

ACTS OF SYNOD

2014



Christian
Reformed
Church

ACTS OF SYNOD

2014



Christian
Reformed
Church

June 12-18, 2014
Kuyper Complex
Central College
Pella, Iowa

© 2014 Christian Reformed Church in North America
1700 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49508 U.S.A.
Printed in the United States of America

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

CONTENTS

Foreword	v
----------------	---

Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

Board of Trustees Supplement	429
Appendix A: Curriculum Vitae: Darren C. Roorda	438
Appendix B: Summary of the Report Cultivating Binationality in the CRCNA	440
Appendix C: Summary of Denominational Investments and Compliance with Investment Policy	442
Agency and Institution Supplements	
Calvin College	447
Calvin Theological Seminary	450
Appendix: Curriculum Vitae: Sarah Steen Schreiber	451
Christian Reformed World Missions	456
World Renew	461

Standing Committees

Candidacy Committee Supplement	465
Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement	469

Financial Reports

Back to God Ministries International	475
Calvin College	476
Calvin Theological Seminary	477
CRC Loan Fund, Inc., U.S.	478
Christian Reformed Home Missions	479
Christian Reformed World Missions	480
Faith Formation/Faith Alive Christian Resources	481
Faith Formation and Church Support Ministries	482
Synodical Administrative Services	483
World Renew	484
Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Funds – Canada	485
Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Funds – U.S.	486
Employees' Savings Plan – U.S.	487
Consolidated Group Insurance – U.S.	488

Report of Synod 2014

Synodical Service of Praise..... 491

Minutes of Synod 2014 493

Denominational Ministry Shares and Recommended Agencies for 2015 .. 589

Index 597

Synod 2014 was held at Central College in Pella, Iowa, June 12-18, 2014. 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 2014* 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.
- Financial reports.
- The minutes of Synod 2014.
- An index for both the *Acts of Synod* and the *Agenda for Synod 2014*.

It is necessary for the user of the *Acts of Synod 2014* to keep the *Agenda for Synod 2014* 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 429, following preliminary unnumbered pages. Financial reports begin on page 475. The minutes of synod follow, beginning on page 493. 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 2014.

The "Acts of Synod" are more than simply a record of official actions taken. They also reveal 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, executive director
Christian Reformed Church in North America

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SUPPLEMENT

I. Polity matters

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

1. Trustees whose terms expire as of June 30, 2014, or who have resigned:

Region/Classis	Member
Region 8	Mr. Loren J. Veldhuizen
Region 9	Dr. Steven R. Timmermans
Region 12	Rev. Sheila E. Holmes
Classis Chatham	Mrs. Grace Miedema
Classis Huron	Dr. Darren C. Roorda
Classis Lake Superior	Rev. Harold de Jong
Classis Quinte	Mr. Wybe Bylsma

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 the following delegates are completing a second term of service on the Board: Mr. Wybe Bylsma, Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, Mrs. Grace Miedema, and Mr. Loren Veldhuizen. As reported by the Board in February, the resignations of Rev. Harold de Jong (after three years of service) and Dr. Steven R. Timmermans (after being nominated as ED) were received. At the May meeting, Dr. Darren C. Roorda also submitted his resignation from the BOT because of his nomination as the Canadian ministries director for the CRCNA (nominations to fill this Board vacancy will be solicited in the coming year). 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

Because of the resignations received from Dr. Steven R. Timmermans (Region 9) and Rev. Harold de Jong (Classis Lake Superior) in February 2014, the Board requests that synod appoint a new member from the respective classis and region by way of the following slates of nominees:

a. *Region 9*

Mr. Floyd Leo is a member of First CRC in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. He has served as an elder and as chair of the executive committee and president of council. Mr. Leo earned a B.A. in business and minored in psychology at Trinity Christian College. He currently works as a salesman for Advanced Disposal Landfills. He previously served as chairman of the local chapter for Good News Jail and Prison Ministry

and has been a Cadet counselor and Youth Unlimited leader. Mr. Leo currently serves on the Classis Wisconsin Home Missions committee and is active in two church plants.

Ms. Elizabeth (Lis) Rudenga is a member of Crossroads Community Church in Schererville, Indiana. She has a B.A. from Calvin College and a Ph.D. from Purdue University. Ms. Rudenga presently is employed as provost at Trinity Christian College. She previously worked for Elim Christian Services.

b. *Classis Lake Superior*

Rev. Donald Draayer serves as the pastor of Covenant CRC in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He received a B.A. from Dordt College, an M.Div. from Calvin Theological Seminary, and went on to receive a D.Min. from Fuller Theological Seminary. Rev. Draayer has served on the classical interim committee of Classis California South, the classical Home Missions committee, and the classical student fund committee. He has also served on the board of his local Home Owners Association. He served as elder while also serving as campus pastor at Dordt College. Rev. Draayer currently serves on the classical interim committee of Classis Lake Superior.

Ms. Henrietta Hielema is a member of Covenant CRC in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She previously served on the board of Education in Manitoba and was the special education coordinator at Woodland Christian High School. Ms. Hielema currently works at Calvin Christian Collegiate in Winnipeg. She has served on her church council as an elder and on the worship and education committees. Ms. Hielema has also served on the OCSTA Standing Convention Committee, the Classis Huron Campus Ministry Committee, the building committee of WCHS, and various other organizations. She currently serves on the board of MIB LifeLease, the Classis Lake Superior Home Missions committee, and the board of Homestead Christian Care.

B. *Officers of the Board of Trustees for 2014-15 (Committee 1)*

At its recent meeting the Board members from their respective Corporations and the full BOT elected the following to serve as officers in the coming year:

1. The CRCNA-Canada Corporation

President: Mrs. Katherine M. Vandergrift
Vice president: Rev. Trevor Vanderveen
Secretary: Mr. Garry Sytsma

2. The CRCNA-Michigan Corporation

President: Rev. R. Scott Greenway
Vice president: Mr. Chris Van Spronsen
Vice-all: Rev. Kenneth A. Baker

3. The binational Board of Trustees officers

President: Mrs. Katherine M. Vandergrift
Vice president: Rev. R. Scott Greenway
Vice-all: Rev. Trevor Vanderveen

C. *Joint sessions of Synod 2014* (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. On the agenda of the respective synods is the adoption of the Resolution of the Relationship between the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church in North America, to be acted upon in joint session on Saturday evening, June 14. In order to facilitate a meaningful joint discussion and decision with the synod of the RCA regarding this matter, the following action will be recommended for adoption by the officers of synod early in its sessions:

That synod hold the official vote regarding the CRC-RCA joint resolution during the joint session on Saturday evening, June 14, 2014, of the CRC synod and RCA general synod (delegates from each synod voting separately) and authorize the clerks of synod to enter that decision into the official record of Synod 2014.

Ground: Because joint sessions with the RCA general synod fall outside of established rules of procedure, it is necessary to approve a process in advance.

D. *ED transition plan* (Committee 1)

The executive committee of the Board of Trustees, in consultation with Dr. Steven R. Timmermans, proposed a plan for the transition of executive leadership—specifically, Rev. Joel R. Boot and Dr. Peter Borgdorff—upon the appointment of the ED nominee by synod in June. The Board of Trustees decided that Rev. Boot will serve in a full-time position as the interim director of ministries and administration until March 2015. This is a key position that cannot be left unfilled until a new director of ministries and administration is in place (the Board anticipates that a nominee for this position will be presented for appointment in February 2015); considerable work is ongoing and needs oversight and leadership. Dr. Peter Borgdorff, who currently serves as deputy executive director, will serve in the position of special adviser to the executive director and ecumenical relations coordinator in a less than half-time capacity until March 2015. Dr. Borgdorff's expertise in church polity and governance will be helpful during this time of transition. Once a director of ministries and administration is identified and the leadership team is complete, administrative leadership for this interim function can be assigned on a more permanent basis.

E. *Canadian ministries director nominee* (Committee 1)

The Canadian Ministries Director Search Committee presented a finalist in the search process, Dr. Darren C. Roorda, to the Board in May for interview. Following a successful interview, it is with gratitude to the search committee that the BOT recommends Dr. Darren C. Roorda to Synod 2014 for ratification of the appointment as the next Canadian ministries director, effective August 4, 2014. Dr. Roorda's curriculum vitae is provided in Appendix A.

The Board expresses its sincere gratitude to Mr. Ben Vandezande for his assistance in providing interim leadership to the Canadian ministries (from September 2012 through June 2014) until the appointment of the new Canadian ministries director.

F. Cultivating binationality (Committee 1)

At its meeting in May, the Board resumed a discussion (begun in September 2013 and continued in February 2014) about binationality and what it means to be a binational church with unique cultural settings, as we together pursue “a common mission with intentional and meaningful engagement with different national, regional, and local contexts for ministry.” The Board received a report by a BOT-appointed work group, an executive summary of which is supplied as information in Appendix B.

G. Sermons for Reading Services Committee membership (Committee 2)

After submitting their annual report to Synod 2014, a member of the Reading Services Committee, Rev. Lambert Sikkema, asked to be relieved of his duties on the committee. The committee recommends that synod appoint Rev. Colin Vander Ploeg to a first term of three years to fill this recent vacancy.

Rev. Colin Vander Ploeg is originally from Woodstock, Ontario. He has pastored churches in Edmonton, Alberta, and Abbotsford, British Columbia. He currently serves at Bethany CRC in Fenwick, Ontario. Rev. Vander Ploeg is an able preacher. He has served as a delegate to synod two times. In 2012 he served as chair of the synodical Church Order and Appeals advisory committee.

II. Program and finance matters

A. Program matters (Committee 4)

The process to align ministries around six Collaborative Work Groups (CWGs) continues to make progress. These work groups are composed mostly of former Faith Alive as well as Specialized Ministries personnel. All groups have committed to projects that will create opportunities for collaboration and new learning across previous barriers.

The six working groups are Ministry Support Services; Starting and Strengthening Congregations; The Office of Worship; Leadership; Faith Formation; and Justice, Mercy, and Advocacy. This is a departure from the more traditional organizational model that is part of our past. The principle of convergence of ministry functions makes this approach fundamentally different.

B. Finance matters (Committee 7)

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 Special Assistance Funds of the CRC as presented in the report of the BOT Finance Committee.
2. The Board recommends that synod approve a ministry share of \$336.12 per adult member (age 18 and over) for calendar year 2015 (a 1% increase over the previous year) 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

Denominational Ministry Programs

- 1) Chaplaincy and Care Ministry
- 2) Committee for Contact with the Government
- 3) Disability Concerns
- 4) Pastor-Church Relations
- 5) Race Relations
- 6) Safe Church Ministry
- 7) ServiceLink
- 8) Social Justice and Hunger Action
- 9) Urban Aboriginal Ministries

Faith Formation

World Renew—one offering per quarter because the agency receives no ministry-share support

b. Denominationally related agencies recommended for one or more offerings

Diaconal Ministries Canada
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 of Trustees recommends the following new request for inclusion on the list of denominationally related agencies:

Communities First Association

Communities First Association is a professional association of intermediary Christian community developers that provides a supportive learning environment, resources, and tools to those who transform low-income communities. Originated within World Renew, the organization is currently working in more than 300 neighborhoods with 522 churches and 98 CRC congregations.

