaar, Ph.D., *associate* professor of Spanish
 - i. James R. Timmer, Jr., Ph.D., *professor* of physical education

—Adopted

II. Calvin Theological Seminary

A. *Materials*

1. Calvin Theological Seminary Report, pp. 115-18
2. Calvin Theological Seminary Supplement, including Appendix
3. Board of Trustees Supplement (section I, F)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Paul R. De Vries, Calvin Theological Seminary board trustee

C. *Recommendations*

1. That following a successful interview by Synod 2010, Reverend Julius T. Medenblik be appointed as president of Calvin Theological Seminary, effective August 1, 2011.

—Adopted
2. That synod appoint Rev. Calvin Hoogendoorn to interview Rev. Medenblik for 30 minutes, and that delegates of synod be permitted to ask questions for 30 minutes after the main interview.

—Adopted

3. That synod approve the following faculty reappointments:

Mary S. Hulst, assistant professor of preaching for two years (part time)
Darwin K. Glassford, associate professor of church education for two years
—*Adopted*

4. That synod, with gratitude to God, acknowledge the years of faithful service of Dr. Henry De Moor, Jr., and acknowledge the new title conferred on him by the Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees: professor of church polity, *emeritus*, effective August 31, 2010.

—*Adopted*

The ED and the president of synod offer personal thanks for Dr. De Moor's faithful service.

III. Candidacy Committee

A. Materials

1. Candidacy Committee Report, pp. 411-13
2. Candidacy Committee Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. David Koll, director of candidacy, and Rev. Henry Jonker, member of the Candidacy Committee

C. Recommendations

1. That synod declare the following individuals as candidates for ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church, subject to completion of all remaining (if any) requirements (the list of candidates eligible for call is available on the Candidacy Committee website: www.crcna.org/candidacy).

Richard J. Admiraal

Joshua O. Amaezechi

Amanda C. Bakale

Michael L. Bentley

S. Nicholas Bierma

Matthew J. Borst

John W. Burden

Anthony R. DeKorte

George N. Den Oudsten

Ben E. deRegt

Steven J. De Ruiter

Christopher W. de Winter

Matthew J. Eenigenburg

Scott A. Elgersma

Christopher D. Fulkerson

Aaron J. Greydanus

Elizabeth A. Guillaume-Koene

Chad A. Haan

Jennifer S. Holmes

John S. Huyser

John Y. Kim

Joseph J. Kim

Samuel J. Krikke

Philip W. Landers

George W. Lubbers

Erin M. Marshalek

Summer A. Mohrlang

Kristin E.K. Palacios

Daniel J. Rhee

Scott C. Stark

Mary B. Stegink

Adam J. Stout

Anthony D. Sytsma

Joshua C. Tuininga

Nathaniel E. Van Denend

Emily H. VanderWall-VandenHeuvel

Matthew D. VandenHeuvel

Ashley M. VanDragt

Geoffrey A. VanDragt

Andrew J. Vis

Laurie L. Zuverink

—*Adopted*

2. That synod approve the extensions of candidacy for the following individuals:

Joshua S. Benton	Nathan A. McCarron
Steven G. Boersma	Philip Rushton
Micah J. Bruxvoort	David A. Salverda
Samantha L. DeJong-McCarron	Ryan S. Schreiber
Jason E. De Vries	Brittney E. Stelpstra Salverda
Jeffrey A. Dephouse	David P. Stockdale
Adam T. Eisenga	Brian D. Tebben
Chelsey L. Harmon	Thomas S. VanderPloeg
Mark E. Hofman	Brian Willats
Linda A. Johnson	Anne Emile Zaki
Lucas R. Lockard	

—Adopted

3. That synod approve the declaration of *need* for the following individuals for affiliation under Church Order Article 8:

Date	Name of applicant	Classis	Former denomination
9/24/09	Maged Dakdouk	Greater Los Angeles	Church of Christ for Coptic Evangelicals
8/14/09	Frederick Eng	Central California	Chinese Baptist Church
9/30/09	Felix Fernandez	Southeast U.S.	Independent Baptist
8/14/09	Cary Holbert	Southeast U.S.	PCUSA
8/14/09	SungHo Jung	Pacific Hanmi	Presbyterian Church in Korea
2/23/10	David Klumpenhower	Arizona	United Reformed Church
2/12/10	Joshua Lim	Pacific Hanmi	Korean Presbyterian Church
10/1/09	Matthew Ma	Greater Los Angeles	House Church of China
2/23/10	Jung Un Park	Lake Erie	Presbyterian Church in Korea
8/14/09	Kingston Tong	Central California	Independent Chinese Fellowship
9/24/09	Fernando Valencia	Greater Los Angeles	National Presbyterian Church of Mexico
5/29/09	John Westfall	Pacific Northwest	PCUSA
2/12/10	Taek Ho Yang	Pacific Hanmi	PCUSA

—Adopted

4. That synod take note of the various initiatives of the Candidacy Committee and thank them for their continuing work.

—Adopted

IV. Dordt College

A. *Materials*: Dordt College Report, p. 461

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report from Dordt College and express thanksgiving to the Lord for the witness of Dordt College in the advancement of God's kingdom and the mutual benefits realized by the church and the school, and encourage Dordt in the ongoing faithful exercise of her task.

—Adopted

V. Institute for Christian Studies

A. *Materials:* Institute for Christian Studies Report, pp. 462-63

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report from the Institute for Christian Studies (ICS) and express thanksgiving to the Lord for the witness of ICS in the advancement of God's kingdom and his provision through the economic downturn, and encourage ICS in the ongoing faithful exercise of her task.

—Adopted

VI. The King's University College

A. *Materials:* The King's University College Report, p. 464

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report from The King's University College and express thanksgiving to the Lord for 30 years of witness in the advancement of God's kingdom and the school's high ranking in the "very small" university category, and encourage The King's University College in the ongoing faithful exercise of her task.

—Adopted

VII. Kuyper College

A. *Materials:* Kuyper College Report, p. 465

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report from Kuyper College and express thanksgiving to the Lord for 70 years of witness in the advancement of God's kingdom, and encourage Kuyper College in its long-range planning for the ongoing faithful exercise of her task.

—Adopted

VIII. Redeemer University College

A. *Materials:* Redeemer University College Report, pp. 466-67

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report from Redeemer University College and express thanksgiving to the Lord for the witness and public recognition of excellence of Redeemer in the advancement of God's kingdom, and encourage Redeemer University College in the ongoing faithful exercise of her task.

—Adopted

IX. Trinity Christian College

A. *Materials:* Trinity Christian College Report, p. 468

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report from Trinity Christian College and express thanksgiving to the Lord for the 50 years of witness and significant numerical growth in the advancement of God's kingdom, and encourage Trinity Christian College in the ongoing faithful exercise of her task.

—Adopted

X. Response to Overture 8: Request that the Candidacy Committee Review Wording of Church Order Article 23

A. *Materials:* Overture 8, pp. 663-64

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod request that the Candidacy Committee review the wording of Church Order Article 23.

Grounds:

- a. Concerns have been raised regarding the consistent implementation of Church Order Article 23.
- b. It is important that there be clarity and consistency in the guidelines for this office.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod declare this to be its response to Overture 8.

—*Adopted*

XI. Response to Overtures 5 and 7, B: Develop guidelines for endorsements made by denominational staff

A. *Materials:* Overture 5, p. 661; Overture 7, B, pp. 662-63

B. *Recommendations*

That synod not accede to Overtures 5 and 7, B.

Ground: Accountability structures within the denomination are sufficient to address concerns as they may arise.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued in Article 61.)

ARTICLE 34

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued from Article 21.)

Advisory Committee 4, Publications and Form of Subscription, Rev. Daniel B. Mouw reporting, presents the following:

Faith Alive Christian Resources

A. *Materials*

1. Faith Alive Christian Resources Report, including the Appendix, pp.153-383
2. Board of Trustees Supplement, section I, I
3. Overtures 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25

B. *Privilege of the floor*

For the board

Rev. Kenneth Baker, president, and Mr. Mark Rice, director

For *The Banner*

Rev. Robert De Moor, editor in chief, *The Banner*

For the Editorial Department

Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, director, Faith Alive editorial department

For the Committee to Propose a Combined RCA/CRC Translation of the
Three Reformed Standards

Rev. Leonard Vander Zee and Dr. Lyle Bierma

C. Background

Synod 2007 approved a recommendation that the CRC and RCA “cooperatively publish a new comprehensive printed hymnal” (*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 580). The very next year, Faith Alive Christian Resources reported to synod that “a committee made up of RCA and CRC representatives has been formed to develop common texts for our various creeds and confessions” (*Agenda for Synod 2008*, p. 159). That same year synod received two overtures which asked for inclusion of the three Reformed confessions in the new hymnal. Synod 2008 responded by observing that “synodically approved versions of the ecumenical creeds and the Reformed confessions will be included in the new hymnal now under development in cooperation with the Reformed Church in America” (*Acts of Synod 2008*, p. 447). The work of the task force that comes before synod is the fruit of these synodical decisions and observations.

The task force’s work to develop a common text is not a simple one. The existing RCA and CRC texts are quite different on a number of points. For example, the CRC text uses the NIV version of scripture in the Heidelberg Catechism, whereas the RCA text uses the NRSV. Moreover, the RCA text makes extensive use of inclusive language avoiding all masculine pronouns for God, whereas the CRC text retains extensive use of masculine pronouns for God. Also, the CRC text uses inclusive language for humanity. The task force dealt with these differences by adhering to existing synodical and denominational decisions and policies while blending the separate texts into new common texts.

D. Observations

1. The advisory committee is grateful for the good work and significant progress the task force has made in doing its work.
2. Synod is reminded that the purpose of forming this task force was not to do a major new translation of the three confessions but to arrive at a common text to serve both the CRC and RCA.
3. The task force noted for the advisory committee several errors in the text printed in the *Agenda for Synod* which will be corrected in further revisions.
4. The task force will include the recommended replacement wording for the footnote to Q. and A. 80 in its next revision (see Board of Trustees Supplement, section I, I).

E. Recommendations

1. That synod reaffirm the goal of achieving a common text of the three forms of unity as important for increasing cooperation and partnership between the RCA and the CRC.

—Adopted

2. That synod allow additional time to consider these changes (also recommended in several overtures) to provide members and the churches an opportunity to re-engage the confessions and to create healthy conversations about our core beliefs, as well as to evaluate the proposed changes.
—Adopted
3. That synod request the ED to instruct the task force to provide the churches with an updated copy of the proposed revision of the confessions for review by July 1, 2010 (an electronic version).
—Adopted
4. That synod encourage councils and congregations to study this proposed revision and communicate their responses to the task force prior to October 1, 2010.
—Adopted
5. That synod request the Board of Trustees to direct the task force, after considering these responses, to prepare a final draft of the three confessions to be posted online and sent to the churches by November 1 and printed in the *Agenda for Synod 2011* for adoption by Synod 2011.
—Adopted
6. That synod affirm the approach of the task force with respect to gender usage for humanity and God, using gender-inclusive terms in references to humankind and reducing the number of male pronouns for God when it can be done with felicity.

Ground: This is consistent with previous synodical decisions (*Acts of Synod 1997*, pp. 687-94) and the protocol used by Faith Alive Christian Resources.
—Adopted
7. That synod affirm the use of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) for direct quotations from Scripture within the Belgic Confession and Heidelberg Catechism.

Grounds:
 - a. The NRSV is a synodically approved version for the CRC.
 - b. The NRSV is widely used in the RCA.
 - c. The NIV is in the process of revision.
—Adopted
8. That synod declare that the above recommendations are its response to Overtures 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25.
—Adopted

ARTICLE 35

Advisory Committee 5, Mission and Ministry, Rev. Thomas E. Pettinga reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (section II, B, 5), p. 36
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, A, 1)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendations

1. That synod take note that the Board of Trustees endorsed the request of the CRWRC Joint Ministry Council for the immediate closure of the Ecuador program due to financial challenges (II, B, 5).

—*Adopted*

2. That synod, by way of exception, empower the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA to ratify, on its behalf, the appointment of the new director of Christian Reformed Home Missions when one has been chosen (BOT Supplement section II, A, 1).

Grounds:

- a. The search process will begin in June 2010 but will end by the end of 2010 or the beginning of 2011.
- b. The nominee will be interviewed by the BOT in February 2011, and waiting until Synod 2011 for ratification would further delay the appointment to this important position.
- c. This exception to the normal appointment procedure comes at the request of the Christian Reformed Home Missions board.

—*Adopted*

II. Back to God Ministries International

A. Materials: Back to God Ministries International Report, pp. 103-10

B. Observations

Dr. Robert C. Heerspink, director of Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI), and Ms. Ellen Hamilton, vice-president of the BTGMI board, met with the advisory committee, sharing the strategies being used, including collaboration with other Reformed entities, in the work of empowering the church to build the church through media in different cultures. The recent focus has been on use of web-based media and, increasingly, social network connections. They illustrated these strategies with stories from various parts of the world. Dr. Heerspink also reported BTGMI's goal of connecting individual churches with specific language programs for support and better communication.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod commend Back to God Ministries International and give thanks for this broad ministry that is making an impact on millions of people around the world with current, creative, and futuristic-looking media.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod encourage the churches to make use of BTGMI materials when they are sent to the churches and to educate themselves in using the new media tools that are being developed (cf. www.reframe-media.com).

—Adopted

III. Christian Reformed Home Missions

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed Home Missions Report, pp. 119-30

B. *Observations*

Mr. Ben Vandezande, interim director of Christian Reformed Home Missions (CRHM), Mr. Rod Hugen, president of the CRHM board, and Mr. Al Karsten, advancement staff, met with the advisory committee. They spoke of their goal of seeing individuals redeemed and communities renewed. CRHM works to help the churches and classes launch church plants and campus ministries. An exciting new strategy is the use of clusters, in which multiple new and established churches network within a geographic area. Home Missions staff cultivate and mentor diverse missional leaders for these ministries. CRHM offers consulting to established churches to help them develop and maintain an outreach mindset.

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod commend the work of CRHM for their continual efforts to plant new and vibrant churches and campus ministries in North America.
2. That synod impress on the churches the need for urgent prayer and other support for the efforts of CRHM.

—Adopted

Elder delegate Rodney Hugen offers prayer for the continued service of Home Missions interim director, Mr. Ben Vandezande.

IV. Christian Reformed World Missions

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed World Missions Report, pp. 131-40

B. *Observations*

The advisory committee welcomed Mr. Colin Watson, president of CRWM-U.S.A.; Dr. Gary J. Bekker, the director of World Missions; Mr. Al Karsten, who directs CRWM's ministries in North America; and Mr. Joel Hogan, who directs CRWM's international ministries. They were happy to report generous financial support and careful financial management that allowed them to avoid layoffs during a recessionary year. They communicated their efforts among the North American churches to educate and coach toward missions support and prayer. CRWM is developing cooperative partnerships with CRC agencies, as well as other mission agencies and local churches. As a result, partnerships such as Transformational Networks and the Timothy Leadership Training are experiencing burgeoning growth.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod commend Christian Reformed World Missions for their ongoing, innovative, and far-reaching ministry to a lost world.
—*Adopted*
2. That synod encourage the churches to avail themselves of the materials found on the CRWM website.
—*Adopted*

V. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

A. Materials: Christian Reformed World Relief Committee Report, pp. 141-50

B. Observations

Mr. Andrew Ryskamp, co-director of CRWRC, and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, co-director of CRWRC, related their vision for the broad ministry of CRWRC. They focused their message of transformation using the themes of community, church, capacity, collaboration, and change, giving examples of each.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod commend CRWRC for their far-flung efforts to transform communities by bringing relief, justice, development, redemption, and reconciliation.
—*Adopted*
2. That synod impress on the churches the need for prayer and support, lifting these ministry of CRWRC before the God of grace and mercy.
—*Adopted*

VI. The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry

A. Board of Trustees Report (Section II, B, 2, including Appendix G), pp. 35, 64-68

B. Observations

Rev. Michael Bruinooge, director of The Network, met with the advisory committee to describe this new initiative to mobilize the denominational resources for congregational health and vitality. He described and gave a visual report on the online portion of The Network that is already in place. The site gives much information and provides for responses and input.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod commend the pioneering effort of The Network to the churches as a resource to foster better communication in the denomination.
—*Adopted*
2. That synod encourage the churches and pastors to sign up for and use The Network's online service.
—*Adopted*

Rev. Thomas E. Pettinga offered prayer for all of the ministries of the CRC.

VII. Sustaining Pastoral Excellence and Sustaining Congregational Excellence

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (Appendix G), pp. 64-68

B. *Observations*

Ms. Lis Van Harten, program director for Sustaining Pastoral Excellence (SPE) and Sustaining Congregational Excellence (SCE), shared that SCE encourages and walks alongside smaller CRC congregations as they seek to foster health in their ministries. SPE supports and encourages pastors and their spouses as they lead their congregations. SCE is funded by ministry shares, while SPE is currently being funded by the Lilly Foundation.

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod commend the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence and Sustaining Congregational Excellence programs for the encouraging and equipping work that has been done in the past few years.

—Adopted
2. That synod mandate the BOT to explore options for continued funding for Sustaining Pastoral Excellence after the Lilly Endowment ends in 2011, and report back to Synod 2011.

Ground: The SPE program has been of great benefit to pastors, their spouses, and the congregations they serve.

—Adopted

VIII. Dynamic Youth Ministries

A. *Calvinist Cadet Corps*

1. *Materials*: Calvinist Cadet Corps Report, p. 469

2. *Recommendation*

That synod commend the Calvinist Cadet Corps for their work in Kenya and their emphasis on prayer for leadership.

—Adopted

B. *GEMS Girls' Clubs*

1. *Materials*: GEMS Girls' Clubs Report, p. 470

2. *Recommendation*

That synod commend GEMS for their efforts to extend their programs to the churches and girls of Zambia.

—Adopted

C. *Youth Unlimited*

1. *Materials*: Youth Unlimited Report, p. 471

2. *Recommendation*

That synod commend Youth Unlimited for their continued leadership in CRC youth ministries and especially in their effort at investing in leadership development of youth workers in the local churches.

—Adopted

IX. Summary

A. *Observation*

As Advisory Committee 5 reviewed the presentations received in committee, it was impressed by the spirit of cooperation, collaboration, and partnership of our CRC mission agencies within the CRC and with outside entities, in order to meet the new challenges that mission opportunities at home and abroad are presenting. These collaborations are obviously empowered by a shared kingdom vision.

B. *Recommendation*

That synod commend these mission agencies for pursuing such partnerships to meet the huge challenges God has placed before us.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 36

Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Mr. Fernando L. del Rosario, Jr., reporting, presents the following:

I. Ecumenical Relations Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Ecumenical Relations Committee Report, including Appendices A-E, pp. 414-51
2. Ecumenical Relations Committee Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Dr. William T. Koopmans, chair, and Rev. Bruce G. Adema, ecumenical officer

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod express its gratitude to Dr. James Payton, Jr., for serving the cause of ecumenicity for the CRC.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod endorse the continued membership of the CRCNA in Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A. (CCT-USA) (Appendix A).

Grounds:

- a. The grounds approved by Synod 2004 continue to be relevant to such membership.
- b. CCT-USA continues to provide an excellent forum for the CRC to carry on its ecumenical work within the United States.
- c. The very broad membership of CCT-USA allows the CRC to engage with a significant representation of the Christian community.

—*Adopted*

3. That synod adopt the Affirmation of the Relationship between the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) and the Christian Reformed Church in North America (Appendix B, pp. 427-29), and by so doing recognize the PCC as a church in dialogue with the CRC.

Grounds:

- a. The PCC and the CRC share the Christian faith, a similar Reformed doctrinal perspective, and variations of Presbyterian church government.
- b. There are many longstanding relationships between congregations of our two denominations who join together in goodwill for worship, fellowship, and collaborative ministries.
- c. Both denominations have strong commitments to mission in Canada and around the world, to evangelism and justice, and to a prophetic view of the mission of the church in society.
- d. By developing this more formal relationship, we may together explore new horizons of mission that respond to Christ's calling to the church today.

—Adopted

4. That synod approve the revisions to the Ecumenical Charter as found in Appendix C-1 (pp. 429-37), with wording of the first three paragraphs in section E, Unity and Truth, modified as follows:

Unity is intrinsic to the truth of the gospel and to our confession. Unity and truth are not alternatives. The unity of the church is a unity in truth, the truth that is Jesus Christ, as revealed in Holy Scripture.

To confess Christ, therefore, is to confess the unity of his church and to be impelled to pray and to work for its visible unity.

The process of comprehending this truth needs to be done "together with all the saints" (Eph. 3:17-19). God has blessed the church throughout the ages to grow in understanding and confessing the truth as it is in Jesus, "the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints" (Jude 3). Yet, even in the company of all God's children throughout the ages and throughout the world, we stand in wonder of the truth that is beyond our comprehension.

Grounds:

- a. The revision to the Ecumenical Charter clarifies the classification of ecumenical relationships.
- b. This version of the Ecumenical Charter will be a more helpful guide for the many ecumenical endeavors of the CRC.

—Adopted

5. That synod adopt the following revisions of Church Order Articles 49 (see p. 422) and 50 (ERC Supplement):

Article 49

- a. Synod shall appoint a committee to encourage ecumenical relationships with other Christian churches, especially those that are part of the Reformed family, as articulated in the synodically approved Ecumenical Charter of the Christian Reformed Church so that the Christian Reformed Church may exercise Christian fellowship with other denominations and may promote the unity of the church of Jesus Christ.

- b. Synod shall designate the churches with whom the Christian Reformed Church is in ecclesiastical fellowship, the churches with whom the Christian Reformed Church is in dialogue, and the ecumenical organizations in which the Christian Reformed Church holds membership or significantly participates.

Article 50

- a. Synod shall send delegates to ecumenical bodies in which the Christian Reformed Church cooperates with other Christian denominations, particularly those sharing the Reformed perspective.
- b. Synod may present to such gatherings matters on which it seeks judgment of churches throughout the world.
- c. Decisions of ecumenical bodies shall be binding upon the Christian Reformed Church only when they have been ratified by its synod.

Grounds:

- a. The proposed changes are consistent with the revisions contained in the proposed Ecumenical Charter also presented to Synod 2010.
- b. The proposed changes are consistent with the Ecumenical Charter that was adopted by Synod 2006.
- c. The proposed changes more clearly specify the prerogatives of synod with reference to the Ecumenical Charter and ecumenical relations.
- d. Synod 2010 is considering the recommendations of the Church Order Revision Task Force; thus it seems appropriate that a revision to Articles 49 and 50 also be considered at this time.

—Adopted

6. That synod make time in its schedule to hear from our ecumenical guests. As of this report submission, the following have confirmed attendance:

Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton, Canadian Council of Churches
Rev. Don Poest, Reformed Church in America

—Adopted

7. That synod receive the report of the Interfaith Dialogue Subcommittee of the ERC as found in Appendix D (pp. 448-50) for information and instruct the ERC to proceed accordingly.

