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ACTS OF SYNOD

2011



CHRISTIAN
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CHURCH

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June 10-16, 2011
Van Noord Arena
Calvin College
Grand Rapids, Michigan

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Foreword	v
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Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

Board of Trustees Supplement	699
Appendix A: Task Force to Review the Term Young Adult Adviser	712
Appendix B: CRC Disability Concerns Recommendation to Synod 2011	714
Appendix C: Summary of Denominational Investments and Compliance with Investment Policy	715
Board of Trustees Supplement: Ratification of the Appointment of Rev. Joel R. Boot as the Interim Executive Director of the CRCNA	721
Agency Supplements	
Back to God Ministries International	723
Calvin College	724
Calvin Theological Seminary	729

Standing Committees

Candidacy Committee Supplement	733
Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement	736
Appendix: Memorandum of Understanding between the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti and the Christian Reformed Church in North America 2011	737

Overtures

28. Classis Huron Receive Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report for Information and Appoint a Broader Task Force	741
29. Classis Pacific Hanmi Reject the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group and Form a New Committee	742
30. Classis Greater Los Angeles Do Not Endorse the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report and Its Recommendations Presented by the Board of Trustees; Appoint a New Study Committee	744

Communications

5.	Council of Washington, D.C., CRC	747
6.	Classis Hudson	748
7.	Council of Community CRC, Oakdale, California	748
8.	Classis Zeeland	749
9.	Classis Zeeland	750

Personal Appeal

1.	Rev. N. Punt	751
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Financial Reports

Back to God Ministries International	755
Calvin College	756
Calvin Theological Seminary	757
Christian Reformed Home Missions	758
Christian Reformed World Missions	759
Christian Reformed World Relief Committee	760
Faith Alive Christian Resources	761
Denominational Services	762
Specialized Ministries	763
The Network	764
CRC Loan Fund, Inc., U.S.	765
Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Funds—Canada	766
Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Funds—U.S.	767
Employees' Savings Plan—U.S.	768
Consolidated Group Insurance—U.S.	769

Report of Synod 2011

Service of Prayer and Praise	773
Minutes of Synod 2011	775
Denominational Ministry Shares and Recommended Agencies for 2012	887
Index	895

Synod 2011 was held at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 10-16, 2011. Through worship, prayer, fellowship, and loving effort, the Lord's work was accomplished. The whole church owes a debt of gratitude to the men and women who gathered there—for the leadership they provided and the service they performed.

The *Acts of Synod 2011* contains the following:

- Supplementary reports of the Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America and those agencies and committees authorized to file them.
- Supplementary overtures and communications to synod re matters completed at a spring classis meeting.
- Financial reports.
- The minutes of Synod 2011.
- An index for both the Acts of Synod and the *Agenda for Synod 2011*.

It is necessary for the user of the *Acts of Synod 2011* to keep the *Agenda for Synod 2011* readily available as a reference. The *Agenda* is not reprinted in the *Acts*. The pagination continues from the *Agenda* to the *Acts*. Supplementary materials begin on page 699, following preliminary unnumbered pages. Financial reports begin on page 755. The minutes of synod follow, beginning on page 775. The index references both the *Agenda for Synod* and the *Acts of Synod*; the numbers in **boldface type** refer to pages in the Minutes of Synod 2011.

The "Acts of Synod" are more than simply a record of official actions taken. They also demonstrate the work that God has done and continues to do in and through his church. The Lord has blessed the CRC with many resources, and he calls us to use them with enthusiasm and compassion. As the Christian Reformed Church continues the work of transforming and being transformed, we do so only in the strength and the power of his Spirit.

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

(Eph. 3:20-21)

Joel R. Boot, interim executive director
Christian Reformed Church in North America

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SUPPLEMENT

I. Polity matters

A. *Interim appointments* (Committee 1)

The Board of Trustees approved on behalf of synod the following appointee as alternate synodical deputy: Rev. Bruce A. Persenaire (Central California).

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

1. Trustees whose terms expire or who have resigned as of June 30, 2011:

Region/Classis	Member
Region 6	Rev. Mark D. Vermaire
Region 11	Mr. Roy Stallworth
Classis Alberta North	Mr. Rick Struik
Classis B.C. South-East	Rev. Kenneth D. Boonstra
Classis Huron	Mr. Gary VanArragon
Classis Lake Superior	Ms. Janette Bax
Classis Niagara	Ms. Lisa Hueving
Canada At-large	Ms. Gayle Monsma

2. Words of thanks

The services provided by members of the Board of Trustees deserve the recognition and appreciation of synod. The quality of CRC members who are willing to serve the church in governing functions is one of our strengths as a church and community. This year, three of the trustees are completing their second term of service on the Board. They are Ms. Gayle Monsma, Mr. Gary VanArragon, and Rev. Mark D. Vermaire. The following Board members have moved from the regions they represent on the Board: Ms. Janette Bax, Rev. Kenneth D. Boonstra, and Mr. Roy Stallworth. In addition, Ms. Lisa Hueving and Mr. Rick Struik resigned from the Board in the past year for personal reasons. We thank God for each of these dedicated servants and for their contributions to the Board and the Christian Reformed Church.

3. Board of Trustees nominees

a. Region 11

Because of the recent resignation of Region 11 member Mr. Roy Stallworth, the Board requests that synod elect a member to a first term from the following slate of nominees:

Mr. Stedford Sims holds a bachelor's degree from Cornerstone University and is earning a master's degree in the leadership degree program at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary. Currently he serves as pastor of congregational outreach at Sherman Street CRC, Grand

Rapids, Michigan, and as a church planter with Step of Faith, hosted within Sherman Street CRC. Mr. Sims is an ordained ministry associate with credentialing within Classis Grand Rapids East and has been involved as a ministry associate and elder in his church. He is committed to antiracism and a Reformed perspective, in addition to developing leaders who are indigenous to the African American population in southeast Grand Rapids.

Mr. Chris Van Spronsen, a member of Calvary CRC in Lowell, Michigan, is a self-employed building contractor. He serves Calvary CRC as clerk of the elders and previously served as a deacon. Mr. Van Spronsen also served on the CRWRC Board of Directors, U.S., from 2003 through 2008, during which he served as president of the CRWRC Joint Ministry Council for two years and on the CRWRC executive board for three years. Currently he serves on the board of Thornapple Homes, a classical housing agency. Mr. Van Spronsen has a passion for the church and is gifted in leadership.

b. Classis B.C. South-East

Because of the recent resignation of Classis B.C. South-East member Rev. Kenneth D. Boonstra, the Board requests that synod elect a member to a first term from the following slate of nominees:

Ms. Gavrielle (Gavy) Tran is a member of Zion CRC in Abbotsford, British Columbia, and is presently serving on the CRCNA Race Relations Advisory Council and CRCNA Youth Leadership Committee, is a collaborator on the CRCNA Translation Wiki Google Site and a mentor of the School of Business at Trinity Western University. In addition, Ms. Tran serves as treasurer of Zion CRC, Sunday service coordinator, Sunday school teacher, and youth leader. She works as deputy finance manager at Fraser Valley Regional Library in Abbotsford, British Columbia, where she is responsible for the finance, centralized supplies, and customer accounts departments.

Ms. Fran Vanderpol is a member of Hillside CRC, Abbotsford, British Columbia, where she served for three years on council and has served as a delegate to classis. Currently Ms. Vanderpol serves on several committees and boards, including the Abbotsford Christian School Board of Directors, the Oikodome Foundation Board, the Geneva Society Board, and the International Christian Missions Services Board. She was an elementary Christian school teacher for fourteen years and was the vice president and president of a family business now operated by her son. Ms. Vanderpol is a mother of twelve children, who have kept her challenged to stay involved in the diversity of life and to reinforce the need to provide wise and sound purpose, principles, and structures.

C. *Officers of the Board of Trustees for 2011-2012 (Committee 1)*

1. The CRCNA-Canada Corporation

President: Mrs. Katherine Vandergrift
Vice president: Rev. William C. Veenstra
Secretary: Mrs. Grace Miedema

2. The CRCNA-Michigan Corporation

President: Rev. John Terpstra
Vice president: Rev. Sheila Holmes
Vice-all: Rev. D. Scott Greenway

3. The binational Board of Trustees officers

President: Rev. John Terpstra
Vice president: Mrs. Katherine Vandergrift
Vice-all: Rev. Sheila Holmes

D. Leadership review (Committee 1)

In fall 2010, the BOT sought the services of a professional consultant to assist the BOT with several issues that represented a growing concern. The consultant was contracted to conduct a full performance review of Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra and to assess the culture, structure, and administrative functioning of the denominational offices. Subsequent to receiving its report on this review in the winter/spring of 2011, the BOT, among other things, established a process to appoint a task force to evaluate how the current structure and culture can be improved in order to create a more thriving, collegial ministry environment in the denominational offices and in the board and staff structure.

E. Resignation of the executive director of the CRCNA (Committee 1)

The resignation of Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra as executive director was received by the Board of Trustees on April 5, 2011. Unfortunately, the official announcement that was agreed to by the executive committee of the BOT and Rev. Dykstra led to unwarranted speculation about the nature of, and reasons for, the resignation. As the former employer of Rev. Dykstra, the BOT is restricted from saying much publicly beyond the formal announcement. The statement that the resignation was for “personal and family reasons” was agreed upon with Rev. Dykstra for the public announcement. At the time synod meets, greater disclosure can be provided through the advisory committee and, by its judgment, to synod as a whole. The BOT requests that, because the matter is in essence a personnel matter, it be discussed in strict executive session.

F. Resignation of the director of denominational ministries (Committee 1)

The resignation of Ms. Sandy Johnson on May 4, 2011, from the position of director of denominational ministries was an unexpected consequence of Rev. Dykstra’s resignation. Ms. Johnson chose to resign in order to provide the BOT with greater options as it considers the current leadership needs. The Board of Trustees accepted her resignation with regret.

G. Interim appointment of the executive director (Committee 1)

The Board established the following priorities needed in its consideration of nominees for filling the interim executive director position:

1. Accomplish the business of the church as expected of an executive director of the CRCNA.
2. Provide wise counsel and a healing presence for the staff of the denomination.

3. Analyze the culture and organization in order to develop a thriving ministering community.

The new interim executive director (IED) shall appoint a pastoral team, including non-BOT members, to work with the IED toward bringing healing and counsel to the staff of the denominational office.

H. *Structure and Cultural Review Task Force* (Committee 1)

The consultant's report, referred to in section I, D, above, also prompted the BOT to appoint a task force to address the issues and make recommendations concerning the culture and administrative structures that make up the organization. The members of the task force will be appointed by a special meeting of the Board just prior to Synod 2011.

I. *Proposed revision of Church Order Article 14-e* (Committee 8)

Clarification has been requested by several synodical deputies regarding examinations of persons reentering the CRC as ministers of the Word under Church Order Article 14-e. The Board of Trustees, therefore, recommends that Synod 2011 adopt the following revision to Church Order Article 14-e (with the recommended change in italics):

Proposed Article 14-e

A former minister of the Word who was released from office may be declared eligible for call upon approval of the classis by which such action was taken, with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies. *The classis, in the presence of the deputies, shall conduct an interview that examines the circumstances surrounding the release and the renewed desire to serve in ministry.* Upon acceptance of a call, the person shall be re-ordained.

Ground: That said "interview" has always been assumed to be necessary, but recent developments have demonstrated the need for an explicit requirement.

J. *Appointment of young adult advisers to Synod 2011* (Committee 1)

The Board of Trustees appointed the following persons to serve as young adult advisers to Synod 2011, bringing the total number to seven: Mr. Seth Adema, Mr. Jonathan Bentum, and Mr. Corey Van Huizen.

K. *Report of task force formed to explore the implications of the term young adult adviser* (Committee 1)

Synod 2010 instructed the Board of Trustees to explore the implications of the term *young adult adviser* in response to concerns expressed by the Native American community (*Acts of Synod 2010*, p. 830). The report of a task force formed for that purpose is found in Appendix A.

The Board of Trustees recommends that synod use the term *young adult delegate* to synod in place of the term *young adult adviser* to synod, and that the role clearly be defined as *non-voting* at meetings of synod.

Ground: In some cultures it is inappropriate for young adults to be perceived as advising their elders or leaders.

L. *Canadian legal counsel re Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group* (Committee 1)

The report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group, adopted by the BOT and recommended to synod for endorsement, was forwarded to Canadian legal counsel for review. Legal counsel recommends creating a Canadian version (changing the term *person* or *people of color* to *person* or *people of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, or ethnic origin*) and that the CRCNA obtain the approval of the Human Rights Commission as a “Special Program” before implementation in Ontario. If Ontario grants status as a “Special Program,” that approval could then be provided to other provincial bodies to make any other application simple.

Upon synod’s endorsement of the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group, the IED will create a Canadian version, using appropriate terminology, and proceed with application for the “Special Program” status within Ontario and, subsequently, within other Canadian provinces.

M. *Communication from Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI) board concerning the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report* (Committee 1)

The Diversity in Leadership Planning Group report is found as Appendix C to the BOT Report in the printed *Agenda for Synod 2011*. The board of BTGMI sent a communication to the BOT to indicate that it wished to address synod directly on this matter. The BOT received the communication as information and forwards it to synod for response (see BTGMI Supplement).

N. *Accessibility of synod to all members* (Committee 2)

The Office of Disability Concerns presented to the Board of Trustees a report and recommendation for adoption by synod that would ensure accessibility to all synod participants (see Appendix B).

The Board recommends to synod that future meetings of synod provide the reasonable accommodations identified in Appendix B to all participants, including but not limited to people with known hearing impairments, sight impairments, and mobility impairments. The Office of Disability Concerns shall recommend whether any additional accommodations should be made available to participants at synod in future years.

Grounds:

1. In the Reformed tradition, we understand the Bible to affirm that all people, disabled and nondisabled alike, are imagebearers of God and that the church is a covenant community with mutual obligations toward one another. A commitment by our highest assembly to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities applies our anthropology in a clear and practical way with regard to people with disabilities.
2. In many ways, our meetings of synod already provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities. Approval of this recommendation would cement our aspiration into a solid commitment.
3. Commitment to full accessibility by our highest assembly is a clear and consistent application of previous decisions of synod concerning the inclusion of people with disabilities in church life.
4. A commitment by synod to provide reasonable accommodations establishes a model for other assemblies and agencies to follow in becoming a church that is engaging and engaged by people with disabilities.

O. *Joint CRC/RCA synod assembly on June 16, 2011* (Committee 1)

In order for any actions to be considered and voted upon during the Joint CRC/RCA synod assembly, both synods will need to be in *official* session. The complication for the CRC is that synod will have completed all of its business (except for the joint session), final words will have been spoken, and synod, under normal circumstances, would have adjourned. In order to facilitate a meaningful joint decision with the synod of the RCA regarding the translation report of the three Reformed standards, the following actions are recommended for adoption by synod early in its sessions.

1. That synod discuss the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions report and recommendations (and all related overtures and communications) per normal synodical procedure, recognizing that the proposals are coming from an interdenominational committee, a condition that makes the processing of changes exceedingly challenging.
2. That synod take an *advisory* vote of synod concerning its willingness to approve the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions at the conclusion of the discussion.
 - a. If the advisory vote is negative, either the matter will need to be taken off the agenda for the joint session with the RCA, or another procedure will need to be negotiated with the leadership of the RCA.
 - b. If the advisory vote is positive, synod will need to approve that the joint session with the RCA is part of Synod 2011's work and that official adjournment of Synod 2011 will occur upon the adjournment of the joint session and worship with the RCA general synod.
3. That synod hold the official vote regarding the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions report at the joint CRC/RCA session (delegates from each synod voting separately) and authorize the clerks of synod to enter that decision into the official record of Synod 2011.

Grounds:

- a. Because a joint session with the RCA general synod falls outside established rules of procedure, it is necessary to approve a process in advance.
- b. The joint CRC/RCA session does not provide adequate time for sufficient deliberation on a matter dealing with the translation of the Reformed confessions.
- c. The joint session is intended to be more than a simple reporting of what each synod has decided. Rather, the hope is that the recommendations can be adopted *together* with the RCA.
- d. The RCA synod will be in official session when the joint event occurs. For the CRC participation to be equally meaningful (and legal), the CRC synod needs to still be in session.
- e. Synod can decide to complete all of its other work and postpone official adjournment to a specified time at the conclusion of the joint session.

P. Convening church of Synod 2015 (Committee 1)

It is recommended that Synod 2011 accept the invitation from First CRC, Sioux Center, Iowa, to be the convening church of Synod 2015 and that Synod 2015 be held on the campus of Dordt College.

II. Program and finance matters

A. Program matters (Committee 2)

Appointment of interim director of Safe Church Ministry

Ms. Bonnie Nicholas was ratified by the Board of Trustees to serve as interim director of Safe Church Ministry. If there is time in synod's schedule, it is recommended that Ms. Nicholas be introduced to the assembly.

B. Finance matters (Committee 6)

1. The Board approved the unified budget for the denominational entities, inclusive of the individual budgets of the agencies, the educational institutions, the denominational offices, the Loan Fund, and the Pension Funds of the CRC, as presented in the report of the Budget Review Committee.
2. The Board recommends that synod approve a ministry share of \$316.76 (the same level as approved for calendar year 2011) per adult member (age 18 and over) for calendar year 2012 to partially support the approved unified denominational budget.
3. The Board recommends that synod approve the list of above-ministry share offerings as follows:
 - a. Denominational agencies recommended for one or more offerings
 - Back to God Ministries International
 - Calvin College
 - Calvin Theological Seminary
 - Christian Reformed Church Foundation
 - CR Home Missions
 - CR World Missions
 - CR World Relief Committee—one offering per quarter because the agency receives no ministry-share support
 - Denominational Ministry Programs
 - 1) Chaplaincy and Care Ministry
 - 2) Committee for Contact with the Government
 - 3) Disability Concerns
 - 4) Pastor-Church Relations
 - 5) The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry
 - 6) Race Relations
 - 7) Safe Church Ministry
 - 8) Social Justice and Hunger Action
 - 9) Urban Aboriginal Ministries
 - Faith Alive Christian Resources

b. Denominationally-related agencies recommended for one or more offerings

Dynamic Youth Ministries

1) GEMS

2) Calvinist Cadet Corps

3) Youth Unlimited

Friendship Ministries (Friendship Ministries—Canada)

Partners Worldwide

Timothy Leadership Training Institute

4. The Board informs synod that it has approved the renewal of the following accredited agencies for offerings in the churches (year three) in a three-year cycle of support (2012-2014). Synod 2002 approved certain revisions to the guidelines for nondenominational agencies and changed the policy from a required annual application and synodical approval to one that requires an application and synodical approval every three years. In the intervening years, synod indicated that agencies were to submit updated financial information and information regarding any significant programmatic changes. Each nondenominational agency requesting approval submitted the full range of required triennial materials for consideration.

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

a. United States

1) Benevolent agencies

Bethany Christian Services

Cary Christian Center, Inc.

Hope Haven

The Luke Society

Mississippi Christian Family Services (MCFS)

Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services

Quiet Waters Ministries

2) Educational agencies

Christian Schools International

Christian Schools International Foundation (for textbook development)

Dordt College

Elim Christian Services

Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of Institute for Christian Studies)

Hunting Park Christian Academy

ITEM—International Theological Education Ministries, Inc.

John Stott Ministries

Kid's Hope USA

The King's University College (through the U.S. Foundation)

Kuyper College

Providence Christian College

Redeemer University College (through the U.S. Foundation)

Rehoboth Christian School

Roseland Christian School

Trinity Christian College
Worldwide Christian Schools
Zuni Christian Mission School

3) Miscellaneous agencies

Association for a More Just Society
Audio Scripture Ministries
Bible League International
Biblica U.S., Inc.
Center for Public Justice
Crossroad Bible Institute
IN Network U.S.
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (endorsed for local specified staff support only)
Middle East Reformed Fellowship, U.S. (MERF)
Mission India
The Tract League
Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.

b. Canada

1) Benevolent agencies

Beginnings Family Services
Shalem Mental Health Network

2) Educational agencies

Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc. (for textbook development)
Dordt College
Institute for Christian Studies
The King's University College
Kuyper College
Ontario Association of Christian Schools Foundation
Redeemer University College
Trinity Christian College
Edu Deo Ministries (formerly Worldwide Christian Schools – Canada)

3) Miscellaneous agencies

Bible League of Canada
Cardus (Work Research o/a Cardus)
Citizens for Public Justice (CJL Foundation)
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
Gideons International in Canada
Global PartnerLink Society
IN Network Canada
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of Canada
Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Canada (MERF)
Wycliffe Translators of Canada, Inc.

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

Canada

- a. Christian Economic Assistance Foundation
 Christian Economic Assistance Foundation provides funding for a variety of Christian school events, conferences, research and publication, curriculum development, and student loans for high school students who plan to attend a Christian college.
- b. Homestead Christian Care
 Homestead Christian Care provides affordable housing options to persons with disabilities living in poverty. This agency is primarily focused on helping those with mental illness.

United States

- a. Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies
 Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies is a Christian ministry for field based college-level courses to train and educate in environmental studies focusing on stewardship of creation.
 - b. Paidia International Development
 Paidia International Development reaches out to Palestinian Christians, teaching values such as nonviolence, conflict resolution, and integrity—all through adventure recreation. This ministry develops young Palestinian Christian leaders and helps them learn to share their faith. It also addresses the special needs community.
6. The Board recommends the following new request for inclusion on the list of affiliated recommended causes:
- Diaconal Ministries Canada
 Diaconal Ministries Canada (DMC) works to inspire, equip, and encourage deacons in Canada as they work to transform communities with the love of God.
7. The denominational salary grid
 The BOT recommends that Synod 2011 adopt the salary grid as detailed below for use in fiscal year 2011-2012. There is no proposed increase over 2010-2011, and no changes have been made since July 2008.

2011-2012 Salary Grade and Range Structure						
Level	Proposed U.S. Range			Proposed Canadian Range		
	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum
20	\$115,291	\$144,113	\$172,936			
19	\$103,936	\$129,921	\$155,905			
18	\$92,638	\$115,798	\$138,957	\$102,262	\$127,828	\$153,394
17	\$83,144	\$103,930	\$124,716	\$88,853	\$111,066	\$133,279
16	\$74,835	\$93,544	\$112,253	\$77,756	\$97,195	\$116,634
15	\$67,840	\$84,800	\$101,760	\$68,492	\$85,616	\$102,739
14	\$59,271	\$74,089	\$88,906	\$60,406	\$75,507	\$90,609
13	\$52,105	\$65,132	\$78,158	\$53,907	\$67,384	\$80,861

8. Summary of denominational investments and compliance with investment policy

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

9. Pension board matters

The Board of Trustees endorsed and recommends, on behalf of the U.S. Board of Pensions and the Canadian Pension Trustees, that Synod 2011 adopt the following:

Effective July 1, 2011, an ordained minister of the Word who is participating in the Ministers' Pension Plan and reaches the Plan's normal retirement age, may request a "Pre-retirement In-service Pension Distribution" while still serving in their current position with the CRCNA.

III. Recommendations

- A. That synod approve the interim appointment of the alternate synodical deputy approved by the Board (BOT Supplement section I, A).

- B. That synod by way of the ballot appoint members to the Board of Trustees from Classis B.C. South-East and Region 11 (BOT Supplement sections, I, B, 3).

- C. That Synod 2011 adopt the following revision to Church Order Article 14-e (with the recommended change in italics; BOT Supplement section, I, I):

Proposed Article 14-e

A former minister of the Word who was released from office may be declared eligible for call upon approval of the classis by which such action was taken, with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies. *The classis, in the presence of the deputies, shall conduct an interview that examines the circumstances surrounding the release and the renewed desire to serve in ministry.* Upon acceptance of a call, the person shall be re-ordained.

Ground: That said "interview" has always been assumed to be necessary, but recent developments have demonstrated the need for an explicit requirement.

- D. That synod use the term young adult delegate to synod in place of the term *young adult adviser* to synod, and that the role clearly be defined as *non-voting* at meetings of synod (BOT Supplement section, I, K and Appendix A).

Ground: In some cultures, it is inappropriate for young adults to be perceived as advising their elders or leaders.

- E. That synod endorse that future meetings of synod provide the reasonable accommodations identified in Appendix B to all participants, including but not limited to people with known hearing impairments, sight impairments, and mobility impairments. The Office of Disability Concerns shall recommend whether any additional accommodations should be made available to participants at synod in future years (BOT Supplement section, I, N).

Grounds:

1. In the Reformed tradition, we understand the Bible to affirm that all people, disabled and nondisabled alike, are imagebearers of God and that the church is a covenant community with mutual obligations toward one another. A commitment by our highest assembly to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities applies our anthropology in a clear and practical way with regard to people with disabilities.
 2. In many ways, our meetings of synod already provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities. Approval of this recommendation would cement our aspiration into a solid commitment.
 3. Commitment to full accessibility by our highest assembly is a clear and consistent application of previous decisions of synod concerning the inclusion of people with disabilities in church life.
 4. A commitment by synod to provide reasonable accommodations establishes a model for other assemblies and agencies to follow in becoming a church that is engaging and engaged by people with disabilities.
- F. That synod take the following actions related to the proposed joint assembly with the Reformed Church in America (BOT Supplement section, I, O):
1. That synod discuss the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions report and recommendations (and all related overtures and communications) per normal synodical procedure, recognizing that the proposals are coming from an interdenominational committee, a condition that makes the processing of changes exceedingly challenging.
 2. That synod take an *advisory* vote of synod concerning its willingness to approve the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions at the conclusion of the discussion.
 - a. If the advisory vote is negative, either the matter will need to be taken off the agenda for the joint session with the RCA, or another procedure will need to be negotiated with the leadership of the RCA.
 - b. If the advisory vote is positive, synod will need to approve that the joint session with the RCA is part of Synod 2011's work and that official adjournment of the Synod 2011 will occur upon the adjournment of the joint session and worship with the RCA general synod.
 3. That synod hold the official vote regarding the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions report at the joint CRC/RCA session (delegates from each synod voting separately) and authorize the clerks of synod to enter that decision into the official record of Synod 2011.

Grounds:

- a. Because a joint session with the RCA general synod falls outside of established rules of procedure, it is necessary to approve a process in advance.
- b. The joint CRC/RCA session does not provide adequate time for sufficient deliberation on a matter dealing with the translation of the Reformed confessions.

- c. The joint session is intended to be more than a simple reporting of what each synod has decided. Rather, the hope is that the recommendations can be adopted *together* with the RCA.
- d. The RCA synod will be in official session when the joint event occurs. For the CRC participation to be equally meaningful (and legal), the CRC synod needs to still be in session.
- e. Synod can decide to complete all of its other work and postpone official adjournment to a specified time at the conclusion of the joint session.

G. That Synod 2011 accept the invitation from First CRC, Sioux Center, Iowa, to be the convening church of Synod 2015 and that Synod 2015 be held on the campus of Dordt College (BOT Supplement section I, P).

H. That synod allow time in its schedule for Ms. Bonnie Nicholas, interim director of Safe Church Ministry, to be introduced (BOT Supplement section, II, A).

I. That synod receive the agencies and institutional unified budget as information and approve a ministry share of \$316.76 for calendar year 2012 (no increase over the 2011 amount) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 1-2).

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

1. That synod approve the list of above-ministry share and specially designated offerings for the agencies and institutions of the CRC and denominationally-related ministries and recommend these to the churches for consideration (BOT Supplement section II, B, 3).
2. That synod receive as information the list of nondenominational agencies, previously accredited, that have been approved for calendar year 2012 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 4).
3. That synod accept the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 5):

Canada

a. Christian Economic Assistance Foundation

Christian Economic Assistance Foundation provides funding for a variety of Christian school events, conferences, research and publication, curriculum development, and student loans for high school students who plan to attend a Christian college.

b. Homestead Christian Care

Homestead Christian Care provides affordable housing options to persons with disabilities living in poverty. This agency is primarily focused on helping those with mental illness.

United States

a. Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies

Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies is a Christian ministry for field-based college-level courses to train and educate in environmental studies focusing on stewardship of creation.

b. Paidia International Development

Paidia International Development reaches out to Palestinian Christians, teaching values such as nonviolence, conflict resolution, and integrity—all through adventure recreation. This ministry develops young Palestinian Christian leaders and helps them learn to share their faith. It also addresses the special needs community.

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

Diaconal Ministries Canada

Diaconal Ministries Canada (DMC) works to inspire, equip, and encourage deacons in Canada as they work to transform communities with the love of God.

- K. That synod adopt the denominational salary grid for senior positions as proposed (no proposed increase over 2010-2011 and no changes made since July 2008) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 7).

- L. That synod receive as information the BOT's endorsement of the following recommendation presented by the Pension Trustees (BOT Supplement section II, B, 9):

Effective July 1, 2011, an ordained minister of the Word who is participating in the Ministers' Pension Plan and reaches the Plan's normal retirement age may request a "Pre-retirement In-service Pension Distribution" while still serving in their current position with the CRCNA.

Board of Trustees of the
Christian Reformed Church in North America
Bruce G. Adema, acting interim executive director

Appendix A

Task Force to Review the Term *Young Adult Adviser*

I. Introduction

Language is a powerful, yet delicate means of communication. Often the terms, phrases, and even individual words that are chosen and used publicly can communicate different things to different people. This was the case at the synodical meetings of the CRC in 2010 when a Native American delegate from Classis Red Mesa raised an issue with the term *youth adviser*. This term had been used to refer to the high school- and college-age attendees to synod who were there both to observe and to offer input and insight on issues as they might pertain specifically to their age group.

Our task force agreed that there were similar issues with the term *young adult adviser*. To us, the problem did not lie with the term used to designate the young non-voting attendees to synod but, rather, with referring to anyone from that age group as an *adviser*. Specifically within Native American culture, it was pointed out that it would be highly unusual to label a young person as an adviser to a group of adults and elders. Later that same senti-

ment was echoed by a pastor representing the Korean American churches of the CRC.

One of the first alternate terms suggested was *delegate* in place of *adviser*. This term was welcomed by the entire task force and seemed appropriate.

The task force did note that the term *delegate* would require some clarification with respect to synod—the term *delegate* is most commonly used to refer to representatives from classes who have the right to vote. The chair of the task force spoke with Rev. Kathy Smith, professor of CRC polity at Calvin Theological Seminary, regarding the term *delegate*. She pointed out that while the term was commonly used to refer to a voting role within synod, it was also used in reference to the fraternal delegates who attend synod from other denominations in a non-voting capacity. So she felt that if the role of a young adult *delegate* were specifically defined as being *non-voting*, it might be acceptable.

Each member of our task force agreed to speak to different people from various ethnic, professional, and geographical backgrounds in order to solicit responses to the terms *young adult adviser* and *young adult delegate*. Some people did react strongly against the term *adviser*. But we found that while there was some variation in support of the term *delegate*, no one reacted strongly against it. A sampling of responses follows:

- English theater person: *Delegate* is neutral in terms of power.
- State department worker: *Delegate* is often used in government and does not designate any status.
- Navajo pastor: In many Native American cultures there is no designation for the period of time between youth and adult. Once you have a coming-of-age ceremony, you are considered an adult and able to participate in conversations and decisions. The term *delegate* meets with approval.
- Navajo pastor: There is an issue with the term *adviser* in reference to a young person advising an elder or a leader. So both of the terms *youth adviser* and *young adult adviser* sound inappropriate. The term *delegate* sounds more appropriate.
- Missionary on the Navajo Reservation (30+ years): It is suitable that the new term uses the word *delegate*. This creates an adequate subset.
- Pastor representing Korean American CRC churches: In Korean culture it would be inappropriate to refer to young people advising or coaching their elders. The term *delegate* is much better, as long as the role is specified as being non-voting.

II. Recommendations

A. In light of all that is stated above, the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA recommends to synod the use of the term *young adult delegate* in place of the term *young adult adviser*.

B. That synod also clarify that this role be defined as non-voting at synod.

Young Adult Adviser Task Force
Mark Charles
Joan Flikkema
Esteban Lugo

Appendix B

CRC Disability Concerns Recommendation to Synod 2011

I. Background

In 1985 the Christian Reformed Church committed itself to “to be the caring community according to 1 Corinthians 12, paying special attention to the needs and gifts of people with physical, sensory, mental, and emotional impairments” (*Acts of Synod 1985*, p. 702). At that time we also pledged to overcome barriers of architecture, communication, and attitude that make people with disabilities feel unwelcome in our churches. Subsequent synods approved practical steps for implementing these commitments, including a decision in 1993 to “heartily recommend full compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act . . . and its accompanying regulations in all portions of the CRC located in the U.S. and Canada.” As part of that decision synod suggested “that the provisions of the ADA should . . . be honored by synod and individual classes when they conduct their business. This implies, for example, that meetings, including committee-level meetings, should be held in architecturally accessible facilities and that accommodation should be made for disabled persons who are synodical or classical representatives or who simply wish to observe synodical or classical proceedings” (*Acts of Synod 1993*, pp. 381, 403, 542).

The people responsible for the organization and implementation of synod each year have worked hard to abide by this suggestion. We note that synod’s 1993 discussion regarding accommodations at meetings included suggestions rather than mandates. Our denomination has never made a firm and clear commitment to accommodate all participants at our synod. By doing so, we give a warm welcome to all delegates and visitors to our highest assembly, thus encouraging a broad spectrum of our membership to participate in leadership of and to be informed about synod’s work. Furthermore, accessibility of our highest assembly would serve as a model for delegates and encourage a similar commitment by churches, committees, councils, and classes.

The reasonable accommodations for participants of synod (those who are present in an official capacity, such as delegates, advisors, committee members, and staff) must include these:

- Conduct all meetings in fully accessible facilities.
- Offer alternative formats for printed material.
- Permit the use of service animals.
- Ensure that all participants use microphones in plenary session and, if requested in advance, in committee meetings.
- If requested in advance by participants, provide accommodations for communication, such as hearing loop, C-print captioning, sign-language interpretation, closed captioning of videos, or closed audio descriptor of videos.

Our intent with this recommendation is not to create an ADA-specific set of requirements. Our intent also is to allow the office of Disability Concerns to have some discretion in determining whether any additional accommodations should be made available to participants at synod in future years.

In this historic year, when the synod of the CRC and the general synod of the RCA are meeting in the same location and meeting one day for a joint session, the offices of Disability Concerns in the CRC and the RCA are asking our denominations to commit themselves to accessibility of the meetings of their highest assemblies.

II. Recommendation

That the BOT recommend to synod that future meetings of synod provide these reasonable accommodations identified above to all participants, including but not limited to people with known hearing impairments, sight impairments, and mobility impairments. The office of Disability Concerns shall recommend whether or not any additional accommodations should be made available to participants at synod in future years.

Grounds:

1. In the Reformed tradition, we understand the Bible to affirm that all people, disabled and nondisabled alike, are imagebearers of God and that the church is a covenant community with mutual obligations toward one another. A commitment by our highest assembly to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities applies our anthropology in a clear and practical way with regard to people with disabilities.
2. In many ways, our meetings of synod already provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities. Approval of this recommendation would cement our aspiration into a solid commitment.
3. Commitment to full accessibility by our highest assembly is a clear and consistent application of previous decisions of synod concerning the inclusion of people with disabilities in church life.
4. A commitment by synod to provide reasonable accommodations establishes a model for other assemblies and agencies to follow in becoming a church that is engaging and engaged by people with disabilities.

Appendix C

Summary of Denominational Investments and Compliance with Investment Policy

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

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

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

The accompanying summary and related footnotes constitute the Board of Trustees' response to the first of these requests. In response to the second request, the Board of Trustees reports that as of December 31, 2009, all of the agencies and institutions are in compliance with the denomination's

investment policy, including the guidance it provides for assets received as a result of gifts or gift-related transactions.

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

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

THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA
Agencies and Institutions
Investment Summary in US\$
As of December 31, 2010

Categories Specified by Investment Policy:

SHORT TERM	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	
Cash, Money-market mutual funds, and CDs	
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES	
Foundation Liquidity Fund (1)	
Other short term	
FOUNDATION BALANCED FUND (2)	
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS	
Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock	
Equity mutual funds	
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)	
U.S. treasuries or Canadian gov't bonds	
Publicly traded bonds and notes (investment grade, at least A-rated)	
Bond mutual funds	
CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts	
Interagency Investments (Obligations):	
Loans to CRCNA (Denom. Services)	
Other Investments:	
Private equity fund	
Partnerships	
Land contracts	
Life insurance cash value	
Notes receivable	
Common stock -- non-listed	
Real estate (non-operating)	
Total	

	Back to God Ministries International	Calvin College	Calvin Seminary	Faith Alive Christian Resources	Denominational Services
\$	2,102,936	\$ 981,470	\$ 183,951	\$ 331,556	\$ 3,349,154 (9)
	303,560	-	-	16	-
	-	-	-	-	2,506,876
	3,240,475	-	-	2,284,644	-
	-	3,660,445 (3)	61,815	-	-
	325,489 (3)	114,354,421 (10)	25,622,042 (10)	-	-
	-	927,678	-	-	14,940,449 (9)
	-	-	-	-	4,347,853 (9)
	347,834 (3)	13,892,007	3,097,320	-	-
	-	-	-	-	(20,616,689) (9)
	373,000	-	-	-	(4,746,000)
	-	22,092,604 (4)	1,175,558 (4)	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	400,450 (5)	336,594 (5)	106,244 (5)	-	-
	-	3,637,559 (6)	-	-	-
	-	1,044,891 (7)	-	-	-
	48,680 (8)	19,593,085 (8)	1,233,769 (8)	-	-
Total	\$ 7,142,424	\$ 180,520,754	\$ 31,480,699	\$ 2,616,216	\$ (218,357)

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

**THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA**
Agencies and Institutions
Investment Summary in US\$
As of December 31, 2010

	CRC Foundation	Home Missions	Loan Fund	World Missions	World Relief
Categories Specified by Investment Policy:					
SHORT TERM					
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS					
Cash, Money-market mutual funds, and CDs	\$ 837,290	\$ 1,481,684	\$ 7,063,297	\$ 2,148,498	\$ 13,337,260
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES					
Foundation Liquidity Fund (1)	-	642,167	-	193	25,163
Other short term	-	-	-	-	-
FOUNDATION BALANCED FUND (2)	318,389	1,279,084	-	3,863,540	3,945,100
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS					
Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock	-	-	-	-	-
Equity mutual funds	-	864	-	221,527	(3)
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)					
U.S. treasuries or Canadian gov't bonds	-	-	-	-	-
Publicly traded bonds and notes	-	-	-	-	-
(Investment grade, at least A-rated)	-	-	-	168,521	(3)
Bond mutual funds	-	-	-	-	-
CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts	-	-	-	-	-
Interagency Investments (Obligations):					
Loans to CRCNA (Denom. Services)	-	-	2,000,000	373,000	2,000,000
Other Investments:					
Private equity fund	-	-	-	-	-
Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-
Land contracts	-	-	-	-	-
Life insurance cash value	12,396	(5)	-	-	32,308
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	(5)
Common stock -- non-listed	-	-	-	-	-
Real estate (non-operating)	-	42,957	-	-	-
Total	\$ 1,168,075	\$ 3,446,756	\$ 9,063,297	\$ 6,775,279	\$ 19,339,831

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

	Employees' Retirement Plan U.S. in U.S. \$	Ministers' Pension Plan U.S. in U.S. \$	Special Assistance Fund U.S. in U.S. \$	Consolidated Group Insurance U.S. in U.S. \$	Employees' Retirement Plan - Canada in Canadian \$	Ministers' Pension Plan Canada in Canadian \$	Special Assistance Fund Canada in Canadian \$	Consolidated Group Insurance Canada in Canadian \$
Categories Specified by Investment Policy:								
SHORT TERM								
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ -	\$ 3,088,612	\$ 166,053	\$ 216,350	\$ 153,179	\$ 3,042,563	\$ 295,142	\$ 129,187
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES								
Cash, CDs, and Money-market mutual funds	-	-	-	-	176,340	-	-	-
Guaranteed investment contracts	2,839,267	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stable Asset Income Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS								
Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock	-	57,791,107	-	-	-	21,700,601	-	-
Diversified/Alternative mutual fund	-	8,700,041	-	-	1,676,725	-	-	-
Equity mutual funds	14,863,873	-	-	-	650,465	-	-	-
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)								
U.S. treasuries, Canadian gov't bonds or publicly traded bonds and notes (investment grade, at least A-rated)	-	13,752,573	-	2,026,996	-	6,752,347	-	-
Bond mutual funds	4,067,537	-	-	-	335,956	-	-	-
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS								
	-	7,801,776	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 21,770,677	\$ 91,134,109	\$ 166,053	\$ 2,243,346	\$ 2,992,665	\$ 31,495,511	\$ 295,142	\$ 129,187

Footnotes to the December 31, 2010, Investment Summary

1. Foundation pooled/unitized fixed income account for agencies.
2. Foundation pooled/unitized balanced account (fixed income 51%, equities 49%) for agencies.
3. Donated publicly-traded stock or mutual funds.
4. Interest in private equity funds, including unrealized gains and reinvestments.
5. Cash value of life insurance contracts received as gifts.
6. Includes promissory notes received in the sale of real estate.
7. Includes investment in Creative Dining Services, owned jointly with Hope College.
8. Real estate received as a gift or held for investment purposes.
9. These investments, which provide security for the overdraft accounts, are part of a Canadian agency concentration/netting for interest-cash management and investment program.
10. Includes equity, commodity, and hedged-equity mutual funds.

Board of Trustees Supplement

Ratification of the Appointment of Rev. Joel R. Boot as the Interim Executive Director of the CRCNA

I. Introduction

Due to the resignation of Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra as the executive director of the CRCNA on April 5, 2011, the Board of Trustees (BOT) has been engaged in finding a qualified individual to fulfill that function on an interim basis. Because this appointment occurred so close to the convening date of synod, the BOT judges it to be appropriate to request synod's ratification of that appointment. In order for Rev. Boot to be fully engaged with official standing in the proceedings of synod, the BOT further requests that this matter be on synod's agenda at the earliest possible session of the assembly.

