ACTS OF SYNOD 2002

June 8-13, 2002
Fine Arts Center Auditorium
Calvin College
Grand Rapids, Michigan

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2850 Kalamazoo Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49560 U.S.A.
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Report of Synod 2002

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The *Acts of Synod 2002* 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 communications to synod re matters completed at a spring classis meeting
- Financial reports
- The minutes of Synod 2002
- An index

It will be necessary for the user of the *Acts of Synod 2002* to keep the *Agenda for Synod 2002* 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 387, following preliminary unnumbered pages. Financial reports begin on page 433. Minutes of synod follow, beginning on page 457. The index references both volumes; the numbers in boldface type refer to pages in the minutes of Synod 2002.

May all who read the reports of the ministries and study committees and the minutes of Synod 2002 discover the ways in which the Lord is leading the Christian Reformed Church in North America and give him thanks for its many opportunities to minister in the areas of education, missions, mercy, publications, and pastoral care.

David H. Engelhard, general secretary
I. Polity matters

This supplementary report covers primarily those matters that were processed by the Board of Trustees at its May 2002 meeting. Some matters are referenced in the printed Agenda for Synod 2002, and some matters are new. The budgets of the agencies and institutions, as well as other financial information, are contained in the Agenda for Synod 2002—Financial Supplement that is distributed as a separate publication at the time that synod meets.

A. Interim appointments

The Board of Trustees approved on behalf of synod the following appointees chosen by their respective classes to serve as delegates to the denominational boards:

<table>
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<th>Classis</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Synodical Deputies</td>
<td>Alberta South/ Saskatchewan</td>
<td>Rev. Jake Corvers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicago South</td>
<td>Rev. Julius T. Medenblik</td>
<td>Rev. Sam Hamstra, Jr.</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heartland</td>
<td>Rev. Duane Tinklenberg</td>
<td>Rev. John A. Vermeer</td>
<td>2004(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iakota</td>
<td>Rev. Roger W. Sparks</td>
<td>Rev. Charles J. De Ridder</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Illiana</td>
<td>Rev. Thomas J. Kok</td>
<td>Rev. Gerald E. De Vries</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kalamazoo</td>
<td>Dr. Harry G. Arnold</td>
<td>Rev. Albert J. De Vries</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornapple Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rev. Gerard Bouma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC Publications</td>
<td>Minnkota</td>
<td>Ms. Tanna Besteman</td>
<td>Rev. George S. Koopmans</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions</td>
<td>Alberta North</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Atlantic Northeast</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huron</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minnkota</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pacific Hanni</td>
<td>Rev. Ji Neung Jun</td>
<td>Mr. Theodore Lin</td>
<td>2004(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pella</td>
<td>Mr. Ivan Mulder</td>
<td>Mr. Nelson Nikkel</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicago South</td>
<td>Rev. John M. Ouwinga</td>
<td>Rev. Duane J. Van Loo</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pella</td>
<td>Mr. Daryl Bouwkamp</td>
<td>Mr. Dan VanKooten</td>
<td>2005(1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. Board of Trustees membership

1. Trustees whose terms expire in 2002:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region 6</td>
<td>Dr. Tom Van Groningen</td>
<td>Mrs. Priscilla Medema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 7</td>
<td>Rev. Raymond Slim</td>
<td>Rev. Dale W. Vander Veen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 8</td>
<td>Mr. Harold Van Maanen</td>
<td>Mr. Walter Ackerman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 11</td>
<td>Rev. Henry Admiraal</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 12</td>
<td>Rev. Stanley J. Workman</td>
<td>Dr. Brent A. Averill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatham</td>
<td>Rev. Peter Nicolai</td>
<td>Rev. Robert J. Haven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Superior</td>
<td>Mr. John Harris</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinte</td>
<td>Mr. Ralph Pypker</td>
<td>Mr. Andy Batelaan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Words of thanks

Words of thanks are in order for Mrs. Sarah Cook and Rev. Edward Den Haan who are completing their first terms of service on the Board; for Rev. Henry Admiraal who completed the second term of Dr. Duane K. Kelderman recently appointed to the seminary; and for Mr. John Harris, Mr. Ralph Pypker, Rev. Raymond Slim, Dr. Tom Van Groningen, Mr. Harold Van Maanen, and Rev. Stanley J. Workman who are completing their second terms. We recognize with gratitude the contribution these members have made and thank them for the many hours they have given to the service of Christ and his church as members of the Board.

We also remember Rev. Peter Nicolai who would have completed his second term this year but who was taken to glory only two weeks prior to what would have been his final board meeting. We commend his family to the merciful care of almighty God and thank his wife Benna for having shared Peter so graciously throughout the years as he served on boards, committees, and at synod. His able and gracious service will be remembered and missed.

C. Judicial Code Committee

The Judicial Code Committee hears appeals from actions taken by a classis or by an agency of the Christian Reformed Church, such as where the actions are alleged to violate the Church Order. The committee’s nine members include both clergy and nonclergy, with representatives from different parts of the United States and Canada.

The procedures followed by the Judicial Code Committee are set forth in Article 30-c of the Church Order Supplement. Normally, an aggrieved party brings written charges against another party, setting forth specific acts of the second party that allegedly were wrongful. The committee conducts a hearing, including witness testimony and presentation of relevant documents. After deliberation, the committee then announces its recommendation. Where appropriate, the committee reports its recommendations to Synod for implementation.
The committee has no pending appeals to report to Synod 2002. In April, the committee assembled to hear a claim brought by a missionary and his calling church against the board of World Missions arising out of the termination of the missionary’s foreign service. However, after the committee heard witness testimony and while the committee was deliberating, the parties themselves resolved the dispute without requiring formal committee action.

Three members of the committee are completing their second terms: Rev. Case Admiraal, Mr. Reid Smeda, and Mrs. Kathy Vandergrift. We thank them for their faithful service and recognize the contribution they have made to the life of the church during their six years on the committee.

The following nominations are presented to synod to fill the positions of those retiring:

1. Lawyer nominees

   Mr. John A. Tamming is a member of First CRC in Owen Sound, Ontario. He is a graduate of Calvin College and of Calvin Seminary; however, he chose not to go into the ministry and is presently an attorney. Mr. Tamming has served on the Canadian Interchurch Relations Committee.

   Mr. Robert Jonker is a member of Church of the Servant CRC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is an attorney, serving as a partner in Warner Norcross & Judd. Mr. Jonker has served two previous terms on the Judicial Code Committee and has served as elder and president of his church council. He presently serves on the board of Worldwide Christian Schools.

2. Clergy nominees

   Rev. Terry Lapinsky is pastor of Jamestown CRC in Jamestown, Michigan. He is a graduate of Calvin Seminary. He previously has served as chair of the Home Missions board, as stated clerk of Classis Hackensack, and as president of council. He presently serves as chair of the classical interim committee.

   Rev. Jack Kooreman is a minister of outreach at Church of the Servant CRC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is a graduate of Calvin Seminary. Prior to attending seminary, Rev. Kooreman served as an attorney in New Jersey. He has served as councilman for a municipal government, on the administrative board of Midland Park CRC, and on the Home Missions board. He presently serves on the Freedom House Ministries committee and the New Focus national committee.

3. Nonlawyer, nonclergy nominees

   Dr. Ralph Smeda is a member of Grace CRC in Burke, Virginia. He is a graduate of Calvin College and received his doctorate in child psychology at the University of Rochester. Before retirement, Dr. Smeda was executive director at American Bankers Association and executive vice president at Kirchman Corporation. He has served as chair of Bethany Christian Services – Virginia; on the boards of American Bankers Association, American Institute of Banking, Fund for Education in Economics; and on the classis finance committee. He has served on his church council and has served as chairman of the capital resources committee, the building committee, and the search committee.

   Ms. Beth Smith-Houskamp is a member of Eastern Avenue CRC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She is a registered nurse serving as a project manager at
D. Revised position descriptions for the general secretary and the executive director of ministries (Appendices A and B)

In fulfillment of its role as the personnel committee of the Board, the executive committee reviewed the current position descriptions of the general secretary and the executive director of ministries and proposed a revised description to the Board at its May meeting. The Board approved the revisions and presents them to synod for its review. The revised descriptions will replace the ones currently found in the *Church Order/Rules for Synodical Procedure 2001*, pp. 77-81.

II. Program matters

A. Ratification of an appointment

The Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the World Missions board, ratified the appointment of Rev. Luis A. Pellecer to be the Latin America director for Christian Reformed World Missions.

B. Denominational Ministries Plan

As noted in the *Agenda for Synod 2002*, the revised Denominational Ministries Plan (DMP) is being presented to synod for endorsement. The plan’s introduction (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, Appendix H, p. 63) explains why the Board decided to revise the previous plan endorsed by Synod 1997.

The plan is meant to guide the agencies and institutions of the Christian Reformed Church in the practice of their respective ministries. The new version does so foundationally by articulating a vision and mission statement and four core values (sections II and III). It does so strategically by asking that our agencies and institutions give priority attention to the following areas of ministry through FY 2005-2006: church development, leadership development, integrated programs for children and youth, outreach, justice, stewardship, and collaboration.

At its May meeting, the Board underscored how important these priorities are by approving seven goals to implement them—goals that can only be achieved through collaborative effort on the part of the agencies. In condensed form, these goals are:

1. To evaluate the networking and collaboration occurring between the CRCNA and other associations and organizations.
2. To covenant with congregations for services in such a way that both their ministries and those of the denominational agencies are enhanced.
3. To foster a denomination-wide church-planting movement.
4. To nurture effective servant leaders for our congregations and denominational ministries.
5. To articulate and implement a vision for wholistic ministry to children and youth.
6. To ensure that all CRC mission outreach is characterized by a strong
disciple-making component.

7. To develop one or more new model(s) of integrated international and
domestic ministry for testing in a new location or locations.

The DMP will now become the Board’s chief instrument for oversight of
CRCNA ministries. It hopes that the latter part of the plan, its Reformed
Identity Statement (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, p. 70), can be used by the churches
for educational purposes.

C. Abuse reporting policy

In the wake of much public awareness about abuse in the church, it is
appropriate to inform synod that the Board of Trustees has adopted an abuse
reporting policy for all of the agencies and educational institutions of the
Christian Reformed Church. A copy of the policy is available upon request
from the office of the executive director of ministries.

III. Financial matters

A. Budget review and ministry shares

At its May 2002 meeting, the Board of Trustees received a report of the
Budget-Review Committee (BRC), which the Board had appointed to examine
proposed budgets for the 2002-2003 fiscal year. The Budget-Review Committee
paid particular attention to the ministry-share request in all of the budgets
presented (with the exception of CRWRC), the sum of which the Ministries
Administrative Council had previously recommended to the Board of Trustees.
The Budget-Review Committee was composed of the director of finance and
administration, the executive director of ministries, the Canadian ministries
director, three Board members, and one agency director (a different director
each time the BRC interviewed an agency). All of the agencies were required to
submit detailed financial and program information to the committee in advance
of the interview meetings. Each agency was scheduled for an interview lasting
approximately two hours. The report of the Budget-Review Committee was
then submitted to the Board of Trustees with recommendations.

On the basis of this review process, the Board sought to fulfill the mandate
of Synod 1996 and Synod 1997 instructing the Board to review carefully
agencies’ effectiveness and efficiencies in the light of denominational priori-
ties. The Board’s response to that instruction is reflected in its approval of the
agency and institutional budgets as found in the *Agenda for Synod 2002—
Financial and Business Supplement* and in its recommendation that synod
approve the ministry-share request below. Prior to submission to the Board for
approval, the individual budgets of the agencies and institutions were
approved by their respective boards. It should also be noted that the recom-
mended ministry share for 2003 presupposes the approval of synod of the
recommended reallocation of ministry shares as outlined in the *Agenda for

The 2003 ministry-share request is expressed in terms of confessing mem-
bers 18 years of age and over, as a result of action taken by Synod 1993. The
request for 2003 is detailed below as information and represents an aggregate
increase of 2 percent over the ministry share total for 2002:
B. Recommended salary ranges for 2003

The Board recommends the following salary ranges for 2003, which represent a 2 percent adjustment for both the U.S. and the Canadian ranges. It has been the practice of the Board of Trustees to compensate personnel, as much as possible between 95 to 110 percent of midpoint on any range. This has been more difficult on the Canadian side of the grid because of the peculiarities of the Canadian scale. Hence, Canadian salaries tend to fall in the 85 to 90 percent range.

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Midpoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>$78,024</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>$70,989</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>$57,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>$40,603</td>
<td>$50,753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The shaded areas are not currently in use.

C. Denominational and denominationally related agencies recommended for one or more offerings:

1. Denominational agencies
   The Back to God Hour – above-ministry-share needs
   CRC TV – above-ministry-share needs
   Calvin College – above-ministry-share needs
   Calvin Theological Seminary
   a. Above-ministry-share needs
   b. Ministry Assistance Program (formerly Revolving Loan Fund)
   CRC Publications
   World Literature Ministries – above-ministry-share needs
   Denominational Services
   a. Above-ministry-share needs
   b. Ministry Programs:
      Abuse Prevention
      Chaplaincy Ministries
      Disability Concerns
Pastor-Church Relations
Race Relations
1) Above-ministry-share needs
2) Multiracial Student Scholarship Fund
Social Justice and Hunger Action
Home Missions – above-ministry-share needs
World Missions – above-ministry-share needs
World Relief Committee – one offering per quarter because CRWRC receives no ministry-share support

2. Denominationally related youth agencies
Dynamic Youth Ministries
   a. GEMS
   b. Calvinist Cadet Corps
   c. Youth Unlimited

D. Nondenominational agencies recommended for financial support but not necessarily for one or more offerings:
   Note should be made of the action of Synod 1992 regarding the financial support provided by Christian Reformed churches 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 denomi-
   national causes before making gifts to nondenominational organizations on the synod-approved accredited list.

   Ground: Our denominational causes should have priority in our giving. . . .”

   Thus, the list of accredited nondenominational agencies is meant to provide guidance to the churches in selecting organizations for support. However, accreditation is not meant to obligate the churches to designate one or more offerings to a cause.
   The following agencies, previously accredited, have renewed their application and are recommended for 2003 accreditation:

1. United States agencies
   a. Benevolent agencies
      Bethany Christian Services
      Calvary Rehabilitation Center
      Cary Christian Center, Inc.
      Christian Health Care Center
      Elim Christian Services
      International Aid, Inc.
      The Luke Society
      Mississippi Christian Family Services (MCFS)
      Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
   b. Educational agencies
      Center for Public Justice
      Christian Schools International
      Christian Schools International Foundation
Dordt College
ITEM – formerly Christ for Russia
Institute for Christian Studies Foundation (U.S.)
The King’s University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
Reformed Bible College
Rehoboth Christian School
Roseland Christian School
Trinity Christian College
Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia
Worldwide Christian Schools

c. Miscellaneous agencies

American Bible Society
Audio Scripture Ministries
The Bible League
Crossroads Bible Institute
Friendship Ministries
Gideons International – U.S.
Lord’s Day Alliance of the United States
Mission India
Reformed Ecumenical Council (REC)
The Tract League
Wycliffe Bible Translators

2. Canadian agencies

a. Benevolent agency

Beginnings Counseling & Adoption Services of Ontario

b. Educational agencies

Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc.
Dordt College
Institute for Christian Studies
The King’s University College
Redeemer University College
Reformed Bible College
Trinity Christian College
Worldwide Christian Schools – Canada

c. Miscellaneous agencies

The Bible League – Canada
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
Friendship Groups – Canada
Gideon International – Canada
Work Research Foundation
Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada, Inc.

F. Removal of accredited agencies

It is recommended that the following agencies, previously accredited, be removed from the list of accredited agencies:
1. United States agencies
   D.O.O.R. International (No application received)
   International Bible Society (No application received)

2. Canadian agency
   International Bible Society (No application received)

F. Denial of causes for inclusion
   It is recommend that the following new requests be denied inclusion on the
   list of non-denominational recommended causes:
   PARA (Primarily a regional program)
   Quiet Water Ministries (Primarily a program for the personal benefit of
   pastors)
   Intervarsity Christian Fellowship – U.S. (Its reserves exceed our guidelines
   for inclusion)

G. Policy re accreditation
   The Board of Trustees recommends to synod the approval of the restated
   and updated Policy re Accreditation of Agencies for Denominational Financial
   Support (see Appendix C).

H. Pension matters
   In accordance with the established policies, the following matters are
   reported to synod:

1. The BOT received as information the decision of the pension trustees
   regarding the final average salaries to be used in the year 2003 by the
   pension plans in the application of its benefit formula. These amounts are
   $38,654 in the United States and $39,900 in Canada.

2. The BOT concurs with the decision of the pension trustees that the partici-
   pant assessments for 2003 be $4,300 in the United States and $5,500 in
   Canada. The per confessing-member assessments (age 18 and over) for the
   Ministers’ Pension Fund have been set at $19 (U.S.) and $22 (Canada).

I. 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 D.

J. Consolidated Group Insurance (CGI) – Presented as information
   The denomination maintains a self-insured health and dental insurance
   benefit plan for use by the congregations and agencies of the CRC. CGI falls
   under the general oversight of the Board of Trustees, but it has delegated the
   general administration of the plan to the Compensation Administration
   Committee (CAC). The day-to-day administration of the plan is the respon-
   sibility of the plan administrator, Ms. Norma F. Coleman. The financial over-
   sight of the trust fund underlying the self-insured plan is the responsibility of
   the director of finance and administration, Mr. Kenneth J. Horjus.
   For many years the insurance plan has had the following components:
1. Health and dental insurance for pastors and other full-time staff serving congregations in the United States. This component of the insurance plan is made available to individuals (including dependents), but participation is entirely voluntary.

2. Supplemental insurance for pastors and other full-time staff serving congregations in Canada whose primary insurance coverage is being provided through provincial insurance programs. This component of the insurance plan is made available to individuals (including dependents), but participation is also entirely voluntary.

3. Supplemental insurance for qualifying U.S. retirees whose primary insurance coverage is provided through Medicare. This supplemental insurance is available only to a retiree and his/her spouse if the retiree was a participant in CGI at the time retirement commenced. However, a recently adopted provision limits eligibility for participation in the plan as a retiree. Specifically, retirees who were members of the plan and denomination at the date of retirement and who subsequent to the date retirement began have left the CRC will no longer be eligible to participate in the plan.

It is no secret that the health-care field has undergone substantial changes in the past number of years. CGI has made every effort to maintain a plan that is both affordable and viable for catastrophic coverage in the event of major illness. In that sense, CGI is properly thought of as a major-medical plan. Another feature of CGI is that it may offer coverage in all the places where our churches are located. This provision allowed participants to move from place to place without the concerns of changing insurance companies. However, over time a problem developed. With the many options available for HMO and PPO providers, a number of individuals and churches chose to purchase insurance with other vendors because, it was said, it costs less. In some cases that may well be true. CGI provides insurance for persons living in both high-cost and moderate-cost areas. The premium charged is the same and is unrelated to location. Yet, there are some areas in the country where costs may be less and, therefore, similar coverage can be obtained for less money than what CGI charges. It is similarly true that CGI can be less expensive than other plans in high-cost areas of the country. There can be significant variation between plans in the kind of coverage provided, deductibles applied, and co-pays charged; and, therefore, comparisons are very difficult to make.

During 2001-2002, CGI undertook, with the assistance of competent health-care professionals, a complete review of the CGI plan. The conclusion of that review pointed to the need to make the following changes:

1. To avoid the consequences of “adverse selection,” the plan would need to become primarily a “group insurance plan” in distinction from an “individually insured plan.” This change means that churches are required to enroll all of their qualifying employees in order to have any employee eligible for CGI participation. Some exceptions are permitted, but the change is intended to be generally implemented.

2. The benefit structure was changed to shift some of the costs to the plan participants and away from the employers who, for the most part, had been carrying the burden of increasing costs for many years.
3. The retiree supplemental insurance is being subsidized by the main plan’s collected premiums. The supplemental insurance rates for retirees need to be increased over a five-year period to make the supplemental plan break even.

It is not surprising that such changes have generated several responses that can best be classified as “objections” and “challenges.” Some believe that changing from an “individually insured plan” to a “group plan” conflicts with the synodically approved intent to provide insurance for ministers regardless of what a church council may decide about others who are employed by a congregation. Others have objected to the Board of Trustees for making this decision and have even alleged that the Board acted in a high-handed manner and contrary to Reformed polity. While the Board understands that the changes are significant, it also believes that synod expects the Board of Trustees to act in a fiduciary-responsible manner. The plan prior to the revisions was at risk financially. The Board also acted in the conviction that synod has assigned to it the responsibility for such entities as CGI. The fact is that CGI has never been directly administered by synod, not even in the years that precede the formation of the Board of Trustees. Hence, while no one is happy about rising costs, or the increasing complexity of health care, tough decisions need to be made to keep CGI viable.

In reviewing the objections and challenges received, the Board of Trustees did make certain accommodations for those who have been in the CGI plan for many years and who are serving churches that will not enroll all employees as a group. The accommodation made is that those within ten years of qualifying for Medicare and who are participants in the CGI plan as of December 31, 2002, may continue as “individually insured” participants and thus continue their qualification for retiree supplemental insurance when that day comes. This is a significant concession, but it is hoped that this accommodation will remove any suggestion that participants who move from church to church will be victimized by these changes late in their careers.

Because the issues are complex, and because feelings about the changes have been intense, it seemed appropriate to inform synod about the Board of Trustees’ decisions with reference to CGI.

IV. Recommendations

(Polity matters)

A. That synod by way of the ballot elect new members for the Judicial Code Committee.

B. That synod receive as information the revised position descriptions for the general secretary and the executive director of ministries.

(Finance matters)

C. That synod approve the reallocation of ministry shares for 2002 as proposed (see Agenda for Synod 2002, p. 42).

D. That synod approve a ministry share of $255.77 per confessing member 18 years of age and over for calendar year 2003.

E. That synod approve the proposed salary ranges for 2003.
F. 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.

G. That synod approve the list of accredited nondenominational agencies according to the designations assigned to each as recommended by the Board of Trustees.

H. That synod remove from its list of accredited agencies the following (see III, E):

- D.O.O.R International
- International Bible Society (both United States and Canada)

I. That synod deny the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (see III, F):

- PARA
- Quiet Water Ministries
- Intervarsity Christian Fellowship – U.S.

Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America
David H. Engelhard, general secretary
Peter Borgdorff, executive director of ministries

Appendix A
Position Description for the General Secretary of the CRCNA

I. Qualifications

The general secretary shall

A. Be a theologically trained, ordained minister in the Christian Reformed Church who has served as a pastor in at least one of the congregations of the denomination.

B. Be well acquainted with the Christian Reformed denomination, its churches, ministers, lay leaders, and agencies both in Canada and in the United States.

C. Possess a thorough knowledge of Church Order and be competent in interpreting the same.

D. Have the ability to write lucidly and succinctly and be competent in public address.

E. Possess administrative and organizational ability.

F. Be able to move with ease and dignity in North American ecclesiastical circles. Be congenial and cooperative with representatives of other churches as well as with members of the Christian Reformed denomination.

II. Organizational relationships

The general secretary shall
A. Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (the Board) and shall serve as its secretary. He shall also serve as the secretary of the U.S. corporate entity known as the Christian Reformed Church in North America—Michigan Corporation.

B. Serve as an ex officio, voting member of the Interchurch Relations Committee.

C. Have the privilege of the floor at synodical meetings in all matters relating to the exercise of this office and be present during all executive sessions of synod.

D. Consult with the executive director of ministries in areas of mutual responsibilities.

III. Supervision
The general secretary shall work under the supervision of the Board and shall be ultimately responsible to synod.

IV. Term
The general secretary shall be appointed by synod upon a single nomination by the Board. The general secretary’s continued employment is subject to a favorable annual performance review by the Board.

V. Duties and responsibilities
In performing and discharging the following specific duties and responsibilities, the general secretary shall have responsibility for ecclesiastical matters, matters of polity and church practice, and denominational and interchurch communications and relations.

To fulfill the responsibilities described above, the general secretary, as the executive secretary of synod, shall

A. Edit and have printed such official publications the synod or the Board shall authorize.

B. Have synodical papers, including correspondence, surveys, reports, questionnaires, materials, and minutes produced for synod and keep a file of synodical correspondence as well as an accurate record of the proceedings of synod.

C. Have surveillance over denominational archives and historical documents on behalf of the Board and be responsible for the right of access to such documents.

D. Inform all persons who have been appointed by synod to serve on committees, provide them with relevant data concerning their assignment, and serve as an ex officio member on synodical study committees.

E. Receive progress reports and/or minutes from all study and ad hoc committees appointed by synod.

F. Make physical arrangements for synod and function as operations officer during the meetings of synod.
G. Serve synod with information and advice as requested regarding matters that come to the floor of synod.

H. Handle the general correspondence of the denomination.

I. When called upon, give advice and information regarding the provisions of Church Order and the decisions of synod.

J. On behalf of synod and the Board, be a servant of the people, the churches, and the denominational agencies by responding to invitations, maintaining liaison, and visiting classes as time and circumstances allow or as the Board may direct.

K. Represent the denomination or secure the proper representation of the denomination at civic and religious functions in keeping with its relationship to the governments of Canada and the United States. In all cases, the general secretary shall act in accordance with the approved policies of the CRCNA. In cases where there is a question, the Board should be consulted.

L. On behalf of the Board or synod, prepare news or information bulletins for the news media, which will inform the public of the work and witness of the church.

M. On behalf of the Board and in consultation with the Board chairman

1. Prepare and distribute copies of the agenda for meetings of the Board and the Executive Committee.

2. Inform Board members of meeting times and make all the necessary arrangements for such meetings.

3. Record the minutes of Board and Board Executive meetings, be the custodian of the minutes, and distribute copies as appropriate and/or as directed by the Board.

4. Keep records of Board membership and aid the Board in the nomination and election process of new members.

5. Receive all official Board correspondence, except for correspondence regarding agencies and institutions that deals directly with the ministry or educational programs for which they are responsible.

6. Write letters on behalf of the Board as instructed.

7. Serve as spokesperson for the Board when directed to do so.

N. Perform such duties as synod or the Board shall direct.

Revised by the BOT, May 2002
Appendix B
Position Description for the Executive Director of Ministries (EDM) of the CRCNA

I. Qualifications
   The executive director of ministries shall

   A. Be a member of the Christian Reformed Church (CRC), preferably an ordained minister in the CRC, with good knowledge of and commitment to the teaching of Scripture and the Reformed confessions and with a love for the mission of the church.

   B. Have received appropriate educational training and prior senior management experience in which leadership and management skills have been demonstrated.

   C. Possess personal and professional integrity.

   D. Demonstrate self-reliance and sound judgment in decision-making.

   E. Have the ability to plan and work collaboratively with everyone involved in denominational ministries.

   F. Have demonstrated ability in written and oral communications.

   G. Have the capacity to delegate authority.

   H. Have demonstrated capacity for listening, integrating ideas, and setting future priorities.

   I. Be able to exercise authority in an unobtrusive manner in order to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of denominational ministries and agencies.

   J. Have the ability to develop rapport and trust with denominational employees in order to promote job satisfaction and a high level of achievement.

   K. Have the ability to understand and act on advice with respect to budgetary guidelines, financial reports, and fiscal priorities of denominational agencies.

II. Organizational relationships
   The executive director of ministries shall:

   A. Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA.

   B. Have the privilege of the floor at synodical meetings in all matters relating to the exercise of this office and be present during all executive sessions of synod.

   C. Consult with the general secretary as necessary in the discharge of duties in areas of mutual responsibilities.

   D. Chair the meetings of the Ministries Policy Council (MPC) and the Ministries Administrative Council (MAC).
III. Supervision

The executive director of ministries shall work under the supervision of the Board and shall be ultimately responsible to synod.

IV. Term

The executive director of ministries shall be appointed by synod upon a single nomination by the Board. The Executive Director of Ministries’ continued employment is subject to a favorable annual performance review by the Board.

V. Duties and responsibilities

In performing and discharging the following specific duties and responsibilities, the executive director of ministries shall have responsibility for matters pertaining to the agencies, boards, and committees; their programs, personnel, and finance.

To fulfill his responsibilities as described above, the executive director of ministries shall

A. Be invested by the board with executive responsibility and a management role that shall enhance the unified ministry of the denomination through joint strategic planning and coordination of goals while recognizing the particular responsibilities and roles of each agency, committee, and institution.

B. Develop and implement a strategic denominational ministries and agencies plan as a basis for managing the planning, coordinating, and integrating of the work of the agencies and committees and for integrating the respective missions of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary into the denominational ministry program.

C. Require reports of all agencies, provide the board with analyses and reviews of programs, and make recommendations with respect to the distribution of the resources of the denomination.

D. Serve synod with information and advice, as requested, regarding matters that come to the floor of synod.

E. Handle correspondence pertaining to the discharge of the responsibilities of the executive director of ministries.

F. Manage the implementation of synodical and Board policy decisions as they relate to denominational ministries.

G. Call meetings of the Ministries Policy Council, and of the Ministries Administrative Council on a functional basis in various combinations of directors or official representatives of denominational agencies, committees, or institutions. Ensure that all agencies, committees, or institutions affected by any discussion and/or decision are adequately represented and shall serve as the conflict-resolving agent.

H. Present an appropriately planned annual budget, incorporating individual budgets from each agency and educational institution.
I. Submit an annual report to the board on work being done with agencies, committees, and institutions based on individual goals and the strategic plan for the denomination.

J. Ordinarily attend the meetings of each agency, committee, and institution’s board meeting as requested or at the executive director of ministries’ own initiative.

K. Serve, on behalf of synod and the Board of Trustees, as the administrative supervisor of agency directors in cooperation with the relevant agency boards.

L. Serve, on behalf of synod and the Board of Trustees—Canada, as the administrative supervisor of the Canadian Ministries Director.

M. Serve, as agent of the Board of Trustees, in securing the cooperation of the educational institutions affiliated with the denomination toward integration of their respective missions into the denominational ministry program.

N. Supervise the work of the director of finance and administration and receive advice on all matters involving finances.

O. Supervise the work of the personnel services director and the functions of the Personnel Services Office.

P. Supervise the personnel and functions of the Coordinated Services Program.

Q. Supervise directors of ministry programs that are located in the Denominational Services Office and other program personnel who fall within the mandate of the Board.

R. On behalf of synod and the Board, be a servant of the people, the churches, and the denominational agencies by responding to invitations, maintaining liaison, and visiting classes as time and circumstances allow or as the Board may direct.

S. Perform such other duties as synod or the Board shall direct.

Revised by the BOT, May 2002

Appendix C
Policy re Accreditation of Agencies for Denominational Financial Support

I. Introduction

The material below governs the process by which nondenominational ministries and agencies can obtain accreditation status that results in a synodical endorsement for such ministries and agencies to be included on the offering schedule of individual congregations. It is emphasized that a synodical endorsement is not an assurance that any ministry or agency will in fact receive an offering from any one church. The endorsement only means that the ministry has merit, and that the financial and administrative management falls within the guidelines articulated below. The application process is managed
by the executive director of ministries and the director of finance and administra-
tion. The formal recommendation for accreditation to synod is the responsi-
bility of the Board of Trustees of the CRC. The decision of synod is final.

II. Program evaluation

A. All new organizations requesting financial support from the churches in
the CRC must first submit to the Board of Trustees a statement of its aims and
purposes and be approved as to program.

B. The following guidelines shall be used by the Board of Trustees in evaluat-
ing the program of organizations seeking accreditation:

1. The synod and the Board of Trustees of the CRC are responsible for apprais-
ing the programs and agencies that solicit CRC support and that are closely
related to the CRC’s integral work (works of mercy, of Christian education,
or the distribution of the Word of God). While the CRC has a vital interest in
the work of the Lord’s kingdom, it cannot and should not assume responsi-

cibility for making a judgment on the worth of every kind of kingdom
activity nor assume responsibility for the financing of the Lord’s work in
every sphere of life.

2. Accreditation of agencies that fall within the scope of the above limitation
(works of mercy, of Christian education, or the distribution of the Word of
God) but are of a local or regional scope, must be submitted to the local or
regional assemblies, unless their unique character or need make this
impossible.

3. In order to move in the direction of accrediting only such agencies that are
intimately related with the mandate of the CRC as an organization, and to
limit the support of the synodical assembly only to such agencies as cannot
be carried by local or regional assemblies, the Board of Trustees shall not
recommend agencies for denominational support unless they are closely
allied with our ecclesiastical task and ought for good reason to be recom-
mended to the entire denomination for support.

4. The procedures outlined above are not only an indication as to procedure
with respect to new agencies but also should serve as guidelines for the
review of all of the agencies that have in the past been placed on the
accreditation list of synod.

5. Whereas the Board of Trustees and the synod ought to live by the guide-
lines above, this in no way infringes upon the broad scope of the work of
the Lord in every avenue of life. Such support ought to be given on an
individual basis rather than by way of ecclesiastical offerings or recommend-
ations.

III. Classification of agencies

A. Synodically accredited agencies are classified under headings of
Evangelism, Education, Benevolence, and Social Services/Miscellaneous; and,
in addition, are classified as to their denominational relationship.
1. **Denominational Ministries and/or Agencies.** These are denominational agencies of the CRC and accredited for above-ministry share offerings.