—Adopted

8. That synod adopt the following additions to the present mandate of the ERC, reflecting the responsibility for interfaith dialogue (while noting that the interfaith mandate should be maintained as a document distinct from the Ecumenical Charter; see Appendix D, III, p. 449):

- Compile resources for the Christian Reformed Church that will guide interfaith encounters.
- Monitor and facilitate interfaith encounters that come through ecumenical activities and within the context of the ministries of the CRC.
- Provide advice and perspectives for the CRC as requested.

- When appropriate and opportune, represent the CRC in interfaith dialogues.

—*Adopted*

9. That synod approve the change in the name of the Ecumenical Relations Committee to the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee (see Appendix D, IV, p. 450).

Grounds:

- a. The proposed name reflects the broader mandate and additional responsibilities for interfaith dialogue.
- b. The proposed name makes clear that ecumenical engagement and interfaith dialogue are distinct activities.

—*Adopted*

II. Response to Overture 12: Adopt the Belhar Confession as a Testimony, Not a Confession

A. *Materials:* Overture 12, pp. 682-86

B. *Recommendation*

That synod withhold action on Overture 12 from Classis Niagara.

Ground: Although the overture does contribute to the ongoing discussion on the Belhar Confession as mandated by Synod 2009, it was intended that churches have adequate time to study the Belhar Confession. This matter should more appropriately be addressed by Synod 2012.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued in Article 39.)

ARTICLE 37

The afternoon session is adjourned at 5:12 p.m. Elder delegate David R. Stewart leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 15, 2010 Sixth Session

ARTICLE 38

Ethnic adviser Andrew W. Henry leads in opening prayer.

Rev. Michael J. Kooy (alternate) replaces Rev. Julius T. Medenblik as minister delegate for Classis Chicago South. He rises to express agreement with the forms of unity.

ARTICLE 39

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued from Article 36.)

Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Fernando L. del Rosario, Jr., reporting, presents the following:

Overture 16: Appoint a Task Force to Revise the Church Order Articles Related to the Office of Deacon

A. *Materials*: Overture 16, pp. 690-92

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to appoint a task force to review the articles of the Church Order relating to the office of deacon at the church and major assemblies, as well as recommend resources that encourage revitalization of the diaconate and its role in the community. The intent of the review would be to encourage, empower, and educate churches and broader assemblies to structure their diaconal ministry in ways that
 - allow for effective coordination of ministry efforts that transform the community and the church, as members minister in and with their community. This harnesses “God gifts” in the community for community benefit. The gifts of churches and their members, as well as the gifts lying dormant in the community, need to be stewardly. Church resources can be leveraged in amazing ways if they harness latent community gifts. Helping neighbors steward their resources is another pathway to heart change, significant living, opening conversations, and relationships that draw people to Jesus as Savior, Redeemer, and King.
 - select leadership based on gifts commensurate with the office and vision for ministry.
 - lead church members to exercise their gifts and so enhance their own faith walk as they minister with community, nation, and world.
 - establish terms of deacon tenure that provide for consistent ministry oversight, implementation, and coordination.
 - address the place and role of deacons at the broader assemblies.

Grounds:

- a. The current structure and tradition do not address the ministry context or the expectations of the equality of office established in Church Order Article 2.
- b. The mandate in the charge to deacons is difficult to fulfill given the current language in the Church Order.
- c. Past efforts to address this (i.e., asking for stronger classical diaconal committees) have not resulted in churches being the agents of transformation in their communities.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod declare this to be its answer to Overture 16.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 40

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 26.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. B. Bernard Bakker reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (Polity section II, A, 6, including Appendix A), pp. 27, 42-43

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod change the title *youth adviser* to *young adult adviser* to reflect the age category (between the ages of 18-26) in the guidelines presented to synod (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, Appendix A, p. 42-43).

—Adopted

2. That synod adopt the practice of appointing seven young adult advisers to each meeting of synod beginning in 2011 (II, A, 6).

Ground: Young adults bring a valuable and unique perspective to the issues we face as a denomination and should be engaged as we deliberate regarding these issues.

—Adopted

3. That synod include in the Rules for Synodical Procedure the “Guidelines for Young Adult Advisers” as found in Appendix A (II, A, 6).

—Adopted

4. That synod revise the rules governing executive and strict executive sessions to include the young adult advisers (Rules for Synodical Procedure VIII, A, p. 108).

—Adopted

5. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to dialogue with a number of ethnic minorities to reconsider the use of the term *adviser* as it relates to the title *young adult adviser*.

Ground: The term *young adult adviser* can be misunderstood in some cultures such as the Native American culture.

—Adopted

II. Ministerial retirements

A. *Information*: Synod has received notice of the following ministerial retirements:

Minister	Classis	Effective date
Paul J. Bergsma	Grand Rapids East	December 31, 2009
Robert R. Broekema	Southeast U.S.	June 1, 2010
Jerry D. Buwalda	Iakota	January 1, 2010
Mark A. Davies	Pacific Northwest	April 4, 2010
John De Boer	Zeeland	July 31, 2010
John de Vries, Jr.	Chatham	September 20, 2009
Thomas P. Doorn	Greater Los Angeles	January 16, 2010
Thomas E. Dykman	Rocky Mountain	January 1, 2010
Nola Opperwall Galluch	Grand Rapids East	September 17, 2009
Wilfred Gesch, Jr.	Yellowstone	March 15, 2009
Ronald D. Goudzwaard	Greater Los Angeles	July 1, 2010
David K. Harrison	Central Plains	September 1, 2009
Robert J. Haven	Chatham	September 22, 2009
Gerald J. Hogeterp	Chatham	August 1, 2010

John C. Hutt	Holland	November 24, 2009
Carl L. Kammeraad	Grand Rapids East	March 1, 2010
Aldon L. Kuiper	Iakota	June 30, 2010
Allen E. Likkell	Grand Rapids East	March 1, 2010
Mark J. Lucas	Hudson	October 17, 2009
Howard McPhee	Toronto	July 31, 2010
James D. Osterhouse	Holland	April 7, 2010
Donald L. Recker	Columbia	June 30, 2010
Ruth J. Romeyn	Grand Rapids East	May 31, 2010
Raymond Slim	Red Mesa	June 30, 2010
William O. Steele	Chatham	January 31, 2010
Robert D. Steen	Northern Michigan	October 19, 2009
Raymond J. Steigenga	Kalamazoo	September 15, 2010
William Vanden Bosch	Grand Rapids East	June 30, 2010
Herbert A. Vanderbeek	Eastern Canada	March 5, 2010
Clair Vander Neut	Hackensack	October 1, 2009
William D. Vis	Minnkota	April 30, 2010
Ronald C. Vredevelde	Muskegon	January 22, 2010
Harry J. Weidenaar	Pacific Northwest	January 16, 2010
Richard E. Williams	Chicago South	August 1, 2010
Karl K. Willoughby	Grand Rapids South	February 7, 2010
Stanley J. Workman	Southeast U.S.	April 1, 2010
David A. Zylstra	Minnkota	April 30, 2010

B. Recommendations

1. That synod offer a prayer of gratitude for God's servants mentioned above and for the many years of service that they represent.

—Adopted

First clerk William Verhoef leads in prayer for those listed above as retiring from ministry.

2. That synod instruct the ED to send a letter of appreciation to each of the retirees that have been identified.

—Adopted

III. Work of the synodical deputies

A. Ministers from other denominations, Church Order Article 8

1. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), and R.H. Verkaik (Kalamazoo), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Dr. Drew Brown**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on September 16, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Crossroads Community CRC of Schererville, Indiana.
2. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Jeong Ha Chun**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 8, 2009, to declare him

eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Gracious Ark CRC of Los Angeles, California.

3. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Fred Eng**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Central California, in session on March 24, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Golden Gate CRC of San Francisco, California.
4. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), G.J. Kamps (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Felix Fernandez**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 6, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Oasis Community CRC of Winter Garden, Florida.
5. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), G.J. Kamps (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Cary Holbert**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 6, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Oasis Community CRC of Winter Garden, Florida.
6. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), N.L. Koch (California South), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Richard Jones**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on June 23, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Los Angeles Community CRC of Los Angeles, California.
7. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Joshua (Sung Ho) Jung**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 8, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian

Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Santa Maria Faith Presbyterian CRC of Santa Maria, California.

8. Synodical deputies S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), J.W. Dykhuis (Red Mesa), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Christina Kang**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 16, 2010, to declare her eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Lake View Terrace, California.
9. Synodical deputies S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), J.W. Dykhuis (Red Mesa), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Peter Kang**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 16, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Lake View Terrace, California.
10. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), N.L. Koch (California South), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Rich Kim**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on June 23, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Lake View Terrace, California.
11. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Boo Kong**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 8, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is East Bay Korean Presbyterian CRC of Hayward, California.
12. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), N.L. Koch (California South), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Tim Kwon**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on June 23, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Korean American of Orange County CRC of Orange, California.

13. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Sung Soo (Joshua) Lim**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 16, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Orange Han Min CRC of Buena Park, California.
14. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Jung-Un Park**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session on March 6, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Han Bit CRC of Rochester Hills, Michigan.
15. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Kyung Ho Park**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 8, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Springing Fountain CRC of Anaheim, California.
16. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Joseph (Jin Hwan) Seol**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 8, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Spiritual Eye CRC of San Bernardino, California.
17. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Won Seok Song**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 8, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Gracious Ark CRC of Los Angeles, California.
18. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), N.L. Koch (California South), and P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), having heard the

colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Mirtha M. Villafañe**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 20, 2009, to declare her eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Rosewood CRC of Bellflower, California.

19. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), H. Numan (B.C. North-West), and L.M. Korf (Columbia), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. John Westfall**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 4, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Sanctuary CRC of Seattle, Washington.
20. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and L.M. Korf (Columbia), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Robert Woodyard**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on October 8, 2009, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is First CRC of Lynden, Washington.
21. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Rev. Taek Ho Yang**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 16, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Artesia Joy Community CRC of Artesia, California.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

B. Classical examination of candidates, Church Order Article 10

1. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session October 7, 2009, to admit candidate **Jonathan M. Averill** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies G.A. Koning (Georgetown), D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session May 18,

2010, to admit candidate **Sean Baker** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

3. Synodical deputies J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session October 20, 2009, to admit candidate **Paul J. Birnbaum** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies J.P. Douma (Grandville), D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Kalamazoo, in session September 15, 2009, to admit candidate **G. Ben Bowater IV** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
5. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), J.P. Douma (Grandville), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session December 2, 2009, to admit candidate **Nathaniel A. Bradford** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
6. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Zeeland, in session November 12, 2009, to admit candidate **Steve Bussis** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
7. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grandville, in session January 7, 2010, to admit candidate **Darrin J.B. Compagner** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
8. Synodical deputies L.M. Korf (Columbia), H. Numan (B.C. North-West), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session March 4, 2010, to admit candidate **Simon E. Cunningham** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
9. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session March 25, 2010, to admit candidate **Anthony J. Curran** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
10. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), J. Kerssies (Huron), and H. Katerberg (Hamilton), having heard the examination for ordination

in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Toronto, in session January 21, 2010, to admit candidate **Robert Datema** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

11. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North) and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis British Columbia South-East, in session October 21, 2009, to admit candidate **Joel De Moor** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
12. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session October 9, 2009, to admit candidate **Allen Kleine Deters** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
13. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), A. Kuiper (Iakota), and F. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Heartland, in session March 6, 2010, to admit candidate **Bryan Dick** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
14. Classis Heartland, on March 6, 2010, declared that **Bryan Dick** had successfully sustained his classical examination for ordination to the ministry of the Word and sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church in North America, and the undersigned synodical deputies concurred. Subsequently, Classis Heartland declared on May 11, 2010, that the approval of **Bryan Dick's** classical examination was withdrawn because it was determined that he had not completed all requirements for candidacy and, therefore, was not eligible to receive a call to the ministry in the CRCNA. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), A. Kuiper (Iakota), and F. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), concur with this action taken by Classis Heartland, and this effectively nullifies the previous concurrence.
15. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), G. Bouma (Thornapple Valley), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Michigan, in session March 2, 2010, to admit candidate **Jonathan W. Flikkema** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
16. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), G. Bouma (Thornapple Valley), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Michigan, in session March 2, 2010, to admit candidate **William L. Harris** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

17. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session October 9, 2009, to admit candidate **Mark W. Hilbelink** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
18. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), J.P. Douma (Grandville), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session December 2, 2009, to admit candidate **Laurie W. Hogge** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
19. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session September 17, 2009, to admit candidate **Rebecca Jordan-Heys** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
20. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session October 7, 2009, to admit candidate **James C. Kirk** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
21. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session September 17, 2009, to admit candidate **Bradley Knetsch** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
22. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), and D.M. Stravers (Holland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Muskegon, in session September 17, 2009, to admit candidate **James H. Kuiper** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
23. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and F. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session April 15, 2010, to admit candidate **Matthew C. McClure** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
24. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision

of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session October 7, 2009, to admit candidate **Nicholas W. Monsma** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

25. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), N.L. Koch (California South), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session June 23, 2009, to admit candidate **Bonny Mulder-Behnja** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
26. Synodical deputies G.A. Koning (Georgetown), J.P. Douma (Grandville), and M. De Vries (Holland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Zeeland, in session January 21, 2010, to admit candidate **Mark D. Neymeiyer** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
27. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), J. Kerssies (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session October 20, 2009, to admit candidate **Zackery I. Olson** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
28. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and R.J. Timmer (Iakota), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Superior, in session September 22, 2009, to admit candidate **Albert Postma** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
29. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), G. Bouma (Thornapple Valley), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Michigan, in session September 29, 2009, to admit candidate **Brian D. Seifert** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
30. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grandville, in session January 7, 2010, to admit candidate **David L. Spoelma** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
31. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), D.W. Visser (Central Plains), and P.A. Hansen (Heartland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Northcentral Iowa, in session November 3, 2009, to admit candidate **Jonathan Spronk** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

32. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Holland, in session October 27, 2009, to admit candidate **Matthew J. Stob** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
33. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and L.M. Korf (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session October 8, 2009, to admit candidate **David S. Van Berkel** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
34. Synodical deputies J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), B.B. Bakker (Quinte), and J. Kerssies (Huron), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Toronto, in session May 6, 2010, to admit candidate **Michael L. Vander Laan** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
35. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Georgetown, in session November 19, 2009, to admit candidate **Kevin C. Vande Streek** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
36. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Thornapple Valley, in session December 8, 2009, to admit candidate **Dirk Van Eyk** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
37. Synodical deputies J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session October 20, 2009, to admit candidate **Paul Van Stralen** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
38. Synodical deputies G.A. Koning (Georgetown), D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session May 18, 2010, to admit candidate **Joshua Van Til** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
39. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session

September 17, 2009, to admit candidate **Aaron Winkle** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

40. Synodical deputies J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session October 20, 2009, to admit candidate **Timothy Wood** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
41. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), J. Keressies (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session October 20, 2009, to admit candidate **Andrew Zomerman** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—*Adopted*

C. Ministers in specialized services, Church Order Article 12-c

1. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), J.P. Douma (Grandville), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on December 2, 2009, to approve the position of associate chaplain for residence life at Calvin College as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Nathaniel A. Bradford**.
2. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Faith Community Christian Reformed Church of Fullerton, California, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis California South, in session on May 6, 2010, to approve the position of English ministry leadership developer as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Ronald I. Chu**.
3. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), and D.M. Stravers (Holland), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Covenant Life Christian Reformed Church of Grand Haven, Michigan, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Muskegon, in session on September 17, 2009, to approve the position of chaplain of Harbor Hospice as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Douglas J. Einfeld**.
4. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), J.P. Douma (Grandville), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having reviewed the

evidence supplied by the council of Fuller Avenue Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on December 2, 2009, to approve the position of Evening Star worship leader/chaplain at Fulton Manor as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Laurie W. Hogge**.

5. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of African Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on August 20, 2009, to approve the position of regional director, CRWM, as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Mwaya Wa Kitavi**.
6. Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Eastern Hills Christian Reformed Church of Aurora, California, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on March 2, 2010, to approve the position of hospice chaplain as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Ricardo E. Orellana**.
7. Synodical deputies T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Oasis Community Christian Reformed Church of Moreno Valley, California, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis California South, in session on February 11, 2010, to approve the position of chaplain at Ramona UNA and Hospice as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend John Poortenga**.
8. Synodical deputies M. Den Bleyker (Northern Illinois), G. Veenstra (Illiana), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Racine Christian Reformed Church of Racine, Wisconsin, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Wisconsin, in session on September 22, 2009, to approve the position of chaplain at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend David Van Buren**.
9. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Crestview Christian Reformed Church of Boulder, Colorado, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision

of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 9, 2009, to approve the position of associate pastor to Koreans as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Raymond Yeo**.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

D. Loaning a minister to another denomination according to Church Order Article 13-c

1. Synodical deputies H. Katerberg (Hamilton), C.N. Overduin (Toronto), and D. Miedema (Chatham), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Huron, in session on May 12, 2010, to approve loaning **Reverend Jacob (Jack) de Vries** to serve the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia.
2. Synodical deputies T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis California South, in session on February 11, 2010, to approve loaning **Reverend Charles M. Hong** to serve Poonsunghan Church of Anaheim, California.
3. Synodical deputies P.A. Hansen (Heartland), A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), and D.L. Smit (Lake Superior), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Minnkota, in session on March 4, 2010, to approve loaning **Reverend Mark T. Klompier** to serve Chamsil Presbyterian Church of Seoul, South Korea.
4. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), N.L. Koch (California South), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on June 23, 2009, to approve loaning **Reverend Hyuk Soo Kwon** to serve Sa-Rang Community Church of Los Angeles, California.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 41

Rev. Calvin Hoogendoorn introduces Reverend Julius T. Medenblik, appointee to the position of president of Calvin Theological Seminary, to synod. Rev. Hoogendoorn proceeds with the interview.

Following the interview the following motion is presented:

That synod declare that Reverend Julius T. Medenblik, having successfully sustained the synodical interview, is appointed as the president of Calvin Theological Seminary effective August 1, 2011.

—Adopted

The chair offers prayer for Rev. Medenblik and his anticipated role as president of Calvin Theological Seminary.

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 44.)

ARTICLE 42

The evening session is adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Rev. Michael R. Wagenman leads in a closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 16, 2010

Seventh Session

ARTICLE 43

Following the theme of worship “Thy Kingdom Come,” Ms. Karen J. Abbas, announces the opening song, “O God Beyond All Praising,” and youth observer Paul DeWeerd, leads in a “Call to Worship Liturgy.” Delegates sing “Speak, O Lord.” Rev. Paul Mpindi, French ministry leader for Back to God Ministries International, reads from John 8:31-36 and addresses delegates on “The Truth Will Set You Free.” Delegates sing “Before the Throne of God Above” in response and together offer a prayer of application. The time of worship closes with the singing of “Lift High the Cross.”

The roll indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 44

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 41.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. B. Bernard Bakker reporting, presents the following:

I. Work of the synodical deputies

A. *Release from the ministry under Church Order Article 14-b*

1. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and R.H. Verkaik (Kalamazoo), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Clifford E. Bajema** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Holland in session on September 17, 2009, to declare that **Rev. Clifford E. Bajema** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), G. Koning (Georgetown), and M. DeVries (Holland), having heard the discussion relating to the resignation of **Rev. Paul Ed. Bakker** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Zeeland in session June 10, 2010 to declare **Rev. Paul Ed. Bakker** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), H. Katerberg (Hamilton), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. H. Lloyd Burghart** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Niagara in session on October 21, 2009, to declare that **Rev. H. Lloyd Burghart** is released from

the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

4. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), and G. Veenstra (Illiana), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Ted F. Gray** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South in session on February 18, 2010, to declare that **Rev. Ted F. Gray** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
5. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), J. Kerssies (Huron), and H. Katerberg (Hamilton), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Karl J. House** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Quinte in session on September 22, 2009, to declare that **Rev. Karl J. House** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
6. Synodical deputies L.M. Korf (Columbia), W. Verhoef (California South), and G.M. Stevens (Greater Los Angeles), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Nathan Nam Kieu** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Central California in session on October 6, 2009, to declare that **Rev. Nathan Nam Kieu** is in the status of one released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
7. Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Mark L. Tidd** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain in session on March 2, 2010, to declare that **Rev. Mark L. Tidd** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
8. Synodical deputies D.L. Smit (Lake Superior), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and R.J. Timmer (Iakota), having read the materials relating to the resignation of **Rev. Peter Van Drunen** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Minnkota in session on September 17, 2009, to declare that **Rev. Peter Van Drunen** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

B. Release from office to enter a nonministerial vocation under Church Order Article 14-c

1. Synodical deputies R.J. Timmer (Iakota), L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), and P.A. Hansen (Heartland), having heard the discussion of Classis Central Plains, in session on September 9, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Myung Han Kang** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word

in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.

2. Synodical deputies S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), J.W. Dykhuis (Red Mesa), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the discussion of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 16, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Henry Mogollon** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.
3. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), J. Kerssies (Huron), and H. Katerberg (Hamilton), having heard the discussion of Classis Toronto, in session on January 21, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Douglas J. VandeKamp** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

C. Release from office to enter a nonministerial vocation under Church Order Article 14-d

Synodical deputies R.D. De Young (Zeeland), D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), and J.P. Douma (Grandville), having heard the discussion of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on May 11, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-d, that **Rev. Mark A. Scheffers**, having entered a vocation that is judged to be non-ministerial, is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

D. Declare a person who was previously released from office declared eligible for a call, Church Order Article 14-e

1. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), and G.J. Kamps (Central Plains), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 6, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Rev. Charles Y. Jeon** is eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), R.L. Westenbroek (Rocky Mountain), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Red Mesa, in session on September 19, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Rev. Daniel J. Kruis** is eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

3. Synodical deputies J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Alberta North, in session on October 20, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Rev. Tony Maan** is eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and R.H. Verkaik (Kalamazoo), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Illiana, in session on September 16, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Rev. Stephan R. Van Eck** is eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

E. Release from ministry in a congregation under Church Order Article 17-a

1. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), W. Verhoef (California South), and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 9, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Steven J. Alsum** is released from ministerial service in Cragmor Christian Reformed Church of Colorado Springs, Colorado.
2. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis California South, in session on October 8, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Ronald I. Chu** is released from ministerial service in Orange Korean Christian Reformed Church of Fullerton, California.
3. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North) and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 21, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. William Delleman** is released from ministerial service in Bridge Community Christian Reformed Church of Langley, British Columbia.
4. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), R.J. Timmer (Iakota), and P.A. Hansen (Heartland), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Lake Superior, in session on September 22, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Jeffrey A. Fisher** is released from ministerial service in Unity Christian Reformed Church of Prinsburg, Minnesota.

5. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on October 7, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Edward H. Gerber** is released from ministerial service in Webster Christian Reformed Church of Webster, New York.
6. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on August 20, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Charles L. Geschiere** is released from ministerial service in Riverside Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan.
7. Synodical deputies D.M. Stravers (Holland), T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), and J.P. Douma (Grandville), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Muskegon, in session on November 19, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Gregory J. Kett** is released from ministerial service in Lake Side Chapel Christian Reformed Church of Ludington, Michigan.
8. Synodical deputies T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis California South, in session on February 11, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Jae Hee Kim** is released from ministerial service in Faith Community Christian Reformed Church of Fullerton, California.
9. Synodical deputies R.J. Timmer (Iakota), L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), and P.A. Hansen (Heartland), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Central Plains, in session on September 19, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Kenneth T. Krause** is released from ministerial service in Newton Christian Reformed Church of Newton, Iowa.
10. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on October 7, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Michael Laird** is released from ministerial service in North Shore Chapel Christian Reformed Church of Danvers, Massachusetts.
11. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on August 20, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev.**

Coleman S. Moore is released from ministerial service in Oakwood Christian Reformed Church of Belding, Michigan.

12. Synodical deputies T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis California South, in session on February 11, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Dae Woo Park** is released from ministerial service in Yung Kwang Christian Reformed Church of Las Vegas, Nevada.
13. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Illiana, in session on March 2, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Douglas E. Pruim** is released from ministerial service in Lafayette Christian Reformed Church of Lafayette, Indiana.
14. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on January 9, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Gary M. Stevens** is released from ministerial service in Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Sun Valley, California.
15. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Zeeland, in session on November 12, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. David A. Vander Meer** is released from ministerial service in Rusk Christian Reformed Church of Rusk, Michigan.
16. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), C.N. Overduin (Toronto), and J. Kerssies (Huron), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Eastern Canada, in session on March 5, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Michael Veenema** is released from ministerial service in Kentville Christian Reformed Church of Kentville, Nova Scotia.
17. Synodical deputies J.M. Gray (Central Plains), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Iakota, in session on September 15, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Eugene D. Vis** is released from ministerial service in First Christian Reformed Church of Rock Valley, Iowa.
18. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Lake Superior, in session on March 2, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance

with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Daniel J. Vos** is released from ministerial service in Emo Christian Reformed Church of Emo, Ontario.

19. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East) and H. Numan (B.C. North-West), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Alberta South/Saskatchewan, in session on March 13, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Kevin J. Vryhof** is released from ministerial service in High River Christian Reformed Church of High River, Alberta, effective June 30, 2009.

Note: The third synodical deputy, H. Vriend (Alberta North) did not concur with the decision of classis. Documentation is on file with the executive director.

20. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on August 20, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. David Westra** is released from ministerial service in World Missions of the Christian Reformed Church of North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

F. Extension of eligibility for call under Church Order Article 17-c

1. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), J. Kerssies (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having heard the discussion of Classis Toronto, in session on May 6, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Martin A. Benckhuysen's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
2. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), J. Kerssies (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having heard the discussion of Classis Toronto, in session on May 6, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Timothy K. Chan's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
3. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having heard the discussion of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on October 7, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Jantina Cornelison's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
4. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 17, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Daniel S. Dykstra's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
5. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having

heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 17, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Ruth M. Hofman's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.

6. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and J.P. Groenenwold (Columbia), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on September 22, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Koendert J. Koster's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
7. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), C.N. Overduin (Toronto), and J. Kerssies (Huron), having heard the discussion of Classis Eastern Canada, in session on October 23, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. William J. Kuurstra's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
8. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and J.P. Groenenwold (Columbia), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on March 2, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Peter L. VanderBeek's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
9. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on August 20, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. David Van Harten's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
10. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), and K.A. Baker (Kalamazoo), having heard the discussion of Classis Lake Erie, in session on October 3, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Thomas J. Van Milligen's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
11. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 11, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Steven Venhuizen's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
12. Synodical deputies T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 17, 2009, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. William D. Zeilstra's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—*Adopted*

G. Release from ministry in a congregation under Church Order Article 17-c

Synodical deputies E.C. Visser (Quinte), C.N. Overduin (Toronto), and J. Kerssies (Huron), having heard the discussion of Classis Eastern Canada, in session on March 5, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Derek E. Miedema** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—*Adopted*

H. Declaration that a ministry associate's position fits synodical guidelines under Church Order Article 23-a

1. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Sturing (Atlantic Northeast), and N.F. Brown (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 22, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Drew Angus** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
2. Synodical deputies J.P. Douma (Grandville), D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Southern Heights Christian Reformed Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on September 15, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Jeff Baas** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
3. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.M. Gray (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Sunlight Community Christian Reformed Church of Port Saint Lucie, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on September 23, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Jesus Bayona** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is church planter.
4. Synodical deputies J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), J. Kerssies (Huron), and C.N. Overduin (Toronto), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Aylmer Christian Reformed Church of Aylmer, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Chatham, in session on January 19, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Louis Bosma** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.

5. Synodical deputies D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Seymour Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 21, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Mary Bouwa** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is director of adult ministries.
6. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and H. Numan (B.C. North-West), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of River Park Christian Reformed Church of Calgary, Alberta, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Alberta South and Saskatchewan, in session on October 30, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Harrison Cho** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor of Korean ministries at River Park CRC in Calgary, Alberta.
7. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), H. Katerberg (Hamilton), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Maranatha Christian Reformed Church of Cambridge, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Huron, in session on January 13, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Rick De Graaf** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is CRWRC's ministry leader in Cambodia.
8. Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Third Christian Reformed Church of Denver, Colorado, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on March 2, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. David De Ridder** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of discipleship and teaching.
9. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and N.F. Brown (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 2, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. E. Allen Drew** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
10. Synodical deputies L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), T.J. Niehof (North-central Iowa), and R.J. Timmer (Iakota), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Prairie Lane Christian Reformed

Church of Omaha, Nebraska, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Heartland, in session on September 26, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Patrick Durkee** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is Air Force Reserves military chaplain.

11. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), D. Miedema (Chatham), and H. Katerberg (Hamilton), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Dunnville, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Niagara, in session on February 17, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Frank Engelage** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
12. Synodical deputies J. Kerssies (Huron), J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), and C.N. Overduin (Toronto), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of St. Thomas, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Chatham, in session on May 11, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Beth Fellingner** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is church planter.
13. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Community Christian Reformed Church of Roselawn, Indiana, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on March 2, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Barry Foster** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of administration.
14. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), G.J. Kamps (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Vida Nueva Christian Reformed Church of Hialeah, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 6, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Lourdes Granada** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate of outreach and training.
15. Synodical deputies D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and R.H. Verkaik (Kalamazoo), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Faith Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Holland, in session on September 17, 2009, that the

ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Ron Hassell** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.

16. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Sturing (Atlantic Northeast), and N.F. Brown (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 22, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Gabriel Wang-Herrera** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
17. Synodical deputies H. Numan (B.C. North-West), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Kelowna Christian Reformed Church of Kelowna, British Columbia, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 2, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Anthony Hoek** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
18. Synodical deputies T.J. Timmer (Iakota), L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), and P.A. Hansen (Heartland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Chinese Christian Reformed Church of North Liberty, Iowa, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session on September 19, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Wnyau Hsieh** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
19. Synodical deputies D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Oakdale Park Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on May 20, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. James Jones** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
20. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.M. Gray (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Oasis Community Christian Reformed Church of Winter Garden, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on September 23, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Joshua Jung** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of youth and education.
21. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of CrossPoint

Christian Reformed Church of Chino, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis California South, in session on May 6, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Yi-Ming Kao** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is church planter.

22. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.M. Gray (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Oasis Community Christian Reformed Church of Winter Garden, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on September 23, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. William Karishima** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of music and worship.
23. Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Crestview Christian Reformed Church of Boulder, Colorado, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on March 2, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Doug Kennedy** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is church planter.
24. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of The Tapestry Christian Reformed Church of Richmond, British Columbia, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on September 22, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mrs. Kathleen Kiesser** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor of spiritual formation.
25. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of New England Chapel Christian Reformed Church of Franklin, Massachusetts, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on October 7, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Jodi Koeman** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
26. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), G. Veenstra (Illiana), and J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Alto Christian Reformed Church of Alto, Wisconsin, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Wisconsin, in session on February 23, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be

filled by **Mr. Bob Krueger** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.

27. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), J.M. Gray (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Bradenton Christian Reformed Church of Bradenton, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on September 23, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Todd Kuperus** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor of youth and congregational life.
28. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Sturing (Atlantic Northeast), and N.F. Brown (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 22, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Matthew Lin** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
29. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), J. Kerssies (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Maranatha Christian Reformed Church of Woodstock, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Chatham, in session on January 19, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Grace Miedema** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is spiritual and community support coordinator at Homestead Christian Care.
30. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), G. Veenstra (Illiana), and J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Waupun, Wisconsin, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Wisconsin, in session on February 23, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Joe Nasvytis** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
31. Synodical deputies D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), T.D. Slachter (Grand Rapids North), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Seymour Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 21, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Amanda Rozeboom** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is director of youth ministries.
32. Synodical deputies J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), H. Jonker (B.C. Southeast), and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), having examined the written

materials submitted by the council of Alberni Valley Christian Reformed Church of Port Alberni, British Columbia, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on March 2, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Shane Rozeveld** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is youth and worship ministries pastor.

33. Synodical deputies L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Grandville, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grandville, in session on September 17, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Barb Sanders** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
34. Synodical deputies C.N. Overduin (Toronto), J. Kerssies (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Hamilton, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, **do not concur** with the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session on May 25, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Tim Sheridan** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
35. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), M. Vander Veen (Yellowstone), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Sunnyside Christian Reformed Church of Sunnyside, Washington, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Columbia, in session on September 28, 2009, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. David Stewart** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor of Christian living.
36. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), and G. Veenstra (Illiana), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Christ Community Christian Reformed Church of Plainfield, Illinois, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on March 3, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Peter Tammeling** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor of congregational care.
37. Synodical deputies G.A. Koning (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Calvin Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Holland, in session on October 27, 2009, that the ministry

associate position to be filled by **Mr. Duane Terpstra** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.

38. Synodical deputies H. Katerberg (Hamilton), C.N. Overduin (Toronto), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of New Life Christian Reformed Church of Guelph, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Huron, in session on May 12, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Lesli Van Milligen** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
39. Synodical deputies D.D. Poolman (Thornapple Valley), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Seymour Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on May 20, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Larry Van Zee** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is coordinator of prison ministries.
40. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of The River Christian Reformed Church of Redlands, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis California South, in session on May 6, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Joel Verhoef** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor of community development.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—*Adopted*

I. Article 23-a ministry associates, filling previous synodically approved positions

The following ministry associates have been examined by the classis indicated for positions previously approved by synodical deputies (*in addition to* those listed above in the synodical deputy reports for Church Order Article 23-a):

Name	Classis	Date
Bernard Ayoola	Grand Rapids North	September 16, 2009
David Best	Heartland	September 26, 2009
John Mondl	Grand Rapids North	September 16, 2009
John Shepard	Pacific Northeast	October 9, 2009
Lon Wagner	Greater Los Angeles	September 20, 2009

J. Service of a ministry associate in an organized church as solo pastor under Church Order Article 23-b or -c

1. Synodical deputies L.M. Korf (Columbia), H. Numan (B.C. North-West), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having examined the request submitted by the council of Second Christian Reformed Church of Lynden,

Washington, concur with the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 4, 2010, that **Mr. Jim A. Carberry** (ministry associate) may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.

2. Synodical deputies E.W. Visser (Quinte), N.F. Brown (Hudson), and C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), having examined the request submitted by the council of Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church of Whitinsville, Massachusetts, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on October 7, 2009, that **Mr. Bill Hodgeman** (ministry associate) may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

K. Calling a ministry associate to serve in an organized church as solo pastor under Church Order Article 23-d

1. Synodical deputies R.J. Timmer (Iakota), L.G. Christoffels (Minnkota), and P.A. Hansen (Heartland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Chinese Church of Iowa City Christian Reformed Church of North Liberty, Iowa, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a ministry associate to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session on September 19, 2009, that **Mr. Wen-Yau Hsieh** may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
2. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), M. DeVries (Holland), and H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Woodville Community Christian Reformed Church of Woodville, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a ministry associate to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Muskegon, in session on March 4, 2010, that **Mr. Brett Werner** may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

All ministry associates present at synod are recognized.

L. Deposition of a minister of the Word under Articles 82-83

Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), B.A. Persenaire (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the grounds submitted by the council of Gallatin Gateway Community Christian Reformed Church of Bozeman, Montana, and the discussion of Classis Yellowstone, in session on March 5, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to approve, in accordance with Church Order Articles 82 and 83, the deposition of **Rev. Daniel L. Mulder** from the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Recommendation: That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

—Adopted

Rev. Robert R. Broekeman offers a prayer of gratitude for the work of the synodical deputies.

II. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (Appendix D), pp. 51-54
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section I, G)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Members of the BOT executive committee

C. Background

The Synod 2009 advisory committee that discussed the BOT's formation of The Network believed there was "lack of clarity and agreement as to which decisions required synodical consultation and/or approval." Upon the recommendation of the advisory committee, synod instructed "the BOT to develop guidelines on how to involve the broader church community, especially through synod, in consideration of significant structural changes that affect the ministries and congregations of the CRCNA" (*Acts of Synod 2009*, p. 615).

The BOT established a Task Force to Develop Guidelines for Proposed Structure Changes. Their report is presented to Synod 2010 (*Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 51-54).

D. Recommendations

1. That synod affirm that *significant structural changes* refers to any alterations in the mandate of the BOT or the mandate of the CRC agencies and/or ministries as established by synod, or any alteration to specific instructions given to the BOT by synod.

—Adopted

2. That synod instruct the BOT to develop a process by which such *significant structural changes* would be made and report the process to Synod 2011.

—Adopted

3. That synod encourage all classes to provide time upon request for BOT members to address each classis so that the churches may be informed about and can interact with BOT members regarding important denominational developments.

—Adopted

4. That synod instruct the BOT to set aside time at its February meeting to brainstorm the most effective ways to communicate with the churches and classes within the CRC regarding matters for the coming synodical agenda.

Ground: It is important for the BOT to consider the more significant issues with an understanding and openness to how the church might respond. Doing so would assist the BOT, when necessary, in communicating the background and context of the matters it brings to synod.

—Adopted

5. That synod allow time in its agenda for a more formal report from the BOT. The president of the BOT could address synod to report on the work the BOT has been doing on synod's behalf and to give an overview of matters it will be considering in the next year.

—Adopted

6. That synod encourage the BOT to invite its executive committee to attend synod, if possible, to meet with advisory committees that review the report of the BOT to clarify any questions that arise.

Ground: The presence of the executive committee members would serve to build a positive relationship between the BOT and synodical delegates.

—Adopted

7. That synod receive this report as the response to instruction of Synod 2009 regarding the BOT and consideration of *significant structural changes* that affect the ministries and congregations of the CRC.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 67.)

ARTICLE 45

Rev. Bruce G. Adema reads a letter of greeting to synod on behalf of the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia.

Rev. Adema introduces Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton, ecumenical guest from the Canadian Council of Churches, who addresses synod. The president responds, and first clerk Wendy Gritter offers prayer.

Dr. William T. Koopmans introduces Rev. Don Poest, fraternal delegate from the Reformed Church in America, who addresses synod. The president responds, and vice president Peter Slofstra offers prayer.

Rev. Michael Borgert offers prayer for Mrs. Carol R. Spelman, delegate from Classis Muskegon, regarding the unexpected news of the death of her mother.

ARTICLE 46

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Dr. Gregory D. Schuringa reporting, presents the following:

I. Abuse Victims Task Force

A. *Materials:* Abuse Victims Task Force Report, including appendices A and B, pp. 475-509

B. *Privilege of the floor:* Ms. Kathy Vandergrift, Ms. Laura V. Triezenberg, and Ms. Beth Swagman

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod urge councils to provide for the pastoral care needs of the claimant, the accused, families, and congregation when an allegation of sexual abuse against a church leader is brought forward.

Grounds:

- a. Effective pastoral care is necessary for healing for individuals and for the congregation.
- b. Effective pastoral care is an essential component of a just and merciful response fitting to the followers of Christ.
- c. The elders are charged to provide faithful care and discipline for the church.

—Adopted

2. That synod urge councils, when an allegation of sexual abuse against a church leader is brought forward, to immediately appoint a person or small group of persons, accountable to the elders, who will ensure that the pastoral care needs of the claimant, the accused, families, and congregation are addressed; when circumstances make it extremely difficult to address the pastoral care needs of any of those involved using pastoral resources of the congregation, that the council arrange for pastoral care through a neighboring congregation or other caregivers.

Grounds:

- a. A structure and accountability will assist with effectively meeting pastoral care needs.
- b. The importance of pastoral care merits the focused attention of that person or small group so that pastoral care needs will not be overlooked.
- c. Relationships or dynamics within the congregation may make it impossible for those needing care to receive it from someone connected with the congregation.
- d. If a claimant has chosen to involve the legal system in seeking relief, the congregation may be prevented by its liability carrier from having contact with other parties to the suit, and churches should not allow legal counsel for insurance to prevent them from providing pastoral care in ways that do not imperil their insurance protection.

—Adopted

3. That synod reaffirm the decision of Synod 2005 in its support for restorative justice principles and their application in the way that churches respond to abuse issues, recognizing that it will not be appropriate in all cases.

Grounds:

- a. This complies with the decision of Synod 2005 that calls on all parts of the church to “employ restorative justice practices” in their community lives (*Acts of Synod 2005*, p. 762), and asks churches to review their own practices in light of restorative justice principles.
- b. There is research to document the added value of applying restorative justice principles in response to abuse within close communities, when appropriate.
- c. Consistency between public witness and internal practice is important for the credibility of the church, especially in the current cultural context.

—Adopted

4. That synod encourage churches and agencies to take steps to increase awareness and understanding of restorative justice teachings and their relevance for life within the church, among both pastors and church members.

Grounds:

- a. There is limited awareness of restorative justice within the CRC community, and dominant messages in our culture reinforce an adversarial approach to justice that is contrary to restorative justice principles.
- b. Increased general awareness is essential for implementing the decisions of Synod 2005, and this awareness is important for effectiveness in application to abuse response within the CRC.

—*Adopted*

5. That synod, to begin implementation, allow for pilot projects in the use of restorative justice practices in response to specific situations of abuse by church leaders, provided that recognized restorative justice facilitators are available and participation is genuinely voluntary. Pilot projects and evaluations of them will be coordinated by the Safe Church Ministry to share the learning for application to other cases.

Grounds:

- a. Pilot projects are a useful way to explore implementation of a different approach. Using them allows learning and opportunity to address any problems before changing existing practices for the entire church community.
- b. Current guidelines and polity allow flexibility when stakeholders and relevant church authorities agree that an alternative approach might be beneficial.

—*Adopted*

6. That synod encourage councils to develop a plan for providing financial assistance for abuse-related counseling, if and when it is needed, as a diaconal response to a person in need, as early as possible and without judgment regarding any future claims. Options for consideration are a classis counseling fund, an arrangement with a local counseling or mental health agency, or other appropriate means.

Grounds:

- a. Such counseling represents proper pastoral care for those in need.
- b. Counseling is often needed to assist claimants with greater understanding of their situation and to assist with decisions that lead to healing.
- c. Providing benevolent financial assistance is a typical diaconal activity.

—*Adopted*

7. That synod advise councils to annually review their policies for abuse prevention and liability coverage.

Grounds:

- a. Prevention of harm is essential for the well-being of individuals, the congregation, and the witness of the church.
- b. Stewardly planning and resource use require responsible liability coverage for situations in which abuse occurs despite prevention efforts.

—*Adopted*

8. That synod encourage councils to use a restorative justice framework in decisions regarding restitution following sustained sexual abuse allegations against a church leader.

Grounds:

- a. Justice is facilitated when a victim receives needed healing responses.
- b. Restitution should not be neglected or minimized as part of responding to victims with justice and mercy.
- c. Restorative justice principles and practices are effective means for determining what may be needed for healing.

—*Adopted*

9. That synod strongly encourage councils to participate in yearly training on topics such as effective abuse prevention, the complexities of abuse situations, the denominational abuse response guidelines, and comprehensive healing for everyone affected by the situation.

Grounds:

- a. Councils are entrusted with the well-being of their congregations; education will support the fulfillment of this responsibility.
- b. Councils bear primary responsibility for decisions when abuse allegations are presented; education will result in thoughtful consideration of the complexities of mercy and justice in difficult situations.

—*Adopted*

10. That synod direct the BOT to instruct the executive director to develop additional educational resources on abuse prevention and church leader misconduct that are easy-to-understand and readily accessible for church members in general (e.g., brochures for church information centers, and specific resources on the dynamics of abuse by church leaders for church council members).

Grounds:

- a. Information should be available to everyone in the church, including ministry leaders.
- b. Education efforts need to address the reality and dynamics of abuse committed by church leaders in order to enhance prevention efforts and to support just and healing responses when abuse occurs.
- c. Wide distribution of educational resources increases the probability that people will protect themselves and their fellow church members more effectively against abuse in the church.

d. New technology, including the Internet, offers expanding opportunities for wide dissemination and easy access.

—Adopted

11. That synod direct the BOT to instruct the executive director to develop a handbook, as soon as possible, that clearly describes the roles and responsibilities of church council members when an allegation of sexual abuse by a church leader arises, for distribution to church council members as soon as it becomes available and to every new council member when each begin office as well as when a case arises, and for easy reference throughout the process.

Grounds:

- a. Council members have primary responsibility for decisions in situations of alleged sexual abuse by a church leader.
- b. Council members need to be equipped with knowledge in order to fulfill the responsibilities of their office when situations involving abuse arise.
- c. The churches have ongoing situations that require such a handbook.

—Adopted

12. That synod adopt the revised “Guidelines for Handling Abuse Allegations Against a Church Leader” as indicated in Appendix A.

Ground: These changes are consistent with the mandate to respond to the needs of victims of abuse.

—Adopted

13. That synod direct the Board of Trustees to take the necessary steps to ensure that adequate resources are available to implement the recommendations in this report.

Grounds:

- a. Synod has repeatedly made decisions indicating that effective abuse prevention and response is a high priority for the denomination.
- b. Additional information and analysis are needed to determine what can be accomplished with existing resources and what additional human and financial resources are required.
- c. This involves administrative decisions that go beyond the mandate of the task force.