II. Recommendation

That synod ratify the appointment of Rev. Joel R. Boot as the Interim Executive Director of the CRCNA.

Grounds:

1. While the BOT is authorized to make interim appointments as needed, it is appropriate that synod ratify this interim appointment because it precedes the meeting of synod by only a few weeks.
2. The appointment is intended to fill the time of transition, anticipated to be for two (2) years, until an appointment can be made of a permanent executive director, following the normal proceedings of synod.
3. It is prudent for Rev. Boot to be able to function at Synod 2011 in official capacity.
4. Rev. Boot has served synod as president several times, as its vice-president, and as a delegate 9 times.
5. Rev. Boot is a trusted leader who is able to serve the Christian Reformed Church well in this time of transition.

Back to God Ministries International Supplement

I. Introduction

At the April 28, 2011, meeting of the board of Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI), the board discussed the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group, adopted at the February 2011 meeting of the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA (BOT). The board of BTGMI is appreciative of the goal of the report—to grow greater multiethnic leadership within the CRCNA. BTGMI pursues its ministry through indigenous partnerships around the world, and its senior leadership is comprised of many ethnicities. BTGMI understands the blessings that diversity brings to the church and its mission.

Nevertheless, the board of BTGMI has reservations regarding certain aspects of the report and presents the following request to Synod 2011:

II. Recommendation

That synod not endorse the “Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group” but request that the BOT refer the report to churches, classes, and agency boards for discussion and comment, with the goal of revisiting the report for submission to Synod 2012.

Grounds:

1. There is lack of clarity in the report that, if it is approved, will cause confusion in its implementation. This includes, but is not limited to, the question of whether the report is establishing “quotas” with regard to minority leadership, as well as expectations on senior leadership as to the hiring of ethnic minorities.
2. The report draws heavily on previous denominational approaches to the issue of increasing ethnic minority leadership with the CRCNA agencies and offices. It is not clear whether those approaches are the most effective today.
3. The report significantly intersects with the work of the agency boards, yet the boards did not have opportunity to provide feedback to the BOT before the report was approved by the BOT and submitted to synod. Among issues of concern are the control of agency boards over the job descriptions of senior staff, nominations for agency boards, hiring of senior staff, and evaluation of senior staff.
4. The report takes a “top down” approach to addressing a lack of diversity in denominational leadership and does not sufficiently address a “bottom up” approach that nurtures ethnic leadership development throughout the denomination. The “feel” of the report does not seem to accord with our Reformed church polity.

I. Introduction

The Calvin College Board of Trustees met May 19-21, 2011, and presents this supplement of additional matters relating to the college. At this meeting a dinner was held honoring retiring trustees, retiring faculty and staff, and distinguished alumni Mrs. Mary Vermeer Andringa ('71), president of the Vermeer Corporation, a family business in Pella, Iowa, with a worldwide impact; and Mr. Robert Rooy ('70), a longtime Hollywood filmmaker who now specializes in documentary films on issues of autism, microfinance, and the reduction of poverty.

The board interviewed eleven faculty members and one administrator with faculty status—one for tenure and three for first reappointment. The board members also attended commencement, which honored 955 graduates of Calvin College. The commencement speaker was Dr. Jennifer Holberg, professor of English at Calvin College.

II. Faculty matters

A. *Retirees*

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

1. Judith A. Baker, M.S.N., assistant professor of nursing, emerita
2. Gerard Fondse, Jr., M.A., assistant professor of English, emeritus
3. Thomas B. Hoeksema, Ph.D., professor of education, emeritus
4. Beryl L. Hugen, Ph.D., professor of social work, emeritus
5. Thomas L. Jager, Ph.D., professor of mathematics, emeritus
6. John R. Schneider, Ph.D., professor of religion, emeritus
7. William R. Stevenson, Jr., professor of political science, emeritus
8. Diane D. Vander Pol, M.L.S., librarian, emerita

B. *Faculty reappointments*

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

1. Craig A. Hanson, Ph.D., *associate* professor of art history
2. David R. Reimer, D.M.A., *associate* professor of music
3. Alisa J. Tigchelaar, Ph.D., *associate* professor of Spanish
4. David B. Wunder, Ph.D., *associate* professor of engineering

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

Mandy A. Cano Villalobos, M.F.A., assistant professor of art (two years)

C. *Administrative reappointments*

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

1. Richard Baez, Psy.D., counselor, Broene Counseling Center (four years)
2. Claudia D. Beversluis, Ph.D., provost (two years)

3. Russel J. Bloem, M.B.A., vice president, Enrollment Management (two years)
4. Cheryl K. Brandsen, Ph.D., academic dean, Social Sciences and Contextual Disciplines Division (three years)
5. Janel M. Curry, Ph.D., Gary and Henrietta Byker Chair in Christian Perspectives on Political, Social, and Economic Thought (three years)
6. Irene B. Kraegel, Psy.D., counselor, Broene Counseling Center (two years)
7. Quentin J. Schultze, Ph.D., Arthur H. DeKruyter Chair in Faith and Communication (three years)

D. *Administrative appointments*

The board made the following faculty status administrative appointments, effective as noted:

1. Aminah Al-Attas Bradford, B.A., associate chaplain for residence life (two years, joint appointment)
2. Nathaniel Al-Attas Bradford, M.Div., associate chaplain for residence life (two years, joint appointment)
3. June E. DeBoer, M.A., associate director of academic services (two years)
4. Paul S. Ryan, M.Div., associate chaplain for worship (two years)
5. Aaron S. Winkle, M.Div., associate chaplain for upperclass students (two years)

E. *Changes in rank*

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

1. Jerry G. Bergsma, Ph.D., *professor of kinesiology*
2. Margaret J. Goetz, Ph.D., *professor of philosophy*
3. Deborah B. Haarsma, Ph.D., *professor of physics and astronomy*
4. William H. Katerberg, Ph.D., *professor of history*
5. Amy S. Patterson, Ph.D., *professor of political science*
6. Garth E. Pauley, Ph.D., *professor of communication arts and sciences*
7. Randall J. Pruim, Ph.D., *professor of mathematics and statistics*
8. Deanna van Dijk, Ph.D., *professor of geography*
9. Julie Walton, Ph.D., *associate professor of kinesiology*

III. Election of college trustees

A. *Alumni trustee*

Ms. Paula Wigboldy, B.A., Calvin College

Paula Wigboldy, a 1980 graduate of Calvin College from Chandler, Arizona, has with her husband remained very active for two decades as a Calvin College volunteer. She presently serves as the owner of Speaker Sales Unlimited, LLC, since 1997 and The Innovator's Lab from 2002 to present, working with corporate clients to enhance public speaking, innovative ideas, and leadership skills. Ms. Wigboldy has served her church and community for seven years on the Phoenix Christian School Board (one as president), as well as on the executive, promotions, ways and means, and education subcommittees. She also served as chair of the capital campaign for Phoenix Christian School. Ms. Wigboldy worked as an adviser to the school, creating a marketing plan, developing a brand and logo, and launching an area

Christian School Fair in partnership with other schools. In her church, Palm Lane CRC, she serves as director of adult ministries (1988-present) and as a community ministries coordinator for nearby public schools. She has led youth ministries (2004-2006) and Coffee Break ministries (1988-1994) and has taught vacation Bible school and Sunday school. Ms. Wigboldy and her husband have been active as leaders in the Calvin Alumni Arizona Chapter, leading and hosting several events and welcoming guests from Calvin College to their home.

B. At-large trustees

Dr. Dale J. Andringa, B.A., Calvin College, M.D., University of Iowa College of Medicine, Residency—Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Dr. Andringa is a 1971 graduate of Calvin College who has served in numerous areas of leadership in the field of medicine during his distinguished career. In 1978, he received the “Outstanding Resident Teacher Award” from the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. He served on the House of Delegates of the Iowa Medical Society for two consecutive years and has served on numerous medical boards and committees: Board of Central Iowa Health Systems, Iowa Community Health Management Information System, Heartland Bioethics Center, Partnership for a Drug-Free Iowa, the Pella Community Foundation, Face It Together, Serve Our Youth Network, American Republic Insurance Company, and (currently) Board of Partners Worldwide (since 2009). Dr. Andringa joined his family business, Vermeer Manufacturing, in 1997 as its medical director and director of strategic improvement. In this position he managed Vermeer’s 7,000-member self-funded health plan and contributed to its occupational health and safety efforts. He is currently retired from Vermeer and serves as a consultant on the health care system from the perspectives of the delivery system, the payer, and the employer-purchaser. Dr. Andringa is an active member of Adventure Life Church (RCA), Pella, Iowa.

Dr. Philip J. Brondsema, B.S., Calvin College; Ph.D., University of Wisconsin

Dr. Brondsema has a degree in organic chemistry and has spent the majority of his career (from 1985-2005) in the field of research for new products and design at Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan. During this time he became the research and design tech services group leader and business development leader. In 2008 he moved to Houston, Texas, as senior project leader and now serves as global project steward for the Houston-based Celanese Chemical Company. Dr. Brondsema is the author of six U.S. patents and has expertise in technology development; business development; marketing; and regulatory, risk, and liability management. He has served as an elder at Midland (Mich.) Reformed Church—three years as vice president—and currently is serving as an elder at Hope CRC (Houston, Tex.) with two years as vice president. Dr. Brondsema served on the board of Midland (Mich.) Christian School and was a member and treasurer of The Tract League for twenty years and of the Calvin College Engineering Advisory Council for twelve years. He is presently a member of the Calvin College Parent Council. In 2004 Dr. Brondsema was the recipient of the Calvin Alumni Association Outstanding Service Award.

Mr. Craig H. Lubben, B.A., Calvin College; J.D., Northwestern University School of Law

Mr. Lubben is an attorney in the area of civil litigation, with a focus on commercial and employment disputes for the firm Miller-Johnson in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He graduated *cum laude* in 1981 and served the Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology Board of Editors. Mr. Lubben is admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court and all Michigan courts. He is a member and fellow of the Michigan State Bar and has been listed among the "Best Lawyers in America" and named in the Top 100 list as a Michigan "Super Lawyer." In 2010 Mr. Lubben was awarded the Cumminsky Spirit of Service Award. He serves on numerous community boards and committees, including the Kalamazoo Symphony Board (president elect), Bronson Medical Hospital Institutional Review Board, Family and Children Services of the Kalamazoo area, the Kalamazoo County Bar Association, and the Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce Board. Mr. Lubben has also served on the Board of Kalamazoo Christian School (2004-2009), as treasurer (2006-2008) and as president (2009). He has been an active member of Third Christian Reformed Church in Kalamazoo since 1987 and he has served as an elder, council president, and catechism teacher.

IV. Recommendations

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

1. Judith A. Baker, M.S.N., assistant professor of nursing, emerita
2. Gerard Fondse, Jr., M.A., assistant professor of English, emeritus
3. Thomas B. Hoeksema, Ph.D., professor of education, emeritus
4. Beryl L. Hugen, Ph.D., professor of social work, emeritus
5. Thomas L. Jager, Ph.D., professor of mathematics, emeritus
6. John R. Schneider, Ph.D., professor of religion, emeritus
7. William R. Stevenson, Jr., professor of political science, emeritus
8. Diane D. Vander Pol, M.L.S., librarian, emerita

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

1. Craig A. Hanson, Ph.D., *associate* professor of art history
2. David R. Reimer, D.M.A., *associate* professor of music
3. Alisa J. Tigchelaar, Ph.D., *associate* professor of Spanish
4. David B. Wunder, Ph.D., *associate* professor of engineering

C. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointment:

Mandy A. Cano Villalobos, M.F.A., assistant professor of art (two years)

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

1. Jerry G. Bergsma, Ph.D., *professor* of kinesiology
2. Margaret J. Goetz, Ph.D., *professor* of philosophy
3. Deborah B. Haarsma, Ph.D., *professor* of physics and astronomy
4. William H. Katerberg, Ph.D., *professor* of history

5. Amy S. Patterson, Ph.D., *professor* of political science
 6. Garth E. Pauley, Ph.D., *professor* of communication arts and sciences
 7. Randall J. Pruiim, Ph.D., *professor* of mathematics and statistics
 8. Deanna van Dijk, Ph.D., *professor* of geography
 9. Julie Walton, Ph.D., *associate professor* of kinesiology
- E. That synod by way of the ballot elect one member to a first three-year term as Alumni Trustee and three members to a first-term as At-large Trustees.

Calvin College Board of Trustees
Thelma Venema, secretary

Calvin Theological Seminary presents this supplemental information on matters relating to the seminary.

At its meeting on February 11, 2011, the board elected the following officers for 2011-2012:

Rev. Paul De Vries, chair; Dr. Byron Noordewier, vice chair; and Ms. Susan Keesen, secretary.

A. Graduates

Seventy-seven students graduated from the seminary's degree programs on May 21, 2011.

B. Finances

At the Board of Trustees meeting on May 20, 2011, the budget of \$7,662,720 was approved as presented for 2011-2012.

C. Proposal for Distance Learning Program

Also at the May 20, 2011, meeting, the board approved a proposal for a Distance Learning Program that will enable students to earn an M.Div. degree through specially designed online courses. It is intended that this program be ready to implement for the fall semester in 2012.

D. Presidential Inaugural

The inauguration of Rev. Julius T. Medenblik as the seventh president of Calvin Theological Seminary has been set for Saturday, October 15, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. Additional information regarding the inauguration is available on the Calvin Theological Seminary website: www.calvinseminary.edu/events/inauguration/.

Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees
Susan Keesen, secretary

STANDING COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTS

Candidacy Committee Supplement

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

A. *Candidates for ministry*

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

The Candidacy Committee recommends that synod declare the following individuals as candidates for ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church, subject to completion of all remaining requirements (if any):

Glenn S. Adams
Aminah Al-Attas Bradford
Michael S. Boerkoel
Samuel Boldenow
Joel T. Bootsma
Randall J. Buursma
John Harold Caicedo
Timothy A. De Vries
Steven R. Eckersley
John O. Eigege
Rodolfo Galindo
Aaron C. Gonzalez
Amos H. Groenendyk
Andrew H. Hanson
Joshua R. Holwerda
Daniel J. Kinnas
Kyle P. Kloostra
Brian M. Kornelis
Kenneth C. Kruithoff
Samuel Lee
Ruth E. Lemmen

Raidel León Martinez
Sarah Matherly Roelofs
Sarah Meekhof Albers
John Moelker
Jonathan Nicolai-deKoning
Adam L. Nordyke
Jessica J. Oosterhouse
Benjamin J. Schaefer
Eric D. Schlukebir
Timothy M. Sheridan
Martin A. Sisneroz, Jr.
Juli Stuelpnagel
Bernhard VanderVlis
Mark Van Drunen
Mark J. Van Dyke
Thyra D. VanKeeken
Terence M. Visser
Caleb J. Walcott
Jan Anthony Westrate
John T. Wildeboer
Jonathan D. Young

B. Extension of candidacy

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

Amanda C. Bakale
S. Nicholas Bierma
Micah J. Bruxvoort
Matthew J. Eenigenburg
Adam T. Eisenga
Chad A. Haan
Jennifer S. Holmes
Linda A. Johnson
Joseph J. Kim
Lucas R. Lockard

George W. Lubbers
Erin M. Marshalek
Mary B. Stegink
David P. Stockdale
Adam J. Stout
Matthew D. VandenHeuvel
Ashley M. VanDragt
Geoffrey A. VanDragt
Brian Willats

II. Presentation of the candidates to synod

It is recommended that the candidates be presented to Synod 2011 on Wednesday, June 15, at 9:30 a.m. The director of candidacy and the president of Calvin Theological Seminary will formally introduce the candidates for 2011 to synod.

III. Article 8 candidates approved

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

Date	Name of Applicant	Classis	Former Denomination
5-20-10	Gerstner, Jonathan	(Arizona)	Grace Fellowship Church
8-24-10	Haywood, Reggie	(Central Plains)	Missionary Baptist
8-24-10	Jang, SeJong	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-24-10	Cho, Kyung Hyun	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-24-10	Rhee, Eun Soo	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Baptist Church
8-24-10	Shin, David Dae Woo	(California South)	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-25-10	Kim, Enoch In Hwan	(Northern Illinois)	Presbyterian Church in Korea (Kosin)
10-20-10	Hong, Hyung Hun	(Greater Los Angeles)	Evangelical Church Alliance
10-20-10	Seung, Kwang Chul	(Greater Los Angeles)	Evangelical Church Alliance
10-20-10	Covert, Phil	(Northern Illinois)	Presbyterian Church in America
1-04-11	Cho, David SungJu	(Pacific Hanmi)	Evangelical Church Alliance
1-04-11	Kim, KangWon	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
1-04-11	Ma, WonChul	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Baptist Church
1-04-11	Nam, DeogJong	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
1-20-11	Lee, Pablo	(Greater Los Angeles)	Korean Presbyterian Church
2-11-11	Simon, Randall	(Columbia)	Presbyterian Church (USA)

IV. Recommendations

A. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Rev. David R. Koll, director of candidacy, and committee member Rev. Peter Choi when the Candidacy Committee report is discussed.

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

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

D. That synod receive the presentation of the candidates for ministry of the Word on Wednesday, June 15, at 9:30 a.m. by Rev. David R. Koll and Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., president of Calvin Theological Seminary.

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

Candidacy Committee

David R. Koll, director of candidacy

I. Ecumenical visitors at Synod 2011

Several ecumenical visitors will be attending synod this year. The Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee (EIRC) recommends that such visitors be granted the privilege of addressing synod on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, on a schedule as determined by the officers of Synod 2011. The following fraternal delegates and ecumenical guests have been invited and have confirmed their presence at Synod 2011. Several others were invited but were not able to accept our invitation this year.

Dr. Setri Nyomi	World Communion of Reformed Churches
Dr. Richard Hamm	Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A.
Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson and Rev. Thomas DeVries Rev. Pieter Sinia	Reformed Church in America Netherlands Reformed Churches

II. Église Chrétienne Réformée d'Haïti (Christian Reformed Church of Haiti)

A. The Christian Reformed Church in North America has been engaged in ministry in Haiti for many years, and a significant partner is the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti (CRCH). Until recently, the CRCH's primary relationship with the CRCNA has been through "Sous Espwa," the operational name that CRCNA agencies use for their coordinated projects and initiatives, but there has not been a formal ecumenical relationship. After meeting with the leadership of the CRCH, it was affirmed that a closer church-to-church relationship should be sought.

The EIRC brought recommendations by way of its report in the *Agenda for Synod 2011* to recognize the CRCH as a church in dialogue with the CRCNA. The EIRC now also presents a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU; see Appendix) between the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti and the Christian Reformed Church in North America for endorsement (with the understanding that it must also be endorsed by the CRC of Haiti to become operative).

Grounds:

1. This explains the expectations of the relationship between our churches.
2. MOUs have become the preferred way for denominations to formalize their relationships.

III. Recommendations

A. That synod allow time in its schedule to hear from our ecumenical guests.

B. That the Memorandum of Understanding (see Appendix) between the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti and the Christian Reformed Church

in North America be endorsed (with the understanding that it must also be endorsed by the CRC of Haiti to become operative).

Grounds:

1. This explains the expectations of the relationship between our churches.
2. MOUs have become the preferred way for denominations to formalize their relationships.

Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee
Bruce G. Adema, ecumenical officer

Appendix

Memorandum of Understanding between The Christian Reformed Church Of Haiti and The Christian Reformed Church in North America 2011

Preamble

For many years the relationship between the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti (CRCH) and the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) has flourished. This has been evidenced by ministry partnership through Sous Espwa and the participation of ministry personnel from the CRCNA in projects and programs of the CRCH.

Both the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti and the Christian Reformed Church in North America recognize that through this formal statement we are affirming and building upon existing relations with a denomination that shares the Christian faith, a Reformed theological perspective, and similar forms of church government. Both denominations have strong commitments to missions within their regions and around the world, to evangelism and justice, and to a prophetic view of the mission of the church in society and we look forward to developing together new horizons of mission that respond to Christ's calling to the church today.

Affirmations

1. It is with thanksgiving to God that we acknowledge the bonds of fellowship Christians share through our Lord Jesus Christ and recognize that the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti and the Christian Reformed Church in North America share a mutual responsibility in Christ's mission.
2. We jointly affirm our readiness to work together in mission wherever God may lead, and to this end we formally recognize this relationship in Christ's mission between our two churches.
3. We recognize that each partner has understanding and insights which when shared with the other continue to lead to more faithful response to God's call to mission, and to this end encourage consultations and visits between officers, staff, and other leaders of our two churches.

4. In addition to those things that we already do together, we see the value of exchanges of visitors at our respective synods and the possibility of sharing specific expertise in order to give expression to our desire to collaborate in ministry.
5. In order to develop better understanding and prayer support between our two churches, we agree to the regular exchange of information about the life and mission of our churches and to share information received throughout our churches.
6. We concur on the value of interchurch dialogue and collaboration at the regional, national, and international levels and will encourage respectful and fruitful engagement of our churches together.
7. We do not view our relationship together as exclusive, but rather as a part of our broader ecumenical commitment.
8. We understand and agree that either partner may withdraw from this relationship at any time after honest and thorough discussion with the other partner.
9. This statement is not intended to limit the relationship between the CRCH and the CRCNA but to give a formal basis to the growing and fruitful relationship between our two churches.

Expected Manifestations of This Memorandum of Understanding

1. Mutual projects can be considered in a variety of ministry departments, including but not limited to: Missions, Theological Education, Congregational Empowerment, Disaster Response, Christian Education, and Community Development. In Haiti, this will be coordinated through Sous Espwa.
2. The relationship between the two churches will be made known to the members of both denominations, for the encouragement of all.
3. Occasional invitations to attend the General Synod will be extended, and opportunity will be given to have the fraternal guests speak into matters on the synod's agenda.
4. Requests for guidance or perspective will be received and responded to in the most expeditious way possible.

OVERTURES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PERSONAL APPEAL

Overture 28: Receive Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report for Information and Appoint a Broader Task Force

Classis Huron overtures synod to receive the Board of Trustees' Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 55-62) for information without immediate approval and appoint a broader task force with a new mandate to report to future synods.

Grounds:

1. The strategy is too narrow—We are concerned by the narrow focus of the report and believe it will serve the denomination better if it is reworked. The report, though called a “diversity” report, is actually more of a “racial equity report.” It speaks primarily to the justice experiences of a small part of the denomination and issues that are not necessarily relevant to all parts of our binational church. Our denominational strategy toward diversity must include much more than the issues raised in this report. The demographic trends of immigration in North America are significant and bring critical questions of leadership development and inclusion for our denomination, classes, and local churches. The experience of young adults of color today is different from that of people of color 40 years ago, and this experience needs to be considered, addressed, and reflected in our diversity strategy. In short, this report seems to have overlooked significant and major issues in the diversity discussion.
2. A misfocused strategy—Classis Huron would rather see a strategy that focuses on identifying and building up a cadre of potential leaders of color. The focus of the report is on immediately filling senior leadership positions in the denomination by people of color. A strategy that focuses on raising up, mentoring, and giving experience to leaders at lower levels will be wiser than a strategy of placing persons in senior leadership positions immediately. The focus of the report should be directed more at congregations than at the administrative offices of the denomination.
3. Lack of time for study and implementation—This report was not available to all churches until the publication of the *Agenda for Synod 2011*. It is unreasonable to think the churches are in a position to respond to such an important issue in such a limited time.

Classis Huron

Keith Knight, stated clerk

Overture 29: Reject the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group and Form a New Committee

I. Introduction

Asian Americans are one of the fastest growing communities in the United States. Their growth also is reflected in the CRCNA. The Korean community now has more than 110 congregations, and the South East Asian and Pacific Islanders represent close to 60 churches. And these numbers continue to grow.

Classis Pacific Hanmi consists of first-generation Korean-speaking churches. In addition, the Korean Council is a fellowship organization of all Korean churches in the CRCNA. In recent gatherings of both bodies, major concerns were raised regarding the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 55-62). Similar concerns have been voiced in multiethnic peer groups, such as the Revelation 7 and California South LEAD groups, and in eastern and western multicultural classes of which Korean churches are a part.

As a classis that holds diversity in the CRCNA as one of our highest values, Classis Pacific Hanmi feels obliged to inform synod of our concerns regarding the aforementioned report and to point out that this report does not represent the best interests of all ethnic and multiethnic communities within the CRCNA.

II. Overture

Classis Pacific Hanmi, with full concurrence and support of the 28th Annual Meeting of the Korean Council held on May 17, 2011, overtures that the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group as recommended by the Board of Trustees be rejected and that a new committee be formed with these understandings:

- That the committee consist of representatives from the various ethnic and multiethnic communities in the CRCNA, including the majority culture.
- That the committee develop and propose to a future synod a systematic approach and specific plans to develop diversity in local congregations, classes, and denominational offices, with a firm commitment for support and direct involvement from synod in its process.

Because diversity and unity are such high denominational priorities, it is essential that this committee be provided sufficient time, resources, and authority to create and present a comprehensive plan that helps to implement more fully and effectively our denomination-wide commitment to be “God’s diverse and unified family” throughout the life of the CRCNA.

Grounds:

1. The composition of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group was very unbalanced in its racial, geographical, and theological distribution, and this lack of balance is reflected in the report.
 - a. The planning group was too small and not representative of the diversity currently in the CRC.

- b. When we include denominational staff, three quarters of the persons in the group were from the Grand Rapids/Midwest area, whereas other regions where diversity is a day-to-day experience and reality were seriously underrepresented.
 - c. From a theological perspective, the report failed to sufficiently affirm the biblical value of diversity by focusing too much on power and by over-dependence on social and historical methodologies for framing, visioning, and strategizing desired change.
- 2. The perceived lack of balance and transparency in the group process resulted in alienating leaders in other ethnic and multiethnic communities that are key resources for fulfilling the vision of diversity and multiethnicity in the church, and thereby also damaging our experience of God's diverse and unified family, which is a foundational concept for diversity efforts in the CRCNA.
 - a. Representatives of the Korean community, the largest minority ethnic group in the CRCNA, were invisible and their voices inaudible in this report.
 - b. First-generation immigrants from various ethnic communities, who have been a key force in expanding the racial and ethnic diversity of our denomination, were completely neglected and overlooked in the report.
 - c. The experience of multicultural communities, which is accumulating laboriously over time with much trial and error, was not recognized in the report.
 - d. Proportionately these aforementioned groups represent the largest pool of potential candidates for congregational and denominational leadership in the CRCNA, yet they had no representation in the group or direct involvement in the group's process.
- 3. This report proposes to radically expand the powers of the Office of Race Relations as the primary solution for addressing the complex challenges of diversity. This concentration of so much power and influence in one denominational office is very dangerous and unhealthy.
 - a. This approach is contrary to the current mandate of the Office of Race Relations.
 - b. The proposed strategies and methods do not reflect the ecclesiastical values and traditions of the Reformed churches or the spirit and practice of Reformed polity.
 - c. The report fails to recognize or affirm the work of diversity and racial reconciliation, as often carried out at regional, classical, and congregational levels independent of the Office of Race Relations. Further, it is observed that the relationships and level of collaboration between the Office of Race Relations and many ethnic leaders and regional diversity initiatives have not been exemplary.
 - d. The director of Race Relations has himself been an influential member of the group that created the vision and strategies of the report, and the group is proposing vastly expanded powers of the position. These powers include responsibility for developing and implementing plans for recruiting multiethnic leadership; for assessing all Human Resources policies and practices, including job descriptions; for developing and implementing mentoring systems for ethnic

- leaders; for training senior leaders for professional development; and for holding senior leadership accountable for compliance.
- e. The report also recommends that synod take the unusual action of making the director of Race Relations a permanent voting member of the denominational Ministries Leadership Team.
 4. This report maintains a narrow focus and ends up creating a self-perpetuating system that does not communicate a welcoming spirit for other ethnic leaders and communities to participate and be involved in significant leadership roles for increasing diversity at all levels of denominational life.
 - a. To recommend that the BOT appoint a task force that includes as many members of the same group as possible would result in the continuing marginalization of other voices.
 - b. The report calls for expanding the mandate and mission of Race Relations and its Advisory Council even prior to the further development of vision and strategies for local congregations and the region.
 - c. Based on the way the report was developed, as well as the track record of the Race Relations office, we do not accept the conclusion that “the contribution of the Office of Race Relations is indispensable and will have an impact on the denomination as a whole.”

Classis Pacific Hanmi
Hyung Ju Park, stated clerk

Overture 30: Do Not Endorse the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report and Its Recommendations Presented by the Board of Trustees; Appoint a New Study Committee

I. Introduction

Classis Greater Los Angeles wholeheartedly supports the efforts of the Christian Reformed Church in North America to become more racially diverse in its membership and leadership. Classis Greater Los Angeles is one of the most ethnically diverse classes within the denomination. Many of our congregations include a majority of members from an ethnic minority: African-American (3), Chinese (2), Filipino (2), Indonesian (3), Korean (9), Hispanic (3), Samoan, Indian/Pakistani, and Vietnamese. Four of Classis Greater Los Angeles's congregations have no majority ethnic group. Some include Costa Ricans, Mexicans, Nicaraguans, Panamanians, Venezuelans, Chileans, Colombians, Ecuadorans, Bolivians, Peruvians, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Cubans, Kenyans, and/or Hondurans. Congregations in which the majority of members are of European descent are a minority in Classis Greater Los Angeles; some include sizeable ethnic minority membership. The potential for church plants in the following groups within the region served by Classis Greater Los Angeles is also realizable: Cambodian, Indian, Thai, Egyptian/Arab, and other Central and South Americans.

Therefore, the denominational-level planning and implementation of issues involving ethnic diversity and cross-cultural matters is of vital interest to and a great concern of Classis Greater Los Angeles. Given its diverse

ethnic composition and its experiential commitment to multiracial and multicultural values, Classis Greater Los Angeles is able to speak with a representative, authoritative, and unified voice regarding issues of racial diversity and cross-cultural representation.

II. Overture

Classis Greater Los Angeles overtures Synod 2011 to not endorse the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report and its recommendations presented by the Board of Trustees and to appoint a new study committee that includes a balance of independent ethnic minority and ethnic majority voices in the CRC. The mandate of this new committee would be to make new recommendations to Synod 2013 about grass-root, holistic, and biblical strategies that encourage the CRCNA as congregations to be a church that demonstrates intentional hospitality to people from all nations; and to evaluate the effectiveness and existence of the Office of Race Relations in supporting our calling to be the diverse body of Christ.

Grounds:

1. The proposals of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group give disproportionate powers to the Office of Race Relations and its director.
2. Self-assessment is not a sound practice. Specifically, the membership of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group included the current and a former director of Race Relations. The proposals to radically expand the powers of the director of Race Relations take on the appearance of self-interest, if not conflict of interest. Our mandate assumes that the director of Race Relations serve only in an advisory role, upon request of the study committee.
3. Biblical diversity and reconciliation need to be lived out especially at the congregational level; that is where leadership development begins, and that should be the focus of our Race Relations ministry in the CRC—healthy congregations ministering cross-culturally.

Classis Greater Los Angeles
Sid Sybenga, stated clerk

Communication 5: Council of Washington, D.C., CRC

We, the Council of the Washington, D.C., Christian Reformed Church, have questions about the integrity of the process that resulted in the resignation of the Executive Director of the CRCNA. That process has also raised significant related questions about the proper flow of authority between the Board of Trustees (BOT) and synod. We trust that Synod 2011, in conversation with the BOT, will conduct a thorough and careful review of this action.

We base our questions on the limited information released to the public by the BOT (press releases on April 5 and April 20, 2011) and contained in two news articles: Charles Honey's April 17 article in the *Grand Rapids Press* and Gayla R. Postma's April 21 article in *The Banner*. Bearing these things in mind, our questions focus on three key issues: communication, flow of authority, and speed of action.

1. Communication

The first press release indicated that Rev. Jerry Dykstra had submitted his resignation because of "his desire to resign . . . for personal and family reasons," while the April 20 press release clarified that "the resignation is not in any way a reflection on Jerry's personal life or doctrine." If there were issues in dispute that are not related to moral failing or misconduct, then it seems to us that the denomination would benefit from understanding and discussing the issues involved in the apparent conflict of opinions on ministry direction, policy, and/or practice between the Executive Director and the BOT. Should we not have truthfulness and transparency on the highest organizational levels of our denomination, especially if these conflicting opinions relate to the way in which our denomination does ministry?

2. Flow of authority

Synod has a supervisory role for both the Executive Director and the BOT; indeed, it has authority over both. If the BOT asked for or unilaterally demanded the resignation of the Executive Director, was this within its rightful bounds of authority, considering that synod had no direct input into this action? We are particularly concerned about this exercise of authority given the somewhat conflicting reports regarding which side initiated the separation. In addition, the BOT has indicated that it will seek to fill the Interim Executive Director position before Synod 2011 meets. Does the BOT have the authority to make such an appointment? If the Board does have such authority, is it not wise to seek approval by the churches acting through synod?

3. Speed of action

The speed of action resulted in significant uncertainty and unease among the churches that could have been ameliorated to some degree by a more thoughtful, deliberate transition strategy. Even if the BOT maintained its commitment to keeping certain elements of the situation private, was it necessary that the resignation be effective immediately, (a) disallowing a traditional period of transition involving the Executive Director, his successor, and denominational staff; and (b) reducing the likelihood that an accurate, clear, and consistent account of the situation would be passed on to the churches?

We are submitting these questions in the hope that they will prove helpful to this year's synod as it carries out its responsibilities in reviewing the actions and decisions of the Board.

Council of the Washington, D.C., CRC
Carie Jasperse, clerk

Note: The above communication was not submitted to classis for approval because Classis Hackensack does not hold a meeting after the publication of the *Agenda for Synod*.

Communication 6: Classis Hudson

Classis Hudson expresses its concern to synod over the abrupt resignation of Rev. Jerry Dykstra and the subsequent resignation of Ms. Sandy Johnson. Since it has been stated that misconduct is not involved (which would involve confidential matters), we would like to request that the Board of Trustees provide some explanation for these resignations to synod and to the membership of the Christian Reformed Church, in the interest of transparency, trust, and accountability.

Classis Hudson
Joel Vande Werken, stated clerk

Communication 7: Council of Community CRC, Oakdale, California

While we fully appreciate the great amount of research and experience that provides both the grounds and the direction for the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group report (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 55-62), the council of Community CRC, Oakdale, California, feels compelled to express some concerns over its implications for our denomination's ministries, as well as for its governing paradigm of bold affirmative action in the calling process and encouraging of our leaders.

First, we wish to make clear our wholehearted support for the call to greater diversity among our denominational ministries and their leadership to better encourage and strengthen the diversity within our churches as a reflection of the diversity in the culture(s) within which we serve as Christ's church.

However, we feel it is in error, as a form of superseding the Holy Spirit's gifting, to lower the qualifications or standards for the job descriptions and mandates of our leadership positions (refer to sections III, B, 3, a-b; and 4, a) in order to meet our humanly or culturally directed *percentages* for ethnic representation in these roles (refer to sections III, B, 1, a; 5, b; and 9, a). We maintain that if our passions and efforts within ministry are genuinely directed by God's Spirit to reach out to all those he "places in our path" (as our spiritual *neighbors*), then that same Holy Spirit will also raise up among us the gifted and qualified leaders we need to best direct that ministry (who may or may not be of the various minority races or ethnic backgrounds we hope to embrace). Moreover, we believe that with such continued efforts to reach out to our neighbors as God directs, together with the biblically directed, Spirit-led, and congregational-affirming calling of leaders from within our churches and agencies according to each person's gifts and readiness, while utilizing the ongoing input and training of our committee on Race Relations in our hiring process, as recommended throughout this report (esp. sections III, B, 2, a; 5, a and c; and 8, a), the leadership of our denomination will match God's desire for diversity among his church in his time.

Finally, we are concerned that if every nomination, interview, and hiring practice is subjected to the type of scrutinizing review mandated by this report (refer to sections III, B, 3, a-c; and 5, c-d), we may not only be restricting God's Spirit from moving freely but we may actually be doing our brothers and sisters of ethnic minority a great disservice by pushing and shoving some of their most beneficial representatives into very demanding positions without the desire or readiness to fulfill them. Thus our whole paradigm for such strict affirmative action may need to be reassessed by showing sincere respect for the input of all those of ethnic minorities who are currently serving our churches in various capacities (in order to guard against being overly influenced by any particular group's agenda). Perhaps our degree of success in this area should be based more on an honest, regular survey of minority people who have encountered our churches than on a simple measure of numeric percentages within our membership or leadership.

Council of Community CRC, Oakdale, California
Steve Salie, clerk

Note: The above communication was not submitted to classis for approval because Classis Central California does not hold a meeting after the publication of the *Agenda for Synod*.

Communication 8: Classis Zeeland

We believe the resignation of Executive Director Rev. Jerry Dykstra was handled inappropriately. Rev. Dykstra's departure was swift, final, and proved to be under false pretenses. The resignation was effective immediately, which is primarily expected in the case of a grave doctrinal or moral error. Yet it was made explicit that the resignation had nothing to do with doctrinal or moral error. The official "personal and family reasons" proved to be inaccurate, as it was later made public that the BOT asked Rev. Dykstra to resign. The BOT has still not elaborated on the actual reasons for asking Rev. Dyk-

stra to resign, and the new Executive Director was (conveniently?) selected by the BOT. If Dykstra did not have any moral or doctrinal failing, why was the resignation immediate? Moreover, why the secrecy? Why cite personal and family reasons when it was the BOT who called for the resignation?

Classis Zeeland
Ronald J. Meyer, stated clerk

Communication 9: Classis Zeeland

Classis Zeeland wishes to express to synod its concern regarding the hiring, recruitment, and committee appointment policies recommended in the BOT Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group. We would ask that synod carefully consider the scriptural foundation and theological justification, wisdom, feasibility, and long-term effectiveness of such a policy for denominational leadership. Our classis has particular concern regarding the biblical adequacy of, and bureaucratic control entailed by, the racial quotas advocated in the report and its recommendations.