2. **Denominationally Related Ministries and/or Agencies.** These are agencies, not denominationally operated, whose services are performed for the denomination in the United States and Canada and/or they perform a distinct service for a denominational agency. In addition, these are causes that, as pioneering efforts carried out among the constituency of our denomination, touch the social conscience of our denomination in such fields as mental health services, services to the mentally and physically handicapped, family counseling, and child adoptive services. These agencies and institutions have become so closely affiliated with our constituency that they have been worked into the very fabric of our denominational life and not only have made a contribution to the welfare of our people not only but also serve as a model for similar regional efforts.

3. **Unaffiliated Ministries and/or Agencies.** These, too, are agencies not denominationally operated, whose supporting constituency is multinational or national in extent and whose services are performed for the denomination in the United States and Canada. They have their origin in synodical directives and perform a work for the Christian church approved by synod that is not being done by a Christian Reformed denominational agency.

4. **Exceptional Cases.** Synod shall retain the privilege of admitting to the list for a designated limited time those agencies that have an urgent and emergency need even when such agencies do not precisely meet the other eligibility standards. Application and recommendation for such shall also be processed through the Board of Trustees.

**B.** When there are agencies on the list that no longer meet the definitions of the classifications, or if an agency has developed a ministry that is local or regional in focus, such agencies shall be advised to seek regional support.

**C.** Rules and regulations implementing the above are as follows:

1. The Board of Trustees will regularly (not less than every three years) advise all accredited agencies about the procedures required to maintain the classification of agencies as described above. Each agency must submit program and financial information in accordance with the existing rules for evaluation and submission to the Board of Trustees and synod for approval.

2. The responsibility for submitting the request for denominational accreditation lies entirely with the requesting agency.

3. Accreditation, once granted, shall be in effect for three years with updated information regarding financial and any significant program changes to be submitted in the second and third years. Updated information is required by March 15 of the second and third years of accreditation. Prior to the third anniversary of an agency’s last accreditation, agencies shall submit an application by March 15 for consideration by the Board of Trustees in May and synod in June. New applications for accreditation may be considered each year, with the application also required by March 15. Entities added to the list in the second or third year of synod’s three-year accreditation cycle...
will enjoy such status for one or two years of the accreditation cycle, such that all accredited agencies will be on the same three-year cycle regardless of the year accredited status was first achieved.

4. The executive director of ministries and the director of finance and administration shall make the preliminary recommendations for consideration and determination by the Board of Trustees.

5. Each requesting agency shall be notified as to the decision made by the Board of Trustees only if the recommendation is negative. Any agency whose application is denied shall have the right to communicate with synod in writing (through the office of the executive director of ministries) stating its position with reference to the recommendation. Each requesting agency will be notified of the decision of synod concerning the request for accreditation.

6. The final recommendation of the Board of Trustees, whether positive or negative, shall be reviewed by synod’s synodical services advisory committee in the same manner in which other advisory committees of synod function. In order to prevent two committees at synod from taking contradictory action, it shall be established that although the synodical services advisory committee may wish to consult with the finance committee, it shall be the synodical services committee that makes the recommendation to synod.

D. Agencies that are currently accredited but determined by the Board of Trustees to be regional in character and that are unable to make an immediate transition to regional accreditation will be granted a period of three years to make such transition.

IV. Miscellaneous regulations and provisions

A. No agency shall be considered for denominational accreditation until it has been in existence for a minimum of three years.

B. Synod will adhere to its established process and recognize the necessity of the Board of Trustees’ evaluation procedure before considering accreditation of nondenominational agencies for financial support.

C. No agency shall be considered for accreditation if its ministry focus duplicates that of a denominational agency.

D. No agency shall be considered for accreditation if its financial reserves exceed the limits that are permissible for denominational agencies.

E. No agency shall be considered for accreditation if it engages in fund-raising practices that violate the guidelines established for denominational agencies.

F. Accredited agencies may use the denominational membership mailing list provided the rules governing its use are adhered to and provided the service fee is paid.
G. Synod reserves the right to place restrictions on any agency’s accreditation as it deems appropriate. Such restrictions, if any, shall be indicated in brackets in the listing of accredited agencies.

H. Financial requirements

In order to enable the Board of Trustees to analyze the financial conditions of the various agencies asking for financial support, such agencies are to provide the following information using the attached forms:

1. Financial statement audited or reviewed by a Certified Public Accountant or Chartered Accountant.

2. A formal request for accreditation.

3. A statement of the amount received from the Christian Reformed Church and all members thereof.

I. Honesty Bond Coverage

The following procedure for determining the amount of honesty or fidelity bond coverage is recommended. Executives and managers who have the greatest exposure to funds of the organization should be covered at close or equal to the highest amount of bond, whereas clerks and others who are exposed in a lesser degree should be covered at minimum or better as determined by management.

1. Protection estimator

Adequate honesty insurance is vital. Studies of losses have shown that many are not fully covered by insurance. While it is impossible to measure in actuarial terms exactly how much honesty insurance will be needed, through the use of the protection estimator, a range of suggested bond amounts is made available for commercial firms. Current assets and income represent the exposure to embezzlement; hence this formula is based upon those items and should reduce the ever-present threat of under-insurance.

It should be noted that the use of this device permits one to select a bond amount within rather broad brackets. This is necessary to provide for flexibility in selecting an amount that obviously will fluctuate on the basis of an analysis of each risk. Many factors, such as internal audit control, disposability of inventory, negotiability of securities, and others must be studied in respect to the nature of the business under consideration.

The amount of suggested coverage begins with $2500, as there are small businesses where a $2500 bond could suffice under given conditions. It should be understood, however, that there is no limit to the possibilities of employee dishonesty, so these suggested amounts must not be accepted as the maximum amounts that may be needed. The insured should be warily mindful of the possible “catastrophe” loss when considering the purchase of a blanket fidelity bond.

2. Protection estimator formula

The formula of this protection estimator is simple. Merely take

a. 20% of the total current assets, and
b. 10% of annual income.
The resultant total is the “dishonesty exposure factor.” Find this amount in the chart below and the suggested range of bond amounts will appear opposite the Exposure Factor.

Where a firm performs services for others, including disbursing and collecting funds, include all items under custody in the respective categories stated in the formula.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exposure Factor</th>
<th>Amount of Bond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to $25,000</td>
<td>$2,500 to $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 to 125,000</td>
<td>25,000 to 50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125,000 to 400,000</td>
<td>50,000 to 100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400,000 to 1,000,000</td>
<td>100,000 to 150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000 to 2,000,000</td>
<td>150,000 to 200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000,000 to 4,000,000</td>
<td>200,000 to 300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,000,000 to 6,000,000</td>
<td>300,000 to 400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6,000,000 to 10,000,000</td>
<td>400,000 to 600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000,000 to 15,000,000</td>
<td>600,000 to 800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,000,000 to 25,000,000</td>
<td>800,000 to 1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,000,000 to 75,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000 to 1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75,000,000 to 175,000,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>175,000,000 to 500,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000 to 3,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500,000,000 to 1,000,000,000</td>
<td>3,000,000 to 4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000,000 to 1,500,000,000</td>
<td>4,000,000 to 5,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The selection of a bond amount cannot be reduced to an exact science, and the gaps between one bracket and another must be bridged by intelligent analysis of each risk.

For example: Suppose the exposure factor is determined to be $150,000. It would not be helpful to interpolate and recommend a bond of $55,000. The rate structure for Commercial Blanket Bonds is not designed for such hair-splitting. When a buyer passes the $50,000 range minimum, multiples of $25,000 are recommended as a practical approach to adequate coverage.

All denominational boards, agencies, and committees that receive denominational funds, as well as all accredited agencies, must give clear evidence that they are bonded in accordance with the above guidelines.

*Ground:* Honesty bond coverage commensurate with each fund’s potential for loss is simply good business practice and is in keeping with principles of good stewardship.
For Program Evaluation, please submit the following:

1. A copy of the purpose and goals of your organization. Please provide as much detail as you feel necessary for evaluation, especially if there have been changes in purpose and goals.

2. A statement describing new programs or changes in the program that you will be introducing.

3. A statement describing programs in which you will no longer be engaged.

4. A statement describing the geographical area you serve. This is important because you are seeking denominational-wide accreditation.

5. For educational/academic institutions, a list of the degree programs you now offer or soon plan to offer.

6. A copy of your corporate by-laws if there have been changes from prior years.

DUE DATE FOR SUBMISSION - MARCH 15

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA
2850 Kalamazoo Ave., S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49560

EVALUATION OF AGENCIES SEEKING ANNUAL RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION

Name of Organization ________________________________________________
Contact Person _____________________________________________________

For Financial Evaluation, please submit the following:

1. A copy of your most recent financial statement as audited by your certified public accountant or chartered accountant. If an audited financial statement is not available, a copy of an official financial review may be substituted. If either an audit or review will not be completed by the submission date, please send a preliminary copy followed by a final copy as soon as it is available.

2. A copy of your last year’s and current year’s operating budgets because you will be requesting financial support for the next calendar year.

   Your financial reports and budgets should indicate the percentage of expenditures attributed to program and those attributed to support (general administrative, fund-raising) services.

3. For U.S. agencies, your Federal Identification Number (EIN) and a statement that your “501(c)3” status as a nonprofit organization is in effect.

4. For Canadian agencies, your registration number as a Canadian charity.

5. For educational agencies/academic institutions, your calculation showing cost per full-time equivalent student.
6. The amount of contributions you have received from Christian Reformed Churches and the percentage this represents of your total contributions.

7. A statement indicating that your fidelity bond is in effect as well as the amount of the coverage.

DUE DATE FOR SUBMISSION - MARCH 15

Appendix D
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, 2001, all of the agencies and institutions appear to be 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.
### Agencies and Institutions

#### Investment Summary in US$ As of December 31, 2001

**Categories Specified by Investment Policy:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Back to Calvin</th>
<th>Calvin College</th>
<th>Calvin Seminary</th>
<th>CRC Publications</th>
<th>Denominational Services</th>
<th>CRC Foundation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHORT TERM</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,274,992</td>
<td>$5,794</td>
<td>$915,596</td>
<td>$540,184</td>
<td>(202,644)</td>
<td>$52,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money-market mutual funds</td>
<td></td>
<td>16,763,387</td>
<td>1,121,468</td>
<td>21,290</td>
<td>81,562</td>
<td>51,493</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates of deposit</td>
<td></td>
<td>308,112</td>
<td>133,500</td>
<td>99,628</td>
<td>1,645,207</td>
<td>240,966</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED-INCOME ISSUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Liquidity Fund</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>1,253,356</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other short term</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOUNDATION BALANCED FUND</strong></td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>2,737,730</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>77,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock</td>
<td></td>
<td>51,465</td>
<td>40,403</td>
<td>11,888,976</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity mutual funds</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,376 (3)</td>
<td>63,577,772</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US treasuries or Canadian govt bonds</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18,638,859</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,666,941 (11)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicly traded bonds and notes</td>
<td>(investment grade, at least A-rated)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,608,753 (11)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond mutual funds</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14,306,413</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(6,624,278) (11)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interagency Investments (Obligations):</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans to CRCNA</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>165,979</td>
<td>(1,986,000)</td>
<td>419,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Investments:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private equity fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,866,377 (6)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships</td>
<td></td>
<td>233,659 (4)</td>
<td>122,277 (4)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land contracts</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life insurance cash value</td>
<td></td>
<td>296,727 (5)</td>
<td>97,193 (5)</td>
<td>166,293 (5)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes receivable</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>809,488 (8)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common stock - nonlisted</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>230,925 (9)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate (nonoperating)</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,000 (10)</td>
<td>187,500 (10)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,923,892</td>
<td>$117,974,500</td>
<td>$14,225,833</td>
<td>$827,081</td>
<td>(810,458)</td>
<td>$841,643</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numbers in parentheses are footnote numbers. See the footnotes that follow.
### Investment Summary in US$ As of December 31, 2001

#### Categories Specified by Investment Policy:

**SHORT TERM**
- **CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**
  - Cash: $367,482
  - Money-market mutual funds: $55,426
  - Certificates of deposit: $711,008
- **FIXED-INCOME ISSUES**
  - Foundation Liquidity Fund: $1,755,957
  - Other short term: $1,021,002
- **FOUNDATION BALANCED FUND**
  - Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock: $426,332

#### COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS
- Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock: $212,979
- Equity mutual funds: $21,705

#### FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)
- US Treasuries or Canadian govt bonds: $785,894
- Publicly traded bonds and notes (investment grade, at least A-rated): $185,066
- Bond mutual funds: $1,435,883
- CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts: $212,979
- Interagency Investments (Obligations):
  - Loans to CRCNA: $980,630
- Other Investments:
  - Private equity fund:
  - Partnerships: $2,982,000
  - Land contracts: $36,588
  - Life insurance cash value:
  - Notes receivable:
  - Common stock - nonlisted:
  - Real estate (nonoperating): $70,000

### Fund Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Home Missions</th>
<th>Loan Fund</th>
<th>World Missions</th>
<th>World Relief</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smaller Churches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Missions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Missions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Relief</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total**: $1,133,916 $5,841,555 $4,397,758 $6,296,183 $5,847,240

Numbers in parentheses are footnote numbers. See the footnotes that follow.
Footnotes to the December 31, 2001, Investment Summary

1. Foundation pooled/unitized fixed-income account for agencies.
2. Foundation pooled/unitized balanced account (fixed income 57.5 percent, equities 42.5 percent) for agencies.
3. Mutual funds gifted by donors.
4. Estimated value of JCM (formerly IRM) partnership investments.
5. Cash value of life insurance contracts received as gifts.
6. Interest in a private equity fund received as a gift, including unrealized gains and investments.
7. Land contract received as a gift.
8. Includes proceeds from sale of private company stock received as a gift (secured by stock sold), a promissory note received for the sale of land received as a gift, and notes outstanding on a life insurance policy.
9. Includes investment in Creative Dining Services, owned jointly with Hope College.
10. Real estate received as a gift. To be sold on occurrence of specified future event.
11. These investments, which provide security for the overdraft accounts, are part of a Canadian agency concentration/netting for interest cash management and investment program.
The Calvin College Board of Trustees met May 16-17, 2002, 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 three distinguished alumni. The board interviewed nine faculty members for reappointment, and there was a discussion on a report from the ad hoc committee to study exceptions to Calvin College’s policy regarding Christian school requirement for faculty.

I. Faculty matters
   (See Recommendations III, A for retirees)

II. Election of college trustees

A. Regional trustees (see Recommendation III, B,1)

B. Alumni trustee (see Recommendation III, B, 2)

   The board recommends Mrs. Connie Northouse Brummel for a second term, which will expire in 2005.

   Mrs. Connie Northouse Brummel was graduated from Calvin with a bachelor of arts degree and from Western Michigan University with a master of arts degree. Connie spent her career as a middle school teacher in Christian schools in Grand Rapids, Dearborn, and Holland, Michigan, and retired from teaching in 1991. Connie and her husband Roger are active members of Fourteenth Street Christian Reformed Church in Holland. Her board and community experience includes the Calvin Alumni Association, Christian Educator’s Association, Holland Global Education Committee, Holland Christian Capital Subscribers Board, and the Holland Historical Trust. Her two daughters and sons-in-law are also Calvin graduates.

C. At large trustees (see Recommendation III, B, 3)

1. Dr. Tom De Meester has completed his second term and Mr. Kenneth Ozinga is unable to serve a second term on the board. Having considered representation of the business sector, gender balance, clergy/laity, and geographical representation, the board proposes that each of the following be elected as at-large trustees for a three-year term:

   Mr. David Vander Ploeg was graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor of arts degree and later received his doctor of law degree from the same institution. David retired in 2001 as the executive director of the Barnabas Foundation, a position he assumed in 1993. He served as
executive director of The Back to God Hour from 1988-1993 after a long career in law, specializing in business and estate planning. David and his wife Sheryl are lifelong members of the Christian Reformed Church, and David has served as a deacon, elder, and a delegate to synod. The Vander Ploegs are currently members of the St. Joseph Christian Reformed Church. Their three children are graduates of Calvin College.

*Mrs. Janice Van Dyke Zeilstra* was graduated from Calvin with a bachelor of arts degree. Janice is a member of the Lombard (Illinois) Christian Reformed Church where she has served as director of the Coffee Break program. She is president of Darwill Press and has served on the boards of Timothy Christian School, Elim Christian School, Lombard Christian Reformed Church, the Barnabas Foundation, and as co-chair of the Timothy Christian Schools Capital Campaign. She has served two terms as an alternate regional trustee for the Calvin College Board of Trustees. Mrs. Van Dyke’s four children are all graduates of Calvin.

2. Mr. Stephen Chong and Mrs. Cindi Veenstra have each served one three-year term, and the board recommends each for reelection to a second three-year term.

*Mr. Stephen Chong* was graduated from Calvin with a bachelor of arts degree and Ohio State University with a doctor of law degree. Stephen is a partner in the Arnold, Matheny & Eagan law firm in Orlando, Florida. His specialties include real estate, probate and estates, and litigation in commercial cases. Steve has published in real estate journals and has given presentations at a number of symposiums and bar associations. He was a member of the Calvin Alumni Board from 1991-1994 and represented the alumni on the Presidential Search Committee. He and his wife Sheryl have five children and are members of the Lake Sherwood Presbyterian Church where he has served as an elder since 1986.

*Mrs. Cindi Veenstra* was graduated from Calvin with a bachelor of arts degree. She serves as director of The EXODUS Network, a nationwide realtor referral network that prescreens, evaluates, and recommends realtors who are specialists in both real estate and Christian community information. Trained as an elementary education teacher, Mrs. Veenstra taught preschool and first grade in Christian schools in the West Michigan area. She has served as a CR World Missions volunteer in Bacolod City, The Philippines, for five years. She is involved in many volunteer organizations, including recent service as secretary of the Calvin College Alumni Board. Mrs. Veenstra and her husband David are members of the Immanuel Christian Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

3. The board is requesting that by way of exception Mr. Milton Kuyers be elected to a third three-year term.

*Ground:* The need for continuity in board leadership commends this action at this time.

*Mr. Milton Kuyers* was graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor of arts degree and later received his masters degree in business administration. He has spent a long and distinguished career in business in the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, area and is currently president of Faustel, Inc. Mr. Kuyers and his wife Carol are active members of the Brookfield Christian
Reformed Church. His board and community service include membership on the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA; the World Ministries board; and the boards of Trinity Christian College, Milwaukee Christian School, Christian Schools International, CRWRC, Elim Christian School, and Zuni Christian School. He has also served as elder and as a delegate to synod.

III. Recommendations

A. That synod give appropriate recognition to the following for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church and confer on them the titles listed below.

1. Ralph Honderd, Ph.D., Professor of Physical Education, Emeritus
2. Merle Mustert, M.M., Associate Professor of Music, Emeritus
3. G. Dale Topp, Ph.D., Professor of Music, Emeritus
4. William Van Doorne, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus

B. Board elections

1. That synod by way of the printed ballot ratify the following elections to the Calvin College Board of Trustees (elections were conducted at the respective classes of each region). The terms begin and end on the convening date of the first full board meeting following the meeting of synod.

   Note: The Region 9 alternate spot is vacant due to the nomination of Mrs. Janice Van Dyke Zeilstra as an at-large trustee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regions 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Mr. Robert Koole</td>
<td>Dr. Jack Hielema</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 7</td>
<td>Mrs. Carol Bremer-Bennett</td>
<td>Rev. Jeffrey Dykema</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 9</td>
<td>Mr. Craig Friesema</td>
<td>(vacant)</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 11</td>
<td>Mr. William J. Alphenaar</td>
<td>Mr. Ralph Katerberg</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 12</td>
<td>Rev. Douglas Bratt</td>
<td>Mr. Donald Sporn</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Alumni trustee

   That synod by way of the printed ballot elect Mrs. Connie Northouse Brummel to the Calvin College Board of Trustees to a second term.

3. At-large trustee

   That synod by way of the printed ballot elect to a first term or reelect to a second term the following to the Calvin College Board of Trustees:

   - Mr. Milton Kuyers (third term) 2005
   - Mr. Stephen Chong (second term) 2005
   - Mrs. Cindi Veenstra (second term) 2005
   - Mr. David Vander Ploeg (first term) 2005
   - Mrs. Janice Van Dyke Zeilstra (first term) 2005

C. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to the chair of the board, Mr. Milton Kuyers; the vice chair of the board, Rev. Charles De Ridder; the secretary of the board, the Rev. Edward Blankespoor; and the president of the college, Dr. Gaylen J. Byker, when matters pertaining to the college are presented.

Calvin College Board of Trustees
Edward Blankespoor, secretary
This report includes actions and recommendations of the seminary board of trustees resulting from its April 19, 2002, Executive Committee and its plenary meeting of May 16-18, 2002.

I. Information

A. The board of trustees
   The board of trustees accepted, with regret, the resignation of Rev. Ricardo Orellana who resigned his position on the board of trustees for personal reasons.

B. Building and finance
   Approval was granted to construct a new residence for the president of Calvin Theological Seminary on the site of the current farmhouse.
   The budget of $5,441,340 was approved as presented for 2002-2003.

C. Graduates, licentiates, and candidates
   Forty-eight students graduated from our degree programs on May 18, 2002, and six graduates from other seminaries successfully completed their ecclesiastical requirements at Calvin Seminary and are included in the list of candidates.
   Successful interviews were conducted with twenty-eight new candidacy applicants recommended by the faculty (Recommendations II, A).
   Two candidates from last year, Ms. Bonnie Natte and Mr. Serguei Sossedkine requested extension of their candidacy. The board so recommends to synod (Recommendations II, B and C).
   Forty-four students were granted either regular or temporary licensure to exhort.

D. Vacancy
   The board declared a vacancy in the Department of Preaching and Worship beginning in academic year 2004-2005 and authorized the faculty to begin a search process.

II. Recommendations

A. That synod declare the following as candidates for the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church, subject to completion of all requirements:

   Blankespoor, James E.  Knoester, John C.
   Bolkema, Brian W.  Meinema, Daniel A.
   Bouws, Douglas J.  Oberg, Jr., Richard G.
   Brouwers, Gary W.  Ponsen, Benjamin J.
   Cha, Paul J.  Schievink, Christopher J.
   Choi, Peter Y.  Schuringa, Gregory D.
   Cok, Victoria V.  Swierenga, Ryan S.
   Copley, Lora A.  Vander Haagen, Elizabeth A.
   Dam, C. Martin  Vander Horst, Kenneth M.
   De Lange, Ray P.  Visker, Nathan A.
   Fluit, Christopher A.  Wamala, Gideon E.
   Geleyse, John A.  Winter, Harold A.
   Kim, Matthew C.  Worster III, Paul C.
   Klingenberg, M. Jeffery

   420 AGENCY AND COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTS  ACTS OF SYNOD 2002
B. That Ms. Bonnie Natte be granted a one-year extension of her candidacy.

C. That Mr. Serguei Sossedkine be granted a one-year extension of his candidacy.

D. That synod declare a vacancy in the Department of Preaching and Worship beginning in academic year 2004-2005.

Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees
Sidney Jansma, Jr., secretary
I. Response to Communication from Classis Illiana regarding the article titled “When CRC Ministers Abuse” in the November 5, 2001, issue of The Banner

In Communication 2, Classis Illiana requests that synod reprimand Rev. John Suk “for the lack of spiritual and journalistic judgment he exercised in printing the article.” The communication refers specifically to the opening paragraph of the article, which the classis believes is excessively graphic (especially for a periodical “intended to provide devotional instruction for the spiritual development of the CRCNA”), and to a “breach of confidentiality” in that the article makes judgments about cases that were “clearly familiar to some readers.”

The CRC Publications Board urges synod not to concur with the request of Classis Illiana for the following reasons:

A. First of all, it should be noted that the purposes of The Banner are broader than “devotional instruction for spiritual development.” As approved by synod, the stated purposes of The Banner are as follows:

- Inform readers about what is happening in the CRC, as well as the church at large, to provide articles that edify and encourage Christian living, and to stimulate critical thinking about issues related to the Christian faith and to the culture of which Christians and the CRC are a part.

B. It is in light of this broader mandate that The Banner staff chose to deal with the matter of pastoral abuse in the CRC. This issue is clearly one that needs more attention than it has received. A number of synodical actions in recent years support this view. The recent spate of stories about the same issue in the Catholic Church shows that the CRC is not alone in facing this issue. Rev. John Suk decided that this issue was so important that the use of a graphic story, such as the one at the beginning of the article, was warranted to ensure increased attention to this matter.

C. Classis Illiana was not alone in believing that this story might be perceived to be obscene. However, many readers also expressed support for the way this article called attention to this matter. The CRC Publications Board believes that the decision to include this story was a judgment call that Rev. Suk is well qualified to make. The Board supports his decision. It is clear from the context of the story, including the comment immediately following the story in the article, that Rev. Suk did not include it to titillate readers but to capture their attention regarding a very important issue in the church.

D. Other Christian magazines that have covered this matter have also included graphic stories in their coverage. A recent example is the March 2, 2002, issue of World magazine.

E. The communication also charges that the way the article covered the stories appeared to be a breach of confidentiality because the stories are familiar to some readers. The Board would like to note that, since no names were used in the story, there was no breach of confidentiality. Any speculation on the part of The Banner readers regarding a specific case mentioned would be just that.
Based on the above, the CRC Publications Board believes that Rev. Suk showed wisdom and courage in his decision-making on this sensitive and important matter. In fact, at its annual meeting in February, the Board approved a motion to “commend Rev. John Suk and Karen DeVries for their handling of the delicate yet serious subject matter.” The Board believes that a reprimand from synod would be a grievous mistake.

II. Resignation of The Banner Editor

At its May meeting, Rev. John Suk informed the CRC Publications Executive Committee of his resignation as editor-in-chief of The Banner effective in late summer, 2003. The Executive Committee accepted his resignation with “regret and commendation.”

The Executive Committee approved a motion that Rev. Suk fill The Banner editor position at a half-time level for a trial period of one year. This one-year trial will begin in early fall 2002.

The Executive Committee also approved a motion for a yearlong study of “the future of The Banner” with the following grounds:

**Grounds:**

a. Since The Banner may face another financial crisis in five years or so, it is important to start these discussions now, when there is sufficient time to gather the necessary information and to thoroughly explore all options, so that a thoughtful proposal can be developed regarding the long-term future of our denominational periodical.

b. Doing the study prior to searching for a new editor of The Banner will provide significant help for the search process regarding the kind of editor who should be selected.

**Notes:**

1. This study will require an interim arrangement to be made for The Banner editor position for one year after Rev. Suk completes his service;
2. The study will include the appointment of a “Future of The Banner Committee,” a denominational “conversation,” and some market research.

CRC Publications
Gary Mulder, executive director
I. Bilateral relationships—churches in ecclesiastical fellowship

Below are the provisions of ecclesiastical fellowship and an updated list of churches with which the CRCNA has ecclesiastical fellowship.

A. Provisions of ecclesiastical fellowship

1. Exchange of fraternal delegates to major assemblies
2. Occasional pulpit fellowship
3. Fellowship at the table of the Lord
4. Joint action in areas of common responsibility
5. Communication on major issues of joint concern
6. Exercise of mutual concern and admonition with a view to promoting the fundamentals of Christian unity

Ecclesiastical fellowship may involve fewer than all six elements. At present, the CRCNA is in full fellowship with the churches listed below unless otherwise indicated. Restrictions were place on the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (RCN/GKN) in 1983 relating to provisions 1 and 2. Further restrictions were placed upon the RCN/GKN in 1996 relating to provisions 3 and 4.

B. List of churches in ecclesiastical fellowship (with the year in which such fellowship was established)

1. Africa
   b. Church of Christ in the Sudan Among the Tiv (NKST) (1974)
      (Nongo U Kristu U Ken Sudan Hen Tiv)
   c. Dutch Reformed Church in Africa (DRCA) (1983)
      (Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk in Afrika)
   d. Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa (DRC) (2001)
      (Die Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk in Suid Afrika)
   e. Midlands Reformed Churches in South Africa (MRCSA) (1991)
      (Gereformeerde Kerke in Suide-Afrika—Sinode Middelande]
   f. Reformed Church in Africa (RCA) 1982
   g. Reformed Churches in South Africa (Synod Potchefstroom) (1974)
      (Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid-Afrika)
   h. Reformed Churches in South Africa (Synod Soutpansberg) (1989)
      (Verenigende Gereformeerde Kerk in Suider Afrika)

2. Asia, Australia, and Indonesia
      (Gereja Kristen Sumba)
   e. Reformed Church in Japan (RCJ) (1974)
3. Europe
      (Nederlands Gereformeerde Kerken-Buiten Verband)
      (Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland)
      (Ecclesiastical fellowship restricted by CRCNA-1983, 1996)

4. North America
   a. Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC) (1977)
   b. Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) (1986)
   c. Reformed Church in America (RCA) (1976)
   d. Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America (RPCNA) (1974)
      (suspended)

5. Latin America
      (La Iglesia Cristiana Reformada en Cuba)
   b. Evangelical Reformed Church in Brazil (1974)
      (Igreja Evangelica Reformada no Brasil)
   c. Reformed Church in Argentina (1974)
      (Iglesias Reformadas en la Argentina)

II. Bilateral relationships—churches in corresponding fellowship
   A. Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar
   B. Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (Nkhoma Synod) Malawi
   C. Reformed Church in Zambia

III. Bilateral relationships—international
    Reformed Church of Christ in Nigeria (RCCN) (See Agenda for Synod 2002, p. 242)—although it is the desire of the Interchurch Relations Committee (IRC) to move in the direction of establishing ecclesiastical fellowship with the Reformed Church of Christ in Nigeria (RCCN), the committee has been assisted in its consideration of the matter by the report of Mr. Peter Vander Meulen and Dr. Richard van Houten who visited the churches in Nigeria in February 2002. They recommend that the year 2003 would be a better time to finalize the establishment of ecclesiastical fellowship with the RCCN inasmuch as this would follow talks just recently begun between the RCCN and the Christian Reformed Church in Nigeria (CRCN).

    In keeping with the recommendation of Mr. Vander Meulen and Dr. van Houten, the IRC decided to delay recommending ecclesiastical fellowship with the RCCN for one year, and so inform Synod 2002 and the RCCN.

IV. Bilateral relationships—North America
    Protestant Reformed Churches (PRC) (See Agenda for Synod 2002, pp. 242-43)—the letter of reply from the Committee for Contact with Other Churches of the PRC, dated February 11, 2002, was received and discussed at the April 25-26, 2002, meeting of the IRC.
The PRC committee is “convinced that significant differences exist between us which must first be addressed” before common areas of agreement or service are explored, beginning with the discussion of specific doctrinal and church polity issues. The PRC committee expressed its willingness and eagerness to discuss these matters in a brotherly way.

The IRC decided to honor their request, informing them of our readiness to form a committee to enter into talks at a time and place of their choosing.

V. Multilateral relationships—international


At its April meeting, the IRC discussed its recommendation to Synod 2002 re WARC and remains persuaded that the CRCNA should apply for membership in WARC at this time. Even though the IRC is aware that membership dues for another ecumenical organization will place a strain on its budget, it still believes that it is appropriate for the CRCNA to become a member denomination of WARC. The matter of negotiating the amount of membership dues is the responsibility of the IRC, and it will determine how best to manage a reasonable payment of dues within the constraints of its budget.

B. Caribbean and North American Area Council (CANAAC) of WARC

Dr. Henry Zwaanstra has for several years represented the CRCNA on the Theology Committee of CANAAC, and his term has now concluded. The IRC has appointed Dr. Lyle Bierma to continue to represent the CRCNA on the Theological Committee of CANAAC, and he attended its February 14-16, 2002, meeting in Austin, Texas. The next CANAAC meeting is scheduled to be held October 17-20, 2002, in Trinidad.

VI. IRC hospitality committee

Rev. Pieter and Mrs. Gail Tuit have been designated by the IRC to serve as the hospitality committee for fraternal delegates and observers at Synod 2002. The IRC appreciates their willingness to help visitors from other denominations feel welcome among us.

Interchurch Relations Committee
Leonard J. Hofman, administrative secretary
Michael Winnowski, president

Interchurch Relations Committee
Leonard J. Hofman, administrative secretary
Michael Winnowski, president
Communication 3: Classis Grand Rapids East

Classis Grand Rapids East sends this Communication to synod to register its support of the requests in Overtures 5 and 6 for a study of the ministry share system, and to offer the following observations as a supplement to those overtures.

1. Classis Grand Rapids East is also concerned about the equity and viability of the present ministry share system. A recent overture from one of our congregations sought to replace our current per-member-basis ministry share assessment with a percentage-of-local-congregational-ministry assessment, like that envisioned in Ground 4 of Classis Holland Overture 5. This overture (interpreted below) found considerable interest and support at Classis Grand Rapids East.

   . . . overtures Synod 2002 to adjust the formula for its annual calculation of those ministry shares expected to be contributed from the denomination’s churches toward the support of the national-level denominational ministries. In place of the current system (based on an identical annual dollar amount per each active confessing member over 18 years of age) . . . each congregation would be expected to forward to the denomination a set percent of the amount of its total annual local operating expenditures (e.g., personnel expenses for local staffing, local ministry programs, facilities expenses including debt service, classical ministry shares).