5. The Board informs synod that it has approved the renewal of the following accredited agencies for offerings in the churches for 2015—year one

in a three-year cycle of support (2015-2017). 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. Synod indicated that, in the intervening years, 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

Ascending Leaders
Christian Schools International
Christian Schools International Foundation (for textbook development)
CLC Network
Dordt College
Elim Christian Services
Friends of ICS (U.S. Foundation of Institute for Christian Studies)
Hunting Park Christian Academy
Kids Hope USA
The King's University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
Kuyper College
Langham Partnership (formerly John Stott Ministries)
Redeemer University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
Rehoboth 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
Care of Creation
Center for Public Justice
Crossroad Bible Institute

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (endorsed for local, specified staff support only)
 Middle East Reformed Fellowship, U.S. (MERF)
 Mission India
 The Tract League
 World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)
 Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.

b. Canada

1) Benevolent agencies

Beginnings Family Services
 Homestead Christian Care

2) Educational agencies

Dordt College
 Edu Deo Ministries
 Institute for Christian Studies
 The King's University College
 Kuyper College
 Redeemer University College
 Trinity Christian College

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
 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of Canada
 Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Canada (MERF)
 World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)
 Wycliffe Translators of Canada, Inc.

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

Canada

a. Canadian Council of Churches

Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is an inclusive Christian council with twenty-five member denominations, representing more than 85 percent of the Christians in Canada. The Christian Reformed Church in North America is a member of the CCC. In addition, the Canadian Council of Churches is the institutional home for the Canadian Theological Students Conference.

b. A Rocha Canada

A Rocha Canada is an international Christian organization that engages in scientific research, environmental education, and community-based conservation projects. Started in 2000 in Canada and part of the A Rocha organization founded in Portugal in 1983, they

are restoring salmon habitats, training young scientists, feeding low-income families, equipping churches, and encouraging community groups through hands-on conservation projects, environmental education programs, and sustainable agriculture initiatives.

United States

Talking Bibles

Talking Bibles provides leaders worldwide in communities of oral learners with “talking” Bibles in their native language. The ministry trains leaders to use the “talking” Bibles to equip indigenous non-readers to become church leaders, pastors, and missionaries to their own communities. This organization’s direct focus is within East Africa and South Asia. Affiliate mission agencies, including Wycliffe and New Tribes Missions, focus on Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America.

7. The denominational salary grid

As previously reported, the Board of Trustees has adopted a new salary administration system that uses a salary range *target* and a minimum of 85 percent of that target. The BOT recommends that Synod 2014 adopt the salary grids as detailed below for use in fiscal year 2014-2015.

2014-2015 Salary Grade and Range Structure					
Level	Current U.S. Range			Proposed U.S. Range	
	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum	Minimum	Target
20	\$121,124	\$151,406	\$181,687	\$153,763	\$180,898
19	\$109,196	\$136,495	\$163,793	\$138,976	\$163,501
18	\$97,326	\$121,657	\$145,989	\$122,431	\$144,037
17	\$87,351	\$109,189	\$131,027	\$108,478	\$127,621
16	\$78,622	\$98,278	\$117,933	\$93,392	\$109,873
15	\$71,272	\$89,091	\$106,909	\$81,357	\$95,714
14	\$62,270	\$77,837	\$93,405	\$72,640	\$85,459
13	\$54,742	\$68,427	\$82,113	\$64,857	\$76,302

2014-2015 Salary Grade and Range Structure					
Level	Current Canadian Range			Proposed Canadian Range	
	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum	Minimum	Target
18	\$107,437	\$134,296	\$161,155	\$114,256	\$134,418
17	\$93,349	\$116,686	\$140,023	\$99,706	\$117,301
16	\$81,690	\$102,113	\$122,535	\$87,097	\$102,467
15	\$71,958	\$89,948	\$107,937	\$77,518	\$91,198
14	\$63,462	\$79,328	\$95,193	\$70,566	\$83,019
13	\$56,635	\$70,793	\$84,952	\$64,361	\$75,718

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.

III. Recommendations

A. That synod by way of the ballot appoint members to the Board of Trustees from Region 9 and Classis Lake Superior (BOT Supplement section I, A, 3).

B. That synod hold the official vote regarding the CRC-RCA joint resolution during the joint session on Saturday evening, June 14, 2014, of the CRC synod and RCA general synod (delegates from each synod voting separately) and authorize the clerks of synod to enter that decision into the official record of Synod 2014 (BOT Supplement section I, C).

Ground: Because joint sessions with the RCA general synod fall outside of established rules of procedure, it is necessary to approve a process in advance.

C. That synod ratify the appointment of Dr. Darren C. Roorda as Canadian ministries director, effective August 4, 2014 (BOT Supplement section I, E).

D. That synod appoint Rev. Colin Vander Ploeg to the Sermons for Reading Services Committee for a first term of three years (BOT Supplement section I, G).

E. That synod receive the agencies and institutional unified budget as information and approve a ministry share of \$336.12 for calendar year 2015 (BOT Supplement sections II, B, 1-2).

F. 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 accept the following new request for inclusion on the list of denominationally related agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 4):

Communities First Association

Communities First Association is a professional association of intermediary Christian community developers that provides a supportive learning environment, resources, and tools to those who transform low-income communities. Originated within World Renew, the organization is currently working in more than 300 neighborhoods with 522 churches and 98 CRC congregations.

3. That synod receive as information the list of nondenominational agencies, previously accredited, that have been approved for calendar year 2015 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 5).
4. That synod accept the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 6):

Canada

a. Canadian Council of Churches

Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is an inclusive Christian council with twenty-five member denominations, representing more than 85 percent of the Christians in Canada. The Christian Reformed Church in North America is a member of the CCC. In addition, the Canadian Council of Churches is the institutional home for the Canadian Theological Students Conference.

b. A Rocha Canada

A Rocha Canada is an international Christian organization that engages in scientific research, environmental education, and community-based conservation projects. Started in 2000 in Canada and part of the A Rocha organization founded in Portugal in 1983, they are restoring salmon habitats, training young scientists, feeding low-income families, equipping churches, and encouraging community groups through hands-on conservation projects, environmental education programs, and sustainable agriculture initiatives.

United States

Talking Bibles

Talking Bibles provides leaders worldwide in communities of oral learners with “talking” Bibles in their native language. The ministry trains leaders to use the “talking” Bibles to equip indigenous non-readers to become church leaders, pastors, and missionaries to their own communities. This organization’s direct focus is within East Africa and South Asia. Affiliate mission agencies, including Wycliffe and New Tribes Missions, focus on Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America.

G. That synod adopt the denominational salary grid for senior positions as proposed (BOT Supplement section II, B, 7).

Board of Trustees of the
Christian Reformed Church in North America
Joel R. Boot, executive director

Appendix A

Curriculum Vitae: Darren C. Roorda

Positions

Senior Pastor of Preaching and Administration, Community CRC,
Kitchener, Ont.; July 2006 – present

Senior Pastor, Bellevue Christian Reformed Church, Bellevue, Wash.; July
1998 – June 2006; includes one year of internship)

Student Pastor, Edson/Peers CRC, Alta.; Summer 1996

Environmental Scientist/Project Manager, Pollutech Environmental Ltd.,
Oakville, Ont.; 1991-1995

Education and recent training

University of Waterloo: Professional Development Leadership Certificate; 2011-2013

Foci included coaching, strategic planning, managing conflict, team building, and leading change

Jerusalem University College; Summer 2011

Old and New Testament survey courses (Jordan and Israel)

Trinity International University: D. Min.; 2002-2007

Doctoral work was intentionally varied, but major focus/concentration was in preaching (courses taken from Trinity Western Univ., TEDS, and Heritage Seminary)

Calvin Theological Seminary: M. Div.; 1995-1999

Student president of the Old Testament club under John Stek

Calvin College: Pre-Seminary; 1994-1995

University of Waterloo: Honors; Co-op B.E.S.; 1986-1991

Lilly Endowment supported groups and writing

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Peer Learning Group: Growing from a Mono-Ethnic to a Multi-Ethnic Church; 2008

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Peer Learning Group: Pastors of Large Churches; 2006-2008

D.Min. Thesis/Sr. Project: *Preaching the Psalms with Passion*—the justification and development of a new model for preaching the psalms with an eye to implementing their emotional content and intent; 2007

International experience

Classis Huron host for young adult mission trip to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; community work in Haitian bateyes and teaching local pastors; 2008

Membership on other boards, committees, and functions

Present

- Vice chair, Board of Trustees of the CRCNA-Canada Corporation
- CRCNA Strategic Planning and Adaptive Change Team (SPTG and SPACT); 2011 – present
- Board of Trustees of the CRCNA (meets quarterly); 2011 – present
- Foundation Board of the CRCNA (ministry funding for special projects)
- Human Resources Committee of the CRCNA
- Classical Chairperson (rotational basis)

Past

- Classis church visitor (church assessment, advice, and encouragement); 2002-2005; 2009-2013
- Synodical delegate; 2010
- Emmanuel Bible College (Kitchener, ON), Pastoral Advisory Committee
- Emmanuel Bible College, Minister's Conference Planning Committee
- Classical Home Missions Committee; 2001-2004

Teaching

- Community Christian Reformed Church – Bible literacy course (13 weeks on the Old Testament and New Testament); 2007 – present
- Community CRC – Profession of faith class for adults and new members; 2006 – present
- Heritage Christian College – student and faculty chapel leader; 2010
- Community Christian Reformed Church – development of curriculum for Calvin and Reformed Theology course; 2008-2009
- Emmanuel Bible College – student retreat – “Ethical Pitfalls in Ministry”; 2009
- Emmanuel Bible College – guest lecturer – “Determining Your Calling”; 2008
- Woodland Christian High School staff retreat – “Growing Disciples in the School”; 2008
- Emmanuel Bible College – guest lecturer – Pastoral Studies, 3rd-year course (under authority of Dr. Olu Peters); 2007
- Bellevue Christian Reformed Church – WNL adult teaching series on various Bible sections, two per year for 8 weeks each (the Pentateuch, Psalms, Romans, Revelation . . .); 2001-2006
- Warm Beach Christian Conference – week-long marriage course; 1999
- Pollutech Environmental – environmental scientist serving as a teacher/leader to industry, government, or manufacturers regarding environmental sciences, processes, and changes; developed through role as consultant; 1990-1994
- University of Waterloo – teacher’s assistant; 1990-1991 (senior year)

Appendix B

Summary of the Report Cultivating Binationality in the CRCNA

I. Introduction

The CRCNA values being a binational denomination for the opportunity it provides to combine pursuit of a common mission with intentional and meaningful engagement with different national, regional, and local contexts for ministry. Binationality is an asset to be cultivated as we together engage in God’s mission in our various contexts.

The mandate of the Work Group on Binationality was to explore these pathways and prepare recommendations for implementation. The process can be described as moving from a conceptual description to a more specific implementation plan as outlined in recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

II. The mission of God is our primary focus

God is on a mission to make his kingdom a reality in the world. He calls his people to incarnate his message of love, hope, reconciliation, and justice in their context. What especially binds us together is the shared call to be engaged in the mission of God. As we talk about binationality, organization, culture, or leadership, our discussion always needs to be framed in the context of that mission.