Classis Zeeland
Ronald J. Meyer, stated clerk

1. Rev. N. Punt

Appeal of the Rev. Neal Punt regarding the decision of Synod 2010.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 3,622	\$ 3,650	\$ 3,430	\$ 3,600
% of Total Income	40.1%	38.7%	39.8%	37.8%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 3,954	\$ 3,802	\$ 3,898	\$ 4,516
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,483	\$ 1,578	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,275
Total Gift Income	5,437	5,380	5,098	5,791
% of Total Income	60.2%	57.0%	59.2%	60.8%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants-Animation/Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ (30)	\$ 403	\$ 85	\$ 135
Total Other Income	(30)	403	85	135
% of Total Income	-0.3%	4.3%	1.0%	1.4%
TOTAL INCOME	9,029	9,433	8,613	9,526
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
English	\$ 2,468	\$ 2,182	\$ 2,194	\$ 2,255
FTEs	10	11	12	13
International	\$ 5,050	\$ 4,113	\$ 4,084	\$ 4,458
FTEs	13	14	15	15
Education	\$	\$ 104	\$ 136	\$ 190
FTEs		2	2	2
Social Media – Cross Ministry Initiatives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350
	-	-	-	3
Total Program Service \$	\$ 7,518	\$ 6,399	\$ 6,414	\$ 7,253
Total Program Service FTEs	23	27	29	33
% of Total \$	72.3%	71.8%	74.5%	76.1%
% of Total FTEs	67.6%	73.0%	74.4%	76.7%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 957	\$ 948	\$ 739	\$ 775
FTEs	4	4	4	4
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,566	\$ 1,460	\$ 1,500
FTEs	7	6	6	6
Total Support Service \$	2,880	2,514	2,199	2,275
Total Support Service FTEs	11	10	10	10
% of Total \$	27.7%	28.2%	25.5%	23.9%
% of Total FTEs	32.4%	27.0%	25.6%	23.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 10,398	\$ 8,912	\$ 8,613	\$ 9,528
TOTAL FTEs	34	37	39	43
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (1,369)	\$ 521	\$ -	\$ (2)

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,603	\$ 2,693	\$ 2,731	\$ 2,731
% of Total Income	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 2,450	\$ 2,702	\$ 2,783	\$ 2,783
Estate Gifts	\$ 12	\$ 7	\$ 17	\$ 17
Total Gift Income	2,462	2,709	2,800	2,800
% of Total Income	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 113,408	\$ 115,093	\$ 116,244	\$ 116,244
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,121	\$ 2,734	\$ 1,740	\$ 1,740
Total Other Income	114,529	117,827	117,984	117,984
% of Total Income	95.8%	95.6%	95.5%	95.5%
TOTAL INCOME	119,594	123,229	123,515	123,515
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Education	\$ 100,720	\$ 103,834	\$ 105,173	\$ 105,173
FTEs	612	594	606	606
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 100,720	\$ 103,834	\$ 105,173	\$ 105,173
Total Program Service FTEs	612	594	606	606
% of Total \$	85.0%	85.3%	85.2%	85.2%
% of Total FTEs	76.1%	76.3%	76.6%	76.6%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 7,743	\$ 7,542	\$ 7,631	\$ 7,631
FTEs	76	72	71	71
Plant Operations	\$ 7,179	\$ 7,357	\$ 7,594	\$ 7,594
FTEs	78	76	74	74
Fund-raising	\$ 2,796	\$ 2,944	\$ 3,110	\$ 3,110
FTEs	38	36	40	40
Total Support Service \$	17,718	17,843	18,335	18,335
Total Support Service FTEs	192	184	185	185
% of Total \$	15.0%	14.7%	14.8%	14.8%
% of Total FTEs	23.9%	23.7%	23.4%	23.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 118,438	\$ 121,677	\$ 123,508	\$ 123,508
TOTAL FTEs	804	778	791	791
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 1,156	\$ 1,552	\$ 7	\$ 7

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,876	\$ 2,992	\$ 2,802	\$ 2,992
% of Total Income	43.3%	47.5%	42.5%	39.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 867	\$ 706	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,200
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 200
Total Gift Income	867	706	1,200	1,400
% of Total Income	13.1%	11.2%	18.2%	18.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 2,056	\$ 1,851	\$ 1,855	\$ 2,161
Grants	\$ 801	\$ 725	\$ 717	\$ 1,072
Miscellaneous	\$ 39	\$ 31	\$ 24	\$ 37
Total Other Income	2,896	2,607	2,596	3,270
% of Total Income	43.6%	41.3%	39.3%	42.7%
TOTAL INCOME	6,639	6,305	6,598	7,662
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Instructional	\$ 2,880	\$ 2,651	\$ 2,642	\$ 2,947
FTEs	29	29	28	28
Public Service	\$ 62	\$ 59	\$ 80	\$ 81
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Academic Support	\$ 1,300	\$ 927	\$ 1,005	\$ 1,245
FTEs	4	4	4	4
Student Services	\$ 577	\$ 520	\$ 566	\$ 610
FTEs	4	4	5	5
Student Aid	\$ 567	\$ 268	\$ 303	\$ 393
FTEs	2	2	1	1
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 5,386	\$ 4,425	\$ 4,596	\$ 5,276
Total Program Service FTEs	40	40	39	39
% of Total \$	73.7%	71.1%	69.7%	68.9%
% of Total FTEs	76.9%	76.9%	76.5%	73.6%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 676	\$ 922	\$ 1,127	\$ 1,324
FTEs	7	7	8	10
Plant Operations	\$ 531	\$ 446	\$ 460	\$ 568
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Fund-raising	\$ 713	\$ 431	\$ 415	\$ 494
FTEs	4	4	3	3
Total Support Service \$	1,920	1,799	2,002	2,386
Total Support Service FTEs	12	12	12	14
% of Total \$	26.3%	28.9%	30.3%	31.1%
% of Total FTEs	23.1%	23.1%	23.5%	26.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 7,306	\$ 6,224	\$ 6,598	\$ 7,662
TOTAL FTEs	52	52	51	53

Christian Reformed Home Missions

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

Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,683	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,879
% of Total Income	68.2%	62.4%	58.9%	60.3%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,360	\$ 1,715	\$ 1,970
Estate Gifts	\$ 300	\$ 195	\$ 399	\$ 300
Total Gift Income	1,730	1,555	2,114	2,270
% of Total Income	32.2%	26.3%	35.6%	35.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ 147	\$ 119	\$ 74	\$ 45
Miscellaneous	\$ (170)	\$ 547	\$ 255	\$ 243
Total Other Income	(23)	666	329	288
% of Total Income	-0.4%	11.3%	5.5%	4.5%
TOTAL INCOME	5,372	5,904	5,943	6,437
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
New-Church Development	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Established & Small Churches	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Campus/schools	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Ministry Teams	\$ 6,363	\$ 5,424	\$ 4,639	\$ 4,456
FTEs	26	26	23	22
Ministry Devel & Planning	\$ 907	\$ 700	\$ 594	\$ 662
FTEs	6	5	5	5
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 7,270	\$ 6,124	\$ 5,233	\$ 5,118
Total Program Service FTEs	32	31	28	27
% of Total \$	79.3%	79.0%	76.8%	76.0%
% of Total FTEs	74.4%	83.8%	77.8%	77.1%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 895	\$ 730	\$ 751	\$ 753
FTEs	3	2	2	2
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,005	\$ 897	\$ 831	\$ 867
FTEs	8	4	6	6
Total Support Service \$	1,900	1,627	1,582	1,620
Total Support Service FTEs	11	6	8	8
% of Total \$	20.7%	21.0%	23.2%	24.0%
% of Total FTEs	25.6%	16.2%	22.2%	22.9%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 9,170	\$ 7,751	\$ 6,815	\$ 6,738
TOTAL FTEs	43	37	36	35
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (3,798)	\$ (1,847)	\$ (872)	\$ (301)

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 4,602	\$ 4,931	\$ 4,675	\$ 5,014
% of Total Income	35.2%	36.0%	34.5%	36.1%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 6,853	\$ 6,794	\$ 7,620	\$ 7,562
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,125	\$ 655	\$ 683	\$ 686
Total Gift Income	7,978	7,449	8,303	8,248
% of Total Income	61.0%	54.4%	61.3%	59.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 489	\$ 1,323	\$ 560	\$ 643
Total Other Income	489	1,323	560	643
% of Total Income	3.7%	9.7%	4.1%	4.6%
TOTAL INCOME	13,069	13,703	13,538	13,905
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Africa	\$ 3,992	\$ 3,584	\$ 3,723	\$ 3,603
FTEs	29	29	28	26
Eurasia	\$ 2,965	\$ 2,452	\$ 2,167	\$ 2,548
FTEs	24	24	18	17
Latin America	\$ 4,357	\$ 3,717	\$ 3,634	\$ 3,724
FTEs	27	27	25	23
Global/other Int'l program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,213	\$ 1,113
FTEs	-	-	11	11
Education	\$ 682	\$ 930	\$ 773	\$ 773
FTEs	8	8	8	8
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 11,996	\$ 10,683	\$ 11,510	\$ 11,761
Total Program Service FTEs	88	88	90	85
% of Total \$	84.6%	84.1%	84.9%	84.6%
% of Total FTEs	85.4%	85.4%	86.0%	85.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,004	\$ 839	\$ 889	\$ 927
FTEs	5	5	5	5
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,172	\$ 1,185	\$ 1,156	\$ 1,217
FTEs	10	10	10	10
Total Support Service \$	2,176	2,024	2,045	2,144
Total Support Service FTEs	15	15	15	15
% of Total \$	15.4%	15.9%	15.1%	15.4%
% of Total FTEs	14.6%	14.6%	14.0%	15.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 14,172	\$ 12,707	\$ 13,555	\$ 13,905
TOTAL FTEs	103	103	105	100
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (1,103)	\$ 996	\$ (17)	\$ -

Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

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

Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	-	-	-	0.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 14,721	\$ 23,536	\$ 15,190	\$ 15,190
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,447	\$ 869	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
Total Gift Income	16,168	24,405	16,190	15,690
% of Total Income	51.3%	62.0%	68.8%	68.6%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ 14,140	\$ 14,440	\$ 6,995	\$ 6,878
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,224	\$ 508	\$ 350	\$ 300
Total Other Income	15,364	14,948	7,345	7,178
% of Total Income	48.7%	38.0%	31.2%	31.4%
TOTAL INCOME	31,532	39,353	23,535	22,868
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Overseas programs	\$ 12,748	\$ 12,441	\$ 11,447	\$ 10,743
FTEs	32	30	42	33
No. America programs	\$ 1,690	\$ 1,350	\$ 784	\$ 1,350
FTEs	7	9	9	9
Disaster relief programs	\$ 1,582	\$ 13,914	\$ 1,294	\$ 1,518
FTEs	14	19	11	15
Above-budget relief costs	\$ 12,925	\$ -	\$ 9,500	\$ 12,775
FTEs	-	-	2	2
Education	\$ 1,320	\$ 1,218	\$ 1,138	\$ 1,130
FTEs	11	9	9	9
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	30,265	28,923	24,163	\$ 27,516
Total Program Service FTEs	64	67	73	68
% of Total \$	88.8%	89.0%	87.4%	88.7%
% of Total FTEs	75.3%	71.3%	73.7%	77.3%
Support Services:				
Management & General	1,886	1,716	1,609	\$ 1,651
FTEs	6	6	5	5
Plant Operations	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	1,917	1,855	1,862	\$ 1,862
FTEs	15	21	21	15
Total Support Service \$	3,803	3,571	3,471	3,513
Total Support Service FTEs	21	27	26	20
% of Total \$	11.2%	11.0%	12.6%	11.3%
% of Total FTEs	24.7%	28.7%	26.3%	22.7%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	34,068	32,494	27,634	\$ 31,029
TOTAL FTEs	85	94	99	88
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	(2,536)	6,859	(4,099)	\$ (8,161)

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 1,090	\$ 1,024	\$ 975	\$ 1,000
% of Total Income	19.5%	18.7%	16.4%	15.7%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 309	\$ 357	\$ 305	\$ 330
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	309	357	305	330
% of Total Income	5.5%	6.5%	5.1%	5.2%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 4,038	\$ 3,503	\$ 4,253	\$ 4,669
Grants	\$ 197	\$ 249	\$ 285	\$ 233
Miscellaneous	\$ (30)	\$ 349	\$ 144	\$ 134
Total Other Income	4,205	4,101	4,682	5,036
% of Total Income	75.0%	74.8%	78.5%	79.1%
TOTAL INCOME	5,604	5,482	5,962	6,366
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Banner	\$ 1,326	\$ 1,289	\$ 1,367	\$ 1,381
FTEs	3	4	4	4
Education	\$ 3,393	\$ 3,149	\$ 3,817	\$ 4,124
FTEs	19	19	19	18
World Literature	\$ 326	\$ 364	\$ 429	\$ 501
FTEs	2	3	2	2
Teacher Training	\$ 140	\$ 145	\$ 150	\$ 150
FTEs	1	1	1	1
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 5,185	\$ 4,947	\$ 5,763	\$ 6,156
Total Program Service FTEs	25	26	26	25
% of Total \$	85.6%	86.0%	88.4%	89.0%
% of Total FTEs	92.6%	92.9%	92.9%	92.5%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 869	\$ 808	\$ 754	\$ 764
FTEs	2	2	2	2
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	869	808	754	764
Total Support Service FTEs	2	2	2	2
% of Total \$	14.4%	14.0%	11.6%	11.0%
% of Total FTEs	7.4%	7.1%	7.1%	7.5%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,054	\$ 5,755	\$ 6,517	\$ 6,920
TOTAL FTEs	27	28	28	27
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (450)	\$ (273)	\$ (555)	\$ (554)

Denominational Services

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,817	\$ 2,899	\$ 3,109	\$ 2,996
% of Total Income	56.3%	72.6%	81.3%	86.9%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 1,294	\$ 24	\$ 20	\$ 26
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	1,294	24	20	26
% of Total Income	25.9%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 274	\$ 75
Services & Misc	\$ 889	\$ 1,068	\$ 420	\$ 350
Total Other Income	889	1,068	694	425
% of Total Income	17.8%	26.8%	18.2%	12.3%
TOTAL INCOME	5,000	3,991	3,823	3,447
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Synodical Services & Grants	\$ 1,678	\$ 1,370	\$ 1,420	\$ 1,428
FTEs	5	5	5	5
Communications	\$ 405	\$ 457	\$ 475	\$ 568
FTEs	3	3	4	5
CRCPlan	\$ 145	\$ 4	\$ 21	\$ -
FTEs	1	-	-	-
Sea to Sea payout	\$ 1,749	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	-	-	-
Leadership Exchange	\$ 1	\$ 143	\$ 254	\$ 277
FTEs	-	1	1	2
Program Expansion	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 3,978	\$ 1,974	\$ 2,295	\$ 2,273
Total Program Service FTEs	10	9	10	12
% of Total \$	74.8%	62.8%	61.6%	57.4%
% of Total FTEs	62.5%	60.0%	58.8%	63.2%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 889	\$ 871	\$ 864	\$ 926
FTEs	4	4	3	3
D.D.M.	\$ 190	\$ 203	\$ 238	\$ 265
FTEs	1	1	2	2
Fund-raising (Foundation & LE)	\$ 261	\$ 95	\$ 330	\$ 495
FTEs	1	1	2	2
Total Support Service \$	1,340	1,169	1,432	1,686
Total Support Service FTEs	6	6	7	7
% of Total \$	25.2%	37.2%	38.4%	42.6%
% of Total FTEs	37.5%	40.0%	41.2%	36.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 5,318	\$ 3,143	\$ 3,727	\$ 3,959
TOTAL FTEs	16	15	17	19
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (318)	\$ 848	\$ 96	\$ (512)

incls \$1,256 Sea to Sea

Specialized Ministries

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.) Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,649	\$ 2,664	\$ 2,419	\$ 2,766
% of Total Income	78.6%	80.6%	78.0%	80.3%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 474	\$ 463	\$ 432	\$ 442
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	474	468	432	442
% of Total Income	14.1%	14.2%	13.9%	12.8%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 185	\$ 163	\$ 251	\$ 235
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Services & Misc	\$ 61	\$ 12	\$ -	\$ 3
Total Other Income	246	175	251	238
% of Total Income	7.3%	5.3%	8.1%	6.9%
TOTAL INCOME	3,369	3,307	3,102	3,446
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Chaplaincy Services	\$ 139	\$ 223	\$ 212	\$ 224
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Race Relations	\$ 384	\$ 418	\$ 411	\$ 471
FTEs	3	3	3	3
Pastor-Church Relations	\$ 620	\$ 533	\$ 599	\$ 620
FTEs	3	3	3	4
Safe Church Ministry	\$ 174	\$ 184	\$ 188	\$ 273
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Disability Concerns	\$ 250	\$ 204	\$ 238	\$ 264
FTEs	2	2	2	2
Social & Restorative Justice	\$ 580	\$ 476	\$ 390	\$ 455
FTEs	4	4	5	4
Ministries in Canada	\$ 941	\$ 997	\$ 990	\$ 1,024
FTEs	4	4	5	5
Total Program Service \$	\$ 3,088	\$ 3,035	\$ 3,028	\$ 3,331
Total Program Service FTEs	18	18	20	20
% of Total \$	98.4%	98.7%	97.1%	97.2%
% of Total FTEs	94.7%	94.7%	95.2%	95.2%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 9	\$ 4	\$ 47	\$ 49
FTEs	-	-	-	-
D.D.M.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 40	\$ 37	\$ 44	\$ 46
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Total Support Service \$	49	41	91	95
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	1.6%	1.3%	2.9%	2.8%
% of Total FTEs	5.3%	5.3%	4.8%	4.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,137	\$ 3,076	\$ 3,119	\$ 3,426
TOTAL FTEs	19	19	21	21
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 232	\$ 231	\$ (17)	\$ 20

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.)
Fiscal Year 2011-2012

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 655	\$ 815	\$ 824	\$ 1,188
% of Total Income				81.9%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 103	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-	103	-
% of Total Income				0.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -
Services & Misc	\$ 191	\$ 234	\$ 266	\$ 262
Total Other Income	191	234	366	262
% of Total Income				18.1%
TOTAL INCOME	846	1,049	1,293	1,450
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Network for Congregations	\$ 12	\$ 285	\$ 364	\$ 517
FTEs	1	1	2	2
Sust. Pastoral Excellence	\$ 276	\$ 291	\$ 229	\$ 110
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Sust. Congregational Excel.	\$ 643	\$ 530	\$ 663	\$ 706
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Volunteer Services	\$ 191	\$ 234	\$ 266	\$ 281
FTEs	2	3	3	4
Total Program Service \$	\$ 1,122	\$ 1,340	\$ 1,522	\$ 1,614
Total Program Service FTEs	5	6	7	8
% of Total \$	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General				
FTEs				
Plant Operations/Debt Serv.				
FTEs				
Fund-raising				
FTEs				
Total Support Service \$	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$				0.0%
% of Total FTEs				0.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,122	\$ 1,340	\$ 1,522	\$ 1,614
TOTAL FTEs	5	6	7	8
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (276)	\$ (291)	\$ (229)	\$ (164)

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

	Fiscal 08-09 Actual	Fiscal 09-10 Actual	Fiscal 10-11 Budget	Fiscal 11-12 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-	-	-
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Note Interest	\$ 1,905	\$ 1,598	\$ 1,452	\$ 1,475
Total Other Income	1,905	1,598	1,452	1,475
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL INCOME	1,905	1,598	1,452	1,475
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Loan Interest	\$ 1,245	\$ 972	\$ 924	\$ 925
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Provision for loan losses	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ -
FTEs	-	1	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 1,245	\$ 1,222	\$ 1,174	\$ 925
Total Program Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	82.5%	82.2%	80.7%	74.7%
% of Total FTEs	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 265	\$ 264	\$ 280	\$ 313
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	265	264	280	313
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	17.5%	17.8%	19.3%	25.3%
% of Total FTEs	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,510	\$ 1,486	\$ 1,454	\$ 1,238
TOTAL FTEs	2	2	2	2
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 395	\$ 112	\$ (2)	\$ 237

Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Fund - Canada

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

	MPF 2009 Actual	MPF 2010 Actual	SAF 2009 Actual	SAF 2010 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35	\$ 39
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	97.2%	95.1%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Participant Assessments	\$ 2,094	\$ 2,186	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 3,809	\$ 2,489	\$ 1	\$ 2
Total Other Income	\$ 5,903	\$ 4,675	\$ 1	\$ 2
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	2.8%	4.9%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	\$ 5,903	\$ 4,675	\$ 36	\$ 41
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Distributions	\$ 2,291	\$ 2,254	\$ 11	\$ 8
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 2,291	\$ 2,254	\$ 11	\$ 8
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$	83.6%	81.1%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%		
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 451	\$ 526	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	1	-	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	\$ 451	\$ 526	\$ -	\$ -
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	-	-
% of Total \$	16.4%	18.9%	0.0%	0.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 2,742	\$ 2,780	\$ 11	\$ 8
TOTAL FTEs	1	1	-	-
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ 3,161	\$ 1,895	\$ 25	\$ 33

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

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

	MPF 2009 Actual	MPF 2010 Actual	SAF 2009 Actual	SAF 2010 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95	\$ 78
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	97.9%	98.7%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Participant Assessments	\$ 4,729	\$ 4,860	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 16,062	\$ 10,382	\$ 2	\$ 1
Total Other Income	20,791	15,242	2	1
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	2.1%	1.3%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	\$ 20,791	\$ 15,242	\$ 97	\$ 79
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Distributions	\$ 7,576	\$ 7,978	\$ 102	\$ 124
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 7,576	\$ 7,978	\$ 102	\$ 124
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$	88.4%	89.8%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%		
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 995	\$ 909	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	1	-	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	\$ 995	\$ 909	\$ -	\$ -
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	-	-
% of Total \$	11.6%	10.2%	0.0%	0.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 8,571	\$ 8,887	\$ 102	\$ 124
TOTAL FTEs	1	1	-	-
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ 12,220	\$ 6,355	\$ (5)	\$ (45)

Employees' Savings Plan - U.S.

Changes in Net Assets (000s)

	2009 Actual	2010 Actual
ADDITIONS:		
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%
Other Gift Income:		
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:		
Contributions	\$ 1,513	\$ 1,451
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 3,656	\$ 2,152
Total Other Income	5,169	3,603
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	5,169	3,603
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):		
Program Services:		
Distributions	\$ 1,691	\$ 591
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 1,691	\$ 591
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-
% of Total \$	84.3%	82.4%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%
Support Services:		
Management & General	\$ 315	\$ 126
FTEs	1	1
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Total Support Service \$	315	126
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1
% of Total \$	15.7%	17.6%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 2,006	\$ 717
TOTAL FTEs	1	1
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ 3,163	\$ 2,886

Consolidated Group Insurance - U.S.

Changes in Net Assets (000s)

		2009 Actual		2010 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$	-	\$	-
% of Total Income		0.0%		0.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$	-	\$	-
Estate Gifts	\$	-	\$	-
Total Gift Income		-		-
% of Total Income		0.0%		0.0%
Other Income:				
Participant Premiums	\$	10,785	\$	10,382
Grants	\$	-	\$	-
Investment gains (losses)	\$	197	\$	168
Total Other Income		10,982		10,550
% of Total Income		100.0%		100.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS		10,982		10,550
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Claims Expense	\$	9,303	\$	10,359
FTEs		-		-
Insurance Premiums	\$	818	\$	855
FTEs		-		-
TPA & PPO Fees	\$	628	\$	550
FTEs		-		-
	\$	-	\$	-
	\$	-	\$	-
	\$	-	\$	-
	\$	-	\$	-
Total Program Service \$	\$	10,749	\$	11,764
Total Program Service FTEs		-		-
% of Total \$		97.7%		97.5%
% of Total FTEs		0.0%		0.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$	250	\$	298
FTEs		3		3
Plant Operations	\$	-	\$	-
FTEs		-		-
Fund-raising	\$	-	\$	-
FTEs		-		-
Total Support Service \$		250		298
Total Support Service FTEs		3		3
% of Total \$		2.3%		2.5%
% of Total FTEs		100.0%		100.0%
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$	10,999	\$	12,062
TOTAL FTEs		3		3
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$	(17)	\$	(1,512)

REPORT OF SYNOD 2011

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PRAISE

Sunday, June 12, 2011

11:00 a.m.

Madison Square Christian Reformed Church

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Entering God's Presence

(* Please stand if able)

Welcome Mrs. Laura Carpenter

*Songs of Praise Mrs. Laura Carpenter and Love Team

"Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, He Reigns"

"Our God Is Greater"

"I Must Go with Jesus Anywhere"

Reading of Acts 2 Mrs. Laura Carpenter

Songs of Praise

"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place"

"Holy Spirit, Rain Down"

Welcome and prayer for Synodical Delegates and Multiethnic Conferees

Offering for CRWM Pastor Joy Bonnema

"In Jesus Name We Press On" Mrs. Laura Carpenter and Love Team

Experiencing God's Presence

Reading of the Word: Matthew 12:9-21 Pastor David Beelen

Sermon: "Press On"

Responding to God's Presence

"Holy Spirit, Come and Fill This Place". Dance Troupe/
Laura Carpenter and Love Team

Anointing for Service. Pastor David Beelen

Doxology Ms. Jackie Venegas

*Blessing and Sending Pastor David Beelen

Worship Participants

Preaching..... Pastor David Beelen
Prayer..... Pastor Joy Bonnema
Vocalists..... Mrs. Laura Carpenter and Love Team
Dance..... Dance Troupe

MINUTES OF SYNOD 2011

FRIDAY MORNING, June 10, 2011 First Session

ARTICLE 1

President pro tem Rev. David H. Beelen, pastor of Madison Square Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, the convening church of synod, welcomes the delegates to Synod 2011.

The president pro tem introduces Dr. Gaylen Byker, president of Calvin College, who welcomes delegates to the Calvin College campus.

The Madison Square CRC praise team welcomes the delegates to worship. The president pro tem leads in opening prayer. Ms. Paula Seals reads Psalm 103:1-14, and the delegates sing "Bless the Lord, O My Soul." Mrs. Laura Carpenter sings the first stanza of "Amazing Grace." Rev. Beelen addresses synod about "Grace," the theme for worship for Synod 2011.

Rev. Beelen and Mrs. Carpenter lead the delegates in singing "Amazing Grace," and Rev. Beelen leads in prayer, closing with a benediction.

ARTICLE 2

The president pro tem requests interim executive director Rev. Joel R. Boot to call the roll of delegates listed on the credentials of the forty-seven classes:

DELEGATES TO SYNOD 2011

Classis	Ministers	Elders
Alberta North	Fred M. Bultman John W. Luth	August Luymes Frank Zee
Alberta South/Saskatchewan	Curtis D. Korver Michael B. Koot	Christine D. Vanderberg Pearl Nieuwenhuis
Arizona	Jeffrey A. Dykema Lawrence A. Lobdell, Jr.	Kenneth L. Rindels Eileen G. Moe
Atlantic Northeast	Christopher A. Fluit Alvern Gelder	Bo Verburg Bryan Wiegers
B.C. North-West	Albert Y.S. Chu Trevor G. Vanderveen	Hendrik C. Van Ryk Andy de Ruyter
B.C. South-East	Bert Slofstra Paul Lomavatu	Rick Plantinga Chuck Gerber
California South	Jimmy Han Jose F. Munoz	Paul De Waard J. Harold Caicedo
Central California	George G. Vink Daniel J. Hutt	Albert Veldstra Adrian J. Van Houten
Central Plains	John Gorter Edward J. Laarman	Tim S. Franje Howard Vander Griend
Chatham	Frederick F. Heslinga Paul J. Droogers	Fred Smids John Krале

Chicago South	Gregory S. Janke	Clarence J. Bulthuis, Sr.
Columbia	Joseph M. Huizenga	Richard D. DeBoer
Eastern Canada	Robert J. Toornstra	Chad E. Werkhoven
Georgetown	Carl J. Leep	James M. Worst
Grand Rapids East	Jacob M. Van de Hoef	Jean J.A. Lauziere
Grand Rapids North	Kenneth M. Gehrels	Walter Neutel
Grand Rapids South	Brian P. Bosscher	Cornelius Vander Kam
Grandville	Stephen M. Hasper	Evan D. Cuperus
Greater Los Angeles	Peter Jonker	Cisco Gonzalez
Hackensack	Elizabeth VanderHaagen	Amanda J. Roozeboom
Hamilton	C. James den Dulk	Wayne Hubers
Heartland	Richard L. Pinckney	Jay Tans
Holland	Dan A. Gritter	P. Herbert Advocaat
Hudson	Daniel I. Bud	Paul R. LaGrand
Huron	Timothy A. Kuperus	Fred C. Visser
Iakota	M. Dale Fopma	James Roskam
Illiana	Bonny Mulder-Behnia	Tae H. Kim
Kalamazoo	Peter Kang	Thomas Byma
Lake Erie	Sheila E. Holmes	Kathryn R. Ritsema-Roelofs
Lake Superior	Paul J. Van Dyken	Kenneth J. Smith
Minnkota	Zachary J. Olson	Clarence E. Batterink
Muskegon	M. Jeffery Klingenberg	Judy Cook
Niagara	Todd M. Zuidema	Byron Bulthuis
Northcentral Iowa	Kevin J. Muyskens	LeRoy TenNapel
Northern Illinois	Trent Walker	Frederick J. Groen
Northern Michigan	Christopher J. De Vos	Fronse Pellebon Smith
Pacific Hanmi	Paul M. Ingeneri	Bernard Joustra
Pacific Northwest	Kooksung Kim	Ernest Wiegiers
Quinte	Rita S. Klein-Geltink	Keith Oosthoek
Red Mesa	Ralph S. Wigboldus	John Van Donkersgoed
Rocky Mountain	James Hoogeveen	Orlan Gulker
	John Lee	Dennis Kooiman
	Calvin J. Aardsma	Carl R. Smits
	John Kostelyk	Marc V. Zumhagen
	Kenneth A. Baker	Laura Jager
	John M. Wanders	David C. Zinn
	Benjamin W. Van Arragon	Violetta A. Diamond
	Robert A. Arbogast	Florence E. Lamberts
	Henry Vander Beek	Don Muilenburg
	Henry G. Gunnink	Doug Shank
	Joseph Vanden Akker	Eldon G. Bonnema
	Timothy J. Ouwinga	David A. Mohlenkamp
	Leslie D. Van Dyke	Ronald D. Bielema
	Michael D. Koetje	Carol R. Spelman
	James C. Dekker	Jack de Vries
	Steven J. deBoer	Bert Witvoet
	Russell W. Boersma	Clarence E. Karsjens
	Joel A. De Boer	Mark F. Voss
	Leonard H. Meinema	Richard S. Wright
	John R. Huizinga	David Armstrong
	Spencer M. Tuttle	Gerald J. Schepers
	Jonathan W. Flikkema	Al DeBoer
	NamJoong Kang	Taek Ho Yang
	David D. Suh	Jonathan J. Kim
	Timothy B. Toeset	Fred Y. Ypma
	Randolph L. Rowland	Jay Hibma
	Michael W. Bootsma	Hans J.J. Van Manen
	Daniel C. Zylstra	Andries Batelaan
	W. Keith Bulthuis	James Litson
	Stanley Jim	N. Theresa Rottschafer
	David A. Hornor	Karen Waanders

Southeast U.S.	Arthur B. De Bruyn Felix Fernandez Stanley J. Workman	Alice F. Waanders William Karshima James L. Kelley, Jr.
Thornapple Valley	Merlin N. Buwalda Thomas J. De Vries	Ken D. Oosterhouse David Radius
Toronto	Joel E. Kok Robert Datema	David Raakman A. Henry Eygenraam
Wisconsin	David J. Dykstra Craig Van Hill	Alan E. Blik Larry D. Gunnink
Yellowstone	Jerry L. Blom Randall D. VanOsdol	Dick C. Flikkema Vacant
Zeeland	Ronald D. De Young Aaron J. Vriesman	Donald Kloosterhouse Robert W. Brower

The roll call indicates that the following delegates are absent with notice: Kenneth M. Gehrels (Eastern Canada), Katie Ritsema-Roelofs (Hackensack), John R. Lee is replacing Gideon E. Wamala until Monday (Iakota); John M. Wanders (Kalamazoo); Don Muilenburg (Lake Superior) is no longer coming; Leslie D. Van Dyke (Muskegon); David R. Armstrong (Northern Illinois); Randolph L. Rowland (Pacific Northwest); and William Karshima (Southeast U.S.).

ARTICLE 3

The interim executive director welcomes and individually introduces the faculty advisers who are present: Dr. John W. Cooper, Dr. Dean B. Deppe, Dr. Darwin Glassford, Rev. Duane K. Kelderman, Dr. John Rottman, and Rev. Kathy Smith.

The IED welcomes and individually introduces to synod the ethnic advisers who are present: Mrs. Alice S. Rivers, Mr. Thurman S. Rivers, and Ms. Gavy Tran.

The interim executive director welcomes and individually introduces to synod the young adult advisers who are present: Mr. Seth J.T. Adema, Mr. Jonathan Bentum, Mr. Mark Eekhoff, Ms. Elizabeth Jennings, Mr. John S. Kloosterman, Mr. Corey T. Van Huizen, and Mr. Robert VanLonkhuyzen.

ARTICLE 4

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

President: Rev. James C. Dekker
Vice President: Rev. George G. Vink
First Clerk: Rev. Bert Slofstra
Second Clerk: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes

ARTICLE 5

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

Rev. James C. Dekker expresses the appreciation of synod to Rev. Beelen for his participation in the opening of synod.

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

ARTICLE 6

The president proceeds with the reading of the Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity. The delegates rise to show their assent.

ARTICLE 7

The interim executive director introduces the synod news office staff, *The Banner* staff, the synod office staff, the prayer coordinator, Calvin College staff, and denominational staff present.

ARTICLE 8

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

ARTICLE 9

The interim executive director 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 2011 and urges that all necessary precautions be taken to prevent violations of confidentiality.

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

II. Audio and video recordings of synod

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

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

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

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

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

ARTICLE 10

The interim executive director presents the report of the Program Committee, which recommends the following advisory committees for Synod 2011:

Committee 1—Synodical Services I – Polity Matters

Chair: Calvin J. Aardsma; **reporter:** Alvern Gelder; **ministers:** Joel A. De Boer, W. Keith Bulthuis, Paul J. Droogers, Jimmy Han, David A. Hornor, Rita S. Klein-Geltink, Leonard M. Meinema, Randolph L. Rowland, Henry Vander Beek; **elders:** Ronald D. Bielema, Andy de Ruyter, Cisco Gonzalez, Orlan Gulker, James L. Kelley, Jr., Paul R. LaGrand, Jean J.A. Lauziere, David Raakman, Gerald J. Schepers, Jay Tans; **advisers:** Gianni Gracia, Duane K. Kelderman, John S. Kloosterman.

Committee 2—Synodical Services II – Program Matters

Chair: Stanley J. Workman; **reporter:** Michael W. Bootsma; **ministers:** Robert Datema, Arthur B. De Bruyn, Kooksung Kim, Edward J. Laarman, Kevin J. Muyskens, Robert J. Toornstra, Paul J. Van Dyken, Craig Van Hill, Trent Walker, John M. Wanders; **elders:** Clarence J. Bulthuis, Sr., Jack de Vries, Paul De Waard, Wayne Hubers, Donald Kloosterhouse, Don Muilenberg, Pearl Nieuwenhuis, Keith Oosthoek, Taek Ho Yang; **advisers:** John Rottman, Gavy Tran.

Committee 3—Candidacy and Education

Chair: Peter Jonker; **reporter:** Dan A. Gritter; **ministers:** Ronald D. De Young, Kenneth M. Gehrels, Dan A. Gritter, Stephen M. Hasper, Sheila E. Holmes, Stanley Jim, John Kostelyk, Spencer M. Tuttle, Trevor G. Vanderveen, Todd M. Zuidema; **elders:** Florence E. Lamberts, David A. Mohlenkamp, Ken D. Oosterhouse, Fronse Pellebon Smith, Richard Plantinga, Christine D. Vanderberg, John Van Donkersgoed, Mark F. Voss, Ernest Wieggers, James M. Worst; **advisers:** Seth Adema, Neal Plantinga, Thurman S. Rivers.

Committee 4—Publications

Chair: Robert A. Arbogast; **reporter:** Ralph S. Wigboldus; **ministers:** Merlin N. Buwalda, James C. Dekker, Jonathan W. Flikkema, Timothy A. Kuperus, Bonny Mulder-Behnia, Jose F. Munoz, Joseph Vanden Akker, Daniel C. Zylstra; **elders:** Evan D. Cuperus, Dick C. Flikkema, Jonathan J. Kim, August Luymes, Walter Neutel, Kenneth L. Rindels, Kathryn R. Ritsema-Roelofs, Karen Waanders, Fred Y. Ypma, Marc V. Zumhagen; **advisers:** Dean B. Deppe, Elizabeth Jennings, Gavy Tran.

Committee 5—Missions and Ministry

Chair: Carl J. Leep; **reporter:** M. Dale Fopma; **ministers:** Brian P. Bosscher, Steven J. deBoer, Felix Fernandez, Paul M. Ingeneri, NamJoong Kang, Peter Kang, John W. Luth, Richard L. Pinckney; **elders:** P. Herbert Advocaat, Andries Batelaan, Judy Cook, Chuck Gerber, Larry D. Gunnink, Jay Hibma, Doug Shank, Carol R. Spelman, Albert Veldstra, Bo Verburg, Richard S. Wright; **advisers:** Jonathan Bentum, Scott E. Hoezee, Alice S. Rivers.

Committee 6—Financial Matters

Chair: A. Henry Eygenraam; **reporter:** James Hooegeveen; **ministers:** Russell W. Boersma, C. James den Dulk, Thomas J. De Vries, Frederick F. Heslinga, James Hooegeveen, Gregory S. Janke, Michael D. Koetje; **elders:** David R. Armstrong, Clarence E. Batterink, Alan E. Blik, Violetta A. Diamond, Bernard Joustra, Eileen G. Moe, James Roskam, LeRoy TenNapel, Howard Vander Griend, Adrian J. Van Houten, Hendrick C. Van Ryk, Frank Zee.

Committee 7—Interdenominational Matters

Chair: John Gorter; **reporter:** Timothy B. Toeset; **ministers:** Fred M. Bultman, Christopher J. De Vos, Jeffrey A. Dykema, David J. Dykstra, M. Jeffery Klingenberg, Joel E. Kok, Curtis D. Korver, Randall D. VanOsdol, Gideon E. Wamala; **elders:** Robert W. Brower, J. Harold Caicedo, Al DeBoer, Amanda J. Roozeboom, N. Theresa Rottschafer, Carl R. Smits, Fred C. Visser, Chad E. Werkhoven, Bryan Wiegiers, David C. Zinn; **advisers:** John W. Cooper, Mark Eekhoff, Gianni Gracia.

Committee 8—Church Order and Appeals

Chair: Kenneth A. Baker; **reporter:** Timothy J. Ouwinga; **ministers:** Jerry L. Blom, Daniel I. Bud, Joseph M. Huizenga, John R. Huizinga, Michael B. Koot, Paul Lomavatu, Timothy J. Ouwinga, David D. Suh, Benjamin W. Van Arragon; **elders:** Thomas Byma, Frederick J. Groen, Clarence E. Karsjens, James Litson, David Radius, Fred Smids, Hans J.J. Van Manen, Cornelius Vander Kam, George G. Vink, Alice F. Wanders, Bert Witvoet; **advisers:** Thurman S. Rivers, Kathy Smith, Corey T. Van Huizen.

Committee 9—Faith Formation

Chair: Leslie D. Van Dyke/Henry G. Gunnink functions until the arrival of Leslie Van Dyke; **reporter:** Jacob M. Van de Hoef; **ministers:** Albert Y.S. Chu, Christopher A. Fluit, Henry G. Gunnink, Daniel J. Hutt, Lawrence A. Lobdell, Jr., Zachary J. Olson, Elizabeth Anne VanderHaagen, Leslie D. Van Dyke, Aaron J. Vriesman; **elders:** Eldon G. Bonnema, Byron Bulthuis, Richard D. DeBoer, Tim S. Franje, Laura Jager, William Karshima, Tae H. Kim, Dennis Kooiman, John Krale, Bert Slofstra, Kenneth J. Smith; **advisers:** Darwin Glassford, Alice S. Rivers, Robert VanLonkhuyzen.

Recommendation: That synod adopt the report of the Program Committee, including membership on the advisory committees for Synod 2011.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 11

The president of synod, Rev James Dekker, leads in closing prayer. Synod adjourns at 11:20 a.m. Synod will reconvene Saturday at 8:15 a.m.

SATURDAY MORNING, June 11, 2011
Second Session

ARTICLE 12

Mrs. Katie Ritsema-Roelofs welcomes the delegates to worship with a prelude on the keyboard. Rev. Joel Kok of the synod worship planning committee gives the welcome and introduction to the worship, based on the theme “Grace and the Spirit.” Delegates read the responsive call to worship from John 4 and sing *Psalter Hymnal* 419, “Spirit of God, Who Dwells Within My Heart.” They read the opening prayer in unison.

Rev. Joel Kok reads John 16:12-15, and Dr. Mary Buteyn reads John 20:19-23. Mr. Tom Simms gives his personal testimony on how he left the path of Christianity and his religious foundation but in a moment of dire distress received the Holy Spirit, giving testimony of God’s amazing grace. Ms. Margaret Kromminga and Mr. Joel Norman lead delegates in singing “Speak, O Lord” from *Contemporary Songs for Worship*.

Delegates read responsively Heidelberg Catechism Q.&A. 116, and Rev. Kok leads in closing prayer.

The roll indicates that the following delegates are still absent: Kenneth M. Gehrels (Eastern Canada), David R. Armstrong (Northern Illinois). The following delegates are not present today: Daniel J. Hutt (Central California) and John Kostelyk (Illiana). The following delegates who were absent on Friday are now present: Katie Ritsema-Roelofs (Hackensack), Leslie D. Van Dyke (Muskegon), and Randolph L. Rowland (Pacific Northwest). They rise to show their assent with the Forms of Unity.

ARTICLE 13

The officers of synod announce the following appointments:

Testimonial Banquet Committee:	Worship Planning Committee:
Rev. Brian P. Bosscher	Rev. Joyce Borger
Rev. Rita S. Klein-Geltink	(Hymnal Committee)
Rev. Archie L Vander Hart	Rev. Gianni Gracia
(unable to attend)	(unable to attend)
Rev. Daniel C. Zylstra	Rev. Joel Kok
Sergeant at Arms:	Rev. Bonny Mulder-Behnia
Elder delegate Rick Plantinga	Rev. Gideon E. Wamala
Minutes Review Committee	Hospitality Committee:
Rev. Elizabeth Vander Haagen	Rev. Bruce G. Adema
Elder delegate Keith Oosthoek	Dr. Emily Brink
	Rev. Marvin J. Hofman
	Dr. William T. Koopmans
	Dr. Shirley Roels

ARTICLE 14

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

- A. That synod approve the following requests for privilege of the floor by the BOT, agencies, educational institutions, standing committees, and study committees of synod contained within the reports to Synod 2011:
1. Board of Trustees of the CRCNA – Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed
 2. Back to God Ministries International – Rev. Bruce Persenaire, board president; and Dr. Robert C. Heerspink, director
 3. Calvin College – Mr. Scott A. Spoelhof, chair of the board; and Dr. Gaylen J. Byker, president of the college
 4. Calvin Theological Seminary – Rev. Paul R. De Vries, member of the Board of Trustees
 5. Christian Reformed Home Missions – Rev. James Jones, board vice president; and Rev. Moses Chung, director
 6. Christian Reformed World Missions – Mr. Colin Watson, president of World Missions-USA board; Mrs. Jacoba (Ko) Spyksma, president of the World Missions-Canada board; and Dr. Gary J. Bekker, director
 7. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee – Mr. Paul Wassink, president of CRWRC-U.S.; Mr. Dennis Jurjens, president of CRWRC-Canada; Mr. Andrew Ryskamp, director of CRWRC-U.S.; and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, director of CRWRC-Canada
 8. Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. – Mr. David Veen, director, or any member of the board of directors
 9. Faith Alive Christian Resources –
For the board: Rev. Pieter Pereboom, president; and Mr. Mark Rice, director
For *The Banner*: Rev. Robert De Moor, editor in chief
For the Editorial Department: Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, editor in chief; and Rev. Joyce Borger, worship and music editor
 10. Translation of the Three Reformed Standards – Rev. Leonard Vander Zee and Dr. Lyle Bierma
 11. Pensions and Insurance – members of the Canadian Pension Trustees and of the U.S. Board of Pensions, and Mr. John H. Bolt, director of finance and administration
 12. Candidacy Committee – Rev. David R. Koll, director of candidacy; and Rev. Peter Choi, member of the Candidacy Committee
 13. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee – Dr. William T. Koopmans, chair; and Rev. Bruce G. Adema, director of Canadian ministries
 14. U.S. and Roman Catholic Dialogue – Dr. Lyle Bierma, Dr. Ronald Feenstra, and Dr. Sue Rozeboom
 15. Historical Committee – Dr. Richard H. Harms, CRC archivist

16. Faith Formation Committee – Dr. John D. Witvliet, Jr., chair; Dr. Howard Vanderwell, secretary; and other members of the committee
17. Form of Subscription Revision Committee II – Rev. James C. Dekker, chair; and Rev. Michael Borgert, reporter

—*Granted*

B. That synod approve the following requests for special offerings for the agencies, ministries, and educational institutions of the CRC that are contained within the reports to Synod 2011:

1. That synod approve two offerings for Calvin Theological Seminary (the Facing Your Future program and the Ministry Incentive program) (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 127).
2. That synod encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize Easter Sunday and Reformation Day Sunday as significant opportunities to receive an offering for Christian Reformed Home Missions (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 139).
3. That synod, along with the Board of Trustees, encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize Pentecost Sunday as a significant opportunity to pray for and take an offering for Christian Reformed World Missions (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 148).
4. That synod commend the work of mercy carried on by CRWRC and urge the churches to take at least four offerings per year in lieu of ministry-share support (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 159).