—Adopted

14. That synod dismiss the Abuse Victims Task Force with thanks.

—Adopted

II. Response to Communication 1: Classis Central Plains

A. *Materials:* Communication 1, pp. 707-708

B. *Recommendation*

That synod make the following declaration of confession in response to Communication 1:

We, the Christian Reformed Church, confess that we have not always justly and compassionately helped those who have been sexually abused. Furthermore, we confess that we have not always justly or adequately disciplined church leaders who have been abusers. We humbly ask forgiveness from those we have failed. We thank God for the progress we have made, and we commit with God's help to do better in the future.

Note: The above declaration was read in the form of a prayer by the delegates to synod.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued in Article 49.)

ARTICLE 47

The morning session is adjourned at 12:15 p.m. Rev. Richard A. Jones leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, June 16, 2010

Eighth Session

ARTICLE 48

Rev. Kevin L. Jordan leads in opening prayer.
The vice president assumes the chair.

ARTICLE 49

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued from Article 46.)

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Dr. Gregory D. Schuringa reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (sections II, A, 13, 16; B, 1, 3-4, including Appendices C, E, and F), pp. 30-31, 33-36, 46-51, 54-64
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, A, 2)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendations

1. That synod take note of the revised Ministry Plan of the Christian Reformed Church. (II, B, 1 and Appendix F).

—*Adopted*

2. That synod address the following recommendations by the Office of Chaplaincy Ministries (see *Agenda for Synod 2010*, pp. 392-93):

- a. That synod approve the change in the name of the Office of Chaplaincy Ministries to the Office of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry.

Grounds:

- 1) The change in name will better reflect the revised job description already adopted for the director, whose purpose is “to develop and promote the strategic ministry of Christian Reformed chaplains and to advance and facilitate ministries of care with Christian Reformed pastors, congregations, and other CRC ministries.” The new job description includes various components for enhancing the caring ministry of the churches of our denomination: to promote and facilitate opportunities for training in care in churches, classes, and ministries; to develop and maintain a bi-national list of spiritual directors and mental health consultants adept at serving ordained professionals; and to advocate for clinical pastoral education as a significant educational opportunity for people studying for ministry and for people already serving in ministry.
- 2) By the nature of their work, chaplains engage in ministry at the margins of society with people who are dying, people who are at war, people who face limitations due to age, and so forth, and as a result can experience isolation from the churches. In addition, our denomination desires to lift the ministry of pastoral care to the same value as that which we place on preaching and corporate worship.

By emphasizing the caring nature of the work of chaplains, this name change will highlight the value that chaplains add to the overall ministry of our denomination, the expertise they bring to our denomination, and the opportunity for additional training they can give to the churches of our denomination.

- 3) Since other offices of our denomination are involved in enhancing the caring ministries of churches (for example, Disability Concerns, Pastor-Church Relations, and Safe Church Ministry), the name change affirms Chaplaincy’s connection with these ministries.

—Adopted

- b. That synod urge parents, the youth and education ministries in our churches, and Christian schools to encourage our young people to prayerfully consider a wide range of ministry options, including chaplaincy ministries and other specialized Christian vocations.

—Adopted

3. That synod encourage Christian Reformed churches, classes, ministries, and institutions to sponsor events to observe Disability Week from October 11 through 17, 2010, with a suggested focus on mental health issues.

Grounds:

- a. As the covenant people of God, the Bible calls us to be a caring community. We recognize that our Lord Jesus Christ requires the involvement of all his people in the ministry of his church. We have not always made it possible for people with disabilities to

participate fully in the community and have often isolated them and their families.

- b. In 1985 we committed ourselves as a denomination to eliminate barriers of architecture, communication, and attitude “in order to use the gifts of all people in our life together as God’s family.” Although many CRC congregations, classes, ministries, and institutions have made significant progress in including people with disabilities in their work and ministry, much more can and should be done.
 - c. About 25 percent of the North American population experiences a diagnosable mental disorder in a given year. Like the population at large, members of Christ’s body struggle with a variety of mental health issues. A much smaller population, about 6 percent, live with a serious mental illness. Due to its prevalence among younger people, mental disorders are the leading cause of disability in the United States and Canada for people ages 15 to 44. Disability Week, with a focus on mental health issues, will provide opportunities to educate congregations of the prevalence and nature of mental illnesses and help congregations to learn better ways to minister to people with mental illnesses when they are in a season of suffering. Disability Concerns will make a variety of resources available to assist congregations in this.
 - d. Specific and intentional events that recognize the importance of breaking down barriers and including people with disabilities in congregational life will remind God’s people of the welcome our Lord gives to all of his people (Luke 14:15-24) and will encourage them to press on toward becoming a community in which every member knows that he or she is indispensable (1 Cor. 12:12-27).
- Adopted*
4. That synod encourage churches, classes, and CRC institutions to celebrate All Nations Heritage Week from September 27 through October 3, 2010, with an invitation to celebrate All Nations Heritage Sunday with special services on October 3, 2010.

Grounds:

- a. The struggle against prejudice, discrimination, and racism needs to be balanced by celebrating and affirming God’s gift of unity in diversity through our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ (cf. Ephesians 2). The congregations that also celebrate World Communion Sunday can find a meaningful Christian Reformed way of celebrating All Nations Heritage Sunday by combining both celebrations.
 - b. The financial support our ministry receives from the All Nations Heritage Sunday celebrations dramatically increases Race Relations’ ability to award scholarships and grants to promote leadership of people of color in the life of our denomination.
- Adopted*
5. That synod allow time to recognize Rev. Ronald Klimp, the new director of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry (II, B, 4).

—Granted

Rev. Ronald Klimp, director of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry, addresses the delegates. Rev. A. Dirk Evans leads in a prayer for Rev. Klimp and the ministry of chaplaincy and care.

6. That synod direct the Board of Trustees to change the title of *Advocate* to *Claimant Advocate (Safe Church Trained)* (BOT Supplement section II, A, 2).

Grounds:

- a. The advocate is trained by the office of Safe Church Ministry.
- b. The advocate is trained to serve victims of church leader misconduct through or apart from the advisory panel process.
- c. The advocate is certified by the office of Safe Church Ministry to assist in ecclesiastical settings.
- d. With certification, an ecclesiastical body is assured of a trained, competent advocate.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued in Article 62.)

ARTICLE 50

(The report of Advisory Committee 6 is continued from Article 23.)

Board of Trustees

Advisory Committee 6, Financial Matters, Mr. A. Henry Eygenraam reporting, presents the following:

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (Appendix C), pp. 46-51
2. Overture 7, pp. 662-63

B. Observations

The Micah Network Declaration on Creation Stewardship and Climate Change deserves the attention of the church for two weighty reasons. The first is the magnitude of ecological, social, and economic brokenness, undoubtedly aggravated by human activity. The second reason is that this declaration arises from an effort of Christians living in the effects of this brokenness and striving to respond faithfully to these concerns. Admittedly there are differences of opinion among Christians regarding the extent to which human activity contributes to this brokenness. However, there are important areas of agreement: Our world belongs to God the Creator. The Lord calls us to care for creation faithfully and to use its riches obediently and justly. Human sin has corrupted our ability and desire to care for creation. And God calls Christians to be prophetic and faithful in our stewardship in the Name of the risen Christ.

It is imperative for the Christian Reformed Church to show our desire to stand with Christians throughout the world as partners in the task of stewardship and to be called to engage more fully in the task of understanding and practicing that stewardship.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod acknowledge the large role that humanity plays in environmental problems across the globe and receive the Micah Network Declaration on Creation Stewardship and Climate Change as speaking to its concern for and responsibility toward creation and as similar to the profession stated in Article 51 of *Our World Belongs to God* (2008 version).

Ground: “We lament that our abuse of creation has brought lasting damage to the world we have been given: polluting streams and soil, poisoning the air, altering the climate, and damaging the earth. We commit ourselves to honor all God’s creatures and to protect them from abuse and extinction, for our world belongs to God” (*Our World Belongs to God*, para. 51).

—Adopted

2. That synod instruct the BOT to assemble a task force that will report to Synod 2012, to identify a biblical and Reformed perspective of our position on creation stewardship, including climate change, applicable to this millennium, for congregations, society, and our global gospel partners.

Grounds:

- a. *Our World Belongs to God*, paragraph 51—“We commit ourselves to honor all God’s creatures and to protect them from abuse and extinction, for our world belongs to God”—makes clear our responsibility to address this concern.
- b. Sufficient relevant material already exists from which we may draw to create such a position statement.
- c. A great deal of the science on this subject elicits widely varying opinions that often retard any active response.
- d. There is an urgent need to focus on the biblical and Reformed perspective so that we may unify our community around common ground and enable the formulation of concrete positive action strategies.

Note: Delegates spend time discussing the above motion without vote.

(The report of Advisory Committee 6 is continued in Article 52.)

ARTICLE 51

The chair welcomes Ms. Sandy Johnson, director of denominational ministries, who introduces a video on the work of CRC Specialized Ministries.

The vice president offers a prayer of thanksgiving for CRC Specialized Ministries and their ministry to the CRC.

ARTICLE 52

(The report of Advisory Committee 6 is continued from Article 50.)

Advisory Committee 6, Financial Matters, Mr. A. Henry Eygenraam reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*

1. Board of Trustees Report (Appendix C), pp. 46-51
2. Overture 7, pp. 662-63

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod instruct the BOT to assemble a task force that will report to Synod 2012, to identify a biblical and Reformed perspective of our position on creation stewardship, including climate change, applicable to this millennium, for congregations, society, and our global gospel partners.

Grounds:

- a. *Our World Belongs to God*, paragraph 51—"We commit ourselves to honor all God's creatures and to protect them from abuse and extinction, for our world belongs to God"—makes clear our responsibility to address this concern.
- b. Sufficient relevant material already exists from which we may draw to create such a position statement.
- c. A great deal of the science on this subject elicits widely varying opinions that often retard any active response.
- d. There is an urgent need to focus on the biblical and Reformed perspective so that we may unify our community around common ground and enable the formulation of concrete positive action strategies.

—Adopted

2. That synod request the BOT to instruct staff of the CRCNA to give greater attention to the issue of creation stewardship in its education and implementation efforts among CRC members and congregations in their advocacy efforts at local, national, and global levels.

—Adopted

3. That synod declare this to be its response to Overture 7, section A.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 53

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued from Article 22.)

Advisory Committee 9, Migration of Workers, Rev. Michael F. Abma reporting, presents the following:

Response to Overture 18: Remove Declaration F of the 1991 Decision on Creation and Science (majority report)

A. *Materials*: Overture 18, pp. 697-700

B. *Observations*

Synod 1991 adopted Declarations A-E, which were unanimously recommended by the Committee to Study Creation and Science (Report 28). Following is the final form of Declaration E, which Synod 1991 adopted:

The church confesses that humanity is uniquely created in the image of God and rejects all theorizing that tends either to minimize or to obliterate this created uniqueness. We reject, therefore, atheistic and naturalistic evolutionism, which denies the creative activity of God, disputes the existence of purpose in the created order, and reduces humanity to being nothing more than the end product of a natural process.

(*Acts of Synod 1991*, p. 766)

Declaration F was adopted by Synod 1991 as a minority recommendation. It states:

The church declares, moreover, that the clear teaching of Scripture and our confessions on the uniqueness of human beings as imagebearers of God rules out the espousal of the theorizing that posits the reality of evolutionary forebears of the human race.

(*Acts of Synod 1991*, p. 767)

Unease with Declaration F resulted in Synod 1991 adding the following two notes to this Declaration (see *Acts of Synod 1991*, p. 767):

Note 1: Of course, private research, theorizing, and discussion are not addressed by this declaration.

Note 2: Declaration F is not intended and may not be used to limit further investigation and discussion on the origin of humanity.

The advisory committee reminds synod that Report 28 noted the following:

That there are strict limitations on the extent to which the Genesis text can be reinterpreted within the Reformed tradition. However stylized, literary, or symbolic the stories of Genesis may be, they are clearly meant to refer to real events. Especially in God's acts of creation, Adam and Eve as first parents, the fall of humanity into sin, and the giving of the so-called "mother promise" (Gen. 3:15), the reality of the events described is of foundational importance for the entire history of redemption.

(Report 28, VI, J, *Agenda for Synod 1991*, p. 403)

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod not accede to the request in Overture 18 to remove Declaration F from the Synod of 1991 decision on creation and science.

Ground: A succeeding synod cannot rescind or remove a decision taken by a previous synod. It may alter the stand of a previous synod; it may reach a conclusion which is at variance with a conclusion reached by an earlier synod. But it may not annul or rescind it (see *Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure*, p. 110).

2. That synod accede to the request in Overture 18 to declare that Declaration F of Synod 1991 no longer be part of the CRCNA's official position statement on creation and science.

Grounds:

- a. Declaration F, with its accompanying notes, appears contradictory and confusing.

- b. The church should not bind the consciences of its members beyond what is the clear and indubitable teaching of Scripture and the creeds.
- c. The remaining Declarations of Synod 1991 (namely A-E, and particularly Declaration E), as well as Section VI, J, of Report 28, sufficiently safeguard the church's confession with respect to the uniqueness of humanity as imagebearers of God.

Note: According to the Rules of Synodical Procedure, the minority report re the issue of the response to Overture 18 is presented as information by Rev. Jack DeJong.

Response to Overture 18: Remove Declaration F of the 1991 Decision on Creation and Science (minority report)

A. *Materials:* Overture 18, pp. 697-700

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to section (2) of Overture 18.

Grounds:

1. The testimony of the Old and New Testaments, the creeds, and the confessions declares that humanity is *created in* the image of God—not *formed into* the image of God.
2. The testimony of the Old and New Testaments, the creeds, and the confessions declares that Adam and Eve were historical persons.
3. Removing Declaration F would allow for the teaching of the possibility of evolutionary forebears of the human race to students of all ages.
4. While Declaration F appears somewhat unclear, which is not ideal, the intention of Declaration F, with its notes, is correct in protecting this interpretation of Scripture against the possibility of evolutionary forebears of Adam and Eve while still allowing scientific study to inform our understanding.

Note: Following the rules of procedure, synod returns to consideration of the recommendation of the advisory committee's majority report.

Response to Overture 18: Remove Declaration F of the 1991 Decision on Creation and Science (majority report)

A. *Materials:* Overture 18, pp. 697-700

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod not accede to the request in Overture 18 to remove Declaration F from the Synod of 1991 decision on creation and science.

Ground: A succeeding synod cannot rescind or remove a decision taken by a previous synod. It may alter the stand of a previous synod; it may reach a conclusion which is at variance with a conclusion reached by an earlier synod; however, it may not annul or rescind it (see *Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure*, p. 110).

—Adopted

2. That synod accede to the request in Overture 18 to declare that Declaration F of Synod 1991 no longer be part of the CRCNA's official position statement on creation and science.

Grounds:

- a. Declaration F, with its accompanying notes, appears contradictory and confusing.
- b. The church should not bind the consciences of its members beyond what is the clear and indubitable teaching of Scripture and the creeds.
- c. The remaining Declarations of Synod 1991 (namely A-E, and particularly Declaration E), as well as Section VI, J, of Report 28, sufficiently safeguard the church's confession with respect to the uniqueness of humanity as imagebearers of God.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued in Article 56.)

ARTICLE 54

The afternoon session is adjourned at 5:00 p.m. Ethnic adviser John J. Gonzales leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 16, 2010

Ninth Session

ARTICLE 55

Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma leads in opening prayer.

The president resumes the chair.

Rev. Henry Jonker, alternate (Classis B.C. South-East), is absent with notice from the evening session.

ARTICLE 56

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued from Article 53.)

Advisory Committee 9, Migration of Workers, Rev. Michael F. Abma reporting, presents the following:

Committee to Study the Migration of Workers

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (section II, A, 12, including Appendix B), pp. 30, 43-46
2. Committee to Study the Migration of Workers Report, including Appendices A-E, pp. 535-85

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Mrs. Teresa Renkema, chair, and Mr. Chris Pullenayegem, reporter.

C. *Background*

Synod 2007 received an overture intended to assist the denomination in its ministry to undocumented workers. However, because the overture began by framing the issue as one of church discipline, it caused considerable pain. Synod's advisory committee wrote, "We sorrowfully note that a number of members of our denominational family were deeply hurt by it" (*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 595). Synod appointed a committee to study this matter and gave it this mandate:

To study the issue of the migration of workers as it relates to the church's ministries of inclusion, compassion, and hospitality, and to propose ways for the church to advocate on behalf of those who are marginalized.

(*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 596)

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod affirm the sorrow first expressed by Synod 2007 over the alienation and misunderstanding caused by the processes that brought the original overture to Synod 2007 (*Acts of Synod 2007*, pp. 595-96) and, to avoid such hurt in the future, that synod instruct the Board of Trustees to encourage CRC agencies, classes, boards, and committees to make every effort to ensure proper representation of the affected groups when issues are studied and discussed.

Ground: When the church discusses an issue without the benefit of hearing the voices of those most directly affected by that issue, confusion and hurt can, and usually does, result.

—Adopted

Biblical Affirmations

2. That synod declare that the biblical teachings and principles from both the Old and New Testaments as summarized in this report properly inform and guide the church's ministry to both status or non-status immigrant people, and that they affirm the following:
 - a. All people are created in the image of God and are to be treated as such regardless of circumstances under which the church encounters individuals or of a given person's ethnicity, background, or legal status.
 - b. God's Word consistently directs the people of God to be welcoming toward the strangers in their midst and to extend special care to those most vulnerable to social or economic conditions that threaten their ability to survive.
 - c. The church of Jesus Christ welcomes all who profess faith in him as their Lord and Savior and who desire to live for him. God has no favorites—true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition of membership in the church.

- d. God's Word calls upon believers to respect the governing authorities and the laws of the state. However, citizenship in the kingdom of God obligates believers to the highest law of love for God and neighbor above all, and the exercise of this love should lead believers to advocate for laws that will mandate the just and humane treatment of immigrant peoples.

—Adopted

Education and Awareness

3. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to encourage the Office of Race Relations to engage in, as a priority, a campaign to educate and raise cross-cultural sensitivity across our denomination and provide tools and resources to denominational agencies, classes, and local churches to deal with cross-cultural conflict that may arise from time to time.

—Adopted

4. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to encourage the CRC's relevant agencies to propose ways and to develop resources that will help in educating the churches and Christian schools by engaging in thoughtful study and discussion of the economic, political, social, and spiritual issues involved in the church's view of, and ministry with, immigrant people.

—Adopted

5. That synod encourage local churches to educate their membership about the socioeconomic, political, and security issues facing immigrants and newcomers, and equip them to respond in love and concern to the people groups that God is bringing into our nations.

Ground: The economic realities surrounding immigration and the presence of millions of documented and undocumented immigrants in the United States and Canada have created ongoing circumstances that already exist in many communities in which the church seeks to do ministry. This fact compels church members to educate themselves on the relevant issues already being faced by their various communities.

—Adopted

Ministry of Mercy and Compassion

6. That synod urge the Christian Reformed Church, through its assemblies and agencies, to affirm the need to reach out in hospitality and compassion to immigrant people, and that synod further encourage churches to display this ministry concern through actions that include but are not limited to the following:
- a. Prayerful study and discussion of issues related to the causes that motivate people to immigrate to other lands so as to deepen understanding of the circumstances under which many people live.
 - b. Mindful attention to the plight of both documented workers and people without status and to reach out in love to those who seek

assistance for themselves and for their children in terms of financial assistance, food, clothing, and shelter.

Ground: Scripture calls us to be mindful of the plight of aliens and strangers, offering compassion and love in Christ's name to those who find themselves marginalized and in need.

—Adopted

Advocacy and Justice

7. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to encourage the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action, and the Canadian Committee for Contact with the Government, in collaboration with their denominational and non-denominational partners, to engage in, as a priority, policy development and advocacy strategies that will lead to immigration reform and the enactment of fair, just, and equitable laws regarding those without status in Canada and the United States.

—Adopted

8. That synod encourage congregations and their individual members to speak out against, and seek to reform, laws and practices concerning the treatment of immigrants that appear to be unduly harsh or unjust.

—Adopted

9. That synod be mindful of the need for governments to create and enforce laws that protect the security and integrity of a given nation's borders, while encouraging congregations and church members to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform in ways that will reduce the number of people without status and/or non-status workers, and provide increased opportunities for immigrants to gain legal status within the nation.

—Adopted

10. That synod encourage congregations to advocate for a more just and dignified process on behalf of those suffering arrest and incarceration on account of their lack of status, and also to advocate for more humane treatment of those who are unfortunate enough to face a long imprisonment.

Ground: The governments of both the United States and Canada have been struggling with comprehensive immigration reform for years, recognizing that current policies are insufficient to deal with contemporary aspects of immigration. The CRC can be of service to these governments by speaking up for the just treatment of all people as part of the larger process to reform current laws and policies.

—Adopted

Process

11. That synod recommend this report of the Committee to Study the Migration of Workers to the churches for study and discussion regarding issues surrounding the immigration of workers.

—Adopted

12. That synod encourage churches to engage as mission partners the evangelical congregations and ministries that are serving in immigrant communities.

Ground: Many newer and diverse congregations are ministering effectively in this field of service, and Christian Reformed people would gain much by being in fellowship with them as partners in ministry.

—Adopted

13. That synod declare that this report fulfills the study committee's mandate given by Synod 2007 and dismiss the committee with great thanks for their pastorally sensitive, warm-hearted, and very helpful report.

—Adopted

Rev. Philip F. Reinders offers a prayer of thanksgiving for the work of the Committee to Study the Migration of Workers.

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued in Article 60.)

ARTICLE 57

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod instruct the BOT to request that the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action (OSJ) and the Canadian Committee for Contact with the Government (CCG) present synod with a more concrete direction for the second half of the CCG mandate regarding "ways for the church to advocate on behalf of those who are marginalized" (*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 596).

Grounds:

- a. The report does not make sufficiently clear what direction such "policy development and advocacy strategies" the BOT is to direct the OSJ and the CCG to take.
- b. From the CRC website it appears that the BOT and OSJ have already begun advocacy on this issue within the denomination and with non-denominational partners, while the CCG has not. The mandate of this committee was in part to present *a direction* in policy and legal reform for the BOT to instruct these denominational offices to pursue. That is lacking in the report.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 58

The evening session is adjourned at 8:52 p.m. Young adult adviser Ms. Elizabeth Jennings leads in closing prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, June 17, 2010 Tenth Session

ARTICLE 59

Following the theme of worship "Thy Kingdom Come," Rev. Stephen F. Terpstra announces the opening song, "Holy, Holy, You Are Holy," and

together the delegates respond in a "Call to Worship Liturgy." Ms. Jo Boender and the Children's Choir from New Life CRC, New Lenox, Illinois, lead in singing. Rev. Timothy Hoekstra, pastor of Suburban Life Community Church, Darien, Illinois, reads from Colossians 1:20 and offers a prayer of illumination. Rev. Hoekstra addresses the delegates on "Reconciling All Things in Christ." Delegates recite a responsive liturgy in unison. The time of worship concludes with prayer and the singing of "Deeper than the Sea."