2. As the Classis Alberta North Overture 6 notes, the current ministry share calculation system does not appear to be working. The calculation assumes that a substantial percentage of the ministry shares will not actually be paid by all individual churches; thus, the recommended per-member ministry share calculation needs to be pegged higher in an attempt to get “extra” ministry share money from congregations that will pay the full amount to make up for those congregations that will pay somewhat less than the full ministry share or nothing at all. Even this manipulation of the ministry share calculation is leaving the national ministries short of their funding needs.

3. The current ministry share calculation system does not consider differentials in incomes of Christian Reformed confessing members over 18 years of age. Nor does the current system recognize that the assembling of individual members in congregations results in differentials of aggregate disposable incomes at the local church level, even among congregations with nearly identical membership totals. The proposed revision of the ministry share formula is based on a reliable indicator of the actual financial resources of each local congregation: the amount each spends on its local ministries.
4. A unified system of basing ministry share on local expenses of a congregation will avoid the difficulties congregations face now in reporting student members, members in transit, and low-income members, and in deciding whether a member should be listed as active or inactive. The 19 percent of congregations that did not submit membership data for the 2001 Yearbook may find it easier and simpler to submit the data on which ministry shares will be based if it is the same financial data they are already preparing, at least annually, for their local membership.

Note: Ground 4 in the Classis Holland Overture 5 asks for a cap on total ministry-share for large churches, Classis Grand Rapids East suggests instead a graduated percentage in consideration of small churches for whom a “flat tax” will be a greater burden.

Classis Grand Rapids East  
Philip R. Lucasse, stated clerk

Communication 4: Council of Madison Square Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan

The council of Madison Square Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, writes this letter to Synod 2002 as a brief introduction to the overture that comes with it. We also are attaching a copy of the letter from the classical interim committee of Classis Grand Rapids East to the board of Calvin College. A copy of the Calvin College’s ad hoc committee report will be provided to the advisory committee for their information. (Note: The above mentioned materials were provided for the delegates to synod.)

We are asking that synod’s educational advisory committee review the recent decisions that have been made regarding the process and guidelines for granting exceptions to the policy that Calvin College has regarding a requirement that children of faculty and faculty-status employees of Calvin College attend a Christian day school. Bob Reed, a former faculty member who is a member of our church was released from employment with Calvin College in the winter of 2001 over this issue. Our church raised objections to the application of the policy under which he was released and urged that an exception be granted in Mr. Reed’s case. The appeal was not sustained. We overtured our classis to review the matter. Classis tabled the motion and sent a communication to Calvin’s board. We then awaited an ad hoc committee of Calvin College to report back to Classis Grand Rapids East about what changes they would recommend for Calvin’s policy of exceptions to the requirement.

When the report suggesting changes to the Christian school requirement policy came out on May 14, both our council and our classis made written comments and objections to the language of the report. We specifically were concerned with the language of section 5.c because we believed that, if the policy were stated in this manner, the exception that both our council and classis believe ought to be granted could not possibly be granted. So, classis urged a language change. The language was not changed.

It seems that our communications had no effect on Calvin’s process and decisions.
We are grateful for the work that has been done, but we still have some significant concerns:

1. Calvin College’s board did not seem responsive to our congregation or to our classis in terms of specific input regarding needed changes in the report that the board of trustees received regarding this matter. The denial of our request for even a small working change in the document disappointed and saddened us. The board of trustees is accountable to the church for its decisions and policies. Thus we urge the educational advisory committee of synod to study and understand the ramifications of the decision not to change language and to take any advisable action vis-à-vis the board of trustees of Calvin College.

2. We ask the educational advisory committee of synod to specifically review the language of 5.c. It seems to us that it is impossible for a faculty member to “prove” that his or her ministry would not be effective if they sent their children to a Christian school. Bob Reed only asserted that his ministry in the neighborhood around Madison Square would be “more effective” if he were involved in the neighborhood public school.

3. The power to make this noneducational, ecclesiastical decision is finally given to one educator. We believe that because it has such import for the church, the policy’s stated procedure of decision-making ought to include a wider group.

4. The policy change includes exceptions for “persons of color” and then gives no rationale for that exception. We believe that if persons of color find our Christian schools to be inhospitable to their growth as persons of faith, then the board of trustees ought to consider that a faculty member might judge that for any person of any color or any race another schooling alternative might be the wisest choice for that parent. We believe the reasons for granting an exception for persons of color deserves explanation and examination in the wider ecclesiastical community because of the call of the gospel to racial reconciliation and because of the stated goals of our denomination to become a racially reconciled people of God.

   Council of Madison Square CRC, Grand Rapids, MI
   Gordon Griffin, clerk
### Operating Budget (000s)
#### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>96-97</th>
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#### INCOME:
- **Ministry Share**
  - Actual: $4,414
  - Proposed: $4,449
  - % of Total Income: 49.6%

- **Above Ministry Share**
  - Actual: $3,399
  - Proposed: $3,301
  - % of Total Income: 49.8%

- **Estate Gifts**
  - Actual: $1,030
  - Proposed: $1,202
  - % of Total Income: 49.9%

- **Other Income**:
  - **Tuition & Sales**
    - Actual: $5
    - Proposed: $6
    - % of Total Income: 49.8%
  - **Grants-Animation**
    - Actual: $10
    - Proposed: $12
    - % of Total Income: 49.5%

- **Miscellaneous**
  - Actual: $59
  - Proposed: $141
  - % of Total Income: 49.6%

**NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)**
- Actual: $928
- Proposed: $2,186

#### EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):

- **Program Services**:
  - **English**
    - Actual: $2,473
    - Proposed: $2,481
  - **International**
    - Actual: $2,460
    - Proposed: $2,592
  - **Television**
    - Actual: $2,003
    - Proposed: $1,649
  - **Total Program Service**
    - Actual: $6,936
    - Proposed: $5,722

- **Support Services**:
  - **Management & General**
    - Actual: $378
    - Proposed: $402
  - **FTEs**
    - Actual: 11
    - Proposed: 11
  - **Total Support Service**
    - Actual: 1,138
    - Proposed: 1,183

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES**
- Actual: $7,974
- Proposed: $7,055

**TOTAL FTEs**
- Actual: 32
- Proposed: 35

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- 435
## Operating Budget (000s)
### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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### INCOME:

- **Ministry Share**: $2,801, $2,927, $2,931, $2,856, $2,806, $2,806, $2,566
- **% of Total Income**: 4.4%, 4.3%, 4.1%, 3.7%, 3.6%, 3.4%, 3.0%

### Other Income:

- **Above Ministry Share**: $3,061, $3,082, $2,845, $3,114, $2,601, $2,600, $2,600
- **Estate Gifts**: $20, $29, $23, $17, $11, $11, $11
- **% of Total Income**: 4.6%, 4.1%, 4.0%, 4.1%, 3.3%, 3.2%, 3.0%

### TOTAL EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):

- **INCOME**:
  - **Fiscal Year 2002-2003**
  - **Operating Budget (000s)**
  - **Calvin College**
  - **Fiscal Years**
  - **Actual**
  - **Budget Proposed**
  - **Fiscal Years**
  - **Actual**
  - **Budget**
  - **Proposed**

- **Total Support Service FTEs**: 111, 112, 111, 119, 123, 123, 123
- **% of Total FTEs**: 19.6%, 18.7%, 19.1%, 18.7%, 18.7%, 18.7%, 18.7%
- **TOTAL EXPENDITURES**:
  - $63,862, $66,691, $69,727, $72,665, $76,570, $80,678, $84,033

### EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employees):

- **Program Services**:
  - Education
    - **FTEs**: 456, 486, 471, 490, 535, 535, 535

### NET INCOME / (EXPENSE):

- $302, $2,189, $2,927, $2,806, $1,820, $1,756, $1,756
### Operating Budget (000s)
#### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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<th></th>
<th>Fiscal 96-97</th>
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<td>$606</td>
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<td>14.3%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
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#### EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):

| Program Services: | Instructional | $1,820 | $1,777 | $1,924 | $1,909 | $2,154 | $2,318 | $2,527 |
|                   | Public Service | $58 | $68 | $96 | $87 | $91 | $103 | $76 |
|                   | FTEs | 24 | 24 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
|                       | Academic Support | $379 | $474 | $527 | $533 | $582 | $622 | $596 |
|                       | FTEs | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
|                       | Student Services | $230 | $260 | $330 | $338 | $422 | $466 | $485 |
|                       | FTEs | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
|                       | Student Aid | $168 | $258 | $289 | $283 | $254 | $328 | $243 |
|                       | FTEs | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
|                       | $1,820 | $1,837 | $1,870 | $2,154 | $2,318 | $2,527 |
|                       | Total Program Service | $2,655 | $2,837 | $3,166 | $3,150 | $3,503 | $3,836 | $3,927 |
|                       | Total Program Service FTEs | 30 | 29 | 29 | 31 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
|                       | % of Total $ | 78.2% | 76.6% | 76.9% | 76.1% | 77.0% | 77.5% | 77.0% |
|                       | % of Total FTEs | 84.4% | 84.2% | 76.3% | 77.5% | 77.5% | 76.1% | 76.9% |
| Support Services: | Management & General | $403 | $476 | $553 | $564 | $711 | $772 | $831 |
|                       | FTEs | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
|                       | Plant Operations | $185 | $228 | $216 | $211 | $228 | $254 | $283 |
|                       | FTEs | - | - | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
|                       | Fund Raising | $154 | $182 | $184 | $212 | $184 | $232 | $284 |
|                       | FTEs | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
|                       | Total Support Service | $742 | $865 | $953 | $987 | $1,124 | $1,258 | $1,498 |
|                       | Total Support Service FTEs | 6 | 6 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
|                       | % of Total $ | 21.8% | 23.4% | 23.1% | 23.9% | 24.3% | 24.7% | 27.6% |
|                       | % of Total FTEs | 15.6% | 15.8% | 23.7% | 22.5% | 22.5% | 23.9% | 23.1% |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURES** | $3,397 | $3,702 | $4,119 | $4,137 | $4,627 | $5,098 | $5,425 |
| **TOTAL FTEs** | 35 | 35 | 38 | 40 | 45 | 46 | 46 |

| NET INCOME / (EXPENSE) | $238 | $150 | $(44) | $87 | $(327) | $(119) | $0 |
## Operating Budget (000s)
### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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### EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):
#### Program Services:
- Govt. Contact/Church in Soc.: $40, 37, 48, 40, 38, 62, 58
- Indian Ministries: $319, 328, 305, 303, 307, 385, 358
- FTEs: 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4
- Electronic Media: $112, 133, 142, 121, 77, -
- FTEs: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3
- Canadian Ministry Forum: -
- FTEs: -
- Other: $48, $48, $27, $22, $20, $17, $27
- FTEs: -
- Total Program Service: $519, 546, $522, 513, 469, 490, 443
- % of Total: 81.6% 87.6% 75.8% 89.5% 93.1% 88.4% 92.3%
- % of Total FTEs: 66.7% 66.7% 66.7% 80.0% 80.0% 100.0% 100.0%

#### Support Services:
- Management & General: $117, 77, 167, 60, 35, 64, 37
- Plant Operations: -
- FTEs: -
- Fundraising: -
- FTEs: -
- Total Support Service: 117, 77, 167, 60, 35, 64, 37
- % of Total: 18.4% 12.4% 24.2% 10.5% 6.9% 11.6% 7.7%
- % of Total FTEs: 33.3% 33.3% 33.3% 20.0% 20.0% 0.0% 0.0%

### TOTAL EXPENDITURES
- $636, 623, 689, 573, 504, 554, 480
- TOTAL FTEs: 6, 6, 6, 5, 5

### NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)
- $25, 8, (87), 4, $515, $46, 160
### Operating Budget (000s)
#### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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<td>99</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estate Gifts</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total Gift Income</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>129</td>
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<td>70</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of Total Income</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
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<td>94.1%</td>
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<td>TOTAL FTEs</td>
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<td>NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)</td>
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## Operating Budget (000s)
### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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</table>

### INCOME:

- **Ministry Share**: $5,292, $5,307, $5,264, $5,084, $4,968, $5,325, $4,870
- **% of Total Income**: 51.0%, 65.8%, 62.6%, 55.8%, 62.6%, 67.9%, 62.1%
- **Other Gift Income**:
  - **Above Ministry Share**: $1,701, $1,712, $1,480, $1,629, $1,702, $1,850, $2,000
  - **Estate Gifts**: $313, $212, $174, $382, $386, $250, $280
- **Total Gift Income**: $2,014, $1,924, $1,654, $2,011, $2,068, $2,100, $2,280
- **% of Total Income**: 19.4%, 23.9%, 19.7%, 22.1%, 26.1%, 26.8%, 29.1%
- **Other Income**:
  - **Tuition & Sales**: $1,688, $317, $194, $188, $257, $40, $40
  - **Grants**: $1204, $513, $1295, $1833, $645, $380, $650
- **Total Other Income**: $3,072, $830, $1,489, $2,021, $902, $420, $690
- **% of Total Income**: 29.6%, 10.3%, 17.7%, 22.1%, 11.4%, 5.4%, 8.8%

### EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):

- **Program Services**:
  - **New-Church Development**:
    - $4,717, $4,888, $5,437, $5,007, $4,897, $4,549, $3,860
    - FTEs: 11, 11, 11, 11, 13, 13, 13
  - **Established-Church Develop.**:
    - $1,887, $2,362, $2,109, $2,400, $2,263, $1,896, $1,608
    - FTEs: 19, 19, 17, 16, 17, 17, 17
  - **Campus/schools**:
    - $74, $109, $1,046, $1,517, $1,097, $965
    - $1, $1, $1, $1, $1, $1, $1
    - FTEs: 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 2
  - **Total Program Service**: $6,604, $7,324, $7,655, $8,453, $8,677, $7,542, $6,433
  - **Total Program Service FTEs**: 30, 31, 29, 29, 31, 32, 32
  - **% of Total**: 85.9%, 86.6%, 84.9%, 86.1%, 86.8%, 85.9%, 82.1%
  - **% of Total FTEs**: 77.1%, 82.9%, 78.4%, 78.4%, 81.6%, 80.0%, 76.2%
- **Support Services**:
  - **Management & General**:
    - $610, $679, $868, $829, $785, $700, $685
    - $5, $2, $4, $4, $3, $4, $3
    - FTEs: - , - , - , - , - , - , -
  - **Plant Operations**:
    - $476, $457, $496, $533, $532, $540, $720
    - $4, $4, $4, $4, $4, $4, $7
    - FTEs: - , - , - , - , - , - , -
  - **Total Support Service**: $1,086, $1,136, $1,364, $1,362, $1,317, $1,240, $1,405
  - **Total Support Service FTEs**: 9, 6, 8, 8, 7, 8, 10
  - **% of Total**: 14.1%, 13.4%, 15.1%, 13.9%, 13.2%, 14.1%, 17.8%
  - **% of Total FTEs**: 22.9%, 17.1%, 21.6%, 21.6%, 18.4%, 20.0%, 23.8%

### TOTAL EXPENDITURES

- **$7,690**, $8,460, $9,019, $9,815, $9,994, $8,782, $7,838
- **TOTAL FTEs**: 39, 37, 37, 37, 38, 40, 42

### NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)

- **$2,688**, $399, $612, $699, $2,056, $937, $2
## Operating Budget (000s)
### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

### INCOME:
- **Ministry Share**
  - 913
  - 904
  - 788
  - 650
  - 469
  - 360
  - 250
  - 98.9%
  - 98.0%
  - 91.8%
  - 93.0%
  - 89.2%
  - 89.8%
  - 89.3%
- **Other Gift Income:**
  - **Above Ministry Share**
    - 1
    - 3
    - 37
    - 1
    - 1
    - 1
  - **Estate Gifts**
    - 1
    - 3
    - 34
    - 1
    - 1
    - 1
  - **% of Total Income**
    - 0.1%
    - 0.3%
    - 8.2%
    - 0.1%
    - 0.2%
    - 0.2%
    - 0.0%
- **Other Income:**
  - **Tuition & Sales**
    - -
    - -
    - -
    - -
    - -
    - -
  - **Grants**
    - -
    - -
    - -
    - -
    - -
    - -
  - **Miscellaneous**
    - 9
    - 15
    - -
    - 48
    - 56
    - 40
    - 30
  - **% of Total Income**
    - 1.0%
    - 1.6%
    - 0.0%
    - 6.9%
    - 10.6%
    - 10.0%
    - 10.7%

### EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):
- **Program Services:**
  - **Fund for Smaller Churches**
    - 923
    - 922
    - 859
    - 699
    - 526
    - 401
    - 280
  - **Total Income**
    - 9,230
    - 9,220
    - 8,590
    - 6,990
    - 5,260
    - 4,010
    - 2,800

### Total Program Service
- **$ 795**
- **$ 594**
- **$ 468**
- **$ 403**
- **$ 288**
- **$ 336**
- **$ 200**

### Subsidy Requests
- **$ 718**
- **$ 594**
- **$ 468**
- **$ 403**
- **$ 288**
- **$ 336**
- **$ 200**

### FTEs
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**

### Auto & Moving Expenses
- **$ 58**
- **$ 47**
- **$ 34**
- **$ 31**
- **$ 23**
- **$ 33**
- **$ 20**

### Small Church Specialists
- **$ 14**
- **$ 14**
- **$ 5**
- **$ 36**
- **$ 50**
- **$ 65**

### Education
- **$ 5**
- **$ 4**
- **$ 6**
- **$ 8**
- **$ 17**
- **$ 20**

### Small Church Technology Upgrade
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**

### Small Church Program Support
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**
- **$ -**

### Total Program Service
- **$ 795**
- **$ 594**
- **$ 468**
- **$ 403**
- **$ 288**
- **$ 336**
- **$ 200**

### Total Program Service FTEs
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**

### % of Total FTEs
- **98.5%**
- **98.2%**
- **97.7%**
- **95.9%**
- **98.9%**
- **95.6%**
- **97.1%**

### Support Services:
- **Management & General**
  - **$ 12**
  - **$ 12**
  - **$ 12**
  - **$ 19**
  - **$ 5**
  - **$ 24**
  - **$ 15**
- **Plant Operations**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
- **Fund Raising**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**
  - **$ -**

### Total Support Service
- **$ 12**
- **$ 12**
- **$ 12**
- **$ 19**
- **$ 5**
- **$ 24**
- **$ 15**

### % of Total EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):
- **Fund for Smaller Churches**
  - **1.5%**
  - **1.8%**
  - **2.3%**
  - **4.1%**
  - **1.1%**
  - **4.4%**
  - **2.9%**

### % of Total FTEs
- **50.0%**
- **50.0%**
- **50.0%**
- **50.0%**
- **100.0%**
- **100.0%**
- **100.0%**

### TOTAL EXPENSES
- **$ 807**
- **$ 671**
- **$ 524**
- **$ 459**
- **$ 438**
- **$ 551**
- **$ 510**

### TOTAL FTEs
- **2**
- **2**
- **2**
- **2**
- **1**
- **1**
- **1**

### NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)
- **$ 116**
- **$ 251**
- **$ 335**
- **$ 240**
- **$ 88**
- **$ (150)**
- **$ (230)**

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**ACTS OF SYNOD 2002**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS 441**
### Operating Budget (000s)
#### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
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# Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

## Operating Budget (000s)

**Fiscal Year 2002-2003**

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<th>Actual</th>
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## INCOME:

| Ministry Share | $ -  | $ -  | $ -  | $ -  | $ -  | $ -  | $ -  |
| % of Total Income | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

## Other Gift Income:

| Above Ministry Share | $8,581 | $8,185 | $11,998 | $10,498 | $10,146 | $9,477 | $9,730  |
| % of Total Income | 79.2% | 81.7% | 90.9% | 85.3% | 85.8% | 91.2% | 90.5% |

## Other Income:

| Total Gift Income | $8,751 | $9,080 | $12,369 | $11,377 | $11,716 | $10,317 | $10,530  |
| % of Total FTEs | 75.3% | 72.2% | 77.3% | 77.6% | 75.6% | 78.8% | 82.2% |
| % of Total $ | 81.1% | 77.5% | 79.8% | 80.7% | 82.2% | 82.9% | 82.3% |

## EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):

### Program Services:

| Overseas programs | $5,548 | $5,000 | $5,551 | $6,320 | $6,672 | $7,041 | $7,266 |
| FTEs | 47 | 36 | 53 | 47 | 49 | 60 | 55 |
| No America programs | $815 | $778 | $947 | $1,053 | $1,185 | $1,025 | $1,057 |
| FTEs | 11 | 10 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 8 |
| Disaster relief programs | $1,674 | $1,822 | $2,370 | $3,214 | $3,528 | $764 | $771 |
| FTEs | 5 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 5 |
| Education | $190 | $94 | $196 | $260 | $326 | $477 | $482 |
| FTEs | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |

### Support Services:

| Management & General | $932 | $1,183 | $1,152 | $1,231 | $1,092 | $867 | $931 |
| FTEs | 11 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Plant Operations | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| FTEs | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fund Raising | $983 | $1,053 | $1,144 | $1,363 | $1,448 | $1,048 | $1,123 |
| FTEs | 10 | 10 | 12 | 11 | 15 | 14 | 9 |
| Total Support Service | $1,915 | $2,236 | $2,236 | $2,594 | $2,540 | $1,915 | $2,054 |
| Total Support Service FTEs | 21 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 22 | 21 | 16 |
| % of Total FTEs | 18.9% | 22.5% | 20.2% | 19.3% | 17.8% | 17.1% | 17.7% |
| % of Total FTEs | 24.7% | 27.8% | 22.7% | 22.4% | 24.4% | 21.2% | 18.8% |

## TOTAL EXPENDITURES:

| $10,143 | $9,930 | $11,361 | $13,441 | $14,251 | $11,222 | $11,630 |
| TOTAL FTEs | 85 | 72 | 88 | 85 | 90 | 89 |

## NET INCOME / (EXPENSE):

| $914 | $1,183 | $2,252 | ($97) | ($590) | $95 | $95 |
### Operating Budget (000s)
#### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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| **EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):** |
| Program Services: |
| Synodical Services & Grants | $736 | $785 | $826 | $984 | $888 | $944 | $920 |
| FTEs | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Education/F-T-Serve/Commun. | $950 | $126 | $287 | $187 | $379 | $516 | $354 |
| FTEs | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| CRCPlan | - | - | - | $122 | $233 | $166 | $199 |
| FTEs | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| CSP/PS Cost of Goods Sold | $4,715 | $4,630 | $5,346 | $5,260 | $4,876 | $5,245 | $4,850 |
| FTEs | 39 | 39 | 35 | 34 | 34 | 32 | 32 |
| Finance/Payroll Services | $61 | $1,030 | $1,160 | $1,393 | $1,486 | $1,509 | $1,522 |
| FTEs | 1 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 15 |
| CSB | $530 | $685 | $809 | $645 | $562 | $918 | $630 |
| FTEs | 5 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Personnel | $96 | $107 | $126 | $119 | $107 | $142 | $145 |
| FTEs | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| **Total Program Service** | $7,068 | $7,363 | $8,676 | $8,821 | $8,585 | $9,440 | $8,629 |
| **Total Program Service FTEs** | 56 | 69 | 66 | 68 | 68 | 70 | 66 |
| % of Total | 84.1% | 86.0% | 87.4% | 87.4% | 87.4% | 86.9% | 85.1% |
| % of Total FTEs | 84.8% | 90.8% | 90.4% | 90.7% | 90.7% | 88.6% | 88.0% |
| Support Services: |
| Management & General | $549 | $411 | $434 | $469 | $470 | $602 | $663 |
| FTEs | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| Plant Operations/Debt Serv. | $752 | $752 | $771 | $751 | $716 | $758 | $693 |
| FTEs | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Fund Raising/Development | $38 | $36 | $47 | $47 | $55 | $58 | $159 |
| FTEs | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **Total Support Service** | $1,339 | $1,199 | $1,252 | $1,267 | $1,241 | $1,418 | $1,515 |
| **Total Support Service FTEs** | 10 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 |
| % of Total | 15.9% | 14.0% | 12.6% | 12.6% | 12.6% | 13.1% | 14.9% |
| % of Total FTEs | 15.2% | 9.2% | 9.6% | 9.3% | 9.3% | 11.4% | 12.0% |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURES** | $8,407 | $8,562 | $9,938 | $10,088 | $9,826 | $10,858 | $10,135 |
| **TOTAL FTEs** | 66 | 76 | 73 | 75 | 75 | 73 | 75 |
| **NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)** | $(542) | $1,180 | $409 | $896 | $635 | $85 | $45 |
### Operating Budget (000s)
#### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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## Ministers’ Pension and Special Assistance Funds - Canada

### Changes in Net Assets (000s) in Canadian $

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<td>1,356 $</td>
<td>(158) $</td>
<td>38 $</td>
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<td>283 $</td>
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<td>274 $</td>
<td>283 $</td>
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## Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Funds - U.S.

### Changes in Net Assets (000s)

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<td>$ 4,685</td>
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<td><strong>NET ADDITIONS</strong></td>
<td>$ 6,667</td>
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<td>(5,290)</td>
<td>$ 54</td>
<td>(11)</td>
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# Employees' Retirement Plan - U.S.

## Changes in Net Assets (000s)

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<th>Actual</th>
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<tr>
<td>% of Total Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Gift Income:</td>
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<td>Above Ministry Share</td>
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<td>Estate Gifts</td>
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<tr>
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<td>812</td>
<td>376</td>
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<td>1,817</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>376</td>
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<td>Distributions</td>
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<td>$ 877</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Program-service</td>
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<td>$ 877</td>
<td>$ 1,226</td>
<td>$ 394</td>
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<td>$ 48</td>
<td>$ 44</td>
<td>$ 39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Support-service</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>39</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>5.2%</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</strong></td>
<td>$ 1,254</td>
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<td>$ 1,270</td>
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<td>$ 892</td>
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<td>$(57)</td>
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## Consolidated Group Insurance - U.S.

### Changes in Net Assets (000s)

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<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
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### ADDITIONS:

#### Ministry Share

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<th>Amount</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

% of Total Income: 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%

#### Other Gift Income:

- **Above Ministry Share**
  - Year: 0; Amount: 0
- **Estate Gifts**
  - Year: 0; Amount: 0

Total Gift Income: -

% of Total Income: 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%

#### Other Income:

- **Participant Premiums**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: 5,505
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 6,380
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 6,403
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 6,791
- **Grants**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: -
  - Year: 1999; Amount: -
  - Year: 2000; Amount: -
  - Year: 2001; Amount: -

Miscellaneous:

- Year: 1998; Amount: 148
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 36
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 227
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 295

Total Other Income: 5,853 6,416 6,630 7,086

% of Total Income: 100.0% 100.0% 100.0% 100.0%

### DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):

#### Program Services:

- **Claims Expense**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: 5,144
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 5,238
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 5,063
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 5,406

- **Insurance Premiums**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: 363
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 385
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 339
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 354

- **TPA & PPO Fees**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: 314
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 342
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 312
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 251

#### Support Services:

- **Management & General**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: 265
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 208
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 206
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 204

- **Plant Operations**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: -
  - Year: 1999; Amount: -
  - Year: 2000; Amount: -
  - Year: 2001; Amount: -

- **Fund-raising**
  - Year: 1998; Amount: -
  - Year: 1999; Amount: -
  - Year: 2000; Amount: -
  - Year: 2001; Amount: -

#### Total Support Service

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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% of Total $: 95.6% 96.6% 96.5% 96.7%

% of Total FTEs: 0.0% 0.0% 0.0% 0.0%

### Total Additions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Amount</th>
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### Total Deductions

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### NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Year: 1998; Amount: -
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 243
  - Year: 2000; Amount: -
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 710

- Year: 1998; Amount: 433
  - Year: 1999; Amount: 243
  - Year: 2000; Amount: 710
  - Year: 2001; Amount: 871
## Operating Budget (000s)
### Fiscal Year 2002-2003

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<th>97-98</th>
<th>98-99</th>
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<th>Proposed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry Share</td>
<td>$ -</td>
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<td>$ -</td>
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<tr>
<td>% of Total Income</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Gift Income:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Above Ministry Share</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estate Gifts</td>
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<td>$ 925</td>
<td>$ 970</td>
<td>$ 1,099</td>
<td>$ 1,096</td>
<td>$ 1,032</td>
<td>$ 1,118</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME:</strong></td>
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<td>$ 970</td>
<td>$ 1,099</td>
<td>$ 1,096</td>
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<td><strong>NET INCOME / (EXPENSE):</strong></td>
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Joint Worship Service for Synod 2002 and the Multiethnic Conference

Sunday, June 9, 2002
3:00 p.m.
Calvin College Chapel
Grand Rapids, Michigan

We Gather for Worship

Prelude ................................................ Brass Quintet
  Ms. Patricia Howe, trumpet; Mr. William Vander Ploeg, trumpet;
  Ms. Susan Wygmans, french horn; Mr. Paul Keen, trombone;
  Mr. Timothy Cary, tuba

Introit ........................................... Han-Bit Korean CRC Praise Team
  Mr. Peter Choi, leader

* God’s Greeting and Welcome ................................. Mr. Choi
* Greeting One Another
* Song of Praise: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,”
  Psalter Hymnal 253 ................................ Mr. Dick Gootjes, organist

We Confess Our Sins

Prayer of Confession ................................. Rev. Christian Y. Oh
Word of Forgiveness
* Song of Hope: “Lord of All Hopefulness,” Psalter Hymnal 558

We Spend Time in Prayer

For the World ........................................ Rev. Paul K. Yu
  (Followed by “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying,”
  Psalter Hymnal 625)

For the Church ....................................... Rev. Tong Kun Park
  (Followed by “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying,”
  Psalter Hymnal 625)

For the CRC and Synod .............................. Rev. Charles C. Oh
  (Followed by “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying,”
  Psalter Hymnal 625)

We Listen to the Word

Choir .............................................. Han-Bit Korean CRC Hosanna Choir
  Mr. Koo-Yong Lee, director; Ms. Moon-Yong Lee, pianist
Scripture Reading ...................................... Rev. Dr. Juan Carlos Ortiz
Sermon ................................................ Rev. Dr. Ortiz
Prayer ............................................... Rev. Dr. Ortiz
**We Give Our Gifts**

During offering congregation sings: “In Christ There Is No East or West,”

*Psalter Hymnal* 540

**We Are Nourished at the Table of the Lord**

*Leader:* Rev. George F. Vander Weit

Lift up your hearts.

*People:*

We lift them up to the Lord.

*Leader:*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:*

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

*Leader:*

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you have created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

*All sing:*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name,
in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**The Institution**

*Leader:*

We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, until he comes again. At his last supper, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, he took the cup, after supper, and said, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me.” For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes (1 Cor. 11:23-26). Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

*People:*

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.
Prayer of Consecration

Leader:
Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom. We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray,

(Please pray the Lord’s Prayer in your own language.)

The Invitation

Leader:
Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

The gifts of God for the people of God!

The Communion

Please come forward as directed, take the bread, and dip it in the cup. When you hear the words “The body of Christ was given for you” and “The blood of Christ was shed for you,” you may wish to respond with “Amen.”

During Communion we will sing the following songs:
“Eat This Bread,” Psalter Hymnal 312
“Glorify Your Name” (“Father, We Love You”), Psalter Hymnal 634
“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks,” Psalter Hymnal 402
“Let Us Break Bread Together,” Psalter Hymnal 304

We Depart to Serve

Profession of Our Faith: Apostles Creed
Song of Praise: “Hallelujah Chorus”
(All who have sung the “Hallelujah Chorus” are invited to join the Han-Bit Korean Hosanna Choir on the stage.)

Benediction

The benediction will be offered in the following languages:
Hispanic ................................. Rev. Ramon C. Borrego
Korean ................................. Rev. Chul Sup Bang
African American .......................... Rev. Jerome Burton
Native American .......................... Rev. Paul H. Redhouse
Dutch ................................. Rev. Morris N. Greidanus
Pakistani ................................. Rev. Razi Sohail
Cambodian ................................. Rev. George Pen
Chinese ................................. Rev. Paul C.H. Szto
Vietnamese ................................. Rev. Huu Phu Nguyen
Anglo ................................. Rev. Peter Borgdorff

Postlude ................................. Brass Quintet

* All who are able, please stand.
SATURDAY MORNING, June 8, 2002  
First Session

ARTICLE 1  
President pro tem Rev. Chris Y. Oh, pastor of Han-Bit Korean Christian Reformed Church, Rochester Hills, Michigan, the convening church, announces Psalter Hymnal 509, “Your Hand, O God, Has Guided.”

Rev. Oh reads from 1 Kings 16:1-28. He welcomes the delegates to Synod 2002 and shares with them that they are here to give leadership—they are spiritual leaders entrusted by God. The delegates have not been called here to be popular; they are called by God not to attend to their own agenda but God’s ultimate agenda. The decisions over the next few days will have a lasting effect in God’s kingdom. Rev. Oh encourages delegates to do their best to make God popular so that he will say, “These leaders did well in my eyes.” He leads in opening prayer and announces Psalter Hymnal 510, “I Love Your Church, O Lord.”