—*Adopted*

The following negative vote is registered: Elder Doug Shank (Lake Superior).

ARTICLE 15

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

The president announces that all ballot-related recommendations in the *Agenda for Synod 2011* and the Supplementary Reports (for appointment, reappointment, or ratification of members for denominational boards or committees) have been satisfied upon completion of the ballot.

ARTICLE 16

The president welcomes fraternal delegate and guest Rev. Pieter G. Sinia from the Nederlands Gereformeerde Kerken (Netherlands Reformed Churches). The president also presents and welcomes the group of chaplains who are meeting at the same time as synod.

ARTICLE 17

The interim executive director welcomes and introduces staff and guests of synod who are present.

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

SATURDAY EVENING, June 11, 2011
Third Session

ARTICLE 18

The vice president assumes the chair.

Rev. Tae H. Kim leads in opening prayer.

The following delegates are absent this evening: Joseph M. Huizenga (Chicago South), Kenneth M. Gehrels (Eastern Canada), Kenneth A. Baker (Kalamazoo), Laura Jager (Kalamazoo), and Robert Datema (Toronto).

ARTICLE 19

The vice president introduces Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director, who addresses synod.

The interim executive director addresses synod on the “State of the Church.” He provides a testimony of his experience over the past two weeks. He shares that he asks himself, “What am I doing here?” Yet in all of this God called him. Over the past five days he has learned that “the state of Joel Boot is, I am not my own but belong body and soul to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—this is also the state of the church.” The state of the church is good, the future of the church is certain, and the hope and future of the church are everlasting.

The president of synod resumes the chair and expresses thanks on behalf of synod to the interim executive director.

ARTICLE 20

The Board of Trustees president, Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, addresses synod on the work of the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA over the past year. Some of the work is routine and some is challenging, but worshiping and praying are uplifting. The Board is grateful for the sacrificial giving of God’s people and receives much joy in its work in spite of difficulties. With pain and sadness the Board received the resignations of three staff members. He expresses the gratitude of the Board for the willingness of Rev. Bruce G. Adema to step in as the acting interim executive director and to Rev. Joel R. Boot for accepting the interim executive director position for the next two years. Through us and in spite of us and far beyond us, God leads his church.

Rev. Sheila Holmes leads in prayer for Rev. Boot and Rev. Vermaire.

ARTICLE 21

The evening session is adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Rev. Elizabeth Vander-Haagen leads in closing prayer.

Note: Delegates welcomed and met with multiethnic conferees after the adjournment for a time of singing and celebration.

MONDAY MORNING, June 13, 2011
Fourth Session

ARTICLE 22

The president welcomes Rev. Bonnie Mulder-Behnia, Rev. Al Mulder, and Mrs. Katie Ritsema-Roelofs, who lead in the opening worship. Rev. Bonnie Mulder-Behnia welcomes the delegates. Delegates respond with a call to worship from Psalm 89:1-4. Rev. Mulder-Behnia introduces the Potter's House ESL Dancers, who dance to "Shelter" by Jars of Clay.

Rev. Al Mulder reads Deuteronomy 7:8-9, and Rev. Bonnie Mulder-Behnia reads Titus 3:4-7. Rev. Bonnie Mulder-Behnia shares reflections on "Grace through Generations." We are under the umbrella of God's grace. As God has been faithful through many generations, God will continue to be faithful through the generations to come. He is a faithful God, keeping his covenant of love. She closes with prayer.

Delegates sing "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" from *Psalter Hymnal* 556, accompanied by Mrs. Katie Ritsema-Roelofs. Rev. Al Mulder leads in closing prayer.

Roll call indicates that Ernest Wiegers (Hudson) is absent. Kenneth M. Gehrels (Eastern Canada) and Gideon E. Wamala (Iakota) are now present. They rise to show their assent to the Forms of Unity.

ARTICLE 23

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services 1, Rev. Alvern Gelder reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (Polity sections II, A, 1-17, including Appendices A-D), pp. 39-65
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, A-H, J-M, O-P, including Appendix A)
3. Board of Trustees Supplement—Ratification of the Interim Executive Director

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendations

1. That synod approve the interim appointments made by the Board for synodical deputies and alternate synodical deputies (II, A, 1; BOT Supplement section I, A), as well as to the agency and institution boards as needed.

—Adopted
2. That synod adopt the proposed revisions to the Constitution and By-laws of the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA as presented in Appendix A (II, A, 10).

—Adopted

3. That synod take the following actions related to the proposed joint assembly with the Reformed Church in America (BOT Supplement section I, O):
 - a. That synod discuss the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions report and recommendations (and all related overtures and communications) per normal synodical procedure, recognizing that the proposals are coming from an interdenominational committee, a condition that makes the processing of changes exceedingly challenging.
 - b. That synod take an *advisory* vote concerning its willingness to approve the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions at the conclusion of the discussion.
 - 1) If the advisory vote is negative, either the matter will need to be taken off the agenda for the joint session with the RCA, or another procedure will need to be negotiated with the leadership of the RCA.
 - 2) If the advisory vote is positive, synod will need to approve that the joint session with the RCA is part of Synod 2011's work and that official adjournment of Synod 2011 will occur upon the adjournment of the joint session and worship with the RCA general synod.
 - c. That synod take the official vote on the proposed translation of the Reformed confessions report at the joint CRC/RCA session (delegates from each synod voting separately) and authorize the clerks of synod to enter that decision into the official record of Synod 2011.

Grounds:

- 1) Because a joint session with the RCA general synod falls outside established rules of procedure, it is necessary to approve a process in advance.
- 2) The joint CRC/RCA session does not provide adequate time for sufficient deliberation on a matter dealing with the translation of the Reformed confessions.
- 3) The joint session is intended to be more than a simple reporting of what each synod has decided. Rather, the hope is that the recommendations can be adopted together with the RCA.
- 4) The RCA synod will be in official session when the joint event occurs. For the CRC participation to be equally meaningful (and legal), the CRC synod needs to still be in session.
- 5) Synod can decide to complete all of its other work and postpone official adjournment to a specified time at the conclusion of the joint session.

—Adopted

4. That synod ratify the appointment of Rev. Joel R. Boot as the Interim Executive Director of the CRCNA.

Grounds:

- a. While the BOT is authorized to make interim appointments as needed, it is appropriate that synod ratify this interim appointment because it precedes the meeting of synod by only a few weeks.

- b. The appointment is intended to fill the time of transition, anticipated to be for two (2) years, until an appointment can be made of a permanent executive director, following the normal proceedings of synod.
- c. It is prudent for Rev. Boot to be able to function at Synod 2011 in an official capacity.
- d. Rev. Boot has served synod as president several times, as its vice-president and as a delegate nine times.
- e. Rev. Boot is a trusted leader who is able to serve the Christian Reformed Church well in this time of transition.

—Adopted

II. Ministerial retirements

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

Minister	Classis	Effective date
Carl J. Afman	Northern Michigan	October 1, 2010
Thomas G. Albaugh	Atlantic Northeast	June 1, 2011
John J. Berends	Arizona	January 25, 2011
Michael A. Bruinooge	Grand Rapids East	August 31, 2011
Timothy K. Chan	Toronto	May 12, 2011
LeRoy G. Christoffels	Minnkota	September 30, 2010
Calvin D. Compagner	Grandville	April 1, 2011
Bert De Jong	Northern Illinois	June 1, 2011
Bernard H. De Jonge	Huron	June 30, 2011
William De Vries	Grand Rapids East	May 31, 2011
Ronald D. De Young	Zeeland	October 31, 2011
Ronald L. Fynwever	Grand Rapids South	January 17, 2011
Alvern Gelder	Atlantic Northeast	June 30, 2011
Frederick Heslinga	Chatham	June 30, 2011
Peter J. Holwerda	Greater Los Angeles	June 30, 2011
Henry Jonker	B.C. South-East	June 30, 2011
Insung Kim	Classis Pacific Northwest	April 3, 2011
William J. Kuurstra	Eastern Canada	May 29, 2011
Marvin J. Leese	Central Plains	November 16, 2010
Gregg V. Martin	Toronto	June 30, 2011
Larry D. Meyer	Pacific Northwest	October 14, 2010
Kenneth J. Nydam	Northern Michigan	July 1, 2010
Herman D. Praamsma	Toronto	October 31, 2010
Jude Reardon	Columbia	April 1, 2011
Donald L. Recker	Columbia	June 30, 2010
Kenneth L. Schepel	Central Plains	January 16, 2010
Allen Schipper	Kalamazoo	December 6, 2010
Herman J. Schutt	Illiana	October 31, 2010
John Schuurman	Northern Illinois	May 29, 2011
Raymond Slim	Red Mesa	June 30, 2010
Larry Slings	Holland	January 20, 2011
Norman B. Steen	Hackensack	November 6, 2011
William C. Tuininga	Alberta North	June 30, 2011
Wesley Van Dyk	Hudson	June 30, 2011
William D. Van Dyken	Iakota	December 2, 2011
Henry Vander Beek	Lake Superior	October 31, 2011
Jack Vander Plate	Zeeland	June 15, 2011
Marvin J. Vander Vliet	Grandville	January 20, 2011
Kenneth J. Vander Wall	Hackensack	October 1, 2010
Leonard J. Vander Zee	Grand Rapids East	January 21, 2011

Thomas Vander Ziel	Iakota	February 1, 2011
Thomas J. Van't Land	California South	June 30, 2011
Gerrit Veenstra	Illiana	June 1, 2011
Richard H. Verkaik	Kalamazoo	October 8, 2010
Howard J. Vugteveen	Hudson	May 31, 2011
William D. Zeilstra	Grand Rapids East	January 20, 2011
James D. Zondervan	Alberta South/Saskatchewan	June 30, 2011

B. Synod has received notice of the following ministry associate retirement:

Ministry Associate	Classis	Effective date
Jean Dykshoorn Hooge	B.C. South-East	March 1, 2011

C. Recommendations

1. That synod offer a prayer of gratitude for God's servants mentioned above and for the many years of service they represent.
—*Adopted*
2. That synod instruct the interim executive director to send a letter of appreciation to each of the retirees that have been identified.
—*Adopted*

Rev. Dr. Calvin J. Aardsma offers a prayer of thanksgiving for each of these pastors and the ministry associate listed.

III. Work of the synodical deputies

A. Ministers from other denominations, Church Order Article 8

1. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend David Cheung**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on September 28, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Immanuel CRC of Richmond, British Columbia.
2. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend David SungJu Cho**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Gracious Ark CRC of Los Angeles, California.
3. Synodical deputies G.M. Stevens (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Kyung-Hyun Cho**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in

the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 14, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Korean Community CRC of Buena Park, California.

4. Synodical deputies P. N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), W. Verhoef (California South), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Maged Fayeze Dakdouk**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 19, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Fountain of Life CRC of Fountain Valley, California.
5. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend DeogJong Nam**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Disciples CRC of Las Vegas, Nevada.
6. Synodical deputies N.L. Koch (California South), T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), and W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Jonathan Gerstner**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Arizona, in session on September 18, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Christ's Community CRC of Chandler, Arizona.
7. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Kyung (Ken) Hong**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 22, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Lake View Terrace, California.
8. Synodical deputies G.M. Stevens (Greater Los Angeles), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Se Jong Jang**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on September 14, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian

Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Arumdaun Community CRC of Burlingame, California.

9. Synodical deputies C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), G.R. Erffmeyer (Chicago South), and M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend InHwan (Enoch) Kim**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on September 15, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Korean CRC of Wheeling, Illinois.
10. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend KangWon Kim**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is His Church CRC of Pleasanton, California.
11. Synodical deputies P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), G.G. Vink (Central California), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Pablo Song Won Lee**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 22, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Lake View Terrace, California.
12. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Won Chol Ma**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Los Angeles, California.
13. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Kwangchul (Jim) Seung**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 22, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is All Nations CRC of Lake View Terrace, California.

14. Synodical deputies P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Dae Won David Shin**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis California South, in session on October 14, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Yung Kwang CRC of Las Vegas, Nevada.
15. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), J.A. Huttinga (Yellowstone), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Randall Simon**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Columbia, in session on February 26, 2011, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is New Hope CRC of Spokane, Washington.
16. Synodical deputies P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Fernando Valencia**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 19, 2010, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Rosewood CRC of Bellflower, California.

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

—Adopted

B. Classical examination of candidates, Church Order Article 10

1. Synodical deputies T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session January 21, 2011, to admit candidate **Richard J. Admiraal** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies P.A. Hansen (Heartland), D.W. Visser (Central Plains), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Northcentral Iowa, in session September 14, 2010, to admit candidate **Michael L. Bentley** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and T.J. Brown (Minnkota), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Iakota, in session September 21, 2010, to admit

candidate **Joshua S. Benton** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

4. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), A. Helder (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session October 14, 2010, to admit candidate **Matthew J. Borst** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
5. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Holland, in session July 15, 2010, to admit candidate **John W. Burden** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
6. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session October 8, 2010, to admit candidate **Samantha L. DeJong McCarron** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
7. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session October 8, 2010, to admit candidate **Nathan DeJong McCarron** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
8. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), R. L. Westenbroek (Rocky Mountain), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Columbia, in session September 18, 2010, to admit candidate **Anthony R. De Korte** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
9. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session February 17, 2011, to admit candidate **Steven J. De Ruiter** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
10. Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), G.G. Vink (Central California), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Yellowstone, in session January 21, 2011, to admit candidate **George N. Den Oudsten** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
11. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having heard the examination

for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Illiana, in session March 1, 2011, to admit candidate **Jeffrey A. Dephouse** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

12. Synodical deputies D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and L.M. Korf (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session December 2, 2010, to admit candidate **Ben E. deRegt** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
13. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), B.B. Bakker (Quinte), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Niagara, in session October 20, 2010, to admit candidate **Christopher W. de Winter** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
14. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), and P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis California South, in session October 14, 2010, to admit candidate **Scott A. Elgersma** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
15. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), A. Helder (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session October 14, 2010, to admit candidate **Christopher D. Fulkerson** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
16. Synodical deputies J.P. Douma (Grandville), M. De Vries (Holland), and G.A. Koning (Georgetown), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Zeeland, in session September 23, 2010, to admit candidate **Aaron J. Greydanus** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
17. Synodical deputies R.W. Ouwehand (Niagara), C.N. Overduin (Toronto), and J.M. Van de Hoef (Eastern Canada), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Quinte, in session May 10, 2011, to admit candidate **Elizabeth A. Guillaume-Koene** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
18. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session March 1, 2011, to admit candidate **Chelsey L. Harmon** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

19. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Yellowstone, in session September 17, 2010, to admit candidate **Mark E. Hofman** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
20. Synodical deputies J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), R.G. Fisher (Huron), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session November 17, 2010, to admit candidate **John S. Huyser** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
21. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), K.A. Baker (Kalamazoo), and H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session October 2, 2010, to admit candidate **John Y. Kim** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
22. Synodical deputies T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and T.J. Brown (Minnkota), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Iakota, in session January 6, 2011, to admit candidate **Samuel J. Krikke** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
23. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), A. Helder (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session October 14, 2010, to admit candidate **Summer A. Mohrlang** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
24. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Holland, in session October 7, 2010, to admit candidate **Kristin E.K. Palacios** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
25. Synodical deputies L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session September 21, 2010, to admit candidate **Daniel J. Rhee** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
26. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session March 1, 2011, to admit

candidate **Brittney E. Stelpstra-Salverda** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

27. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session March 1, 2011, to admit candidate **David A. Salverda** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
28. Synodical deputies M. De Vries (Holland), G.A. Koning (Georgetown), and J.P. Douma (Grandville), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Zeeland, in session August 19, 2010, to admit candidate **Scott C. Stark** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
29. Synodical deputies T.J. Brown (Minnkota), R.D. Drenten (Heartland), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Superior, in session March 8, 2011, to admit candidate **Anthony D. Sytsma** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
30. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), G.G. Vink (Central California), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Yellowstone, in session September 17, 2010, to admit candidate **Brian D. Tebben** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
31. Synodical deputies G.F. Vander Weit (Lake Erie), R. Koops (Hamilton), and R. Vander Kooij (Huron), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Chatham, in session January 25, 2011, to admit candidate **Joshua C. Tuininga** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
32. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), R. Koops (Hamilton), and R.G. Fisher (Huron), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Toronto, in session November 11, 2010, to admit candidate **Nathaniel E. Van Denend** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
33. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session March 1, 2011, to admit candidate **Thomas S. VanderPloeg** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
34. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having heard the

examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session November 11, 2010, to admit candidate **Emily H. VanderWall-VandenHeuvel** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

35. Synodical deputies R. Koops (Hamilton), C. N. Overduin (Toronto), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Huron, in session January 12, 2011, to admit candidate **Andrew J. Vis** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
36. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. VanderKlay (Atlantic Northeast), and S.J. Wolma (Hudson), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session September 28, 2010, to admit candidate **Hernan Zapata-Thomack** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
37. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session November 11, 2010, to admit candidate **Laurie L. Zuverink** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—*Adopted*

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

1. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Journey Christian Reformed Church of Longmont, Colorado, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 8, 2010, to approve the position of Chaplain at Pikes Peak Hospice and Palliative Care as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Stephen J. Alsum**.
2. Synodical deputies F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and T.J. Brown (Minnkota), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Bridge of Hope Ministries Christian Reformed Church of Sioux Center, Iowa, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Iakota, in session on September 21, 2010, to approve the position of Dean of Chapel at Dordt College as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Aaron I. Baart**.
3. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), R.P. Drenton (Heartland), and T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), having reviewed the evidence

supplied by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Brandon, Manitoba, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Superior, in session on September 21, 2010, to approve the position of Chaplain at the Brandon Regional Health Authority as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Evert S.H. Busink**.

4. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Faith Christian Reformed Church of Nashville, Tennessee, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on March 1, 2011, to approve the position of Hospital Chaplain as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Jeffrey A. Dephouse**.
5. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), R.D. De Young (Zeeland), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), 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 May 19, 2011, to approve the position of Spiritual Care Chaplain at Metro Hospital as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend John W. De Vries**.
6. Synodical deputies P.A. Heerema (Eastern Canada), R.W. Ouwehand (Niagara), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Hope Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Courtice, 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 Quinte, in session on January 25, 2011, to approve the position of Ministry Coordinator of Classis Toronto as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Elizabeth A. Guillaume-Koene**.
7. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on February 17, 2011, to approve the position of Foundation Chaplain, The Father Fred Foundation, Traverse City, Michigan, as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend James A. Holwerda**.
8. Synodical deputies P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Faith Community Christian Reformed Church of Fullerton, California, and having been satisfied that lines of

accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis California South, in session on October 14, 2010, to approve the position of Chaplain at VITAS Hospice as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Jae Hee Kim**.

9. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of La Grave 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 South, in session on November 11, 2010, to approve the position of Director of Clinical Pastoral Education, Pastoral Services and Mission Integration at Pine Rest Mental Health Services as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Fred Koning**.
10. Synodical deputies L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Westend Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on January 18, 2011, to approve the position of Multiplication Network Consultant as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Jesus Augusto Liza**.
11. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), R.D. De Young (Zeeland), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Friendship Chapel 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 May 19, 2011, to approve the position of Director of International Ministry for Set Free Ministries as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Jeff Stam**.
12. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Discovery 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 November 11, 2010, to approve the position of Chaplain Supervisor of Wedgwood Christian Services as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Emily H. VanderWall-VandenHeuvel**.
13. Synodical deputies R.L. Westenbroek (Rocky Mountain), G.G. Vink (Central California), and W. Verhoef (California South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Sunnyslope Christian Reformed Church of Salem, Oregon, and having been satisfied that lines of ac-

countability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Columbia, in session on September 18, 2010, to approve the position of Chaplain at Pinnacle Health Care Services as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Kenneth Van Schelven**.

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

—*Adopted*

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

1. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), and W. Verhoef (California South), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Arizona, in session on March 5, 2011, to approve loaning **Reverend James A. Hildebrandt** to serve The Village Church of Tucson, Arizona.
2. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), and J.J. Berends (Arizona), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 19, 2010, to approve loaning **Reverend Hyuk Soo Kwon** to serve LA Sa-Rang Community Church of Los Angeles, California.
3. Synodical deputies P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), G.G. Vink (Central California), and W. Verhoef (California South), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to approve loaning **Reverend Kyung Ryul Lee** to serve Onchun Je-il Church of Busan, Korea.
4. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on March 1, 2011, to approve loaning **Reverend Henry Reyenga, Jr.**, to serve Eagle Rock Community Church of Homer Glen, Illinois.
5. Synodical deputies L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on September 21, 2010, to approve loaning **Reverend Daniel J. Rhee** to serve Korean Presbyterian Church of Detroit, Michigan.
6. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), W. Verhoef (California South), and R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Arizona, in session on March 6, 2011, to approve loaning **Reverend Stephen R. Steenstra** to serve West Valley Church of Sun City, Arizona.

7. Synodical deputies C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and S.J. Sturing (Atlantic Northeast), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Hudson, in session on September 29, 2010, to approve loaning **Reverend David K. Sung** to serve Riverside Community Church of Elmwood Park, New Jersey.

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

—Adopted

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

1. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Joseph Chen** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 19, 2010, to declare that **Rev. Joseph Chen** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. EunSung Lee** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to declare that **Rev. EunSung Lee** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Donald R. Orange** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 8, 2010, to declare that **Rev. Donald R. Orange** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies G.G. Vink (Central California), P.R. Hoekstra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Su Hyun Park** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Pacific Hanmi, in session on February 15, 2011, to declare that **Rev. Su Hyun Park** is dismissed from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
5. Synodical deputies F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), P.A. Hansen (Heartland), and T.J. Brown (Minnkota), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Stephen K. Rhoda** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Iakota, in session on September 21, 2010, to declare that **Rev. Stephen K. Rhoda** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
6. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), having heard the discussions

relating to the resignation of **Rev. Gary D. Roosma** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 19, 2010, to declare that **Rev. Gary D. Roosma** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

7. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. David A. Vander Meer** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Zeeland, in session on January 20, 2011, to declare that **Rev. David A. Vander Meer** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
8. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. JaeKil Yang** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on October 20, 2010, to declare that **Rev. JaeKil Yang** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—Adopted

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

Synodical deputies G.A. Koning (Georgetown), L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on May 17, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Coleman S. Moore** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.

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

—Adopted

G. Declare a person who was previously released from office as eligible for call under Church Order Article 14-e

1. Synodical deputies R.G. Fisher (Huron), J.J. Hoytema (Hamilton), and B.B. Bakker (Quinte), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Toronto, in session on May 12, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Rev. Doug VandeKamp** is eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), A. Helder (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on October 14, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Rev. Andrew Y. Yi** 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*

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

1. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on July 7, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. George A. Cooper** is released from ministerial service in Fox Valley Christian Reformed Church of Crystal Lake, Illinois.
2. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), R.D. Drenten (Heartland), and D.W. Visser (Central Plains), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Iakota, in session on March 1, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Donald W. Cowart** is released from ministerial service in New Holland Christian Reformed Church of New Holland, South Dakota.
3. Synodical deputies P.A. Hansen (Heartland), D.W. Visser (Central Plains), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Northcentral Iowa, in session on September 14, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Kyle E. Haack** is released from ministerial service in Living Stone Christian Reformed Church of Rochester, Minnesota.
4. Synodical deputies W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Central California, in session on October 5, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Layne Kilbreath** is released from ministerial service in Faith Christian Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Walnut Creek, California.
5. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), R. Koops (Hamilton), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Huron, in session on May 11, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. John Kuperus** is released from ministerial service in Blyth Christian Reformed Church of Blyth, Ontario.
6. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), M. DeVries (Holland), and G. Koning (Georgetown), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Zeeland, in session on January 20, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Randal L. Meyers** is released from ministerial service in Haven Christian Reformed Church of Zeeland, Michigan.

7. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), A. Helder (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on October 14, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Paul ChulHong Park** is released from ministerial service in Hebron Christian Reformed Church of Fife, Washington.
8. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), J.A. Huttinga (Yellowstone), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Columbia, in session on February 2, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Jude J. Reandon** is released from ministerial service in Grangeville Christian Reformed Church of Grangeville, Idaho.
9. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), R.G. Fisher (Huron), and R. Kooops (Hamilton), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Quinte, in session on September 28, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Ronald J. Smeding** is released from ministerial service in Rehoboth Christian Reformed Church of Bowmanville, Ontario.
10. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), R.D. Drenten (Heartland), and T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Lake Superior, in session on September 21, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Jeffrey C. Vanderhooff** is released from ministerial service in Emden Christian Reformed Church of Renville, Minnesota.
11. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on March 1, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Martin Vellekoop** is released from ministerial service in Maple Ridge Christian Reformed Church of Maple Ridge, British Columbia.
12. Synodical deputies G.A. Koning (Georgetown), D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), and L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on May 17, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Paul ChulHong Worster** is released from ministerial service in Westview Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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

—*Adopted*

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

1. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), R.G. Fisher (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having heard the discussion of Classis Toronto, in session on May 12, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Martin A. Benckhuysen's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
2. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), R.D. Drenten (Heartland), and T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), having heard the discussion of Classis Lake Superior, in session on September 21, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Robert M. Brenton's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
3. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and K.A. Baker (Kalamazoo), having heard the discussion of Classis Lake Erie, in session on October 2, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Peter Y. Choi's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
4. Synodical deputies D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 20, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Daniel Dykstra's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
5. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), and S. J. Wolma (Hudson), having heard the discussion of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 28, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Ephron Echipare's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
6. Synodical deputies D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 20, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Ruth M. Hofman's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
7. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. South-East), T.D. Kok (Pacific Northwest), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on September 28, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Koendert J. Koster's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
8. Synodical deputies R. Vander Kooij (Huron), H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), and B.B. Bakker (Quinte), having heard the discussion of Classis Eastern Canada, in session on October 22, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. William J. Kuurstra's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.

9. Synodical deputies L.J. Hofman (Grand Rapids East), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on September 21, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. David Van Harten's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
10. Synodical deputies K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), and G.H. Pols (Alberta North), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on March 1, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Peter L. VanderBeek's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
11. Synodical deputies D.A. Kamstra (Grandville), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 20, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Steve Venhuizen's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.

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

—*Adopted*

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

1. Synodical deputies C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having heard the discussion of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on March 2, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Chul Sup Bang** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids, North), M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the discussion of Classis Holland, in session on July 15, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Timothy D. Kauffman** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), B.B. Bakker (Quinte), and D. Miedema (Chatham), having heard the discussion of Classis Niagara, in session on October 20, 2010, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Wayne A. Knight** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having heard the discussion of Classis Chicago South, in session on March 2, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. William D. Weber** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—Adopted

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

Synodical deputies J.C. Fraser (Alberta South), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and J.P. Groenwold (Columbia), having heard the discussion of Classis Alberta North, in session on March 9, 2011, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-d, that **Rev. John Andrew Geleynse** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—Adopted

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

1. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of River Terrace Christian Reformed Church of East Lansing, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session on January 29, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Chris Allen** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor to youth and families.
2. Synodical deputies J.P. Groenwold (Columbia), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), 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 synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 1, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Koenraad Beugelink** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
3. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 16, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Bryan Blakely** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is Bates Place Ministry Center coordinator.
4. Synodical deputies J.J. Berends (Arizona), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Living Stones Christian Reformed Church of Sacramento, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Central California, in session on March 1, 2011, that the ministry

associate position to be filled by **Mr. David N. Buurma** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.

5. Synodical deputies J.C. Fraser (Alberta South), D. Kwantes (B.C. North-West), and J.P. Groenwold (Columbia), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Covenant Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton, Alberta, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session on March 9, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Ron De Vries** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is youth ministry consultant.
6. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), and J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Pullman Christian Reformed Church of Chicago, Illinois, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on February 17, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Gary Foster** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
7. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), J. Huttinga (Yellowstone), and T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Emmanuel Christian Reformed Church of Calgary, Alberta, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Alberta South, in session on October 29, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Dr. Gregory Herrick** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
8. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), and K.A. Baker (Kalamazoo), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session on September 1, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Brad Hicks** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
9. Synodical deputies P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hanmi), G.G. Vink (Central California), and W. Verhoef (California South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Hope International Christian Reformed Church of Arcadia, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 22, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Faith Lim Geok Keng** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of congregational life.
10. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), J.J. Berends (Arizona), and P.N. Ryu (Pacific Hamni), having examined the written materials

submitted by the council of Ttokamsa Mission Christian Reformed Church of Los Angeles, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 19, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Charles Kim** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is pastor to Second Generation Ministries.

11. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), and S.J. Wolma (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Covenant Christian Reformed Church of North Haledon, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast in session on September 28, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. David N. Lyman** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
12. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), R.H. Verkaik (Kalamazoo), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Family of Faith Christian Reformed Church of Monee, Illinois, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on September 15, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. James A. Martin** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
13. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), R.H. Verkaik (Kalamazoo), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Peace Christian Reformed Church of South Holland, Illinois, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on September 15, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. James McKinney III** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
14. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Third Christian Reformed Church of Denver, Colorado, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 8, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Ms. Laura Moll** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
15. Synodical deputies C. Vander Neut (Hackensack), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and S.J. Sturing (Atlantic Northeast), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Cedar Hill Christian Reformed Church of Wyckoff, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision

of Classis Hudson, in session on September 29, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Jeremy Mulder** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.

16. Synodical deputies S.J. Wolma (Hudson) and S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Grace Community Chapel Christian Reformed Church of New Brunswick, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 8, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Brian Na** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates.
17. Synodical deputies T.J. Brown (Minnkota), C. Hoekstra (Iakota), and F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Pathway Community Christian Reformed Church of Olathe, Kansas, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Heartland, in session on October 16, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Ryan Pelton** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is church planter.
18. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), D.A. Struyk (Grand Rapids South), and K.A. Baker (Kalamazoo), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of River Terrace Christian Reformed Church of East Lansing, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session on September 1, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Kory Plockmeyer** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
19. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), and S.J. Wolma (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 28, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Wendell H. Scanterbury** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
20. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Sonlight Community Christian Reformed Church of Port St. Lucie, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast, in session on March 11, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Juan Sierra** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of evangelism and discipleship.

21. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Sonlight Community Christian Reformed Church of Port St. Lucie, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 11, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Mike Szczepanski** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of evangelism and discipleship.
22. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W.K. Bulthuis (Red Mesa), and G.G. Vink (Central California), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Sunrise Community Christian Reformed Church of Austin, Texas, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 8, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Richard Villareal** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
23. Synodical deputies S.J. Wolma (Hudson) and S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Spirit and Truth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 8, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Robert Whitmire** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.
24. Synodical deputies T.J. Brown (Minnkota), C. Hoekstra (Iakota), and F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Northern Lighthouse Christian Reformed Church of Lincoln, Nebraska, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Heartland, in session on October 16, 2010, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Wes Wilson** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is contract chaplain.
25. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Family of Faith Christian Reformed Church of Monee, Illinois, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on March 1, 2011, that the ministry associate position to be filled by **Mr. Marc V. Zumhagen** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is chaplain of the retirement community.
26. Synodical deputies R.D. Goudzwaard (Greater Los Angeles), G. Kamps (Central Plains), and D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Vida Nueva Christian Reformed Church of Miami, Florida, and having compared them with

the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on September 22, 2010, that the ministry associate position is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is minister of music and worship.

27. Synodical deputies R.G. Fisher (Huron), R. Koops (Hamilton), and B.B. Bakker (Quinte), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Clear View Christian Reformed Church of Oakville, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Toronto, in session on October 7, 2010, that the ministry associate position is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is worship pastor.
28. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), R.G. Fisher (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Hamilton, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines re office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session on October 19, 2010, that the ministry associate position is in keeping with synodical guidelines for ministry associates. The position title is ministry associate.

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

M. Article 23-a ministry associates, filling previously approved positions

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

Name	Classis	Date
Brent Beckett	Grand Rapids North	May 18, 2011
Ron deVries	Alberta North	March 9, 2011
Shane Rozeveld	B.C. North-West	March 11, 2011
Manuel Soto	Columbia	February 26, 2011

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

Synodical deputies S.J. Wolma (Hudson), D.N. Bratt (Hackensack), and B.B. Bakker (Quinte), having examined the request submitted by the council of The River Christian Reformed Church of Sutton, Massachusetts, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on March 3, 2011, that **Mr. Bruce M. Dykstra** (ministry associate) may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.

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

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

1. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), S.J. Vander Klay (Atlantic Northeast), and S.J. Wolma (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Bridgeway Community Christian Reformed Church of Haledon, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a ministry associate to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 28, 2010, that **Mr. Anton Brown** may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
2. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), and J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Pullman Christian Reformed Church of Chicago, Illinois, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a ministry associate to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on February 17, 2011, that **Mr. Gary Foster** may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
3. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and J.P. Douma (Grandville), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Fort Wayne Christian Reformed Church of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a ministry associate to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on January 25, 2011, that **Mr. James Halstead** may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
4. Synodical deputies T.N. Leunk (Grand Rapids East), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and M. De Vries (Holland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Woodville Christian Reformed Church of Woodville, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a ministry associate to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Muskegon, in session on September 9, 2010, that **Mr. Brett Werner** may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.

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

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 58.)

ARTICLE 24

Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Timothy J. Ouwinga reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. *Materials:* Board of Trustees Supplement (section I, I)

B. *Privilege of the floor:* Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendation

That Synod 2011 adopt the following revision to Church Order Article 14-e (with the recommended change in italics; BOT Supplement section, I, I):

Proposed Article 14-e

A former minister of the Word who was released from office may be declared eligible for call upon approval of the classis by which such action was taken, with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies. *The classis, in the presence of the deputies, shall conduct an interview that examines the circumstances surrounding the release and the renewed desire to serve in ministry.* Upon acceptance of a call, the person shall be re-ordained.

Ground: That said “interview” has always been assumed to be necessary, but recent developments have demonstrated the need for an explicit requirement.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued in Article 69.)

ARTICLE 25

Advisory Committee 6, Financial Matters, Rev. James Hoogeveen reporting, presents the following:

I. Pensions and Insurance

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (section II, C), including Appendix I, pp. 35-37, 77-108
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, B, including Appendix C)
3. Pensions and Insurance Report, pp. 299-304

B. Privilege of the floor: Members of the Canadian Board of Pensions and of the U.S. Board of Pensions and Mr. John H. Bolt, director of finance and administration

C. Recommendations

1. That synod adopt the following changes to the ministers’ pension plans for Canada and the United States, as presented by the Pension Trustees effective July 1, 2011 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 9):

- a. Increase the normal retirement from age 65 to age 66.

—Adopted

- b. Advance the implementation of the change to the early retirement factor (from 0.3% to 0.5% per month) from January 1, 2014, to July 1, 2011.

—Adopted

- c. Freeze the final three-year average salary upon which benefits are calculated in Canada at the 2010 level.

—Adopted

- d. Change the normal form of retirement benefit from joint and survivor to single life with five years certain. (Participants can still elect from multiple options to receive a joint and survivor benefit at a slightly reduced level of payment.)

—Adopted

- e. Provide a transition into this benefit form change by making a supplemental survivor benefit available to participants who retire through 2016. The spousal supplement will be based on the years of ministers' participation in the Ministers' Pension Plan, with the following schedule.

Year of retirement	Annual benefit per year of credited service
7/1/2011 through 12/31/2012	\$50
1/1/2013 through 12/31/2013	\$40
1/1/2014 through 12/31/2014	\$30
1/1/2015 through 12/31/2015	\$20
1/1/2016 through 12/31/2016	\$10

These supplemental payments will be payable to the minister's spouse at the time of the pastor's retirement for the lesser of ten years or the remaining life of the spouse. These payments will be taken from the Special Assistance Fund (SAF). Funding for the SAF continues to be provided through ministry shares.

—Adopted

- f. Effective July 1, 2011, an ordained minister of the Word who is participating in the Ministers' Pension Plan of Canada or the United States and reaches the Plan's normal retirement age may request a "pre-retirement in-service pension distribution" while still serving in their current position with the CRCNA.

—Adopted

2. Any participant in the Ministers' Pension Plan in Canada or the United States who elects to become inactive in the plan as of June 30, 2011, is allowed to receive a "pre-retirement in-service pension distribution" at the earliest date allowed under the pension regulation of the respective country in effect at June 30, 2011.

—Adopted

II. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*

1. Board of Trustees Report (section II, C), including Appendix I, pp. 35-37, 77-108
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, B, including Appendix C)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Mr. John Bolt, director of Finance and administration; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendations

1. That synod receive as information the condensed financial statements for the agencies and educational institutions (Appendix I, *Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 77).
—Adopted
2. That synod receive the agencies and institutional unified budget as information and approve a ministry share of \$316.76 for calendar year 2012 (no increase over the 2011 amount) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 1-2).
—Adopted
3. That synod allow time in its schedule for a 15-minute presentation by Dr. Peter Harkema regarding the ministry-share promotional program that has recently been produced as requested by Synod 2009.
—Adopted
4. That synod adopt the following recommendations with reference to agencies requesting to be placed on the recommended-for-offerings list:
 - a. That synod approve the list of above-ministry share and specially designated offerings for the agencies and institutions of the CRC and denominationally related ministries, and recommend these to the churches for consideration (BOT Supplement section II, B, 3).
—Adopted
 - b. That synod receive as information the list of nondenominational agencies, previously accredited, that have been approved for calendar year 2012 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 4).
—Adopted
 - c. That synod accept the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 5):

Canada

1) Christian Economic Assistance Foundation

Christian Economic Assistance Foundation provides funding for a variety of Christian school events, conferences, research and publication, curriculum development, and student loans for high school students who plan to attend a Christian college.

—Adopted

2) Homestead Christian Care

Homestead Christian Care provides affordable housing options to persons with disabilities living in poverty. This agency is primarily focused on helping those with mental illness.

—Adopted

United States

1) Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies

Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies is a Christian ministry for field-based college level courses to train and educate in environmental studies focusing on stewardship of creation.

—Adopted

2) Paidia International Development

Paidia International Development reaches out to Palestinian Christians, teaching values such as non-violence, conflict resolution, and integrity—all through adventure recreation. This ministry develops young Palestinian Christian leaders and helps them learn to share their faith. It also addresses the special needs community.

—Adopted

- d. That synod accept the following new request for inclusion on the list of affiliated agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 6):

Diaconal Ministries Canada

Diaconal Ministries Canada (DMC) works to inspire, equip, and encourage deacons in Canada as they work to transform communities with the love of God.

—Adopted

5. That synod adopt the denominational salary grid for senior positions as proposed (no proposed increase over 2010-2011 and no changes made since July 2008) (BOT Supplement section II, B, 7).

—Adopted

6. That synod designate up to 100 percent of a minister's early or normal retirement pension or disability pension for 2012 as housing allowance for United States income-tax purposes (IRS Ruling 1.107-1), but only to the extent that the pension is used to rent or provide a home.

—Adopted

III. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, K, and P, including Appendix A)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod use the term *young adult representative* in place of the term *young adult adviser*.

Grounds:

- These invited young adults represent the interests of youth at synod.
- The word *representative* is a more neutral term that respects cultural concerns.
- The term *young adult representative* describes their role at synod as distinct from that of the delegates.

—Adopted

2. That synod accept the invitation from First CRC, Sioux Center, Iowa, to be the convening church of Synod 2015 and that Synod 2015 be held on the campus of Dordt College.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 26

The morning session is adjourned at 11:50 a.m. Rev. Jacob M. Van de Hoef leads in closing prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, June 13, 2011

Fifth Session

ARTICLE 27

Rev. Stanley Jim leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 28

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Rev. Michael W. Bootsma reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*

1. Board of Trustees Report (Program sections II, B, 1, 5-6, including Appendices G-H), pp. 33-35, 73-75
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, N; II, A, including Appendix B)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod approve the revised mandates of the Committee for Contact with the Government and the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action (Appendices G and H, respectively; II, B, 6).
—Adopted
2. That synod declare that future meetings of synod provide the reasonable accommodations identified in Appendix B to the BOT Supplement (pp. 714-15 of the *Acts of Synod 2011*) to all participants, including but not limited to people with known hearing impairments, sight impairments, and mobility impairments. The Office of Disability Concerns shall recommend whether any additional accommodations should be made available to participants at synod in future years (BOT Supplement section, I, N).

Grounds:

- a. In the Reformed tradition, we understand the Bible to affirm that all people, disabled and nondisabled alike, are imagebearers of God and that the church is a covenant community with mutual obligations toward one another. A commitment by our highest assembly to provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities applies our anthropology in a clear and practical way with regard to people with disabilities.

- b. In many ways, our meetings of synod already provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities. Approval of this recommendation would cement our aspiration into a solid commitment.
- c. Commitment to full accessibility by our highest assembly is a clear and consistent application of previous decisions of synod concerning the inclusion of people with disabilities in church life.
- d. A commitment by synod to provide reasonable accommodations establishes a model for other assemblies and agencies to follow in becoming a church that is engaging and engaged by people with disabilities.

—*Adopted*

- 3. That synod allow time in its schedule for Ms. Bonnie Nicholas, interim director of Safe Church Ministry, to be introduced (BOT Supplement section, II, A).

—*Adopted*

II. Specialized Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church

A. Chaplaincy and Care Ministry

- 1. Materials: Chaplaincy and Care Ministry Report, pp. 305-308
- 2. Recommendations
 - a. That synod urge parents, the youth and education ministries in our churches, and Christian schools to encourage our young people to prayerfully consider a wide range of ministry options, including chaplaincy ministries and other specialized Christian vocations.
 - b. That synod urge churches to pray regularly for chaplains who walk daily with people in crisis situations, have significant influence in secular institutions, and serve in difficult and sometimes dangerous situations—especially those who are separated from home and family by military deployment.
 - c. That synod urge churches and classes to welcome chaplains at their regular meetings (some classes have appointed a “chaplain of the day” for each meeting) and to explore with them how to use their training and gifts to benefit the care ministries of the local church.

—*Adopted*

B. Committee for Contact with the Government

- 1. Materials: Committee for Contact with the Government Report, pp. 308-309
- 2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Committee for Contact with the Government in its pursuit of peace and justice in society, particularly in its promotion of reconciliation in Afghanistan, its pursuit of reconciliation with and justice for Aborigines in Canada, and its pursuit of naming issues concerning immigration.