Roll call indicates that all are present, with the exception of Ms. Carol R. Spelman (Classis Muskegon), who left due to the death of her mother.

ARTICLE 60

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued from Article 56.)

Advisory Committee 9, Migration of Workers, Rev. Michael F. Abma reporting, presents the following:

Response to Overture 19: Revise Biblical-Theological Argumentation That Presents Evidence in Favor of Ordination of Women Ministers, Elders, and Ministry Associates (majority report)

A. *Materials*: Overture 19, pp. 700-705

B. *Observations*

Classis Minnkota presented basically the same overture to Synod 2009 (*Agenda for Synod 2009*, pp. 457-63). Synod did not accede to the overture and stated two grounds:

1. Synod 2000 adopted only the recommendations from the Committee to Review the Decision re: Women in Office report, not the report itself.
2. A synodical study committee report itself is not subject to editing by subsequent synods.

(*Acts of Synod 2009*, pp. 585-86)

The current overture contends that the biblical-theological section of the report is subject to editing because Synod 2000 declared that this section provided the biblical evidence required to undergird the 1995 decision that "there are two different perspectives and convictions, both of which honor the Scriptures as the infallible Word of God, on the issue of whether women are allowed to serve in the offices of elder, minister, and evangelist" (*Acts of Synod 1995*, p. 731).

The advisory committee observed that the biblical-theological argumentation portion of the committee's report was indeed approved by Synod 2000 (*Acts of Synod 2000*, p. 699).

The advisory committee also observed that although the wording of the Synod 2000 report may not have been ideal, it nevertheless fairly presented more than one interpretation of various biblical passages. Synod 2000 was well aware of the differing interpretations of the two passages in question.

Moreover, the argumentation presented in Overture 19 regarding 1 Timothy 2:9-15 was considered by Synod 2000 because it was presented in Overture 8 (*Agenda for Synod 2000*, p. 465).

C. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 19.

Grounds:

1. Overture 19 suggests that Synod 2000 based its decision on a particular interpretation of *kephale* in 1 Corinthians 11:3 and *authenthein* in 1 Timothy 2:12. However, Synod 2000 approved the entire biblical-theological section of its report to undergird the declaration of Synod 1995.
2. The argumentation presented in Overture 19 was considered by Synod 2000. The overture does not present “sufficient and new grounds” to warrant synod’s reconsideration of this material (cf. Church Order Article 31, p. 59).

Note: According to the Rules of Synodical Procedure, the minority report re the issue of the response to Overture 19 is presented as information by Rev. Harry Frielink.

Response to Overture 19: Revise Biblical-Theological Argumentation That Presents Evidence in Favor of Ordination of Women Ministers, Elders, and Ministry Associates (minority report)

A. *Materials:* Overture 19, pp. 700-705

B. *Recommendation*

That synod accede to Overture 19.

Grounds:

1. The recommendation of the advisory committee does not deal with the substance of Overture 19. Ground 1 of the majority report suggests that Overture 19 is seeking to overturn the entire biblical-theological defense of women-in-office when, in point of fact, Overture 19 only seeks accuracy in defining *kephale* and *authenthein*.
2. Even though the biblical-theological rationale was approved by Synod 2000 as one of two possible biblically defensible positions, there is still a need for the denomination’s articulated position to be accurate in all its parts. At least in the case of *kephale*, there are sufficient grounds to re-examine this part of the biblical-theological rationale.

Note: Following the rules of procedure, synod returns to consideration of the recommendation of the advisory committee’s majority report.

Response to Overture 19: Revise Biblical-Theological Argumentation That Presents Evidence in Favor of Ordination of Women Ministers, Elders, and Ministry Associates (majority report)

A. *Materials:* Overture 19, pp. 700-705

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 19.

Grounds:

1. Overture 19 suggests that Synod 2000 based its decision on a particular interpretation of *kephale* in 1 Corinthians 11:3 and *authenthein* in 1 Timothy 2:12. However, Synod 2000 approved the entire biblical-theological section of its report to undergird the declaration of Synod 1995.

2. The argumentation presented in Overture 19 was considered by Synod 2000. The overture does not present “sufficient and new grounds” to warrant synod’s reconsideration of this material (cf. Church Order Article 31, p. 59).

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 61

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued from Article 33.)

The president of synod welcomes the candidates to Synod 2010. Rev. David Koll, director of candidacy, presents the candidates for ministry to synod (* indicates candidates in absentia).

Richard J. Admiraal	*Joseph J. Kim*
Joshua O. Amaezechi	Samuel J. Krikke
Amanda C. Bakale	Philip W. Landers
Michael L. Bentley	George W. Lubbers
S. Nicholas Bierma	Erin M. Marshalek
Matthew J. Borst	*Summer A. Mohrlang*
John W. Burden	Kristin E. Kuzera Palacios
Anthony R. DeKorte	Daniel J. Rhee
George N. Den Oudsten	Scott C. Stark
Ben E. deRegt	Mary B. Stegink
Steven J. De Ruiter	Adam J. Stout
Christopher W. de Winter	*Anthony D. Sytsma*
Matthew J. Eenigenburg	Joshua C. Tuininga
Scott A. Elgersma	Nathaniel E. Van Denend
Christopher D. Fulkerson	Emily VanderWall-VandenHeuvel
*Aaron J. Greydanus	*Matthew D. VandenHeuvel*
*Elizabeth A. Guillaume-Koene	Ashley M. VanDragt
Chad A. Haan	Geoffrey A. VanDragt
Jennifer S. Holmes	Andrew J. Vis
John S. Huyser	Laurie L. Zuverink
John Y. Kim	

Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., president of Calvin Theological Seminary, addresses the candidates, thanking them and encouraging them to love the church. Rev. Henry Jonker announces the song “In Christ Alone.” Delegates to synod and candidates participate in a Litany of Celebration and Dedication. The president of synod addresses candidates, sharing that God has equipped them with his grace and will bless them. Rev. Jonker announces the song “Day by Day,” and offers prayer for the candidates. All present join in the singing of “Go, My Children.”

ARTICLE 62

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued from Article 49.)

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Dr. Gregory D. Schuringa reporting, presents the following:

I. Response to Overture 6: Develop and Advocate Denominational Support Opposing Abortion

A. *Materials*: Overture 6, pp. 661-62

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod direct the Board of Trustees (BOT) to instruct the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action (OSJ) to boldly advocate for the church's position against abortion, and to help equip churches to promote the sanctity of human life.

Ground: The church has clearly spoken against abortion, and the OSJ is the most appropriate ministry to advocate for the church's position.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod direct the BOT to review the mandate of the OSJ.

—*Adopted*

3. That this be declared synod's response to Overture 6.

—*Adopted*

II. Specialized Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church

A. *Chaplaincy Ministries*

1. *Materials*: Chaplaincy Ministries Report, pp. 389-93

2. *Recommendation*

That synod give thanks for God's provision of a new director, Rev. Ronald Klimp, and gratefully acknowledge the work of Revs. Herman Keizer, Jr., and Mark Stephenson for Chaplaincy Ministries leading up to the appointment.

—*Adopted*

B. *Committee for Contact with the Government*

1. *Materials*: Committee for Contact with the Government Report, p. 393

2. *Recommendation*

That synod commend the work of the Committee for Contact with the Government in its pursuit of peace and justice in society.

—*Adopted*

C. *Disability Concerns*

1. *Materials*: Disability Concerns Report, pp. 393-97

2. *Recommendation*

That synod commend the work of Disability Concerns in seeking to ensure that people with disabilities may participate fully in congregational life.

—*Adopted*

D. Pastor-Church Relations

1. Materials: Pastor-Church Relations Report, pp. 397-99
2. Recommendation
That synod commend the Pastor-Church Relations Office for its faithful work in promoting health in our congregations.

—Adopted

E. Race Relations

1. Materials: Race Relations Report, pp. 399-401
2. Recommendations
 - a. That synod commend the work done by Race Relations in the past year, especially in providing workshops (the Dance of Racial Reconciliation in the United States and Widening the Circle in Canada) as resources for racial reconciliation training.
 - b. That synod express its deep disappointment at not receiving a report from the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group mandated by Synod 2009 to report to this synod (*Acts of Synod* 2009, p. 589).

—Adopted

Grounds:

- 1) Diversity is an expressed priority of the CRC.
- 2) We recognize that even though a report has not been submitted, work has begun.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued in Article 64.)

ARTICLE 63

A delegate presents the following motions:

1. That synod re-affirm its commitment to ethnic diversity in the CRC by
 - a. encouraging the Board of Trustees to access all of our denominational agency resources, including the Office of Race Relations, as it oversees the work of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group.
 - b. utilizing the principles of restorative justice between alienated parties when appropriate.
2. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to report to synod each year on the status of denominational efforts to address issues of ethnic diversity and racial justice.

—Adopted

—Adopted

The vice president leads in prayer for ethnic diversity and racial justice within the church.

ARTICLE 64

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued from Article 62.)

Specialized Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church

A. Safe Church Ministry

1. Materials: Safe Church Ministry Report, pp. 401-404

2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of Safe Church Ministry and strongly encourage classes to develop classical or regional safe church teams.

—Adopted

B. Social Justice and Hunger Action

1. Materials: Social Justice and Hunger Action Report, pp. 405-407

2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action in all its variety as it acts through congregations, denominational agencies and institutions, and ecumenical partnerships.

—Adopted

C. Urban Aboriginal Ministries

1. Materials: Urban Aboriginal Ministries Report, p. 407

2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Edmonton Native Healing Centre, the Indian Family Centre in Winnipeg, and the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship in Regina.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 65

The morning session is adjourned at 11:55 a.m. Elder delegate Stedford Sims leads in closing prayer.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, June 17, 2010

Eleventh Session

ARTICLE 66

Rev. Roger Y. Ryu leads in opening prayer.

Rev. Jack Huttinga and Rev. Paul A. Hansen are absent with notice.

ARTICLE 67

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 44.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. B. Bernard Bakker reporting, presents the following:

I. Transfer Membership of Trinity CRC, Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Classis Minnkota (majority report)

A. *Materials:* Overtures 1, 2, 3, and 4, pp. 657-61

B. Background

Synod 1995 said that, “there are two different perspectives and convictions, both of which honor the scriptures as the infallible Word of God, on the issue of whether women are allowed to serve in the offices of elder, minister, and evangelist [ministry associate]” (*Acts of Synod 1995*, p. 731). Since then we as a denomination have worked to make room for congregations who hold either position.

For many years there has been pain because of this issue. Many persons have left our denomination over this matter. Trinity CRC, Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, over the last several years have tried to work within their respective classes but have found it increasingly difficult because of their convictions and conscience.

Both congregations want to remain in the Christian Reformed Church of North America. Classes in closer proximity were approached, both formally and informally, and these classes expressed hesitation with respect to receiving these churches. Eventually these two churches determined that membership in Classis Minnkota offered the best option. Their request to transfer to Classis Minnkota is supported by their respective classes and Classis Minnkota. While this transfer will entail certain hardships for the congregations, the congregations and classes are willing to exchange the hardships of increased distance for the benefit of reducing conflict.

In the past synod has allowed four churches to transfer to other classes because the churches’ conviction matched those of the receiving classis. For example in 1999, the first ground of South Bend CRC to move to Classis Holland was that “South Bend CRC requested this transfer so that its women officebearers may fully exercise the duties of their office by also serving as delegates to classis” (*Agenda for Synod 1999*, Overture 19, p. 432).

This year there are two churches that hold a position that is increasingly in the minority and that wish to remain in the denomination they love. The request admittedly stretches our understanding of geographic proximity. Nonetheless, the churches have done due diligence in pursuing classes that were closer. Their desire is to not cause additional strife or tension in classes in which debate on this issue would reopen old wounds that are healing.

These two churches desire to live within the umbrella of the Christian Reformed Church. They do not wish to cause dissension but to be at peace. To grant them permission to live in peace within the CRC is pastoral and an expression of love and grace.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod accede to Overtures 1 and 4 to transfer the congregation of Trinity CRC Sparta, Michigan, to Classis Minnkota.

Grounds:

- a. Both the receiving and sending classes have agreed to this transfer.
- b. Synod 1996 stated, “any request for transfer to another classis may include grounds that go beyond the sole matter of geographic prox-

- imity; synod is at liberty to consider such grounds in its disposition of the request" (Church Order Supplement, Article 39).
- c. Synod has previously granted permission to transfer to like-minded classes (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, 1997; Pine Creek, Holland, Michigan, 1997; South Bend, Indiana, 1999; First Prinsburg, Minnesota, 2007).
 - d. These recommendations honor the convictions of this church and enable them to dwell in harmony and peace within the denomination.
2. That synod accede to Overtures 2 and 3 to transfer the congregation of Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, from Classis Kalamazoo to Classis Minnkota.

Grounds:

- a. Both the receiving and sending classes have agreed to this transfer.
 - b. Synod 1996 stated, "any request for transfer to another classis may include grounds that go beyond the sole matter of geographic proximity; synod is at liberty to consider such grounds in its disposition of the request" (Church Order Supplement, Article 39).
 - c. Synod has previously granted permission to transfer to like-minded classes (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, 1997; Pine Creek, Holland, Michigan, 1997; South Bend, Indiana, 1999; First Prinsburg, Minnesota, 2007).
 - d. These recommendations honor the convictions of this church and enable them to dwell in harmony and peace within the denomination.
3. That this be synod's response to Overtures 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Note: According to the Rules of Synodical Procedure, the minority report re the issue of transfer of classis membership is presented for information by delegate Rev. George Vander Weit:

Transfer Membership of Trinity CRC, Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Classis Minnkota (minority report)

A. Materials

1. Overture 1 (pp. 657-59) and Overture 4 (p. 661)
2. Overture 2 (see *Agenda* supplement) and Overture 3 (p. 660)

B. Background

After almost twenty-five years of painful debate, synod declared that "there are two different perspectives and convictions, both of which honor Scripture as the infallible Word of God, on the issue of whether women are allowed to serve in the offices of elder, minister, and evangelist" (*Acts of Synod* 1995, p. 731). Twelve years later synod deleted the word *male* from Church Order Article 3-a. Mindful of those who believe that the Bible prohibits the use of women's gifts in the offices of the church, synod declared:

- a. All congregations may, but will not be required to allow women to serve in the office of pastor, elder, or ministry associate;
- b. Classes may, in keeping with their understanding of the biblical position on the role of women in ecclesiastical office, declare that women officebearers (ministers, elders, deacons) may not be delegated to classis.

(*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 608)

To make attendance possible at assemblies where women are present, synod also declared that “delegates who believe the seating of women delegates is in violation of the Word of God may record their protest on the appropriate credentials” (*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 612).

Overtures 1 and 2 indicate that Trinity CRC of Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC of Kalamazoo, Michigan, do not believe the recording of their protest is an adequate solution to their dilemma. They hope to become part of a new classis composed solely of churches that believe the Bible prohibits women from serving in the offices of the church. Until such a classis is formed, they wish to affiliate with a classis that holds that position. After doing some research, they requested their classes, Grand Rapids North and Kalamazoo respectively, to approve their transfer to Classis Minnkota. Both classes approved those requests, and Minnkota indicated its willingness to receive these congregations.

Throughout our denomination’s history a number of churches have transferred from one classis to another, and churches have been grouped differently as existing classes were realigned and new classes formed. Geography has been the primary factor in these decisions. This is consistent with Church Order Article 39, which states that “a classis shall consist of a group of neighboring churches” (*Church Order 2009*, p. 75).

In 1996 synod was asked to amend Article 39 to allow the formation of classes on the basis of theological affinity rather than geography. Synod declared that “departing significantly from the principle of geographic proximity may well impair effective ministry” and that “classis provides a framework for churches to work together even when they disagree and provides a forum for continuing interaction, which may lead to understanding.” Synod also said that “formation of a new classis based on theological affinity would lead only to further fragmentation within the denomination” (*Acts of Synod 1996*, p. 561).

In response to requests to form at least four theologically identified classes, Synod 1997 indicated that “the concept of theologically identified classes is foreign to Reformed church government. Classes are assemblies of neighboring churches that embrace the same creeds and confessions (Church Order Art. 39). The only exceptions to this organizing principle have been classes formed on the basis of linguistic and cultural grounds” (*Acts of Synod 1997*, p. 672). This synod also cited the three declarations of Synod 1996, reported in the previous paragraph.

Though synod has opposed the formation of theologically identified classes, it has permitted the transfer of churches to other classes based on considerations that went beyond the sole matter of geographic proximity. Recent examples of this are Mt. Pleasant, Michigan; Pine Creek, Holland, Michigan; South Bend, Indiana; and First, Prinsburg, Minnesota. However, in these and other cases these considerations and decisions did not negate the requirement of geographic proximity established in Church Order Article 39.

Our committee is aware of the tension that exists when people who hold differing positions serve in the same classis. To separate from each other may make us feel more comfortable, but such separation does not send a positive message to our members or to a watching world about the power of God's Spirit to enable us to work together in spite of our different ways of interpreting Scripture. Biblical unity is not found in aligning with others who agree with us but rather in facing our differences and finding common ground in the gospel of Christ Jesus. This is especially important as our denomination strives to "transform lives and communities worldwide."

Throughout our long discussion of this issue, our denomination has repeatedly encouraged us to "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:3). We need to walk with each other in the confidence that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Eph. 3:20) rather than walking away from each other. We pray that the avenue of protest, already used on the synodical level, will be utilized also on the classis level so transfers to other classes are unnecessary. If that approach is not possible, a church should honor Church Order Article 39 by requesting a transfer to a classis in its geographical area.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod not accede to Overtures 1 and 4.

Grounds:

- a. This transfer violates Church Order Article 39, which identifies a classis as "a group of neighboring churches" (*Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure* 2009, p. 75).
 - b. Synod 2007 provided a way in which delegates may participate in an assembly where women officebearers are present when it permitted delegates to "record their protest on the appropriate credentials" (*Acts of Synod* 2007, p. 606).
2. That synod encourage Trinity CRC to request a transfer to a classis in its geographical area if it is unable to remain in Classis Grand Rapids North.

Ground: Such a transfer respects Church Order Article 39 and has precedent in our denomination.

3. That synod not accede to Overtures 2 and 3.

Grounds:

- a. This transfer violates Church Order Article 39, which identifies a classis as "a group of neighboring churches" (*Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure* 2009, p. 75).
 - b. Synod 2007 provided a way in which delegates may participate in an assembly where women officebearers are present when it permitted delegates to "record their protest on the appropriate credentials" (*Acts of Synod* 2007, p. 606).
4. That synod encourage Second CRC to request a transfer to a classis in its geographical area if it is unable to remain in Classis Kalamazoo.

Ground: Such a transfer respects Church Order Article 39 and has precedent in our denomination.

Note: Following the rules of procedure, synod returns to consider the recommendation of the advisory committee's majority report.

Transfer Membership of Trinity CRC, Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Classis Minnkota (majority report)

A. *Materials:* Overtures 1, 2, 3, and 4, pp. 657-61

B. *Recommendation*

That synod accede to Overtures 1 and 4 to transfer the congregation of Trinity CRC Sparta, Michigan, to Classis Minnkota.

Grounds:

1. Both the receiving and sending classes have agreed to this transfer.
2. Synod 1996 stated, "any request for transfer to another classis may include grounds that go beyond the sole matter of geographic proximity; synod is at liberty to consider such grounds in its disposition of the request" (Church Order Supplement, Article 39).
3. Synod has granted permission to transfer to like-minded classes (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, 1997; Pine Creek, Holland, Michigan, 1997; South Bend, Indiana, 1999; First Prinsburg, Minnesota, 2007).
4. These recommendations honor the convictions of this church and enable them to dwell in harmony and peace within the denomination.

—*Defeated*

Note: Following the defeat of the above majority report recommendation, synod moves to consider the recommendations of the minority report.

Transfer Membership of Trinity CRC, Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to Classis Minnkota (minority report)

A. *Materials:* Overtures 1, 2, 3, and 4, pp. 657-61

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod not accede to Overtures 1 and 4.

Grounds:

- a. This transfer violates Church Order Article 39, which identifies a classis as "a group of neighboring churches" (*Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure 2009*, p. 75).
- b. Synod 2007 provided a way in which delegates may participate in an assembly where women officebearers are present when it permitted delegates to "record their protest on the appropriate credentials" (*Acts of Synod 2007*, p. 606).

—*Adopted*

2. That synod not accede to Overtures 2 and 3.

Grounds:

1. This transfer violates Church Order Article 39, which identifies a classis as “a group of neighboring churches” (*Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure* 2009, p. 75).
2. Synod 2007 provided a way in which delegates may participate in an assembly where women officebearers are present when it permitted delegates to “record their protest on the appropriate credentials” (*Acts of Synod* 2007, p. 606).

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered regarding the above two recommendations: Kevin L. Jordan (Alberta South/Saskatchewan).

Mr. Richard Kennedy offers prayer for Rev. Larry Doornbos (Evergreen Ministries CRC, Hudsonville, Michigan), who was involved in an accident. Rev. Doornbos was appointed by Classis Georgetown to serve as a delegate to Synod 2010.

ARTICLE 68

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod instruct the BOT to request that the executive director of the CRCNA and Dr. Henry De Moor, in conjunction with the classical interim committee of both Classis Kalamazoo and Classis Grand Rapids North, seek ways forward for Trinity CRC of Sparta, Michigan, and Second CRC of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 69

The chair welcomes Rev. Robert De Moor, *Banner* editor in chief; Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, director of Faith Alive editorial department; and Mr. Mark Rice, director; who address delegates regarding the work of Faith Alive Christian Resources. A PowerPoint presentation accompanies their report. The chair responds with gratitude.

ARTICLE 70

Appointments, officers, and functionaries are presented for review. This listing reflects the results of the synodical elections and appointments and includes study committees that are synodically approved.