Rev. Oh introduces Dr. Gaylen J. Byker, president of Calvin College, who welcomes the delegates to the Calvin College campus and briefly addresses synod.

ARTICLE 2  
The president pro tem requests the general secretary, Dr. David H. Engelhard, to call the roll of delegates listed on the credentials of the forty-seven classes:

DELEGATES TO SYNOD 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classis</th>
<th>Ministers</th>
<th>Elders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alberta North</td>
<td>Philip Stel</td>
<td>William Wildeboer</td>
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<td>James E. Pott</td>
<td>Arnold R. Abma</td>
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<td>Alberta South/Saskatchewan</td>
<td>John H. Noordhof</td>
<td>Hank Puurveen</td>
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<td>John R. Huizinga</td>
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<td>Frederick J. Walhof</td>
<td>Kenneth L. Rindels</td>
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<td>Jeffrey A. Dykema</td>
<td>Wayne D. Ribbens</td>
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<td>Atlantic Northeast</td>
<td>Verlan G. Van Ee</td>
<td>Kenneth Prol</td>
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<td>Christopher Mitchell</td>
<td>Bruce Dykstra</td>
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<td>B.C. North-West</td>
<td>Walt Brouwer</td>
<td>Bill Wikkerink</td>
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<td>Ev Vroon</td>
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<td>Henry Steenbergen</td>
<td>Harro van Brummelen</td>
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<td>Rudy Ouwehand</td>
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<td>David G. Renaud</td>
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<td>John W. Tos</td>
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<td>Larry D. Baar, Richard Vanderwal</td>
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<td>Andrew E. Beunk, Henry Vander Beek</td>
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<td>Pella</td>
<td>Douglas M. MacLeod, William D. Zeilstra</td>
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458 ARTICLE 2 ACTS OF SYNOD 2002
The roll call indicates that the following delegates are absent with notice: Rev. Dr. Joel E. Kok (Hackensack), Elder David Lowe (Hudson), Rev. Andrew E. Beunk (Niagara), Rev. Jin Choi (Pacific Hanmi), Rev. Sung Joo Kang (Pacific Hanmi), Rev. Manny Bersach (Southeast U.S.), and Rev. Dr. Leslie J. Kuiper (Wisconsin).

**ARTICLE 3**

President pro tem, Rev. Oh asks the general secretary to lead the delegates in prayer before the election of officers. The assembly proceeds to elect officers. The following are elected:

- **President**: Rev. Norman L. Meyer
- **Vice President**: Rev. Gordon H. Pols
- **First Clerk**: Rev. Arie G. Van Eek
- **Second Clerk**: Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra

**ARTICLE 4**

The president pro tem welcomes the officers to the podium and congratulates them.

The president of synod, Rev. Norman L. Meyer, expresses the appreciation of synod to Rev. Chris Y. Oh for his participation in the opening of synod. On behalf of himself and the other officers, he thanks synod for the confidence it has placed in them to lead the synod during the coming week.

**ARTICLE 5**

The president, having requested the delegates to rise, reads the Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity, to which the delegates respond with their assent.

**ARTICLE 6**

The president of synod welcomes the denominational officers (Dr. David H. Engelhard, general secretary, and Dr. Peter Borgdorff, executive director of ministries), the seminary faculty advisers, the college president, the ethnic...
The general secretary welcomes and introduces to synod the ethnic advisers who are present: Jerome Burton, Victor Y. Ko, John Szto, Carlos G. Tapanes, and Mattie Young.

The general secretary welcomes and introduces to synod the women advisers who are present: Sharon Jim, Carol Kramer, Thea Leunk, Diane Plug, Jacqueline Timmer, Char Uken, and Jean Weening.

The general secretary welcomes and introduces the faculty advisers who are present: Mariano Avila, John Bolt, Carl J. Bosma, Gaylen Byker, John W. Cooper, Henry De Moor, Duane K. Kelderman, Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., and Calvin P. Van Reken.

The general secretary welcomes and introduces the fraternal delegates who are present: Mr. William Meischke (Christian Reformed Churches of Australia), Rev. Lawrence B. de los Trinos (Christian Reformed Church in the Philippines), and Rev. Erelio Martinez Garcia (Christian Reformed Church in Cuba).

The general secretary introduces the synod office staff and synod news office staff.

ARTICLE 7
The following schedule is adopted: 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 8
The general secretary 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 2002 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 taped. Delegates to synod are informed at the opening session of synod that all the general sessions are being taped. Synod has designated that the office of the general secretary 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).


ARTICLE 9

The general secretary presents the report of the Program Committee, which recommends the following advisory committees for Synod 2002:

Committee 1—Synodical Services I – Polity Matters

Chairman: John J. Hoogland; reporter: Douglas R. Fauble; ministers:

Committee 2—Synodical Services II – Program Matters

Chairman: William Wildeboer; reporter: Perry J. Tinklenberg; ministers:

Committee 3—Education

Chairman: Morris N. Greidanus; reporter: Marvin J. Hofman; ministers:
Committee 4—Publications

**Chairman:** Merle DenBlyker; **reporter:** Michael Winnowski; **ministers:** William C. De Vries, Karl J. House, Moon Bae Kim, David H. Kromminga, Terry J. Lapinsky, Daniel J. Roeda, William R. Sytsma, Henry Vander Beek, Gilbert Varela; **elders:** Henry C. De Jager, Paul Delger, David A. Hitt, Leonard D. Klok, Charles H. Korrinha, Tom Meuzelaar, Byron Noordewier, Doug R. Slager, Roger Triemstra, Arie G. Van Eek, Ev Vroon, James Wassenaar; **advisers:** Jerome Burton, John W. Cooper, Diane Plug.

Committee 5—Missions

**Chairman:** Jack A. Huttinga; **reporter:** Joel E. Kok; **ministers:** Andrew E. Beunk, Jerry Blom, Robert D. Bolt, Merlin N. Buwalda, Bernard Dykstra, John J. Greydanus, James R. Poelman, Frank E. Pott, Henry Steenbergen, H. Ray Vander Kooij, Brent A. Wassink; **elders:** Jin Choi, George Elzinga, Frank Folkema, David Lowe, Herbert M. Marsman, Kenneth Prol, Bill Sytsma, Harold Van Kley, Anton Vermaak, Robert D. Wolters; **advisers:** Nathan (Houa) Vang, Carl J. Bosma, Thea Leunk.

Committee 6—Financial Matters

**Chairman:** James R. Talen; **reporter:** David Vander Haagen; **ministers:** Manny Bersach, John R. Huizinga, Thomas J. Niehof, Charles C. Oh, Jeff Vanderhooft, Bart van Eyk, Ed Visser; **elders:** Dick C. Flijkema, Calvin J. Hoogstra, Peter Kingma, Julius Kuiper, John Meiboom, Wayne D. Ribbens, Marvin J. Struijsma, Ben Van Hoffen, Dick J. Van Reede, Harry Visser, Donald R. Vo, Jerry Wallinga, Paul C. Ward; **advisers:** Calvin P. Van Reken, Sharon Jim.

Committee 7—Interdenominational Matters

**Chairman:** Archie L. Vander Hart; **reporter:** William D. Zeilstra; **ministers:** Robert A. Arbogast, In Chul Kim, George Koopmans, Julius T. Medenblik, Christopher Mitchell, John Noordhof, Ben J. Ridder, Jake A. Ritzema, David N. Snapper, John Tenyenhuuis; **elders:** Arnold R. Abma, Stephen F. Jefferson, Howard H. Kamerman, John Klein Horsman, Merle Meyerink, Adrian Molendyk, Kennedy R. Phillips, Fred Rekman, John W. Tos, Henry Westervelt, Dave Wondergem; **advisers:** Mattie Young, Mariano Avila, Carol Kramer.

Committee 8—Church Order and Appeals

**Chairman:** Donald F. Oosterhouse; **reporter:** Richard deLange; **ministers:** Ronald D. De Young, Paul Jorden, Seung Jai Kang, Philip J. Kok, Tom Kok, Leslie J. Kuiper, Kent A. Rottman, Philip Stel, Andrew R. Sytsma, Timothy B. Toeset, Vern Vander Zee; **elders:** Cecil E. Bradshaw, Raymond G. Brinks, Phil Du Bois, Earl Dykema, Wayne E. Graves, James Kamp, Hank Puurveen, Kenneth L. Rindels, Paul H. Tameling, James Visser; **advisers:** Carlos G. Tapanes, Henry De Moor, Jacqueline Timmer.

**Recommendation:**

That synod adopt the report of the Program Committee, including membership on the advisory committees for Synod 2002 as amended.

—Adopted

**ARTICLE 10**

The general secretary presents the Agenda Directory for Synod 2002, which contains a complete listing of every matter on the agenda that requires
synodical action. He indicates where the materials may be found and to which advisory committee each item has been assigned.

ARTICLE 11

The president of synod, Rev. Norman L. Meyer, welcomes Rev. Herman Keizer, Jr., interim director of Chaplaincy Ministries, who announces that Chaplaincy Ministries is celebrating sixty years of ministry in the Christian Reformed Church. Chaplain Case Vink leads delegates in closing devotions of litany and song. Rev. Keizer recognizes delegates to synod who serve as chaplains; Rev Jacob P. Heerema, former director of Chaplaincy Ministries; and all other chaplains present. Surviving chaplains of WWII, Rev. Harold Dekker and Rev. Dick J. Oostenink, Jr., are presented with a plaque. Rev. Keizer leads in closing prayer. Synod adjourns at 11:18 a.m. Synod will reconvene Monday at 8:15 a.m.

MONDAY MORNING, June 10, 2002
Second Session

ARTICLE 12


ARTICLE 13

The officers of synod announce the following appointments:

Sergeant at Arms: Prayer Coordinator:
Elder Phil Du Bois Mrs. Eileen Christofferson

Minutes-Review Committee:
Elder Julius Kuiper Testimonial Luncheon Committee:
Rev. Henry Vander Beek Rev. Morris N. Greidanus

Worship Planning Committee:
Rev. Jerome Burton (adviser) Rev. John Tenyenhuis
Rev. Karl J. House
Rev. David H. Kromminga
Rev. Thea N. Leunk (adviser)
Rev. Harry W. Lew

ARTICLE 14

The roll call indicates that the following delegates who were absent on Saturday are now present: Elder David Lowe (Hudson), Rev. Andrew E. Beunk (Niagara), Rev. Manny Bersach (Southeast U.S.), and Rev. Dr. Leslie J. Kuiper (Wisconsin). They rise to express agreement with the forms of unity.
The general secretary announces that minister delegate Joel E. Kok (Hackensack), and elder delegates Jin Choi (Pacific Hanmi) and Sung Joo Kang (Pacific Hanmi) are still absent.

ARTICLE 15
The executive director of ministries introduces the agency directors and staff who are present.

ARTICLE 16
Vice president Rev. Gordon H. Pols leads in closing prayer. The morning session is adjourned at 9:00 a.m. so that delegates can work in advisory committees.

TUESDAY MORNING, June 11, 2002
Third Session

ARTICLE 17

ARTICLE 18
The roll call indicates that minister delegate Joel E. Kok (Hackensack), and elder delegates Jin Choi (Pacific Hanmi) and Sung Joo Kang (Pacific Hanmi) are now present. They rise to express agreement with the forms of unity.

ARTICLE 19
The president recognizes the Hospitality Committee: Rev. Pieter and Mrs. Gail Tuit.

The officers presented Communication 4 as legally before synod and assigned it to Advisory Committee 3.

ARTICLE 20
Advisory Committee 3, Education, Rev. Marvin J. Hofman reporting, presents the following:

I. Calvin College

A. Materials

1. Calvin College Report, pp. 136-37
2. Calvin College Supplement
B. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to the chair of the board, Mr. Milton Kuyers; the vice chair of the board, Rev. Charles De Ridder; the secretary of the board, the Rev. Edward Blankespoor; and the president of the college, Dr. Gaylen J. Byker, when matters pertaining to the college are presented.

   —Granted

2. That synod ratify the following reappointments with tenure (italics indicate promotion to that rank):
   a. Randall J. Buursma, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communication Arts and Sciences and Student Academic Services
   b. Mark T. Gustafson, Ph.D., Professor of Classical Languages
   c. Susan S. Hasseler, Ph.D., Professor of Education
   d. Clarence W. Joldersma, Ph.D., Professor of Education
   e. Robert J. Keeley, Ph.D., Professor of Education
   f. Douglas L. Koopman, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science
   g. W. Harry Plantinga, Ph.D., Professor of Computer Science
   h. Otto H. Selles, D.de l’U, Professor of French
   i. Frans A. van Liere, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History (reduced load)
   j. Katherine E. van Liere, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History (reduced load)
   k. John D. Witvliet, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Music

   —Adopted

3. That synod give appropriate recognition to the following for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church and confer on them the titles listed below.
   a. Ralph Honderd, Ph.D., Professor of Physical Education, Emeritus
   b. Merle Mustert, M.M., Associate Professor of Music, Emeritus
   c. G. Dale Topp, Ph.D., Professor of Music, Emeritus
   d. William Van Doorne, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus

   —Adopted

4. Board elections
   a. That synod by way of the printed ballot ratify the following elections to the Calvin College Board of Trustees (elections were conducted at the respective classes of each region). The terms begin and end on the convening date of the first full board meeting following the meeting of synod.

      Note: The Region 9 alternate spot is vacant due to the nomination of Mrs. Janice Van Dyke Zeilstra as an at-large trustee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regions 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Mr. Robert Koole</td>
<td>Dr. Jack Hielema</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 7</td>
<td>Mrs. Carol Bremer-Bennett</td>
<td>Rev. Jeffrey Dykema</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 9</td>
<td>Mr. Craig Friesema</td>
<td>(vacant)</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 11</td>
<td>Mr. William J. Alphenaar</td>
<td>Mr. Ralph Katerberg</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 12</td>
<td>Rev. Douglas Bratt</td>
<td>Mr. Donald Sporn</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   —Adopted
b. Alumni trustee
That synod by way of the printed ballot elect Mrs. Connie Northouse Brummel to the Calvin College Board of Trustees to a second term.

—Adopted

c. At-large trustee
That synod by way of the printed ballot elect to a first term or reelect to a second term the following to the Calvin College Board of Trustees:

Mr. Milton Kuyers (third term) 2005
Mr. Stephen Chong (second term) 2005
Mrs. Cindi Veenstra (second term) 2005
Mr. David Vander Ploeg (first term) 2005
Mrs. Janice Van Dyke Zeilstra (first term) 2005

—Adopted

II. Calvin Theological Seminary
A. Materials
1. Calvin Theological Seminary Report, pp.138-43
2. Calvin Theological Seminary Supplement

B. Recommendations
1. That the Rev. Norman Meyer, chairman, and Mr. Sidney Jansma, Jr., secretary, be given the privilege of the floor when seminary matters are presented.

—Granted

2. That the following board elections and appointments be approved:

Mr. Will Byker (trustee) Region 10
(alternate position open)

Mr. Willem Hultink (trustee) Region 4
Mr. Jack De Waard (alternate)

Rev. Cecil Van Niejenhuis (trustee) Region 2
Rev. Philip F. Reinders (alternate)

—Adopted

3. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointments:

Lyle D. Bierma, Professor of Systematic Theology, with tenure;
Michael J. Williams, Associate Professor of Old Testament, with tenure.

—Adopted

4. That synod ratify the following reappointments of administrators with faculty status:

Donald E. Byker, Director of Field Education for two years, 2002-2004;
Lugene L. Schemper, Assistant Library Director, Seminary-Related Matters and Theological Librarian for two years, 2002-2004.

—Adopted
5. That synod declare Dr. David M. Rylaarsdam, appointee to the seminary faculty in 2001, a candidate for the ministry of the Word and eligible for call.

Grounds:
(a) The expectation and practice have been to appoint seminary professors who have pastoral experience. This presupposes ordination.
(b) Our Reformed polity long regarded the theological teacher as a fourth office in the church, with the accountability and vows entailed in ordination. This fourth office was more recently enfolded into the office of minister of the Word.
(c) Dr. Rylaarsdam meets all the requirements for candidacy for the office of minister of the Word.
(d) Precedent exists in the case of other regular faculty appointments of nonordained persons (Professors Bierma, Cooper, Feenstra, and Williams).

—Adopted

6. That synod declare the following as candidates for the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church, subject to completion of all requirements:

Blankespoor, James E.  Knoester, John C.
Bolkema, Brian W.       Meinema, Daniel A.
Bouws, Douglas J.       Oberg, Jr., Richard G.
Brouwers, Gary W.       Ponsen, Benjamin J.
Cha, Paul J.            Schievink, Christopher J.
Choi, Peter Y.          Schuringa, Gregory D.
Cok, Victoria V.        Swierenga, Ryan S.
Copley, Lora A.         Vander Haagen, Elizabeth A.
Dam, C. Martin          Vander Horst, Kenneth M.
De Lange, Ray P.        Visker, Nathan A.
Fluit, Christopher A.   Wamala, Gideon E.
Geleynse, John A.       Winter, Harold A.
Kim, Matthew C.         Worster III, Paul C.
Klingenberg, M. Jeffery

Vice president Rev. Gordon H. Pols offers prayer for the candidates.

—Adopted

7. That Ms. Bonnie Natte be granted a one-year extension of her candidacy.

—Adopted

8. That Mr. Serguei Sossedkine be granted a one-year extension of his candidacy.

—Adopted


—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued in Article 57.)
ARTICLE 21
The president introduces Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., president of Calvin Theological Seminary. Dr. Plantinga offers prayer for the candidates and introduces the following candidates who are present:

James E. Blankespoor
Brian W. Bolkema
Gary W. Brouwers
Peter Y. Choi
Victoria V. Cok
Lora A. Copley
C. Martin Dam
Ray P. De Lange
Christopher A. Fluit
John A. Geleynse
M. Jeffery Klingenberg

Daniel A. Meinema
Richard G. Oberg, Jr.
Benjamin J. Ponsen
Gregory D. Schuringa
Gregory D. Schuringa
Elizabeth A. Vander Haagen
Kenneth M. Vander Horst
Kenneth M. Vander Horst
Harold A. Winter
Paul C. Worster III

Synod president Rev. Norman L. Meyer congratulates the candidates and addresses them from 1 Corinthians 15:10. He announces Psalter Hymnal 446, “If You But Trust in God to Guide You.” Delegates are given the opportunity to personally congratulate the candidates.

ARTICLE 22
The general secretary presents the ballot for board and committee elections. Delegate Rev. Michael Winnowski leads the delegates in prayer and the delegates vote. Voting for agency and committee members is done electronically. The ballot results will later be ratified by synod.

ARTICLE 23
Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. Douglas R. Fauble reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (Polity section), pp. 21-34; 43-47 (including Appendix A)
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (Section I – Polity Matters; including Appendices A and B)

B. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Rev. Stanley J. Workman, chairman of the Board; Dr. David H. Engelhard, general secretary; Dr. Peter Borgdorff, executive director of ministries; and Mr. Kenneth J. Horjus, director of finance and administration, when matters pertaining to the Board of Trustees are discussed.

—Granted
2. That synod approve the interim appointments made by the Board to the agency and institution boards (II, A, 2).

—Adopted

3. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect members for the Board of Trustees from the slate of nominees presented (II, A, 5).

—Adopted

4. That synod receive the report re Church Order Article 13-a and adopt its recommendations (II, A, 11 and Appendix A).

a. That Synod 2002 propose that the following changes be made in the Church Order and that a new Church Order Supplement, Article 13-b be adopted (additions in italics; deletions struck through):

**Article 12-b**

b. A minister of the Word who (1) enters into the work of missions, or (2) is appointed directly by synod, or (3) whose appointment is ratified by synod shall be called in the regular manner by a local church, which acts in cooperation with the appropriate committees of classis or synod.

**Article 13**
a. A minister of the Word serving as pastor of a congregation is directly accountable to the calling church, and therefore shall be supervised in doctrine, life, and duties by that church. When his work is with other than the calling church, he shall be supervised in cooperation with other congregations, institutions, or agencies involved.

New: b. A minister of the Word whose work is with other than the calling church shall be supervised by the calling church in cooperation with other congregations, institutions, or agencies involved. The council of the calling church shall have primary responsibility for supervision in doctrine and life. The congregations, institutions, or agencies, where applicable, shall have primary responsibility for supervision of duties.

New: —Supplement, Article 13-b

c. (The current Article 13-b and its supplement would become Article 13-c and Supplement, Article 13-c.)

The proposed wording of the new Supplement, Article 13-b:

*If any council, agency, or institution of the CRC involved in the cooperative supervision of a minister of the Word learns about significant deviation in doctrine, life, or duties, it shall officially inform in writing its partner(s) in that supervision about such deviation before any action is taken that affects that minister’s status and future. A similar communication officially informing its partner(s) in supervision is expected from an agency or institution when a minister’s status is altered at a time of downsizing or position elimination.*

Provisions for cooperative supervision of ministers of the Word working for agencies and institutions not directly under the authority of the synod of the...
CRCNA are to be formulated and processed according to the regulations contained in Church Order Supplement, Article 12-c and the provisions regarding chaplains adopted by Synod 1998 (see Acts of Synod 1998, pp. 391-92, 457-60).

Grounds:

1) Assigning primary responsibility for each aspect of supervision eliminates the ambiguity and clarifies the expectations for both the calling church and the agency.

2) Prior to the revision of Article 13 in 1984, the Church Order required the calling church “to supervise in doctrine and life” and said nothing about cooperative supervision of duties. The proposed new wording provides a good solution by assigning primary responsibility to each party within the relationship of cooperative supervision.

3) Informing in writing the other partner in the supervision prior to any action that affects a minister’s status or future takes seriously the relationship and precludes precipitous action.

b. That Synod send the proposed changes to the churches so that they may have ample opportunity to consider the advisability of the changes.

Ground: This is the procedure required by Church Order Article 47 and its Supplement when the churches have not had sufficient prior opportunity to consider a substantial change in the Church Order.

— Adopted

5. That synod by way of the ballot elect new members for the Judicial Code Committee.

— Adopted

II. Ministerial retirements

A. Material: Notification of retirements

B. Information

Synod has received notice of the following ministerial retirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister</th>
<th>Classis</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gerrit Bieze</td>
<td>Eastern Canada</td>
<td>October 9, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry B. Blankers</td>
<td>Heartland</td>
<td>October 1, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Corvers</td>
<td>Alberta South/Saskatchewan</td>
<td>March 31, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John F. De Vries</td>
<td>Grand Rapids North</td>
<td>January 1, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidney C.J. DeWaal</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>November 1, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Dykema</td>
<td>Northcentral Iowa</td>
<td>September 17, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald L. Essenburg</td>
<td>Lake Superior</td>
<td>December 31, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris N. Greidanus</td>
<td>Grand Rapids East</td>
<td>October 15, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirk J. Hart</td>
<td>Grand Rapids East</td>
<td>October 1, 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob P. Heerema</td>
<td>Grand Rapids East</td>
<td>January 18, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard A. Hertel</td>
<td>Grand Rapids North</td>
<td>July 1, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John J. Hoogland</td>
<td>Hudson</td>
<td>September 1, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. Jipping</td>
<td>Red Mesa</td>
<td>June 1, 2002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C. Recommendations

1. That synod acknowledge with profound gratitude the faithful labors of these twenty-eight pastors.

   —Adopted

2. That the vice president of synod offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their 976 combined years of service to the Lord.

   —Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 52.)

ARTICLE 24

The morning session is adjourned. Rev. John T. Hoogland leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, June 11, 2002

Fourth Session

ARTICLE 25

The president introduces Ms. Darlene Sorrano, World Literature ministries director, who reads Psalm 46 and leads in opening prayer. She announces Psalter Hymnal 625, “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying.” Mr. Gary Mulder, executive director of CRC Publications introduces staff who are present from CRC Publications. Through the use of a PowerPoint presentation, he highlights statistics, work, and goals of CRC Publications. Rev. Robert De Moor, editor in chief, Faith Alive Department, reports on the progress of the new church school curriculum Walk With Me.

The president expresses gratitude to the staff of CRC Publications for their work.
ARTICLE 26

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Michael Winnowski reporting, presents the following:

I. CRC Publications

A. Materials

1. CRC Publications Report, pp. 144-58
2. CRC Publications Supplement

B. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to the following people when matters of CRC Publications are discussed: For the board: Mr. Fred Herfst, president; Ms. Winnie Klop, vice president; Mr. Gary Mulder, executive director. For The Banner: Dr. John Suk, editor-in-chief. For Education, Worship, and Evangelism: Rev. Robert De Moor, editor-in-chief. For World Literature Ministries: Ms. Darlene Serrano, director.

—Granted

2. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect to the CRC Publications board either Mr. Eric Van Namen or Mr. Tom Vryhof to a three-year term as an at-large delegate with expertise in finance.

—Adopted

3. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect to the CRC Publications board Mr. Richard Bandstra and Mr. Antonio Romero for second terms as at-large delegates with expertise in legal and business respectively.

—Adopted

4. That synod remind the churches of the decision of Synod 2001:

That synod urge the churches to use the resources of CRC Publications for their ministries.

Grounds:

a. These resources have been developed for and specifically targeted to Christian Reformed churches using the unique capabilities of Reformed authors and editors.
b. It is especially important that the uniqueness of the Reformed interpretation of Scripture be integrated into the curriculum offered to the children and youth of our churches.

(Acts of Synod 2001, p. 512)

—Adopted

II. Historical Committee

A. Materials: Historical Committee Report, pp. 232-37

B. Recommendations

1. That Dr. Harry Boonstra and Dr. Richard Harms be given the privilege of the floor when matters pertaining to its mandate come before synod.

—Granted
2. That Dr. Harry Boonstra by way of the printed ballot be reelected to a second term as a member of the committee.  

—Adopted

3. That synod urge congregations to continue sending copies of minutes to the Archives so existing gaps in the archival holdings may be filled.  

—Adopted

4. That synod urge all classes to add the Archives to their mailing lists (surface or electronic) as the most expedient means to prevent gaps from occurring in the future.  

—Adopted

Note: Minutes may be sent electronically to crcarchives@calvin.edu.

5. That synod remind the stated clerks of each classis that the records of discontinued ministries are to be deposited in the Archives.  

—Adopted

6. That synod ask the congregations to send noncurrent membership records to the archives.  

Ground: These records have valuable historical and genealogical research potential.  

—Adopted

7. That synod take note of the list of names of retired ministers who have served a significant number of years, and of the list of churches celebrating significant anniversaries in the year 2002, and that one of the officers of synod be asked to offer a prayer of thanksgiving.  

—Adopted

The following individuals will celebrate significant anniversaries in the ordained ministry during 2002:

69 years  John Schaal
68 years  Morris H. Faber  
          Richard H. Wezeman
67 years  Elco H. Oostendorp  
          J. Jerry Pott
66 years  George Stob
64 years  Henry De Mots
63 years  John Blankespoor  
          Garrett D. Pars
62 years  Lambert Doezema  
          Repko W. Popma
61 years  Eugene Bradford  
          Harold Petroelje  
          Gerrit H. Polman  
          Gysbert J. Rozenboom  
          Garrett H. Vande Riet
First clerk Rev. Arie G. Van Eek leads the delegates in a prayer of thanksgiving for the pastors listed and for their years of service.

The following congregations will celebrate significant anniversaries of their organization:
125 years Rochester, NY

100 years Byron Center, MI – First
Edgerton, MN – First
Holland, MI – Fourteenth Street
Hudsonville, MI – Bauer
Hudsonville, MI – First
Kenosha, WI
Kentwood, MI – East Paris
Oak Harbor, WA
Tracy, IA

75 years Bellflower, CA – First
Grangeville, ID

50 years Allendale, MI – Second
Blenheim, ON
Brooks, AB
Calgary, AB – First
Chilliwack, BC – First
Denver, CO – Third
Duncan, BC – First
Edmonton, AB – Inglewood
Grand Rapids, MI – Alger Park
Grand Rapids, MI – Cascade Fellowship
Hamilton, ON – Mount Hamilton
High River, AB
Kalamazoo, MI – Westwood
Lindsay, ON
Lucknow, ON
New Westminster, BC – First
Pembroke, ON – Zion
Peterborough, ON – Cephas
St. Thomas, ON – First
Sarnia, ON – Second
Saskatoon, SK – Bethel
Smithers, BC
Springdale, ON
Telkwa, BC
Terrace, BC
Victoria, BC
Williamsburg, ON
Wyoming, ON
III. Sermons for Reading Services

A. Materials: Sermons for Reading Services Report (including Appendix), pp. 295-97

B. Recommendations

1. That synod approve the publication of *The Living Word* for 2003 to provide sermons for reading services for the churches.
   —Adopted

2. That synod encourage the churches to subscribe to the service for the benefit of churches and individuals.
   —Adopted

3. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect Rev. Gerrit J. Bomhof to a second three-year term.
   —Adopted

   —Adopted

5. That synod approve the recommendations contained in the report of the Appendix (see *Agenda for Synod 2002*, pp. 296-97) as follows:
   a. That the CRC webmaster be authorized to create space and a link on the CRCNA web site (www.crcna.org) for the posting of *The Living Word* beginning in September 2002.
   b. That *The Living Word* booklets continue to be published until December 2004.
   c. That the synodical Sermons for Reading Services Committee remain in place to solicit, screen, approve, and edit the sermons that are posted.
   d. That an indexing system be created in consultation with the The Living Word Committee.
   e. That the costs for this service, which should be minimal, be absorbed under the budget of Denominational Services.
   f. That once the link for sermons is available through the CRCNA web site pastors from the various ethnic communities within the CRC be encouraged to post sermons in their native languages.
Ground: This is in keeping with a mandate from Synod 2001 to investigate the possibility of producing sermons in other languages and consistent with the way of making those sermons available to the public contained in recommendations A-E above.

—Adopted

IV. Communication 2

A. Materials

1. Communication 2
2. CRC Publications Supplement

B. Observations

In addition to reviewing the written materials, the advisory committee was able to discuss this matter with Rev. Suk, and with one of the authors of Communication 2.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod not accede to the request made by Classis Illiana “that synod reprimand Rev. John Suk, editor of The Banner.”

Grounds:

a. The CRC Publications board has reviewed and supported Rev. Suk’s editorial decision to publish the article in question.

b. As noted in the supplemental report of the CRC Publications board, the synodically mandated objectives of The Banner are broader than the devotional purpose that the communication from Classis Illiana stated. The Banner is mandated to:

   Inform readers about what is happening in the CRC, as well as the church at large, to provide articles that edify and encourage Christian living, and to stimulate critical thinking about issues related to the Christian faith and to the culture of which Christians and the CRC are a part.

c. The subject of sexual abuse warrants open discussion, even if some find that discussion disturbing.

d. There is no evidence that confidentiality was breached by the article in question. To the contrary, actual names and details were changed to ensure anonymity.

—Adopted

2. That synod declare this its response to Communication 2.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued in Article 32.)

ARTICLE 27

Advisory Committee 5, Missions, Rev. Joel E. Kok reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees Report

A. Materials: Board of Trustees Report—Appendix I, pp. 89-95
B. Recommendation: That synod ratify Appendix I (Heritage Church Guidelines) as approved by the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA with the amendment: that Section IV, A, 4, p. 91, now read: “The CHMC and CRHM on the basis of their review make their recommendation to classis.”

—Adopted

II. The Back to God Hour

A. Materials: The Back to God Hour Report, pp. 131-35

B. Recommendations

1. That Rev. Scott Greenway, President; and Dr. Calvin L. Bremer, Executive Director, be given the privilege of the floor when The Back to God Hour matters are discussed.

—Granted

2. That synod elect board members from the nominations presented.

—Adopted

III. Home Missions

A. Materials: Home Missions Report, pp. 159-72

B. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Rev. Alvern Gelder, Home Missions board president; and Rev. John Rozeboom, executive director, when matters pertaining to Home Missions are discussed.

—Granted

2. That synod encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize Easter Sunday and Reformation Sunday as significant opportunities to receive an offering for Christian Reformed Home Missions.

—Adopted

IV. World Missions


B. Recommendations

1. That the president of World Missions-Canada, Rev. Ed Visser; the president of World Missions-USA, Rev. William Vis; and the World Missions executive director be given the privilege of meeting with appropriate advisory committees of synod and represent World Missions to synod when synod deals with matters related to this agency.

—Granted

2. That synod continue World Missions on its list of denominational agencies recommended to the churches for one or more offerings.

—Adopted
3. That synod 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.

—Adopted

V. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee


B. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to any of the following: Mr. Randy Kroll, president of CRWRC-U.S.A.; Ms. Margaret Spoelstra, president of CRWRC-Canada; Mr. Andy Ryskamp, director of CRWRC-U.S.A.; and Mr. Wayne deJong, director of CRWRC-Canada when CRWRC matters are discussed and need to be addressed.

—Granted

2. 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.

—Adopted

3. That synod elect by way of the printed ballot a member-at-large from the nominees provided to serve on the board of CRWRC.

—Adopted

4. That synod take time to praise God in celebration of CRWRC’s forty years of ministry. From 1962-2002 CRWRC has been coming alongside communities in need to share God’s love and create long-term solutions to poverty.