—*Adopted*

C. Disability Concerns

1. Materials: Disability Concerns Report, pp. 309-12
2. Recommendations
 - a. That synod encourage Christian Reformed churches, classes, and educational institutions to sponsor events to celebrate Disability Week from October 10 through 16, 2011.

Grounds:

- 1) Specific and intentional events that recognize the importance of breaking down barriers and including people with disabilities will remind God's people of the welcome our Lord gives to all of his people (Luke 14:15-24) and will encourage them to press on toward becoming a community in which every member knows that he or she is indispensable (1 Cor. 12:12-27).
- 2) This date coincides with the denominational schedule for offerings, which assigns the third Sunday in October to Disability Concerns.
- 3) The Bible calls God's people to be a caring community as the covenant people of God. In 1985 the CRC committed itself as a denomination to eliminate barriers of architecture, communication, and attitude "in order to use the gifts of all people in our life together as God's family." Although our Lord Jesus calls all of his people to ministry in his church, the church has not always made it possible for people with disabilities to participate fully and sometimes has isolated them and their families.

—Adopted

- b. That synod commend the work of Disability Concerns in speaking up for those who are disabled and challenging our congregations to put into practice our faith that all people, disabled and nondisabled alike, are imagebearers of God and that the church is a covenant community with mutual obligations toward one another.

—Adopted

D. Pastor-Church Relations

1. Materials: Pastor-Church Relations Report, pp. 312-15
2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Office of Pastor-Church Relations as they work with pastors, staff, congregations, and councils to create healthy relationships.

—Adopted

E. Race Relations

1. Materials: Race Relations Report, pp. 315-16
2. Recommendations
 - a. That synod make time in its schedule to watch the trailer of the video "Facing Racism" and encourage its use when it becomes available to the churches.

—Adopted

- b. That synod commend the work of the Office of Race Relations as they work in partnership with congregations, agencies, ministries, and the Reformed Church in America in education, informing and helping believers to become a diverse and unified community.

—Adopted

F. Safe Church Ministry

1. Materials: Safe Church Ministry Report, pp. 316-19

2. Recommendations

- a. That synod commend the work of the Office of Safe Church Ministry as they seek to educate, encourage, and lead churches in implementation and maintaining policies approved by previous synods.

—Adopted

- b. That synod again remind all churches in the denomination of the importance of documenting, developing, and implementing a Safe Church Policy and Safe Church Team, using the many resources available from the Safe Church Office.

—Adopted

G. Social Justice and Hunger Action

1. Materials: Social Justice and Hunger Action Report, pp. 319-22

2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action in peace making, creation care, immigration reform, and global poverty and commend it for stirring up the people of the CRC to become advocates for those negatively affected by these issues.

—Adopted

H. Urban Aboriginal Ministries

1. Materials: Urban Aboriginal Ministries Report, pp. 322-23

2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Edmonton Native Healing Centre, the Indian Family Centre in Winnipeg, and the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship in Regina.

—Adopted

Rev. Esteban Lugo addresses synod on behalf of the specialized ministries and offers prayer.

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued in Article 32.)

ARTICLE 29

Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. Timothy B. Toeset reporting, presents the following:

I. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Report, including Appendices A-F, pp. 338-512
2. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement, including its Appendix

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Dr. William Koopmans, chair, and Rev. Bruce Adema, director of Canadian ministries

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod express its gratitude to Rev. Carel Geleynse and Rev. Marvin J. Hofman for serving the cause of ecumenicity for the CRC.

—Adopted

2. That synod recognize the Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar as a church in ecclesiastical fellowship with the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Grounds:

- a. The Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar is a Reformed church that adheres to the three forms of unity.
- b. There has been a long relationship between our denomination and the Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar, particularly through Christian Reformed World Missions, but through other connections as well.
- c. The Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar requests this relationship, and this association will be encouraging to both the Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar and the CRCNA.

—Adopted

3. That synod recognize the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti (Église Chrétienne Réformée d’Haïti) as a church in dialogue with the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Grounds:

- a. The Christian Reformed Church of Haiti has a current relationship with the CRCNA through the work of CRCNA agencies, known in Haiti as Sous Espwa (Source of Hope).
- b. The Christian Reformed Church of Haiti identifies itself as a Reformed denomination in solidarity with the CRCNA.
- c. The Christian Reformed Church of Haiti desires a deeper and more formal ecclesiastical relationship with the CRCNA, while continuing to be connected to Sous Espwa.
- d. This more formal ecclesiastical relationship will bless and encourage both denominations.

—Adopted

4. That the Memorandum of Understanding (see *Acts of Synod 2011*, pp. 737-38) between the Christian Reformed Church of Haiti and the Christian Reformed Church in North America be endorsed (with the understanding that it must also be endorsed by the CRC of Haiti to become operative).

Grounds:

- a. This explains the expectations of the relationship between our churches.
- b. Memorandums of Understanding have become the preferred way for denominations to formalize their relationships.

—Adopted

5. That synod approve the “Common Agreement on the Mutual Recognition of Baptism” (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 354-55). (Appendix B will reflect the changed signatory as Rev. Joel R. Boot, Interim Executive Director.)

Grounds:

- a. The “Common Agreement” officially affirms a longstanding CRC practice of recognizing the validity of Roman Catholic baptisms (see Church Order Article 58; *Acts of Synod 1944*, p. 351).
- b. The CRC, by entering into this “Common Agreement,” would help testify to and remind us that we are baptized members not first of all of the CRC but of the “one holy catholic church.”

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered: Doug Shank (Lake Superior).

6. That synod encourage CRC congregations to use the language of the common “Certificate of Baptism” (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 356) in the issue of all future baptismal certificates.

Grounds:

- a. “Compatibility in the form and content of these [certificates] would be a sign of ecumenical cooperation and a safeguard of the validity of what we celebrate together as Christians” (“These Living Waters”).
- b. Use of this common certificate would remove unnecessary obstacles when Roman Catholics join the Christian Reformed Church or vice-versa.

—Adopted

7. That synod receive “These Living Waters” (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 357-440) as an ecumenical document on baptism and recommend it to the churches for further study and reflection.

Grounds:

- a. These documents have been prepared through extensive dialogue between representatives of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and representatives of the CRC and other Reformed churches.
- b. These documents offer detailed study of convergences and divergences between Roman Catholic and Reformed views of baptism.

—Adopted

8. That synod receive “This Bread of Life” (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 440-510) as an ecumenical document on the Lord’s Supper and recommend it to the churches for further study and reflection.

Grounds:

- a. These documents have been prepared through extensive dialogue between representatives of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and representatives of the CRC and other Reformed churches.
- b. These documents offer detailed study of convergences and divergences between Roman Catholic and Reformed views of the Lord's Supper.

—*Adopted*

9. That synod request the BOT to ask Faith Alive Christian Resources to explore with the educational and publishing agencies of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the United Church of Christ the possibility of jointly preparing educational materials on the documents produced by the U.S. Roman Catholic-Reformed dialogue on the sacraments.

Grounds:

- a. Such an effort would help broaden the impact of this round of ecumenical dialogue by making the results more accessible to leaders and congregations in our denominations.
- b. Working collaboratively on such a project would save time and money for all the denominations involved.

—*Adopted*

10. That synod adopt the following resolution of appreciation:

For their outstanding work as CRC representatives to the Reformed-Roman Catholic Dialogue sessions regarding the sacraments, synod expresses enthusiastic thanks to Dr. Lyle Bierma, Dr. Ronald Feenstra, Dr. Sue Rozeboom, and, posthumously, to Dr. David Engelhard and Dr. George Vandervelde. The documents they helped to produce, which appear as appendices to the EIRC report in the *Agenda for Synod 2011*, breathe the Spirit of Jesus' prayer for the church in John 17. In these documents, our scholars' diligent devotion to accuracy regarding both convergences and divergences in official church teachings, reflects Jesus' prayer, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:17). At the same time, their generous quest for mutual understanding reflects Jesus' prayer "that they may be one, even as we are one" (John 17:22). The combination of depth and clarity in these documents will lead to a combination of learning and inspiration as churches respond to them with the further study and reflection to which synod calls us. We thank God for the Reformed-Roman Catholic Dialogue and for the role of the CRC delegation in it. And we pray that the study of these documents may serve as a response to Jesus' prayer that "they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me" (John 17:23).

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued in Article 31.)

ARTICLE 30

The chair welcomes Dr. Gary J. Bekker, director of Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM), who introduces a video on the work of Christian Reformed World Missions through Global Coffee Break, Transformational Networks, and Advancing Ministries Among Muslims. Dr. Bekker presents the details of Global Coffee Break Ministry; Mr. Colin Watson, president of CRWM-US, presents the details of Transformational Networks; and Mrs. Jacoba Spyksma, president of CRWM-Canada, presents the details of Advancing Ministry Among Muslims. Dr. Bekker thanks the delegates for their support of the work of World Missions.

Rev. Lawrence A. Lobdell, Jr., offers a prayer for World Missions.

ARTICLE 31

(The report of Advisory Committee 7 is continued from Article 29.)

Advisory Committee 7, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. Timothy B. Toeset reporting, presents the following:

I. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Report, including Appendices A-F, pp. 338-512
2. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement, including its Appendix

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Dr. William Koopmans, chair, and Rev. Bruce Adema, director of Canadian ministries

C. *Recommendation*

That synod approve the following amendment to the “Orderly Exchange of Ministers” between the Christian Reformed Church in North America and the Reformed Church in America (*Acts of Synod 2005*, pp. 741-42), pending approval of the RCA, and that the change also be reflected in Church Order Supplement, Article 8, D, upon synod’s adoption:

It is important to the faithful and orderly exchange of ordained ministers that one who would serve in a congregation of another church first be formed and educated for ministry in one’s own tradition and have experience in serving in that church’s ordained ministry. Such experience and grounding in one’s own tradition are seen to be essential prior to serving in a setting of another tradition; therefore, such service is not intended for a first call.

Grounds:

1. Such a statement is included in the “Principles of Agreement” that the RCA has with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the United Church of Christ.
2. Such a statement would eliminate potential confusion for those coming from RCA seminary training to serve in CRC settings.

3. Such a statement will encourage CRC students attending RCA seminaries to complete the CRC orientation process required for CRC ordination. (Such a statement will likewise discourage CRC seminary students from following the RCA process to become ordained in the RCA when their intent is to serve in the CRC.)

—Adopted

II. Historical Committee

A. *Materials*: Historical Committee Report, pp. 513-18

Note: In the section of the report giving recognition on the anniversaries of various pastors, an omission was made. Rev. Harry Mennega should be included among those who are celebrating a 50-year anniversary (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 515). In addition, in the publications section of the report (*Agenda*, p. 514), it should be noted that a new book titled, *A New Way of Belonging*, has been published on the history of Christian Reformed missions in China.

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod allocate \$4,000 to the Historical Committee for the project of making available digital copies of the *Acts of Synod* and *Agendas for Synod* from the years 1881-1998.

—Adopted

2. That synod encourage those 37 classes that have member churches more than ten years old to submit copies of council minutes to the Archives if they have not yet done so.

—Adopted

III. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Report, including Appendices A-E, pp. 338-512
2. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement, including its Appendix

B. Privilege of the floor: Dr. William Koopmans, chair, and Rev. Bruce Adema, director of Canadian ministries

C. *Recommendation*

That synod adopt the following resolution of appreciation regarding the ministry and service of Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson.

Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson

Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, the General Secretary of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) since 1994, will conclude his service in that position on July 31, 2011.

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson has shown himself to be a visionary leader of Christ's church and a champion of the ecumenical movement. In his work as RCA General Secretary, as Interim Moderator

of Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A., and earlier as Director of Church and Society for the World Council of Churches, he promoted the glorious cause of Christian unity and so enhanced the church's mission of declaring the gospel of reconciliation.

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson has also shown himself to be a special friend and encourager of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, fostering a warm relationship between our denominations and bringing us to new levels of collaboration and affection.

Therefore be it resolved that the Christian Reformed Church in North America declares its appreciation to Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson for his faithful service to Christ's church, and for his friendship with and encouragement to the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

—Adopted

IV. Response to Overture 12: Request a Balanced Discussion of the Belhar Confession

A. *Materials*: Overture 12, p. 663

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod instruct the EIRC to foster a balanced denomination-wide discussion on the adoption of the Belhar Confession as a fourth confession.

Ground: It would be wise to encourage this sort of discussion in preparation for the decision on the Belhar Confession in 2012.

—Adopted

2. That synod declare this to be its response to Overture 12.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 32

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued from Article 28.)

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Majority Report, Rev. Michael W. Bootsma reporting, presents the following:

Response to Overture 1: Appoint a Study Committee to Review the Biblical Teachings regarding Homosexual Orientation and Practice (majority report)

A. *Materials*: Overture 1, p. 633

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 1 to appoint a study committee to review the biblical teachings regarding homosexual orientation and practice in light of current biblical and theological study of these issues.

Grounds:

1. The 1973 report thoroughly studied the issue from a biblical and theological perspective, and the 2002 report addressed the pastoral issues well. These reports are still relevant today.
2. There have not been enough new biblical and theological insights since 1973 to warrant a new study.
3. We recognize the pastoral failings of the church toward those struggling with issues around homosexuality, so we strongly urge the churches to study, use, and implement the 2002 report.

According to the Rules of Synodical Procedure, the minority report re the issues of Homosexual Orientation and Practice is presented as information by Rev. Arthur B. DeBruyn.

Response to Overture 1: Appoint a Study Committee to Review the Biblical Teachings regarding Homosexual Orientation and Practice (minority report)

A. *Materials:* Overture 1, p. 633

B. *Recommendation*

That synod accede to Overture 1 as a way to respond to and address the following realities:

1. *Cultural*—Society's perception of and reaction to the issue of same-sex attraction have undergone dramatic change, especially in the last few years. (For example, for the first time in Gallup Poll's tracking of the issue, the majority of Americans [53%] believe same-sex marriage should be recognized by the law as valid, with the same rights as traditional marriages. Canada is known to be one of the countries in the forefront in acceptance of same-sex attraction. Same-sex marriage has been legal across Canada since the Civil Marriage Act in 2005. These recent reconsiderations beg for a contemporary response to the topic of same-sex attraction in our churches.
2. *Legal*—Within the last decade homosexual conduct has received increasing legal protection. (For example in *Lawrence v. Texas*, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down sodomy laws as unconstitutional.) In the foreseeable future, it is very likely that it will become illegal across the USA to discriminate based on sexual orientation. Homosexual activity has been decriminalized across Canada since 1969, and since 1985 Canada's Human Rights Act prevents discriminatory practices based on sexual orientation.
3. *Theological*—We recognize and affirm the value and work of the 1973 report. But we also recognize that in the many years since then a plethora of theological voices and perspectives have spoken to this issue. Meanwhile, our powerful theological voice has been silent for nearly four decades. The language of that powerful theological voice was contemporary in its time, but we need language that can continue to speak powerfully and also meaningfully to generations of the 21st century. In addition, the 2002 report clearly recognized that, "given the thoughtful challenges posed by individuals and churches within the denomination, there may be wisdom,

both pastorally and theologically, for the church to address these concerns [what Scriptures say] at some time in the future” (*Agenda for Synod 2002*, p. 315).

Ground: In light of these developments, it is time the CRC revisited and restated our position on the issue.

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

Advisory Committee 2, Synodical Services II, Majority Report, Rev. Michael W. Bootsma reporting, presents the following:

Response to Overture 1: Appoint a Study Committee to Review the Biblical Teachings regarding Homosexual Orientation and Practice (majority report)

A. *Materials:* Overture 1, p. 633

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 1 to appoint a study committee to review the biblical teachings regarding homosexual orientation and practice in light of current biblical and theological study of these issues.

Grounds:

1. The 1973 report thoroughly studied the issue from a biblical and theological perspective, and the 2002 report addressed the pastoral issues well. These reports are still relevant today.
2. There have not been enough new biblical and theological insights since 1973 to warrant a new study.
3. We recognize the pastoral failings of the church toward those struggling with issues around homosexuality, so we strongly urge the churches to study, use, and implement the 2002 report.

—*Adopted*

The following negative vote is registered: Kenneth A. Baker (Kalamazoo).

ARTICLE 33

The afternoon session is adjourned at 5:35 p.m. Young adult representative Mark Eekhoff leads in closing prayer.

**MONDAY EVENING, June 13, 2011
Sixth Session**

ARTICLE 34

Elder delegate Laura Jager leads in opening prayer.

The president reports that M. Dale Fopma (Grandville) will be absent from tonight’s session and on Tuesday. His alternate, Philip J. Boender, is attending in Dale’s absence.

ARTICLE 35

The chair welcomes Dr. Peter Harkema, director of denominational advancement, who shares information on the Ministry Share Promotion Task Force. The task force surveyed the denomination with the help of outside communications and design assistance. The results show the following: (1) a paradigm shift in financial giving; (2) goals to raise more money in ministry shares and change the attitude to understanding and engagement; (3) the main audience will be church leaders, lead pastors, younger members of the church; (4) shifting the mindset; and (5) theme: You add, God multiplies.

ARTICLE 36

Advisory Committee 9, Faith Formation, Rev. Jacob M. Van de Hoef reporting, presents the following:

I. Faith Formation Committee

A. *Materials*: Faith Formation Committee Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 541-621, Overtures 26-27, pp. 689-692

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod endorse “Affirming Baptism and Forming Faith” as a guiding document for the work of denominational agencies and congregations in the area of faith formation (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 550-69).

Grounds:

- a. The document is consistent with Scripture and the Reformed confessions.
- b. The document has received substantial input from the denomination over the past four years, including a plenary discussion of the document by Synod 2009 and a request from Synod 2010 that congregations review the report and offer feedback to the committee.
- c. The document offers timely perspectives on important challenges facing congregations.

—Adopted

2. That synod adopt the changes to the Church Order and its Supplement as presented (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 572-76), with the following editorial changes in Article 59-c and Supplement, Articles 78-81-b (changes noted in italics):

a. Article 59-c

Proposed by Advisory Committee

“Privileges include but are not limited to presentation of children for *holy* baptism, the right to vote at congregational meetings, and eligibility to hold office.”

b. Supplement, Articles 78-81-b

Proposed by Advisory Committee

“The privileges of confessing membership include but are not limited to *presentation of* children for holy baptism, the right to vote at congregational meetings, and eligibility to hold office.”

Grounds:

- 1) These changes provide for the implementation of the decision of Synod 2010 about age- and ability-appropriate participation in the Lord's Supper.
- 2) These changes have been before the churches for an adequate amount of time, according to the requirements of Church Order Supplement, Article 47-b. Therefore, they can be adopted by Synod 2011.
- 3) These changes acknowledge that while profession of faith is a vital practice for faith formation, neither Scripture nor the confessions require that it take place prior to participation in the Lord's Supper.
- 4) These changes promote a consistency of terminology within the Church Order to guide our churches in their practice of faith formation.
- 5) The editorial changes provide for consistent language in reference to baptism and are supported by the Faith Formation Committee.

—*Adopted*

- c. Amendment to Article 59-b: Delete the sentence in proposed change to the new Article 59-b: "This public profession of faith includes a commitment to the creeds and confessions of the Christian Reformed Church" (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 573).

—*Adopted*

3. That synod declare this to be its answer to Overtures 26 and 27.

—*Adopted*

II. Response to Overture 24: Alter Wording for Church Order Articles Proposed by the Faith Formation Committee

A. *Materials:* Overture 24, p. 688

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 24.

Ground: The concerns raised in the overture regarding requirements for eligibility for office are adequately addressed in Church Order Article 3.

—*Adopted*

III. Response to Overture 25: Do Not Adopt the Proposed Church Order Supplement, Article 59-c within the Faith Formation Committee Report

A. *Materials:* Overture 25, pp. 688-89

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 25.

Ground: The proposed Church Order Article 59-a refers to profession of faith in age- and ability-appropriate ways. The proposed Church Order Supplement, Article 59-c, refers to the privileges and responsibilities of

membership, not to profession of faith. The overture seems to confuse these two references.

—Adopted

IV. Faith Formation Committee

A. *Materials*: Faith Formation Committee Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 541-621

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod accept the revised version of “Children at the Table” (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 577-612) as fulfillment of the mandate of the Faith Formation Committee to formulate “a clear statement about the participation of baptized children at the Lord’s Supper and the practice of public profession of faith for use in the churches.”

Grounds:

- a. The document is consistent with Scripture and the Reformed confessions.
- b. Synod 2010 endorsed an earlier draft of the document as sufficient basis for approving a principle to guide further work on the topic.
- c. The revised document includes the changes requested by Synod 2010.
- d. This action will allow the document to be received by our congregations and by our ecumenical conversation partners as a document accepted by synod.

—Adopted

2. That synod affirm the following principle regarding infant dedication to guide the continuing work of the committee (see also *Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 612-21):

When parents request infant or child dedication in public worship, the pastor and elders of local congregations should (1) engage in pastorally appropriate ways to celebrate the birth or adoption of the child, pray for the child and parents, and call for the commitment of the parents to nurture their children in the Lord; (2) engage in convicted and winsome teaching on the subject of infant baptism; and (3) refrain from leading rituals of infant or child dedication in public worship services.

Grounds:

- a. Congregations should minister to those who will not present their children for infant baptism with a spirit of gratitude to God for the gift of these children, offering encouragement and accountability to parents as part of faithful, pastoral ministry.
- b. A faithful, encouraging, pastoral response to parents promises to reduce unhelpful ambivalence toward members who do not affirm infant baptism.
- c. Many people do not embrace infant baptism because they do not understand how it is consistent with Scripture. Teaching on the subject offers a rich opportunity to promote greater biblical

understanding and may lead the parents to present their children for baptism.

- d. A ritual of an infant or child dedication in public worship is not required by the Bible and is not consistent with the Reformed confessions.
- e. A ritual of infant or child dedication in public worship could easily create confusion about the meaning and purpose of the sacrament of baptism.
- f. This principle is consistent with the Reformed confessions and with the past decisions of Synods 1888, 1964, 1973, and 2007.

—Adopted

- 3. That synod extend the term of the Faith Formation Committee for one more year with the following additional mandate:
 - a. To identify appropriate models for developing a denomination-wide mechanism for promoting continued learning, reflection, and training on the topic of faith formation and discipleship. This is to be done in consultation with other denominational ministries and related agencies.
 - b. Provide quarterly reports on this work throughout 2011 and 2012 to the interim executive director, with a final report to Synod 2013.

Grounds:

- 1) Faithful discipleship and faith formation are urgent and ongoing concerns for our churches.
- 2) While the Faith Formation Committee will complete its original mandate at the meeting of Synod 2012, the tasks of training, learning, and mutual accountability are ongoing.
- 3) The work of the Faith Formation Committee in shepherding the denomination in this topic has raised awareness of the hunger for resources and leadership to support faith formation at the classical and local levels. This movement toward stronger faith formation practices needs to be supported and encouraged.
- 4) While there are denominational ministries and other related agencies that support faith formation, there is currently no agency or office mandated to coordinate or oversee matters of faith formation.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued in Article 57.)

ARTICLE 37

The evening session is adjourned at 9:20 p.m. Elder delegate Frank Zee leads in closing prayer.

ARTICLE 38

Rev. Gideon E. Wamala reads the call to worship from Psalm 117 and leads in opening prayer. Delegates sing *Psalter Hymnal* 495, "I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace," with Mr. P. Herbert Advocaat leading and Mrs. Dee Advocaat accompanying. Delegates recite the Apostles' Creed. Rev. Paul Mpindi reads Matthew 28:16-20, following the theme of Grace in Proclamation and focusing on "Authority for Mission." He shares that the mission is very clear: "Go and make disciples . . ."—and Jesus said, "All authority . . . has been given to me . . . and . . . I will be with you always." To do missions, we need to (1) trust in God, (2) live intimately with God, and (3) obey God. Rev. Mpindi closes in prayer. Delegates sing *Psalter Hymnal* 477, "You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim."

The roll indicates that Philip J. Boender (Grandville) replaces M. Dale Fopma and that Drew K. Sweetman (Muskegon) replaces Leslie D. Van Dyke. Ernest Wiegiers (Hudson) is absent. First-time attendees rise to show their assent with the Forms of Unity.

ARTICLE 39

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Ralph S. Wigboldus reporting, presents the following:

Faith Alive Christian Resources

A. *Materials*: Faith Alive Christian Resources Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 163-298

B. *Privilege of the floor*

For the board

Rev. Pieter Pereboom, president, and Mr. Mark Rice, director

For *The Banner*

Rev. Robert De Moor, editor in chief

For the Editorial Department

Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, editor in chief, and Rev. Joyce Borger, worship and music editor

C. *Recommendation*

That synod approve that the new hymnal *Lift Up Your Hearts* not include the full text of the Reformed confessions in the back of the hymnal as in the *Psalter Hymnal*.

Grounds:

1. One of the important features of this hymnal is a broad array of types of hymns and styles of music. Since we want the hymnal to be comparable in size to the *Psalter Hymnal*, we simply do not have the space for the confessions.
2. Few churches make use of the confessions from the hymnal. The hymnal is designed primarily as a *liturgical* resource rather than as an *educational* resource.

3. Publishing a hymnal without the confessions will increase its potential to be an ecumenical hymnal, while publishing the parts together would restrict that potential.
4. The Reformed confessions are readily available in a separate bound volume, as well as online at www.crcna.org.
5. Publishing the confessions in a separate bound volume allows for greater flexibility of use in classroom and personal study and for ease of incorporating any changes or additions in the future.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued in Article 50.)

ARTICLE 40

Advisory Committee 3, Candidacy and Education, Rev. Dan A. Gritter reporting, presents the following:

I. Calvin College

A. *Materials*

1. Calvin College Report, pp. 119-22
2. Calvin College Supplement

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

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod ratify the following reappointments with tenure (*italics* indicate promotion to that rank):

- a. Patrick M. Bailey, M.S., *associate* professor of computer science
- b. David L. Dornbos, Ph.D., *associate* professor of biology
- c. Kristin Kobes DuMez, Ph.D., *associate* professor of history
- d. Matthew C. Halteman, Ph.D., *associate* professor of philosophy
- e. Craig A. Hanson, Ph.D., *associate* professor of art history
- f. Phillip M. Hash, D.Ed., *associate* professor of music
- g. Youngkhill Lee, Ph.D., *professor* of recreation
- h. Matthew D. Lundberg, Ph.D., *associate* professor of religion
- i. David R. Reimer, D.M.A., *associate* professor of music
- j. F. Corey Roberts, Ph.D., *associate* professor of German
- k. J. Aubrey Sykes, Ph.D., *professor* of engineering
- l. Alisa J. Tigchelaar, Ph.D., *associate* professor of Spanish
- m. David B. Wunder, Ph.D., *associate* professor of engineering

—Adopted

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

- a. Judith A. Baker, M.S.N., *assistant professor of nursing, emerita*
- b. Gerard Fondse, Jr., M.A., *assistant professor of English, emeritus*
- c. Thomas B. Hoeksema, Ph.D., *professor of education, emeritus*
- d. Beryl L. Hugen, Ph.D., *professor of social work, emeritus*
- e. Thomas L. Jager, Ph.D., *professor of mathematics, emeritus*

- f. John R. Schneider, Ph.D., professor of religion, emeritus
- g. William R. Stevenson, Jr., professor of political science, emeritus
- h. Diane D. Vander Pol, M.L.S., librarian, emerita

—Adopted

3. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointment:

Mandy A. Cano Villalobos, M.F.A., assistant professor of art (two years)

—Adopted

4. That synod ratify the following faculty promotions in rank (indicated in italics):

- a. Jerry G. Bergsma, Ph.D., *professor of kinesiology*
- b. Margaret J. Goetz, Ph.D., *professor of philosophy*
- c. Deborah B. Haarsma, Ph.D., *professor of physics and astronomy*
- d. William H. Katerberg, Ph.D., *professor of history*
- e. Amy S. Patterson, Ph.D., *professor of political science*
- f. Garth E. Pauley, Ph.D., *professor of communication arts and sciences*
- g. Randall J. Pruijm, Ph.D., *professor of mathematics and statistics*
- h. Deanna van Dijk, Ph.D., *professor of geography*
- i. Julie Walton, Ph.D., *associate professor of kinesiology*

—Adopted

II. Calvin Theological Seminary

A. *Materials*

1. Calvin Theological Seminary Report, pp. 123-27
2. Calvin Theological Seminary Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Kevin Adams, chair, and Rev. Paul De Vries, trustee

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod approve the following faculty reappointments:

John M. Rottman, professor of preaching with tenure
 Mary L. Vanden Berg, associate professor of systematic theology
 John D. Witvliet, professor of worship (part-time)

—Adopted

2. That Synod 2011 acknowledge with gratitude to God the years of faithful service of Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., and take note that the Board of Trustees of Calvin Theological Seminary has conferred upon him the title of President *emeritus*, effective upon completion of his tenure as president.

—Adopted

3. That Synod 2011 acknowledge with gratitude to God the years of faithful service of Dr. Duane K. Kelderman for his service as vice president of administration and as associate professor of preaching at Calvin Theological Seminary.

—Adopted

III. Candidacy Committee

A. Materials

1. Candidacy Committee Report, including the Appendix, pp. 327-37
2. Candidacy Committee Supplement

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

C. Recommendations

1. That synod affirm the principles of contextualization implied in Church Order Article 23, and encourage classes and synodical deputies to exhibit appropriate discernment in their application of this article.

—Adopted

2. That synod approve the following two recommendations relative to the retirement of those serving the church as ministry associates:

- a. That synod encourage classes to offer recognition and celebration of the ministry associates in their classis who are completing careers of service.

—Adopted

- b. That synod ask the stated clerks of classis to report (via the minutes of classis) the names of such persons, as they are recognized and celebrated, to the synodical services office so that the names and persons can also be recognized at synod (via a list similar to that of retiring ministers of the Word).

—Adopted

3. That synod approve the following four recommendations relative to the continuing education of pastors:

- a. That synod remind the churches of existing policy statements regarding continuing education (CE) for pastors (note *Acts of Synod 2000*, p. 681) in the context of the recognition that healthy, thriving pastors are pastors who participate in regular CE, and healthy churches are churches who have healthy pastors.

—Adopted

- b. That synod encourage the continuing development of healthy policy and practice for CE for pastors at the local church level, making use of resources available through Pastor-Church Relations.

—Adopted

- c. That synod instruct the churches and church visitors to make the issue of CE for pastors a standard part of the discussion with church councils during classical church visiting.

—Adopted

- d. That synod approve the addition of a line item in the CRC Letter of Call, giving opportunity to specify an indicated amount of time per year for continuing education.

—Adopted

4. That synod take note of the various initiatives of the Candidacy Committee, as noted in their report, and thank them for their continuing work.

—Adopted

5. That synod declare the following as candidates for ministry in the Christian Reformed Church:

Glenn S. Adams
Aminah Al-Attas Bradford
Michael S. Boerkoel
Samuel Boldenow
Joel T. Bootsma
Randall J. Buursma
John Harold Caicedo
Timothy A. De Vries
Steven R. Eckersley
John O. Eigege
Rodolfo Galindo
Aaron C. Gonzalez
Amos H. Groenendyk
Andrew H. Hanson
Joshua R. Holwerda
Daniel J. Kinnas
Kyle P. Kloostra
Brian M. Kornelis
Kenneth C. Kruithoff
Samuel Lee
Ruth E. Lemmen

Raidel León Martinez
Sarah Matherly Roelofs
Sarah Meekhof Albers
John Moelker
Jonathan Nicolai-deKoning
Adam L. Nordyke
Jessica J. Oosterhouse
Benjamin J. Schaefer
Eric D. Schlukebir
Timothy M. Sheridan
Martin A. Sisneroz, Jr.
Juli Stuelpnagel
Bernhard VanderVlis
Mark Van Drunen
Mark J. Van Dyke
Thyra D. VanKeeken
Terence M. Visser
Caleb J. Walcott
Jan Anthony Westrate
John T. Wildeboer
Jonathan D. Young

—Adopted

6. That synod approve the extensions of candidacy of the following:

Amanda C. Bakale
S. Nicholas Bierma
Micah J. Bruxvoort
Matthew J. Eenigenburg
Adam T. Eisenga
Chad A. Haan
Jennifer S. Holmes
Linda A. Johnson
Joseph J. Kim
Lucas R. Lockard

George W. Lubbers
Erin M. Marshalek
Mary B. Stegink
David P. Stockdale
Adam J. Stout
Matthew D. VandenHeuvel
Ashley M. VanDragt
Geoffrey A. VanDragt
Brian Willats

—Adopted

7. That synod receive the presentation of the candidates for ministry of the Word on Wednesday, June 15, at 9:30 a.m. by Rev. David R. Koll and Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., president of Calvin Theological Seminary.

—Adopted

8. That synod approve the candidacy committee concurrence in the declaration of *need* for the following persons under Church Order Article 8:

Date	Name of applicant	Classis	Former denomination
5-20-10	Gerstner, Jonathan	(Arizona)	Grace Fellowship Church
8-24-10	Haywood, Reggie	(Central Plains)	Missionary Baptist
8-24-10	Jang, SeJong	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-24-10	Cho, Kyung Hyun	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-24-10	Rhee, Eun Soo	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Baptist Church
8-24-10	Shin, David Dae Woo	(California South)	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-25-10	Kim, Enoch In Hwan	(Northern Illinois)	Presbyterian Church in Korea (Kosin)
10-20-10	Hong, Hyung Hun	(Greater Los Angeles)	Evangelical Church Alliance
10-20-10	Seung, Kwang Chul	(Greater Los Angeles)	Evangelical Church Alliance
10-20-10	Covert, Phil	(Northern Illinois)	Presbyterian Church in America
1-04-11	Cho, David SungJu	(Pacific Hanmi)	Evangelical Church Alliance
1-04-11	Kim, KangWon	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
1-04-11	Ma, WonChul	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Baptist Church
1-04-11	Nam, DeogJong	(Pacific Hanmi)	Korean Presbyterian Church
1-20-11	Lee, Pablo	(Greater Los Angeles)	Korean Presbyterian Church
2-11-11	Simon, Randall	(Columbia)	Presbyterian Church (USA)

—Adopted

IV. Dordt College

A. *Materials*: Dordt College Report, pp. 523-24

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report of Dordt College with thanksgiving to the Lord for leading students in becoming faithful disciples, equipped to serve around the world.

—Adopted

V. Institute for Christian Studies

A. *Materials*: Institute for Christian Studies Report, pp. 525-26

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report of the Institute for Christian Studies with thanksgiving to the Lord for its work as a graduate school forming a new generation of Christian scholars and for its continued efforts to take research to a more prominent level.

—Adopted

VI. Kuyper College

A. *Materials*: Kuyper College Report, p. 529

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report of Kuyper College with thanksgiving to the Lord for its seventy-one years of relationship with the Christian Reformed Church and its new program, established with Calvin Theological Seminary, that allows students to complete their undergraduate and seminary education a year sooner than previously possible.

—Adopted

VII. The King's University College

A. *Materials*: The King's University College Report, pp. 527-28

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report of The King's University College with thanksgiving to the Lord for the high national rating of student satisfaction with the quality of teaching.

—*Adopted*

VIII. Redeemer University College

A. *Materials*: Redeemer University College Report, pp. 530-31

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report of Redeemer University College with thanksgiving to the Lord for the strong commitment to its mission of providing Christian university education across the liberal arts and sciences from a biblical, Christ-centered worldview.

—*Adopted*

IX. Trinity Christian College

A. *Materials*: Trinity Christian College Report, p. 532

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report of Trinity Christian College with thanksgiving to the Lord for the record high level of students and its programs for high school and college students that impact its local Chicago area.

—*Adopted*

X. Response to Overture 2: Declare That Section VI, J of Report 28 (1991) Be Part of the CRCNA's Official Position on Creation and Science

A. *Materials*: Overture 2, pp. 634-35

B. *Observations*

1. We share the concern rightly expressed in the overture and thank Classis Central Plains for expressing it.
2. For the integrity and peace of the church, there is no time like the present to reaffirm our subscription to the three forms of unity—including everything they say about human origins—and to thank Calvin College for requiring subscription of all who teach there and for continuing to work to maintain academic freedom within the bounds of confessional fidelity.

C. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 2.

Ground: While we heartily endorse the intent of Statement J, the committee believes that as an address to the concern expressed by Classis Central Plains, J is inadequate. J was not written to function as an official position statement and therefore lacks sufficient scope, nuance, and clarity. For example, it says nothing of the

special supernatural act that created Adam and Eve, which, in the current climate of discussion, is at the heart of the debate.

Note: Delegates discussed the above motion at length without decision. The matter is taken up again in Article 49.

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued in Article 49.)

ARTICLE 41

Rev. Bruce Adema, staff to the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee (EIRC), introduces Dr. Richard Hamm, ecumenical guest from Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A., who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.

Dr. William Koopmans, chair of the EIRC, introduces Dr. Setri Nyomi, ecumenical guest from the World Communion of Reformed Churches, who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.

Dr. Emily Brink, member of the EIRC, introduces Rev. Risae Shamaki Ykubu, ecumenical guest from the Reformed Church of Christ in Nigeria (RCCN), who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.

Dr. Peter Borgdorff, executive director emeritus, introduces Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, fraternal delegate from the Reformed Church in America, who addresses synod. The president of synod responds. Dr. Borgdorff reads the Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson that synod adopted on June 13 (Article 35).

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson introduces Rev. Thomas DeVries, nominee for General Secretary of the Reformed Church in America, who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.

ARTICLE 42

The morning session is adjourned at 12:00 noon. Rev. A. Henry Eygenraam leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, June 14, 2011

Eighth Session

ARTICLE 43

Elder delegate Howard Vander Griend leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 44

Dr. William Koopmans introduces Rev. Pieter Sinia, fraternal delegate of Nederlands Gereformeerde Kerken (Netherlands Reformed Churches), who addresses synod. The president of synod responds.

Rev. Bruce Adema leads in a prayer of thanksgiving for all fraternal delegates.

ARTICLE 45

Advisory Committee 5, Missions and Ministry, Rev. Paul Ingeneri reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (sections II, B, 2 and 4, including Appendices E and F), pp. 65-70, 71-72

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendation

That synod recognize Rev. Moses Chung's appointment as the new director of Christian Reformed Home Missions and that Rev. Chung be permitted to address synod to extend his personal greetings (II, B, 4).

—Adopted

II. Christian Reformed Home Missions

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed Home Missions Report, pp. 128-39

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. James Jones, board vice-president, and Rev. Moses Chung, director

C. Observations

Rev. Moses Chung, director of Christian Reformed Home Missions (CRHM); Mr. Ben Vandezande, interim director of CRHM; Rev. Rod Hugen, president of the CRHM board; and Mr. Nate Vander Stelt, director of advancement, met with the advisory committee. The advisory committee was grateful to hear of Rev. Chung's passion for prayer, leadership development, and the renewal of established churches. We look forward with excitement to his first year of service. Mr. Vandezande shared with the committee CRHM's main pursuits during this period of transition: developing a fresh focus and strategic plan; balancing the budget; seeking partnerships with agencies, classes, local congregations and other entities; and developing new leadership at every level of ministry. The CRC owes great thanks to Mr. Vandezande and others for their work in accepting the challenging circumstances of these recent years and using them as opportunities to refine and strengthen their mission and vision.

D. Recommendations

1. That synod give thanks to God for the work of Home Missions, offering special gratitude for the appointment of Rev. Moses Chung as the new director.

—Adopted

2. That synod give special thanks to Mr. Ben Vandezande for his willing and sacrificial service to the denomination that went far beyond his original appointment by synod.

—Adopted

3. That synod impress upon the churches that CRHM is working diligently to help churches engage in creative and relevant ministry in their local contexts.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 5 is continued in Article 48.)

ARTICLE 46

Rev. Moses Chung, director of Christian Reformed Home Missions, addresses synod and expresses thanks to God and to those who have encouraged him in the past few weeks. He shares that he was called by God at a young age in a worship service, being assured that God would guide him the rest of his life. Learning the importance of prayer, today Rev. Chung relies on God's Word in Jeremiah 1:7-8 for direction in his life.

ARTICLE 47

Mr. Ben Vandezande, regional director of CRHM, addresses the delegates, giving thanks for Rev. Chung as he begins his journey leading Home Missions. He also shares God's mission for Home Missions. CRHM works in partnership with many others under the umbrella of the Christian Reformed Church of North America in transforming lives and communities. Home Missions (1) multiplies new churches and campus ministries, (2) cultivates diverse missional leaders, and (3) helps churches discern their place in God's mission.

In addition, Mrs. Sam Huizinga, Global Coffee Break director, addresses the delegates and shares the story of training both men and women as Coffee Break leaders in Colombia, South America. God is opening the door of Coffee Break around the world because it is a powerful tool of evangelism and an effective discipleship strategy. God is renewing passion, vision, and energy for this ministry.

ARTICLE 48

(The report of Advisory Committee 5 is continued from Article 45.)

Advisory Committee 5, Missions and Ministry, Rev. Paul Ingeneri reporting, presents the following:

I. The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry

A. *Materials:* Board of Trustees Report (Appendix E, pp. 65-70)

B. *Observations*

Rev. Michael Bruinooge, interim director of The Network, and Ms. Lis Van Harten, program director for Sustaining Pastoral Excellence (SPE) and Sustaining Congregational Excellence (SCE), met with the advisory committee. Ms. Van Harten spoke of the effectiveness of the SPE programs involving peer learning groups and learning events in bringing encouragement and connection to pastors, their families, and churches. Nearly 70 percent of CRC pastors have already been involved. SCE grants continue to help churches of smaller than 150 members to engage in specific ministries they might find impossible without this assistance. To date, they have helped 66 percent of eligible churches. Rev. Bruinooge reported that The Network online is gaining traction, especially among pastors. The Network ministry overall is connecting people to people, as well as people to helpful resources in the CRC.