III. Why cultivate binationality?

God is at work in his world, and he calls us to his kingdom purposes, values, and work. God's mission challenges us to be responsive and obedient. It is a matter of faith and faithfulness. The pathways to binationality equip the CRCNA to respond to God's call. Binationality recognizes our cultural and contextual differences, seeking to express our common mission in these varied settings in a way that is faithful to the vision and relevant in the setting.

IV. Strategic ways to cultivate binationality

Five pathways for cultivating binationality were explored. These pathways were identified because of their strategic potential.

A. *Pathway 1: Gatherings to discern vision and understand our context*

The purpose of gatherings is to stimulate conversations around the mission God has entrusted to us, exploring and discerning how that mission can be implemented most fruitfully and effectively in our respective contexts and in our shared North American context. These conversations should inform and shape our mission locally and nationally and guide the development of a denominational strategic plan.

B. *Pathway 2: Mutual learning and collaboration between CRCNA staff, classes, and churches*

The members of senior staff teams in each country develop a dynamic mutual learning relationship with congregations, classes, and ministries together with the agencies of the CRCNA. Linking with congregational- and classis-based initiatives ensures that the staff team interacts with learnings "on the ground" and helps to discern where God's Spirit is at work in that community, region, or country.

The senior staff team would build on the learnings as they develop and review the strategic plan and recommend changes to ensure that plans and programs effectively address the trends, issues, and challenges identified at the national, regional, classical, and congregational levels.

C. *Pathway 3: Senior executive leadership team embodies binationality*

To make binationality an authentic leadership value, a major component of the executive director position will have to be the intentional advancement of a consultative and flourishing binational organizational culture and communion. This must be the goal not only for the denomination as a whole; it must start with relationships and work within the senior executive leadership team. The very manner in which the team operates is a microcosm of the binationality we not only acknowledge but also treasure.

D. *Pathway 4: Developing an organizational culture for effective planning*

The CRCNA is an organization that lives in two countries. It is important that our binational character be reflected in the operations of that organization, not just as an afterthought, but as an integral component of what that organization is. We must be intentional in ensuring that our binational character permeates the organization and is embedded in its culture. The CRCNA should be an organization in which the binational context is a natural part of what it plans to do in pursuing its mission in North America.

E. Pathway 5: Governance for discernment and decision making in context

There are two important dimensions of governance that need to be kept in view as we explore this pathway: church ministry discernment and legal corporate governance and decision making. An important role for the Board of Trustees is to develop a culture, practice, and expectation of actively discerning God's mission, primarily in the U.S. and Canadian contexts, and also in the North American context. The church and its trustees must respect and implement to the highest standard U.S. and Canadian laws regarding corporate governance and decision making, respectively, for the Michigan Corporation and the Canada Corporation.

V. Closing comment

These five pathways are in synergy with each other and with other processes under way in the denomination (e.g., structure and culture review, strategic planning and adaptive change).

Appendix C

Summary of Denominational Investments and Compliance with Investment Policy

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

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

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

The accompanying summary and related footnotes constitute the Board of Trustees' response to the first of these requests. In response to the second request, the Board of Trustees reports that on December 31, 2013, all of the agencies and institutions are in compliance with the denomination's investment policy, including the guidance it provides for assets received as a result of gifts or gift-related transactions.

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

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

**THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA**
Agencies and Institutions
Investment Summary in US\$
As of December 31, 2013

	CRC Foundation	Home Missions	Loan Fund	World Missions	World Renew
Categories Specified by Investment Policy:					
SHORT TERM					
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS					
Cash, Money-market mutual funds & CDs	\$ 467,012	\$ 2,048,900	\$ 10,715,559	\$ 2,451,552	\$ 17,415,604
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES					
CRCNA Funds LLC Liquidity Fund (1)	-	665,148	-	193	26,028
Other short term	-	-	-	-	-
CRCNA FUNDS LLC BALANCED FUND (2)	45,805	1,389,486	-	4,025,218	6,343,791
COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCKS					
Publicly traded common, preferred, and convertible preferred stock	-	-	-	-	-
Equity mutual funds	-	864	-	329,366	(3)
FIXED-INCOME ISSUES (LONG TERM)					
U.S. treasuries or Canadian govt bonds	-	-	-	-	-
Publicly traded bonds and notes	-	-	-	-	-
(investment grade, at least A-rated)	-	-	-	-	-
Bond mutual funds	-	-	-	139,369	(3)
CIBC / TAL overdraft accounts	-	-	-	-	-
Interagency Investments (Obligations):					
Loans to CRCNA (Denom. Services)	5,000	27,000	2,000,000	26,000	2,123,000
Other Investments:					
Private equity fund	-	-	-	-	-
Partnerships	-	-	-	-	-
Land contracts	-	-	-	-	-
Life insurance cash value	16,750	(5)	-	-	35,285 (5)
Notes receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Common stock -- non-listed	-	-	-	-	-
Real estate (non-operating)	-	24,957	-	13,170	-
Total	\$ 534,567	\$ 4,156,355	\$ 12,715,559	\$ 6,984,868	\$ 25,943,708

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

Categories Specified by Investment Policy:

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

Employees' Savings Plan U.S. \$	Ministers' Pension Plan U.S. \$	Special Assistance Fund U.S. \$	Consolidated Group Insurance 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 \$
\$ -	\$ 2,153,465	\$ 9,213	\$ 1,799,819	\$ 211,527	\$ 1,453,721	\$ 195,452	\$ 130,105
2,168,161	-	-	-	225,846	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3,523,537	69,816,862	-	-	-	32,154,643	-	-
18,517,207	8,024,405	-	-	2,362,252	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	844,804	-	-	-
-	15,978,577	-	2,618,863	-	7,766,584	-	-
4,388,346	-	-	-	429,793	-	-	-
-	9,788,866	-	-	-	1,909,787	-	-
Total	\$ 28,597,251	\$ 105,762,175	\$ 9,213	\$ 4,074,222	\$ 43,284,735	\$ 195,452	\$ 130,105

Footnotes to the December 31, 2013, Investment Summary

1. CRCNA Funds LLC pooled/unitized fixed income account for agencies.
2. CRCNA Funds LLC pooled/unitized balanced account (fixed income 52%, equities 48%) for agencies.
3. Donated publicly traded stock or mutual funds.
4. Ownership 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.

AGENCY AND INSTITUTION SUPPLEMENTS

Calvin College Supplement

I. Introduction

The Calvin College Board of Trustees met May 8-10, 2014, and presents to synod this supplemental report. The board had a successful meeting and completed its scheduled work for committee and plenary sessions. During its meetings the board thanked its four members who are leaving the board—Dr. Dale J. Andringa, Dr. Richard Vanden Berg, Dr. Jack R. Van Der Slik, and Ms. Michelle L. Van Dyke—for their diligent work on the board and service to Calvin College.

II. Faculty matters

A. *Retirees*

The Calvin College Board of Trustees honored the following eleven individuals for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church and conferred on them the titles listed below:

1. Roy M. Anker, Ph.D., professor of English, emeritus
2. Ronald L. Blankespoor, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, emeritus
3. Randall L. Bytwerk, Ph.D., professor of communication arts and sciences, emeritus
4. Richard G. De Jong, Sc.D., professor of engineering, emeritus
5. Roger L. DeKock, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, emeritus
6. Earl D. Fife, Ph.D., professor of mathematics and computer science, emeritus
7. Nancy L. Hull, M.A., assistant professor of English, emerita
8. Diane B. Obenchain, Ph.D., professor of religion, emerita
9. Steven D. Steenwyk, Ph.D., professor of physics, emeritus
10. John H. Timmerman, Ph.D., professor of English, emeritus
11. David A. Van Baak, Ph.D., professor of physics, emeritus

B. *Faculty reappointment with tenure*

The Calvin College Board of Trustees approved the following faculty appointment with tenure (promotion indicated in *italics*), effective September 1, 2014:

Jeffrey T. Winkle, Ph.D., *associate* professor of classics

C. Administrative appointment

The Calvin College Board of Trustees endorsed the following administrative appointment:

Cheryl K. Brandsen, Ph.D., provost, effective July 1, 2014, for five years, retaining tenure as professor of sociology

III. Election of college trustees

A. At-large trustees

1. Dr. Dale J. Andringa is stepping down from the board. The board recommends that synod appoint Mr. Thomas J. Nobel, Jr., to a three-year term as an at-large trustee. Mr. Nobel is completing a second term as a Region 11 trustee; however, at-large trustees on the Calvin College board qualify to serve a third term of three years.
2. The board recommends that synod appoint the person on the slate of Region 11 nominees who is not selected through the voting process within the classes of that region for the Region 11 position.

B. Regional trustee

Region 9

Dr. Richard Vanden Berg, delegate from Region 9, is completing his second three-year term of service on the board. The classes in the region did not submit names for nomination in the fall nomination period. The board recommends that synod appoint Rev. Pedro Aviles as Region 9 delegate.

Rev. Pedro Aviles, M.A. in Christian Leadership, North Park Theological Seminary

Pastor Pedro (Peter) Aviles leads Ebenezer CRC in Berwyn, Illinois, and was installed as pastor there in summer 2013. From 2006 to 2013, Pastor Aviles served as an assistant professor of church and ministry leadership at Trinity Christian College. Prior to that, Pastor Aviles planted Grace and Peace Fellowship CRC in northwest Chicago and pastored the congregation from 1983 to 2007. During his time at Grace and Peace Fellowship, he also was interim principal of Humboldt Community Christian School in the 1988-89 school year and a campus minister with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Northeastern Illinois University from 1989-92. Pastor Aviles has also been director of the denomination's Leadership Development Network in the Chicago area. Pastor Aviles has an M.A. in Christian Leadership from North Park Seminary and has undertaken doctoral work in intercultural studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

IV. Revision to articles of incorporation

The Calvin College Board of Trustees recommends that synod approve the following revisions to the college's Articles of Incorporation that clarify the description of degrees the college offers, as follows:

1. Article II, section 3 to read: "To grant to students Associates', Bachelors', and Masters' degrees based on completion of the requirements as shall be determined by the Board of Trustees."
2. Delete Article II, section 4.

V. Finances

The Calvin College Board of Trustees approved tuition, fees, and room and board rates while approving the budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. These rates are \$29,400 in tuition, \$235 in fees, and \$9,485 in room and board, increases of 4.9 percent in tuition/fees and 1.6 percent in room/board. The increases allow the college to increase financial aid by more than \$4 million to a total of more than \$40 million.

VI. Recommendations

A. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointment with tenure (promotion indicated in *italics*), effective September 1, 2014:

Jeffrey T. Winkle, Ph.D., *associate professor of classics*

B. That synod ratify the following administrative appointment, effective July 1, 2014:

Cheryl K. Brandsen, Ph.D., provost, for five years, retaining tenure as professor of sociology.