—Adopted

Rev. John Tenyenhuis leads the delegates in prayer celebrating the work of CRWRC. Delegates join in singing Psalter Hymnal 603, “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service.”

VI. Further reflections

During the course of our advisory committee’s conversations with various agency representatives, a number of concerns were raised regarding the vitality of our churches and assemblies. Among the issues raised were the need for additional training for elders, a desire for a ministry forum in the United States like the one held recently in Canada, and a proposal that the CRC review its polity relative to the tenure of elders and deacons. As a committee, we are mindful that some of these proposals are costly and that they should be processed carefully before they are presented to a later synod. We want to urge the churches and the agencies and the BOT of the CRCNA to continue to reflect on these issues and, as appropriate, bring recommendations to synod.
ARTICLE 28
Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Richard J. deLange reporting, presents the following:

I. Response to Overtures 1 & 2: Revise Decision of Synod 2000 Not to Permit Women Ministers to Serve as Synodical Deputies (majority report)

A. Materials
1. Overture 1, pp. 355-59
2. Overture 2, pp. 359-60

B. Observations
The overtures of Classis Grand Rapids East and Classis Lake Erie are requesting this synod to revise the decision of Synod 2000 regarding women serving as synodical deputies. Church Order Article 31 states that requests for revision of a decision from a previous synod “shall be honored only if sufficient and new grounds for reconsideration are presented.”

The overtures in question appeal to a sense of confusion on the floor of Synod 2000 as sufficient grounds for reconsideration. This seems to be a weak argument for revision. Certainly some of the comments recorded in the overtures may indicate a lack of clarity, but people asking questions for clarification on the floor of synod is common. The purpose of discussion is to reach a greater understanding. It would be unfair to think that everyone clearly understands every comment on the floor of synod but that does not in itself constitute grounds for reversing a decision. It is as safe to say that while some may have been confused many were not at all confused.

In its deliberations, Synod 2000 was clarifying that synodical deputies represent synod, not the classes from which they come. They serve on behalf of the entire synod, not merely on behalf of one classis with a particular view on the role of women in the life of the church.

Furthermore, the decision about women serving as synodical deputies was not handled in isolation. It was one in a series of decisions over several hours and not made in haste or without time for thought. To isolate one section of the tape of Synod 2000’s discussion on women in office from the larger context is not helpful for understanding the mind of synod as a whole. For example, it may be that synod decided not to proceed with a provision for female synodical deputies because the delegates felt it was pastorally unwise to do so.

We do know that Synod 2000 ordered a review of its women in office decisions in 2005 and ordered that a committee be established in 2003 to prepare a report for 2005. This plan follows that of Synod 1995, which made a decision about women in office and then ordered a review in 2000. Between 1995 and 2000, synods chose to postpone decisions surrounding women in office for the sake of peace in the churches. Likewise, today, it is possible to defer a decision on these overtures to Synod 2005.

C. Recommendation
That synod not accede to Overtures 1 and 2 to revise the decision of Synod 2000 not to permit women ministers to serve as synodical deputies.
Grounds:
1. Church Order Article 31 requires that requests for revision “shall be honored only if sufficient and new grounds for reconsideration are presented.” The appeal to a sense of confusion on the floor of Synod 2000 cannot be proven conclusively as a sufficient ground for reconsideration.
2. It seems reasonable and even wise to leave any further discussion on this matter to Synod 2005 and the review committee to be established in 2003 so that this matter can be discussed in the larger context of the role of women in the offices of the CRC.

According to the Rules for Synodical Procedure, the minority report re the issue not to permit women ministers to serve as synodical deputies is presented as information by Rev. Timothy B. Toeset:

Revise Decision of Synod 2002 Not to Permit Women Ministers to Serve as Synodical Deputies (minority report)

A. Materials: Overtures 1 and 2, pp. 355-60
B. Recommendations:
1. That synod accede to Overture 2 to revise the decision of Synod 2000 and adopt the following regulation for inclusion in the supplement to Church Order Article 3-a: “A classis that has decided that the word male in Church Order Article 3-a is inoperative for its constituent churches may nominate a female minister to serve as synodical deputy as long as, out of consideration for neighboring classes, a male minister is the alternate.”

Grounds:

a. There appears to have been some lack of clarity involved in the debate prior to the decision of Synod 2000. That lack of clarity calls for a clearly informed debate and decision by synod on this matter.

b. The decision of Synod 2000 is inconsistent with the spirit and letter of the policy adopted by Synods 1995 and 2000 to grant freedom of practice to classes and councils in the matter of women serving in the offices of elder, evangelist, and minister, provided that these classes respect and honor the commitments of others.

c. By providing that any classis that nominates a female synodical deputy must nominate a male as the alternate synodical deputy, no classis would be required by rule or necessity to request a female synodical deputy, while those classes that would like to have women as synodical deputies would be given the freedom to appoint and request the participation of female synodical deputies.

2. That synod declare this to be its response to Overture 1.

Synod returns to its consideration of the recommendations of the advisory committee’s majority report.

C. Recommendation

That synod not accede to Overtures 1 and 2 to revise the decision of Synod 2000 not to permit women ministers to serve as synodical deputies.
Grounds:
1. Church Order Article 31 requires that requests for revision “shall be
honored only if sufficient and new grounds for reconsideration are
presented.” The appeal to a sense of confusion on the floor of Synod 2000
cannot be proven conclusively as a sufficient ground for reconsideration.
2. It seems reasonable and even wise to leave any further discussion on this
matter to Synod 2005 and the review committee to be established in 2003
so that this matter can be discussed in the larger context of the role of
women in the offices of the CRC.

—Adopted

The following negative votes are registered: Philip Stel (Alberta North),
Harro van Brummelen (B.C. South-East), William C. De Vries (Lake Erie),
David Vander Haagen (Lake Erie), and Timothy B. Toeset (Pacific Northwest).

A delegate presents the following motion:

That the officers of synod announce the final vote total of Recommenda-
tion C.

—Adopted

The president announces the vote totals: 115 – Yes; 68 – No; 2 – Abstentions.

II. Response to Overtures 7 and 8: Permit Transfer of Messiah Korean CRC
from Classis California South to Classis Pacific Hanmi

A. Materials: Overtures 7 and 8, p. 365

B. Observations

The addition of Korean Christians to the Christian Reformed denomination
has been and continues to be a great blessing. Their knowledge of the English
language and the CRC Church Order is growing but does still cause some
misunderstandings at times, although any confusion is worth the benefit of
having these brothers and sisters in our fellowship.

Overtures 7 through 12 are born out of a desire to do things decently and in
good order. To assist us in understanding the situation that makes transfers to
Classis Pacific Hanmi beneficial, our advisory committee has spoken to
general secretary, Dr. David H. Engelhard and to our denomination’s Korean
ministry director, Rev. Tong K. Park. We have come to understand that the
Korean congregations are making good headway in understanding our church
order and participating in the life of the CRC at classical levels and in other
ways. The ultimate goal is still full integration of the Koreans into the regular
classes of their region, which for the purposes of these overtures are the classes
in California. However, it is still unduly burdensome for some Korean-
speaking congregations to participate fully in the English-speaking classes at
this time.

C. Recommendation: That synod accede to Overtures 7 and 8 and permit the
transfer of Messiah Korean CRC from Classis California South to Classis
Pacific Hanmi.
Grounds:
1. This is in harmony with the provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 39 and the intent of Synod 1996 in approving the formation of Classis Pacific Hanmi.
2. Both Classis California South and Classis Pacific Hanmi agree to this action.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued in Article 51.)

ARTICLE 29
The general secretary welcomes and introduces fraternal delegates Dr. Seth Pitikoe (Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa) and Dr. Willie Botha (Dutch Reformed Church).

ARTICLE 30
The afternoon session is adjourned. Elder Calvin J. Hoogstra leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING, June 11, 2002
Fifth Session

ARTICLE 31

ARTICLE 32
(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued from Article 26.)

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Michael Winnowski reporting, presents the following:

Committee to Give Direction about and for Pastoral Care for Homosexual Members

A. Materials: Committee to Give Direction about and for Pastoral Care for Homosexual Members Report, pp. 313-51

B. Observations
The advisory committee realizes that, as mentioned in the report (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, p. 315), there may be wisdom in developing a current response to the many recent treatments of the biblical passages pertaining to this issue. The advisory committee also realizes that the report does not address every type of pastoral situation related to this issue. As the study committee itself recognizes, this report does not and indeed cannot speak the last word on the
subject of pastoral care to persons who experience sexual attraction to others of the same gender. Therefore the church must continue its efforts to develop coherent and compassionate responses to the challenges faced by such individuals, their families, and the church communities that minister to them.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Dr. Melvin Hugen, Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma, and Rev. Herman Van Niejenhuis (Dr. Gerald Zandstra, alternate).

—Granted

2. That synod adopt one insertion to the report at the end of the second paragraph of section I, B, 1 (Agenda for Synod 2002, p.314). The end of the paragraph will now read as follows (addition in italic):

   …including significant ministry with persons who have same-sex attractions and related issues. (Note: The phrase “persons with same-sex attractions” is used throughout this report in the sense of persons who experience sexual attraction to others of the same gender.)

—Adopted

3. That synod recommend this report (as amended) with its appendices to the churches for their use in ministering to persons who experience sexual attraction to others of the same gender.

—Adopted

(The voting results are reported as follows: 168 – Yes; 12 – No; 5 – Abstentions.)

4. That synod make the report available to the churches in suitable study format.

—Adopted

5. That synod dismiss the committee with thanks.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 33

The general secretary welcomes and introduces fraternal delegate Dr. Wayne R. Spear (Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America).

ARTICLE 34

The evening session is adjourned. Elder Joseph Koole leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 12, 2002
Sixth Session

ARTICLE 35

Faculty adviser Dr. Mariano Avila announces Sing! A New Creation 42, “We Bow Down” and leads in a service of litany from “Morning Worship—a Church Like Antioch.” He announces Sing! A New Creation 294, vs. 4; “Go to
Dr. Avila reads from Acts 11:19-26 and leads in opening prayer. He reflects on a church that nurtures and leads in prayer. He announces Sing! A New Creation 17, “Step by Step.”

ARTICLE 36
The roll call indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 37
Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. William D. Zeilstra reporting, presents the following:

I. Interchurch Relations Committee

A. Materials
1. Interchurch Relations Committee Report (including Appendices A-D), pp. 238-94
2. Interchurch Relations Committee Supplement

B. Recommendations
1. That Rev. Michael Winnowski, president; Rev. Jason Chen, vice president; and Rev. Leonard J. Hofman, administrative secretary; along with other IRC members as necessary, be given the privilege of the floor when matters relating to IRC are being discussed.

—Granted

2. That synod authorize the IRC to apply for CRCNA membership in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) (see Section III, F, and Appendix C).

Grounds:

a. The CRC meets all the requirements for membership in WARC, can subscribe to its basis, and can affirm its purposes. Therefore, as a member of the Reformed family of churches, the CRC belongs in WARC.
b. Membership in WARC will provide the CRC with an avenue to meet its ecumenical responsibility to historically Reformed churches and, through it, to other Christian churches and communions with which WARC is in dialogue.
c. Membership in WARC would offer the CRC an opportunity to support and strengthen the Reformed witness of other member churches, which are also members of the REC or are in ecclesiastical fellowship with the CRC.
d. Membership in WARC would provide the CRC with an increased opportunity to assist struggling Reformed churches through the world in witness, work, and theological education.
e. Membership in the Alliance would benefit and enrich the CRC. Through dialogue with WARC and its member churches, the CRC can teach as well as be taught.
f. Membership in WARC would enrich the CRC by enhancing its catholic Christian self-consciousness and its awareness of problems that globally confront Christians and their churches.
g. It may reasonably be presumed that the CRC can make an impact on WARC and, through it, on other churches of Christ.

h. Membership in WARC does not imply endorsement of doctrinal positions, hermeneutical strategies, or communications of WARC or of member churches because WARC’s constitution prohibits WARC from “limiting the autonomy of any member church.”

i. Representatives of WARC and CANAAC have urged the CRC to become a full member and have said that the CRC both belongs in and can make a significant contribution to the alliance.

Note: Additional information on WARC can be obtained from their website: www.warc.ch/.

The vice president assumes the chair during part of the discussion.
The president resumes the chair before the vote.

—Adopted

3. That Synod instruct the IRC to present a comprehensive review of CRC membership in WARC to Synod 2008. This review shall include a description of the actual experience of CRC membership in the IRC; an evaluation of the fruitfulness of CRC membership in WARC, in particular whether that membership has been beneficial both to WARC and the CRC; and recommendations regarding continued CRC membership in WARC.

Ground: Such a review gives clear guidance to the church regarding the advisability of maintaining membership in WARC.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued in Article 42.)

ARTICLE 38
Rev. Pieter Tuit introduces Mr. William Meischke, fraternal delegate from the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia, who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.
Rev. Pieter Tuit introduces Rev. Lawrence de los Trinos, fraternal delegate from the Christian Reformed Church in the Philippines, who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.
Dr. David H. Engelhard introduces Dr. Wayne R. Spear, fraternal delegate from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, who addresses synod. The second clerk of synod responds.
Dr. David H. Engelhard introduces Rev. Erello Martinez Garcia, fraternal delegate from the Christian Reformed Church in Cuba, who addresses synod. The vice president of synod responds.
Dr. David H. Engelhard introduces Dr. Seth Pitikoe, fraternal delegate from the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa, who addresses synod. The vice president of synod responds.
Rev. Leonard J. Hofman introduces Dr. Willie Botha, fraternal delegate from the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa, who addresses synod. The first clerk of synod responds.
ARTICLE 39
The morning session is adjourned. Rev. Marvin J. Hofman leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, June 12, 2002
Seventh Session

ARTICLE 40

ARTICLE 41
Rev. Leonard J. Hofman introduces Dr. L. Edward Davis, fraternal delegate from the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, who addresses synod. The second clerk of synod responds.
Dr. David H. Engelhard introduces Dr. Richard Van Houten, director of the Reformed Ecumenical Council, who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.
Dr. David H. Engelhard distributes letters of greetings from the following churches in ecclesiastical fellowship: the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria, the Church of Christ in the Sudan Among the Tiv, the Dutch Reformed Church in Sri Lanka, the Reformed Church in Africa, and the Reformed Church in Japan.

ARTICLE 42
(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued from Article 37.)

Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. William D. Zeilstra reporting, presents the following:

I. Interchurch Relations Committee
A. Materials
1. Interchurch Relations Committee Report (including Appendices A-D), pp. 238-94
2. Interchurch Relations Committee Supplement
B. Recommendations (continued from Article 37)
4. Dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church re its official doctrine concerning the Mass (see Section VI and Appendix D).

a. Background
   Our advisory committee reviewed Appendix D (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, pp. 274-94) of the IRC report. Since Synod 1998, the IRC has been investigating the accuracy of Heidelberg Catechism Q. and A. 80 on the subject of the Roman Catholic Mass. The report includes tentative conclusions on the subject as well as procedural recommendations. The task of our committee has been to give advice on the procedural recommendations.

b. Observations
   Our committee notes with appreciation the IRC’s thorough response to the concerns raised by two 1998 overtures concerning Q. and A. 80 of the Heidelberg Catechism. We also appreciate the IRC’s willingness to engage in ongoing dialogue with the Roman Catholic Church in keeping with the spirit of the Ecumenical Charter.
   
   In addition, we urge that, in any ongoing work in this area, due consideration be given to the broader implications of CRC statements and decisions. For example, it may be wise to explore how our statements and decisions may affect sister churches in places where the Roman Catholic Church is in the majority and where its relationship with evangelical and Protestant churches has been highly antagonistic and oppressive, such as in Latin America.

c. Recommendations
   1) That synod receive the report as fulfillment of the mandate given by Synod 1998 to the IRC “to make an attempt to dialogue with the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church to clarify the official doctrine of that church concerning the mass” (*Acts of Synod 1998*, p. 427). —Adopted

   2) That synod submit the report to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops requesting their agreement that the report gives an accurate presentation of official Roman Catholic teaching regarding the sacrament of the Eucharist. —Adopted

   3) Possible Action on Heidelberg Catechism Q. and A. 80 (majority report)
      That synod ask the IRC, on the basis of the response received from the Roman Catholic bishops of Canada and the United States, to advise a future synod about any further action that may be needed regarding Q. and A. 80 of the Heidelberg Catechism.

      According to the Rules for Synodical Procedure, the minority report re Heidelberg Catechism Q. and A. 80 is presented as information by Rev. George Koopmans.
3) Possible Action on Heidelberg Catechism Q. and A. 80 (minority report)
While the minority of the advisory committee endorses Recommendations 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the advisory committee re the report of the Interchurch Relations Committee clarifying the official doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church concerning the Mass, we object to Recommendation 3.

**Grounds:**

a) The mandate given the IRC has been fulfilled (see Recommendation 1).

b) If further action is needed it should be proposed by way of a confessional-revision gravamen rather than by the IRC.

Following the rules of procedure, synod returns to consideration of the recommendations of the advisory committee’s majority report.

3) That synod ask the IRC, on the basis of the response received from the Roman Catholic bishops of Canada and the United States, to advise a future synod about any further action that may be needed regarding Q. and A. 80 of the Heidelberg Catechism.

—Adopted

4) That synod ask the IRC, on the basis of the response received from the Roman Catholic bishops of Canada and the United States, to advise a future synod, no later than 2006, about the value of further dialogue between the CRC and the Roman Catholic Church.

—Adopted

5) That synod send this report (Appendix D, *Agenda for Synod 2002*, pp. 274-94,) to churches in ecclesiastical fellowship and to the Reformed Ecumenical Council informing them of our study and inviting their response.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued in Article 47.)

ARTICLE 43
Dr. Gaylen Byker, representative of the specially appointed committee to study ministry share, addresses synod regarding ministry shares with the aid of PowerPoint as a prelude to the report of the Finance Advisory Committee.

Advisory Committee 6, Finance, elder David Vander Haagen reporting, presents the following:

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


B. Recommendations

1. That the Loan Fund’s executive director, or any members of the board of directors of the Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. be given the privilege of the floor when matters pertaining to the Loan Fund are discussed.

—Granted
II. Pensions and Insurance


B. Information

In accordance with the established policies, the following matters are reported to synod:

1. The BOT received as information the decision of the pension trustees regarding the final average salaries to be used in the year 2003 by the pension plans in the application of its benefit formula. These amounts are $38,654 in the United States and $39,900 in Canada.

2. The BOT concurs with the decision of the pension trustees that the participant assessments for 2003 be $4,300 in the United States and $5,500 in Canada. The per confessing-member assessments (age 18 and over) for the Ministers’ Pension Fund have been set at $19 (U.S.) and $22 (Canada).

C. 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 synod’s requests is found in Appendix D.

D. Consolidated Group Insurance (CGI) – Presented as information

The denomination maintains a self-insured health and dental insurance benefit plan for use by the congregations and agencies of the CRC. CGI falls under the general oversight of the Board of Trustees, but it has delegated the general administration of the plan to the Compensation Administration Committee (CAC). The day-to-day administration of the plan is the responsibility of the plan administrator, Ms. Norma F. Coleman. The financial oversight of the trust fund underlying the self-insured plan is the responsibility of the director of finance and administration, Mr. Kenneth J. Horjus.

For many years the insurance plan has had the following components:

1. Health and dental insurance for pastors and other full-time staff serving congregations in the United States. This component of the insurance plan is made available to individuals (including dependents), but participation is entirely voluntary.

2. Supplemental insurance for pastors and other full-time staff serving congregations in Canada whose primary insurance coverage is being provided through provincial insurance programs. This component of the insurance plan is made available to individuals (including dependents), but participation is also entirely voluntary.

3. Supplemental insurance for qualifying U.S. retirees whose primary insurance coverage is provided through Medicare. This supplemental insurance is available only to a retiree and his/her spouse if the retiree was a participant in CGI at the time retirement commenced. However, a recently
adopted provision limits eligibility for participation in the plan as a retiree. Specifically, retirees who were members of the plan and denomination at the date of retirement and who subsequent to the date retirement began have left the CRC will no longer be eligible to participate in the plan.

It is no secret that the health-care field has undergone substantial changes in the past number of years. CGI has made every effort to maintain a plan that is both affordable and viable for catastrophic coverage in the event of major illness. In that sense, CGI is properly thought of as a major-medical plan. Another feature of CGI is that it may offer coverage in all the places where our churches are located. This provision allowed participants to move from place to place without the concerns of changing insurance companies. However, over time a problem developed. With the many options available for HMO and PPO providers, a number of individuals and churches chose to purchase insurance with other vendors because, it was said, it costs less. In some cases that may well be true. CGI provides insurance for persons living in both high-cost and moderate-cost areas. The premium charged is the same and is unrelated to location. Yet, there are some areas in the country where costs may be less and, therefore, similar coverage can be obtained for less money than what CGI charges. It is similarly true that CGI can be less expensive than other plans in high-cost areas of the country. There can be significant variation between plans in the kind of coverage provided, deductibles applied, and co-pays charged; and, therefore, comparisons are very difficult to make.

During 2001-2002, CGI undertook, with the assistance of competent health-care professionals, a complete review of the CGI plan. The conclusion of that review pointed to the need to make the following changes:

1. To avoid the consequences of “adverse selection,” the plan would need to become primarily a “group insurance plan” in distinction from an “individually insured plan.” This change means that churches are required to enroll all of their qualifying employees in order to have any employee eligible for CGI participation. Some exceptions are permitted, but the change is intended to be generally implemented.

2. The benefit structure was changed to shift some of the costs to the plan participants and away from the employers who, for the most part, had been carrying the burden of increasing costs for many years.

3. The retiree supplemental insurance is being subsidized by the main plan’s collected premiums. The supplemental insurance rates for retirees need to be increased over a five-year period to make the supplemental plan break even.

It is not surprising that such changes have generated several responses that can best be classified as “objections” and “challenges.” Some believe that changing from an “individually insured plan” to a “group plan” conflicts with the synodically approved intent to provide insurance for ministers regardless of what a church council may decide about others who are employed by a congregation. Others have objected to the Board of Trustees for making this decision and have even alleged that the Board acted in a high-handed manner and contrary to Reformed polity. While the Board understands that the changes are significant, it also believes that synod expects the Board of Trustees to act in a fiduciary-responsible manner. The plan prior to the

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revisions was at risk financially. The Board also acted in the conviction that synod has assigned to it the responsibility for such entities as CGI. The fact is that CGI has never been directly administered by synod, not even in the years that precede the formation of the Board of Trustees. Hence, while no one is happy about rising costs, or the increasing complexity of health care, tough decisions need to be made to keep CGI viable.

In reviewing the objections and challenges received, the Board of Trustees did make certain accommodations for those who have been in the CGI plan for many years and who are serving churches that will not enroll all employees as a group. The accommodation made is that those within ten years of qualifying for Medicare and who are participants in the CGI plan as of December 31, 2002, may continue as “individually insured” participants and thus continue their qualification for retiree supplemental insurance when that day comes. This is a significant concession, but it is hoped that this accommodation will remove any suggestion that participants who move from church to church will be victimized by these changes late in their careers.

Because the issues are complex, and because feelings about the changes have been intense, it seemed appropriate to inform synod about the Board of Trustees’ decisions with reference to CGI.

E. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to members of the Canadian Pension Trustees and of the United States Board of Pensions and to Mr. Kenneth J. Horjus when insurance matters and matters pertaining to pension plans for ministers and employees are discussed.

   —Granted

2. That synod designate up to 100 percent of a minister’s early or normal retirement pension or disability pension for 2003 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

3. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect two members to the U.S. board of Pensions and Insurance for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2002.

   —Adopted

4. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect two members to the Canadian Pension Trustees for three-year terms beginning July 1, 2002.

   —Adopted

III. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report—Appendix J
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (Section III; excluding subsections C-G and Appendix C)
3. Agenda for Synod 2002—Financial and Business Supplement
B. Background

Serious financial challenges are facing Calvin Theological Seminary and CRC Publications. The Board of Trustees has proposed reallocation of 2002 ministry shares to address this situation. The proposed reallocation of ministry shares has been acquiesced to by each of the boards of the agencies and institutions affected by the reallocation—The Back to God Hour, Calvin College, Home Missions, and World Missions. Gifts or ministry shares that are specifically designated by donors to go to particular agencies or institutions have been directed, and will continue to be directed, to those agencies and institutions.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod approve the reallocation of ministry shares for 2002 as proposed (see Agenda for Synod 2002, II, B, 5, p. 37; and Recommendation G, p. 42).

   Grounds:

   a. 1 Corinthians 12:26—“If some member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.” The reallocation of ministry shares is consistent with our covenant to do the overall ministry of the denomination together.

   b. This extraordinary reallocation of ministry shares to more closely reflect overall denominational ministry needs is an appropriate response to the current situation, and this response is expected to be time limited.

   —Adopted

2. That synod approve a ministry share of $255.77 per confessing member 18 years of age and over for calendar year 2003 (Board of Trustees Supplement III, A).

   —Adopted

3. That synod approve the proposed salary ranges for 2003 (Board of Trustees Supplement III, B).


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   Note: The shaded areas are not currently in use.

   —Adopted

4. That synod receive as information the condensed financial statements for the agencies and educational institutions (Appendix J).

   —Adopted
IV. Response to Overtures 5, 6, and 13, and Communication 3

A. Materials
1. Overture 5, pp. 362-63
2. Overture 6, pp. 363-64
3. Overture 13, pp. 366-68
4. Communication 3

B. Recommendations
1. Overtures 5 and 6
   a. Introduction
      The advisory committee notes the financial hardships to certain agencies and institutions in 2001-2002 as well as the significant continuing strengths of the ministry-share system. While acknowledging the concerns expressed in Overtures 5 and 6, the advisory committee believes that our ministry-share system, distinctive of our denomination, embodies our shared commitments and our promise to share our collective responsibilities.
   
   b. Recommendations
      1) That synod not accede to Overture 5 or Overture 6.
         
         Grounds:
         a) Report 32 to Synod 1992 is a comprehensive study of denominational funding.
         b) There are not sufficient reasons or new information to support the appointment of a new study committee.

         —Adopted

      2) That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to continue to monitor ministry-share receipts and trends and increase denominational efforts to educate and encourage congregations.

         —Adopted

      3) That synod encourage:
         a) Congregations to study and make use of information pertaining to the importance of ministry-share funding to denominational ministries.
         b) Classes to urge member congregations to assist each other in meeting their shared responsibilities.

         —Adopted

      4) That this be declared synod’s response to Communication 3.

         —Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 6 is continued in Article 46.)

ARTICLE 44
The afternoon session is adjourned. Rev. Merle DenBleyker leads in closing prayer.
WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 12, 2002
Eighth Session

ARTICLE 45
Elder John L. Steen announces Sing! A New Creation 177, “O Christ, the Great Foundation” and reads from 1 Thessalonians 1. He leads in opening prayer and announces Sing! A New Creation 58, “Children from Your Vast Creation.”

ARTICLE 46
(The report of Advisory Committee 6 is continued from Article 43.)

Advisory Committee 6, Finance, Elder David Vander Haagen reporting, presents the following:

Response to Overtures 5, 6, and 13, and Communication 3

A. Materials
1. Overture 5, pp. 362-63
2. Overture 6, pp. 363-64
3. Overture 13, pp. 366-68
4. Communication 3

B. Recommendations (continued from Article 43)
2. Overture 13
   a. That synod not accede to Overture 13, but refer it to the trustees of the ministers’ pension plans.

   Ground: Questions involving the interpretation of the ministers’ pension plans or special circumstances arising under the plans should be presented to the plan trustees (the U.S. Board of Pensions and the Canadian Pension Trustees).

   —Tabled

   The following substitute motion is presented to and considered by synod:

   That synod refer Overture 13 to the trustees of the ministers’ pension plans and request the trustees to prepare recommendations to Synod 2003 re this matter.

   Ground: Questions involving the interpretation of the ministers’ pension plans or special circumstances arising under the plans should be presented to the plan trustees (the U.S. Board of Pensions and the Canadian Pension Trustees).

   —Adopted

   b. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to publish a directory of those who will provide translation assistance with respect to denominational materials for pastors and church leaders for whom English is a second language and that synod request the Board of Trustees to find ways to
improve communications with pastors and church leaders for whom English is a second language.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 47

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued from Article 42.)

Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. William D. Zeilstra reporting, presents the following:

I. Interchurch Relations Committee

A. Materials

1. Interchurch Relations Committee Report (including Appendices A-D), pp. 238-94
2. Interchurch Relations Committee Supplement

B. Recommendations (continued from Article 43)

5. Membership of the CRCNA in NAPARC (North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council)

That synod note with sadness that NAPARC (North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council) has continued the suspension of the CRCNA from its membership and has voted to terminate our membership no later than 2004; commend the IRC in their work of representing us to NAPARC; continue to acknowledge and value the relationships that remain, trusting that in the Lord’s mercy he will someday make us one.

—Adopted

6. That synod elect members for the IRC from the slate of nominees presented.

—Adopted

II. Response to Overture 3: Explore Organic Unity with the Reformed Church in America (RCA)

A. Materials: Overture 3, p. 361

B. Observations

Overture 3 requests synod to encourage the IRC to explore organic unity with the Reformed Church in America (RCA). The aim of this overture is in accord with the Ecumenical Charter of the CRC, section II, “Guidelines for Ecumenical Work,” which follows:

II. Guidelines for ecumenical work
A. The unity we seek
   1. In striving for the unity of the church, we celebrate the extent to which unity is already visible in
      a. The one, holy, written Word of God, given for us and for our salvation
      b. One baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
      c. Common creeds: the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed
      d. Common hymns, prayers, and liturgical practices
      e. United witness to the name of Christ in evangelism

f. Common witness in the name of Christ in public testimony and action on ethical-social issues (such as gambling, abortion, genetic engineering, euthanasia, poverty)
g. Common confessions of faith

2. In striving for unity, we seek to make the spiritual and visible communion we already have in Christ more fully visible.

3. Because the unity of the church is a unity in Christ, it demands an ever deeper conversion to Christ (see Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Day 33). As we draw closer to Christ, we draw closer to each other. Such conversion entails repentance, the reconciliation of churches now separated and the healing of wounds and memories of the past. Questions of institutional relations and negotiations aiming at organizational merger are important only as they serve this deeper unity.

B. The path we take

1. As we draw closer through conversion and renewal, the search for greater visible unity may be pursued along various avenues and take a variety of forms, such as
   a. Mutual understanding
   b. Cooperation in ministry
   c. Common witness-mission and evangelism
   d. Collaboration in ethical-social testimony
   e. Fellowship
   f. Joint worship
   g. Pulpit fellowship
   h. Joint celebration of the Lord’s Supper
   i. Regular joint prayer for unity
   j. Organic union

2. The pursuit of visible unity shall be guided by historical-confessional considerations.

3. The pursuit of visible unity needs to be diverse and flexible, open to surprising manifestations of the working of the Spirit in various communities.

C. Comments

Overture 3 does not address the current realities regarding our mission and ministry as separate, historic denominations, but it does challenge us to reexamine the relationship between the CRCNA and RCA.

As an advisory committee, we cherish our current relationship with the RCA. We respect their ministries, values, and ambitions to spread the gospel around the world in word and deed. Our current partnerships with them are important to us, we wish them to continue, and we welcome any prospect of broadening the scope of our cooperation and partnership in all areas of ministry.

Our advisory committee notes that the RCA General Synod 2002 adopted the following recommendation of its advisory committee:

To instruct the Commission on Christian unity to enter into dialogue with the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRC), exploring ways of moving toward greater unity between the CRC and the RCA in their ministry and mission, beginning with a discussion of the orderly exchange of ministers, and to report to the 2003 General Synod; and further, to encourage the agencies of the RCA to continue and expend their cooperative efforts with their CRC counterparts.

Reasons:
1. The RCA and CRC share the same confessions, a common tradition and history, and a shared mission to reach the world in the name of Jesus Christ.
2. The mission of the church of Jesus Christ would be better served by a greater unity of the two churches.
3. Providing for the orderly exchange of ministers of Word and sacrament would allow for more flexibility and more effective use of our churches’ ordained leaders.

D. Recommendations

1. That synod instruct the IRC, in consultation with appropriate agencies of the CRCNA to engage in a dialogue with the Commission on Christian Unity of the RCA, to ascertain how our ministry and mission throughout the world might be strengthened by greater cooperation between our two denominations, and to report its findings to Synod 2005.

   Grounds:
   a. The CRC and RCA share the same confessions, a common tradition and history, and a shared mission to reach the world in the name of Jesus Christ.
   b. This step aims us toward a future of greater effectiveness in ministry and mission.

   —Adopted

2. That this be synod’s response to Overture 3.

   —Adopted

   Synod thanks the IRC for its work and recognizes with appreciation the faithful work of Rev. Leonard J. Hofman as administrative secretary of the IRC for the last eight years and his ecumenical work for the last twenty years.