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod express gratitude to God for the work of The Network, as well as for SPE and SCE, giving thanks for the sharing of knowledge and resources among the leaders of our churches.
—Adopted
2. That synod express thanks that the BOT has responded to the call to provide funds to continue Sustaining Pastoral Excellence even after grant funding is completed at the end of this calendar year.
—Adopted

II. **Dynamic Youth Ministries**

A. *Calvinist Cadet Corps*

1. Materials: Calvinist Cadet Corps Report, p. 533
2. Recommendation
That synod commend the Calvinist Cadet Corps in training counselors and emphasizing prayer for leading boys in following Christ. Sharing in a Kenyan Cadet conference provided opportunity to reconnect with some of the three dozen Cadet clubs in Kenya and develop a Cadet guidebook specific to Kenyan Cadet clubs.
—Adopted

B. *GEMS Girls' Clubs*

1. Materials: GEMS Girls' Clubs Report, pp. 533-34
2. Recommendation
That synod commend GEMS Girls' Clubs in equipping women and girls to actively live out their faith by doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God. God has blessed GEMS ministry in Zambia and is opening up new opportunities to serve underprivileged communities and rural villages internationally, more fully expressing their name: *Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior*.
—Adopted

C. *Youth Unlimited*

1. Materials: Youth Unlimited Report, p. 535
2. Recommendation
That synod commend Youth Unlimited in "helping churches challenge youth to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and transform their world for him" through enhanced summer youth events (Live It! and Israel 2011) and three additional youth-worker Soul Care Retreats. We thank God for their faithful ministry as they celebrate a 90-year partnership with the CRC.
—Adopted

III. Partners Worldwide

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed Partners Worldwide Report, p. 538

B. *Recommendation*

That synod commend Partners Worldwide as they train Christian businesspeople in using business as ministry that participates in Christ's transformation of lives. Ministry expanded this year through new business networks in India and China that are supported by prayer and mentoring from businesspeople in the United States, Canada, and Hong Kong. During 2010, a network of 16,852 business owners retained 20,472 jobs and created 1,922 new jobs, affecting more than 120,000 people by helping to provide sustainable incomes and family dignity.

—Adopted

IV. Back to God Ministries International

A. *Materials*: Back to God Ministries International Report, pp. 111-18

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev Bruce Persenaire, board president; and Rev. Robert C. Heerspink, director

C. *Observations*

Dr. Robert C. Heerspink, director of Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI), met with the advisory committee, sharing the agency's work in forming strategic ministry partnerships and in harnessing the tools of media for God's kingdom purposes. Dr. Heerspink noted that the agency's recent name change to *Back to God Ministries International*, replacing the one word *Hour* with the words *Ministries International*, underscores that the agency is involved in a multitude of ministries and that almost 80 percent of its work is outside North America. BTGMI began in 1939 as one radio program in one city but has grown to include outreach into ten major language groups around the world. As a ministry, Back to God Ministries International remains unique in the sense that it is not simply a translation of North American teaching and culture into different languages but is a teaching ministry conducted through indigenous leaders who are immersed in the Reformed faith and in the target culture and who have the communication skills necessary to spread the good news effectively.

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod give thanks to God for the many fruitful partnerships that BTGMI is engaged in, especially with Words of Hope Ministries RCA, and for its ongoing commitment to excellence and relevance in media ministry.

—Adopted

2. That synod encourage the churches with respect to BTGMI to make full use of the media resources of BTGMI by "friending" them on Facebook, following them via Twitter, and becoming familiar with the many ways their expertise can guide the churches into relevant contact with their communities through media. Especially pertinent is the help that can be found at www.churchjuice.com for congregations seeking to enhance their ministry through effective websites. (See also www.reframemedia.com.)

—Adopted

V. Christian Reformed World Missions

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed World Missions Report, pp. 140-48

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Ms. Jacoba Spyksma, president of World Missions-Canada; Mr. Colin Watson, president of World Missions-U.S.; and Dr. Gary J. Bekker, director

C. *Observations*

The advisory committee welcomed Mr. Colin Watson, president of CRWM-U.S.A.; Ms. Ko Spyksma, president of CRWM-Canada; Dr. Gary J. Bekker, director of CRWM; Mr. Al Karsten, director of CRWM's ministries in North America; and Mr. Joel Hogan, director of CRWM's international ministries. Dr. Bekker expressed his deep gratitude for the generosity of the church and for the thriftiness of CRWM personnel in accomplishing the work of missions during financially challenging times. The staff emphasized the importance of partnerships in accomplishing its goals. One example of this was the recent work in responding to the crisis in Japan. Response to the crisis solidified relationships with the Reformed Church in Japan and with CRWRC. Just as important is the philosophy of working with target groups as partners in ministry, focusing not on what we can do for them but on what can be accomplished together in ministry. Dr. Bekker emphasized a new opportunity arising for ministry among Muslims. CRWM is hoping for a new passion within the CRC for people to get past the misunderstandings of Muslims that result in fear and anger and to rekindle a compassionate heart for reaching Muslims with the love of Christ. CRWM is pursuing partnerships with the other agencies and with the churches to create Advancing Missions Among Muslims (AMAM)—a new effort to bring our resources to bear on reaching Muslims with the love of Christ wherever they may be.

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod give thanks to God for the passion of the World Missions staff for reaching the lost with the love of Christ in ways that affirm our need to learn from and be shaped by the people we are reaching. Indeed, we are grateful for CRWM's assistance to the churches to help them understand missions in the 21st century in a new way by avoiding the unintentional message that we as the North American church have everything to give and nothing to receive.

—Adopted

2. That synod recognize and give thanks for the missionaries who have achieved various milestones in service to the denomination (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 141-42).

—Adopted

3. That synod urge churches to seek guidance from CRWM in engaging in the work of hands-on missions and in encouraging the work of partnership in missions.

—Adopted

VI. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed World Relief Committee Report, pp. 149-59

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Mr. Paul Wassink, president of CRWRC-U.S.; Mr. Dennis Jurjens, president of CRWRC-Canada; Mr. Andrew Ryskamp, co-director of CRWRC; and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, co-director of CRWRC

C. *Observations*

The advisory committee welcomed Mr. Andrew Ryskamp, director of CRWRC-US, and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, director of CRWRC-Canada. CRWRC represents 1,000 Christian Reformed congregations working in 4,000 communities in thirty countries with a budget of \$40,000,000. Increasingly CRWRC finds itself operating in a leadership position in disaster response and community development, often being asked to provide disaster assessments to government relief agencies. CRWRC's unique focus in this ministry is community ownership of projects for lasting transformation. This focus has resulted in a greater receptivity to the gospel of Jesus Christ on the part of those who have been helped.

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod praise God for the work being done through CRWRC to restore hope through community development, justice advocacy, and disaster response.

—Adopted

2. That synod urge the churches to be in prayer for the binational directors and boards of CRWRC and for the Board of Trustees as they face the challenges of directing such a large organization.

—Adopted

VII. Summary

A. *Observation*

Advisory Committee 5 was continually impressed with the synergy, cooperation, and kingdom focus shared by the ministry and mission agencies of our denomination. The passion for ministry and the commitment to selfless service was a permeating spirit among those who came before the committee to give reports. We noted with gratitude a great deal of mutual cooperation among the various agencies from which we heard. We were also grateful for their many partnerships with a large variety of organizations and entities as they seek to make the most of the resources entrusted to them and for their articulation of a distinctively Reformed accent in their work. They face many challenges but do so with a spirit of hope and trust. The advisory committee also wishes to remind the congregations of the CRCNA of the many resources available from the denomination. All of the agencies that reported to our committee made clear their commitment to working at the local level with congregations on a variety of ministry fronts, and thus we urge congregations to take advantage of these services and opportunities.

B. *Recommendation*

That synod commend the work of the ministry and mission agencies of the CRCNA, giving thanks to God for the spirit of cooperation and Christ-centeredness that is so clearly reflected in their efforts.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 49

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued from Article 40.)

Advisory Committee 3, Candidacy and Education, Rev. Dan A. Gritter reporting, presents the following:

Response to Overture 2: Declare That Section VI, J of Report 28 (1991) Be Part of the CRCNA's Official Position on Creation and Science

A. *Materials*: Overture 2, pp. 634-35

B. *Observations*

1. We share the concern rightly expressed in the overture and thank classis Central Plains for expressing it.
2. For the integrity and peace of the church, there is no time like the present to reaffirm our subscription to the three forms of unity—including everything they say about human origins—and to thank Calvin College for requiring subscription of all who teach there and for continuing to work to maintain academic freedom within the bounds of confessional fidelity.

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod not accede to Overture 2.

Ground: While we heartily endorse the intent of Statement J, the committee believes that as an address to the concern expressed by Classis Central Plains, J is inadequate. J was not written to function as an official position statement and therefore lacks sufficient scope, nuance, and clarity. For example, it says nothing of the special supernatural act that created Adam and Eve, which, in the current climate of discussion, is at the heart of the debate.

—Adopted

2. Since Calvin College has appointed a committee to study the limits of academic freedom within the bounds of confessional fidelity, that synod instruct Calvin College to report its findings upon the completion of the study.

Ground: It is anticipated that this study will provide a statement that will more fully address the concern of Classis Central Plains.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 50

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued from Article 39.)

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Ralph S. Wigboldus reporting, presents the following:

Faith Alive Christian Resources (majority report)

A. *Materials*: Faith Alive Christian Resources Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 163-298; Overtures 4-11, pp. 651-63

B. Background

In 2008, with the approval of the denominational offices of the CRC and the RCA, Faith Alive Christian Resources formed a small committee to work toward a common translation of the confessions. The theologians on the committee brought an uncommon expertise in their familiarity with the confessions and their aptitude with the original languages. The members are Dr. Lyle Bierma, Calvin Theological Seminary; Dr. Todd Billings, Western Theological Seminary; Dr. Eugene Heideman, retired RCA theologian and denominational leader; and Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, editor in chief, Faith Alive.

Faced with a formidable task, and without knowing the possible barriers, the committee soon found that all participants were eager to work out differences in the confessional texts, and a spirit of uncommon unity and commitment pervaded its work. The committee decided that it would not undertake a totally new translation but would work from the present translations in the two denominations. However, where there were discrepancies, the committee consulted the original languages to resolve the textual differences. In addition, there were some places in which it was judged that the translation needed improvement, and this, again, was done by looking back to the original language documents.

After the committee was well into its work, it was contacted by a similar committee that had just been formed in the Presbyterian Church (USA) (PCUSA) to do a fresh translation of the Heidelberg Catechism. They asked to see the Faith Alive committee's work and, after studying it for a time, felt that doing a translation of their own was no longer necessary. Over time, they offered some suggestions for further improvement, many of which were readily accepted. Hence, the new translation will also be recommended for adoption in the PCUSA, making it a truly ecumenical document.

After completing its work in spring 2010, Faith Alive Christian Resources recommended the translations to Synod 2010 for approval in the CRC. Synod decided the following:

1. That synod reaffirm the goal of achieving a common text of the three forms of unity as important for increasing cooperation and partnership between the RCA and the CRC.
2. That synod allow additional time to consider these changes (also recommended in several overtures) to provide members and the churches an opportunity to re-engage the confessions and to create healthy conversations about our core beliefs, as well as to evaluate the proposed changes.

3. That synod request the ED to instruct the task force to provide the churches with an updated copy of the proposed revision of the confessions for review by July 1, 2010 (an electronic version).
4. That synod encourage councils and congregations to study this proposed revision and communicate their responses to the task force prior to October 1, 2010.
5. That synod request the Board of Trustees to direct the task force, after considering these responses, to prepare a final draft of the three confessions to be posted online and sent to the churches by November 1 and printed in the *Agenda for Synod 2011* for adoption by Synod 2011.
6. That synod affirm the approach of the task force with respect to gender usage for humanity and God, using gender-inclusive terms in references to humankind and reducing the number of male pronouns for God when it can be done with felicity.

Ground: This is consistent with previous synodical decisions (*Acts of Synod 1997*, pp. 687-94) and the protocol used by Faith Alive Christian Resources.

7. That synod affirm the use of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) for direct quotations from Scripture within the Belgic Confession and Heidelberg Catechism.

Grounds:

- a. The NRSV is a synodically approved version for the CRC.
- b. The NRSV is widely used in the RCA.
- c. The NIV is in the process of revision.

(*Acts of Synod 2010*, pp. 819-20)

In response to the above actions of Synod 2010, the new translation was published on the CRC website (with some minor revisions), and the churches were invited to comment, with a deadline of October 1, 2010. The committee was grateful to receive over forty responses, some in great detail, including exhaustive work from the only living committee member of the 1975 Heidelberg Catechism translation committee.

With these responses, the committee met again on October 12-13, 2010, and were joined by Dr. Dawn Devries of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Virginia and Dr. David Stubbs of Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan, who officially represented the PCUSA in discussions of the Heidelberg Catechism. The committee discussed all the suggestions from the churches, in addition to suggestions from committee members. The proposed translation now before synod is the fruit of their work.

C. *Recommendation*

That Synod 2011 adopt the revised translations of the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort as presented (see Appendices, pp. 183-298) for use in the CRC.

Grounds:

1. The revised translations not only preserve the best from our previous excellent translations but in many instances more closely reflect the meaning of the original documents.
2. These revised translations have now benefited from taking into account the many responses and suggestions from churches and individuals since the proposal before Synod 2010.

3. The sharing of a common confessional text among three Reformed denominations has the potential for positive ecumenical impact. In fact, the work on this common text has already placed the CRC in the position of encouraging confessional renewal in other denominations.
4. A common translation of the confessions will greatly increase cooperation and partnership between the CRC and RCA denominations.
5. This is consistent with the decision of Synod 2010 to create "a common text of the three forms of unity as important for increasing cooperation and partnership between the RCA and the CRC" (*Acts of Synod 2010*, p. 819).

According to the Rules for Synodical Procedure, the minority report re Faith Alive Christian Resources is presented as information by delegate Rev. Joseph Vanden Akker.

Faith Alive Christian Resources (minority report)

A. *Materials:* Faith Alive Christian Resources Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 163-298; Overtures 4-11, pp. 651-63

B. *Privilege of the floor*

For the board

Rev. Pieter Pereboom, president, and Mr. Mark Rice, director

For *The Banner*

Rev. Robert De Moor, editor in chief

For the Editorial Department

Rev. Leonard Vander Zee, editor in chief, and Rev. Joyce Borger, worship and music editor

C. *Introduction*

It is helpful to review the origin of the effort to formulate a common CRC-RCA revised translation of the three Reformed confessions. In response to a classis overture, Synod 2008 informed the churches that the three Reformed confessions would be available in the new CRC-RCA songbook. Subsequently, Faith Alive noted that it would be more economical in the publication of the new songbook and advantageous to its efforts to provide educational materials for both denominations if we had common translations. It requested and received permission from the administration to appoint a committee to pursue this, noting that it would increase "cooperation and partnership between the RCA and the CRC."

Many CRC pastors, members, and signers of this minority report have experienced close and valued ecumenical relationships with neighboring RCA congregations. We are thankful for the unity we have with other Reformed and Presbyterian churches, as indicated by our common adherence to the three Reformed confessions.

However, we believe that the effort to achieve common translations has brought to the forefront the reality that the CRC and RCA have taken different approaches to translating the Reformed confessions. The RCA in the 1980s adopted translations that completely removed all masculine pronouns for God, except for references to the historical Jesus and the risen Christ (see introduction to the RCA versions of the confessions).

In contrast, Synod 1997 adopted the position that God has chosen to reveal himself to us in his Spirit-inspired Word using masculine pronouns. Therefore, Synod 1997 concluded that the CRC appropriately can and should use masculine pronouns for God and should not use exclusively gender-neutral or gender-inclusive terminology.

D. Recommendations

1. That synod grant the privilege of the floor to Rev. Merlin Buwalda, chair, and Rev. Joseph VandenAkker, reporter.
2. That synod not adopt the revised translations of the Reformed confessions: the Heidelberg Catechism, the Canons of Dort, and the Belgic Confession.

Grounds:

- a. Ecumenical unity and cooperation does not require denominational uniformity, including uniformity in the translations of our Reformed confessions. Especially on the local church level, it is not clear that a common translation would contribute much to enhance our ecumenical relationships; nor has the lack of a common translation hindered this.
- b. Our Christian Reformed congregations have been encouraged by previous synods and the CRC Church Order to regularly use one or more of the Reformed confessions in our worship liturgies, catechism preaching, and catechetical instruction. The wording of these Reformed confessions is of very relevant, practical, weekly importance within our congregations. Even our familiarity with the specific wording of the current translation has found a place in the personal piety of our members and, while changes are occasionally necessary to keep the language up to date, the wording should not be changed without compelling reasons.
- c. The motivation and request for a new common translation has not arisen from a felt need in our churches or classes expressed through overtures to synod. While we can sympathize with the benefits a common translation offers to Faith Alive, we believe these new translations should not be adopted if they will not serve our churches better than the current translations.
- d. Although we do not believe the revised translations contain any explicit doctrinal change, the removal of two-thirds of the masculine pronouns for *God* moves our denomination a great distance in the opposite direction from the decisions of Synod 1997. Synod 1997 declared “that the endorsement and use of contemporary inclusive language for God— i.e. the broad gender-egalitarian and/ or gender-neutral approach . . . —is unacceptable to the Christian Reformed Church” (*Acts of Synod 1997*, p. 690). The study committee defined gender-inclusive language for God as “language that seeks to eliminate the impression that God is primarily masculine by . . . avoidance of (masculine) pronouns for God” (*Agenda for Synod 1997*, p. 268). The Bible freely and liberally uses masculine pronouns for God, and we should have compelling reasons to go in the opposite direction to the extent proposed in these revised translations. While

Synod 1997 agreed that "it is certainly permissible to reduce their number to what is necessary for good style and faithful communication of the biblical presentation of God" (*Agenda for Synod 1997*, p. 367; see *Acts of Synod 1997*, p. 692), the translations committee appears to be guided by a desire to more closely approach the practice followed in the present RCA translations.

e. The majority of CRC congregations and Christian schools use the NIV translation rather than the NRSV, which is quoted in the revised translation. We are best served by translations of our confessions that also use the NIV.

f. There are a number of instances in which the warm personal character of the present translation of the Heidelberg Catechism is diminished by the removal of masculine pronouns for God. Personal pronouns make the subject personal. If God is less of a "he . . . his . . . him" and more "God . . . God's . . . God," then he is less personable and more generic or an abstract concept (e.g., Heidelberg Catechism Q.&A. 98: "He wants his people instructed" is replaced with "God wants the Christian community instructed").

g. We believe that our attempt to achieve greater cooperation and partnership with the RCA by means of these common translations should not take place at the expense of creating greater disunity among our churches in the CRC. The number of overtures asking synod not to adopt the translations points to the likelihood that this may occur.

3. That synod declare this to be its response to Overtures 4-11.

Following the rules of procedure, synod returns to consider the recommendation of the advisory committee's majority report.

Faith Alive Christian Resources (majority report)

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Ralph S. Wigboldus reporting, presents the following:

A. *Materials*: Faith Alive Christian Resources Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 163-298; Overtures 4-11, pp. 651-63.

B. *Recommendation*

That Synod 2011 adopt the revised translation of the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort as presented (see Appendices, pp. 183-298) for use in the CRC.

Grounds:

1. The revised translations not only preserve the best from our previous excellent translations but in many instances more closely reflect the meaning of the original documents.
2. These revised translations have now benefited from taking into account the many responses and suggestions of churches and individuals since the proposal before Synod 2010.
3. The sharing of a common confessional text among three Reformed denominations has the potential for positive ecumenical impact. In fact,

the work on this common text has already placed the CRC in the position of encouraging confessional renewal in other denominations.

4. A common translation of the confessions will greatly increase cooperation and partnership between the CRC and RCA denominations.
5. This is consistent with the decision of Synod 2010 to create “a common text of the three forms of unity as important for increasing cooperation and partnership between the RCA and the CRC” (*Acts of Synod 2010*, p. 819).

Delegates address the above motion without decision. The matter is taken up again in Article 53.

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued in Article 53.)

ARTICLE 51

The afternoon session is adjourned at 5:20 p.m. Board of Trustees member Grace Miedema leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING, June 14, 2011

Ninth Session

ARTICLE 52

Elder delegate Jose F. Munoz leads in opening prayer.

The president reports that Martin P.J. Bosveld has replaced John Krale (Chatham), who left for a funeral, and that David Zinn (Chatham) is also absent.

ARTICLE 53

(The report of Advisory Committee 4 is continued from Article 50.)

Advisory Committee 4, Publications, Rev. Ralph S. Wigboldus reporting, presents the following:

I. Faith Alive Christian Resources (majority report)

A. *Materials*: Faith Alive Christian Resources Report, including Appendices A-D, pp. 163-298; Overtures 4-11, pp. 651-63

B. Recommendations

After a time of discussion, the first majority report recommendation (found below) is tabled to address the recommendations of the minority report, according to the Rules for Synodical Procedure.

After discussion, the minority report is tabled to address the following recommendations of the majority report:

1. That Synod 2011 adopt the revised translation of the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort, as presented (see Appendices, pp. 183-298) for use in the CRC.

Grounds:

- a. The revised translations not only preserve the best from our previous excellent translations but in many instances more closely reflect the meaning of the original documents.
- b. These revised translations have now benefited from taking into account the many responses and suggestions from churches and individuals since the proposal before Synod 2010.
- c. The sharing of a common confessional text among three Reformed denominations has the potential for positive ecumenical impact. In fact, the work on this common text has already placed the CRC in the position of encouraging confessional renewal in other denominations.
- d. A common translation of the confessions will greatly increase cooperation and partnership between the CRC and RCA denominations.
- e. This is consistent with the decision of Synod 2010 to create “a common text of the three forms of unity as important for increasing cooperation and partnership between the RCA and the CRC” (*Acts of Synod 2010*, p. 819).

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered: alternate elder delegate Albert Veldstra (Central California).

2. That synod declare the above recommendation to be its response to Overtures 4-11.

Grounds:

- a. The revised translations of the confessions retain the personal nature of God the Father.
- b. The doctrines of the Reformed faith are faithfully upheld in the revised confessions.
- c. Synod 1992 approved the NRSV for use (*Acts of Synod 1992*, p. 671).
- d. The revisions to the confessions faithfully adhere to the guidelines adopted by Synod 1997 (*Acts of Synod 1997*, p. 691-92). These guidelines were derived from the report of the Committee to Study Inclusive Language for God.

Appropriate reduction of superfluous pronouns

Although masculine pronouns for God in English should not be eliminated, it is certainly permissible to reduce their number to what is necessary for good style and faithful communication of the biblical presentation of God. In fact, it may be pastorally desirable to do so, according to the stated principles governing use of gendered language for God . . . out of sensitivity to those who experience the heavily masculine language of Scripture for God as emotionally problematic.

(*Agenda for Synod 1997*, “Committee to Study Inclusive Language for God,” p. 367)

—Adopted

3. That synod thank Faith Alive Christian Resources and the translation committee for their diligent work and dedication to the confessions translation project.

—Adopted

4. That synod refer the tasks listed below (as presented for a proposed CRC Worship Committee—see *Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 177) to the Faith Formation committee for information and urge the committee to consider how these tasks might be fulfilled.
 - a. Writing, updating, and e-publishing a variety of liturgies, prayers, and forms that can be used in worship and on other occasions (e.g., forms for sacraments, ordination, weddings, and so forth).
 - b. Providing leadership in worship by offering guidelines and principles for worship in the churches.
 - c. Overseeing a denominational worship website that would include suggestions for worship specifically related to the CRC (seasonal liturgies, sacramental liturgies, prayers, litanies, music resources, advice on worship planning, links to helpful articles, and other resources). This website would complement the work of the websites of *Reformed Worship*, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, and the Network.
 - d. Coordinating the worship resources of all the agencies, thus using expertise wisely and saving resources.
 - e. Providing a place for churches to contact with questions about and resources for worship.
 - f. Maintaining ecumenical contacts related to worship (in consultation with the CRC Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee), especially with other Reformed bodies.

Grounds:

- 1) The CRC needs to provide better leadership and resources for the churches in the crucial area of worship.
- 2) While worship is central to church life and mission, there is no designated agency or office to support that ministry in the CRC.
- 3) While the Calvin Institute for Christian Worship can certainly be an important partner in this endeavor, it cannot devote its resources exclusively to the CRC, as it is funded as an ecumenical institute.

—Adopted

II. Friendship Ministries

A. *Materials:* Friendship Ministries Report, pp. 536-37

B. *Recommendation*

That synod commend Friendship Ministries for its international outreach.

—Adopted

III. Sermons for Reading Services

A. *Materials*: Sermons for Reading Services Report, pp. 519-20

B. *Recommendation*

That synod approve the work of the committee and encourage the churches to avail themselves of the sermons for reading services on the CRC website.

—Adopted

IV. Response to Overture 3: Permit Professors, Pastors, and Teachers to Write, Preach, and Teach That in Scripture the Word *Jerusalem* Means *Jerusalem* and the Word *Israel* Means *Israel*

A. *Materials*: Overture 3, pp. 635-51

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 3.

Ground: No such permission is necessary since there are no synodically mandated restrictions on the interpretation of the words *Jerusalem* and *Israel* as they appear in Scripture.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 54

The evening session adjourns at 9:45 p.m. Rev. Cecil Van Niejenhuis leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 15, 2011 Tenth Session

ARTICLE 55

Rev. Joel E. Kok reads the call to worship from Psalm 148:13. Delegates sing *Global Songs for Worship* 47, “I Depend Upon Your Faithfulness,” with Mrs. Katie Ritsema-Roelofs accompanying and with the assistance of Rev. Joyce Borger, music and worship editor for Faith Alive.

Delegates sing *Psalter Hymnal* 545, “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace,” and recite responsively from Our World Belongs to God (para. 34, from the section “God’s New People”). Delegates read a responsive prayer.

Dr. Mariano Avila reads from Ephesians 2:11-22 in connection with the theme “Reconciliation, on Paper or in Reality?” These verses give us a deep understanding of God’s plan of salvation for the whole earth. Through this we see how the church understands the reality of reconciliation, bringing unity to all under the lordship of Christ. Dr. Avila leads in a closing prayer. Delegates sing “We Are One in the Spirit,” and Dr. Avila offers the benediction.

Roll call indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 56

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod through the BOT instruct Faith Alive Christian Resources to continue to publish, in print and on the Internet, the current translation of the three Reformed confessions for as long as there is sufficient market demand to make this economically feasible.

—Adopted

The vice president assumes the chair.

ARTICLE 57

(The report of Advisory Committee 9 is continued from Article 36.)

Advisory Committee 9, Faith Formation, Rev. Jacob M. Van de Hoef reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (Section II, A, 13, p. 30; and Appendix B, pp. 50-55)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; Ms. Amy Vandervliet, young adult representative; and members of the executive staff

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod endorse the Young Adult Summit Proposal (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 50-55).

Grounds:

- a. This initiative will provide a visible, accountable voice for the young adults of our denomination.
- b. This initiative will spark interest in church government among the CRC's young adults.
- c. This initiative will help foster an institutional pathway for young adult input in the CRC and its work with young adults. It will also facilitate discussion about new ways for young adults to be involved in the life of the denomination.
- d. This initiative will help connect young adults with their peers from across the denomination (and the world) for mutual learning, support, and fellowship.
- e. This initiative will provide an opportunity for young leaders to be disciplined, mentored, trained, and developed on an ongoing basis.

—Adopted

2. That synod encourage those planning the summit to consult with the Faith Formation Committee and the Christian Reformed Campus Ministries.

Ground: These groups are already working with engaging young adults in their faith.

—Adopted

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

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. Alvern Gelder reporting, presents the following:

Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (Sections II, A, 1-17, including Appendices A-D), pp. 23-33, 39-65
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, A-H, J-M, O-P, including Appendix A)
3. Board of Trustees Supplement—Ratification of the Interim Executive Director
4. Overtures 28-30, Communications 7 and 9, Supplemental reports

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Background

The report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group (DLPG), adopted by the BOT in February 2011, is being presented to Synod 2011 as a result of Synod 2009's instruction to have the executive director "convene an ethnically inclusive group to develop a statement of vision and strategy for increasing multiethnic representation within the leadership of the denomination and report to Synod 2010" (*Acts of Synod 2009*, p. 589) and Synod 2010's decision to "express its deep disappointment at not receiving a report from the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group mandated by Synod 2009 to report to [Synod 2010]" (*Acts of Synod 2010*, p. 884).

The advisory committee has heard from members of both the Board of Trustees and the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group, while also taking into account the related overtures and communications. We are grateful to the DLPG members for their passion and commitment evident in the heart of this report and for the boldness with which it seeks to move the CRCNA toward achieving some of its stated goals with respect to racial diversity. While a target of 25 percent multiethnic leadership in its senior-level positions seems lofty to attain, we were informed that the CRC is just four hires away from meeting this goal.

We applaud the DLPG for its effort in producing this report, given the time sensitivities it was facing. At the same time, we recognize that churches, agencies, and other affected groups have not had sufficient time to review this material in great detail prior to Synod 2011.

The intent of the following recommendations is to proceed with the report's intentionality and immediacy where possible, and to pause with careful reconsideration where necessary.

D. Recommendations

1. That synod affirm the direction of the report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group with respect to increasing multiethnic representation in the senior-level positions of the CRCNA.

—Adopted

2. That synod adopt the following statement of vision to address the issue of increasing multiethnic representation within the leadership of the denomination:

To reflect a multiethnic, multicultural leadership that models the report approved by Synod 1996, *God's Diverse and Unified Family* (GDUF).

It is essential that this vision for denominational leadership have an impact on every denominational entity, as illustrated on page 57 of the *Agenda for Synod 2011*.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 60.)

ARTICLE 59

The president of synod welcomes the candidates to Synod 2011. Rev. David Koll, director of candidacy, introduces the 2011 candidates for ministry of the Word (* indicates candidates in absentia).

Glenn S. Adams*
Aminah Al-Attas Bradford
Michael S. Boerkoel
Samuel Boldenow*
Joel T. Bootsma
Randall J. Buursma
John Harold Caicedo
Timothy A. De Vries*
Steven R. Eckersley*
John O. Eigege*
Rodolfo Galindo*
Aaron C. Gonzalez*
Amos H. Groenendyk
Andrew T. Hanson
Joshua R. Holwerda
Daniel J. Kinnas
Kyle P. Kloostra
Brian M. Kornelis
Kenneth C. Kruithoff
Samuel Lee
Ruth E. Lemmen

Raidel León Martinez
Sarah Matherly Roelofs
Sarah Meekhof Albers
John Moelker
Jonathan Nicolai-deKoning*
Adam L. Nordyke
Jessica J. Oosterhouse
Benjamin J. Schaefer
Eric D. Schlukebir
Timothy M. Sheridan
Martin A. Sisneroz, Jr.*
Juli Stuelpnagel
Bernhard VanderVlis
Mark Van Drunen
Mark J. Van Dyke
Thyra D. VanKeeken*
Terence M. Visser
Caleb J. Walcott*
Jan Anthony Westrate
John T. Wildeboer*
Jonathan D. Young

Dr. Neal Plantinga addresses the candidates. Delegates and candidates sing *Contemporary Songs for Worship* 20, "In Christ Alone," followed by a responsive litany and singing from *Hymns for Worship* 145, "Day by Day."

President James Dekker also addresses the candidates. Delegates and candidates sing *Hymns for Worship* 242, "Go My Children."

ARTICLE 60

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 58.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. Alvern Gelder reporting, presents the following:

Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group

Recommendations

That synod adopt the following recommendations from the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group report:

Hiring of Senior Leadership

1. That all future hires be made in accordance with the CRCNA's current ministry plan scorecard diversity objectives with its goal of 25 percent racial minority leaders in CRCNA positions of senior leadership (level 16 and above).

Timeline: To be implemented immediately.

Ground: This gives intentionality to the already existing denominational scorecard objective.

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered: Robert J. Toornstra (Columbia).

Senior Leadership Practice

2. That all senior leaders incorporate equitable diversity practices in their employee hiring, training, communication, and management processes. These diversity practices are to be jointly developed and owned by senior leaders in consultation with the Office of Race Relations and clearly articulated so that every senior leader knows exactly what diversity practices are expected. Senior leaders are to be held accountable by way of their annual performance evaluations for using these jointly-owned diversity practices. The commitment of senior leadership to diversity and equity must be a core value of the organizational practices. Its importance must be communicated throughout the organization to all staff levels in a variety of ways.

—Adopted

Coaching and Mentoring

3. That all new hires, regardless of level or ethnicity, be engaged in a mentoring system that includes corporate and cultural competencies conducive to mutual learning and appreciation. Mentors shall come from a pool of people with the necessary experience and assigned by the Human Resources office. Synod instructs the Board of Trustees (perhaps with the

assistance of the offices of Human Resources and Race Relations and in consultation with the Ministries Leadership Team) to develop this system.

- The assignment of a mentor (in conversation with such persons) to every new staff member.
- Mentor and mentee training opportunities and resources (retreats, conferences, courses, peer groups, and others as deemed appropriate).

Timeline: To begin in December 2011.

Grounds:

- a. This will assist all new staff, regardless of ethnicity, to be more effectively incorporated into the workplace.
- b. This approach has proven to increase the rate of retention.
- c. The development and implementation of the mentoring system is a personnel matter; input from the Office of Race Relations can be helpful as it relates to cross-cultural mentoring.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 63.)

ARTICLE 61

The morning session is adjourned at 11:50 a.m. Elder delegate Carol R. Spelman leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, June 15, 2011

Eleventh Session

ARTICLE 62

The president resumes the chair

Rev. Joseph Vanden Akker leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 63

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 60.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. Alvern Gelder reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. *Materials:* BOT Supplement section I, D, E, and F, and Communications 5, 6, and 8

B. *Privilege of the floor:* Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Background

In April 2011, after a thorough and independent performance review of Rev. Jerry Dykstra, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to ask Rev. Dykstra to resign as Executive Director of the CRCNA. The BOT and Rev. Dykstra mutually agreed to inform the denomination that Rev. Dykstra resigned “for personal and family reasons.” The Board appropriately honored this agreement in its limited communications about the matter. Furthermore, the Board also agreed with Rev. Dykstra to a mutual non-disparagement agreement. In fulfillment of that promise, the Board of Trustees decided to make no further comment about Rev. Dykstra’s resignation until the convening of Synod 2011, where an advisory committee of synod would review the matter.

To enable us to gain understanding into this complex and weighty issue, the advisory committee had face to face communication with both Rev. Dykstra and members of the Executive Committee of the BOT. The advisory committee pledged itself to strict confidentiality due to the sensitive nature of the matters laid before it, as well as out of love and respect for both Rev. Dykstra and the BOT. The committee asks synod to exercise the same discretion.

D. Acknowledgments

1. The advisory committee acknowledges that the BOT, in accordance with its bylaws, has the responsibility to supervise and evaluate the work of the Executive Director and the right to request the resignation of the ED appropriately when it deems this necessary.

“The ED shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees and work under its supervision. The initial appointment shall be made by the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church upon nomination by the Board of Trustees. Continued employment is subject to a favorable annual performance review by the Board” (CRC Board Reference Manual, Sept. 2010 BOT Version, Position Description for the Executive Director of the CRCNA, p. 2).

2. The committee acknowledges that Rev. Dykstra worked diligently to fulfill the CRCNA’s calling of him to serve as the ED as he understood that call.
3. The committee acknowledges that the events leading up to, and the process which resulted in, the BOT asking Rev. Dykstra to resign as ED, regardless of intent, at times fell short of good order and grace.
4. The committee acknowledges that the events surrounding Rev. Dykstra’s resignation caused deep pain for Rev. Dykstra, the members of the BOT, other denominational leaders, and the denomination as a whole.

E. Laments

With these acknowledgments in mind, the committee laments, as follows,

1. The pain that results from being imperfect people and organizations in a broken world and in a broken church.

2. That structures and policies can sometimes impede rather than assist the work and ministry of people and organizations.
3. The abrupt nature of Rev. Dykstra's resignation.
4. The communication issues related to Rev. Dykstra's resignation and subsequent dismissal.
5. The limitations placed on communications by government employment laws.
6. The ease with which gossip, innuendo, and unnecessary speculation come to expression within the body of Christ, and particularly within the CRC.

F. Prayer of Confession and Lament

God of all grace, we confess our community's brokenness expressed in weaknesses and wrongdoings, sins and shortcomings, good intentions and painful outcomes manifested in the work, structure, and culture of the CRCNA. We confess our desire to advance your kingdom in our lives and in the world; yet our inconsistency hinders growth while increasing the sting of pain. We confess that our hearts long for expressing your truth and love, and yet our actions and words do not always convey our sincerity. We confess joy as the unified body of Christ, and yet our fellowship has experienced open wounds. Have mercy on us, O God.

We lament the loss of trust that has tarnished our relationships. We lament anxiety, tears, and the shriveling of our hearts, making it hard to love. We lament tongues created for praise and encouragement that have diminished truth by words lacking love. We lament tongues judging too quickly and gossiping too readily, twisting opinions to appear as truth. Have mercy on us, O God. Allow your amazing grace to fall on us so that we release what hinders us and find forgiveness breaking our bonds.

Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—forgive our carelessness of thoughts, words, and deeds. Help strengthen us to overcome our frustrations and anger so that unforgiveness does not cultivate the roots of bitterness, choking out faith and faithfulness. Help us to be honest and encouraging, accountable and approachable, loved and loving in Christ's name. Amen.

G. Thanksgiving

1. The committee expresses its gratitude for Rev. Jerry Dykstra's year of service as Director of Denominational Ministries and his five years of service as Executive Director of the CRCNA. The committee expresses its gratitude for Rev. Dykstra's focus on healthy congregational life and his commitment to growing a vital church—gifts to the CRC.
2. Recognizing the challenges in leading major structural change in the CRCNA, the committee expresses its thanks to Rev. Dykstra for offering the best of his gifts and abilities. The committee encourages him to continue using those gifts and abilities in service to his Lord and Savior.
3. The committee expresses its gratitude to the members of the BOT for their sacrificial service on behalf of the CRCNA, giving of their time, work, and prayers and exercising their gifts and abilities in carrying out their synodical duties.

4. The committee thanks the BOT for the courageous exercise of its duties in seeking to further the mission of the CRCNA in the context of challenging and anxious times.

H. Prayer of Thanksgiving and Request for Guidance

Father in heaven, we have come before you already with the confessions and laments of our hearts. Collectively, we have pain and frustration, anger and hurt. Please do your good work of piercing through the darkness with your glorious grace. In the midst of our brokenness you desire to be with us. Give us the gift of your presence.

At this moment in time, we humbly ask that you begin the healing process that we so badly need as a church who loves you and loves each other and hurts when we see hurt in our midst. Have your Spirit wash over us like anointing oil. Allow us through your abundant grace to come to you with these significant thanksgivings.

Thank you, Ascended Lord, for living in us by your Holy Spirit, who has come to guide us into all truth.

Thank you for our brother Jerry Dykstra. A sinner of your own redeeming. A person of your own choosing. A member within the household of faith known as the CRCNA. Thank you for his gifts and passions, for his love of the church. Thank you for all who love and support him, who laugh and shed tears with him.

Thank you for our duly-elected members of the Board of Trustees. Sinners of your own redeeming. People of your own choosing. Members within the household of faith known as the CRCNA. Thank you for their gifts and passions, for their love of the church. Thank you for all who love and support them, who laugh and shed tears with them.

As we now hear and deliberate recommendations to Synod 2011, give us the wisdom to do your work in a way that is faithful to you and to the life of your church. Give us the grace to hold strong to the truth and love that we see mirrored so beautifully in your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

I. Recommendations

1. That synod affirm the sincere desire of both Rev. Dykstra and the Board of Trustees to fulfill their calling to the best of their ability within the brokenness and giftedness of their lives.

—Adopted
2. That synod reaffirm the Ministry Plan of the Christian Reformed Church and the Ministries Priorities Report to maintain a focus on creating and sustaining healthy congregations and appoint a CRCNA Structure and Cultural Review Task Force to conduct a review of the organization, culture, and leadership within the CRCNA, and that the task force make recommendations directly to Synod 2012.

Grounds:

- a. The BOT recognizes the need for a major review, as evidenced by its current plans.
- b. A broadly based, synodically-appointed task force will diminish the perceived conflict of interest of a BOT-appointed task force.

- c. The abrupt and painful resignation of key leaders in our denomination demonstrates the need for the task force.
- d. Conflicting governance and administrative structures need resolution.
- e. The current organizational culture is unhealthy.

—Adopted

3. That synod ask the Interim Executive Director to appoint the Structure and Cultural Review Task Force, reflecting the binationality of the CRCNA and including the following membership:
 - a. The Interim Executive Director of the CRCNA
 - b. Two members from the BOT
 - c. Two members from CRCNA agencies, committees, or educational institutions
 - d. Three members from the CRCNA at large
 - e. One member of Advisory Committee 1 of Synod 2011
 - f. A person with recognized competence in the field of organizational development and systems.

—Adopted

4. That this report be synod's answer to Communications 5, 6, and 8.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 66.)

ARTICLE 64

The chair welcomes Dr. Robert Heerspink, director of Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI). Dr. Heerspink shares how BTGMI is carrying out its work around the world through evangelism and discipleship worldwide through media. BTGMI has 205 indigenous staff members working internationally, as well as 40 staff members in North America and many local volunteers working in more than 82 countries. The changing face of communications is changing the power of media. Rev. Bruce Persenaire, BTGMI board president, shares how the use of BTGMI media and its creative website can help all churches to become healthy churches. Dr. David Bast, president of Words of Hope, shares how both Words of Hope and BTGMI are working together. Dr. Bast and Dr. Heerspink share how they work together in the areas of Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Good Books International Trust, English as a second language, Groundwork radio program, and plans for the future in new fields.

ARTICLE 65

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod adopt the following note of appreciation:

Resolution of Appreciation for Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra

Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra completed his service as Executive Director of the Christian Reformed Church in North America in April 2011.