I. Officers, functionaries, and convening church for Synod 2011

A. Officers

1. Executive director: Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra
2. Director of denominational ministries: Ms. Sandy F. Johnson
3. Director of synodical services: Ms. Diane S. Recker
4. Director of finance and administration: Mr. John H. Bolt
5. Director of Canadian ministries: Rev. Bruce G. Adema

B. Functionaries

Arrangements for Synod 2011: Mr. Jeff Stob, director of conference and campus events at Calvin College

C. Convening church

Convening church for Synod 2011: Madison Square CRC, Grand Rapids, Michigan

II. Synodical deputies

Classis	Deputy	Alternate	Term Expires
Alberta North	Rev. Gordon H. Pols	Rev. Allan C. Groen	2012(1)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Rev. J. Cameron Fraser	Rev. Jake Corvers	2013(1)
Arizona	Rev. John J. Berends	Rev. Frederick J. Walhof	2011(2)
Atlantic Northeast	Rev. Stanley J. Vander Klay	Rev. Stanley J. Sturing	2012(2)
B.C. North-West	Vacant	Vacant	2013(1)
B.C. South-East	Vacant	Vacant	2013(1)
California South	Rev. Neville L. Koch	Rev. William Verhoef	2013(1)
Central California	Rev. George G. Vink	Rev. Al Helder	2013(1)
Central Plains	Rev. Gilbert J. Kamps	Rev. Dale W. Visser	2012(1)
Chatham	Rev. Dirk Miedema	Rev. Vic Vandermolen	2011(2)
Chicago South	Rev. Michael J. Kooy	Rev. Gerald R. Erffmeyer	2011(1)
Columbia	Rev. Jelmer P. Groenwold	Rev. Louis P. Korf	2012(1)
Eastern Canada	Rev. Jacob (Jack) M. Van de Hoef	Rev. Pieter A. Heerema	2012(1)
Georgetown	Vacant	Vacant	2013(1)
Grand Rapids East	Rev. Thea N. Leunk	Rev. Leonard J. Hofman	2012(2)
Grand Rapids North	Rev. Henry Admiraal	Rev. Terry D. Slachter	2013(2)
Grand Rapids South	Rev. David A. Struyk	Rev. Robert L. Boersma	2013(2)
Grandville	Rev. John P. Douma	Rev. Douglas A. Kamstra	2013(2)
Greater Los Angeles	Rev. Gary M. Stevens	Rev. Paul R. Hoekstra	2012(2)
Hackensack	Rev. Douglas H. Bratt	Rev. Clair Vander Neut	2012(1)
Hamilton	Rev. Ralph Koops	Rev. Henry P. Kranenburg	2013(1)
Heartland	Rev. Paul A. Hansen	Rev. Robert D. Drenten	2013(2)
Holland	Rev. Michael De Vries	Vacant	2013(1)
Hudson	Rev. Stephen J. Wolma	Rev. Donald P. Wisse	2013(1)
Huron	Rev. Ronald G. Fisher	Rev. Ray Vander Kooij	2013(1)
Iakota	Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper	Rev. Clifford Hoekstra	2013(1)
Illiana	Rev. Calvin J. Aardsma	Rev. Bernard F. Tol	2013(1)
Kalamazoo	Rev. Kenneth A. Baker	Rev. Richard H. Verkaik	2011(1)
Lake Erie	Rev. Robert A. Arbogast	Rev. George F. Vander Weit	2011(1)
Lake Superior	Rev. David L. Smit	Rev. Jack Van Marion	2011(2)
Minnkota	Rev. Timothy J. Brown	Rev. Timothy J. Ouwinga	2013(1)
Muskegon	Rev. Alvin L. Hoksbergen	Rev. Gerald D. Postema	2013(1)
Niagara	Rev. Jerry J. Hoytema	Rev. Rudy W. Ouwehand	2011(1)
Northcentral Iowa	Rev. Thomas J. Niehof	Rev. Frank E. Pott	2013(1)
Northern Illinois	Rev. John F. Schuurman	Rev. John R. Huizinga	2012(1)
Northern Michigan	Rev. Jaclyn D. Guikema Busch	Rev. Chris Kostelansky	2013(1)
Pacific Hanmi	Rev. Peter Ryu	Rev. Seung Jai Kang	2011(1)
Pacific Northwest	Rev. Thomas J. Kok	Rev. Kenneth D. Koeman	2013(2)
Quinte	Rev. Ed W. Visser	Rev. B. Bernard Bakker	2012(1)
Red Mesa	Rev. W. Keith Bulthuis	Rev. John W. Dykhuis	2012(2)
Rocky Mountain	Rev. Thomas D. Draayer	Rev. Robert L. Westenbroek	2013(2)
Southeast U.S.	Rev. Vernon Vander Zee	Rev. Scott Vander Ploeg	2013(2)
Thornapple Valley	Rev. Merlin N. Buwalda	Rev. Gerard Bouma	2013(1)
Toronto	Rev. C. Nick Overduin	Rev. Herman D. Praamsma	2012(1)
Wisconsin	Rev. Daniel J. Roeda	Rev. Michael Winnowski	2011(2)
Yellowstone	Rev. Maurice Vander Veen	Vacant	2011(1)
Zeeland	Rev. Ronald D. De Young	Rev. Timothy Howerzyl	2011(1)

III. Denominational boards

Note: Members of the regional boards (Board of Trustees of the CRCNA, the boards of Back to God Ministries International, Calvin College, Calvin

Theological Seminary, Christian Reformed Home Missions, Christian Reformed World Missions, and Faith Alive Christian Resources) are elected from the following twelve Regions:

- Region 1—Classes B.C. North-West and B.C. South-East
- Region 2—Classes Alberta North, Alberta South/Saskatchewan, and Lake Superior (Canadian congregations)
- Region 3—Classes Eastern Canada, Quinte, and Toronto
- Region 4—Classes Chatham, Hamilton, Huron, and Niagara
- Region 5—Classes Columbia, Pacific Northwest, and Yellowstone
- Region 6—Classes California South, Central California, Greater Los Angeles, and Pacific Hanmi
- Region 7—Classes Arizona, Red Mesa, and Rocky Mountain
- Region 8—Classes Central Plains, Heartland, Iakota, Lake Superior (U.S. congregations), Minnkota, and Northcentral Iowa
- Region 9—Classes Chicago South, Illiana, Northern Illinois, and Wisconsin
- Region 10—Classes Georgetown, Holland, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Northern Michigan, and Zeeland
- Region 11—Grand Rapids East, Grand Rapids North, Grand Rapids South, Grandville, Lake Erie, and Thornapple Valley
- Region 12—Classes Atlantic Northeast, Hackensack, Hudson, and Southeast U.S.

A. Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

District	Member	Term Expires
<i>Canadian members</i>		
Alberta North	Mr. Rick Struik	2012(1)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Rev. Dale Melenberg	2012(1)
B.C. North-West	Rev. Trevor Vanderveen	2012(1)
B.C. South-East	Rev. Kenneth D. Boonstra	2012(2)
Chatham	Mrs. Grace Miedema	2011(1)
Eastern Canada	Ms. Katherine M. Vandergrift	2013(1)
Hamilton	Rev. William C. Veenstra	2013(1)
Huron	Mr. Gary VanArragon	2011(2)
Lake Superior	Ms. Janette Bax	2011(1)
Niagara	Ms. Lisa Heuving	2012(1)
Quinte	Mr. Wybe Bylsma	2011(1)
Toronto	Mr. Peter Noteboom	2013(1)
At-large	Ms. Irene Bakker	2013(1)
	Mr. Bruce Dykstra	2012(1)
	Ms. Gayle Monsma	2011(2)
<i>U.S. members</i>		
Region 5	Rev. Peter J. DeVries	2013(1)
Region 6	Rev. Mark D. Vermaire	2011(2)
Region 7	Rev. John Terpstra	2011(1)
Region 8	Mr. Gary Van Engelenhoven	2013(2)
	Mr. Loren J. Veldhuizen	2011(1)
Region 9	Rev. Robert A. Lyzenga	2012(2)
Region 10	Rev. John Rop, Jr.	2012(2)
	Ms. Angela Taylor Perry	2013(1)
Region 11	Ms. Joan Flikkema	2012(1)
	Dr. R. Scott Greenway	2013(1)
	Mr. Roy Stallworth	2011(1)
Region 12	Rev. Sheila Holmes	2011(1)

At-large	Mr. Mark Charles Rev. Christian Y. Oh Rev. Eleanor M. Rietkerk	2012(1) 2013(1) 2012(2)	
Ex officio	Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director		
<i>B. Back to God Ministries International</i>			
Region	Member	Term Expires	
Region 1	Vacant		
Region 2	Rev. Gerrit Bomhof	2011(1)	
Region 3	Rev. Ed Visser	2012(1)	
Region 4	Ms. Alice Klamer	2013(2)	
Region 5	Mr. Stanley Vander Pol	2011(1)	
Region 6	Rev. Bruce Persenaire	2012(2)	
Region 7	Rev. Bobby Boyd	2011(1)	
Region 8	Rev. Timothy Brown	2013(2)	
Region 9	Rev. Dr. Calvin J.Aardsma	2013(1)	
Region 10	Rev. Marvin J. Hofman	2011(2)	
	Mrs. Carol Woltjer	2011(2)	
Region 11	Mr. Lorin Bossenbroek	2012(2)	
	Mr. Arnold Morren	2011(2)	
Region 12	Mr. Jim Putt	2012(2)	
At-large	Mr. Harry Boessenkool	2012(2)	
	Ms. Karyl Groeneveld	2011(1)	
<i>C. Calvin College Board of Trustees</i>			
Region	Member	Alternate	Term Expires
Regions 1 and 2	Dr. Alyce Oosterhuis		2011(2)
Region 3	Dr. Laurens Vandergrift		2012(1)
Region 4	Dr. Wytse van Dijk		2013(1)
Region 5	Mr. Dale H. Vanhuizen		2012(1)
Region 6	Mr. Daniel Meester		2013(1)
Region 7	Dr. Mary Poel	Dr. Philip L. Kamps	2011(2)
Region 8	Ms. Andrea (Harms) Van Kooten		2013(1)
Region 9	Mr. William J. Katt		2012(1)
	Dr. Richard Vanden Berg		2011(1)
Region 10	Mr. Roger N. Brummel	Mr. Calvin Hulst	2012(2)
	Rev. Michael D. Koetje		2013(1)
	Mr. David VanRandwyk		2012(1)
Region 11	Rev. Dr. Randall D. Engle		2012(1)
	Mr. Craig B. Klamer		2012(2)
	Mr. Thomas J. Nobel, Jr.		2011(1)
Region 12	Dr. Jack R. Van Der Slik		2011(1)
Alumni	Mr. Ronald E. Baylor		2011(2)
	Mr. Ralph Luimes		2013(2)
	Ms. Ruth Palma		2012(2)
At-large	Rev. Moses Chung		2012(1)
	Mr. Bradley Haverkamp		2012(1)
	Mr. Bastian A. Knoppers		2012(3)
	Rev. Harry W. Lew		2012(3)
	Ms. Christine A. Metzger		2011(1)
	Mr. Scott A. Spoelhof		2012(2)
	Mr. Terry L. Vander Aa		2013(2)
	Mr. David Vander Ploeg		2011(3)
	Ms. Michelle L. Van Dyke		2011(2)
	Mrs. Janice K. Van Dyke-Zeilstra	2011(3)	
	Dr. Jack Veltkamp		2011(1)
	Ms. Thelma Venema		2010(1)

D. Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Andrew Vander Leek	2013(1)
Region 2	Dr. Henk Van Andel	2011(2)
Region 3	Ms. Wendy Gritter	2013(1)
Region 4	Rev. James Poelman	2011(2)
	Mr. Hank Vander Laan	2012(1)
Region 5	Rev. William S. Wilton	2012(1)
Region 6	Rev. Kevin J. Adams	2011(2)
Region 7	Dr. John Ratmeyer	2012(2)
Region 8	Rev. Greg Dyk	2012(2)
	Mr. Byron Noordewier	2012(2)
Region 9	Vacant	
Region 10	Rev. Richard Hamstra	2011(2)
	Rev. William Renkema	2013(2)
Region 11	Rev. Paul R. De Vries	2011(1)
	Ms. Doris Rikkers	2012(2)
Region 12	Dr. Donald G. Belanus	2013(1)
At-large	Ms. Jinny Bult De Jong	2013(2)
	Mr. Sidney Jansma	2013(1)
	Ms. Susan Keesen	2013(2)

E. Christian Reformed Home Missions Board

Region	Member	Alternate	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Harvey J. Roosma	Rev. Richard C. Koopmans	2012(1)
Region 2	Rev. John Van Sloten	Rev. Bruce Gritter	2012(1)
Region 3	Mr. David Harlow	Ms. Jane Porter	2011(1)
Region 4	Mr. Michael Talsma	Mr. Al Martens	2012(2)
Region 5	Rev. Virgil Michael	Dr. Clifton Sanders	2012(2)
Region 6	Rev. Daniel Brink	Rev. Doug Bouws	2013(1)
Region 7	Mr. Rodney Hugen	Mr. Ernie Benally	2011(2)
Region 8	Mr. Don Mulenburg	Ms. Gayle Mellema	2013(1)
Region 9	Dr. Harley Ver Beek	Rev. Joel Zuidema	2012(2)
Region 10	Rev. Larry Baar		2011(1)
Region 11	Mrs. Donna Meyer		2013(1)
Region 12	Ms. Beth Fylstra	Rev. Alvern Gelder	2013(2)
At-large	Ms. Shashi DeHaan		2013(2)
	Mr. James Jones		2011(1)
	Mr. Allan Kramer		2013(1)
	Ms. Rosetta Polk-Pugh		2013(2)
	Rev. Roger Ryu		2011(1)
At-large – young adult	Mr. Silas Krabbe		2011(1)

F. Christian Reformed World Missions Board

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Ms. Jacoba (Ko) Spyksma	2011(2)
Region 2	Rev. Edward Jager	2010(1)
Region 3	Rev. Jacob Boer	2012(1)
Region 4	Rev. Derek Bouma	2011(1)
At –large	Ms. Andrea Bootsma	2013(1)
	Rev. Thomas Oosterhuis	2012(1)
Region 5	Rev. Joseph Kamphuis	2012(1)
Region 6	Mr. Jay Sankey	2013(2)
Region 7	Mr. Chuck Powell	2013(2)
Region 8	Mr. Ken Van Zee	2012(2)

Region 9	Ms. Lois Ooms	2013(1)
Region 10	Ms. Jan Stravers	2012(2)
Region 11	Dr. Kojo A. Quartey	2011(1)
Region 12	Ms. Lauren Yoon	2011(1)
At-large	Rev. Manny Bersach	2011(2)
	Mr. Craig Pollington	2013(2)
	Rev. Dr. William (Bill) Smelvoel	2013(1)
	Mr. Colin Watson	2012(2)

G. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

Classis	Member	Term Expires
Alberta North	Mr. Quentin Nanninga	2011(2)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Ms. Truusje Genesis*	2010(1)
Arizona	Mr. J.P. Bear	2012(2)
Atlantic Northeast	Ms. Jodi Koeman*	2013(2)
B.C. North-West	Mr. Gerrit Keegstra	2012(2)
B.C. South-East	Vacant	
California South	Mr. Joel Verhoef	2012(1)
Central California	Mr. Albert Veldstra	2011(2)
Central Plains	Mr. Randy Nugteren	2012(2)
Chatham	Mr. Ed deJong	2012(2)
Chicago South	Mrs. Elsa Fennema	2013(1)
Columbia	Mr. Jack Jansons	2012(2)
Eastern Canada	Mr. Nick Van Dyke	2013(1)
Georgetown	Vacant	
Grand Rapids East	Mr. William Haverkamp	2013(2)
Grand Rapids North	Mr. Roy Zuidema*	2011(1)
Grand Rapids South	Mr. Randy Ledebor	2011(2)
Grandville	Mr. Steve Westra	2013(1)
Greater Los Angeles	Mr. Dick Van Eck, Jr.	2012(1)
Hackensack	Rev. John Algera	2013(1)
Hamilton	Mr. Bert Hofland	2011(1)
Heartland	Mr. Harvey Verbrugge	2011(2)
Holland	Rev. Anthony Louwerse	2012(2)
Hudson	Mr. Steve Eichhorn	2013(2)
Huron	Ms. Mary Both	2011(1)
lakota	Ms. Nancy Visser*	2011(2)
Illiana	Mr. Robert Vermeulen	2013(2)
Kalamazoo	Mrs. Marci Muller	2013(2)
Lake Erie	Ms. Anita Beem	2013(2)
Lake Superior (Canada)	Mr. Henry Bakker	2011(2)
Lake Superior (U.S.)	Mr. Michael Pluimer	2012(1)
Minnkota	Mr. John Vander Haar	2011(1)
Muskegon	Mr. Cornelius Van Tol	2013(1)
Niagara	Mr. Ben Van Hoffen*	2013(2)
Northcentral Iowa	Mr. William Janssen	2013(1)
Northern Illinois	Ms. Bonnie Zigterman	2012(1)
Northern Michigan	Mr. Ken Vander Heide	2011(2)
Pacific Hanmi	Rev. Dong-il Kim	2011(2)
Pacific Northwest	Mr. Tim Soerens	2012(1)
Quinte	Mr. Andy Hiemstra	2013(2)
Red Mesa	Ms. Mitzie Begay	2012(2)
Rocky Mountain	Mrs. Carol Ackerman*	2012(2)
Southeast U.S.	Mr. Don Bouwer	2013(2)
Thornapple Valley	Mr. Peter Gootjes	2013(1)
Toronto	Mr. Dennis Jurjens*	2011(1)
Wisconsin	Mr. Garry Friesema	2012(1)
Yellowstone	Mr. Howard Walhof	2013(1)
Zeeland	Mr. Ryan Kruithof	2012(1)
Pastoral adviser (U.S.)	Rev. Thea Leunk*	2013(1)
Pastoral adviser (Canada)	Rev. Roy Berkenbosch*	2011(2)

At-large Canada	Mr. José Francisco Angulo*	2011(1)
	Mr. John DeWilde	2013(1)
	Mr. Jason Gehrels	2013(1)
	Ms. Gerda Kits*	2011(2)
	Ms. Danielle Kooy	2012(1)
	Ms. Rebecca Lindell	2013(2)
	Rev. Paul Lomavatu	2011(1)
At-large U.S.	Mr. Bill Van Geest*	2013(2)
	Ms. Martha Carey	2012(2)
	Mr. Stan Cole*	2011(2)
	Mr. Marvin DeBoer	2011(2)
	Mr. Paul Wassink*	2011(1)
* Also a member of the Board of Directors Joint Ministry Council = 7 members from each national board		

H. Faith Alive Christian Resources

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Joel Ringma	2010(1)
Region 2	Rev. William Nieuwenhuis	2011(2)
Region 3	Mrs. Valerie Walker	2013(1)
Region 4	Rev. Pieter Pereboom	2012(2)
Region 5	Mrs. Beverly Vander Beek	2012(2)
Region 6	Ms. Ruth Pena	2012(1)
Region 7	Ms. Wilma Wiersma	2012(2)
Region 8	Ms. Sherry Kooiker	2012(1)
Region 9	Ms. Mae Cooper	2011(2)
Region 10	Rev. Kenneth Baker	2011(2)
Region 11	Ms. Donna Huisjen	2011(1)
Region 12	Ms. JoMae Spoelhof	2012(3)
At-large	Mr. Tom Prince	2012(2)
At-large – Korean community	Rev. Ron Chu	2011(1)
At-large – Reformed Church in America	Alternate	
	Rev. Tom Grabill	Rev. Edgardo Acevedo
	Rev. Elizabeth Brown Hardeman	(for the three RCA
	Rev. Jim O' Connell	at-large members)
		2011(2)
		2013(2)
		2011(2)

IV. Service committees

A. Candidacy Committee

Rev. Peter Choi (2011/1), Rev. Henry Jonker (2011/2), Rev. Melvin Jackson (2012/1), Ms. Kristin Pikaart (2012/1), Dr. Albert Wolters (2012/2), Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma (2013/1), Mr. Roy Heerema (2013/2), Rev. Ken Koeman (2013/1), Rev. Gilbert Varela (2013/1), Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra (*ex officio* as the ED), Dr. Duane K. Kelderman (*ex officio* as the Calvin Seminary representative), Rev. David R. Koll (staff).

B. Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. Committee

Mr. Calvin Jen (2011/1), Mr. Ronald Haan (2011/2), Mr. Jon Swets (2012/1), Mr. James Zoetewey (2012/1), Ms. Christina Bouwer (2013/2), Rev. Chad M. Steenwyk (2013/2), Mr. Carl A. Gronsman (*ex officio* member).

C. Ecumenical Relations Committee

Rev. Carel Geleynse (2011/2), Rev. Marvin J. Hofman (2011/2), Ms. Rebecca Warren (2011/1), Dr. William T. Koopmans (2012/2), Dr. Shirley Roels (2012/1), Ms. Anne Zaki (2012/1), Rev. Pedro Aviles (2013/2), Dr.

Emily Brink (2013/2), Rev. Peter Slofstra (2013/2), Ms. Debra Vasquez (2013/1), *ex officio* members: Rev. Bruce G. Adema and Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra.

D. Historical Committee

Rev. Eugene Schemper (2011/2), Dr. James A. DeJong (2012/2), Mrs. Angie Ploegstra (2013/2), Mr. William Sytsma (2013/2), secretary (*ex officio*) Dr. Richard Harms.

E. Judicial Code Committee

Mr. Gordon Vander Leek (2011/2), Rev. Leslie Kuiper (2011/1), Mr. James Mutoigo (2011/1), Ms. Deb De Jong (2012/1), Mr. Joel Hoekstra (2012/1), Mr. Charles C. Adams (2013/1), Mr. Christian E. Meyer (2013/2), Dr. John Van Schepen (2013/1).

F. Ministers' Pension Funds committees

Canadian Pension Trustees

Mr. Harry Schep (2011/2), Ms. Claire Veenstra (2011/2), Mr. Gregory Kist (2012/2), Rev. Kevin te Brake (2012/1), Mr. Keith Oosthoek (2013/1).

U.S. Board of Pensions

Mr. James Clousing (2011/2) Mr. Jack Byeman (2012/1), Mr. Kurt Knoll (2012/1), Mr. Howard Van Mersbergen (2013/1), Rev. William G. Vis (2013/2).

G. Sermons for Reading Services Committee

Rev. John Kerssies (2011/2), Rev. Paul Stadt (2011/2), Rev. Kenneth F. Benjamins (2011/1), Rev. Richard J. deLange (2012/2), Rev. Stephen D. Tamming (2013/1).

V. Study committees

A. Form of Subscription Revision Committee II (scheduled to report in 2011)

Rev. Michael Borgert; Rev. Mark A. Davies; Rev. James C. Dekker; Rev. Eduardo Gonzalez; Rev. Sheila Holmes; Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr.; Ms. Kristen Van Engen; Dr. John Van Schepen; Ms. Wilma Vander Leek; Mr. Uko Zylstra; Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra (*ex officio*).

B. Faith Formation Committee (scheduled to report in 2012)

Ms. Irene Bakker, Ms. Jill Friend, Dr. Syd Hielema, Ms. Pat Nederveld, Dr. H. David Schuringa, Dr. Howard Vanderwell, Dr. John Witvliet, Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra (*ex officio*).

Recommendation: That synod approve the list of the boards and committees.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 71

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued from Article 20.)

Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Rudy W. Ouwehand, reporter, presents the following:

I. Church Order Revision Task Force

A. Materials

1. Church Order Revision Task Force Report, pp. 510-34; Overtures 15 and 17, pp. 688-90, 693-97
2. Ecumenical Relations Committee Report (p. 422) and Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Kathy Smith (chair) and Dr. Rolf Bouma (reporter)

C. Recommendations

1. That synod adopt the following revisions to the Church Order:

Article 1-a: Replace the phrase “all things are to be done decently and in order” with “everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.”