ARTICLE 48
The evening session is adjourned. Rev. Duane Tinklenberg leads in closing prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, June 13, 2002
Ninth Session

ARTICLE 49
Woman adviser Rev. Thea Leunk announces Sing! A New Creation 223, “Shout to the Lord” and leads in the litany from “Morning Worship—A Church Like Antioch.” She announces Sing! A New Creation 294, vs. 3; “Go to the World!” Rev. Leunk reads from Acts 11:19-30 and reflects on a church that shares. She leads in opening prayer, remembering especially Dr. Bass Van Elderen and Dr. Andrew Kuyvenhoven, and announces Sing! A New Creation 277. “The Servant Song.”

ARTICLE 50
The roll call indicates that Rev. Daniel J. Roeda (Wisconsin) is absent.

ARTICLE 51
The vice president assumes the chair.
Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Richard J. deLang reporting, presents the following:

I. Response to Overture 4: Revise Belgic Confession Article 34

A. Materials: Overture 4, pp. 361-62

B. Observations

Classis Chatham struggles with the tone of certain words, one sentence in particular, found in Article 34 of the Belgic Confession: “For that reason we detest the error of the Anabaptists who are not content with a single baptism once received and also condemn the baptism of the children of believers.” We appreciate their desire to remain true to the intent of the article and respectful of the historical nature of the text while being sensitive to Anabaptist Christians.

C. Recommendation: That Synod not accede to Overture 4 to remove the following sentence from the body of the Belgic Confession, Article 34 and place it in a footnote: “For that reason we detest the error of the Anabaptists who are not content with a single baptism once received and also condemn the baptism of the children of believers.”

Grounds:

1. Historically, the CRC has not approved revisions to creeds or confessions without making the judgment that certain expressions are unbiblical. For example, changes to Belgic Confession Article 36 were made because synod deemed them to be unbiblical (Psalter Hymnal, 1987, p. 856 footnote). The same charge cannot be made about Article 34.

2. Historically, synod has opted for a historical-textual, rather than a “too literalistic approach to the Confessions” in the hope that we would avoid making so many changes to these documents that we end up with confessions that are “a barely recognizable polyglot of emendations” (Acts of Synod, 1959, p. 184). Our confessions were born in a certain climate of theological debate and can be best understood in light of that history.

3. The Church Order reminds us that a subscriber to the Form of Subscription “does not by his subscription declare that these doctrines are all stated in the best possible manner” and that our confessions may not say everything perfectly; however, the truth taught therein is a faithful reflection on the Word of God: “A subscriber is only bound by his subscription to those doctrines which are confessed, and is not bound to the references, allusions, and remarks that are incidental to the formulations of these doctrines” (Church Order/Rules for Synodical Procedure 2001, Supplement, Article 5, p. 26, A, 2 and 3.)

—Adopted

The following negative votes are registered: Harro van Brummelen (B.C. South-East) and David Snapper (Pacific Northwest).
II. Response to Overture 9: Permit the Transfer of Neung-Ryuk CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi

A. Materials: Overture 9, p. 365

B. Recommendation: That synod accede to Overture 9 and permit the transfer of Neung-Ryuk CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi from Classis Greater Los Angeles.

Grounds:
1. This is in harmony with the provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 39 and the intent of Synod 1996 in approving the formation of Classis Pacific Hanmi.
2. The delegates to synod from Classis Greater Los Angeles, the current home classis of Neung-Ryuk, have indicated their classis’ agreement with this move.
3. Rev. Tong Park has confirmed that this is indeed the desire of the Neung-Ryuk council as well as Classis Pacific Hanmi.
4. This makes formal what is already reality informally since Pacific Hanmi is helping Neung-Ryuk CRC already and thus fulfilling its synodically approved task to help Korean-speaking congregations integrate more completely into the CRC.

—Adopted

III. Response to Overture 10: Permit the Transfer of San Bernardino Korean CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi

A. Materials: Overture 10, pp. 365-66

B. Observations
The San Bernadino Korean CRC is one of more than ten Korean churches in the Los Angeles area—and the smallest of them. As a small church, it was having problems getting into the discussions at the classis meetings in Classis California South. As a result they became less and less active in the classis. After discussions with the church and the classis, it was felt that the needs of San Bernadino CRC could be better met in Classis Pacific Hanmi.

C. Recommendation: That synod accede to Overture 10 and permit the transfer of San Bernadino CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi.

Grounds:
1. This is in harmony with the provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 39 and the intent of Synod 1996 in approving the formation of Classis Pacific Hanmi.
2. Classis California South, the current home classis of San Bernadino, as well as the Pacific Hanmi Monitoring Committee and Classis Pacific Hanmi have indicated their agreement with this move.
3. This makes formal what is already reality informally since Pacific Hanmi is fulfilling its synodically approved task to help Korean-speaking congregations integrate more completely into the CRC.

—Adopted
IV. Response to Overture 11: Permit the Transfer of East Bay Korean CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi

A. Materials: Overture 11, p. 366

B. Observations

The East Bay Korean CRC began as part of Classic Central California. After becoming an established congregation, conflict erupted with members leaving the church. Classis sought to help, but it was unable to rebuild the broken congregation. As a result, Classis Central California requested the help of Classis Pacific Hanmi, which cooperated by sending an interim pastor who helped to reestablish the East Bay church. Classis Central California has now asked Pacific Hanmi to take this church and Pacific Hanmi has agreed. This stands as a healthy reminder of the blessing Classis Pacific Hanmi is providing in our denomination.

C. Recommendation: That Synod accede to Overture 11 to permit the transfer of East Bay Korean CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi.

Grounds:
1. This is in harmony with the provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 39 and the intent of Synod 1996 in approving the formation of Classis Pacific Hanmi.
2. This will formalize the relationship between East Bay Korean CRC and Classis Pacific Hanmi.
3. All concerned parties agree to this transfer.

—Adopted

V. Response to Overture 12: Permit the Transfer of San Jose New Hope CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi

A. Materials: Overture 12, p. 366

B. Observations

San Jose New Hope CRC was a member of Classis Central California and, after a period of difficulty, left the CRC and subsequently reentered the denomination under the auspices of Classis Pacific Hanmi. However there is still uncertainty as to whether this congregation technically belongs to Classis Central California or to Pacific Hanmi. Our actions as synod will make San Jose New Hope CRC an official member of Pacific Hanmi.

C. Recommendation: That Synod accede to Overture 12 to permit the transfer of San Jose New Hope CRC to Classis Pacific Hanmi.

Grounds
1. This is in harmony with the provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 39 and the intent of Synod 1996 in approving the formation of Classis Pacific Hanmi.
2. The Classis Pacific Hanmi Monitoring Committee has endorsed this move and it has received the consent of Classis Central California and Pacific Hanmi.
3. This will formalize the relationship between New Hope CRC and Classis Pacific Hanmi.

—Adopted
VI. Response to Appeal: A Confessional-Revision Gravamen

A. Materials: Appeal, pp. 369-81

B. Observations

Synod 2000 received the “Report of the Committee to Study the Materials from the Reformed Churches of Australia re Christ’s Descent Into Hell” (Agenda for Synod 2000, pp. 212-28). That synod considered the report and voted to advise the Reformed Churches of Australia not to change their version of the Apostles’ Creed. The Council of Living Hope CRC, Peterborough, Ontario, subsequently drafted and submitted an overture to Classis Quinte, essentially reworking material contained in the report to the Australian churches with the hope that the CRC, through this synod, would reconsider the implications of the decision of Synod 2000 and replace in the Apostles’ Creed the phrase “he descended to hell” with “he descended to the realm of the dead” as well as making changes to the Heidelberg Catechism, which reflect the changes in the Apostles’ Creed.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod declare this gravamen legally before it.

   Ground: Following proper procedure, the gravamen has been submitted by Living Hope CRC to Classis Quinte where it was not sustained. Consequently, Living Hope is within its rights to send this gravamen on to synod.

   —Adopted

2. That synod not accede to the gravamen to replace the phrase “he descended to hell,” in the Apostles’ Creed with “he descended to the realm of the dead” and not change the Heidelberg Catechism to reflect the change in the creed.

   Grounds:

   a. Historically, the CRC has not approved revisions to creeds or confessions without making the judgment that certain expressions are unbiblical (cf. changes to Belgic Confession, Article 36, Psalter Hymnal, 1987, p. 856 footnote). This gravamen does not prove nor state that the phrase “he descended into hell” is actually unbiblical.

   b. Historically, synod has opted for a historical-textual approach to interpreting the creeds and confessions rather than making changes to these documents regularly and ending up with creeds or confessions that are what Synod 1959 called “a barely recognizable polyglot of emendations” (Acts of Synod 1959, p. 184).

   c. Ecumenically, this change to the Apostles’ Creed would set us apart from the greater part of the Christian church.

   d. The advice to the Reformed Churches of Australia adopted by Synod 2000 implies support for this recommendation.

   e. To make this change would be to limit the meaning to “he descended to the realm of the dead” and not leave open the long-held interpretation that Christ suffered hellish agony on the cross. (see Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Day 16, Q. and A. 44)

   —Adopted
3. That synod add a footnote to the Apostles’ Creed with reference to “he descended to hell**” stating “**hades, that is, the realm of the dead.”

**Grounds:**

a. “The materials submitted by the RCA [Reformed Churches of Australia] do not take sufficient account of the fact that in the history of the English language the word *hell* has referred not only to the place of final punishment but also to *sheol* or *hades*, biblical terms for the resting place of the soul in the intermediate state. In fact, it is in this latter sense that a majority of commentators in the past have understood the descent into ‘hell’” (*Agenda for Synod 2000*, Appendix B, V, B, 2, c, p. 226).

b. In the modern English language “hades” is a more accurate translation of the original Latin word *infernum*.

c. Ecumenically, this interpretation is most commonly held.

d. Precedent for clarifying footnotes has been established with the word *catholic* in the Apostles’ Creed.

—Defeated


The Christian Church has never understood Christ’s descent into hell as a literal descent into the place of eternal punishment. Some Christians, including some Reformed Christians, have interpreted it as the descent of Christ’s soul into the realm or state of the dead (hades) between his death and resurrection (see the Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. and A. 50). Others, including the authors of the Heidelberg Catechism (Q. and A. 44), have understood it as a reference to the hellish agony of eternal punishment that Christ suffered, especially on the cross but also earlier.”

(V. B. 4., p. 227)

**Grounds**

a. This would clarify that there is more than one explanation for the phrase and serve as an educational tool.

b. Q. and A. 57 and Q. and A. 80 both have descriptive historical footnotes attached to them.

c. Belgic Confession Article 36 has two footnotes attached to it.

—Defeated

5. That synod add a footnote to the Athanasian Creed with reference to “he descended to hell**” stating “**hades, that is, the realm of the dead.”

**Grounds:**

a. “The materials submitted by the RCA [Reformed Churches of Australia] do not take sufficient account of the fact that in the history of the English language the word *hell* has referred not only to the place of final punishment but also to *sheol* or *hades*, biblical terms for the resting place of the soul in the intermediate state. In fact, it is in this latter sense that a majority of commentators in the past have understood the descent into ‘hell’” (*Agenda for Synod 2000*, Appendix B, V, B, 2, c, p. 226).

b. In the modern English language “hades” is a more accurate translation of the original Latin word *infernum*.
c. Ecumenically, this interpretation is most commonly held.

d. Precedent for clarifying footnotes has been established with the word catholic in the Apostles’ Creed.

—Withdrawn

ARTICLE 52

The president of synod resumes the chair.

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 23.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services 1, Rev. Douglas R. Fauble reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (Polity section), pp. 21-34; 43-47 (including Appendix A)

2. Board of Trustees Report Supplement (Section I – Polity Matters; including Appendices A and B)

3. Synodical deputies’ reports

B. Recommendations

1. That synod receive as information the revised position description for the general secretary.

—Adopted

2. That synod receive as information the revised position description for the executive director of ministries.

—Adopted

II. Work of synodical deputies

A. Classical examination of candidates

Synodical deputies report their concurrence with the decisions of classes to admit the following to the office of minister of the Word:

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<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Classis</th>
<th>Synodical Deputies and Classes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timothy S. Bossenbrook</td>
<td>Chicago South (9-20-01)</td>
<td>S.R. Van Eck (Kalamazoo) T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois) L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin)</td>
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<td>Darren G. Colyn</td>
<td>B.C. North-West (3-05-02)</td>
<td>H. Jonker (B.C. South-East) K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest) D.L. Recker (Columbia)</td>
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<td>Joanne G. Vander Beek De Vries</td>
<td>Toronto (1-24-02)</td>
<td>J. Zantingh (Hamilton) J. De Jong (Niagara) R. Koops (Huron)</td>
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<td>David K. Harrison</td>
<td>Northcentral Iowa (9-11-01)</td>
<td>J.G. Busscher (Lake Superior) D.W. De Groot (Iakota) T.J. Brown (Minnkota)</td>
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<td>Marshal T. Holtvluwer</td>
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<td>Simon (Sang-Eun) Kim</td>
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<td>John C. Klompien</td>
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<td>Christopher B. Lanham</td>
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<td>Matthew D. Ooms</td>
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<td>Douglas E. Pruim</td>
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<td>Henry J. Schenkel</td>
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<td>Kathleen S. Hofman Smith</td>
<td>Grand Rapids East</td>
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<td>L. Kevin Stieva</td>
<td>Grandville</td>
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<td>Stephen D. Tamming</td>
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<td>Derek G. Van Dalen</td>
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<td>Herbert A. Vanderbeek</td>
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<td>Paul R. Vankerkooy</td>
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<td>David A. Vroege</td>
<td>Eastern Canada</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Deputies’ comment: Thankful for an excellent examination.

L. Kevin Stieva

Stephen D. Tamming

Derek G. Van Dalen

Herbert A. Vanderbeek

Paul R. Vankerkooy

David A. Vroege

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

B. Classical examinations via Church Order Article 7

1. Synodical deputies J.A. Molenbeek (Grand Rapids East), G.W. Sheeres (Thornapple Valley), and W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of East Leonard Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the
provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on September 18, 2001, to grant Mr. Jerome Burton the right to proceed to his examination at the next meeting of classis.

Statement of need: The Coit Community Church, served by Evangelist Burton, needs his leadership as a minority pastor for its future.

Deputies’ comment: Since he has been an evangelist in Classis Grand Rapids North for over five years and conducted services in many of the churches of classis with favorable reception, no extended probationary period is warranted. He has possessed licensure here for years.

2. Synodical deputies G.W. Sheeress (Thornapple Valley), W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and S. Venhuizen (Grand Rapids East), having considered the gifts of the applicant, and having heard the examination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North in session on January 15, 2002, to declare Mr. Jerome Burton eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

3. Synodical deputies G.W. Sheeress (Thornapple Valley), W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and J.A. Molenbeek (Grand Rapids East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on May 21, 2002, to admit Mr. Jerome Burton, to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

4. Synodical deputies W.J. Dykstra (Lake Erie), and G. Bouma (Thornapple Valley), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, pending the submission of the necessary documentation, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 25, 2001, to grant Mr. Andres Fajardo the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until March 2002.

Statement of need: Andres Fajardo is Hispanic and there is need for indigenous leadership among Spanish-speaking people in the Philadelphia area.

Deputies comment: The third deputy could not be present—he was called up for active service as Army Chaplain.

5. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having considered the gifts of the applicant, and having heard the examination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack in session on March 5, 2002, to declare Mr. Andres Fajardo eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

6. Synodical deputes H.J. Schutt (Illiana), T.D. Kauffman (Northern Illinois), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Palos Heights Christian Reformed Church,
having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on November 1, 2001, to grant Mr. George Kakaletris the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until November 2003.

Statement of need: (1) Mr. Kakaletris would like to enter the ministry of the Word to serve as a military chaplain. Rev. Heerema, director of Chaplaincy Ministries, reports a drastic need for chaplains and that the military has been under quota for new chaplains for the past few years, and (2) there is a growing shortage of ordained ministers in the Christian Reformed Church. Currently there are approximately 125 vacancies in the CRC constituting nearly 13 percent of our churches, and over the past few years, the rate of retiring ministers is steadily outweighing the rate of ministry graduates from Calvin Theological Seminary.

7. Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B. C. North-West), J.D. Zondervan (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having considered the gifts of the applicant, and having heard the examination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 26, 2001, to declare Mr. Paul Lomavatu eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

8. Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B. C. North-West), A.G. Vander Leek (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 8-9, 2002, to admit Mr. Paul Lomavatu, to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

9. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Ocean View Christian Reformed Church in Norfolk, Virginia, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 5, 2002, to grant Mr. Daniel Mulder the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until October 2002.

Statement of need: Daniel is ordained as evangelist, serving at Ocean View CRC most ably during the last several years. In light of their desire to keep his excellent ministry, the shortage in the CRC, and the health of the Ocean View CRC, as an ordained minister, Daniel can serve them optimally.

10. Synodical deputes H.J. Schutt (Illiana), T.D. Kauffman (Northern Illinois), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Palos Heights Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on November 1, 2001, to grant Mr. Richard Nyboer the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until November 2003.
Statement of need: (1) There is a growing shortage of ordained ministers in the Christian Reformed Church. Currently there are approximately 125 vacancies in the CRC constituting nearly 13 percent of our churches, and over the past few years, the rate of retiring ministers is steadily outweighing the rate of ministry graduates from Calvin Theological Seminary. (2) Mr. Nyboer would not only fill the general need for pastors in the CRC, he would fill a specific need as well. Mr. Nyboer would like to serve a church of only a hundred or so, and there are many churches in our denomination of that size. He is willing to serve in a rural area, which is where many of our vacant churches are located. (3) Congregations within the denomination have already voiced interest in calling Mr. Nyboer. (4) There is also an age exception for Mr. Nyboer, who is 55 years of age.

11. Synodical deputes L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), H.J. Schutt (Illiana), and T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), having considered the gifts of the applicant, and having heard the examination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on March 7, 2002, to declare Mr. Richard Nyboer eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

12. Synodical deputies J. De Jong (Niagara), J. Kuntz (Toronto), and J. Zantingh (Hamilton), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Chatham, in session on September 11, 2001, to admit Mr. J. Pieter Pereboom, to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

13. Synodical deputes J.S. Hielema (B. C. North-West), J.D. Zondervan (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Ladner Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 26, 2001, to grant Mr. Paul Pousette the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until November 1, 2002, with the understanding that the pastor of the church be present for at least three services where Paul preaches and submit written evaluations to the clerk of classis.

14. Synodical deputes J.T. Medenblik (Chicago South), H.J. Schutt (Illiana), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on September 19, 2001, to admit Mr. Jake Ritzema to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

15. Synodical deputes H.J. Schutt (Illiana), T.D Kauffman (Northern Illinois), and J.T. Medenblik (Chicago South), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Good Samaritan Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 2, 2002, to grant Mr. Juan Pablo Sanchez the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until March 2003.
Statement of need: (1) The Hispanic Task Force has been seeking a pastor to plant a new church in Hialeah Gardens and has found no one to date. (2) Mr. Sanchez came to know the Lord in the Good Samaritan Church. He has some biblical and theological training. He is not able to attend Calvin Seminary due to family responsibilities, age (forty years old), and does not meet certain prerequisites for seminary. (3) Mr. Sanchez meets the needs of the Hispanic area in terms of language and cultural understanding. Mr. Sanchez meets the needs in terms of indigenous leaders for the area.

16. Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B.C. North-West), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of New Life Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 8-9, 2002, to grant Mr. Ed Top the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches until October 2002, that Mr. Top preach in three churches with the current pastor present, and that he preach in other vacant churches as possible.

Grounds:
  a. Mr. Top has demonstrated, in the context of one congregation, that he has the requisite exceptional gifts including preaching, teaching, and creative leadership.
  b. Mr. Top gives evidence that he possesses good knowledge of the Word of God and has demonstrated a native ability to apply the Word.
  c. Synod 2000’s declaration testifies to the critical and urgent need for ministers of the Word when it declares: “the critical and urgent need for both ordained and unordained ministers in the CRC suggests a need for ongoing study” (Acts of Synod 2000, p. 705).

17. Synodical deputies R.L. Bierenga (Muskegon), T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), and H.J. Schutt (Illiana), having considered the gifts of the applicant, and having heard the examination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on July 24, 2001, to declare Mrs. Betty Vander Laan eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

18. Synodical deputies R.L. Bierenga (Muskegon), T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), and H.J. Schutt (Illiana), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on July 24, 2001, to admit Mrs. Betty Vander Laan, to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

19. Synodical deputies W.J. Dykstra (Lake Erie), and G. Bouna (Thornapple Valley), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need, and having heard the examination for licensure to exhort in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, pending the submission of the necessary documentation, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 25, 2001, to grant Mr. Hector Vasquez the right to exhort in Christian Reformed churches.
Statement of need: Hector Vasquez is Hispanic and there is need for indigenous leadership.

Deputies comment: The third deputy could not be present—he was called up for active service as Army Chaplain.

20. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having considered the gifts of the applicant, and having heard the examination in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack in session on March 5, 2002, to declare Mr. Hector Vasquez 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

Observations:

1. With respect to items II, B, 17 and 18, your advisory committee has learned that Mrs. Betty Vander Laan was enrolled as a SPMC student at Calvin Theological Seminary and ordinarily should have been processed under Church Order Article 6 rather than 7. Synod needs to note that in approving the work of the synodical deputies, this extraordinary case does not set a precedent.

2. Synod reminds classes that Synod 1987 decided that Church Order Article 7 is not to be used for seminary-trained students who wish to enter the ministry of the CRC (see Acts of Synod 1987, p. 620).

—Granted

C. Ministers from other denominations, Church Order Article 8

1. Synodical deputies D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis California South, in session on May 10, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Eun Cheol Noh) from another denomination (Christian Presbyterian Church in North America) to serve as pastor at Yung Kwan CRC of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Statement of need: They have searched in the CRC and have a need for an indigenous leader.

2. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 11, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. David Daesung Chong) from another denomination (Christian Presbyterian Church in America) to serve as pastor at San Jose Hope CRC of San Jose, California.

Statement of need: Need for indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.
3. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 11, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Pil Hwan Hwang) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church of Korea) to serve as pastor at Podowan Presbyterian Church of Las Vegas, Nevada (church uniting with the denomination).

Statement of need: Need for indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.

4. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 11, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Sung Joo Kang) from another denomination (Korean Evangelical Holiness Church) to serve as pastor at Garden Grove Korean CRC of Anaheim, California.

Statement of need: Need for indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.

5. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 11, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Jin Ku Kim) from another denomination (Korean Jesus Presbyterian Seoul Conference) to serve as pastor at San Bernadino Korean CRC of San Bernadino, California.

Statement of need: Need for indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.

6. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 11, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Seung Woo Nam) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church in Korea) to serve as pastor at Faith CRC of South Gate, California.

Statement of need: Need for indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.

7. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), G.G. Vink (Central California), and S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on September 18, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Melvin Jackson) from another denomination (Believers Christian Fellowship) to serve as their pastor.

Statement of need: Rev. Melvin Jackson appears to be uniquely qualified to serve this congregation as it seeks affiliation with the CRCNA.
Deputies' comment: We have requested better documentation regarding Rev. Jackson’s ordination and have been assured of its availability prior to colloquium doctum.

8. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), G.G. Vink (Central California), and S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on September 18, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. David Kook Kong) from another denomination (Talbot School of Theology Korean Alumni Association) to serve as pastor of administration and education in assisting transitioning one and a half to second generation Korean members of the Bethany Korean CRC of Burbank, California.

Statement of need: Rev. David Kook Kong is uniquely qualified to serve as an indigenous leader in this church.

9. Synodical deputies J.A. Molenbeek (Grand Rapids East), G.W. Sheeress (Thornapple Valley), and W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on September 18, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Augusto Liza) from another denomination (Igreja Presbiteriana Independente o Brazil) to serve as Hispanic church planter, Gold Avenue Community of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Statement of need: Spanish-speaking minister to reach growing Hispanic population.

Deputies’ comments: Approval contingent upon:

a. Completion of documentation re lung x-ray noted on physical.

b. Resolution of his status with INS before colloquium doctum is held.

10. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), G.G. Vink (Central California), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis California South, in session on October 11, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Ronald Chu) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church U.S.A.) to serve as pastor of education ministry at Orange Korean Church, Fullerton, California.

Statement of need: Indigenous leadership and special gifts for ministry at Orange Korean church.

11. Synodical deputies R.L. Bierenga (Muskegon), R. Brinks (Northern Michigan), and B.F. Tol (Zeeeland), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis California South, in session on January 17, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Pieter Tuit) from another denomination (Christian Reformed Churches of Australia) to serve as assistant professor of missiology at Calvin Theological Seminary.

Deputies’ comment: Rev. Tuit has extraordinary qualifications for service to the denomination and expresses his need for an ecclesiastical home.
12. Synodical deputies D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis California South, in session on February 7, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Lee Chul Jeoung) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church of Korea) to serve as senior pastor at Joy of Jesus Christian Reformed Church of La Puente, California.

Statement of need: Indigenous leadership (Church Order Supplement, Article 8).

13. Synodical deputies (D.W. Legerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and F.J. Walhof (Arizona), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Central California, in session on January 26, 2001, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Andrew Narm) from another denomination (Korean Presbyterian Church) to serve as pastor of Korean Community Church under supervision of the Alameda Christian Reformed Church.

Statement of need: Need for indigenous leadership in a multicultural or ethnic minority church.

Note: Classis declared the need on January 26, 2001. The synodical deputies were not present at the meeting and concurred in that classis decision on March 20, 2002.

14. Synodical deputies D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis California South, in session on February 7, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Rick Sunghak Kim) from another denomination (Korean American Presbyterian Church) to serve as senior pastor at First Harvest Church of Tustin (affiliating with CRC in Classis California South).

Statement of need: Indigenous leadership (Church Order Supplement, Article 8).

15. Synodical deputies D.W. Lagerwey (California South), D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 11, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Sung Joo Kang) from another denomination (Korean Presbyterian) to serve as minister of the Word.

Statement of need: Ethnic minority ministry (Church Order Supplement, Article 8)

16. Synodical deputies S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 19, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Jin So Yoo) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church of Korea) to serve as senior pastor.
Statement of need: Rev. Yoo is pastor of the All Nations Church that is seeking affiliation, and he is the senior pastor.

17. Synodical deputies J.T. Medenblik (Chicago South), H.J. Schutt (Illiana), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 1, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister from another denomination (Church of God – Haiti) to serve as church planter at Oasis Community Haitian NCD.

Statement of need: (1) Mr. Raymond Clotaire has been involved in Haitian ministry under the supervision of Oasis Community Church in Orlando, and the church has seen confirmation of Mr. Clotaire’s gifts. (2) Mr. Clotaire does have particular gifts matching the ethnic needs of the Haitian ministry field in terms of language and culture in the Orlando area. (3) There is a growing population of Haitian immigrants moving into the Orlando area. There is no Haitian ministry in the classis.

18. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), and R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Hudson, in session on March 5, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Changguk Byun) from another denomination (Presbyterian [HapDong]) to serve as minister of the Word among the Korean population in Flushing, Queens, New York.

Statement of need: Indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.

Deputies’ comment: The documentation required by Supplement D, 4 of Article 8 is being gathered but is only partially in hand. We concur that need is established provided that all documentation is in and satisfactory by the time of the colloquium doctum.

19. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 5, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Sun Man Kang) from another denomination (Korean Presbyterian Church – HapDong) to serve as pastor of a developing church in the Philadelphia area, which is to enter the CRC with him.

Statement of need: Indigenous pastor in an ethnic minority church (Korean).

20. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), and R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Hudson, in session on March 5, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Hong-Suk Kim) from another denomination (Presbyterian) to serve as minister of the Word among the Korean population of Staten Island, New York.

Statement of need: Indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.
Deputies' comment: The documentation required by Supplement D, 4 of Article 8 is being gathered but is only partially in hand. We concur that need is established provided that all documentation is in and satisfactory by the time of the colloquium doctum.

21. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 5, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Ramon Orostizaga) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church in Chile) to serve as pastor.

Statement of need: (1) Jersey City is a Spanish-speaking congregation; (2) the death of their pastor, Rev. Edwin Arevalo, makes the need more urgent; (3) Rev. Orostizaga is already serving the congregation faithfully; and (4) other pastors testify to his ability and good character.

22. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 5, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Peter L. Padro) from another denomination (Presbyterian Church in America) to serve as pastor of Richfield CRC in Clifton, New Jersey.

Statement of need: (1) Richfield CRC has not found others able to meet their needs at the salary they could pay, (2) Rev. Padro’s evangelistic gifts are already bringing converts into the church, and (3) his Spanish background coupled with his impeccable English fits him well to reach both Anglos and a growing Spanish community in Clifton.

23. Synodical deputies J.S. Heilema (B.C. North-West), H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), and D.L. Recker (Columbia), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 6, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Byung Nam Moon) from another denomination (Family Korean Southern Baptist) to serve as associate pastor of First Korean CRC in Kent, Washington.

Statement of need: Indigenous leadership in an ethnic minority church.

Deputies’ comment: The evaluated psychological report was not presented—it has been promised and will be forwarded to the stated clerk of classis.

24. Synodical deputies L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), H.J. Schutt (Illiana), and T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), having reviewed the documents specified in accordance with Church Order Supplement, Article 8, concur in the declaration of Classis Chicago South, in session on March 7, 2002, that a need has been demonstrated to call a minister (Rev. Roger Nelson) from another denomination (Reformed Church in America) to serve as minister of the Word.

Statement of need: Classis Chicago South declares there is need for Hope Christian Reformed Church to call a minister from another denomination.
Grounds:
a. Hope Christian Reformed Church continues to have a viable ministry.
b. Hope Christian Reformed Church has put forth a three-and-a-half year sustained and realistic effort to obtain a minister from within the Christian Reformed Church.
c. The need of the Hope Christian Reformed Church is so urgent that it can only be met by calling a minister from another denomination.
d. Rev. Nelson has such extraordinary qualifications that Hope Christian Reformed Church and Classis Chicago South recognizes that it would be important for the church and denomination to acquire his service.

25. Synodical deputies J.R. Boot (Georgetown), D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), and G.W. Sheeres (Thornapple Valley), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Mariano Avila, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 17, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: As synodical deputies, we concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East that the establishment of need required by Article 8 of the Church Order for calling a minister from another denomination has been demonstrated by the appointment of Rev. Avila as assistant professor of New Testament at Calvin Theological Seminary by Synod 2001.

26. Synodical deputies D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. David Chong, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 11, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: Due to a personal medical emergency, deputy G. Vink of Classis Central California was unable to attend this session of Classis Pacific Hanmi.

27. Synodical deputies H.J. Schutt (Illiana), T.D. Kauffman (Northern Illinois), and J.T. Medenblik (Chicago South), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Raymond Clotaire, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 1, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: We encourage Enrique to continue to develop better proficiency in the English language.

28. Synodical deputies R. Brinks (Northern Michigan), B.F. Tol (Zeeland), and D.A. Warners (Grand Rapids North), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Enrique Gómez, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Holland, in session on September 20, 2001, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: We encourage Enrique to continue to develop better proficiency in the English language.

29. Synodical deputies D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Pil Hwan Hwang, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 11, 2002, to
declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: Due to a personal medical emergency, deputy G. Vink of Classis Central California was unable to attend this session of Classis Pacific Hanmi.

30. Synodical deputies S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Melvin Jackson, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on March 19, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: Due to a personal medical emergency, deputy G. Vink of Classis Central California was unable to attend this session of Classis Pacific Hanmi.

31. Synodical deputies D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Jin Ku Kim, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 11, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: Due to a personal medical emergency, deputy G. Vink of Classis Central California was unable to attend this session of Classis Pacific Hanmi.

32. Synodical deputies J. Boonstra (B.C. South-East), J.J. Koster (B.C. North-West), and D.L. Recker (Columbia), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Steve (Jinki) Kim, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in contracted session on July 11, 2001, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: The prerequisite testimonial for Pastor Kim from a supervisory body of the Christian and Missionary Alliance church was missing. Classis is asked to investigate this detail and forward its findings to the deputies.

33. Synodical deputies S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. David Kong, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on March 19, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: The synodical deputies, having concurred with Classis Grand Rapids North to declare Rev. Liza eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church, do require Rev. Liza to have received the “R” classification from the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service prior to his eventual installation.
35. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), J. Rop (Arizona), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Andrew Narm, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Central California, in session on April 18, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church.

36. Synodical deputies H.J. Schutt (Illiana), T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Roger Nelson, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on May 23, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

37. Synodical deputies S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Ramon Orostizaga, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 5, 2002, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comments: He is an excellent source of indigenous leadership for an ethnic minority church, is well attested, and has been serving the Spanish-speaking church at Jersey City since Pastor Arevalo died. His former denomination was the Presbyterian Church in Chile.

38. Synodical deputies R.L. Bierenga (Muskegon), R. Brinks (Northern Michigan), and B.F. Tol (Zeeland), having heard the colloquium doctum of Rev. Pieter Tuit, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on January 17, 2002, to declare him 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

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

1. Synodical deputies D.J. Van Loo (Chicago South), H.J. Schutt (Illiana), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Christ Community Christian Reformed Church of Plainfield, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on March 6, 2002, to approve the position of chaplain at Rest Haven West Nursing Home as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Hendrick H. Boer.

2. Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B. C. North-West), J.D. Zondervan (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Langely, British Columbia, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in
session on October 26, 2001, to approve the position of coordinator of counseling at Trinity Western University as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Michael R. Dadson.