During his tenure, he was instrumental in reconnecting the congregations and classes of the denomination to the resources of the denomination. In addition to leading the senior staff of the church, he assisted many committees and boards in staying focused on creating and sustaining healthy congregations. Under his watch, the denomination created The Network to help congregations with available resources, enabling them to share ideas and learn about best practices that they could put to use in local churches.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Christian Reformed Church in North America declares appreciation to Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra for his faithful service to Christ's church and for his friendship with and encouragement to the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Ground: It is common practice to honor senior leaders who have made a positive contribution to the CRCNA.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 66

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 63.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. Alvern Gelder reporting, presents the following:

Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group

Recommendations

That synod adopt the following recommendations from the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group report:

Professional Development

1. That all senior leaders, present and future, be encouraged to participate in a series of cross-cultural diversity education and training experiences at least once each year, with an evaluation that will be built into their annual performance review. The professional development shall include both internal (Office of Race Relations) and external training in a variety of forms and content that emphasizes historical context with a focus on developing inclusion and unity in Christ. The director of Race Relations will be responsible to develop and coordinate this training, in consultation with the Human Resources office.

Timeline: Implementation to begin no later than July 2011.

Grounds:

- a. Diversity education and training are crucial components of creating equitable environments within organizations and of achieving diversity in leadership.
- b. This will help to build and foster a culture of care, equity, and inclusiveness.

—Adopted

Nominations for Denominational Leadership

2. That search committees for senior positions include at least two members from different ethnic minorities in their membership.
 - a. Search committees shall include people who represent the rank and file of the church and who have a passion for the CRC and the agency's mission.
 - b. Search committee members will receive appropriate antiracism training, and all members of search committees will state their agreement with the *God's Diverse and Unified Family* report.

Grounds:

- a. This gives a voice to ethnic minorities prior to the hiring of senior leaders.
- b. Search committees will benefit from a diverse membership that can identify a diverse pool of potential candidates.
- c. Having at least two members representing differing ethnic minorities is intended to minimize potential feelings of isolation and intimidation of those members.

—Adopted

3. That synod instruct the BOT to appoint an expanded task force by August 31, 2011, that includes an ethnically and geographically diverse membership, with the following broader mandate, and that the director of Race Relations will serve in an advisory role as requested by the task force:

To develop further short-term and long-term strategies for increasing multiethnic representation within the leadership of the denomination and report through the BOT to Synod 2013.

Grounds:

- a. An expanded task force brings additional voices from various backgrounds to the table.
- b. This expanded mandate will allow the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group to address a multi-pronged approach to increasing multiethnic leadership in the denomination.
- c. This will allow for input from a broader range of stakeholders.

—Adopted

4. That synod recommit non-adopted recommendations from the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group report (B, 2, 3, 4, 5-b, -c, -d, 9-b, -c) to the newly expanded Diversity in Leadership Planning Group for information and revision by September 30, 2012, specifically addressing the following concerns:
 - a. The role of the Office of Race Relations.
 - b. The addition of measurable goals.
 - c. The inclusion of strategies that focus on raising up, mentoring, and providing experience to diverse leaders at all levels and that foster a multiethnic leadership development plan in local congregations, classes, regional networks, and denominational offices.

Grounds:

- a. These recommendations, while helpful, need further development.
- b. This timeframe will provide adequate opportunity for the group to do this important work.

Note: Recommendation 8 from the original report (*Agenda for Synod 2011*, p. 60) has been implemented by the Board of Trustees.

—*Adopted*

5. That synod commend the revised report to churches, agencies, and other appropriate groups by November 2012 for consideration.

Ground: This will provide adequate time for the churches, agencies, and other affected groups to respond before the report is presented to Synod 2013.

—*Adopted*

6. That synod express gratitude to the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group for its work.

—*Adopted*

7. That this be synod's response to Overtures 28-30, Communications 7 and 9, as well as to the Back to God Ministries International Supplemental Report.

—*Adopted*

Rev. Sheila Holmes, second clerk, gives thanks to the committee and requests that we all work toward diversity in our own churches.

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 73.)

ARTICLE 67

The afternoon session is adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Rev. Paul Lomavatu leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 15, 2011

Twelfth Session

ARTICLE 68

The vice president assumes the chair.

Rev. Trevor Vander Veen leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 69

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued from Article 24.)

Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Timothy B. Ouwinga reporting, presents the following:

Form of Subscription Revision Committee II

- A. *Materials*: Form of Subscription Revision Committee II Report, pp. 622-30
- B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. James C. Dekker, chair, and Rev. Michael Borgert, reporter
- C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod adopt the following amended “Covenant for Officebearers in the Christian Reformed Church” and commend it to the churches as a means to encourage ongoing, vital engagement of officebearers with the ecumenical creeds and the Reformed confessions.

Covenant for Officebearers in the Christian Reformed Church

We, the undersigned, believe the inspired Word of God as received in the Old and New Testaments of Holy Scripture, which proclaims the gospel of *God’s* grace in Jesus Christ and the reconciliation of all things in him. Acknowledging the authority of God’s Word, we submit to it in all matters of life and faith.

We affirm three creeds—the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed—as ecumenical expressions of the Christian faith. In doing so, we confess our faith in unity with followers of Jesus Christ throughout all ages and among all nations.

We also affirm three confessions—the Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of Dort—as historic Reformed expressions of the Christian faith. These confessions continue to define the way we understand Scripture, direct the way we live in response to the gospel, and locate us within the larger body of Christ.

Grateful for these expressions of faith, we promise to be formed and governed by them, conforming our preaching, teaching, writing, serving, and living to them.

Along with these historic creeds and confessions, we also affirm the witness of *Our World Belongs to God: A Contemporary Testimony* as a current Reformed expression of the Christian faith that forms and guides us in our present context.

We also promise to present or receive confessional difficulties in a spirit of love and fellowship with our brothers and sisters as together we seek a fuller understanding of the gospel. Should we at any time come to believe that a teaching in the confessional documents is irreconcilable with God’s Word, we will communicate our views to the church, according to the procedures prescribed by the Church Order and its supplements. Further, we promise to submit to the church’s judgment and authority.

We honor this covenant for the well-being of the church to the glory of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Grounds:

- a. The form and content of the covenant satisfy the mandate of the study committee to present a revision of the Form of Subscription that clarifies its meaning and does so without sacrificing its biblical and confessional integrity.
- b. The inclusion of the word “God’s” to define grace strengthens the trinitarian accent of the opening paragraph and eliminates any perception of Christo-monism in the statement.

—*Tabled*

2. A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod recommit the report back to the advisory committee to formulate the recommitment of the study committee’s recommendations in order to reflect the concerns expressed by synod that include those of the college faculty and faculty advisor regarding the application of the proposed covenant in their context.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued in Article 72.)

ARTICLE 70

The evening session adjourns at 9:10 p.m. Elder delegate Judy Cook leads in closing prayer.

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 16, 2011 Thirteenth Session

ARTICLE 71

The president resumes the chair.

Rev. Joyce Borger leads the delegates in the call to worship and the singing of *Psalter Hymnal* 249, “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty,” and *Sing! A New Creation* 14, “God, You Call Us to This Place.” She leads in opening prayer.

Elder delegate Hans Van Manen reads Ephesians 4:1-16. Rev. James C. Dekker shares reflections regarding the unity of the Spirit, emphasizing that we are not alone in a fog—God is with us. So it is with our church. God has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit and gifts of service to use in the life of the church, radiating back to build up the body of Christ. Delegates sing “Unity of the Spirit” and *Psalter Hymnal* 540, “In Christ There Is No East or West.” Rev. Dekker offers a benediction, and worship closes with the singing of “Sizohamba Naya.”

The roll call indicates that the following delegates are absent with notice: Richard D. DeBoer (Chicago South) and David D. Suh (Pacific Hanmi).

The vice president assumes the floor.

ARTICLE 72

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued from Article 69.)

Advisory Committee 8, Church Order and Appeals, Rev. Timothy B. Ouwinga reporting, presents the following:

I. Form of Subscription Revision Committee II

A. Background

In response to concerns expressed regarding the proposed Covenant for Officebearers in the Christian Reformed Church (CRC) by representatives of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary, as well as other synodical delegates, Synod 2011 decided to recommit the matter to the advisory committee so they could formulate a mandate for the Form of Subscription Revision Committee II to respond to these concerns and propose a revised version of the Covenant for Officebearers to Synod 2012.

B. Recommendations

1. That synod continue the work of the Form of Subscription Revision Committee II for one more year so that it can consult with representatives of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary and propose a revised version of the “Covenant for Officebearers in the Christian Reformed Church” to Synod 2012, addressing the following concerns:
 - a. The need for positive, declarative commitments to teach, defend, and actively promote the confessions and Reformed doctrine of the CRCNA.
 - b. The need to strengthen the scope and the binding nature of the commitment.
 - c. The need to include a provision for accountability for those who sign this covenant, requiring them to answer requests for explanation of their views.
 - d. The need to reword the description of the gospel in a way that avoids the impression of universalism.
 - e. The need for a provision that those who sign this covenant will communicate their views to the church if they believe that a doctrine is not the teaching of God’s Word (instead of saying that a teaching is irreconcilable with God’s Word).

—Adopted
2. That synod consider this to be its response to Overtures 14-18 and Communications 1 and 3.

—Adopted
3. That synod not appoint a study committee to address the issue of confessional vitality as recommended by the Form of Subscription Revision Committee II.

Grounds:

- a. It would be unwise to begin such a study while the denomination is still engaged in the process of considering the status of the Belhar Confession.
- b. The denomination is showing confessional vitality in its consideration of the Belhar.

—*Adopted*

II. Response to Overture 13: Give Confession Status to Our World Belongs to God: A Contemporary Testimony

A. *Materials:* Overture 13, pp. 664-65

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 13.

Ground: It would be unwise to take such an action when we are in the process of considering the Belhar Confession.

—*Adopted*

III. Response to Overture 19: Delete Church Order Supplement, Article 13-c, Regulation b

A. *Materials:* Overture 19, pp. 675-76

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod adopt the following replacement for Church Order Supplement, Article 13-c, Regulation b: "The minister contemplating service in a nondenominational church acknowledges this as an opportunity to encourage such a church to affiliate with either the Christian Reformed Church or a Reformed denomination similar to the Christian Reformed Church."

Grounds:

- a. Although we agree that Article 13-c, regulation b as it stands may place the minister-on-loan in an untenable position; removing it altogether leaves the minister-on-loan without a sense of purpose in helping the church he or she serves.
- b. Our proposed replacement of Article 13-c, regulation b recognizes that a minister-on-loan to a nondenominational church has a unique opportunity to help a church enjoy the benefits of belonging to a group of Reformed churches.

—*Adopted*

2. That this be synod's response to Overture 19.

—*Adopted*

IV. Response to Overture 20: Amend Church Order Article 47

A. *Materials:* Overture 20, pp. 676-78

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 20.

Ground: The procedures of Article 47 already provide for denomination-wide discussion (cf. Supplement, Art. 47-b, -c, -d).

—*Adopted*

V. Response to Overture 21: Amend Church Order Supplement, Article 17

A. *Materials:* Overture 21, pp. 679-81

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 21.

Ground: The proposed Supplement stipulations are either redundant or unnecessarily restrictive.

—*Adopted*

VI. Response to Overture 22: Add a Supplement to Church Order Article 40-a

A. *Materials:* Overture 22, pp. 681-85

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 22.

Ground: This would provide unnecessary and potentially confusing elaboration on Supplement, Article 40-b.

—*Adopted*

VII. Response to Overture 23: Amend Church Order Supplement, Article 17-a

A. *Materials:* Overture 23, pp. 686-87

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not accede to Overture 23.

Ground: Present provisions are in place to deal with these matters if appropriately applied.

—*Adopted*

VIII. Response to Personal Appeal 1

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

B. *Recommendation*

That synod not sustain the appeal of Rev. Punt.

Ground: Synod 2010 followed the proper procedures in addressing the appeal submitted last year.

—*Adopted*

Article 73

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 66.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services I, Rev. Alvern Gelder reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. Materials

- 1. Board of Trustees Report (Sections II, A, 1-17, including Appendices A-D), pp. 23-33, 39-65
- 2. Board of Trustees Supplement (Sections I, A-H, J-M, O-P, including Appendix A)
- 3. Board of Trustees Supplement—Ratification of the Interim Executive Director

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Mark D. Vermaire, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director; and members of the executive staff

C. Recommendation

That synod receive the report of the Process for Significant Structural Changes Task Force (Appendix D, *Agenda for Synod 2011*, pp. 62-65) as the Board’s response to the request of Synod 2010 (II, A, 15).

—Adopted

ARTICLE 74

Appointments, officers, and functionaries are presented for review. This listing reflects the results of the synodical elections and appointments and includes study committees that are synodically approved.

I. Officers, functionaries, and convening church for Synod 2012

A. Officers

- 1. Interim executive director: Rev. Joel R. Boot
- 2. Director of synodical services: Ms. Diane S. Recker
- 3. Director of finance and administration: Mr. John H. Bolt
- 4. Director of Canadian ministries: Rev. Bruce G. Adema

B. Functionaries

Arrangements for Synod 2012: Ms. Doreen Gringhuis, director of campus services at Redeemer University College

C. Convening church

Convening church for Synod 2012: Ancaster CRC, Ancaster, Ontario

II. Synodical deputies

Classis	Deputy	Alternate	Term Expires
Alberta North	Rev. Gordon H. Pols	Rev. Allan C. Groen	2012(1)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Rev. J. Cameron Fraser	Rev. Jake Corvers	2013(1)
Arizona	Rev. Harry J. Weidenaar	Rev. Robert Walter, Jr.	2014(1)
Atlantic Northeast	Rev. Stanley J. Vander Klay	Rev. Stanley J. Sturing	2012(2)
B.C. North-West	Rev. Dick Kwantes	Rev. Peter Brouwer	2013(1)

B.C. South-East	Rev. Bert Slofstra	Rev. Andrew G. Vander Leek	2013(1)
California South	Rev. William Verhoef	Vacant	2013(1)
Central California	Rev. George G. Vink	Rev. Bruce A. Persenaire	2013(1)
Central Plains	Rev. Gilbert J. Kamps	Rev. Dale W. Visser	2012(1)
Chatham	Rev. Dirk Miedema	Rev. Vic Vandermolen	2014(1)
Chicago South	Rev. Michael J. Kooy	Rev. Gerald R. Erffmeyer	2014(2)
Columbia	Rev. Jelmer P. Groenwold	Rev. Louis P. Korf	2013(1)
Eastern Canada	Rev. Jacob (Jack) M. Van de Hoef	Rev. Pieter A. Heerema	2012(1)
Georgetown	Rev. Gerald A. Koning	Rev. Matthew A. Palsrok	2013(1)
Grand Rapids East	Rev. Thea N. Leunk	Rev. Leonard J. Hofman	2012(2)
Grand Rapids North	Rev. Henry Admiraal	Rev. Terry D. Slachter	2013(2)
Grand Rapids South	Rev. David A. Struyk	Rev. Robert L. Boersma	2013(2)
Grandville	Rev. John P. Douma	Rev. Douglas A. Kamstra	2013(2)
Greater Los Angeles	Rev. Paul R. Hoekstra	Rev. Erick D. Westra	2013(1)
Hackensack	Rev. Douglas H. Bratt	Rev. Clair Vander Neut	2012(1)
Hamilton	Rev. Ralph Koops	Rev. Henry P. Kranenburg	2013(1)
Heartland	Rev. Paul A. Hansen	Rev. Robert D. Drenten	2013(2)
Holland	Rev. Michael De Vries	Rev. Adam M.H. Barton	2013(1)
Hudson	Rev. Stephen J. Wolma	Rev. Donald P. Wisse	2013(1)
Huron	Rev. Ronald G. Fisher	Rev. Ray Vander Kooij	2013(1)
Iakota	Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper	Rev. Clifford Hoekstra	2013(1)
Illiana	Rev. Calvin J. Aardsma	Rev. Bernard F. Tol	2013(1)
Kalamazoo	Rev. Kenneth A. Baker	Vacant	2014(2)
Lake Erie	Rev. Robert A. Arbogast	Rev. George F. Vander Weit	2014(2)
Lake Superior	Rev. David L. Smit	Rev. Jack Van Marion	2014(2)
Minnkota	Rev. Timothy J. Brown	Rev. Timothy J. Ouwinga	2013(1)
Muskegon	Rev. Alvin L. Hoksbergen	Rev. Gerald D. Postema	2013(1)
Niagara	Rev. Jerry J. Hoytema	Rev. Rudy W. Ouwehand	2014(2)
Northcentral Iowa	Rev. Thomas J. Niehof	Rev. Frank E. Pott	2013(1)
Northern Illinois	Rev. John F. Schuurman	Rev. John R. Huizinga	2012(1)
Northern Michigan	Rev. Jaclyn D. Guikema Busch	Rev. Chris Kostelansky	2013(1)
Pacific Hanmi	Rev. Peter Ryu	Rev. Seung Jai Kang	2014(2)
Pacific Northwest	Rev. Kenneth D. Koeman	Rev. Thomas J. Kok	2013(2)
Quinte	Rev. Jake Kuipers	Rev. B. Bernard Bakker	2013(1)
Red Mesa	Rev. W. Keith Bulthuis	Rev. John W. Dykhuis	2012(2)
Rocky Mountain	Rev. Thomas D. Draayer	Rev. Robert L. Westenbroek	2013(2)
Southeast U.S.	Rev. Vernon Vander Zee	Rev. Scott Vander Ploeg	2013(2)
Thornapple Valley	Rev. Merlin N. Buwalda	Rev. Gerard Bouma	2013(1)
Toronto	Rev. C. Nick Overduin	Rev. Herman D. Praamsma	2012(1)
Wisconsin	Rev. Michael Winnowski	Rev. Karl H. Bratt	2014(1)
Yellowstone	Rev. Jack Huttinga	Rev. Jerry L. Blom	2013(1)
Zeeland	Rev. Ronald D. De Young	Rev. Timothy Howerzyl	2014(2)

III. Denominational boards

Note: Members of the regional boards (Board of Trustees of the CRCNA, the boards of Back to God Ministries International, Calvin College, Calvin Theological Seminary, Christian Reformed Home Missions, Christian Reformed World Missions, and Faith Alive Christian Resources) are elected from the following twelve regions:

Region 1—Classes B.C. North-West and B.C. South-East

Region 2—Classes Alberta North, Alberta South/Saskatchewan, and Lake Superior (Canadian congregations)

Region 3—Classes Eastern Canada, Quinte, and Toronto

Region 4—Classes Chatham, Hamilton, Huron, and Niagara

Region 5—Classes Columbia, Pacific Northwest, and Yellowstone

Region 6—Classes California South, Central California, Greater Los Angeles, and Pacific Hanmi

Region 7—Classes Arizona, Red Mesa, and Rocky Mountain

Region 8—Classes Central Plains, Heartland, Iakota, Lake Superior (U.S. congregations), Minnkota, and Northcentral Iowa

Region 9—Classes Chicago South, Illiana, Northern Illinois, and Wisconsin

Region 10—Classes Georgetown, Holland, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Northern Michigan, and Zeeland
Region 11—Grand Rapids East, Grand Rapids North, Grand Rapids South, Grandville, Lake Erie, and Thornapple Valley
Region 12—Classes Atlantic Northeast, Hackensack, Hudson, and Southeast U.S.

A. Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

District	Member	Term Expires
<i>Canadian members</i>		
Alberta North	Mr. Rick Struik	2012(1)
Alberta North	Mr. Michael Wevers	2014(1)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Rev. Dale Melenberg	2012(1)
B.C. North-West	Rev. Trevor Vanderveen	2012(1)
B.C. South-East	Ms. Gavrielle (Gavy) Tran	2014(1)
Chatham	Mrs. Grace Miedema	2014(2)
Eastern Canada	Ms. Katherine M. Vandergrift	2013(1)
Hamilton	Rev. William C. Veenstra	2013(1)
Huron	Dr. Darren Roorda	2014(1)
Lake Superior	Rev. Harold De Jong	2014(1)
Niagara	Mr. John TeBrake	2014(1)
Quinte	Mr. Wybe Bylsma	2014(2)
Toronto	Mr. Peter Noteboom	2013(1)
At-large	Ms. Irene Bakker	2013(1)
	Mr. Bruce Dykstra	2012(1)
	Ms. Elaine Yu	2014(1)
<i>U.S. members</i>		
Region 5	Rev. Peter J. DeVries	2013(1)
Region 6	Mr. Kyu Paek	2014(1)
Region 7	Rev. John Terpstra	2014(2)
Region 8	Mr. Gary Van Engelenhoven	2013(2)
	Mr. Loren J. Veldhuizen	2014(2)
Region 9	Rev. Robert A. Lyzenga	2012(2)
Region 10	Vacant	
	Ms. Angela Taylor Perry	2013(1)
Region 11	Ms. Joan Flikkema	2012(1)
	Dr. R. Scott Greenway	2013(1)
	Mr. Chris Van Spronsen	2014(1)
Region 12	Rev. Sheila Holmes	2014(2)
At-large	Mr. Mark Charles	2012(1)
	Rev. Christian Y. Oh	2013(1)
	Rev. Eleanor M. Rietkerk	2012(2)
Ex officio	Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director	
<i>B. Back to God Ministries International</i>		
Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Mr. John Vegt	2014(1)
Region 2	Rev. Gerrit Bornhof	2014(2)
Region 3	Rev. Ed Visser	2012(1)
Region 4	Ms. Alice Klamer	2013(2)
Region 5	Mr. Stanley Vander Pol	2014(2)
Region 6	Rev. Bruce Persenaire	2012(2)
Region 7	Rev. Bobby Boyd	2014(2)
Region 8	Rev. Timothy Brown	2013(2)
Region 9	Rev. Dr. Calvin J. Aardsma	2013(1)
Region 10	Ms. Cynthia (Cindi) Veenstra	2014(1)
	Mrs. Carol Woltjer	2012(2)

Region 11	Mr. Lorin Bossenbroek	2012(2)
	Rev. Reginald Smith	2014(1)
Region 12	Mr. Jim Putt	2012(2)
At-large	Mr. Harry Boessenkool	2013(2)
	Ms. Karyl Groeneveld	2014(2)

C. Calvin College Board of Trustees

Region	Member	Alternate	Term Expires
Regions 1 and 2	Ms. Margaret Verboon (Pan Zhang)		2014(1)
Region 3	Dr. Laurens Vandergrift		2012(1)
Region 4	Dr. Wytse van Dijk		2013(1)
Region 5	Mr. Dale H. Venhuizen		2012(1)
Region 6	Mr. Daniel Meester		2013(1)
Region 7	Dr. Bryan Scott Kamps		2014(1)
Region 8	Ms. Andrea (Harms) Van Kooten		2013(1)
Region 9	Dr. Richard Vanden Berg		2014(2)
	Mr. William J. Katt		2012(1)
Region 10	Mr. David VanRandwyk	Mr. Calvin Hulst	2012(1)
	Mr. Roger N. Brummel		2012(2)
	Rev. Michael D. Koetje		2013(1)
Region 11	Mr. Thomas J. Nobel, Jr.		2014(2)
	Rev. Dr. Randall D. Engle		2012(1)
	Mr. Craig B. Klamer		2012(2)
Region 12	Dr. Jack R. Van Der Slik		2014(2)
Alumni	Mr. Ralph Luimes		2013(2)
	Ms. Ruth Palma		2012(1)
	Ms. Paula Wigboldy		2014(1)
At-large	Dr. Dale J. Andringa		2014(1)
	Dr. Philip J. Brondsema		2014(1)
	Rev. Moses Chung		2012(1)
	Mr. Bradley Haverkamp		2012(1)
	Rev. Harry W. Lew		2012(3)
	Mr. Craig H. Lubben		2014(1)
	Ms. Christine A. Metzger		2014(2)
	Mr. Scott A. Spoelhof		2012(2)
	Mr. Terry L. Vander Aa		2013(2)
	Ms. Michelle L. Van Dyke		2014(3)
	Dr. Jack Veltkamp		2014(2)
	Ms. Thelma Venema		2013(2)

D. Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Andrew Vander Leek	2013(1)
Region 2	Rev. Victor Y. Ko	2014(1)
Region 3	Ms. Wendy Gritter	2013(1)
Region 4	Rev. M. Jeffery Klingenberg	2014(1)
	Mr. Hank Vander Laan	2012(1)
Region 5	Rev. William S. Wilton	2012(1)
Region 6	Mr. Hyung Jung Kim	2014(1)
Region 7	Dr. John Ratmeyer	2012(2)
Region 8	Rev. Greg Dyk	2012(2)
	Dr. Byron Noordewier	2012(2)
Region 9	Rev. William R. Sytsma	2014(1)
Region 10	Rev. Timothy D. De Jonge	2014(1)
Region 11	Rev. Paul R. De Vries	2014(2)
	Ms. Doris Rikkers	2012(2)
Region 12	Dr. Donald G. Belanus	2013(1)
Regional At-large—Region 10	Mr. Myles Kuperus	2014(1)

At-large	Ms. Jinny Bult De Jong Mr. Sidney Jansma, Jr. Ms. Susan Keesen	2013(2) 2013(1) 2013(2)
<i>E. Christian Reformed Home Missions Board</i>		
Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Harvey J. Roosma	2012(1)
Region 2	Rev. John Van Sloten	2012(1)
Region 3	Mr. David Harlow	2014(2)
Region 4	Mr. Michael Talsma	2012(2)
Region 5	Rev. Virgil Michael	2012(2)
Region 6	Rev. Daniel Brink	2013(1)
Region 7	Rev. B. Joy Engelsman	2014(1)
Region 8	Mr. Don Muilenburg	2013(1)
Region 9	Dr. Harley Ver Beek	2012(2)
Region 10	Rev. Larry Baar	2014(2)
Region 11	Mrs. Donna Meyer	2013(1)
Region 12	Ms. Beth Fylstra	2013(2)
At-large	Ms. Shashi DeHaan Mr. James Jones Mr. Allan Kramer Ms. Rosetta Polk-Pugh Rev. Roger Ryu	2013(2) 2014(2) 2013(1) 2013(2) 2014(2)
At-large – young adult	Vacant	
<i>F. Christian Reformed World Missions Board</i>		
Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Ms. Jacoba (Ko) Spyksma	2012(2)
Region 2	Rev. Edward Jager	2013(2)
Region 3	Rev. Jacob Boer	2012(1)
Region 4	Rev. Derek A. Bouma	2014(2)
At-large	Ms. Andrea Bootsma Rev. Thomas Oosterhuis	2013(1) 2012(1)
Region 5	Rev. Joseph Kamphuis	2012(1)
Region 6	Mr. Jay Sankey	2013(2)
Region 7	Mr. Chuck Powell	2013(2)
Region 8	Mr. Ken Van Zee	2012(2)
Region 9	Ms. Lois Ooms	2013(1)
Region 10	Ms. Jan Stravers	2012(2)
Region 11	Dr. Kojo A. Quartey	2014(2)
Region 12	Ms. Lauren Yoon	2014(2)
At-large	Rev. Eduardo Gonzales Mr. Craig Pollington Rev. Dr. William (Bill) Svelmoe Mr. Colin Watson	2014(1) 2013(2) 2013(1) 2012(2)
<i>G. Christian Reformed World Relief Committee</i>		
Classis	Member	Term Expires
Alberta North	Ms. Sarah Nicolai	2014(1)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Ms. Truusje Genesis*	2012(1)
Arizona	Mr. J.P. Bear	2012(2)
Atlantic Northeast	Ms. Jodi Koeman*	2013(2)
B.C. North-West	Mr. Gerrit Keegstra	2012(2)
B.C. South-East	Mr. Joel Nagtegaal	2014(1)
California South	Mr. Joel Verhoef	2012(1)

Central California	Rev. Daniel J. Hutt	2014(1)
Central Plains	Mr. Randy Nugteren	2012(2)
Chatham	Mr. Ed deJong	2012(2)
Chicago South	Mrs. Elsa Fennema	2013(1)
Columbia	Mr. Jack Jansons	2012(2)
Eastern Canada	Mr. Nick Van Dyke	2013(1)
Georgetown	Ms. Jodi Cole Meyer	2014(1)
Grand Rapids East	Mr. William Haverkamp*	2013(2)
Grand Rapids North	Mr. Roy Zuidema*	2014(2)
Grand Rapids South	Mr. Harry Faber	2014(1)
Grandville	Mr. Steve Westra	2013(1)
Greater Los Angeles	Mr. Dick Van Eck, Jr.	2012(1)
Hackensack	Rev. John Algera	2013(1)
Hamilton	Mr. Bert Hofland	2014(2)
Heartland	Mr. Harlan VanderGriend	2014(1)
Holland	Rev. Anthony Louwerse	2012(2)
Hudson	Mr. Steve Eichhorn	2013(2)
Huron	Ms. Mary Both	2014(2)
Iakota	Rev. Carl H. Bruxvoort	2014(1)
Illiana	Vacant	
Kalamazoo	Mrs. Marci Muller	2013(2)
Lake Erie	Ms. Anita Beem	2013(2)
Lake Superior (Canada)	Mr. Ray Postuma	2014(1)
Lake Superior (U.S.)	Mr. Michael Pluimer	2012(1)
Minnkota	Mr. Harold Van Hulzen	2014(1)
Muskegon	Mr. Cornelius Van Tol	2013(1)
Niagara	Mr. Ben Van Hoffen*	2013(2)
Northcentral Iowa	Mr. William Janssen	2013(1)
Northern Illinois	Ms. Bonnie Zigterman	2012(1)
Northern Michigan	Mr. Dennis Anderson	2014(1)
Pacific Hanmi	Rev. Dong-il Kim	2014(3)
Pacific Northwest	Mr. Tim Soerens	2012(1)
Quinte	Mr. Andy Hiemstra	2013(2)
Red Mesa	Mr. Caleb Dickson	2013(1)
Rocky Mountain	Mrs. Carol Ackerman*	2012(2)
Southeast U.S.	Mr. Don Bouwer*	2013(2)
Thornapple Valley	Mr. Peter Gootjes	2013(1)
Toronto	Mr. Dennis Jurjens*	2014(2)
Wisconsin	Mr. Garry Friesema	2012(1)
Yellowstone	Vacant	
Zeeland	Vacant	
Pastoral adviser (U.S.)	Rev. Thea Leunk*	2013(1)
Pastoral adviser (Canada)	Rev. Roy Berkenbosch*	2012(2)
At-large Canada	Mr. José Francisco Angulo*	2014(2)
	Mr. John DeWilde	2013(1)
	Mr. Jason Gehrels	2013(1)
	Mr. Jim Joosse*	2014(1)
	Ms. Danielle Kooy	2012(1)
	Mr. Bill Van Geest*	2013(2)
At-large U.S.	Ms. Martha Carey	2012(2)
	Mr. Paul Wassink*	2014(2)
* Also a member of the Board of Directors Joint Ministry Council = 7 members from each national board		

H. Faith Alive Christian Resources

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Joel Ringma	2013(2)
Region 2	Mr. Co Vanderlaan	2014(1)
Region 3	Mrs. Valerie Walker	2013(1)
Region 4	Rev. Pieter Pereboom	2012(2)
Region 5	Mrs. Beverly Vander Beek	2012(2)
Region 6	Ms. Ruth Pena	2012(1)
Region 7	Ms. Wilma Wiersma	2012(2)
Region 8	Ms. Sherry Kooiker	2012(1)

Region 9	Mr. Robert Deckinga		2014(1)
Region 10	Dr. H. David Schuringa		2014(1)
Region 11	Ms. Donna Huisjen		2014(2)
Region 12	Ms. JoMae Spoelhof		2012(2)
At-large	Rev. William Harris		2014(1)
	Mr. Tom Prince		2012(2)
At-large – Korean community	Rev. Ron Chu		2014(2)
At-large – Reformed Church in America		Alternate	
	Rev. Tom Grabill	Rev. Edgardo Acevedo	2014(2)
	Rev. Elizabeth Brown Hardeman	(for the three RCA	2013(2)
	Rev. Dustyn Keepers	at-large members)	2014(1)

IV. Service committees

A. Candidacy Committee

Rev. Melvin Jackson (2012/1), Ms. Kristin Pikaart (2012/1), Dr. Albert Wolters (2012/2), Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma (2013/1), Mr. Roy Heerema (2013/2), Rev. Ken Koeman (2013/1), Rev. Gilbert Varela (2013/1), Dr. Amanda Benckhuysen (2014/1), Rev. Peter Choi (2014/2), Rev. Joel R. Boot (*ex officio* as IED), Dr. Julius T. Medenblik (*ex officio* as Calvin Theological Seminary representative), Rev. David R. Koll (staff).

B. Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. Committee

Mr. Jon Swets (2012/1), Mr. James Zoetewey (2012/1), Ms. Christina Bouwer (2013/2), Rev. Chad M. Steenwyk (2013/2), Ms. Andrea P. Kaarsten (2014/1), Mr. Thomas J. Sinke (2014/1), Mr. David E. Veen (*ex officio* member).

C. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

Dr. William T. Koopmans (2012/2), Dr. Shirley Roels (2012/1), Ms. Anne Zaki (2012/1), Rev. Pedro Aviles (2013/2), Dr. Emily Brink (2013/2), Rev. Peter Slofstra (2013/2), Ms. Debra Vasquez (2013/1), Rev. Jay Shim (2014/1), Dr. John Suk (2014/1), Ms. Rebecca Warren (2014/2), Rev. Bruce G. Adema, (*ex officio* member), Rev. Joel R. Boot (*ex officio* member).

D. Historical Committee

Dr. James A. DeJong (2012/2), Mrs. Angie Ploegstra (2013/2), Mr. William Sytsma (2013/2), Dr. Lyle Bierma (2014/1), Dr. Richard Harms, secretary (*ex officio*).

E. Judicial Code Committee

Ms. Deb De Jong (2012/1), Mr. Joel Hoekstra (2012/1), Mr. Charles C. Adams (2013/1), Mr. Christian E. Meyer (2013/2), Dr. John Van Schepen (2013/1), Ms. Laura B. Bakker (2014/1), Rev. Leslie Kuiper (2014/2), Mr. James Mutoigo (2014/2).

F. Ministers' Pension Funds committees

Canadian Pension Trustees

Ms. Claire Veenstra (2012/2), Mr. Gregory Kist (2012/2), Rev. Kevin te Brake (2012/1), Mr. Keith Oosthoek (2013/1), Mr. Harry Schep (2013/2).

U.S. Board of Pensions

Mr. Jack Byeman (2012/1), Mr. James Clousing (2012/2), Mr. Kurt Knoll (2012/1), Mr. Howard Van Mersbergen (2013/1), Rev. William G. Vis (2013/2).

G. Sermons for Reading Services Committee

Rev. Kenneth F. Benjamins (2014/2), Rev. Richard J. deLange (2012/2), Rev. Stephen D. Tamming (2013/1), Rev. Mark Verbruggen (2014/1).

V. Task forces

A. Creation Stewardship Task Force (scheduled to report in 2012)

Dr. Thomas Ackerman, Dr. Tom Bruulsema, Mr. Ted Charles, Dr. Calvin B. DeWitt, Ms. Anoushka Martil, Dr. Mary Vandenberg, Mr. Peter Vander Meulen (staff adviser), Ms. Amy Vander Vliet, Dr. Gerry Van Kooten, Ms. Cindy Verbeek, Mr. Joel Visser.

B. Diversity in Leadership Planning Group (scheduled to report in 2013) Membership to be appointed by the Board of Trustees.

C. Office of Deacon Task Force (scheduled to report in 2013)

Dr. Mariano Avila, Rev. Roy Berkenbosch, Rev. Richard A. Jones, Ms. Greta Luimes, Mr. Andrew Ryskamp (staff adviser), Ms. Bonnie Smith, Ms. Lori Wiersma, Mr. Terry Woodnorth.

D. Structure and Cultural Review Task Force (scheduled to report in 2012) Membership to be appointed by the interim executive director.

VI. Study committees

A. Faith Formation Committee (scheduled to report in 2013)

Ms. Irene Bakker, Rev. Peter Y. Choi, Ms. Jill Friend, Dr. Syd Hielema, Ms. Pat Nederveld, Dr. H. David Schuringa, Dr. Howard Vanderwell, Dr. John Witvliet, Rev. Joel Boot (*ex officio*).

B. Form of Subscription Revision Committee II (scheduled to report in 2012)

Rev. Michael Borgert, Rev. Mark A. Davies, Rev. James C. Dekker, Rev. Eduardo Gonzalez, Rev. Sheila Holmes, Dr. Cornelius Plantinga, Jr., Ms. Kristen Van Engen, Dr. John Van Schepen, Ms. Wilma Vander Leek, Mr. Uko Zylstra, Rev. Joel Boot (*ex officio*).

Recommendation: That synod approve the list of the boards and committees.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 75

Ms. Bonnie Nicholas, interim director of Safe Church Ministry, is introduced and addresses the delegates.

ARTICLE 76

The president of synod, Rev. James C. Dekker, expresses thanks to fellow officers: Rev. George G. Vink, Rev. Bert Slofstra, and Rev. Sheila E. Holmes. He thanks Dr. Gaylen Byker and the Calvin College staff: Ms. Connie Port and Mr. Jeff Stob. He expresses gratitude to the synod prayer coordinator:

Ms. Paula Seales of Madison Square CRC, and the synod and IT staff: Mr. Chris Bal, Mr. Jim Boldenow, Dr. Peter Borgdorff, Mr. Dan Cooke, Ms. Shirley DeVries, Ms. Nancy Haynes, Ms. Beverly Koetje, Ms. Elisea Lampton, Mr. Lee Schiebel, Mr. Dave Sidebotham, Ms. Carol Spiering, Ms. Dorothy Vandersteen, and Ms. Dorothy Wallinga. He thanks the synod news office staff: Mr. Henry Hess, Mr. Chris Meehan, Mr. Tim Postuma, and Mr. Jonathan Wilson; as well as *The Banner* staff: Rev. Robert De Moor, Ms. Karen Huttenga, Mr. Dan Postma, Ms. Gayla Postma, and Ms. Roxanne Van Farowe. He also expresses appreciation for faculty advisers, ethnic advisers, young adult representatives, staff advisers (Rev. Bruce G. Adema and Mr. John Bolt), and the director of synodical services (Ms. Dee Recker). The president gives special recognition to Rev. Joel R. Boot, interim executive director of the CRCNA, for his contribution to synod and the work that now lies ahead of him.

The vice president, Rev. George G. Vink, expresses thanks on behalf of synod to the president, Rev. James C. Dekker, for his leadership during Synod 2011.

The interim executive director expresses the gratitude of synod to the four officers and presents them with gifts.

ARTICLE 77

Delegates sing “Jesus Loves Me” and vice president George G. Vink leads in closing prayer. Synod concludes by singing “To God Be the Glory,” followed by the benediction.

The morning session is adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 16, 2011

Fourteenth Session

ARTICLE 78

Delegates of the CRC synod convene at the Covenant Fine Arts Center in a joint session of the general synod of the Reformed Church in America and the synod of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

President of the RCA general synod, Rev. Don Poest, welcomes delegates to the joint assembly. Rev. James Dekker, president of the CRC synod, leads in opening prayer.

Rev. Dekker introduces Rev. Joel Boot, interim executive director; Rev. Bert Slofstra, first clerk of synod; and Ms. Dee Recker, director of synodical services.

Rev. Don Poest introduces Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, general secretary; Mr. Bruce Neckers, parliamentarian; and Ms. Pam Gosinga, recorder.

ARTICLE 79

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson and Rev. Boot engage in an informal conversation, reflecting on their experiences and appreciation for the other denomination. They note that this event is like a family reunion, and we give thanks and glory to God for the opportunity.

ARTICLE 80

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson introduces Mr. Richard and Mrs. Helen DeVos, who are recognized for the contribution by the Richard and Helen DeVos Foundation to the collaborative church planting movement by the CRC and the RCA.

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson introduces a series of presentations by the following individuals, describing collaborative areas for the two denominations:

1. Mr. and Mrs. Nate DeWard – church planters starting a new church in Florida
2. Mr. Mark Rice – director of Faith Alive Christian Resources
3. Mr. Larry Mc Auley – RCA missionary employed by CRWRC and working in Mozambique, addressing the joint session via video
4. Pastor Jeffrey Hough – pastor of Angel Ministries, a joint congregation in Muskegon, Michigan

Rev. Boot concludes the presentations with a summary of appreciation for the partnerships established and the collaborative work being done by these ministries.

President James Dekker thanks the presenters on behalf of the two synods. Delegates are given opportunity to share stories of collaborative efforts being done in their areas, as well as their cooperative experiences.

ARTICLE 81

Rev. Dekker presents the following resolution regarding the combined translations of the three Reformed standards:

Resolution for the Common Translation of the Three Reformed Standards

To recognize the passage of the common translations of the doctrinal standards by the synod of the Christian Reformed Church in North America and the general synod of the Reformed Church in America and, further,

To affirm the usage of these translations in our joint publishing efforts through Faith Alive Christian Resources, and

To celebrate the historic vote by the respective synods, and to affirm it in each other's presence, we will sing the doxology to signify our mutual affirmation and declare it to be the first joint action of the general synod of the Reformed Church in America and the synod of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

In affirmation of the resolution, delegates join in singing the doxology, "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow."

ARTICLE 82

Dr. Granberg-Michaelson introduces Dr. Setri Nyomi, general secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches, who addresses the joint assembly regarding the inspiration provided by the coming together of the two denominations—to the glory of God.

President Don Poest expresses gratitude on behalf of the synods to Dr. Nyomi for his presence and his address.

ARTICLE 83

Delegates of the CRC and the RCA form a procession, making their way to the Calvin College Chapel for a Service of Celebration and Hope for the Healing of the Nations. During the service communion is served, and a message is presented by Rev. Rik Stevenson, pastor of City Hope Ministries in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Synod 2011 is adjourned at the conclusion of the service at 4:40 p.m.