C. That synod give appropriate recognition to the following individuals for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church in North America:

1. Roy M. Anker, Ph.D., professor of English, emeritus
2. Ronald L. Blankespoor, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, emeritus
3. Randall L. Bytwerk, Ph.D., professor of communication arts and sciences, emeritus
4. Richard G. De Jong, Sc.D., professor of engineering, emeritus
5. Roger L. DeKock, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, emeritus
6. Earl D. Fife, Ph.D., professor of mathematics and computer science, emeritus
7. Nancy L. Hull, M.A., assistant professor of English, emerita
8. Diane B. Obenchain, Ph.D., professor of religion, emerita
9. Steven D. Steenwyk, Ph.D., professor of physics, emeritus
10. John H. Timmerman, Ph.D., professor of English, emeritus
11. David A. Van Baak, Ph.D., professor of physics, emeritus

D. That synod elect new members, reappoint for subsequent terms, and ratify the results of elections held in classes for membership on the Calvin College Board of Trustees.

E. That synod approve the following revisions to the college's Articles of Incorporation, Article II, section 3, to read, "To grant to students Associates', Bachelors', and Masters' degrees based on completion of the requirements as shall be determined by the Board of Trustees," and to delete Article II, section 4.

Calvin College Board of Trustees
Christine A. Metzger, secretary

The Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees presents this supplement of additional matters relating to the seminary.

I. Board of Trustees

At its meeting on May 22-23, 2014, the board elected the following officers for 2014-2015: Mr. Sid Jansma, Jr., chair; Rev. Andrew Vander Leek, vice chair; Ms. Teresa Renkema, secretary.

II. Academics

A. *Graduates*

Seventy-six students graduated from the seminary's degree programs at the commencement service on May 24, 2014.

B. *Distinguished Alumni Awards*

Dr. Roger S. Greenway and Rev. Donald H. Postema received the seminary's Distinguished Alumni Awards for 2014.

C. *Faculty appointments*

At the May meeting, trustees made the following appointments and renewals:

1. Ms. Sarah Schreiber to a regular faculty appointment as assistant professor of Old Testament, beginning in 2014-2015, and with some negotiated reduction from full workload in 2015-2018. The board recommends that synod appoint Ms. Schreiber, following a successful interview, as assistant professor of Old Testament. The curriculum vitae for Ms. Schreiber is found in the following Appendix.
2. Dr. Danjuma Gibson as lecturer in pastoral care for two years, effective July 1, 2014.
3. Renewal of the lectureship of Peter Choi in the history of Christianity for 2014-2015.

D. *Position openings*

At the May meeting, the board declared the following position openings:

1. A faculty position in moral theology or moral and philosophical theology.
2. A faculty position in missiology and missional ministry.

The board requests the prayers of the churches for the process of filling these positions and for potential nominees.

III. Recommendation

That, following a successful interview, synod approve the appointment of Ms. Sarah Schreiber as assistant professor of Old Testament, beginning in 2014-2015, and with some negotiated reduction from full workload in 2015-2018.

Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees
Susan Keesen, secretary

Appendix
Curriculum Vitae: Sarah Steen Schreiber

Educational History
Graduate Education

Ph.D. candidate at University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana
Christianity and Judaism in Antiquity
Major: Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism
Minor: New Testament and Early Christianity
Dissertation: *The Use of Scripture in Jubilees' Origin Story*
Advisor: James VanderKam
Committee: Gary Anderson, John P. Meier

M.Div., Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 2009
Electives: Ancient Near Eastern Languages and Literature

B.A., Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 2006
Majors: Religion, Greek, and Business
Religion Thesis: "Searching for God's Hand: Circumstance in the Book of Esther"
Greek Thesis: "Mysterious Messages: Interpreting and Integrating Revelation 2 & 3"

Certificates

Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana
Advanced Teaching Scholar, September 2012
Teaching Well Using Technology, June 2012
Striving for Excellence in Teaching, October 2011

Positions Held

INSTITUTION	POSITION	DATE
Calvin Theological Seminary Grand Rapids, Michigan	Instructor	Summer 2012 2008-2009
"Bible Survey," an online course that introduces the content of the Bible as well as basic hermeneutical principles and the Bible's continuing relevance—adapted and developed existing course for online setting; collaborated with institution's educational technologist; utilized the learning management system Canvas		
"Hebrew Review"		May 2012
A course that reviews the verbal system, basic syntax, and clausal analysis in preparation for exegetical courses—taught using Logos Bible Software in the classroom; reviewed the Pratico Van Pelt grammar		
University of Notre Dame Notre Dame, Indiana	Teaching Assistant	Fall 2010, Spring 2011 and 2012
"Honors Foundations of Theology," a course that introduces the Old and New Testaments as well as the early church – developed curriculum; held office hours and review sessions; graded exams and papers; occasionally lectured		

Calvin Theological Seminary	Teaching Asst. to Prof. Michael Williams	2006-2009
-----------------------------	---	-----------

“Online Hebrew,” a six-credit course that covers Lambdin’s Hebrew grammar—developed curriculum; led review sessions; tutored individuals and small groups

Research Experience

University of Notre Dame	Research Asst. to Prof. James VanderKam	Summer 2012
--------------------------	--	-------------

Formatted and proofread the *Hermeneia* commentary on Jubilees (Fortress, forthcoming); compiled recent Jubilees bibliography

Summer 2011

Prepared indices for and proofread *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible* (Eerdmans, 2012) and *1 Enoch 2: A Commentary on the Book of 1 Enoch, Chapters 37-82* (Hermeneia; Fortress, 2011); proofread *1 Enoch: A New Translation* (rev. ed.; Fortress, 2012)

Calvin Theological Seminary	Research Asst. to Prof. Michael Williams	2008-2009
-----------------------------	---	-----------

Compiled data for the Committee on Bible Translation’s review of the New International Version

Related Professional Experience

<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>	Student Assistant	2010-2012
---------------------------------------	-------------------	-----------

Communicated with authors and editors; facilitated double-blind review process; proofread issues; compiled and evaluated journal data; implemented new procedures; assisted general editor with other administrative tasks

Notre Dame Graduate Student Coordinator	October 2012
---	--------------

Symposium on Moses in Jewish and Christian Tradition
Organized a half-day event for students to present and discuss dissertation research

Enoch Graduate Seminar	Assistant Coordinator	Summer 2012
------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

Worked with the University of Notre Dame’s Academic Conferences Office to coordinate logistics of the three-day international conference; managed hospitality and operations during event

Ministry Experience

Living Stone (Christian Reformed)	Intern Pastor	Summer 2008
--------------------------------------	---------------	-------------

Church, Rochester, Minnesota

Worked alongside church planter: preached; planned and led worship; taught children; organized community outreach efforts; facilitated a women’s small group.

This was my congregation-based seminary internship.

Pregnancy Help Centre Oshawa, Ontario	Intern Christian Counselor	Summer 2007
<p>Provided pastoral care to young mothers; organized donations and distributed supplies to families; connected women to other services in the community.</p> <p>This was my cross-cultural seminary internship. The centre is associated with Zion CRC, where my husband, Ryan, served as pastor for his congregation-based internship.</p>		
South Bend CRC South Bend, Indiana	Junior High Sunday School	2011-present
Grace CRC Grand Rapids, Michigan	GEMS Girls' Club Senior High Sunday School	2007-2009 2007-2008
	Junior High Sunday School	2006-2007
South Bend CRC South Bend, Indiana	Worship Leader	2010-present
<p>Collaborated with director of worship and arts to compose and lead liturgy; lead congregational prayer; sing in choir</p>		
Grace CRC Grand Rapids, Michigan		2007-2009
<p>Occasional preaching; composed and led liturgy; children's message</p>		
Calvin College		2004-2006
<p>Volunteer chapel liturgist, singer, and tech support</p>		
Calvin College	Worship Apprentice Program	2003-2004
<p>Employed by chapel to plan and lead daily worship, coordinate volunteer teams; received theological training and mentoring</p>		
Calvin College	Office of Christian Formation Barnabas Team Member	2005-2006
<p>Employed by the college to provide spiritual leadership for upperclassmen living in on-campus apartments; planned and led weekly worship, Bible studies, prayer meetings; mentored student volunteers; received theological training and mentoring</p>		

Teaching and Research Interests

Biblical languages
 Ancient Near Eastern languages and literature
 Old Testament theology and exegesis
 Early biblical interpretation
 Second Temple Judaism and Intertestamental Literature

Languages

Ancient: Biblical and rabbinic Hebrew, Attic and Koine Greek, Aramaic, Akkadian, Ugaritic, Ge'ez

Modern: German, French, (developing proficiency in) Modern Hebrew

Presentations

"Grief over Childlessness According to John Chrysostom," paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the North American Patristics Society, May 2013

"Multiple Literary Editions of 1 Samuel 1?" paper delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 2012

"Moses Speaks in Jubilees 1," presentation delivered at the Notre Dame Graduate Student Symposium on Moses in Jewish and Christian Tradition, October 2012

"The Story of Judah and Tamar in Genesis and Jubilees," paper delivered at the Religion Department of Calvin College, April 2012

Scholarships, Awards, and Honors

Annual Meeting Student Scholarship, Evangelical Theological Society, 2012-2013

Kinget Fellowship, University of Notre Dame, for summer dissertation work, 2013

Downes Travel Grant, University of Notre Dame, for the project "Christian and Muslim Perspectives on the Holy Land" at the Tantur Institute for Ecumenical Studies, Jerusalem, 2010

Theology Departmental Fellowship, University of Notre Dame, 2009-present

H.J. Kuiper Presidential Scholarship, Calvin Theological Seminary, 2006-2009

Classis Holland, Michigan, Leadership Development Grant, Christian Reformed Church, 2006-2009

Herman Bavinck Essay Contest First Prize Winner, "The Wideness of God's Mercy: Reasons to Consider from Clark Pinnock and Herman Bavinck," Calvin Theological Seminary, 2008

Zondervan Biblical Languages Award, Calvin College, 2006

Undergraduate Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2005-2006

The Wevers Scholarship for Excellence in the Study of Ancient Greek, Calvin College, 2005-2006

The Gordon J. Spykman Memorial Scholarship for Religious Studies, Calvin College, 2004-2006

The John H. Bratt and Gladys A. Bratt Scholarship for Religious Studies, Calvin College, 2004-2006

The Vander Weele Memorial Scholarship for Leadership in Business, Calvin College, 2004-2006

Academic Service

Co-coordinator, Theology Department Admissions Weekend, University of Notre Dame, 2014

On-Campus Student Representative, Society of Biblical Literature, University of Notre Dame, 2012-present

Graduate Theological Society Executive Board, University of Notre Dame, 2012-2013

Theology Department Representative to Graduate Student Union, University of Notre Dame, 2012-2013

Committee on Local Arrangements, Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting at the University of Notre Dame, July 2012

Area Liaison, Christianity and Judaism in Antiquity, Theology Department Admissions Weekend, University of Notre Dame, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

Student Representative to Faculty Committee, Calvin Theological Seminary, 2008-2009

Professional Memberships

Society of Biblical Literature, 2010-present

Evangelical Theological Society, 2012-present

Catholic Biblical Association, 2012-present

I. Introduction

At its meeting held April 24-27, 2014, the joint (Canada-U.S.) board of Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM) discussed Overtures 15 and 16 addressing the 2020 missionary support goals adopted by Christian Reformed World Missions last year. The board decided to communicate the following to Synod 2014:

The goal of the shift in CRWM's missionary support model was to build a sustainable financial model and enable the appointment of new missionaries to meet urgent needs around the world. Over 126 years of ministry, missionary support has come from various revenue streams, and direct involvement of missionaries in this effort has varied. After more than twenty years of financial stress and more than a year of careful and prayerful consideration, including repeated consultation with our missionaries and a number of others, Christian Reformed World Missions adopted a plan to respond to the shift in giving patterns from general to designated giving and the changing realities in the Christian Reformed Church. The new 2020 goals require hard work and generous response from all who love the cause of Christ and the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church through Christian Reformed World Missions. Two overtures coming to Synod 2014 call for review (Overture 16) or reversal (Overture 15) of this decision. These overtures were not developed through conversation with our staff or board about why decisions were made or what the actual situation was and is. Consequently, they contain misunderstanding of both past and current practices and some factual errors.