3. Synodical deputies R.L. Bierenga (Muskegon), T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), and H.J. Schutt (Illiana), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Orland Park Christian Reformed Church of Orland Park, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on July 24, 2001, to approve the position of hospital chaplain at Christ Hospital and supervisor of Clinical Pastoral Education as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Cornelius J. De Boer.

4. Synodical deputies S.R. Van Eck (Kalamazoo), T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Hope Christian Reformed Church of Oak Forest, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on September 20, 2001, to approve the position of chaplain at Christ Hospital as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Ronald De Young.

5. Synodical deputies B.F. Tol (Zeeland), J.A. Molenbeek (Grand Rapids East), and G. Bouma (Thornapple Valley), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the Council of the Covenant Christian Reformed Church of Cutlerville, 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 South, in session on May 17, 2001, to approve the position of director of field education of Reformed Bible College of Grand Rapids, Michigan, as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Evan Heerema.

Deputies’ comment: The stated clerk of Classis Grand Rapids South was not able to find any deputies who were able to attend this meeting due to their having to be present in the same function at other classis meetings. For this reason, the concurrence was given by way of telephone conversations.

Ground: Similar positions have been approved at earlier occasions.

6. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), G.G. Vink (Central California), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Chino, 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 October 11, 2001, to approve the position of chaplain at St. Judes Hospital of Fullerton, California, and counselor at Redlands Christian Counseling Center of Redlands, California, as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Raymond Hommes.
7. Synodical deputies M. De Vries (Holland), W. R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and G.G. Heyboer (Zeeland), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Fairway Christian Reformed Church of Jenison, 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 Georgetown, in session on September 20, 2001, to approve the position of director of operations and education of Global Vision as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. John W. Medendorp.

8. Synodical deputies J. De Jong (Niagara), H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), and R. Koops (Huron), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Maranatha Christian Reformed Church of York, Ontario, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session on September 18, 2001, to approve the position of director of ministry development for Worldwide Christian Schools – Canada as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. John Postuma.

9. Synodical deputies G.W. Sheeres (Thornapple Valley), M. De Vries (Holland), and G.A. Koning (Grand Rapids North), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of First 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 May 16, 2002, to approve the position of program director of continuing education at the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Kathleen Smith.

10. Synodical deputies J.T. Medenblik (Chicago South), H.J. Schutt (Illiana), and L.J. Kuiper (Wisconsin), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of the Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church of Elmhurst, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on September 19, 2001, to approve the position of chaplain at Loyola Medical Center as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Lee R. Smits.

11. Synodical deputies R.L. Bierenga (Muskegon), T.H. Douma (Northern Illinois), and H.J. Schutt (Illiana), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Hope Christian Reformed Church of Oak Forest, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on July 24, 2001, to approve the position of hospital chaplain at St. Catherines Hospital. This position is to be filled by Mrs. Betty Vander Laan.

12. Synodical deputies J.W. Dykhuis (Red Mesa), J. Weeda (Yellowstone), and D.W. De Groot (Iakota), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Denver 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 5, 2002, to approve the position of director of pastoral care and education as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Dirk B. van der Vorst, Jr.

13. Synodical deputies J.S. Heilema (B.C. North-West), J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and J. Boonstra (B.C. South-East), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton, Alberta, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session on October 24, 2001, to approve the position of chaplaincy as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Harry Vriend.

14. Synodical deputies J.A. Mollenbeek (Grand Rapids East), G.A. Koning (Grand Rapids North), and G. Bouma (Thornapple Valley), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Covenant Christian Reformed Church of Cutlerville, 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 South, in session on September 6, 2001, to approve the position of chaplain at Hospice of Northwest Florida as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by Rev. Karl K. Willoughby.

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

—Adopted

E. Loaning a minister to another denomination under Article 13-b

1. Synodical deputies G.L. Dykstra (Central California), J. Weeda (Yellowstone), K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-b, concur in the decision of Classis Columbia in session on February 19, 2002, to approve loaning Rev. Chanjoo Jung to serve Youngman Presbyterian Church of Dae-gu City, Korea until June 2003.

2. Synodical deputies J.H. Looman (Kalamazoo), D.J. Van Loo (Chicago South), and T.D. Kauffman (Northern Illinois), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-b, concur in the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on September 18, 2001, to approve loaning Rev. Ferenc Varga to serve Hungarian Reformed Church of Allen Park, Michigan.

Deputies' comment: The classis and the calling church seem aware of the legitimacy of a clear call from God to Rev. Varga and are aware of all possible future responsibilities involved in this action.

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

—Adopted

Note: Regarding E, 2 (Rev. F. Varga)—his loan to serve the Hungarian Reformed Church of Allen Park, Michigan, should not exceed two years per Church Order Supplement, Article 13-b, e.
F. Release from the ministry under Article 14-b

1. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), K.J. Verhulst (Hudson), and R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Zachary G. Anderson, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on March 7, 2002, to declare that Rev. Zachary G. Anderson is honorably released from the office of ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: The effective date will be April 8, 2002.

2. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), and D.L. Recker (Columbia), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Daniel Devadatta, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on March 5, 2002, to declare that Rev. Daniel Devadatta is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

3. Synodical deputies D.W. Lagerwey (California South), K.R. Rip (Rocky Mountain), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having been informed of the discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Harley G. Faber, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Arizona, in session on September 15, 2001, to declare that Rev. Harley G. Faber is dismissed from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Note: The deputies were unable to attend due to airline restrictions. Stated clerk Westra efficiently forwarded the minutes and relayed discussion.

Deputies’ comment: Classis Arizona has displayed considerable pastoral care and concern in their work with Mr. Harley Faber.

4. Synodical deputies G.W. Sheeres (Thornapple Valley), W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and S. Venhuizen (Grand Rapids East), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Matthew Heard, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on January 15, 2002, to declare that Rev. Matthew Heard is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

5. Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B.C. North-West), J.D. Zondervan (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Jim J. Heuving, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 26, 2001, to declare that Rev. Jim J. Heuving is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

6. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), D.L. Recker (Columbia), having been notified of discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Vihn P. Le, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. Northwest, in session on March 5-6, 2002, to declare that Rev. Vihn P. Le is honorably...
released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

7. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), and D.L. Recker (Columbia), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of Rev. Dong Kwan Yi, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on April 15, 2002, to declare that Rev. Dong Kwan Yi is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Deputies’ comment: Pastor Yi has returned to Korea to teach at the seminary level.

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

G. Release from office to enter a nonministerial vocation, Article 14-c

1. Synodical deputies R. Brinks (Northern Michigan), B.F. Tol (Zeeland), and D.A. Warners (Grand Rapids North), having heard the discussion of Classis Holland, in session on September 20, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that Rev. Gregory A. Smith is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a nonministerial vocation.

2. Synodical deputies J.W. Dykhuis (Red Mesa), J. Weeda (Yellowstone), and D.W. De Groot (Iakota), having heard the discussion of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on March 5, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that Rev. Jeff Van Kooten is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a nonministerial vocation.

3. Synodical deputies D.W. Legerwey (California South), G.G. Vink (Central California), and S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), having been apprised of the discussion and decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on September 18, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order 14-c, that Rev. Nasser Yassa is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a nonministerial vocation.

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

H. Return to office of a person who was honorably released to enter a nonministerial vocation, Article 14-e

Synodical deputies D.J. Steenhoek (Grandville), W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and B.F. Tol (Zeeland), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Georgetown, in session on May 15, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that Rev. Brent Pennings 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

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I. Release from ministry in a congregation under Article 17-a

1. Synodical deputies J. Hasper (Holland), A.L. Hoksbergen (Muskegon), and D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), having heard the grounds submitted by the council of Overisel Christian Reformed Church of Overisel, Michigan, and the discussion of Classis Zeeland, in session on June 19, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Jerry L. Alferink is released from ministerial service in Overisel Christian Reformed Church of Overisel, Michigan.

Deputies’ comment: The synodical deputies endorsed the entire severance package.

2. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), J.A. Algera (Hackensack), and J.G. Keizer (Hudson), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on November 26, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Carl W. Bergman is released from ministerial service in Avery Street Christian Reformed Church of South Windsor, Connecticut.

Reason: A breakdown in trust between Rev. Bergman and the congregation has occurred to the point that a meaningful pastoral relationship is impossible.

3. Synodical deputies J.R. Boot (Georgetown), B.F. Tol (Zeeland), and W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on January 29, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Carl R. Bolt is released from ministerial service in Goshen Christian Reformed Church of Goshen, Indiana.

Deputies’ comment: In keeping with provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 17, some stipulations must be met before Rev. Bolt may accept a call or have his credentials transferred to another church: termination agreement is on file with the stated clerk of classis.

4. Synodical deputies G.W. Sheeres (Thornapple Valley), W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and J.R. Boot (Georgetown), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on May 14, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Kevin I. Dwyer is released from ministerial service in Three Rivers Christian Reformed Church of Three Rivers, Michigan.

Deputies’ comment: In keeping with provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 17, some stipulations must be met before Rev. Dwyer may accept a call or have his credentials transferred to another church: termination agreement is on file with the stated clerk of classis.

5. Synodical deputies R. Koops (Huron), H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), J. De Jong (Niagara), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Hamilton, in session on May 21, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Carel Geleynse is released from ministerial service in Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Flamborough, Ontario.
Deputies’ comment: Rev. Geleynse was released from service in the Calvary CRC, Flamborough, ON in order to spend a year sabbatical in mission service. Since he will not return to Calvary as its pastor following the sabbatical, Article 17-a is the appropriate means of release from ministerial service in this congregation.

6. Synodical deputies C.E. Fennema (Iakota), G.M. McGuire (Northcentral Iowa), and T.J. Brown (Minnkota), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Heartland, in session on March 2, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Wick Hubers is released from ministerial service in Calvin Christian Reformed Church of Le Mars, Iowa.

Deputies’ comments: In keeping with provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 17, certain stipulations must be met before Rev. John Kemper may accept a call or have his credentials transferred to another church (on record with stated clerk of classis).

7. Synodical deputies H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), J.S. Heilema (B.C. North-West), and A.G. Vander Leek (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 8-9, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. John Kemper is released from ministerial service in Penticton Christian Reformed Church of Penticton, British Columbia.

Deputies’ comments: Health-related problems are cited. Church and pastor are agreed that no further monetary arrangements are necessary.

8. Synodical deputies J.P. Boonstra (Rocky Mountain), J.A. Vermeer (Heartland), and D.A. Zylstra (Lake Superior), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Minnkota, in session on September 20, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Ronald J. Lammers is released from ministerial service in Worthington Christian Reformed Church of Worthington, Minnesota.

Deputies’ comments: Health-related problems are cited. Church and pastor are agreed that no further monetary arrangements are necessary.

9. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), and D.L. Recker (Columbia), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on April 15, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Gui Je Park is released from ministerial service in Barrow Korean Christian Reformed Church of Barrow, Alaska.

Deputies’ comments: Health-related problems are cited. Church and pastor are agreed that no further monetary arrangements are necessary.

10. Synodical deputies R. Koops (Huron), J. De Jong (Niagara), and H.D. Praamsmma (Toronto), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Hamilton, in session on January 22, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Sarrisack Saythavy is released from ministerial service in Laotian Worshipping Community Christian Reformed Church of Hamilton, Ontario.

11. Synodical deputies J.P. Boonstra (Rocky Mountain), J.A. Vermeer (Heartland), and D.A. Zylstra (Lake Superior), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Minnkota, in session on September 20, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with
Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Duane R. Smith is released from ministerial service in Bemis Christian Reformed Church of Bemis, South Dakota.

12. Synodical deputies T.D. Kauffman (Northern Illinois), J.H. Looman (Kalamazoo), and D.J. Van Loo (Chicago South), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Illiana, in session on November 15, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. John R. Vander Borgh is released from ministerial service in Momence Christian Reformed Church of Momence, Illinois.

Deputies’ comments: In keeping with provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 17, the following stipulations must be met before Rev. Vander Borgh may accept a call or have his credentials transferred to another church: Rev. Vander Borgh, in accordance with Acts of Synod 1998 (Article 44, I, C, 4, a, 4), p. 392) shall seek counseling regarding this ministry and preparation for future ministry. Such counseling shall be under the supervision of the council of the church to which Rev. Vander Borgh’s ministerial credentials are transferred. Said council, and the CIC of Classis Illiana, must receive a written report affirming fitness for future ministry from the counselor before a call may be accepted.

13. Synodical deputies J.S. Heilema (B.C. North-West), J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and J. Boonstra (B.C. South-East), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Alberta North, in session on October 24, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Andrew Van Muyen is released from ministerial service in the Sonrise Christian Reformed Church of Ponoka, Alberta.

Deputies’ comments: In keeping with provisions of Church Order Supplement, Article 17, certain stipulations must be met before Rev. Van Muyen may accept a call or have his credentials transferred to another church. The stipulations are on file with the stated clerk of classis. The synodical deputies wish to express their concern that adequate information is provided to both classis and synodical deputies so that they may be prepared responsibly when coming to the meeting.

14. Synodical deputies G.W. Sheeres (Thornapple Valley), B.F. Tol (Zeeland), and D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Georgetown, in session on February 21, 2002, concur in the decisions of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that Rev. Richard H. Verkaik is released from ministerial service in Friendship Chapel Christian Reformed Church of Jenison, Michigan.

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

—Adopted

J. Extension of eligibility for call under Article 17-c

1. Synodical deputies G.L. Dykstra (Central California), J. Weeda (Yellowstone), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having heard the discussion of Classis Columbia, in session on February 19, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article
17-c, that Rev. Douglas A. Bosscher’s eligibility for call is extended until the September classis meeting.

*Deputies’ comment:* This abbreviated extension is due to the fact that Rev. Bosscher is currently under consideration by another church. We (and he) expect that the other church will conclude its deliberation by mid-summer as to whether or not to create the particular position to which Rev. Bosscher might be called and whether or not to call him to it.

2. Synodical deputies K.R. Rip (Rocky Mountain), D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having been informed of the discussion of Classis Arizona, in session on September 15, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that Rev. Charles H. Fondse’s eligibility for call is extended for one year.

*Deputies’ comment:* Classis Arizona’s grounds stated in their minutes of September 15 provide adequate reasons for their decision. They have also assured appropriate compliance by ensuring notification of his eligibility.

3. Synodical deputies K.R. Rip (Rocky Mountain), D.W. Lagerwey (California South), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having been informed of the discussion of Classis Arizona, in session on September 15, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that Rev. Esteban Lugo’s eligibility for call is extended for one year.

*Deputies’ comment:* Classis Arizona’s grounds stated in their minutes of September 15 provide adequate reasons for their decision. They have also assured appropriate compliance by ensuring notification of his eligibility.

4. Synodical deputies D.J. Steenhoek (Grandville), W.R. Witte (Grand Rapids South), and B.F. Tol (Zeeland), having heard the discussion of Classis Georgetown, in session on May 16, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that Rev. Clarence A. Reyneveld’s eligibility for call is extended for one year.

5. Synodical deputies J.S. Heilema (B.C. North-West), H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), and A.G. Vander Leek (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 8, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that Rev. Loren J. Swier’s eligibility for call is extended for one year.

*Deputies’ comment:* We strongly encourage Bethel CRC and Rev. Versluys to pursue reconciliation, perhaps with the assistance of a classical representative.

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

—Adopted
K. Release from the office of minister of the Word under Article 17-c

1. Synodical deputies J.S. Heilema (B.C. North-West), H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), and A.G. Vander Leek (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 8-9, 2002, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that Rev. Wiebe (Bill) Geerts is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

2. Synodical deputies C.E. Fennema (Iakota), G.M. Mc Guire (Northcentral Iowa), and D. Tinklenburg (Heartland), having heard the discussion of Classis Pella, in session on September 21, 2001, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that Rev. David W. Stevenson is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America (effective September 21, 2001).

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

—Adopted

L. Declaration that an evangelist’s position fits the guidelines adopted by Synod 2001 under Article 23

1. Synodical deputies J. Corvers (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), J. Boonstra (B.C. South-East), and J.S. Hielema (B.C. North-West), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Woodynook Christian Reformed Church of Blackalds, Alberta, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session on March 5-6, 2002, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Rick Abma is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

2. Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B.C. North-West), J.D. Zondervan (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), and H.G. Samplonius (Alberta North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of New Life Christian Reformed Church of Abbotsford, British Columbia, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 26, 2001, that the evangelist position to be filled by Ms. Jean Dykshoorn is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

3. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), K.J. Verhulst (Hudson), and R.E. Van Hofwegen (Southeast U.S.), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church in Whitinsville, Massachusetts, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on March 7, 2002, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Bruce Dykstra is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.
4. Synodical deputies D.W. Lagerwey (California South), G.G. Vink (Central California), and S.J. Kang (Pacific Hanmi), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Rosewood Christian Reformed Church of Bellflower, California, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on March 19, 2002, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Bill Garner is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

Deputies’ comment: The envisioned position at Ventura County appears to be what an evangelist is called to do. We would suggest pursuing some further education for an expectant partial role.

5. Synodical deputies R. Brinks (Northern Michigan), B.F. Tol (Zeeland), and D.A. Warners (Grand Rapids North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Harderwyk Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Holland, in session on September 20, 2001, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Ty Hogue is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

6. Synodical deputies H.J. Bierman (Huron), W.T. Koopmans (Quinte), and H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Ottawa, Ontario, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Eastern Canada, in session on October 12, 2001, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Ronald Kok is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

7. Synodical deputies R. Brinks (Northern Michigan), B.F. Tol (Zeeland), and D.A. Warners (Grand Rapids North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Harderwyk Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Holland, in session on September 20, 2001, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Daniel Maat is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

8. Synodical deputies D. Tinklenburg (Heartland), T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), and T.J. Brown (Minnkota), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Trinity Christian Reformed Church of Rock Valley, Iowa, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Lakota, in session on March 5, 2002, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Marion Menning is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

9. Synodical deputies W.J. Dykstra (Lake Erie), J.G. Keizer (Hudson), and D.H. Bratt (in absentia) (Hackensack), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Richfield Springs Christian Reformed Church of Richfield Springs, New York, and having compared
them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on October 4, 2001, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Kenneth Prol is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

10. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), G.G. Vink (Central California), and D.R. Koll (Greater Los Angeles), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Chino, California, and having compared them with the guidelines re office and ordination adopted by Synod 2001, concur with the decision of Classis California South, in session on October 11, 2001, that the evangelist position to be filled by Mr. Stephan Vander Hart is in keeping with the guidelines established by Synod 2001.

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

—Adopted

**M. Decisions from 1998**

Recently, it became known that the reports of eight actions involving synodical deputies at a meeting of Classis California South on October 22, 1998, were never received by the general secretary’s office and were never reported to synod. So that these actions may be completed by synodical decision, and so that these actions may be recorded in the *Acts of Synod 2002,* it is recommended that synod declare the following:

1. That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies (Revs. George Vink, John Van Schepen, and Frank Pott) in the concurrence they rendered on October 22, 1998, to release the following ministers from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church (Church Order Article 14-b):

   **Andrew Cammenga—**

   The deputies “reluctantly concurred” after discussion with Classis California South. We felt that classis did not sufficiently discuss the circumstances pertaining to this individual’s actions prior to his leaving the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church and taking segments of the congregation with him in his departure.

   **Robert Godfrey—**

   The deputies “reluctantly concurred” after discussion with Classis California South. We felt that classis did not address sufficiently the circumstances pertaining to Mr. Godfrey’s actions in terms of leaving the Christian Reformed Church prior to his “de facto” resignation. His role as a seminary president should have precluded his involvement in the departure of sizable segments of many congregations. Classis California South entered into no discussion regarding these matters.

   **Michael Horton—**

   The deputies “reluctantly concurred” after some discussion with Classis California South. We felt that classis did not address sufficiently the differing circumstances pertaining to Dr. Horton’s ministry and his de facto resignation that may have warranted a different status from what was adopted. His entrance into the Christian Reformed Church ministry took place only two years prior at which time he assured two of the same deputies present this time that he could not foresee leaving or resigning from the CRC. Classis California South took none...
of this into consideration in any discussion. Rather, in an attempt to deal pastorally and expeditiously, they decided simply to “release” him from the ministry.

Randal Lankheet—

The deputies “reluctantly concurred” after some discussion with Classis California South. We felt that classis did not sufficiently discuss the circumstances pertaining to this person’s action prior to leaving (de facto resigning) the ministry of the CRC. He took a segment of the congregation with him to a new denomination. We further judged it rather inappropriate for Classis California South to have Mr. Lankheet address the classis after the decision was made.

Kim Riddlebargar—

The deputies “reluctantly concurred” after discussion with Classis California South. We felt strongly that classis did not address sufficiently the circumstances pertaining to Mr. Riddlebargar’s de facto resignation after a short time in the CRC ministry and his taking an entire congregation with him to a new denomination.

Ronald Scheuers—

The deputies “reluctantly concurred” after discussion with Classis California South. We felt that classis did not sufficiently address the circumstances pertaining to Mr. Scheuers’ de facto resignation and actions prior to his departure from the CRC ministry. He took a significant segment of the congregation of First Chino CRC with him and promoted similar actions elsewhere. Classis entered into no discussion regarding any such actions.

—Adopted

2. That synod take note that at that same meeting (October 22, 1998) of Classis California South two retired ministers resigned and that classis declared that these men no longer “retain the honor and title of minister of the Word” in the CRC (Church Order Article 18-b):

Derke Bergsma

James Howerzyl

Note: Since the synodical deputies were not required to concur in this action, no official comments were made regarding these two people.

—Adopted

III. Classis Pacific Northwest’s appeal from a decision of the synodical deputies

A. Materials

1. Synodical deputies report

Synodical deputies J.S. Hielema (B.C. North-West), H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), and D.L. Recker (Columbia), having examined the written credentials submitted by the council of Anacortes Christian Reformed Church, having considered the need in accordance with the provisions of Church Order Article 7 and its Supplement, do not concur in the decision of classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 6, 2002, to declare a need that Mr. Douglas Fakkema pursue ministerial ordination by means of Article 7.

Grounds:

1. Since evangelist Doug Fakkema has two earned seminary degrees, it is our understanding that the use of the Article 7 path to ministerial ordination in this instance would constitute a misuse of Article 7:
2. Given evangelist Fakkema’s theological training, it is our understanding that Church Order Article 6 is the proper route to ministerial ordination in this case:

\[\text{\ldots Synod declare that (seminary graduates) desiring to serve in the ordained ministry of the CRC should do so through the \ldots SPMC program(s) of Calvin Seminary.} \]

(Acts of Synod 1987, p. 620)

3. We were not convinced that the extraordinary path to ministerial ordination via Article 7 is vital to the continued effectiveness of evangelist Fakkema’s present ministry at Anacortes CRC.

4. We were not convinced that the absence of ministerial ordination constitutes a detriment to Mr. Fakkema’s effectiveness as an evangelist or to the well being of the Anacortes CRC and congregation.

5. While recognizing the difficulties posed for Mr. Fakkema and the Anacortes congregation in pursuing the SPMC program, we are not convinced that they constitute such unreasonable burden as to obviate the path to ministerial ordination outlined in Article 6.

2. Appeal Document from Classis Pacific Northwest

In its session of March 6, 2002, Classis Pacific Northwest approved an overture from the Anacortes CRC to establish that need exists to ordain evangelist Doug Fakkema as their minister of the Word and sacraments via Article 7 of the Church Order.

The Synodical Deputies did not concur in this decision, believing that since Doug already has a seminary degree, Article 6 would be more proper—sending him to Calvin Seminary for the year-long SPMC program.

Classis Pacific Northwest sends this communication to Synod to appeal the decision of the deputies.

Grounds for our appeal:

1. After several years of barely surviving, the Anacortes congregation is gradually becoming a viable ministry again: God is truly blessing the work there! To remove Doug would jeopardize that status and put the future of the Anacortes CRC in doubt. Classis believes that having an ordained pastor is important for that congregation’s immediate and long-term future—and that ordination must somehow include keeping Doug in Anacortes during this crucial time. Doug is not only fit for ministry, but “fits” Anacortes very well.

2. This is related to ground 1: Although Doug is already serving the church in the capacity as evangelist, classis is convinced that there is a need in Anacortes for greater stability than the “renewable” status of evangelist. Doug’s ordination in the ministry would provide him with greater credibility in the congregation and the community. Essentially, it would seal a common commitment between him and a church that has been served by ordained pastors in the recent past.

3. Certain misunderstandings contributed to the deputies’ decision:
   a. The deputies were understandably concerned that Doug defended this overture on the floor of classis, rather than his elder delegate. However, no one—not even the classical church visitors—guided this young council as to the best way to proceed through this process. Church visitors were also negligent in aiding Anacortes during the presentation and deliberation.
   b. The deputies were led to understand that Doug had been in the Reformed tradition his whole life and had chosen to go to a non-
Reformed seminary (M.Div. from Western in Portland, Th.M. from Regent in Vancouver), and that Doug was simply avoiding the “consequences of his choice.” Were this true, this might indicate Article 6 as the more likely route. However, Doug left the Reformed tradition for several years, during which time he received his seminary training. He did not attend Western to “avoid” Calvin. It was a choice that served him well at that stage of his life. Only in the past ten years has Doug returned to his Reformed roots. Since that time, he has gained a love for his heritage and experience in CRC church polity: serving in CRC councils, at classis, on classical committees, and as an elder delegate to synod.

4. There are two conflicting strains of thought going on in our denomination. On the one hand, we are working hard to open offices and are blurring the lines of ordination. On the other hand, synodical deputies are “toeing the line” with respect to the letter of the church order. We do not believe that Anacortes should suffer because synod has not yet come to an agreement on several ordination questions and is still wrestling with this issue.

5. While the deputies believe that Article 6 is the correct church order article to apply here, we do not believe that is necessarily so. Article 6 deals with students who have completed training in another seminary and are now seeking to be candidates in the CRC. This is not the case in Anacortes. Classis has already examined Doug and approved him for the ministry work in Anacortes, where he has been ministering for four years. As a result (related to ground 4), we do not believe that there is a specific church order article that speaks directly to this situation. Therefore, concern for the church should be the overriding factor in deciding what the church order does not explicitly address.

6. The Classis, through the work of the church visitors, is committed to working with Doug and Calvin Seminary to find some equitable solution to fulfill the spirit of the Church Order. Pending the outcome of this appeal, the church visitors will be in communication with the seminary to determine the “gaps” in Doug’s education (if any exists). They will also determine if the needed classes can be completed via correspondence, Internet classes, or offered as two-week summer courses, the expenses for which classis would assist Doug and the Anacortes church. If these options are not available, classis pastors are ready to aid in mentoring Doug in these areas.

Gordon Terpstra, Stated Clerk

B. Recommendations

1. That synod approve the work of the synodical deputies.

   Ground: The deputies were correct in their judgment that Article 6 of the CRC Church Order is applicable in this situation rather than Article 7.
   —Adopted

2. That synod instruct Calvin Theological Seminary in consultation with Mr. Fakkema, Classis Pacific Northwest, and the Anacortes CRC to work out an adjusted Special Program for Ministerial Candidacy (SPMC). The goal is to prepare Mr. Fakkema for candidacy to the ministry of the Word in the CRC.

   Grounds:
   a. Precedent exists for Calvin Theological Seminary to provide an adjusted SPMC.
   b. This honors the spirit and intent of CRC Church Order Article 6.
c. This honors the concern of Classis Pacific Northwest for the well being of the immediate and long-term effective ministry in the Anacortes CRC. —Adopted

3. That synod urge Classis Pacific Northwest to continue to permit Mr. Fakkema to serve as an evangelist in this organized church for the duration of the preparatory time necessary for the candidacy process. —Adopted

4. That this be synod’s response to the appeal of Classis Pacific Northwest. —Adopted

IV. Conclusion

A. Observation
The committee would like to acknowledge the work done on behalf of synod by the synodical deputies as evidenced by a survey of this work as set out in our material. The deputies participated in nearly forty examinations, twenty of which were of candidates. In addition, there were more than sixty other matters. A number of deputies were called upon on more than ten occasions.

B. Recommendation
That synod express its great appreciation for the work done by synodical deputies on behalf of synod and the church. —Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 55.)

ARTICLE 53
The morning session is adjourned. Faculty adviser Dr. John Bolt leads in closing prayer.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, June 13, 2002
Tenth Session

ARTICLE 54
The president of synod reads a letter of appreciation from Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr. and Mr. Gary Mulder on behalf of Calvin Theological Seminary and CRC Publications. He also asks delegates to remember the Benjamin family in their prayers.

Rev. William C. Veenstra, Canadian ministries director, announces Sing! A New Creation 21, vss. 1 & 4; “We Will Glorify,” and leads in opening prayer. He announces Sing! A New Creation 145, “There Is a Redeemer” and reads from Psalm 131. He briefly addresses synod on the work of Canadian Ministries aided by a PowerPoint presentation.

Faculty adviser Dr. Henry De Moor recognizes Mr. Charles Honey, religion editor for The Grand Rapids Press.
ARTICLE 55
(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 52.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. David E. Den Haan reporting, presents the following:

Adoption of change in Church Order Article 55 (majority report)

A. Materials: Board of Trustees Report, II. A. 10

B. Background
   Synod 2001, after receiving a report from its study committee, proposed to Synod 2002 that the following changes be made in Article 55 of the Church Order (additions underlined; subtractions struck through):

   1. That synod adopt the following changes in Church Order Article 55 (additions underlined; subtractions struck through):

      The sacraments shall be administered upon the authority of the consistory in the public worship service by a minister of the Word, an evangelist, or, in the case of need, an ordained person who has received the approval of classis, with the use of the prescribed forms or adaptations of them that conform to synodical guidelines.

      Grounds:
      1) The gifts of the sacraments are an integral part of the relationship between Christ and the church and should not be denied to a congregation because it is unable to support clergy.
      2) Approval and supervision of the exercise of these gifts by the classis will promote consistency of practice and good order in our churches.

   (Acts of Synod 2001, p. 508)

   These changes are submitted to Synod 2002 for adoption. Church Order Article 47 states that “no substantial alterations shall be affected by synod [in the Church Order] unless the churches have had prior opportunity to consider the advisability of the proposed changes.” The Church Order Supplement, Article 47 (section c) specifies further that:

   c. If the churches and classes have not had opportunity to consider a substantial alteration, it must be submitted to a following synod, which will consider its advisability. The first decision shall be understood as a decision to propose; the action of a following synod shall be understood as a decision to adopt.

C. Observations
   The advisory committee discussed the proposed changes at length and spent considerable time talking about the phrase “an ordained person.” Does this include a deacon? Aren’t the sacraments under the authority of the consistory and elders in particular? After looking at the report of the study committee in the Agenda for Synod 2001 and Article 25 in the Church Order, which deals with the responsibilities of elders and deacons, the majority of the advisory committee has decided to recommend a change in the proposed wording of Church Order Article 55.

D. Recommendation: That synod delete the words ordained person from the proposed Church Order Article 55 and replace them with the word elder so that Article 55 would read as follows:
The sacraments shall be administered upon the authority of the consistory in the public worship service by a minister of the Word, an evangelist, or, in the case of need, an elder who has received the approval of classis, with the use of the prescribed forms or adaptations of them that conform to synodical guidelines.

**Grounds:**
1. This change is consistent with the responsibilities of elders as detailed in Church Order Article 25.
2. This change is consistent with the 2001 synodical study committee recommendation.

According to the Rules for Synodical Procedure, the minority report re the issue of Church Order Article 55 is presented as information by Rev. Frederick J. Walhof.

**Adoption of Change in Church Order Article 55 (minority report)**

**A. Materials:** Board of Trustees Report, II. A. 10

**B. Recommendations**

1. That synod adopt the following changes in Church Order Article 55 as proposed by Synod 2001 (additions underlined; subtractions struck through):

   The sacraments shall be administered upon the authority of the consistory in the public worship service by a minister of the Word, an evangelist, or, in the case of need, an ordained person who has received the approval of classis, with the use of the prescribed forms or adaptations of them that conform to synodical guidelines.

   **Grounds:**
   1) The gifts of the sacraments are an integral part of the relationship between Christ and the church and should not be denied to a congregation because it is unable to support clergy.
   2) Approval and supervision of the exercise of these gifts by the classis will promote consistency of practice and good order in our churches.  
      *(Acts of Synod 2001, p. 508)*

2. That synod adopt the following guidelines as Church Order Supplement, Article 55:
   a. Classis approval is required when an ordained person is to administer the sacraments.
   b. Ordinarily the ordained person should be an elder.
   c. The classis must establish a system of supervision when an ordained person is approved for the administration of the sacrament.

   Synod returns to its consideration of the recommendation of the advisory committee’s majority report.

**D. Recommendation:** That synod delete the words *ordained person* from the proposed Church Order Article 55 and replace these words with *elder*.

The sacraments shall be administered upon the authority of the consistory in the public worship service by a minister of the Word, an evangelist, or, in the case of need, an elder who has received the approval of classis, with the use of the prescribed forms or adaptations of them that conform to synodical guidelines.
ist, or, in the case of need, an elder who has received the approval of classis, with the use of the prescribed forms or adaptations of them that conform to synodical guidelines.