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY SHARES AND RECOMMENDED AGENCIES FOR 2012

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY SHARES AND RECOMMENDED AGENCIES FOR 2012

I. Denominational Ministry Shares for 2012

AGENCY	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Area 7	Area 8
Base amount per member	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16	285.16
Calvin College*	88.40	49.10	37.00	6.40	49.30	15.90	8.30	4.50
Total ministry-share per member	373.56	334.26	322.16	291.56	334.46	301.06	293.46	289.66

*Areas which benefit from a ministry-share reduction should employ the following monies saved to finance their area colleges:

Per professing member	-	15.80	27.90	58.50	15.60	49.00	56.60	60.40
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Classis Area Table for Calvin College amount:

AREA 1	Grand Rapids East; Grand Rapids North; Grand Rapids South; Grandville; Thornapple Valley
AREA 2	Georgetown; Holland; Kalamazoo; Lake Erie; Muskegon; Northern Michigan; Zeeland
AREA 3	Chicago South; Illiana; Northern Illinois; Southeast U.S.; Wisconsin
AREA 4	Central Plains; Heartland; Iakota; Lake Superior; Minnkota; Northcentral Iowa
AREA 5	Atlantic Northeast; Hackensack; Hudson
AREA 6	Arizona; Columbia; California South; Central California; Greater Los Angeles; Pacific Hanmi; Pacific Northwest; Red Mesa; Rocky Mountain; Yellowstone
AREA 7	Chatham; Eastern Canada; Hamilton; Huron; Niagara; Quinte; Toronto
AREA 8	Alberta North; Alberta South/Saskatchewan; B.C. North-West; B.C. South-East

Denominational ministry-share allocation

	2011 ministry-share allocation eff. 1/01/2011	2011 ministry-share allocation eff. 7/01/2011	2012 ministry-share allocation eff. 1/01/2012
BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	\$ 43.97	\$ 43.97	\$ 43.97
CALVIN COLLEGE*	31.60	31.60	31.60
CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	35.91	35.91	35.91
FAITH ALIVE CHRISTIAN RESOURCES	12.49	12.49	12.49
HOME MISSIONS	44.24	46.88	46.88
WORLD MISSIONS	59.93	60.56	60.56
WORLD RELIEF	-	-	-
DENOMINATIONAL MANAGEMENT, SERVICES, AND MINISTRIES:			
Synod assembly, BOT, and general administration	46.69	38.19	38.19
SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES	31.01	32.86	32.86
Chaplaincy and Care Ministry			
Committee for Contact with the Canadian Government			
Disability Concerns			
Pastor-Church Relations			
Race Relations			
Safe Church Ministry			
Social Justice and Hunger Action			
Urban Aboriginal Ministries			
The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry, Sustaining Congregational Excellence, and ServiceLink	10.56	13.94	13.94
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUND	0.36	0.36	0.36
	<u>\$ 316.76</u>	<u>\$ 316.76</u>	<u>\$ 316.76</u>

*Represents the composite rate. Actual rate varies by area.

II. Agencies recommended for financial support in 2012

A. Denominational agencies recommended for one or more offerings

Canadian Business Number

1. Back to God Ministries International—
above-ministry-share needs 13240 2090 RR0001
2. Calvin College—above-ministry-share needs (per Schedule VIII)
3. Calvin Theological Seminary (per Schedule VIII)
 - a. The Facing Your Future program
 - b. The Ministry Incentive program
4. Christian Reformed Church Foundation 883678708 RR0001
5. CR Home Missions—above-ministry-share needs 10691 9640 RR0001
6. CR World Missions—above-ministry-share needs 11881 2643 RR0001
7. CR World Relief Committee—one offering per quarter because
CRWRC receives no ministry-share support 118857366 RR0001
8. Denominational Ministry Programs—above-ministry-share needs
 - a. Chaplaincy and Care Ministry 856901285 RR0002
 - b. Committee for Contact with the Government 856901285 RR0002
 - c. Disability Concerns 856901285 RR0002
 - d. Pastor-Church Relations 856901285 RR0002
 - e. The Network: Connecting Churches for Ministry 856901285 RR0002
 - f. Race Relations 856901285 RR0002
 - g. Safe Church Ministry 856901285 RR0002
 - h. Social Justice and Hunger Action 856901285 RR0002
 - i. Urban Aboriginal Ministries 856901285 RR0002
9. Faith Alive Christian Resources

B. Denominationally related or affiliated agencies recommended for one or more offerings

1. Diaconal Ministries Canada 89309 3377 RR0001
2. Dynamic Youth Ministries
 - a. GEMS 88992 0799 RR0001
 - b. Calvinist Cadet Corps 88992 0799 RR0001
 - c. Youth Unlimited 88992 0799 RR0001
3. Friendship Ministries (Friendship Ministries - Canada) 11893 2375 RR0001
4. Partners Worldwide 83675 7807 RR0001
5. Timothy Leadership Training Institute NA

C. Nondenominational agencies recommended for financial support but not necessarily for one or more offerings

Note should be made of the action of Synod 1992 related to the financial support provided by Christian Reformed churches relative to these agencies:

... in light of the growing number of agencies seeking recommendation for financial support, [synod] remind[s] the congregations of the synodical decision of 1970 wherein “synod urge[d] all the classes to request their churches to pay denominational causes before making gifts to nondenominational causes on the synod-approved accredited list.

Grounds: Our denominational causes should have priority in our giving. . . .”
(Acts of Synod 1970, p. 81)

United States agencies

A. Benevolent agencies

1. Bethany Christian Services
2. Cary Christian Center, Inc.

3. Hope Haven
 4. The Luke Society
 5. Mississippi Christian Family Services (MCFS)
 6. Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
 7. Quiet Waters Ministries
- B. Educational agencies*
1. Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies
 2. Christian Schools International
 3. Christian Schools International Foundation (for textbook development)
 4. CLC Network
 5. Dordt College
 6. Elim Christian Services
 7. Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of Institute for Christian Studies)
 8. Hunting Park Christian Academy
 9. ITEM—International Theological Education Ministries, Inc.
 10. John Stott Ministries
 11. Kid’s Hope USA
 12. The King’s University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
 13. Kuyper College
 14. Providence Christian College
 15. Redeemer University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
 16. Rehoboth Christian School
 17. Roseland Christian School
 18. Trinity Christian College
 19. Worldwide Christian Schools
 20. Zuni Christian Mission School
- C. Miscellaneous agencies*
1. Association for a More Just Society
 2. Audio Scripture Ministries
 3. Bible League International
 4. Biblica U.S., Inc.
 5. Center for Public Justice
 6. Crossroad Bible Institute
 7. IN Network U.S.
 8. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (endorsed for local specified staff support only)
 9. Middle East Reformed Fellowship, U.S. (MERF)
 10. Mission India
 11. Paidia International Development
 12. The Tract League
 13. Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.

Canadian agencies

<i>A. Benevolent agencies</i>	Canadian Business Number
1. Beginnings Family Services	11880 2388 RR0001
2. Homestead Christian Care	13129 5198 RR0001
3. Shalem Mental Health Network	13056 6011 RR0001
<i>B. Educational agencies</i>	
1. Canadian Christian Education Foundation, Inc. (for textbook development)	11883 0207 RR0001
2. Christian Economic Assistance Foundation.....	11885 6251 RR0001
3. Dordt College	(per Schedule VIII)

4. Edu Deo Ministries (formerly Worldwide Christian Schools - Canada) 88945 9970 RR0001
 5. Institute for Christian Studies..... 10750 8434 RR0001
 6. The King's University College 10808 5911 RR0001
 7. Kuyper College (per Schedule VIII)
 8. Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools Foundation 85861 0926 RR0001
 9. Redeemer University College..... 12331 3660 RR0001
 9. Trinity Christian College..... (per Schedule VIII)
- C. *Miscellaneous agencies*
1. Bible League - Canada 10822 2084 RR0001
 2. Cardus (Work Research o/a Cardus) 11892 9207 RR0001
 3. Citizens for Public Justice (CJL Foundation)..... 89438 3512 RR0001
 4. Evangelical Fellowship of Canada 10735 3922 RR0001
 5. Gideons International in Canada 10808 2991 RR0001
 6. Global PartnerLink Society 81317 5957 RR0001
 7. IN Network Canada 12994 3072 RR0001
 8. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of Canada 10751 3160 RR0001
 9. Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Canada (MERF)..... 89085 1058 RR0001
 10. Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada, Inc. 10822 3371 RR0001

INDEX

(Page numbers in **boldface type** refer to the minutes of synod; page numbers in regular type refer to the agenda and supplementary materials.)

Acronyms and abbreviations in the *Agenda* and *Acts of Synod 2011*

ACRE – Association of Christian Reformed Educators
 ANH – All Nations Heritage
 APCE – Association of Presbyterian Church Educators
 ARPC – Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church
 ASV – American Standard Version
 BC – Belgic Confession
 BCW – Book of Common Worship
BEM – Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry
 BOT – Board of Trustees
 BTGMI – Back to God Ministries International
 CCC – Canadian Council of Churches
CCC – Catechism of the Catholic Church
CCEO – Corpus Canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium
 CCG – Committee for Contact with the Government
 CCT-USA – Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A.
 CD – Canons of Dort
 CE – Common Era
 CE – Continuing Education
 CFA – Communities First Association
CIC – Codex Iuris Canonici
 CICW – Calvin Institute for Christian Worship
 CJM – Congregation Justice Mobilization
 CLEAR – Continuous Learning and Education at Redeemer
 CMLT – Classical Ministerial Leadership Team
 COCREF – Colegios Cristianos Reformados
CPC – Credo of the People of God
 CPD – Church Planting and Development
 CR – Christian Reformed
 CRA – Canada Revenue Agency
 CRC – Christian Reformed Church
 CRCA – Christian Reformed Churches of Australia
 CRCH – Christian Reformed Church of Haiti
 CRCM – Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar
 CRCN – Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria
 CRCNA – Christian Reformed Church in North America
 CRHM – Christian Reformed Home Missions

CRWM – Christian Reformed World Missions
 CRWRC – Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
 CSI – Christian Schools International
 CTS – Calvin Theological Seminary
 DCM – Director of Canadian Ministries
 DDM – Director of Denominational Ministries
 DFA – Director of Finance and Administration
 DLPG – Diversity in Leadership Planning Group
 DMP – Denominational Ministries Plan
 DORR – Dance of Racial Reconciliation
 DRC – Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa
 DRCA – Dutch Reformed Church in Africa
 DRS – Disaster Response Services
 DYM – Dynamic Youth Ministries
 ED – Executive Director
 EFC – Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
 EIRC – Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee
 ELLC – English Language Liturgical Consultation
 EPC – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 EPMC – Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy
 ESV – English Standard Version
 FAQs – frequently asked questions
 FOS – Form of Subscription
 FSCO – Financial Services Commission of Ontario
 FTE – Full-Time Employee
 GDUF – *God's Diverse and Unified Family*
 GEMS – Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior
 HC – Heidelberg Catechism
 HR – Health and Renewal
 HR – Human Resources
 ICEL – International Commission on English in the Liturgy
 ICET – International Consultation on English Texts
 ICS – Institute for Christian Studies
 IED – Interim Executive Director
 IMHO – In My Humble Opinion
 IRC – Interchurch Relations Committee
 IRS – Internal Revenue Service (U.S.)
 IT – Information Technology
 JMC – Joint Ministry Council
 JMMC – Joint Ministries Management Committee
 KIM – Korean Institute in Ministry
 KJV – King James Version
 LDN – Leadership Development Network
 LG – *Lumen Gentium*
 MDG – Millennial Development Goal
 MEC – Multiethnic Conference
 MERF – Middle East Reformed Fellowship
 MLT – Ministries Leadership Team
 MOPS – Mothers of Preschoolers
 MPF – Ministers' Pension Fund

MPS – Ministry Plan Scorecard
 MY – Ministry Year
 NAE – National Association of Evangelicals
 NIV – New International Version
 NKST – Church of Christ in the Sudan among the Tiv
 NLT – New Living Translation
 NRC – Netherlands Reformed Churches
 NRSV – New Revised Standard Version
 OSJ – Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action
 PCC – Presbyterian Church in Canada
 PCN – Protestant Church in the Netherlands
 PCR – Pastor-Church Relations
 PCUSA – Presbyterian Church in the USA
 PLC – Placement, Learning, and Care
 PLT – Publishing Leadership Team
 PMI – Prayer Missions International
 RC, RCC – Roman Catholic Church
 RCA – Reformed Church in America
 RCIA – *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*
 RCJ – Reformed Church in Japan
 REC – Reformed Ecumenical Council
 RSV – Revised Standard Version
 SAF – Special Assistance Fund
 SC – *Sacrosanctum Concilium*
 SCE – Sustaining Congregational Excellence
 SCORR – Synodical Committee on Race Relations
 SMC – Staff Ministry Committee
 SMCC – Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee
 SMEPP – Specified Multi-Employer Pension Plan
 SOMEPP – Specified Ontario Multi-Employer Pension Plan
 SPE – Sustaining Pastoral Excellence
 STM – Specialized Transitional Minister
 TE – Technology and Equipment
 TLT – Timothy Leadership Training
 TLTI – Timothy Leadership Training Institute
 TNIV – Today's New International Version
 UCC – United Church of Christ
 UR – *Unitatis Redintegratio*
 URCSA – Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa
 USCCB – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
 VBS – Vacation Bible School
 WARC – World Alliance of Reformed Churches
 WCRC – World Communion of Reformed Churches
 WLM – World Literature Ministries
 WWCS – Worldwide Christian Schools
 YU – Youth Unlimited

A

Aboriginal Ministries. *See* Urban Aboriginal Ministries.

Abuse Prevention. *See* Safe Church Ministry.

Addresses to synod

Boot, Rev. Joel R., **784**

Chung, Rev. Moses, **842**

Granberg-Michaelson, Dr. Wesley, and Rev. Thomas DeVries, **840**

Hamm, Dr. Richard, **840**

Nicholas, Ms. Bonnie, **881**

Nyomi, Dr. Setri, **840, 884**

Presentations on collaborative areas of CRC/RCA ministry, **883**

Sinia, Rev. Pieter G., **840**

Vermaire, Rev. Mark D., **784**

Ykubu, Rev. Risae Shamaki, **840**

Advisers to synod

Ethnic advisers, **27, 777**

Faculty advisers, **777**

See also Young adult representatives.

Advisory committees, **779-80**

Agencies. *See* Recommended agencies/causes.

All Nations Heritage Week, **38-39, 315**

Antiracism. *See* Race Relations.

Appeal

1. Rev. N. Punt, **751, 873**

Appointments. *See also* Synodical.

Interim. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.

To CRC ministries. *See* Board of Trustees, Program matters.

Arabic-language ministry, **112, 117**

Archives. *See* Historical Committee.

Audio recording of synod, **9-10, 778-79**

B

Back to God Ministries International, **28, 111-18, 141, 169, 543, 703, 723, 844, 865, 868, 876-77**

Board, **117-18, 876-77**

Cooperative organizations, **117**

Diversity in Leadership Planning request, **703, 723, 868**

Finances, **118**

Mandate, **111**

Ministries, **111-16**

Salary disclosure, **118**

Banner, The, **139, 164-66, 306, 678**

Belgic Confession (proposed translation), **184-225, 848-54**. *See also* Faith Alive Christian Resources, Reformed standards; Overtures 4-11.

Belhar Confession, **166, 315, 624, 628, 872**. *See also* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee, Belhar Confession; Overture 12; Communication 2.

Board of Trustees, **21-108, 699-721, 785-87, 812-18, 841, 857-68, 874, 876**

Board members, **22-26, 699-701, 709, 876**

Financial matters. *See also* Recommended agencies/causes.

Christian Reformed Church Foundation, 36-37
 Condensed financial statements, 39, 77-108, 753-69, **815**
 Investments, 709, 715-20
 Ministry share, 33, 35-36, 705, 711, **815, 829, 887-88**
 Ministry Share Promotion Task Force, 36, **815, 829**
 Pension matters, 36, 709, 712, **813-14, 816**. *See also* Pensions and Insurance.
 Salary disclosure, 22-23, 708, 712, **816**
Polity matters
 Accessibility of synod to all members, 703, 709, 714-15, **817-18**
 Agency presentations, 28, **824, 842, 865**
 Board nominations, 23-26, 699-700, 709, **783**
 Church Order Article 14-e, proposed revision, 702, 709, **813**
 Classes that have declared women officebearers may not be delegated to classis, 23
 Constitution and Bylaws of Board of Trustees, proposed revision, 29, 37, 39-49, **785**
 Convening church of Synod 2015, 705, 711, **816**. *See also* Convening churches of synod.
 Creation Stewardship Task Force, 30, **881**
 Deacon Task Force, Office of, 29, **881**
 Director of Denominational Ministries resignation, 701, **861**
 Diversity efforts report, 26
 Diversity in Leadership Planning Group, 30-31, 37, 55-62, 703, 723, **858-61, 866-68, 881**. *See also* Back to God Ministries International Supplement; Overtures 28-30; Communications 7, 9.
 Canadian version, pending adoption, 703
 Expanded task force, **867-68**
 Ethnic advisers, 27. *See also* Advisers.
 Executive Director resignation, 701, **861-66**
 Resolution of Appreciation for Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, **865-66**
 Interim appointments, 23, 699, 709, **785**
 Interim Executive Director appointment, 701-702, 721, **784, 786-87**
 Joint CRC/RCA synod assembly, 27-28, 37, 704, 710-11, **786, 882-84**
 Judicial Code Committee, 28, 37, **880**. *See also* Judicial Code Committee.
 Leadership Exchange, 30, 31-32, 50-54, **857**
 Leadership review, 701-702, **862**
 Publications and services, 32-33
 Significant Structural Changes Task Force, 31, 37, 62-65, **874**
 Structure and Cultural Review Task Force, 702, **881**
 Young adult advisers (renamed young adult representatives), 27, 50-51, 53, 702, 709, 712-13, **777, 816**. *See also* Young adult representatives.
 Report of task force, 702, 712-13, **816**
 Young Adult Summit Proposal, 30, 37, 50-55, **857**
Program matters
 Agency, institution, and specialized ministry reports, 34-35, 109-323, 723-38
 All Nations Heritage Week, 38-39, 315
 Chaplaincy and Care Ministry recommendations, 38, 308, **818**

Christian Reformed Home Missions, director appointment, 35, 39, 71, **841**
 Committee for Contact with the Government, mandate review, 35, 39, 73-74, **817**
 Disability Week observance, 38, 312, **819**
 Ministry Plan of the Christian Reformed Church, 33-34
 Network, The: Connecting Churches for Ministry, 34, 65-70, **842-43**.
See also The Network.
 Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action, mandate review, 35, 39, 75-76, **817**
 Safe Church Ministry, director resignation, 35
 Interim director, 705, 711, **818, 881**
 Boards and committees, **875-81**

C

Calvin College, 119-22, 724-28, **834-35, 877**
 Administrative appointments, 724-25
 Board, 119-21, 725-27, 728, **877**
 Faculty, 119, 122, 724-25, 727-28, **834-35**
 Promotions, 725, 727-28, **835**
 Reappointments, 119, 724, 727, **834-35**
 Recognition, 119
 Retirees, 724, 727, **834-35**
 Finance, 121-22
 General matters, 119
 Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 170, 176-77, 181, 335, 541, 543
 Calvin Theological Seminary, 123-27, 729, **783, 835, 877-78**
 Administration, 125
 Board of trustees, 123-25, 729, **877-78**
 Candidates. *See* Candidacy Committee.
 Distance Learning Program, 729
 Faculty reappointments, 125, 127, **835**
 Faculty retirement, 125, 127, **835**
 Finances, 127, 729
 Graduates, 729
 Offerings for, 127, **783**
 President emeritus, 125, 127, **835**
 Presidential inauguration, 729
 Program highlights, 125-26
 Students, 126
 Calvinist Cadet Corps, 533, **843**
 Campus ministry. *See* Christian Reformed Home Missions.
 Canada
 Christian Stewardship Services, 37
 Committee for Contact with the Government, 35, 39, 73-74, 309-309, 321, **817-18**
 CRCNA-Canada Corporation, 21. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Constitution and Bylaws.
 Director of Canadian ministries, 33, 73, **874**
 Ecumenical relations, 340-41

Finances, 100
 Sea to Sea Across Canada, 36
 ServiceLink, 70, 147, 153
 Urban Aboriginal Ministries, 322-23, **820**
 Canadian Council of Churches, 340-41
 Canadian Foodgrains Bank, 150, 154-55, 158
 Candidacy Committee, 327-37, 733-35, **836-38, 880**
 Candidates, 733-35, **837-38**
 Continuing education for pastors, 332-34, 336, **836**
 Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy, 335, 733-34
 Mandate, 327
 Membership, 327, 336, **880**
 Ministry associate developments, 328-32, **836**. *See also* Ministry associates.
 Church Order Article 23 review, 328-30, 336, **836**
 Retirement, 330, 336, **788, 836**
 Training, 330-32
 Orientation of pastors, 334-35
 Survey of student fund practices, 328
 Candidates. *See* Candidacy Committee, Candidates.
 Canons of Dort (proposed translation), 225-50, **848-54**. *See also* Faith Alive
 Christian Resources, Reformed standards; Overtures 4-11.
 Causes recommended for financial support. *See* Recommended agencies/
 causes.
 Chaplaincy and Care Ministry, 305-308, **818**
 Encourage chaplaincy as a vocation, 38, 308, **818**
 Prayer for chaplains, 38, 308, **818**
 Welcome and use of chaplains' gifts, 38, 308, **818**
 Welcome at synod, **783**
 Children at the Lord's Supper. *See* Study Committees, Faith Formation
 Committee; Overtures 24-27.
 Chinese-language ministry, 112
 Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A., 340, 342
 Christian Reformed Church Foundation, 36-37
 Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S., 160-62, **880**
 Christian Reformed Home Missions, 28, 35, 39, 128-39, **783, 841-42, 878**
 Board matters, 137, **878**
 Campus ministries, 131-32, **857**
 Church planting and development, 131, 137
 Communications, 138-39
 Director appointment, 35, 39, 138, **841**
 Educational mission, 131-32
 Evangelizing growth, 135
 Finances, 134, 138-39
 Leadership development, 136
 Mandate, 128
 Ministries, 130-36
 Mission and vision, 128
 New ministry development, 135-36
 Offerings for, 139, **783**
 Partnering and collaboration, 129-30, 135

- Personnel, 138
- Prayer and small group ministry, 134
- Recruitment and training, 136-37
- Regional and ethnic teams, 132-34
- Renewing communities together, 128-29
- Salary disclosure, 138
- Stories of lives changed, 135
- Christian Reformed World Missions, 28, 140-48, **783**, **824**, **845**, **878**
 - Board matters, 147-48, **878**
 - Collaborative efforts, 141
 - Finances, 148
 - Ministries, 140-46
 - Mission and ministry stories, 142-46
 - Africa, 143-44
 - Asia, 142
 - Europe, 142-43
 - Hope Rising, 145-46
 - Latin America, 144-45
 - Prayer Missions International, 146
 - Offerings for, 148, **783**
 - Placement, learning, and care, 146-47
 - Recognition of service, 141-42, **845**
 - Salary information, 148
- Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, 149-59, **783**, **846**, **878-79**
 - Board matters, 157, 159, **878-79**
 - Finances, 158-59
 - Human resources management, 156-57
 - Mandate, mission, 149
 - Ministries, 150-56
 - Community transformation, 150-52
 - Disaster Response, 154-56
 - HIV and AIDS response, 151-52
 - Justice education and advocacy, 152-53
 - Service Learning, 153-54
 - Offerings for, 159, **783**
 - Resource development, 158
 - Salary disclosure, 158
- Church Order
 - Administrative actions according to
 - Article 8: **788-91**. *See also* Candidacy Committee.
 - Article 10: **791-96**
 - Article 12-c: **796-99**
 - Article 13-c: **799-800**
 - Article 14-b: **800-801**
 - Article 14-c: **801**
 - Article 14-e: **801-802**
 - Article 17-a: **802-803**
 - Article 17-c: **804-806**
 - Article 17-d: **806**
 - Article 23-a: **806-11**. *See also* Candidacy Committee.

Article 23-b or -c: **811**
Article 23-d: **812**
Discussion, study, revision. *See also* Church Order Supplement; Overtures 19-27.
Article 14-e: 702, 709, **813**
Article 23. *See* Candidacy Committee.
Article 25: 572, **829-30**
Article 56: 572, **829-30**
Article 59: 573-74, 688, **829-30**
Article 63: 574, 690, **829-30**
Article 66: 575, **829-30**
Article 79: 575, **829-30**
Church Order Supplement, discussion, study, revision. *See also* Church Order discussion, study, revision; Overtures 19-27.
Article 8, D: 347, 351, **824-25**
Article 13-c, Regulation b: 675-76, **872**
Article 59-c: 574, 688-89, **829-30**
Article 66-a: 575, **829-30**
Articles 78-81: 576, 688, **829-30**
Classical examinations. *See* Ministers; Synodical deputies, work of.
Classical matters. *See also* Synodical deputies, work of.
Classes declaring that women officebearers may not be delegated to classis, 23
Committee for Contact with the Government, 35, 39, 73-74, 309-309, 321, **817-18**
Committees. *See* Advisory committees; Service committees; Study committees.
Communications
1: Classis Central Plains, 693, **869-71**
2: Classis Northcentral Iowa, 693-94. *See* **872**.
3: Council of First CRC, Owen Sound, Ontario, 694, **869-71**
4: Council of First CRC, Owen Sound, Ontario, 694-95. *See* **833-34**.
5: Council of Washington, D.C., CRC, 747-48, **861-65**
6: Classis Hudson, 748, **861-65**
7: Council of Community CRC, Oakdale, California, 748-49, **858-61, 866-68**
8: Classis Zeeland, 749-50, **861-65**
9: Classis Zeeland, 750, **858-61, 866-68**
Confessions. *See* Faith Alive Christian Resources, Reformed Standards.
Confidentiality of executive sessions, 9, **778**
Consolidated Group Insurance. *See* Pensions and Insurance.
Contemporary Testimony, 626, 628-30, 678. *See also* Overtures 13, 15-18; Communications 1-3.
Convening churches of synod, 705, 711, **816, 874**
Covenant for Officebearers, Doctrinal. *See* Study Committees, Form of Subscription Revision Committee II.
CRC Publications (Korea publisher), 171. *See also* Faith Alive Christian Resources.
Creation and science. *See* Overture 2.
Creation Stewardship Task Force, 30, **881**

D

Delegates to Synod 2011, 13-17, **775-77**
Deacon Task Force, Office of, 29, **881**
Disability Concerns, Office of, 38, 309-12, 703, 709, 714-15, **817-19**
 Accommodations at synod for all participants, 703, 709, 714-15, **817-18**
 Disability Week, 38, **819**
Disaster Response. *See* Christian Reformed World Relief Committee.
Diversity in Leadership Planning Group. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity Matters.
Doctrinal Covenant for Officebearers. *See* Study Committees, Form of Subscription Revision Committee II.
Dordt College, 523-24, **838**
Dynamic Youth Ministries, 67, 533-35, **843**

E

Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee (formerly Ecumenical Relations Committee), 338-512, 736-38, **821-26, 880**
 Belhar Confession, 347-48. *See also* Overture 12; Communication 2.
 Bilateral relationships, 342-44
 Christian Reformed Church of Haiti, in dialogue with, 342-43, 349, 736-38, **821-22**
 Memorandum of Understanding with, 736-38, **821-22**
 Christian Reformed Church of Myanmar, ecclesiastical fellowship with, 342, 348, **821**
 Dialogue with Roman Catholic Church (RCC), 344-46, 350, **822-23**
 "Common Agreement on the Mutual Recognition of Baptism," 346, 350-55, **822**
 Common "Certificate of Baptism," 346, 350, 356, **822**
 Ecumenical documents on baptism and Lord's Supper, 346, 350, 357-510, **822-23**
 Request that Faith Alive Christian Resources explore joint preparation of educational materials, 346, 350, **823**
 Ecclesiastical fellowship, 348, 511
 Ecumenical relations, 340, 736, **840, 883-84**. *See also* Ecumenical representatives and observers; Fraternal delegates.
 Expressions of gratitude, 348, **821, 823**
 Formal dialogue, 512
 Fraternal delegates, 340, 736, **783, 840**. *See also* Fraternal delegates.
 Hospitality Committee. *See* Hospitality Committee.
 Interfaith dialogue, 347
 Membership, 338-39
 Multilateral relationships, 340-42
 "Orderly Exchange of Ministers" amendment request, 347, 351, **824-25**
 Reformed Church in America
 Bi-denominational worship event, 344, **882-84**. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Joint CRC/RCA synod assembly.
 Calls to candidates in RCA and CRCNA, 347, 351, **824-25**
 Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, 344, 349, **825-26**

Ecumenical representatives and observers. *See also* Fraternal delegates.
 From churches, ecumenical organizations
 Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A., Dr. Richard Hamm, 736, **840**
 Reformed Church of Christ in Nigeria, Rev. Risae Shamaki Ykubu, **840**
 World Communion of Reformed Churches, Dr. Setri Nyomi, 736, **840**
 To ecumenical organizations
 Canadian Council of Churches, Rev. Peter Slofstra and Rev. Bruce G. Adema, 340
 Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A. (CCT-USA), Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, 340
 Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, Rev. Bruce G. Adema, 340
 National Association of Evangelicals (NAE), Rev. Gerard L. Dykstra, 340
 Employee benefit programs. *See* Pensions and Insurance.
 English-language ministry (ReFrame Media), 112-14
 Ethnic advisers. *See* Advisers.
 Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, 340-41
 Executive sessions of synod, 9, **778**

F

Faith Alive Christian Resources, 163-298, **823**, **833-34**, **848-55**, **879-80**
 Antiracism, 179
Banner, The, 164-66. *See also* *Banner, The*.
 Belgic Confession (proposed translation), 184-225, **848-54**
 Board matters, 173-75, **879-80**
 Canons of Dort (proposed translation), 225-50, **848-54**
 Core values, 163
 Curriculum and other publications, 166-70
 Finances, 172
 Heidelberg Catechism (proposed translation), 250-98, **848-54**
 Hymnal development, 170
 Proposal to not include confessions in new hymnal, 177-78, 182, **833-34**
 Joint preparation of educational materials with RCC, et al., 346, 350, **823**
 Marketing and customer service, 171-72
 Mission statement, 163
 Periodicals, 164-66
 Personnel matters, 172
 Reformed standards (proposed translation), 179-81, 182-298, 704, 710-11, **848-54**. *See also* Overtures 4-11; Communication 4.
 Publish former translation of confessions as long as feasible, **857**
 Resolution for the Common Translation of the Three Reformed Standards, **883**
 Relationships with other organizations, 178, **823**, **883**
 Salary disclosure, 179
 Use of resources by CRC churches, 178-79
 World Literature Ministries, 170-71
 Worship Committee proposal, 176-77, 181, **855**
 Worship resources, 170
 Faith Formation. *See* Study committees.

Financial statements, 77-108, 753-69, **815**. *See also* Ministry share;
 Recommended agencies/causes.
 Form of Subscription. *See* Study Committees.
 Forms of unity, **778**. *See also* Faith Alive Christian Resources, Reformed
 Standards; Overtures 4-11; Communication 4.
 Fraternal delegates, 340, 736, **783, 840**
 From churches
 Netherlands Reformed Churches, Rev. Pieter G. Sinia, 736, **783, 840**
 Reformed Church in America, Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson and
 Rev. Thomas DeVries, 736, **840**
 To churches
 Christian Reformed Church in the Philippines, Rev. Bruce G. Adema
 and Marvin J. Hoffman, 340
 Presbyterian Church in India, Rev. Bruce G. Adema, 340
 Reformed Church in America, Dr. Peter Borgdorff, 340
 Reformed Church in Japan, Rev. Kenneth Young, 340
 Reformed Churches in Argentina, Rev. Bruce G. Adema, 340
 French-language ministry, 114
 Friendship Ministries, 168, 178, 536-37, **855**

G

GEMS Girls' Clubs, 533-34, **843**
 Gratitude, expressions of, 127, 348, 517, 519, 543, 699, **784, 788, 821, 823, 841, 847, 881-82, 884**
 Greetings. *See* Ecumenical representatives; Fraternal delegates.

H

Heidelberg Catechism, 167, 170-71, 179-83
 Proposed translation, 250-98, **848-54**. *See also* Faith Alive Christian
 Resources, Reformed standards; Overtures 4-11.
 Hindi and related languages ministry, 114-15
 Historical Committee, 513-18, **825, 880**
 Digital versions of *Acts of Synod and Agendas for Synod*, 517-18, **825**
 Recognition of individuals, 514-16
 Recognition of ministries, 516
 HIV/AIDS ministries, 151-53
 Homosexuality. *See* Overture 1.
 Hospitality Committee, **781**
 Hymnal development. *See* Faith Alive Christian Resources.

I

Immigration awareness, 321
 Indonesian-language ministry, 115
 Infant baptism. *See* Study committees, Faith Formation.
 Infant dedication. *See* Study committees, Faith Formation.
 Institute for Christian Studies, 525-26, **838**
 Insurance. *See* Pensions and Insurance.
 Intellectual disabilities. *See* Friendship Ministries.

Interchurch Relations Committee (renamed). *See* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
Interim appointments. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.
Investments. *See* Board of Trustees, Financial matters; *see also* Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund.

J

Japanese-language ministry, 115
Joint CRC/RCA synod assembly. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.
Judicial Code Committee, 28, 37, **880**

K

King's University College, 527-28, **839**
Korean-language ministry, 116-17, 166, 171, 335
Kuyper College, 529, **838**

L

Leadership development. *See* Christian Reformed Home Missions.
Leadership Exchange, 30-31, 50-54, **857**
Licensing to exhort. *See* Candidacy Committee.
Lilly Endowment funding, 69
Loan Fund. *See* Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund.
Lord's Supper. *See* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, Dialogue with Roman Catholic Church; Study Committees, Faith Formation Committee; Overtures 24-27.

M

Manual for Synodical Deputies, 33
Mental (intellectual) disabilities. *See* Friendship Ministries.
Micah Challenge, 320
Middle East Reformed Fellowship, 112, 117
Ministerial Information Service, 314
Ministers. *See also* Candidacy Committee, Candidates; Ministry associates; Synodical deputies, work of.
 Admitted via classical examination of candidates, **791-96**
 Approved for specialized service, **796-99**
 Approved from other denominations, **788-91**
 Declared again eligible for call, **801-802**
 Granted extension as eligible for call, **804-805**
 Loaned to another denomination, **791-800**
 Released from ministerial service, **802-803**
 Released from office, **800-801, 805-806**
 Retirements, **787-88**
Ministers' Pension. *See* Pensions and Insurance.
Ministries Leadership Team, 33
Ministry associates, **788, 806-12**. *See also* Candidacy Committee.

Ministry Plan of the Christian Reformed Church. *See* Board of Trustees, Program matters.

Ministry share, 32-33, 35-36, 705, 711, **815, 829, 887-88**

Ministry Share Promotion Task Force, 36, **815, 829**

Minutes-Review Committee, **781**

N

National Association of Evangelicals, 340-41

Network, The: Connecting Churches for Ministry, 34, 65-70, 309, 311, 535, **842-43**

ServiceLink, 70, 147, 153

Sustaining Congregational Excellence, 67-68, **842-43**

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence, 69, 313, **842-43**

O

Officers and functionaries for Synod 2012, **874**

Our World Belongs to God. *See* Contemporary Testimony.

Overtures

1. Appoint a Study Committee to Review the Biblical Teachings Regarding Homosexual Orientation and Practice, 633, **826-28**
2. Declare That Section VI, J of Report 28 (1991) Be Part of the CRCNA's Official Position on Creation and Science, 634-35, **839-40, 847**
3. Permit Professors, Pastors, and Teachers to Write, Preach, and Teach That in Scripture the Word *Jerusalem Means Jerusalem* and the Word *Israel Means Israel*, 635-51, **856**
4. Reject the Proposed Changes to the Reformed Confessions, 651-54, **848-54**
5. Reject Proposed New Translation of the Three Reformed Standards, 654-55, **848-54**
6. Reject Revisions to the Three Reformed Standards, 655-56, **848-54**
7. Do Not Adopt Translations; Appoint Larger Committee to Update the Confessions, 656, **848-54**
8. Postpone Action on Adoption of the Proposed Changes to Three Forms of Unity, 657, **848-54**
9. Do Not Adopt Changes to Forms of Unity, 657-58, **848-54**
10. Do Not Adopt Proposed Revision of the Three Reformed Standards, 658-61, **848-54**
11. Do Not Adopt the Proposed Revisions to the Three Forms of Unity, 661-63, **848-54**
12. Request a Balanced Discussion of the Belhar Confession, 663, **826**
13. Give Confession Status to *Our World Belongs to God: A Contemporary Testimony*, 664-65, **872**
14. Amend "Covenant for Officebearers," 665-66, **869-71**
15. Reject the Proposed Form of Subscription, 666-70, **869-71**
16. Remove Mention of the Contemporary Testimony in the "Covenant for Officebearers," 671, **869-71**
17. Reject the Proposed "Covenant for Officebearers" as It Presently Stands, 671-74, **869-71**
18. Do Not Adopt "Covenant for Officebearers," 674-75, **869-71**

19. Delete Church Order Supplement, Article 13-c, Regulation b, 675-76, **872**
20. Amend Church Order Article 47, 676-78, **872-73**
21. Amend Church Order Supplement, Article 17, 679-81, **873**
22. Add a Supplement to Church Order Article 40-a, 681-85, **873**
23. Amend Church Order Supplement, Article 17-a, 686-87, **873**
24. Alter Wording for Church Order Articles Proposed by the Faith Formation Committee, 688, **830**
25. Do Not Adopt the Proposed Church Order Supplement, Article 59-c within the Faith Formation Committee Report, 688-89, **830-31**
26. Withhold Action on Church Order Changes by Faith Formation Committee, 689-90, **829-30**
27. Provide Churches with Another Year to Consider Church Order Changes Proposed by the Faith Formation Committee, 690-92, **829-30**
28. Receive Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report for Information and Appoint a Broader Task Force, 741, **858-61, 866-68**
29. Reject the Report of the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group and Form a New Committee, 742-44, **858-61, 866-68**
30. Do Not Endorse the Diversity in Leadership Planning Group Report and Its Recommendations Presented by the Board of Trustees; Appoint a New Study Committee, 744-45, **858-61, 866-68**

P

Partners Worldwide, 538, **844**
 Pastor-Church Relations, Office of, 312-15, 336, **819**
 Pensions and Insurance, 36, 299-304, **813-14, 880-81**
 Board matters, 299, **880-81**
 Consolidated Group Insurance, 304
 Employees' retirement plans, 303
 Financial disclosures, 304
 Ministers' pension plans, 299-304, **813-14, 816**
 Personal Appeals. *See* Appeals.
 Portuguese-language ministry, 115
 Public Declaration of Agreement. *See* Forms of Unity.

R

Race Relations, Office of, 38-39, 315-16, **819-20**
 See also Board of Trustees, Polity Matters, Diversity in Leadership Planning Group.
 Recommended agencies/causes, 705-708, 711-12, **815-16, 889-91**
 Redeemer University College, 53-54, 530-31, **839**
 Reformed Church in America, 74, 112-13, 130-31, 133, 166, 169-170, 172-73, 175, 178, 310-12, 321, 331, 335, 344, 349, **825-26, 882-84**
 Joint session with CRC synod, **882-84**
 Collaborative areas of ministry with CRC, **883**
 Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, 344, 349, **825-26**

See also Board of Trustees, Polity Matters, Joint CRC/RCA synod assembly; Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations; Faith Alive Christian Resources, Reformed Standards.
Reformed Confessions. *See* Faith Alive Christian Resources, Reformed Standards.
Restorative justice, 318-19, 321
Retirements, ministerial, **787-88**. *See also* Synodical Deputies, work of.
Rules for Synodical Procedure, 32, 51
Russian-language ministry, 115-16

S

Safe Church Ministry, 35, 316-19, 705, 711, **818, 820, 881**
 Director resignation, 35
 Interim director, 705, 711, **818, 881**
Salary disclosure, 22-23, 708, 712, **816**
Sergeant at Arms, **781**
Sermons for Reading Services Committee, 519-20, **856, 881**
Service committees, **880-81**
ServiceLink, 70, 147, 153
Social Justice and Hunger Action, Office of, 35, 39, 75-76, 152, 319-22, **817, 820**
Spanish-language ministries, 116, 138, 145, 170-71, 310, 536
Specialized Ministries, 34, 305-323, 703, 709, 714-15, **817-20**
Study committees
 Faith Formation Committee, 541-621, **829-32, 855, 857, 881**. *See also* Overtures 24-27.
 Form of Subscription Revision Committee II, 622-30, **869-72, 881**. *See also* Overtures 14-18; Communications 1, 3.
Sustaining Congregational Excellence. *See* The Network.
Sustaining Pastoral Excellence. *See* The Network.
Synodical
 Addresses. *See* Addresses to synod.
 Advisers. *See* Advisers to synod.
 Advisory committees, **779-80**
 Appointments, **874-81**
 Boards, **875-80**
 Committees, **880-81**
 Convening churches. *See* Convening churches.
 Delegates, 13-17, **775-77**. *See also* Fraternal delegates; Ecumenical representatives and observers.
 Deputies, 23, 33, 37, 327, 329-30, 336, 699, **785, 788-812, 874-75**
 Work of, **788-812**
 Executive sessions, 9
 Functionaries, **874**
 Officers, **777, 874**
 Procedure. *See* Rules for Synodical Procedure.
 Resources, 32-33
 Service of Prayer and Praise, 773-74

T

Task forces, **881**

Testimonial Banquet Committee, **781**

Trinity Christian College, 532, **839**

U

Urban Aboriginal Ministries, 322-23, **820**

V

Video recording of synod, 9-10, **778-79**

Visual impairments, 168

Voice of the Reformed, 166

W

World Communion of Reformed Churches, 340-41

Worship at synod, **775, 781, 785, 833, 856, 870, 884**

Worship Planning Committee, **781**

Worship resources. *See* Faith Alive Christian Resources.

Y

Yearbook, 32

Young adult representatives (formerly young adult advisers, youth observers), 27, 50-51, 53, 702, 709, 712-13, **777, 816**

Report of task force, 702, 709, 712-13, **816**

Young Adult Summit proposal, 30, 37, 50-55, **857**

Youth Unlimited, 147, 535, 543, **843**