II. Background

In this section we respond to the following questions: What is happening at Christian Reformed World Missions? Why is this change happening? How are things going with the new goals?

A. What is happening at Christian Reformed World Missions?

1. In February 2013 Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM) updated the way that missionary support goals are calculated for its career and associate missionaries from the previous goal that had been in place since 2004.
 - a. Instead of using the same worldwide average cost for missionaries, which included all the costs for sending and supporting missionaries, CRWM moved to having individualized budgets for each missionary from which certain costs have been removed, particularly costs unique to new missionaries getting started and families with children, as well as some housing, travel, and continuing education costs. These continue to be covered by ministry shares.
 - b. We then revised the goal percentage to be a marginal increase from the previous years' actual income. For example, a missionary whose

support level has been about 40 percent might have a goal to increase their support level to 50 percent. (This means that some missionaries saw their goal amounts decrease.) However, the plan is that all missionaries would be at the level of 90 percent of their individualized budgets by 2020.

- c. New career and associate missionaries will need to be at this level before their initial deployment.
 - d. You can see one of our missionaries explain this change at <http://vimeo.com/69543604>.
2. While this move will require work and attention to good practices of communication on the part of missionaries, CRWM is assisting its missionaries to reach these goals in many ways. These include the following:
- a. The Johanna Veenstra Missionary Support Fund, designed to fill out the budget for those with particular challenges in meeting the goals.
 - b. Additional training, including “support-raising support groups” and communications training.
 - c. Missionary Support Teams in calling/commissioning churches.
3. Ministry shares are and will remain vital to the work of Christian Reformed World Missions even as career missionaries successfully meet these goals.
- a. Missionaries with parachurch agencies typically work to raise 115 percent of actual costs, with the additional 15 percent covering leadership, fund-raising, and support services for the missionaries. Ministry shares will continue to cover these kinds of costs for career missionaries. We expect that our new paradigm will allow for a growing number of career missionaries.
 - b. The ministry of Christian Reformed World Missions has diversified greatly in comparison to its work in the 1980s. The following categories currently account for more than one-third of our budget:
 - 1) There are more adults serving as partner missionaries (127) than there are career and associate missionaries (94, including spouses).
 - 2) 450 volunteers served through CRWM last year.
 - 3) CRWM provides grants to international ministry partners who use these funds to provide partial support for national evangelists, teachers, and others who serve in many countries around the world.
 - 4) Program funds are used by career missionaries in a variety of ways. The most widespread program is the use of Timothy Leadership Training by CRWM missionaries in many countries. These events train leaders to revitalize and lead churches bringing good news to their neighbors.
 - 5) Career missionaries not only do primary evangelism and leadership training but also support partner missionaries, receive volunteers,

administer grants, and use program funds to advance our comprehensive ministry.

6) All of these items may be partially covered by ministry shares.

B. Why is this change happening?

1. No method of missionary finance is more important than the mission itself. Therefore, if a historic and deeply cherished method of missionary finance is leading to constant shrinkage of the mission force, it is not merely advisable but required that we change it. The Canons of Dort declare that the gospel must be proclaimed to all nations and people (Pt. II, Art. 5). Further, God uses his church to bring new life (Pts. III/IV, Art. 17). That we do missions is not optional. Many things about how we do missions are matters of prudential wisdom.
2. This change will enable the agency to return to a sustainable financial basis and appoint new missionaries to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.
3. Christian Reformed congregations and individuals increasingly want to give to ministries and projects with which they have a personal connection.
4. CRWM has experienced chronic financial stress for more than twenty years due to the gradual decline in the purchasing power of ministry-share dollars actually received. That purchasing power is now less than half what it was in 1990.
5. The CRCNA Board of Trustees Finance Committee, as they carefully reviewed financial trends, urged CRWM to seek increased funding outside of the ministry-share system.
6. While the board, staff, and missionaries of CRWM would love to see the CRCNA return to its former level of commitment toward joint ministry, we cannot base our plan for the future on wishful thinking but must attend to the track record of the past quarter-century of giving.
7. The combination of chronic financial stress and a large amount of general revenue committed to each career missionary has, in the past, kept us from appointing many new missionaries. The result is that promising missionary candidates have chosen to serve with other agencies, where they must typically raise 115 percent of their individualized budgets or not serve in international missions at all.
8. CRWM has already engaged in many creative approaches for raising the money needed to do ministry, and the most effective approach takes place when individuals challenge those who know and love them to support ministry that they are passionate about and personally involved in.
9. The only realistic alternative to the 2020 missionary support goals is the continued shrinkage of our career and associate missionary force that we have been experiencing for the past quarter century.

C. *How are things going with the new goals?*

1. Our 2020 missionary support goals have enabled us to appoint four new missionaries in the past few months, and we are currently recruiting for four other open positions. Having eight new career and associate missionary positions in one year is more than we have seen in over a decade.
2. An overwhelming majority of missionaries are on track to reach their funding goals for Fiscal Year 2013/14, even though a number of staff and missionaries had some apprehension about this new funding model. God is faithful, and he is moving his people.
3. CRWM urgently needs to move forward with the 2020 goals without the uncertainty created by a lengthy review process, which would almost certainly yield the same decision already made by the CRWM staff and board.

D. *Additional information*

1. CRWM's perspective on support-raising has been shaped by Henri Nouwen's book *The Spirituality of Fund-Raising*, which makes clear that this work is, or should be, a form of ministry in which the donor is invited to join with others in doing God's work. According to our mission statement, "CRWM exists to glorify God by leading the CRC to respond obediently to our Lord's commission." One way of doing this is to invite the churches to support the work of specific missionaries. This is another way of expressing the covenantal commitment to doing missions together. The booklet can be found at www.jwu.ruf.org/support-rufjwu/attachments/SpiritualityOfFundraisingbyHenriNouwen_267.pdf
2. Several other denominations have successfully made the shift from the sort of system we had in the past to one more like the one we adopted last year. This has enabled them to maintain and grow their ministries overseas. These include the following churches:
 - a. Evangelical Covenant Church
 - b. Christian and Missionary Alliance
 - c. Evangelical Free Church

The Presbyterian Church in America has always operated on this basis.

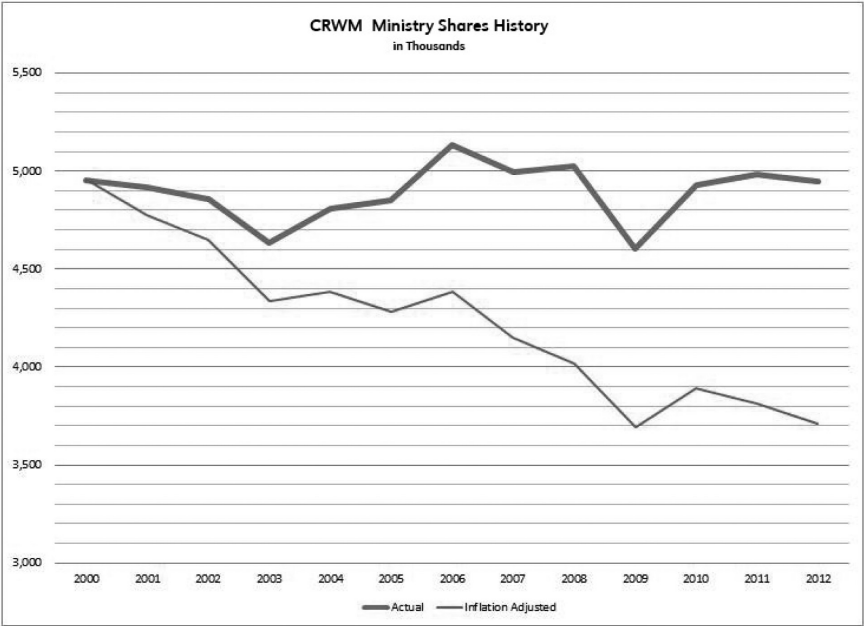
E. *CRWM response to specifics in Overtures 15 and 16*

1. We value the passion for the work of the gospel and the love for our missionaries that the individuals, churches, and classes have expressed by presenting these two overtures to synod. We hope that all will come to see this change in the missionary support model to be in line with their values instead of in opposition to them.
2. Overture 15 quotes from a congregational letter of call that is not used for missionaries.
3. Overture 16 gives an incorrect figure on the ratio of career missionaries to administration and incorrectly compares CRWM missionary costs with

those of other organizations. In fact, CRWM costs are similar to those of other denominational missions agencies. The use of this ratio also seems to assume that career missionaries and administration are the only relevant categories and that the two categories are mutually exclusive. In fact, the ministry of CRWM is much larger and more diverse than most people realize, as mentioned previously. In addition, missionaries have administrative work, and office staff engage in ministry.

4. Ministry shares have never covered the full amount of CRWM’s budget. As long ago as 1961 they covered only 68 percent of the CRWM budget. In 1983, 52 percent of the budget was covered by ministry shares, but that amount has now fallen to 33 percent.

The chart below, covering the period since 2000, shows that CRWM’s ministry-share income in nominal terms has been relatively static (the top line), while declining when inflation is considered (the bottom line). This pattern also existed throughout the 1990s.



Christian Reformed World Missions
Gary J. Bekker, director

I. Board matters**A. U.S. member at-large delegates**

The board of World Renew requests that synod appoint the following to a three-year term as U.S. members at-large—youth delegates:

Mr. Tyler Couperus is a sophomore at Dordt College. His current course of study is in youth ministry with a minor in world missions and sociology. Tyler's previous church and ministry experiences include mission trips to Nicaragua, Mexico, and Alberta. Tyler states that he would like to be on the board of World Renew because he has a passion for people and missions and would love to be a part of renewal in the world.

Ms. Ruby Gunderson is a sophomore studying social work at Trinity Christian College. Her experiences as the daughter of missionaries living in Niger, West Africa, in a predominantly Muslim culture led her to this position on the board of World Renew. She hopes to bring cultural awareness from what she has learned and to promote the culture she has seen and hopes to see more of at Trinity in its acceptance of diversity.

B. Canada member-at-large delegate

The board of World Renew requests that synod appoint the following nominee to a three-year term as Canada member at-large:

Ms. Rebecca Warren is an active member of and lay preacher for Fellowship CRC in Edmonton, Alberta. She previously served as a member and chair of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee of the CRCNA and as Calvin Worship Grant co-director in 2008. This experience has helped her to become familiar with the CRCNA structures and organization. She believes in the work that World Renew does and is interested in social justice, particularly community development. Currently she works as an assistant director for the Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life at the University of Alberta. Her gifts in workshop presentations, preaching, and speaking are helpful for sharing with congregations the purpose and vision of World Renew's ministries.