Ground: The proposed language is a more contemporary idiom and follows the reading of the TNIV, which is used in current denominational publications.

Article 1

a. The Christian Reformed Church, confessing its complete subjection to the Word of God and the Reformed creeds as a true interpretation of this Word, acknowledging Christ as the only head of his church, and desiring to honor the apostolic injunction that in the churches “everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way” (1 Cor. 14:40), regulates its ecclesiastical organization and activities in the following articles.

b. [Remains the same.]

Article 3-a: Insert the word “adult” before the phrase “confessing members.”

Ground: Inserting the word “adult” brings Article 3 in line with Article 59-b.

Article 3

a. All adult confessing members of the church who meet the biblical requirements are eligible for the offices of minister, elder, deacon, and ministry associate.

b. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Articles 3-a, 45, and 48-a

Article 4-c: Replace the last sentence with “Adult confessing members in good standing shall have the right to vote.”

Ground: Inserting the word “adult” brings Article 4 in line with Article 59-b.

Article 4

a. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Article 4-a

b. [Remains the same.]

c. The election by the congregation shall take place under the supervision of the council after prayer and in accordance with the regulations established by the council. Adult confessing members in good standing shall have the right to vote.

d. [Remains the same.]

Article 18-b: Remove the phrases “honor and” and “the official connection”; insert the phrase “the title of minister of the Word and the authority, conferred by the church, to perform official acts of ministry.” These changes clarify matters of supervision and retention of certain privileges of the ministerial office, while anticipating that a retired minister may transfer membership to another congregation.

Grounds:

- a. Removing the reference to “honor” is not intended to denigrate the office of minister of the Word but to bring this provision in line with Church Order Articles 2 and 85, which state that no office is of greater value or honor than another and that no officebearer shall lord it over another.
- b. Ministers of the Word retain some of the privileges of office when they retire. The revision makes clear that their continuing status allows them to perform official acts of ministry.
- c. It is becoming increasingly common that ministers of the Word relocate when they retire. Supervision by the last congregation served becomes difficult or impossible in such circumstances. The revision recognizes that ministerial credentials are often transferred to another congregation upon retirement.

Article 18

a. [Remains the same.]

b. A retired minister shall retain the title of minister of the Word and the authority, conferred by the church, to perform official acts of ministry. Supervision shall remain with the church last served unless transferred to another congregation. The supervising church shall be responsible for providing honorably for the minister’s support and that of qualifying dependents according to synodical regulations.

c. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Article 18

Article 21: Insert the phrase “in coordination with classis” into the first sentence; delete the second sentence and insert that into Article 43. This revision focuses on the task of the churches with regard to encouraging study for the ministry of the Word, and it moves the reference to the responsibility of classis to the Church Order section on the duties of classis.

Ground: The second sentence of Article 21 is better inserted into the section of the Church Order regarding the responsibilities of classis.

Article 21

The churches shall encourage individuals to seek to become ministers of the Word and, in coordination with classis, shall grant financial aid to those who are in need of it.

—Cf. Supplement, Articles 6, 7, and 8

Article 36-b: Clarify the description of mutual censure.

Ground: While retaining the historical reference to mutual censure, the proposed revision better indicates the intent and manner of the exercise of mutual censure.

Article 36

- a. [Remains the same.]
- b. The council, at least four times per year, shall exercise mutual censure, in which officebearers assess and encourage each other in the performance of their official duties.

Article 37: Append the phrase “except in those matters stipulated otherwise in the articles of incorporation or by law” to the last sentence.

Ground: The proposed change better reflects the legal situation regarding the relationship of congregational and council decisions; there are matters that by law or by the articles of incorporation of a church are stipulated to be decided by the congregation.

Article 37

The council, besides seeking the cooperation of the congregation in the election of officebearers, shall also invite its judgment about other major matters, except those which pertain to the supervision and discipline of the congregation. For this purpose the council shall call a meeting at least annually of all members entitled to vote. Such a meeting shall be conducted by the council, and only those matters which it presents shall be considered. Although full consideration shall be given to the judgment expressed by the congregation, the authority for making and carrying out final decisions remains with the council as the governing body of the church, except in those matters stipulated otherwise in the articles of incorporation or by law.

—Cf. Article 59-b

Article 38-c: Remove the phrase after the word “followed.”

Ground: The last part of the current Article 38 is too specific and would better be included in the Supplement to the Church Order.

Article 38

a. [Remains the same.]

b. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Article 38-b

c. When a non-Christian Reformed congregation wishes to affiliate with the Christian Reformed Church, including the transfer of its pastor and other ministry staff, the procedure and regulations established by synod shall be followed.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 38-c

d. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Article 38-d

e. [Remains the same.]

f. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Article 38-f

g. [Remains the same.]

—Cf. Supplement, Article 38-g

Article 42: Make extensive revisions to include appointments by classis for providing advice to churches. The proposed Articles 42-a and 42-c refer to the appointment and task of classical counselors, and Article 42-b clarifies the task of church visitors and combines sections b, c, and d of the present article.

Ground: The reference to a classical counselor in Article 9 currently has no corresponding statement regarding the duty of classis to appoint counselors for churches in the process of calling a pastor.

Article 42

a. The classis shall be responsible for appointing persons to provide counsel and advice to churches. The classis shall appoint church visitors to visit each church in classis on a yearly basis. The classis shall appoint classical counselors to provide advice to any church in the process of calling a minister of the Word.

b. The church visitors shall consist of one or more teams of officebearers chosen for their experience and counsel, with teams composed of two ministers or one minister and one elder. Their task shall be to ascertain whether the officebearers of the church faithfully perform their duties, adhere to sound doctrine, observe the provisions of the Church Order, and promote the building up of the body of Christ and the extension of God's kingdom. Churches are free to call on the church visitors whenever serious challenges arise that would benefit from their advice. The church visitors shall provide classis a written report of their work.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 42-b

c. The classical counselor's task is to ensure that a church in the process of calling a minister of the Word observes ecclesiastical regulations and sound process. The counselor shall be an officebearer, normally a minister of the Word, whose ministerial credentials or membership resides in a congregation other than the church in the process of calling a minister. The classical counselor shall provide classis a written report during and after the calling process.

Article 43: Insert new Article 43-a (taken from Art. 21), identifying the responsibility of each classis to establish a student fund and a Classical Ministerial Leadership Team. Remove the word "urgent" from what is now proposed as Article 43-b.

Grounds:

- a. The responsibility of classis to support and encourage individuals preparing for ministry should be included in the Church Order section on classis responsibilities.
- b. The standard used to assess "urgent need" is unclear. The practice of classes currently is to assess whether granting the right to exhort is appropriate and will benefit the churches within the classes.

Article 43

- a. Every classis shall maintain a student fund and a Classical Ministerial Leadership Team (CMLT) to provide support and encouragement for individuals preparing for ministry in the Christian Reformed Church.
- b. The classis may grant the right to exhort within its bounds to persons who are gifted, well-informed, consecrated, and able to edify the churches. When the need for their services has been established, the classis shall examine such persons and license them as exhorters for a limited period of time.

Article 47: In the first paragraph of Article 47 restructure the list of tasks and matters to be adopted and approved by synod. The first proposed group involves those elements that commit the church in theology and ecclesiastical organization. The second group lists those elements useful in the worshipping life of the church.

Ground: The proposed revision better categorizes the tasks of synod with respect to theology, ecclesiastical organization, and worship.

Article 47

The task of synod includes the adoption of the creeds, of the Church Order, and of the principles and elements of worship. Synod shall approve the liturgical forms, the *Psalter Hymnal*, and the Bible versions suitable for use in worship. No substantial alterations shall be effected by synod in these matters unless the churches have had prior opportunity to consider the advisability of the proposed changes.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 47

Articles 50-a and 50-c:

Note: The Advisory Committee approved the change proposed by the Task Force to change the word “synods” to “bodies” and then referred their recommendation regarding this article to Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, to present along with the committee 7 report.

Articles 52-b and 52-c: Combine these sections of Article 52 to focus on the principles and elements of worship. The proposed Article 52-b also references a wider range of music types used in worship.

Ground: The proposed revision better describes worship as it is practiced today and promotes flexibility while maintaining emphasis upon a Reformed understanding of worship.

Article 52

- a. [Remains the same.]
- b. The consistory shall see to it that the principles and elements of worship approved by synod are observed, including the use of liturgical forms, songs, and synodically approved Bible versions. If liturgical forms are adapted or additional psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs are used in worship, these elements should conform to synodical guidelines.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 52-b

Article 53: Redirect the focus of Article 53-a from the minister of the Word conducting worship to the general matter of worship leadership. Combine Articles 53-b and 53-c to address the situation in which a person other than a minister of the Word will offer the sermon.

Ground: The proposed wording updates Article 53 to reflect current understandings of worship and the varieties of ways in which worship is led, while retaining guidelines for worship leading, exhorting, and reading sermons.

Article 53

- a. The worship services shall be led by the ministers of the Word and others appointed by the consistory.
- b. Worship services may be led by persons licensed to exhort or by those appointed by the consistory to read a sermon. Such persons, however, shall refrain from all official acts of ministry, and only sermons approved by the consistory shall be read in a worship service.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 53

Article 54: Revise Article 54 as follows:

Ground: The proposed revision better reflects previous synodical decisions and encourages the shaping of the preaching ministry by the creeds and confessions of the church, with special emphasis on the Heidelberg Catechism.

Article 54

- a. The proclamation of the Word shall be central to the worship of the church and shall be guided by the creeds and confessions.
- b. At one of the services each Lord's Day, the minister shall ordinarily preach the Word as summarized in the creeds and confessions of the church, especially the Heidelberg Catechism.

Article 60: Combine Articles 60-a and 60-b into one article stating minimum requirements for celebration of the Lord's Supper and relating the practice to the well-being of the body of Christ.

Ground: The language of the current Article 60-b is archaic and unclear as to which elements of Lord's Supper administration should remain unchanged.

Article 60

The Lord's Supper shall be administered at least once every three months in a manner conducive to building up the body of Christ and in keeping with the teachings of God's Word.

Article 61: Remove the concluding phrase "for all Christendom and all humanity" from Article 61-a, and remove Article 61-b.

Grounds:

- a. The reference to "Christendom" is archaic and problematic, and delimiting prayers to the social and political realms discourages other appropriate sorts of prayer (such as prayer for the creation).
- b. A provision stating that certain written prayers may be used is superfluous and can be eliminated.

Article 61

The public prayers in the worship service shall include adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication, and intercession.

Article 65: Revise the list of pastoral care practices to include a set of possible methods among others.

Ground: The proposed wording reflects the reality that pastoral care today requires flexibility in the methods used to provide it.

Article 65

The officebearers of the church shall extend pastoral care to all members of the congregation and to others whenever possible. Home visitation and other methods, such as spiritual mentorship

and personal contact, shall be used to encourage them to live by faith, restore those who err in doctrine or life, and comfort and assist those experiencing adversity.

Article 66: Insert the phrase “or to a church in ecclesiastical fellowship” in Articles 66-a and 66-b.

Ground: This wording better reflects the policy of encouraging transferring members to affiliate with a Christian Reformed congregation or a church similar in theology and practice.

Article 66

a. Confessing members who move to another Christian Reformed church or to a church in ecclesiastical fellowship are entitled to a certificate, issued by the council, concerning their doctrine and life. When such certificates of membership are requested, they shall ordinarily be mailed to the church of their new residence.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 66-a

b. Members by baptism who move to another Christian Reformed church or to a church in ecclesiastical fellowship shall upon proper request be granted a certificate of baptism, to which such notations as are necessary shall be attached. Such certificates shall ordinarily be mailed to the church of their new residence.

c. [Remains the same.]

Article 67: Insert the phrase “and no church in ecclesiastical fellowship.”

Ground: This wording better reflects the policy of encouraging members who move to affiliate with a Christian Reformed congregation or a church similar in theology and practice.

Article 67

Members who move to localities where there is no Christian Reformed church and no church in ecclesiastical fellowship may, upon their request, either retain their membership in the church of their former residence, or have their certificates sent to the nearest Christian Reformed church.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 67

Article 68: Change the word “dismissals” to “releases.”

Ground: The word “release” avoids the negative connotation of “dismissal” and is used elsewhere in the Church Order regarding the non-prejudicial termination of ministerial status.

Article 68

Each church shall keep a complete record of all births, deaths, baptisms, professions of faith, receptions and releases of members, and excommunications and other terminations of membership.

Article 70: Instead of emphasizing the distance of the church from funerals and memorial services, the proposed revision emphasizes the proper role of the church in funeral observances for members of the body of Christ.

Ground: While historical reasons dating back to the Reformation exist for the negatively stated form of Article 70, these reasons are little understood today, and a positive statement of the church's proper role better affirms the valid reasons for pastoral and church involvement in times of grief and loss. The language added has been used to explain this article in the 1987, 1994, 2001, and 2008 versions of the *Manual of Christian Reformed Church Government*.

Article 70

Funerals and memorial services within the body of Christ should reflect the confidence of our faith and should be conducted accordingly. Such times provide opportunities to minister love, provide comfort, give instruction, and offer hope to the bereaved.

Article 72: Change the word "societies" to "groups" and combine the two sentences to bring together the two tasks of council in promoting and organizing various types of groups within the church.

Ground: Most churches today are no longer organized around women's, men's, and youth societies but instead encourage small and large group ministries dedicated to Bible study, prayer, fellowship, discipleship, and/or service.

Article 72

The council shall promote and supervise groups within the congregation for the study of God's Word, for prayer, and for the enhancement of fellowship, discipleship, and service.

Article 76-a: Change the word "controlled" in the last line to "governed."

Ground: The word "governed" is used in Article 76-b and better describes the relationship between synodical regulations and denominational agencies.

Article 76

a. Synod shall encourage and assist congregations and classes in their work of evangelism, and shall also carry on such home missions activities as are beyond their scope and resources. To administer these activities, synod shall appoint a denominational home missions committee, whose work shall be governed by synodical regulations.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 76-a

b. [Remains the same.]

Article 77-a: Replace “determine the field” with “encourage and assist.” Also change the word “controlled” in the last line to “governed.”

Grounds:

- a. The present Article 77 reflects the past practice of working by world mission “fields,” which is no longer the only or primary way in which world mission work is carried out.
- b. The proposed revision makes the language of Article 77 consistent with Article 76.
- c. The word “governed” better describes the relationship between synodical regulations and denominational agencies.

Article 77

a. Synod shall encourage and assist the joint world mission work of the churches by regulating the manner in which this task is to be performed, providing for its support, and encouraging the congregations to call and support missionaries. To administer these activities, synod shall appoint a denominational world missions committee, whose work shall be governed by synodical regulations.

—Cf. Supplement, Article 77-a

b. [Remains the same.]

—Adopted

2. That synod adopt the following changes to the Supplement to the Church Order:

Supplement, Article 4-a: Insert the following decision of Synod 2003 regarding lots and election of officebearers:

“The use of the lot in the election of officebearers is permitted when a congregational vote is part of the process” (*Acts of Synod 2003*, p. 609).

Ground: The most recent decision regarding lots and election of officebearers is not included in the *Index of Synodical Decisions 1857-2000*. Therefore, placing the decision of Synod 2003 in the Supplement would make it more accessible to churches seeking advice on the appropriateness of using lots in the election of officebearers.

Supplement, Article 6, C, 1: Replace the current regulation with one based on the following change in requirements for candidacy approved by Calvin Theological Seminary:

Applications for candidacy may be made by students who anticipate having a combination of four or fewer uncompleted units in their seminary program as of the meeting of the synod at which they will be declared a candidate. Each course and internship would be considered a “unit” for purposes of this calculation.

Ground: This change is necessitated by the recent curriculum revision at Calvin Theological Seminary and the transition from a quarter system to a semester system.

Supplement, Article 18: Insert reference to the decision of Synod 2001 regarding official acts of ministry (*Acts of Synod 2001*, p. 504) if synod approves the task force's proposed changes to Church Order Article 18-b:

c. Re the "official acts of ministry"

- 1) Certain acts of ministry—among them the preaching of the Word, the administration of the sacraments, the pronouncement of blessings for the people, the laying of hands on new leaders, and the reception and formal dismissal of members—are part of the ministry of Christ to his followers and are entrusted to the church and, within the church, to its ordained leaders, not to a specific office.
- 2) Therefore, no long-standing, organized congregation of Christians should be deprived of these liturgical acts simply because it cannot provide for the presence of an ordained minister or evangelist [ministry associate].
- 3) These acts of ministry symbolize and strengthen the relationships among the Lord, leaders, and the people of God. Their use is a sacred trust given to leaders by the Lord for the purpose of strengthening the flock. Therefore the administration of these acts should continue to be regulated by the church.

(*Acts of Synod 2001*, p. 504)

Ground: Placing this information in the Supplement would give guidance to churches and individuals attempting to identify what constitutes "official acts of ministry."

Supplement, Article 22: The Candidacy Committee is in support of removing the references to "in theology" in Supplement, Article 22, A, 3, a and c. The Supplement to Article 22, A, 3, a would read "that this privilege is to be granted to those who are taking post-graduate work and declare that it is their definite intention to enter the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church," and the parenthetical portion of Article 22, A, 3, c would read "(the latter part of this *Rule* 3, c does not apply to those who are taking post-graduate work outside of the United States or Canada)."

Ground: Graduate work in disciplines other than theology may also be consistent with a goal of entering the ministry (e.g., communications, organizational studies, international development, and so forth).

Supplement, Article 38-c: Insert the phrase "as described in the Candidacy Committee's 'Journey Toward Ordination' document" in the last sentence.

Note: The name of the document was recently changed from "Journey to Ministry" to "Journey Toward Ordination."

Ground: This phrase, if removed by synod from Church Order Article 38-c as recommended by the task force, properly belongs in the Supplement.

Supplement, Article 40-b: Include reference to the following requirements for a classis contracta. Synod 2000 declared that

any classical decision requiring the concurrence of the synodical deputies be made in the presence of delegates from all the churches which are members of the classis in which the action is being taken. If a classis contracta is necessary because of justifiable circumstances, to be determined in consultation with the deputies, a contracted classis shall never be convened with fewer than half the churches represented. A quorum for a classis contracta shall be half the churches of a classis plus one.

(*Acts of Synod 2000*, p. 668)

Ground: Placing this information in the Supplement would give guidance to classes attempting to determine the appropriate course of action when not all the churches of a classis are able to be present for necessary business.

Supplement, Article 42-b: Add a new Supplement, Article 42-b indicating that the *Guide for Conducting Church Visiting*, as well as other resources related to church visiting, can be downloaded from the CRC website.

Ground: Synod 2009 reemphasized the importance of church visiting and encouraged use of the resources available as indicated in the following:

That synod encourage classes to emphasize the importance of church visiting, thereby acknowledging its value for maintaining spiritual health and vitality in the member congregations of the classis, and encourage the use of the *Guide for Conducting Church Visiting* (found on CRC web: www.crcna.org) and/or other resources available from the Office of Pastor-Church Relations as effective tools to that end (II, A, 10).

(*Acts of Synod 2009*, p. 596)

Supplement, Articles 52 and 53: Remove the current Supplements to Articles 52 and 53 applying to Red Mesa.

Ground: The proposed revisions to Church Order Articles 52 and 53, if adopted by synod, eliminate the need for special Supplement provisions for Classis Red Mesa.

Supplement, Article 52-b: Add the following new Supplement, Article 52-b, identifying synodical guidelines for liturgical forms and music:

- **Bible versions** recommended by synod for use in worship services are listed online at www.crcna.org and include the King James Version (KJV), the American Standard Version (ASV), the Revised Standard Version (RSV), the New International Version (NIV), the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), Today's New International Version (TNIV), the English Standard Version (ESV), and the New Living Translation (NLT).
- **Liturgical forms, songs, and elements of worship** approved by synod are contained in the latest edition (currently 1987) of the denomination's *Psalter Hymnal*. Forms, subsequent revisions of forms that are synodically

approved, and other such resources are made available on the denomination's website (www.crcna.org) under "Synodical Resources."

- Synodical guidelines pertaining to the **adaptation of liturgical forms** are found in the *Acts of Synod 1994*, pages 493-94, and in the *Manual of Christian Reformed Church Government* (2008 Revision), pages 224-25.
- Materials on the **principles of, elements of, and guidelines for worship and music** are found in the "Introduction to the Psalms, Bible Songs, and Hymns" contained in the latest edition (currently 1987) of the denomination's *Psalter Hymnal*, pages 11-13; in the *Acts of Synod 1997*, pages 664-68; and in the 1997 Committee to Study Worship Report available on the denomination's website (www.crcna.org) under "Synodical Resources."

Ground: Placing these references in the Supplement would provide guidance for churches and individuals attempting to identify the synodical guidelines relating to liturgical forms and music.

Supplement, Article 53: Insert the following new reference regarding official acts of ministry (see *Acts of Synod 2001*, p. 504):

Re the "official acts of ministry"

- 1) Certain acts of ministry—among them the preaching of the Word, the administration of the sacraments, the pronouncement of blessings for the people, the laying of hands on new leaders, and the reception and formal dismissal of members—are part of the ministry of Christ to his followers and are entrusted to the church and, within the church, to its ordained leaders, not to a specific office.
- 2) Therefore, no long-standing, organized congregation of Christians should be deprived of these liturgical acts simply because it cannot provide for the presence of an ordained minister or evangelist [ministry associate].
- 3) These acts of ministry symbolize and strengthen the relationships among the Lord, leaders, and the people of God. Their use is a sacred trust given to leaders by the Lord for the purpose of strengthening the flock. Therefore the administration of these acts should continue to be regulated by the church.

Ground: Placing this information in the Supplement would give guidance to churches and individuals attempting to determine the appropriateness of worship leaders engaging in certain liturgical acts.

Supplement, Article 76-a: Adopt the following as the new supplement to Article 76-a:

The synodical regulations referred to in Article 76 may be found in the Mission Order of the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions (*Acts of Synod 1992*, pp. 741-46 and subsequent revisions thereof).

Ground: Placing this reference in the Supplement would provide guidance for churches and individuals attempting to identify the synodical guidelines relating to missions.

Supplement, Article 77-a: Adopt the following as the new supplement to Article 77-a:

Synod regulates the work of the world missions committee by way of the Constitution and decisions of the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA.

Ground: Placing this reference in the Supplement makes clear synod's delegation of oversight responsibility to the Board of Trustees.