*Grounds:*
1. This change is consistent with the responsibilities of elders as detailed in Church Order Article 25.
2. This change is consistent with the 2001 synodical study committee recommendation. (See *Agenda for Synod 2001*, p. 299.)

It is moved to table the recommendation of the advisory committee’s majority report to consider the recommendations of the minority report. —Tabled

**B. Recommendations**

1. That synod adopt the following changes in Church Order Article 55 as proposed by Synod 2001 (additions underlined; subtractions struck through):

   The sacraments shall be administered upon the authority of the consistory in the public worship service by the minister of the Word, an evangelist, or, in the case of need, an ordained person who has received the approval of classis, with the use of the prescribed forms or adaptations of them that conform to synodical guidelines.

   *Grounds:*
   1) The gifts of the sacraments are an integral part of the relationship between Christ and the church and should not be denied to a congregation because it is unable to support clergy.
   2) Approval and supervision of the exercise of these gifts by the classis will promote consistency of practice and good order in our churches.

   *(Acts of Synod 2001, p. 508)*

   —Adopted

2. That synod adopt the following guidelines as Church Order Supplement, Article 55:
   a. Classis approval is *required* for an ordained person to administer the sacraments.
   b. Ordinarily the ordained person should be an elder.

   —Adopted

**ARTICLE 56**

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Rev. Perry J. Tinklenberg reporting, presents the following:

**I. Board of Trustees**

**A. Materials**

1. Board of Trustees Report (Program section), pp. 34-40; 47-89 (including Appendices B-H)
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (Section II – Program Matters; Section III, C-G; and Appendix C)
B. Recommendations

1. That synod approve a time for presentations by Canadian Ministries, CRC Publications, and Home Missions.
   —Adopted

2. That synod take note of the appointment of Rev. Luis A. Pellecer to be the Latin American director for Christian Reformed World Missions.
   —Received as information

3. Abuse Prevention
   a. That synod urge the churches to seek further education for implementing effective prevention and reporting of abuse.
      —Adopted
   b. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to develop ways to ensure that classes and congregations more fully address issues of abuse by church leaders in Christian Reformed congregations.

      **Grounds:**
      1) Recent events in North America call for a decisive response from synod
      2) At present, fewer than 25 percent of our congregations have an abuse prevention policy.

      —Adopted
   c. That synod urge the churches to adopt a policy of zero tolerance in cases of abuse.

      **Ground:** This is in line with the practice and policy of the agencies and administration of our denomination.

      —Adopted

4. Chaplaincy Ministries
   a. That synod acknowledge with gratitude Rev. Jacob Heerema for his faithful service as director of Chaplaincy Ministries from 1994 to 2002.
      —Adopted
   b. That synod take note that Rev. Herman Keizer, Jr. has been appointed as interim director of Chaplaincy Ministries for a period of up to two years while the Board of Trustees reviews Chaplaincy Ministries’ mandate.

      —Received as information
   c. That synod acknowledge with gratitude the sixty years of Chaplaincy Ministry and the service of at least 388 chaplains who have served in this vital denominational outreach.

      —Adopted
   d. That synod remind the churches to encourage younger persons to enter the Chaplaincy Ministry.

      —Adopted
5. That synod commend Dr. James Vanderlaan, director, Disability Concerns, for faithfully challenging the churches to provide barrier-free access for all facilities and to bring people with disabilities more fully into church life.

—Adopted

6. Pastor-Church Relations

a. Observations

As the report of Pastor-Church Relations was discussed, the advisory committee was made aware of several difficulties in applying the supplement to Church Order Article 17.

Provisions regulating a release from ministerial service in a congregation.

a. If a classis has reason to believe that the released minister needs evaluation and assistance before accepting another call, it shall specify at the time of release what is required before the minister may receive and accept a call.

b. Difficulties

1) There can be a conflict between a classis’ readiness to release a minister’s credentials on the basis of completing the requirements of its committee and a council’s readiness to endorse the ministerial credentials for transfer to another ministry.

2) There is often a lack of awareness among churches and classes of the resources available under Church Order polity and through Pastor-Church Relations.

3) There is no consistency in the requirements regarding assessment of the released minister.

4) There is a lack of awareness among congregations of resources available to make the assessments required by the supplement of Church Order Article 17.

c. Recommendations

1) That synod instruct the BOT to propose clarification of Church Order Supplement, Article 17 to Synod 2003 and make all congregations and classes aware of the procedures and resources stipulated there.

Grounds:

a) This will assist congregations, classes, and released ministers by clarifying the process by which the recommendation for call is handled.

b) This will assist Pastor-Church Relations in its work of intervention in such cases.

—Adopted

2) That synod instruct the BOT to prepare a list of recommended assessment resources for the use of congregations, classes, and ministers when a separation under Church Order Article 17-a is contemplated.
Grounds:
   a) This will assist congregations, classes, and released ministers by clarifying the process by which the recommendation for call is handled.
   b) This will assist Pastor-Church Relations in its work of intervention in such cases.

—Adopted

7. That synod encourage churches to celebrate All Nations Heritage Week from September 30 to October 6, 2002, with an invitation to celebrate All Nations Heritage Sunday with special services on October 6.

—Adopted

Delegate Rev. Perry J. Tinklenberg offers prayer for executive staff of the denominational office.

8. 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.

   a. Denominational agencies

      The Back to God Hour—above-ministry-share needs
      CRC TV—above-ministry-share needs
      Calvin College—above-ministry-share needs
      Calvin Theological Seminary
         1) Above-ministry-share needs
         2) Ministry Assistance Program (formerly Revolving Loan Fund)
      CRC Publications
         World Literature Ministries—above-ministry-share needs
      Denominational Services
         1) Above-ministry-share needs
         2) Ministry Programs:
            Abuse Prevention
            Chaplaincy Ministries
            Disability Concerns
            Pastor-Church Relations
            Race Relations
               a) Above-ministry-share needs
               b) Multiracial Student Scholarship Fund
            Social Justice and Hunger Action
      Home Missions—above-ministry-share needs
      World Missions—above-ministry-share needs
      World Relief Committee—one offering per quarter because CRWRC receives no ministry-share support

   b. Denominationally related youth agencies

      Dynamic Youth Ministries
         1) GEMS
         2) Calvinist Cadet Corps
         3) Youth Unlimited

—Adopted
9. That synod approve the list of accredited nondenominational agencies according to the designations assigned to each as recommended by the Board of Trustees.

a. United States agencies

1) Benevolent agencies

   Bethany Christian Services
   Calvary Rehabilitation Center
   Cary Christian Center, Inc.
   Christian Health Care Center
   Elim Christian Services
   International Aid, Inc.
   The Luke Society
   Mississippi Christian Family Services (MCFS)
   Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services

2) Educational agencies

   Center for Public Justice
   Christian Schools International
   Christian Schools International Foundation
   Dordt College
   ITEM—International Theological Education Ministries, Inc.
   (formerly Christ for Russia)
   Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of ICS)
   The King’s University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
   Reformed Bible College
   Rehoboth Christian School
   Roseland Christian School
   Trinity Christian College
   Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia
   Worldwide Christian Schools

3) Miscellaneous agencies

   American Bible Society
   Audio Scripture Ministries
   The Bible League
   Crossroads Bible Institute
   Friendship Ministries
   Gideons International – U.S.
   InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (for specified staff support only)
   Lord’s Day Alliance of the United States
   Mission India
   Reformed Ecumenical Council (REC)
   The Tract League
   Wycliffe Bible Translators
b. Canadian agencies

1) Benevolent agency
   Beginnings Counseling & Adoption Services of Ontario

2) Educational agencies
   Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc.
   Dordt College
   Institute for Christian Studies
   The King's University College
   Redeemer University College
   Reformed Bible College
   Trinity Christian College
   Worldwide Christian Schools—Canada

3) Miscellaneous agencies
   The Bible League—Canada
   Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
   Friendship Groups—Canada
   Gideon International—Canada
   Work Research Foundation
   Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada, Inc.

—Adopted

10. That synod remove from its list of accredited agencies the following (see Board of Trustees Supplement, III, E):
   D.O.O.R International
   International Bible Society (both United States and Canada)

—Adopted

11. That synod deny the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (see Board of Trustees Supplement, III, F):
   PARA
   Quiet Water Ministries

—Adopted

12. That synod approve the revised Policy re Accreditation of Agencies for Denominational Financial Support (Board of Trustees Supplement, Appendix C). Note: The printed policy statement (BOT Supplement, Appendix C) is a slightly revised statement from the one distributed to delegates. The changes were made per instructions of the advisory committee.

—Adopted


—Adopted

Delegates recognize Mr. Michael Bruinooge, Denominational Ministries Plan administrator, and Dr. Duane K. Kelderman, vice president of Calvin
Theological Seminary for their work in writing and developing the Denominational Ministries Plan

14. That synod take note of the abuse reporting policy adopted by the Board of Trustees for all of the agencies and educational institutions of the Christian Reformed Church (Board of Trustees Supplement, II, C).

   —Adopted

15. That synod approve a time for a PowerPoint presentation on the significance of ministry shares to the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church. It is requested that the presentation be scheduled prior to the Finance Committee Report.

   —Adopted

II. Response to Communication 1

A. Materials: Communication 1, pp. 383-85

B. Recommendations

1. That synod instruct the Board of Trustees to recommend ways to increase the number and effectiveness of abuse-response teams.

   Grounds:
   a. The current procedure has significant difficulties as are elaborated in the communication from Classis Eastern Canada.
   b. It is more appropriate to refer this matter than to try to present a complete answer at this synod.
   c. It is important that the abuse-response teams be functional to minister effectively in the churches.
   d. The solution suggested by Classis Eastern Canada is not adequate to address those difficulties.

   —Adopted

2. That this be synod’s response to Communication 1.

   —Adopted

III. Proposed resolution

A. Background

The Synodical Services II advisory committee (Committee 2) had on its agenda the report of the Abuse Prevention Office, the report of Pastor-Church Relations, and the Communication from Classis Eastern Canada. These materials provided the committee with an opportunity to extensively discuss the painful issue of abuse as we experience it in the Christian Reformed Church, as well as in society at large. The committee’s reflections on the subject of abuse in the Christian Reformed Church is reflected in the recommendations presented to synod. The committee also took note of the present painful experiences that have come to light in the Roman Catholic Church throughout North America. The committee desires for synod to consider a resolution that can serve as a communication to representatives of the Roman Catholic Church as well as a press release. The proposed text is as follows:
B. Recommendation—A resolution

The synod of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, in session June 13, 2002, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, expresses its empathy to our brothers and sisters in Christ who are members of the Roman Catholic Church during this time of struggle with the issue of abuse. We pray for God’s grace, justice, and healing for all who suffer from the brokenness that sin brings in our lives and in our society. We will especially pray for the leaders, members (both victims and perpetrators), and the parishes of the Roman Catholic Church that the Lord of the Church universal will send the reconciling power of the Holy Spirit in this time of special need.

—Adopted

Delegate Rev. Jack Kerkhof leads delegates in prayer remembering the struggles the Roman Catholic Church is experiencing regarding abuse.

ARTICLE 57

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued from Article 20.)

Advisory Committee 3, Education, Rev. Marvin J. Hofman reporting, presents the following:

I. Calvin College

A. Materials: Communication 4

B. Recommendation: That synod inform the Madison Square Church Council that it has reviewed Communication 4 and has chosen to take no further action.

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered: Doug R. Slager (Pacific Northwest).

II. Dordt College

A. Materials: Dordt College Report, pp. 301-02

B. Recommendation: That synod commend Dordt College for its unwavering commitment to the Reformed desire to see the glory of the Lord made manifest in all of life.

—Adopted

III. Institute for Christian Studies

A. Materials: Institute for Christian Studies Report, p. 303

B. Recommendation: That synod congratulate the ICS on its thirty-fifth birthday of providing creative, biblical, and thoughtful academic leadership.

—Adopted

IV. The King’s University College

A. Materials: The King’s University College Report, pp. 304-05

B. Recommendation: That synod commend the King’s University College for its
growing enrollment and continued service in Reformed Christian university education.

—Adopted

V. Redeemer University College

A. Materials: Redeemer University College Report, pp. 306-07

B. Recommendation: That synod commend Redeemer University College for its increase in enrollment and its recent accreditation and growing recognition in Ontario postsecondary education.

—Adopted

VI. Reformed Bible College

A. Materials: Reformed Bible College Report, p. 308

B. Recommendation: That synod commend Reformed Bible College for its growing student diversity and expanding programs.

—Adopted

VII. Trinity Christian College

A. Materials: Trinity Christian College Report, pp. 309-10

B. Recommendation: That synod commend Trinity College for its increased enrollment, its new facilities, and its expanding programming.

—Adopted

VIII. Youth-Ministry Committee

A. Materials: Youth Ministry Committee Report (including Appendices A-C), pp. 203-31

B. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Mrs. Tamara Veldman, youth ministries coordinator, Classis Zeeland and Ms. Glenda Tebben, secretary of the Youth Ministries Committee (YMC).

—Granted

2. That synod recommend that each classis seriously consider the appointment of a classical youth ministry consultant/coordinator to assist the member congregations of classis in their ministry to children, teens, and young adults.

Grounds:

a. There are many unmet youth ministry needs at the congregational level that can be properly addressed at the classical level.

b. The challenges in youth ministry demand leaders who are qualified to keep up with the cultural changes.

c. There is concern that young people appear to be leaving our churches in significant numbers.
d. The appointment of such a person is financially feasible on the classical level, particularly because in most cases such a position will be part-time (at least initially, and, in many cases, in the long-term as well).

Note: Job descriptions of those presently serving in this capacity include any or all of the following responsibilities:

1) Equip, encourage, and support all who are involved in youth ministry in any way in the classis: the teen and adult youth leaders, counsellors, church education teachers, youth elders, youth councils, or youth and education committees.
2) Provide discipleship-training retreats for teenagers and young adults.
3) Create and maintain a classical youth ministry resource library.
4) Produce and distribute regular classical youth ministry newsletters.
5) Organize retreats and other events for young adults.
6) Report regularly to classis concerning the state of youth ministry in the classis.
7) Serve as a youth ministry consultant to the churches.
8) Promote and advocate effective youth ministry throughout the classis.
9) Work closely with Dynamic Youth Ministries and CRC Publications to promote their materials and programs and inform these ministries of the local needs.
10) Work closely with the classical Youth-Ministry Committee on which he or she serves as an ex-officio member.
11) Be available as a speaker or leader for congregational youth events.

3. That synod remind the classes to include the state of congregational ministry with children, teens, and young adults in the work of the church visitors.

Grounds:

a. Ministry to youth constitutes an important part of a congregation’s task, and the state of such ministry is a significant marker of the congregation’s health.

b. The Manual of Christian Reformed Church Government includes questions in this area in its outline of questions.

—Adopted

4. That synod approve the YMC’s evaluations of the GEMS’ ministry and Youth Unlimited, commending their thorough work and sharing the concerns expressed (see Appendices B and C).

5. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect one member for the Calvinist Cadet Corps’ position and one member for the Central United States position to serve three-year terms on the YMC.

—Adopted

6. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect Mrs. Sherry TenClay to a three-year term for the member-at-large position.

—Adopted
7. That synod by way of the printed ballot elect Mr. Rick Abma and Ms. Dawn Ryswyk to a second term on the YMC.  

—Adopted

8. That the three divisions of Dynamic Youth Ministries—Cadets, GEMS, and Youth Unlimited—be placed on the recommended-causes list.  

—Adopted

ARTICLE 58

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 and functionaries

A. Officers

1. General secretary: Dr. David H. Engelhard
2. Executive director of ministries: Dr. Peter Borgdorff
3. Director of finance and administration: Mr. Kenneth J. Horjus

B. Functionaries

Arrangements for synod: Mr. Jeff Stob, Calvin College  
Ms. Angie Leedy, event coordinator

C. Convening church

Convening church for Synod 2003: First CRC, Orange City, Iowa

II. Synodical deputies

<table>
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<th>Classis</th>
<th>Deputy</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
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<td>Rev. Andrew G. Vander Leek</td>
<td>Rev. Jake Corvers</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Rev. Frederick J. Walhof</td>
<td>Rev. John Rop</td>
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<td>California South</td>
<td>Rev. Donald W. Lagerwey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central California</td>
<td>Rev. George G. Vink</td>
<td>Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra</td>
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<td>Chatham</td>
<td>Rev. Daniel R. Tigchelaar</td>
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<td>Chicago South</td>
<td>Rev. Julius T. Medenblik</td>
<td>Rev. Sam Hamstra, Jr.</td>
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<td>Rev. Donald L. Recker</td>
<td>Rev. Kenneth Van Schelven</td>
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<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>Rev. Joel R. Boot</td>
<td>Rev. Terry J. Lapinsky</td>
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<td>Grand Rapids East</td>
<td>Rev. James A. Molenbeek</td>
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<td>Rev. Gerald A. Koning</td>
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<td>Rev. John A. Algera</td>
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<td>Rev. John A. Vermeer</td>
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<td>Holland</td>
<td>Rev. Jacob Hasper</td>
<td>Rev. Michael De Vries</td>
<td>2004(2)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
III.  Boards and committees

Note: Members of the regional boards (Board of Trustees of the CRCNA, the boards of The Back to God Hour, Calvin College, and Calvin Theological Seminary) 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 Central California, Greater Los Angeles, California South, and Pacific Hanmi
Region 7—Classes Rocky Mountain, Red Mesa, and Arizona
Region 8—Classes Heartland, Iakota, Lake Superior (U.S. congregations), Minnkota, Northcentral Iowa, and Pella
Region 9—Classes Illiana, Chicago South, 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

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<th>District/Term</th>
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<th>Alternate</th>
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<td>Mr. Patrick McNamara</td>
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<td>Dr. William T. Koopmans</td>
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<td>Toronto</td>
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<td>Mr. Donald Wiersma</td>
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<td>Mrs. Patricia Storteboom</td>
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<td>Mr. Delvin Huisingh</td>
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<td>Mrs. Mamie Thomas</td>
<td>Mrs. Cindy Vander Kodde</td>
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<td><strong>Ex officio</strong></td>
<td>Dr. David H. Engelhard, general secretary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Peter Borgdorff, executive director of ministries</td>
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### B. The Back to God Hour

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### C. Calvin College Board of Trustees

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### D. Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees

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<th>Region</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Mr. John De Waard</td>
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<td>Rev. Al Lindemulder</td>
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<td>Mr. Gerald Baas</td>
<td>Dr. Len Reedyk</td>
<td>2003(2)</td>
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Region 10  Mr. Will Byker  Dr. James Vander Kam  2005(2)
          Dr. Jacob E. Nyenhuis  Mr. William F. Stoub  2004(1)
Region 11  Rev. Ruth Hofman  Rev. Rozanne Bruins  2005(1)
          Rev. Ron Kool  Dr. Byron Bossenbroek  2003(1)
Region 12  Rev. Manuel Ortiz  2005(2)
At-large  Mr. Sidney J. Jansma, Jr.  Mr. Bernard te Velde, Sr.  2004(2)
          Mr. Mark Muller  Mr. Don Nydam  2003(2)
          Dr. Margaret E. Toxopeus  Rev. Mary S. Hulst  2004(2)

E.  CRC Publications

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<th>Classis</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
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**552 Article 58** : Acts of Synod 2002
### G. Christian Reformed World Missions Committee

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<td>Mr. Gary Warners</td>
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<td>Mr. Roy Zuidema</td>
<td>Mrs. Ching Liza</td>
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<td>Mr. Andrew Steensma</td>
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<td>Grandville</td>
<td>Mr. Paul Wassink</td>
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<td>Mr. Maurice Siegers</td>
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<td>Mr. John De Groot</td>
<td>Mr. Dick Veeneman</td>
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<td>Mr. Greg Geels</td>
<td>Mr. Tom Knapper</td>
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<td>Hudson</td>
<td>Ms. Linda Van Lenten</td>
<td>Dr. Richard Rosendale</td>
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<td>Huron</td>
<td>Mr. Jim Rohman</td>
<td>Mr. Jim Schreuders</td>
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<td>Iakota</td>
<td>Mr. Fred Haan</td>
<td>Ms. Nancy Visser</td>
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<td>Mr. Bob Gabrielse</td>
<td>Mr. Dan Zandstra</td>
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<td>Ms. Marci Muller</td>
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<td>Mr. Otty Turrentine</td>
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<td>Mr. Len Slikker</td>
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<td>Mr. Randy Hedman</td>
<td>Mr. Marlin Breems</td>
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<td>Ms. Shirley Vandenberg</td>
<td>Mr. Ben VanHoffen</td>
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<td>Ms. Vera Douma</td>
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<td>Northern Michigan</td>
<td>Mr. Larry Stahl</td>
<td>Mr. Bill Dracht</td>
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<td>Rev. Sung Chang Choi</td>
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<td>Mr. Jay De Boer</td>
<td>Mr. Peter Kroon</td>
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<td>Ms. Melanie Fennema-Jonker</td>
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<td>Mr. Chris Van Sprosen</td>
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<td>Ms. Margaret Spoelstra</td>
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<td>Mr. Chuck Adams</td>
<td>Mr. Duane DuMez</td>
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<td>Mr. Vincent Bivens</td>
<td>Ms. Kelli Schutte</td>
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<td>Pastoral adviser</td>
<td>Rev. Gilbert Varela</td>
<td>Rev. Sam Reeves</td>
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<td>Mr. Randy J. Kroll</td>
<td>Mr. Steven Penning</td>
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<td>At-large (Canada)</td>
<td>Ms. Pam DeWilde</td>
<td>Mr. Bany Castellanos</td>
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<td>Ms. Barb Hoekstra</td>
<td>Mr. Nick Van Dyk</td>
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<td>Rev. John Koster</td>
<td>Rev. Roy Berkenbosch</td>
<td>2005(2)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
IV. Service committees

A. Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. Committee
   Mr. Arie Leegwater (2003), Mr. Curtis R. Witte (2003), Ms. Diane Apol (2004), Rev. Julius T. Medenblik (2004), Mr. James Fredricks (2005), Mr. W. Brian Seo (2005); ex officio member: Mr. Carl A. Gronsman.

B. Historical Committee

C. Interchurch Relations Committee

D. Judicial Code Committee

E. Ministers’ Pension Funds committees
   Canadian Pension Trustees
   Rev. Jake Kuipers (2003), Mr. John Knibbe (2004), Mr. Dan Van Leeuwen (2004), Mr. Bruce Dykstra (2005), Mr. John Luimes (2005).

   U.S. Board of Pensions and Insurance
   Mr. Lloyd Bierma (2003), Mr. William Venema (2003), Mr. Thomas Waalkes (2004), Rev. Edward J. Tamminga (2005), Mr. George Vande Werken (2005).

F. Sermons for Reading Services Committee

G. Youth-Ministry Committee
   Mrs. Mary De Jager (2003), Rev. Dr. Pieter Pereboom (2003), Dr. Syd Hielema (2003), Mr. John Matias (2003); Mr. Augie Aswan (Ethnic) (2004), Mrs. Ruth Cook (GEMS) (2004), Mr. Scott Elgersma (2004), Mr. Rick Abma (2005), Mrs. Diane Dykgraaf (2005), Ms. Dawn Ryewyck (Youth Unlimited) (2005), Mrs. Sherry TenClay (2005), Dr. Marvin VanderVliet (Cadets) (2005); advisers: Rev. Dan Ackerman (New-Church Development, Home Missions), Mrs. Marlene Brands (CRC Publications), Dr. Robert C. De Vries (Calvin Theological Seminary).

V. Study committees

A. Committee to Examine Life Issues Raised by Bioscience and Genetic Engineering
   (scheduled to report in 2003)
Rev. Mary S. Hulst, Mrs. Effie Bierling, Dr. Hessel Bouma III, Mrs. Judith Cook, Dr. Rebecca De Young, Dr. Allen Kramer, Mrs. Lesli Van Milligen, Dr. Calvin Van Reken (chair), Dr. Wrede Vogel, Dr. David H. Engelhard (ex officio).

B. Committee to Provide Guidelines for Alternate Routes to Ministry (scheduled to report in 2003)
   Rev. Bruce Ballast (chair), Dr. Gary Bekker, Rev. Shawn Brix, Mr. Ted Charles, Dr. Henry De Moor, Mr. Robert den Dulk, Rev. Calvin Hoogendoorn, Rev. Michael Johnson, Rev. Thea Leunk, Ms. Jill Louters, Rev. Roger Ryu, Mr. Kenneth Vander Horst, Dr. David H. Engelhard (ex officio).

C. Committee to Study Christian Day School Education (scheduled to report in 2003)
   Dr. John Bolt, Mrs. Karen Gerritsma, Mrs. Sharon Jim, Mr. James Jones, Mr. Herman Proper, Mrs. Sherry Ten Clay, Rev. Ildefonso Torres, Mr. Marion Van Soelen, Dr. Dan Vander Ark (chair), Dr. David H. Engelhard (ex officio).

D. Committee to Study Church Education (scheduled to report in 2004)
   Mrs. Mary Bouwma (chair), Mrs. Carol Bremer-Bennet, Rev. Robert De Moor, Dr. Robert De Vries, Mrs. Eldean Kamp, Dr. John Van Schepen, Mrs. Karen Wilk, Dr. David H. Engelhard (ex officio).

Recommendation: That synod approve the list of the boards and committees.
—Adopted

ARTICLE 59
The president of synod, Rev. Norman L. Meyer, expresses thanks to his fellow officers—Rev. Gordon H. Pols, vice president; Rev. Arie G. Van Eek, first clerk; and Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, second clerk—for all the hard work and support they have given. He thanks the faculty advisers, women advisers, and ethnic advisers and gives special recognition to Dr. David H. Engelhard, general secretary, and Dr. Peter Borgdorff, executive director of ministries, for their contribution to synod. He also thanks the staff of Calvin College, including Mr. Jeff Stob, director of campus events; Mrs. Angie Leedy, event coordinator; and Mr. Carl Hordyk, technical-services manager. The president thanks the translator, Rev. Paul K. Yu, and the synod office staff—Mrs. Nancy Haynes, Mr. Marvin Ilbrink, Mrs. Nelvina Ilbrink, Mrs. Muriel Lamer, and Mrs. Dee Recker. He also thanks the synod reporters—Mr. Henry Hess and Ms. Tracy Young.

The vice president, Rev. Gordon H. Pols, expresses thanks on behalf of synod to the president for his leadership during Synod 2002.

The general secretary expresses the gratitude of synod to the four officers and presents them with gifts.

ARTICLE 60
The president addresses synod. He reflects on a passage from Philippians 2. He announces Psalter Hymnal 633, “He Is Lord,” and leads in closing prayer. Synod adjourns at 6:25 p.m.
I. Denominational ministry shares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Per professing member</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Back to God Hour</td>
<td>$31.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRC TV</td>
<td>12.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calvin College*</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 1—Grand Rapids East, Grand Rapids North, Grand Rapids South, Grandville, Thornapple Valley</td>
<td>$57.30</td>
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<td>Area 2—Georgetown, Holland, Kalamazoo, Lake Erie, Muskegon, Northern Michigan, Zeeland</td>
<td>39.70</td>
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<td>Area 3—Chicago South, Illiana, Northern Illinois, Southeast U.S., Wisconsin</td>
<td>29.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 4—Heartland, Iakota, Lake Superior, Minnkota, Northcentral Iowa, Pella</td>
<td>8.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 5—Atlantic Northeast, Hackensack, Hudson</td>
<td>37.40</td>
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<td>Area 6—Arizona, Columbia, California South, Central California, Greater Los Angeles, Pacific Hanmi, Pacific Northwest, Red Mesa, Rocky Mountain, Yellowstone</td>
<td>19.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area 7—Chatham, Eastern Canada, Hamilton, Huron, Niagara, Quinte, Toronto</td>
<td>12.30</td>
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<td>Area 8—Alberta North, Alberta South, B.C. North-West, B.C. South-East</td>
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<td>Calvin Theological Seminary</td>
<td>29.67</td>
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<td>Canadian Ministries Board ministries</td>
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<td>CRC Publications</td>
<td>9.26</td>
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<td>CR Home Missions</td>
<td>51.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund for Smaller Churches</td>
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<td>CR World Missions</td>
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Denominational Services
- Synodical assembly, Board of Trustees, and general administration | 22.01 |
- Ministry programs | 14.38 |
  - Abuse Prevention, Chaplaincy Ministries, Disability Concerns, Pastor-Church Relations, Race Relations, Social Justice and Hunger Action

*Areas that benefit from a ministry-share reduction should employ the following monies to finance their area colleges (Acts of Synod 1962, 1984, 1993):

Per professing member
- Area 1, -0-; Area 2, $6.87; Area 3, $17.07; Area 4, $38.27; Area 5, $9.87; Area 6, $27.37; Area 7, $34.27; Area 8, $42.27.
II. Agencies recommended for financial support in 2003

A. Denominational agencies recommended for one or more offerings

1. Abuse Prevention—above-ministry-share needs .............................................. 12981 5882 RR0001
2. The Back to God Hour—above-ministry-share needs ........................................ 13240 2090 RR0001
3. Calvin College—above-ministry-share needs .................................................... (per Schedule VIII)
   a. Above-ministry-share needs
   b. Revolving Student Loan Fund
4. Calvin Theological Seminary .............................................................................. (per Schedule VIII)
5. Canadian Ministries Board ministries—above-ministry-share needs
6. Chaplaincy Ministries—above-ministry-share needs ............................................. 12981 5882 RR0001
7. CRC Publications
   World Literature Ministries—above-ministry-share needs .................................... 12981 5882 RR0001
8. CR Home Missions—above-ministry-share needs .............................................. 10691 9640 RR0001
9. CR World Missions—above-ministry-share needs .............................................. 11881 2643 RR0001
10. CR World Relief—one offering per quarter because CRWRC receives no ministry-share support
11. Disability Concerns—above-ministry-share needs .............................................. 12981 5882 RR0001
12. Pastor-Church Relations—above-ministry-share needs ....................................... 12981 5882 RR0001
13. Race Relations.................................................................................................. 12981 5882 RR0001
   a. Above-ministry-share needs
   b. Multiracial Student Scholarship Fund

B. Denominationally related youth agencies recommended for one or more offerings

Dynamic Youth Ministries
1. GEMS.............................................................................................................. 88992 0799 RR0001
2. Calvinist Cadet Corps ..................................................................................... 88992 0799 RR0001
3. Youth Unlimited................................................................................................ 88992 0799 RR0001

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. Calvary Rehabilitation Center
3. Cary Christian Center, Inc
4. Christian Health Care Center
5. Elim Christian Services
6. International Aid, Inc.
7. The Luke Society
8. Mississippi Christian Family Services
9. Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
B. Educational agencies
1. Center for Public Justice
2. Christian Schools International
3. Christian Schools International Foundation
4. Dordt College
5. ITEM—International Theological Education Ministries, Inc. (formerly Christ for Russia)
6. Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of ICS)
7. The King’s University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
8. Reformed Bible College
9. Rehoboth Christian School
10. Roseland Christian School
11. Trinity Christian College
12. Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia
13. Worldwide Christian Schools

C. Miscellaneous agencies
1. American Bible Society
2. Audio Scripture Ministries
3. The Bible League
4. Crossroad Bible Institute
5. Friendship Ministries
6. Gideons International - U.S.
7. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (for specified staff support only)
8. Lord’s Day Alliance of the United States
9. Mission India
10. Reformed Ecumenical Council (REC)
11. The Tract League
12. Wycliffe Bible Translators

Canadian agencies
A. Benevolent agencies
1. Beginnings Counseling & Adoption Services of Ontario, Inc. .......11880 2388 RR0001

B. Educational agencies

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<tr>
<th>Agency Name</th>
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<td>Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc.</td>
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<td>Institute for Christian Studies</td>
<td>10750 8434 RR0001</td>
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<td>The King’s University College</td>
<td>10808 5911 RR0001</td>
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<td>Redeemer University College</td>
<td>12331 3660 RR0001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reformed Bible College</td>
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<td>Trinity Christian College</td>
<td>11892 9207 RR0001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worldwide Christian Schools—Canada</td>
<td>88945 9970 RR0001</td>
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C. Miscellaneous agencies
1. The Bible League—Canada..............................10822 2084 RR0001
2. Evangelical Fellowship of Canada               | 10735 3922 RR0001        |
3. Friendship Groups—Canada                       | 11893 2375 RR0001        |
4. Gideons International—Canada                   | 10808 2991 RR0001        |
5. Work Research Foundation                       | 11892 9207 RR0001        |
6. Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada, Inc.     | 10822 3371 RR0001        |
(Page numbers in **boldface type** refer to the minutes of synod; page numbers in regular type refer to agenda and supplementary materials.)

Initialisms and abbreviations in the index refer to the following:

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<td>ARPC</td>
<td>Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church</td>
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<td>BRC</td>
<td>Budget Review Committee</td>
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<td>CAJ</td>
<td>Christian Academy of Japan</td>
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<td>CANAAC</td>
<td>Caribbean and North American Area Council</td>
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<td>CCC</td>
<td>Canadian Council of Churches</td>
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<td>CGI</td>
<td>Consolidated Group Insurance</td>
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<td>CRCA</td>
<td>Christian Reformed Churches of Australia</td>
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<td>Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria</td>
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Interchurch Relations Committee

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