C. Canada members completing service

In addition to those mentioned in the *Agenda for Synod 2014*, the board of World Renew would like to recognize and thank Ms. Mary Both (Classis Huron) in the completion of her second term of service.

The board of World Renew would like to recognize and thank the following board members who have decided to step down from service on the board: Ms. Sarah Nicolai-DeKoning (Classis Alberta North), Mr. Rob Van Wely (Classis Niagara), and Ms. Janet Zadoorian (Canada member-at-large).

II. Recommendation

That synod, by way of the ballot, appoint members to the World Renew Board of Delegates.

World Renew

Andrew Ryskamp, director, World Renew-U.S.

Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, director, World Renew-Canada

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-nine persons for candidacy to become ministers of the Word in the CRC. These candidates include those who graduated from other than Calvin Theological Seminary through the Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy. Biographical details for each of the candidates can be found in the Candidate Booklet, available for download at www.crcna.org/candidacy.

The following motion will allow their names to be approved by synod:

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

Bradley J. Bierma
Richard C. Boomsma
Richard J. Braaksma
Daniel S. DeGraff
Adrian R. de Lange
Nevada L. DeLapp
Jonathan H. DeRuiter
Paul D. DeWeerd
Woodrow P. Dixon
Jun Kyoung Eo
Joseph M. Groeneveld
Robert J. Gruessing
Patrick N. Guarracino
Byung Soo (Paul) Han
Gareth P. Harker
Ryan Hoogerbrugge
Erik W. Kamp
T. Brent Kladder
Joel H. Klingenberg
Michelle J. Kool
Jeremy D. Kreuze
Victor S. Laarman

Mark E. Langenbach
C. Gregg Lawson
Dae Jong Lee
Ezra Lee
Samuel Y. Lee
Timothy Leferink
John C. Medendorp
Dena E. Meyerink
Cornelius M. Muasa
Brady Mulder
Michael D. Nanninga
Brent W. Pollema
David A. Reynolds
Kyle D. Sanford
Kurt C. Schaefer
Sarah E. Schreiber
Paula S. Seales
Eunchong (David) W. Shin
Evan D. Steensma
Jay E. Stringer
Lesli L. van Milligen
Cory L. Van Sloten

Dayna J. Vreeken
Albert K. Wu
Luke B. Wynja

Leo H. Yoon
Andrew D. Zylstra

B. Extension of candidacy

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

Bernard T. Ayoola
Amanda Bakale
Kevin J. Boss
Matthew D. Burns
Yoon Chul (Daniel) Choi
Douglas J. De Groot
Cynthia de Jong
Kyle Dieleman
Richard France-Coe
Tyler Greenway
Sang Jin

Katherine Hirschberg
Joseph Hwang
Daniel B. Jung
Lee Khang
Daniel Meyer
Matthew Postma
Juli Stuelpnagel
Richard W. Visser
Kristopher R. Walhof
Beverly A. Weeks
Douglas M. Wood

II. Presentation of the candidates to synod

It is recommended that the candidates be presented to Synod 2014 on Tuesday, June 17, at 9:30 a.m. The director of candidacy and the president of Calvin Theological Seminary will formally introduce the candidates for 2014 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
8-1-13	Kao, Yi Ming	California South	Assemblies of God
8-27-13	Kwak, Boo Hwan	Pacific Hanmi	Presbyterian Church of Korea
8-27-13	Jeong, Chan Gun	Pacific Hanmi	Evangelical Church Alliance
8-29-13	Yang, Sung Pil	California South	Korean Presbyterian Church
8-29-13	Chung, Joo Sung	Hudson	Korean American Presby. Church
9-4-13	Shin, Joon Hee	Hudson	Presbyterian Church of Korea
9-5-13	Shin, Yong Chae	Pacific Hanmi	Korean Presbyterian Church
2-7-14	Han, Sang Hee	Lake Erie	Presbyterian Church of Korea
2-7-14	Koh, Ku Gyong	Lake Erie	Presbyterian Church of Korea

IV. Special Article 8 cases

A. Readmission of those released via Church Order Article 14

Two cases have occasioned some discussion and consultation in the past year. They both involve pastors who were released from CRC ministry via Church Order Article 14-b.

Article 14-b permits ministers to seek release from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church to enter the ministry of another denomination. Church Order Supplement, Article 14-b, regulates the declarations that should be made when such requests are received by classes. If at any time in the future such a minister desires to return to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church, the procedure described in Church Order Article 8 must be followed.

Synod reminds councils and classes that Church Order Article 8—not Article 14—is to be followed when ministers who have previously resigned from the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church to enter a ministry outside the denomination wish to reenter the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church.

(Acts of Synod 1994, p. 492)

A few observations by the Candidacy Committee follow:

1. Article 14-e as a “readmittance route” does not require the involvement of the Candidacy Committee and is a rather simple process. The classis, in the presence of the synodical deputies, is simply required to conduct an interview that examines the circumstances surrounding the release and the renewed desire to serve in ministry (see Church Order Art. 14-e).
2. In 1994, when synod gave the advice cited above, the Article 8 process also had an ability to be nimble. A classis, with the concurrence of synodical deputies, could have moved almost immediately to a colloquium doctum and could even hypothetically have had a rather abbreviated colloquium doctum (regulations describing the colloquium doctum are brief—see Church Order Supplement, Art. 8, D, 6).
3. With the creation of the Candidacy Committee in 2004, there has been a conscientious effort to have an Article 8 process that is uniform and thorough.

The Candidacy Committee discussed this matter in general, and then with regard to a specific case from Classis B.C. North-West. We decided to empower the director of candidacy, Rev. David Koll, to respond to such cases by allowing the classes to proceed with an abbreviated application of Church Order Article 8. The director of candidacy and the relevant classis leadership would be expected to consult with each other to decide whether any documents needed to be gathered and any other preparation was needed before scheduling an abbreviated interview at the classis level. The interview would be analogous to the colloquium doctum conducted as part of the Article 8 process, yet in an abbreviated form. The interview would also be analogous to the interview stipulated in Church Order Article 14-e.

Out of respect for the process and for synod itself, the Candidacy Committee will report to synod any cases that are addressed in this manner. This reporting is analogous to the way “declaration of need” is handled for the Article 8 process.

At this time, the Candidacy Committee reports to synod that such approval was given for readmission to CRC ministry via Church Order Article 8 for Rev. Gary Roosma in Classis B.C. North-West.

B. Transfer of ordination into the CRC for a retired pastor

Another unique use of Article 8 has presented itself to us in the past year. Two congregations in our denomination have each received the membership of a retired pastor who served in a different denomination. These pastors not only desire to have personal membership in the CRCNA but also would like to have their ministerial credentials declared to be Christian Reformed.

A simple declaration of ordination transfer seems inappropriate to the Candidacy Committee, since such a person as a minister of the Word emeritus would have some official capacity to represent the CRCNA. Yet a full Article 8 affiliation process also seems inappropriate and needlessly cumbersome. The mind of the Candidacy Committee is to work with the local classis to create an individually designed abbreviated Article 8 process, culminating in a classis interview (at which synodical deputies would be present).

Again, out of respect for the process and for synod itself, the specific names of any pastors who enter through this process will be reported to synod by the Candidacy Committee, as are all other Article 8 affiliation cases.

At present we wish to report that we have given permission to Classis Grandville to welcome via Article 8 the Rev. Peter Van Drunen, with an interview that would result in the ability to confer on him the following title: minister of the Word emeritus in the CRCNA.

V. Recommendations

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

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

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

D. That synod approve the action of the Candidacy Committee relative to the process used for readmission to CRC ministry for Rev. Gary Roosma under Church Order Article 8.

E. That synod approve the action of the Candidacy Committee relative to the process used for the admission of Rev. Peter Van Drunen as a minister of the Word emeritus under Church Order Article 8.

Candidacy Committee

David R. Koll, director of candidacy

After submitting its annual report for the *Agenda for Synod 2014*, the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee (EIRC) met for a full day on April 4, 2014. The committee here presents this supplemental report to synod.

I. Fraternal delegates to Synod 2014

Besides the fact that Synod 2014's delegates are in close fellowship with the delegates of the Reformed Church in America (RCA), we will also be in the presence of other fraternal delegates from sister churches. Some fraternal representatives were specifically invited by the RCA from the following churches:

- The Presbyterian Church (USA)
- The United Church of Christ in the United States (UCC)
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

A joint invitation was extended to Christian Churches Together (CCT), and its leader, Rev. Carlos Malavé, will be with us for several days.

Fraternal representation invited by the CRC:

- The Reformed Churches in Argentina, represented by Mr. Gustavo Garcia Escardó
- The Christian Reformed Churches in Australia, represented by Rev. Reinier Noppers
- The Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO), represented by Rev. Laura A. Smit

II. Ecumenical Faith Declaration

Synod 2013 received the EIRC's report outlining a possible way forward in defining a category for the Ecumenical Faith Declaration. The report followed the decision of Synod 2012 to adopt the Belhar Confession in this newly named category, but synod did not further clarify its understanding of this action. The EIRC decided to seek the participation of ecumenical partners in addressing this matter and quickly learned that there was substantial interest in this discussion. Consequently, in cooperation with the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC), the CRC hosted a conference in February 2014 to explore the usefulness of such a designation. The conference was attended by more than 40 participants and, contrary to the initial positive responses received, the conferees declined to endorse the concept of an Ecumenical Faith Declaration category as a helpful response. The following is a summary of comments reflecting the response of our ecumenical partners.

- More than a few participants expressed the sentiment that the proposed Ecumenical Faith Declaration category was intended by the CRC to compensate for the decision of Synod 2012 not to adopt the Belhar Confession as part of the CRC Forms of Unity. This sentiment was present in a sufficient number of comments to warrant our attention.
- Some conferees observed that the creation of an Ecumenical Faith Declaration category implies a hierarchy of confessions that runs contrary to the nature of confessions.

- Some of the conferees represented denominations that do not categorize confessions in the way that the CRC does with the Three Forms of Unity. Therefore, creating any category for faith declarations would run contrary to their polity.
- Other conferees represented denominations that have adopted the Belhar Confession as a constitutional confession. Disappointment with the CRC decision was obvious.
- The conferees were appreciative of the opportunity to engage in the discussion and encouraged more dialogue on important questions related to the adoption of confessional declarations.

A report of the consultation has been sent to the WCRC executive committee. It is possible that some advice will be received from that meeting in May 2014. The EIRC will await the outcome of that discussion before proceeding with a further consideration of possible next steps. Clearly the CRC could decide to retain the category of Ecumenical Faith Declaration for use within the CRC, but then it might not be appropriate to label the category “ecumenical.” Perhaps the difficulty is that the designation “Ecumenical Faith Declaration” was created as part of a compromise crafted by the advisory committee without sufficiently anticipating how that would be perceived by the broader church. At the same time, we now have two “confession-like” statements (the Contemporary Testimony and the Belhar Confession) that have no formal standing beyond synodical approval. The EIRC recommends that synod instruct the EIRC to continue its assessment of the place of the Belhar Confession in the life and ministry of the CRC and report back to synod at appropriate times.