—Adopted

3. That synod approve the following "Introduction" to the Church Order for inclusion in the Church Order booklet:

Introduction

Welcome, readers! You have discovered an important document for the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA)—the *Church Order and Rules for Synodical Procedure*! The title is not so exciting—perhaps it should be called "A Tool Churches Cannot Live Without." The fact is that this is an important booklet, one that church leaders will want to be familiar with in order to function well in their congregations and classes (regional groups of churches) and at synod (the denomination's annual assembly). Other interested individuals can learn about the Christian Reformed Church through this booklet as well.

So, What Is the Church Order?

The Church Order is a document that shows how the congregations of the Christian Reformed Church in North America have decided to live together and to organize themselves. It is a tool for effective leadership, in that leaders need to know the regulations and parameters of the organization in which they are working so that they can apply them in a variety of situations.

More than a contractual set of regulations or simply guidelines, the Church Order is really a record of our covenanting together within this denominational fellowship. As leaders and members and congregations in the CRCNA, we promise to use these regulations to order our life together as a particular part of the body of Christ. And that covenant commitment is based on our belief that Christ is the head of the church and we, as Christ's body, must reflect Christ in how we function, choose leaders, assemble, deliberate over issues, carry out the ministries and mission of the church, and hold one another accountable for all these things.

We agree to abide by these promises and to work together to change the regulations when necessary. It's important to remember that the Church Order is a document of the churches, and what it says and how it changes is determined by the churches together. It's our book; in a sense, we all are its authors. And as our denomination becomes more diverse, the Church Order helps to build unity by establishing normative patterns even as it encompasses many different churches in varying local contexts.

Just as books come in different genres, and the Bible in particular contains writing in many different genres, the Church Order

also reflects a particular genre. In a sense it may be compared to the Proverbs of Scripture as *wisdom literature*. The collective wisdom of the church is contained in these articles and is passed on from generation to generation. The articles of the Church Order are meant to help the church function in healthy and wise ways.

Designed for Change

Part of being wise about how to live together and function in healthy ways is being able to adjust to changes in the church and in our culture. When the churches discern together by the Holy Spirit's guidance that the Church Order needs to change, they discuss and make these decisions together. The normal process is for a church council to send a request for a change by way of an overture which is sent to the classis, and then on to synod. Each step of the way involves more leaders of the church, bearers of the office of Christ who are trying to discern what is fitting for how God calls us to live together, and fitting for how our churches function in the world today.

So the Church Order is intended to change from time to time, and those changes are made by the broadest assembly of the denomination. What's more, substantial changes need to be communicated to all the churches for feedback before they even go to a synod. If that has not happened, any changes must be approved by a subsequent synod before they take effect. So while we are certainly open to change, we are careful about it, to make sure we hear all the important voices involved.

All this is in keeping with the Scripture verse quoted in Article 1 of the Church Order, "Everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way." This statement in 1 Corinthians 14:40 rises out of a concern about disorder in worship, but it also highlights a New Testament principle that Christians are to behave in ways that are fitting for followers of Christ. The Church Order applies that principle to the organization of the church and the checks and balances that seek to ensure that fittingness.

Our commitment to change and adjust our practices comes from one of the theological fathers of our church, John Calvin, who wrote,

But because [our Lord] did not will in outward discipline and ceremonies to prescribe in detail what we ought to do (because he foresaw that this depended upon the state of the times, and he did not deem one form suitable for all ages), here we must take refuge in those general rules which he has given, that whatever the necessity of the church will require for order and decorum should be tested against these. Lastly, because he has taught nothing specifically, and because these things are not necessary to salvation, and for the upbuilding of the church ought to be variously accommodated to the customs of each nation and age, it will be fitting (as the advantage of the church will require) to change and abrogate traditional practices and to establish new ones. Indeed, I admit that we ought not to charge

into innovation rashly, suddenly, for insufficient cause. But love will best judge what may hurt or edify; and if we let love be our guide, all will be safe (*Institutes*, IV.X.30).

Calvin certainly believed in good order in the church for healthy and peaceful functioning, but he also argued that there should be as few rules as necessary, allowing for maximum flexibility. And, most important, he called us to the rule of loving one another as we make decisions in these matters.

Important Distinctions

It is very important for readers to distinguish between the Church Order, the Church Order Supplements, and the Rules for Synodical Procedure.

The Church Order is a list of articles that regulate the organization and activities of the church, which are organized under four main headings—the offices, assemblies, task and activities, and admonition and discipline of the church.

The Church Order Supplements are decisions that a particular synod judged were significant enough to accompany the Church Order so that the churches are aware of them.

The Rules for Synodical Procedure are an outline for the functioning of the annual synod of the Christian Reformed Church—its constitution, tasks and duties, and the rules of order used in its meetings.

Many more decisions have been made throughout the years and can be found in the Acts of Synod, which is published annually. Recent versions (1999 to the present) can be found online at www.crcna.org. A listing of particular positions of the CRC on various ethical and theological matters can also be found on that website.

Reformed Church Polity

Church polity refers to the form of governance and organization of a church. The CRCNA follows a Presbyterian form of church polity organized under governance by elders, as compared to Episcopal polities organized under governance by bishops (Roman Catholic, United Methodist, and Episcopal denominations) and Congregational polities organized under the governance of the local congregation (Congregational, Baptist, Disciples of Christ). Some of these congregational polities do allow for greater associations and connections between churches.

Governance by elders is assumed throughout the Christian Reformed Church Order, but please note that CRCNA polity is not exactly like that of Presbyterian denominations. Two particular differences include the fact that we have limited tenure for officebearers (so elders and deacons serve *terms*, not *forever*), and ministers' credentials are held at the local council level, not at the regional (classical) level, as in many Presbyterian and Reformed denominations. Another key difference is that church polity in the CRCNA does not have confessional status and, therefore, the Church Order does not have the same authority as the creeds. The

Church Order is subordinate to the creeds and confessions, which are subordinate to Scripture.

New Format

In 2009-2010 a task force worked at updating the Church Order to eliminate some inconsistencies that had developed over the years, but synods update the Church Order almost every year as changes are made in our ever-reforming context. The formatting of this booklet is intended to make the Church Order and its Supplements more readable and accessible for use.

For further reflection on the Church Order and its Supplements, please refer to the *Manual of Christian Reformed Church Government*, the most recent edition of which was authored by Dr. Peter Borgdorff and published by Faith Alive Christian Resources in 2008.

May God bless you as you serve in Christ's church in a fitting and orderly way!

—Adopted

4. That synod dismiss the Church Order Revision Task Force with thanks.

—Adopted

5. That this be synod's response to Overtures 15 and 17.

—Adopted

II. Response to Overture 13: Appoint a Study Committee to Review Church Order Articles 67 and 78-81, as Well as the Corresponding Supplements

- A. *Materials*: Overture 13, p. 687

- B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 13.

Grounds:

1. The current articles of the Church Order give sufficient clarity on this difficult pastoral issue.
2. Providing guidance on this subject does not warrant the expense and effort of a synodical study committee.

—Adopted

III. Response to Overture 14: Modify Financial Provisions of Church Order Article 17 for Cases When a Pastor Leaves a Congregation for Personal Reasons

- A. *Materials*: Overture 14, pp. 687-88

- B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod accede to Overture 14.

—Adopted

2. That synod amend the regulation of Synod 1998 (point 8, p. 394) regarding the compensation package to reflect that this package may not apply

in every circumstance of separation such as when a pastor leaves for purely personal reasons.

—*Adopted*

3. That synod add to the concluding note of Supplement, Article 17-a, the statement “and as amended by Synod 2010 (see *Acts of Synod 2010*, pp. 915-16).”

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 72

The afternoon session is adjourned at 5:25 p.m. Rev. Bobby Boyd leads in closing prayer in the Navajo language.

THURSDAY EVENING, June 17, 2010 Twelfth Session

ARTICLE 73

Elder delegate Louie Den Bak leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 74

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod annually list ministry associate retirements as it does the ministerial retirements.

Ground: Ministry associates are called and ordained and should be recognized for their faithful service as well.

—*Tabled*

ARTICLE 75

A delegate presents the following motion:

Recognizing the pain caused by division within the body of Christ over contentious theological issues, and also recognizing that within any division there is pain caused by both sides, it is recommended that Synod 2010 of the CRC offer the following apology to our brothers and sisters in Christ who have felt it necessary to discontinue fellowship with us:

We repent for the ways we have not always treated others with love and respect. We are sorry for whatever hurt we have caused those who disagree with us. We pray that, with God’s help, we will be able to once again accept one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 76

The president of synod, Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper, expresses thanks to fellow officers: Rev. Peter Slofstra, Rev. William Verhoef, and. Ms. Wendy Gritter. He thanks Dr. Steven Timmermans and the Trinity Christian College staff: Ms. Kara Bruxvoort, Ms. Kim Fabian, Mr. Pete Hamstra, Mr. Dave Jous-

ma. He expresses gratitude to the synod prayer coordinator: Ms. Bonnie Vloedman, and the synod office staff: Ms. Nancy Haynes, Ms. Holly Koons, Ms. Eleanor Lamsma, Mr. Lee Schiebel, Ms. Alida van Dijk, and Ms. Dorothy Wallinga. He thanks the synod news office staff: Mr. Henry Hess, Mr. Chris Meehan, and Mr. Tim Postuma; as well as *The Banner* staff: Rev. Robert De Moor, Mr. Henry Huisjen, Ms. Karen Huttenga, Ms. Gayla Postma, and Ms. Roxanne Van Farowe. He also expresses appreciation for faculty advisers, ethnic advisers, young adult advisers, staff advisers (Rev. Bruce G. Adema, Mr. John Bolt, and Ms. Sandy Johnson), and the director of synodical services (Ms. Dee Recker). The president gives special recognition to Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, executive director of the CRCNA, for his contribution to synod and the work that now lies ahead of him.

The vice president, Rev. Peter Slofstra, expresses thanks on behalf of synod to the president, Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper, for his leadership during Synod 2010.

The executive director expresses the gratitude of synod to the four officers and presents them with gifts.

ARTICLE 77

The concluding worship service of Synod 2010, continuing the theme of “Thy Kingdom Come,” opens with the singing of “Soon and Very Soon.” Young adult adviser Peter Keep leads in the Call to Worship and offers a Prayer for Illumination. The president addresses delegates regarding “I Saw God”—God gives us a place to live, protects us, provides for us, and invites us into his presence forever. How great is the love of the Father (Isa. 43:3-7 and 1 John 3:1)! Delegates sing “Go to the World” followed by a Litany of Profession of Faith. Ethnic adviser Andrew W. Henry offers words of sending. The president gives the benediction, and synod concludes with the singing of “Lead On, O King Eternal.”

Synod is adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY SHARES AND RECOMMENDED AGENCIES FOR 2011

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY SHARES AND RECOMMENDED AGENCIES FOR 2011

I. Denominational Ministry Shares for 2011

AGENCY	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Area 7	Area 8
Base amount per member	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16
Calvin College*	82.00	50.40	37.40	6.60	46.40	18.20	8.30	5.50
Total ministry-share per member	367.16	335.56	322.56	291.76	331.56	303.36	293.46	290.66

*Areas which benefit from a ministry-share reduction should employ the following monies saved to finance their area colleges:

Per professing member	-	12.48	25.48	56.28	16.48	44.68	54.58	57.38
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Classis Area Table for Calvin College amount:

AREA 1	Grand Rapids East; Grand Rapids North; Grand Rapids South; Grandville; Thornapple Valley
AREA 2	Georgetown; Holland; Kalamazoo; Lake Erie; Muskegon; Northern Michigan; Zeeland
AREA 3	Chicago South; Illiana; Northern Illinois; Southeast U.S.; Wisconsin
AREA 4	Central Plains; Heartland; Lakota; Lake Superior; Minnkota; Northcentral Iowa
AREA 5	Atlantic Northeast; Hackensack; Hudson
AREA 6	Arizona; Columbia; California South; Central California; Greater Los Angeles; Pacific Hanmi; Pacific Northwest; Red Mesa; Rocky Mountain; Yellowstone
AREA 7	Chatham; Eastern Canada; Hamilton; Huron; Niagara; Quinte; Toronto
AREA 8	Alberta North; Alberta South/Saskatchewan; B.C. North-West; B.C. South-East

Denominational ministry-share allocation

	2010 ministry-share allocation effective 1/01/10	2011 ministry-share allocation effective 1/01/11
BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	\$ 43.97	\$ 43.97
CALVIN COLLEGE*	31.60	31.60
CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	35.91	35.91
FAITH ALIVE CHRISTIAN RESOURCES	12.49	12.49
HOME MISSIONS	44.24	44.24
WORLD MISSIONS	59.93	59.93
WORLD RELIEF	-	-
DENOMINATIONAL MANAGEMENT, SERVICES, AND MINISTRIES:		
Synod assembly, BOT, and general administration	36.46	46.69
SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES	31.01	31.01
Chaplaincy and Care Ministry		
Committee for Contact with the Canadian Government		
Disability Concerns		
Pastor-Church Relations		
Race Relations		
Safe Church Ministry		
ServiceLink		
Social Justice and Hunger Action		
Urban Aboriginal Ministries		
The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry and Sustaining Congregational Excellence	10.56	10.56
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUND	1.36	0.36
	<u>\$ 307.53</u>	<u>\$ 316.76</u>

*Represents the composite rate. Actual rate varies by area.

II. Agencies recommended for financial support in 2011

A. Denominational agencies recommended for one or more offerings

Canadian Business Number

1. Back to God Ministries International—
above-ministry-share needs 13240 2090 RR0001
2. Calvin College—above-ministry-share needs (per Schedule VIII)
3. Calvin Theological Seminary (per Schedule VIII)
 - a. The Facing Your Future program
 - b. The Ministry Incentive program
4. Christian Reformed Church Foundation 883678708 RR0001
5. CR Home Missions—above-ministry-share needs 10691 9640 RR0001
6. CR World Missions—above-ministry-share needs 11881 2643 RR0001
7. CR World Relief Committee—one offering per quarter because
CRWRC receives no ministry-share support 118857366 RR0001
8. Denominational Ministry Programs—above-ministry-share needs
 - a. Chaplaincy and Care Ministry—above-ministry-share needs . 856901285 RR0002
 - b. Committee for Contact with the Government 856901285 RR0002
 - c. Disability Concerns—above-ministry-share needs 856901285 RR0002
 - d. Pastor-Church Relations—above-ministry-share needs 856901285 RR0002
 - e. The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry 856901285 RR0002
 - f. Race Relations 856901285 RR0002
 - g. Safe Church Ministry—above-ministry-share needs 856901285 RR0002
 - h. ServiceLink 856901285 RR0002
 - i. Social Justice and Hunger Action 856901285 RR0002
 - j. Urban Aboriginal Ministries 856901285 RR0002
9. Faith Alive Christian Resources

B. Denominationally related or affiliated agencies recommended for one or more offerings

1. Dynamic Youth Ministries
 - a. GEMS 88992 0799 RR0001
 - b. Calvinist Cadet Corps 88992 0799 RR0001
 - c. Youth Unlimited 88992 0799 RR0001
2. Friendship Ministries (Friendship Ministries - Canada) 11893 2375 RR0001
3. Partners Worldwide NA
4. Timothy Leadership Training Institute NA

C. Nondenominational agencies recommended for financial support but not necessarily for one or more offerings

Note should be made of the action of Synod 1992 related to the financial support provided by Christian Reformed churches relative to these agencies:

... in light of the growing number of agencies seeking recommendation for financial support, [synod] remind[s] the congregations of the synodical decision of 1970 wherein “synod urge[d] all the classes to request their churches to pay denominational causes before making gifts to nondenominational causes on the synod-approved accredited list.

Grounds: Our denominational causes should have priority in our giving. . . .”
(Acts of Synod 1970, p. 81)

United States agencies

A. Benevolent agencies

1. Bethany Christian Services
2. Cary Christian Center, Inc.

3. Hope Haven
 4. The Luke Society
 5. Mississippi Christian Family Services (MCFS)
 6. Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
 7. Quiet Waters Ministries
- B. Educational agencies*
1. Christian Schools International
 2. Christian Schools International Foundation (for textbook development)
 3. CLC Network
 4. Dordt College
 5. Elim Christian Services
 6. Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of Institute for Christian Studies)
 7. Hunting Park Christian Academy
 8. International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE)
 9. ITEM—International Theological Education Ministries, Inc.
 10. John Stott Ministries
 11. Kid's Hope USA
 12. The King's University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
 13. Kuyper College
 14. Providence Christian College
 15. Redeemer University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
 16. Rehoboth Christian School
 17. Roseland Christian School
 18. Trinity Christian College
 19. Worldwide Christian Schools
 20. Zuni Christian Mission School
- C. Miscellaneous agencies*
1. Association for a More Just Society
 2. Audio Scripture Ministries
 3. Bible League
 4. Biblica
 5. Center for Public Justice
 6. Crossroad Bible Institute
 7. IDEA Ministries
 8. IN Network
 9. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (endorsed for local specified staff support only)
 10. Middle East Reformed Fellowship, U.S. (MERF)
 11. Mission India
 12. The Tract League
 13. Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.

Canadian agencies

<i>A. Benevolent agencies</i>	Canadian Business Number
1. Beginnings Family Services	11880 2388 RR0001
2. Shalem Mental Health Network	13056 6011 RR0001
<i>B. Educational agencies</i>	
1. Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc. (for textbook development)	11883 0207 RR0001
2. Dordt College	(per Schedule VIII)
3. Institute for Christian Studies.....	10750 8434 RR0001
4. The King's University College	10808 5911 RR0001

5. Kuyper College (per Schedule VIII)
 6. Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools Foundation 85861 0926 RR0001
 7. Redeemer University College..... 12331 3660 RR0001
 8. Trinity Christian College..... (per Schedule VIII)
 9. Worldwide Christian Schools - Canada 88945 9970 RR0001
- C. *Miscellaneous agencies*
1. Bible League - Canada10822 2084 RR0001
 2. Cardus (Work Research o/a Cardus)11892 9207 RR0001
 3. Citizens for Public Justice (CJL Foundation).....89438 3512 RR0001
 4. Evangelical Fellowship of Canada10735 3922 RR0001
 5. Gideons International - Canada10808 2991 RR0001
 6. Global PartnerLink Society81317 5957 RR0001
 7. IN Network.....12994 3072 RR0001
 8. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of Canada10751 3160 RR0001
 9. Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Canada89085 1058 RR0001
 10. Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada, Inc.....10822 3371 RR0001

INDEX

(Page numbers in **boldface type** refer to the minutes of synod; page numbers in regular type refer to the agenda and supplementary materials.)

Acronyms and abbreviations in the *Agenda* and *Acts of Synod 2010*

ACRE – Association of Christian Reformed Educators
 ACT – Action by Churches Together
 ANH – All Nations Heritage
 APCE – Association of Presbyterian Church Educators
 ARPC – Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
 ASV – American Standard Version
 BOT – Board of Trustees
 BTA – biblical-theological argumentation
 BTGMI – Back to God Ministries International
 CANAAC – Caribbean and North American Area Council
 CCC – Canadian Council of Churches
 CCG – Committee for Contact with the Government
 CCT-USA – Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A.
 CE – Continuing Education
 CEP – Center for Excellence in Preaching
 CFA – Communities First Association
 CFGB – Canadian Foodgrains Bank
 CICW – Calvin Institute for Christian Worship
 CJM – Congregation Justice Mobilization
 CLC Network – Christian Learning Center Network
 CLEAR – Continuous Learning & Education at Redeemer
 CMLT – Classical Ministerial Leadership Team
 CR – Christian Reformed
 CRC – Christian Reformed Church
 CRCA – Christian Reformed Churches of Australia
 CRCN – Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria
 CRCNA – Christian Reformed Church in North America
 CRHM – Christian Reformed Home Missions
 CRWM – Christian Reformed World Missions
 CRWRC – Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
 CSI – Christian Schools International
 CTS – Calvin Theological Seminary
 DCM – Director of Canadian Ministries
 DDM – Director of Denominational Ministries
 DFA – Director of Finance and Administration
 DMP – Denominational Ministries Plan

DORR – Dance of Racial Reconciliation
 DP – Displaced Person
 DRC – Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa
 DRCA – Dutch Reformed Church in Africa
 DRS – Disaster Response Services
 DYM – Dynamic Youth Ministries
 ECI – Evangelical Climate Initiative
 ED – Executive Director
 EFC – Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
 EIRC – Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee (formerly ERC)
 ELCA – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 EPC – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 EPMC – Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy
 ERC – Ecumenical Relations Committee (formerly IRC)
 ESV – English Standard Version
 FJKM – Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar
 FOS – Form of Subscription
 FTE – Full-Time Employee
 GEMS – Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior
 GKN – Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland
 GKSA – Die Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid-Afrika (Reformed Churches in South Africa)
 GM – General Motors
 HC – Heidelberg Catechism
 HCJB – Herald of Christ Jesus' Blessings
 HR – Health and Renewal
 ICS – Institute for Christian Studies
 IMHO – In My Humble Opinion
 IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
 IRC – Interchurch Relations Committee
 ISI – International Staff Internships
 JMC – Joint Ministry Council
 KIM – Korean Institute in Ministry
 KJV – King James Version
 LDN – Leadership Development Network
 LSJ – Liddell, Scott, Jones
 MDG – Millennial Development Goals
 MEPMC – Modified Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy
 MERF – Middle East Reformed Fellowship
 MIS – Ministerial Information Service
 MLT – Ministries Leadership Team
 MPS – Ministry Plan Scorecard
 MRCSA – Midlands Reformed Churches in South Africa
 MY – Ministry Year
 NAE – National Association of Evangelicals
 NLT – New Living Translation
 NIV – New International Version
 NKST – Church of Christ in the Sudan among the Tiv
 NRC – Netherlands Reformed Churches
 NRSV – New Revised Standard Version

OSJ – Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action
 PAG – Pentecostal Assemblies of God
 PCC – Presbyterian Church in Canada
 PCN – Pediatric Chaplains Network
 PCN – Protestant Church in the Netherlands
 PCR – Pastor-Church Relations
 PCUSA – Presbyterian Church in the USA
 PLC – Placement, Learning, and Care
 PRRA – Pre-Removal Risk Assessment
 PTC – Pentecostal Theological College
 RCA – Reformed Church in America
 RCC – Roman Catholic Church
 RCJ – Reformed Church in Japan
 REC – Reformed Ecumenical Council
 RSV – Revised Standard Version
 SCE – Sustaining Congregational Excellence
 SMC – Staff Ministry Committee
 SMCC – Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee
 SMP – Summer Mission Program
 SPE – Sustaining Pastoral Excellence
 STM – Specialized Transitional Ministers
 TE – Technology and Equipment
 TLTI – Timothy Leadership Training Institute
 TNIV – Today’s New International Version
 URCSA – Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa
 WARC – World Alliance of Reformed Churches
 WCRC – World Communion of Reformed Churches
 WIC – Women, Infant, and Children
 WLM – World Literature Ministries
 WTC – Widening the Circle
 YU – Youth Unlimited

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