III. Churches in ecclesiastical fellowship

With the adoption of the Ecumenical Charter in 2005, we have two categories by which churches are designated. The first designation is called “Churches in Ecclesiastical Fellowship.” The second designation is called “Churches in Dialogue.” The following is presented to synod for approval.

Perhaps our longest relationship, ecumenically speaking, has been with the former Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (GKN), which in 2004 merged into the Protestant Church in the Netherlands (PCN, known in Dutch as PKN). Synod may also recall that in the past it placed some restrictions on our relationship with the GKN, mainly because of some differences in scriptural and ethical positions. Synod 2008 acknowledged that the restricted relationship could not simply be transferred to the newly formed denomination, but synod at the same time narrowly defeated a recommendation advanced by the EIRC to consider the PCN a church in ecclesiastical fellowship. The grounds advanced by the EIRC for that recommendation were based on the Ecumenical Charter of the CRC adopted by Synod 2005. The Ecumenical Charter of the CRC permits—even encourages—the foregoing and not an expectation for uniformity as a condition for the expression of unity.

Synod 2008, while not approving the recommendation of the EIRC at that time, instructed the EIRC to mutually explore with the PCN how to develop and maintain a long-term relationship. Several exchanges have taken place with representatives of the PCN, and as a result we are proposing a Memo-

random of Understanding (*Agenda for Synod 2014*, pp. 268-69). In the light of this development, the EIRC recommends that synod, upon the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding, classify the relationship with the PCN beyond the category of a church in formal dialogue to that of a church in ecclesiastical fellowship.

IV. Christian-Muslim dialogue

The Christian Reformed Church is engaged increasingly, and in various venues, in Christian-Muslim dialogue. Perhaps the most formal participation is through the Canadian Council of Churches. However, there is also an interagency team (the Salaam Project) led by Rev. Greg Sinclair of First Hamilton (Ont.) CRC that not only deals with such dialogue but also addresses the question of how to minister to the Muslim population. The team has requested permission to make a brief statement to synod regarding their work. A presentation has been scheduled during the joint session with the RCA delegates on Monday morning, June 16.

V. Recommendations

A. That synod instruct the EIRC to continue its assessment of the place of the Belhar Confession in the life and ministry of the CRC and report back to synod at appropriate times.

B. That synod, upon the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Protestant Church in the Netherlands (PCN), classify the relationship with the PCN beyond the category of a church in formal dialogue to that of a church in ecclesiastical fellowship.

Note: The following two recommendations were omitted from the EIRC report in the printed *Agenda for Synod 2014*:

C. That synod designate the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians to be a church in ecclesiastical fellowship (see *Agenda for Synod 2014*, pp. 259-60).

D. That synod designate the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Egypt (Synod of the Nile) to be a church in ecclesiastical fellowship (see *Agenda for Synod 2014*, p. 260).

Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

Joel R. Boot, ecumenical officer

William Koopmans, ecumenical officer

Peter Borgdorff, ecumenical officer

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2014-2015

		Fiscal 11-12 Actual		Fiscal 12-13 Actual		Fiscal 13-14 Budget		Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:								
Ministry Share	\$	3,603	\$	3,548	\$	3,660	\$	3,500
% of Total Income		36.0%		37.6%		35.1%		36.4%
Other Gift Income:								
Gifts & Offerings	\$	4,224	\$	4,021	\$	5,225	\$	4,470
Estate Gifts	\$	1,944	\$	1,262	\$	1,300	\$	1,400
Total Gift Income		6,168		5,283		6,525		5,870
% of Total Income		61.7%		56.1%		62.7%		61.0%
Other Income:								
Tuition & Sales	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Grants-Animation/Capital	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Miscellaneous	\$	226	\$	594	\$	230	\$	250
Total Other Income		226		594		230		250
% of Total Income		2.3%		6.3%		2.2%		2.6%
TOTAL INCOME		9,997		9,425		10,415		9,620
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):								
Program Services:								
English	\$	2,428	\$	2,471	\$	2,440	\$	2,375
FTEs		14		15		15		17
International	\$	4,633	\$	4,708	\$	4,875	\$	4,455
FTEs		17		17		17		17
Education	\$	151	\$	129	\$	200	\$	190
FTEs		2		2		2		2
Social Media – Cross Ministry Initiatives	\$	-	\$	-	\$	350	\$	100
		-		3		3		2
Total Program Service \$	\$	7,212	\$	7,308	\$	7,865	\$	7,120
Total Program Service FTEs		33		37		37		38
% of Total \$		74.9%		74.2%		75.5%		74.0%
% of Total FTEs		76.7%		78.7%		78.7%		79.2%
Support Services:								
Management & General	\$	731	\$	826	\$	925	\$	875
FTEs		4		4		4		4
Plant Operations	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
FTEs		-		-		-		-
Fund-raising	\$	1,684	\$	1,718	\$	1,625	\$	1,625
FTEs		6		6		6		6
Total Support Service \$		2,415		2,544		2,550		2,500
Total Support Service FTEs		10		10		10		10
% of Total \$		25.1%		25.8%		24.5%		26.0%
% of Total FTEs		23.3%		21.3%		21.3%		20.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	9,627	\$	9,852	\$	10,415	\$	9,620
TOTAL FTEs		43		47		47		48
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$	370	\$	(427)	\$	-	\$	-

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2014-2015**

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,653	\$ 2,571	\$ 2,571	\$ 2,571
% of Total Income	2.1%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 2,950	\$ 3,190	\$ 2,990	\$ 2,990
Estate Gifts	\$ 23	\$ 21	\$ 21	\$ 21
Total Gift Income	2,973	3,211	3,011	3,011
% of Total Income	2.4%	2.3%	2.1%	2.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 118,035	\$ 126,226	\$ 133,073	\$ 138,396
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,146	\$ 5,214	\$ 3,626	\$ 3,626
Total Other Income	119,181	131,440	136,699	142,022
% of Total Income	95.5%	95.8%	96.1%	96.2%
TOTAL INCOME	124,807	137,222	142,281	147,604
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Education	\$ 108,119	\$ 118,960	\$ 122,931	\$ 127,479
FTEs	605	597	592	592
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 108,119	\$ 118,960	\$ 122,931	\$ 127,479
Total Program Service FTEs	605	597	592	592
% of Total \$	85.0%	86.7%	86.4%	86.4%
% of Total FTEs	77.0%	77.3%	77.6%	77.6%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 7,720	\$ 7,605	\$ 7,687	\$ 7,971
FTEs	68	63	60	60
Plant Operations	\$ 8,023	\$ 7,419	\$ 8,330	\$ 8,638
FTEs	73	73	73	73
Fund-raising	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,238	\$ 3,333	\$ 3,456
FTEs	40	39	38	38
Total Support Service \$	19,043	18,262	19,350	20,066
Total Support Service FTEs	181	175	171	171
% of Total \$	15.0%	13.3%	13.6%	13.6%
% of Total FTEs	23.0%	22.7%	22.4%	22.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 127,162	\$ 137,222	\$ 142,281	\$ 147,545
TOTAL FTEs	786	772	763	763
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (2,355)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2014-2015**

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,864	\$ 3,135	\$ 2,950
% of Total Income	39.7%	37.6%	37.2%	35.6%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 860	\$ 976	\$ 994	\$ 1,250
Estate Gifts	\$ 85	\$ 277	\$ 150	\$ 100
Total Gift Income	945	1,253	1,144	1,350
% of Total Income	12.9%	16.5%	13.6%	16.3%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 2,241	\$ 2,420	\$ 2,979	\$ 2,825
Grants	\$ 1,183	\$ 1,020	\$ 1,128	\$ 1,128
Miscellaneous	\$ 35	\$ 59	\$ 38	\$ 38
Total Other Income	3,459	3,499	4,145	3,991
% of Total Income	47.4%	45.9%	49.2%	48.1%
TOTAL INCOME	7,304	7,616	8,424	8,291
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Instructional	\$ 2,739	\$ 2,844	\$ 3,321	\$ 3,234
FTEs	29	30	22	22
Public Service	\$ 43	\$ 101	\$ 97	\$ 82
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Academic Support	\$ 1,145	\$ 1,134	\$ 1,237	\$ 1,264
FTEs	4	5	6	6
Student Services	\$ 521	\$ 577	\$ 650	\$ 679
FTEs	4	5	6	6
Student Aid	\$ 376	\$ 346	\$ 497	\$ 459
FTEs	2	1	1	1
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	4,824	5,002	5,802	5,718
Total Program Service FTEs	40	42	36	36
% of Total \$	67.4%	66.6%	68.9%	68.1%
% of Total FTEs	72.7%	71.2%	69.2%	69.2%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,243	\$ 995	\$ 1,170	\$ 1,183
FTEs	9	9	8	8
Plant Operations	\$ 614	\$ 717	\$ 750	\$ 778
FTEs	2	2	3	3
Fund-raising	\$ 474	\$ 793	\$ 702	\$ 716
FTEs	4	6	5	5
Total Support Service \$	2,331	2,505	2,622	2,677
Total Support Service FTEs	15	17	16	16
% of Total \$	32.6%	33.4%	31.1%	31.9%
% of Total FTEs	27.3%	28.8%	30.8%	30.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 7,155	\$ 7,507	\$ 8,424	\$ 8,395
TOTAL FTEs	55	59	52	52
(352) < Post-retirement cost other than pension				
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (203)	\$ 109	\$ -	\$ (104)

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2014-2015**

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 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	\$ 1,190	\$ 1,107	\$ 1,202	\$ 1,152
Total Other Income	1,190	1,107	1,202	1,152
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL INCOME	1,190	1,107	1,202	1,152
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Loan Interest	\$ 561	\$ 527	\$ 550	\$ 550
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Provision for loan losses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 561	\$ 527	\$ 550	\$ 550
Total Program Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	65.9%	63.0%	60.5%	60.3%
% of Total FTEs	33.3%	33.3%	50.0%	50.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 290	\$ 310	\$ 359	\$ 362
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	290	310	359	362
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	34.1%	37.0%	39.5%	39.7%
% of Total FTEs	66.7%	66.7%	50.0%	50.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 851	\$ 837	\$ 909	\$ 912
TOTAL FTEs	2	2	2	2
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 339	\$ 270	\$ 293	\$ 240

Christian Reformed Home Missions

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

Fiscal Year 2014-2015

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 3,792	\$ 3,757	\$ 3,795	\$ 3,643
% of Total Income	51.8%	58.8%	62.1%	60.9%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 1,677	\$ 1,856	\$ 1,775	\$ 1,648
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,213	\$ 234	\$ 300	\$ 300
Total Gift Income	2,890	2,090	2,075	1,948
% of Total Income	39.5%	32.7%	33.9%	32.6%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130
Grants	\$ 522	\$ 309	\$ 128	\$ 127
Miscellaneous	\$ 111	\$ 234	\$ 117	\$ 136
Total Other Income	633	543	245	393
% of Total Income	8.7%	8.5%	4.0%	6.6%
TOTAL INCOME	7,315	6,390	6,115	5,984
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Ministry Teams	\$ 4,308	\$ 3,795	\$ 3,714	\$ 3,830
FTEs	22	21	20	21
Ministry Devel & Planning	\$ 733	\$ 939	\$ 946	\$ 851
FTEs	5	7	7	6
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 5,041	\$ 4,734	\$ 4,660	\$ 4,681
Total Program Service FTEs	27	28	27	27
% of Total \$	78.8%	75.2%	74.0%	73.6%
% of Total FTEs	77.1%	75.7%	77.1%	79.4%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 668	\$ 807	\$ 829	\$ 944
FTEs	2	2	2	2
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 688	\$ 751	\$ 806	\$ 736
FTEs	6	7	6	5
Total Support Service \$	1,356	1,558	1,635	1,680
Total Support Service FTEs	8	9	8	7
% of Total \$	21.2%	24.8%	26.0%	26.4%
% of Total FTEs	22.9%	24.3%	22.9%	20.6%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,397	\$ 6,292	\$ 6,295	\$ 6,361
TOTAL FTEs	35	37	35	34
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 918	\$ 98	\$ (180)	\$ (377)

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2014-2015

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 4,946	\$ 4,848	\$ 5,005	\$ 4,695
% of Total Income	33.6%	34.6%	33.4%	30.9%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ 7,565	\$ 7,828	\$ 8,688	\$ 9,125
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,726	\$ 519	\$ 750	\$ 730
Total Gift Income	9,291	8,347	9,438	9,855
% of Total Income	63.1%	59.6%	63.0%	64.9%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 493	\$ 808	\$ 531	\$ 644
Total Other Income	493	808	531	644
% of Total Income	3.3%	5.8%	3.5%	4.2%
TOTAL INCOME	14,730	14,003	14,974	15,194
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Africa	\$ 3,643	\$ 3,515	\$ 3,583	\$ 3,753
FTEs	24	24	25	22
Eurasia	\$ 2,966	\$ 3,008	\$ 2,582	\$ 2,495
FTEs	17	17	18	13
Latin America	\$ 4,022	\$ 4,396	\$ 3,467	\$ 3,562
FTEs	22	21	22	20
Global/other Int'l program	\$ 1,240	\$ 1,360	\$ 1,905	\$ 2,179
FTEs	19	11	16	35
Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 987	\$ 794
FTEs	-	-	8	6
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 11,871	\$ 12,279	\$ 12,524	\$ 12,783
Total Program Service FTEs	82	73	89	96
% of Total \$	84.8%	84.1%	83.7%	83.5%
% of Total FTEs	82.8%	83.9%	84.0%	85.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,036	\$ 1,144	\$ 1,142	\$ 1,185
FTEs	5	4	4	4
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 1,085	\$ 1,174	\$ 1,301	\$ 1,340
FTEs	12	10	13	13
Total Support Service \$	2,121	2,318	2,443	2,525
Total Support Service FTEs	17	14	17	17
% of Total \$	15.2%	15.9%	16.3%	16.5%
% of Total FTEs	17.2%	16.1%	16.0%	15.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 13,992	\$ 14,597	\$ 14,967	\$ 15,308
TOTAL FTEs	99	87	106	113
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ 738	\$ (594)	\$ 7	\$ (114)

Faith Formation/Faith Alive Christian Resources

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2014-2015

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 1,017	\$ 1,173	\$ 1,900	\$ 765
% of Total Income	20.3%	22.3%	28.7%	47.8%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 317	\$ 303	\$ 310	\$ 300
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	317	303	310	300
% of Total Income	6.3%	5.8%	4.7%	18.8%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 3,363	\$ 3,473	\$ 4,176	\$ 350
Grants	\$ 235	\$ 270	\$ 203	\$ 185
Miscellaneous	\$ 69	\$ 41	\$ 36	\$ -
Total Other Income	3,667	3,784	4,415	535
% of Total Income	73.3%	71.9%	66.6%	33.4%
TOTAL INCOME	5,001	5,260	6,625	1,600
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Banner	\$ 1,322	\$ 1,303	\$ 1,382	\$ 1,385
FTEs	4	4	4	3
Education	\$ 3,988	\$ 3,723	\$ 4,423	\$ 105
FTEs	19	19	18	1
World Literature	\$ 465	\$ 507	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	3	2	-	-
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 5,775	\$ 5,533	\$ 5,805	\$ 1,490
Total Program Service FTEs	26	25	22	4
% of Total \$	87.7%	87.0%	87.6%	88.9%
% of Total FTEs	92.9%	92.7%	91.7%	100.0%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 808	\$ 828	\$ 820	\$ 186
FTEs	2	2	2	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	808	828	820	186
Total Support Service FTEs	2	2	2	-
% of Total \$	12.3%	13.0%	12.4%	11.1%
% of Total FTEs	7.1%	7.3%	8.3%	0.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 6,583	\$ 6,361	\$ 6,625	\$ 1,676
TOTAL FTEs	28	27	24	4
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (1,582)	\$ (1,101)	\$ -	\$ (76)

Faith Formation and Church Support Ministries

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2014-2015

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 3,614	\$ 3,879	\$ 3,782	\$ 5,241
% of Total Income	76.5%	84.2%	82.5%	59.5%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 580	\$ 483	\$ 516	\$ 513
Estate Gifts	\$ 4	\$ 4	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	584	487	516	513
% of Total Income	12.4%	10.6%	11.3%	5.8%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ 239	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,734
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Services & Misc	\$ 289	\$ 241	\$ 288	\$ 318
Total Other Income	528	241	288	3,052
% of Total Income	11.2%	5.2%	6.3%	34.7%
TOTAL INCOME	4,726	4,607	4,586	8,806
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Chaplaincy Services	\$ 209	\$ 254	\$ 257	\$ 252
FTEs	1	2	2	2
Race Relations	\$ 449	\$ 488	\$ 568	\$ 568
FTEs	3	4	4	4
Pastor-Church Relations/SCE/SPE	\$ 1,327	\$ 1,127	\$ 1,203	\$ 1,232
FTEs	5	6	6	7
Safe Church Ministry	\$ 187	\$ 210	\$ 252	\$ 240
FTEs	1	2	2	2
Disability Concerns	\$ 280	\$ 284	\$ 285	\$ 280
FTEs	2	2	2	2
Social & Restorative Justice	\$ 540	\$ 510	\$ 539	\$ 679
FTEs	4	5	5	6
Ministries in Canada	1,251	1,231	1,270	1,247
FTEs	4	5	5	5
Volunteer Services	\$ 246	\$ 179	\$ 182	\$ 192
FTEs	3	2	2	2
Candidacy	-	-	-	194
FTEs	-	-	-	2
Ecumenical Relations	-	-	-	154
FTEs	-	-	-	0
Church Resources	-	-	-	2,540
FTEs	-	-	-	13
World Literature	-	-	-	427
FTEs	-	-	-	2
Communications	-	-	-	783
FTEs	-	-	-	6
Network/Healthy Church	\$ 265	\$ 127	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	1	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 4,754	\$ 4,410	\$ 4,556	\$ 8,788
Total Program Service FTEs	24	29	28	53
% of Total \$	97.9%	99.0%	99.0%	99.5%
% of Total FTEs	96.0%	96.7%	96.6%	98.1%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ 102	\$ 43	\$ 48	\$ 48
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Total Support Service \$	102	43	48	48
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1	1	1
% of Total \$	2.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.5%
% of Total FTEs	4.0%	3.3%	3.4%	1.9%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,856	\$ 4,453	\$ 4,604	\$ 8,836
TOTAL FTEs	25	30	29	54
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (130)	\$ 154	\$ (18)	\$ (30)

Synodical Administrative Services

Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$) Fiscal Year 2014-2015

	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Actual	Fiscal 13-14 Budget	Fiscal 14-15 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ 3,337	\$ 2,862	\$ 3,169	\$ 2,477
% of Total Income	82.7%	66.4%	89.8%	87.6%
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 24	\$ 31	\$ 154	\$ 34
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ 23	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	24	54	154	34
% of Total Income	0.6%	1.3%	4.4%	1.2%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ 75
Services & Misc	\$ 672	\$ 1,391	\$ 130	\$ 213
Total Other Income	672	1,391	205	318
% of Total Income	16.7%	32.3%	5.8%	11.2%
TOTAL INCOME	4,033	4,307	3,528	2,829
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Synodical Services & Grants	\$ 2,883	\$ 2,719	\$ 1,438	\$ 1,106
FTEs	5	5	5	5
Communications	\$ 547	\$ 677	\$ 681	\$ -
FTEs	3	4	4	-
CRC Plan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Sea to Sea expenses & grants	\$ -	\$ 580	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Leadership Programs	\$ 174	\$ 18	\$ 30	\$ 120
FTEs	1	-	-	1
Total Program Service \$	\$ 3,604	\$ 3,994	\$ 2,149	\$ 1,226
Total Program Service FTEs	9	9	9	6
% of Total \$	71.9%	77.7%	61.3%	44.1%
% of Total FTEs	60.0%	56.3%	56.3%	46.2%
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 993	\$ 856	\$ 955	\$ 1,098
FTEs	4	4	4	4
D.E.D.	\$ 188	\$ 244	\$ 280	\$ 337
FTEs	1	2	2	2
Fund-raising (Foundation & LE)	\$ 228	\$ 48	\$ 119	\$ 119
FTEs	1	1	1	1
Total Support Service \$	1,409	1,148	1,354	1,554
Total Support Service FTEs	6	7	7	7
% of Total \$	28.1%	22.3%	38.7%	55.9%
% of Total FTEs	40.0%	43.8%	43.8%	53.8%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 5,013	\$ 5,142	\$ 3,503	\$ 2,780
TOTAL FTEs	15	16	16	13
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	\$ (980)	\$ (835)	\$ 25	\$ 49

**Operating Budget (000s of U.S.\$)
Fiscal Year 2014-2015**

	Fiscal 10-11 Actual	Fiscal 11-12 Actual	Fiscal 12-13 Budget	Fiscal 13-14 Proposed
INCOME:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
% of Total Income	-	-	-	-
Other Gift Income:				
Gifts & Offerings	\$ 20,298	\$ 20,343	\$ 17,154	\$ 20,382
Estate Gifts	\$ 1,569	\$ 2,524	\$ 1,219	\$ 1,757
Total Gift Income	21,867	22,867	18,373	22,139
% of Total Income	55.4%	51.4%	68.2%	61.0%
Other Income:				
Tuition & Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ 16,892	\$ 21,234	\$ 8,258	\$ 13,740
Miscellaneous	\$ 734	\$ 394	\$ 290	\$ 425
Total Other Income	17,626	21,628	8,548	14,165
% of Total Income	44.6%	48.6%	31.8%	39.0%
TOTAL INCOME	39,493	44,495	26,921	36,304
EXPENSES (FTE = Full Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Overseas programs	\$ 10,287	\$ 10,053	\$ 8,566	\$ 9,933
FTEs	28	28	28	28
No. America programs	\$ 1,232	\$ 1,090	\$ 1,758	\$ 1,708
FTEs	9	9	8	8
Disaster relief programs	\$ 1,384	\$ 1,656	\$ 1,605	\$ 1,784
FTEs	16	16	15	16
Above-budget relief costs	\$ 21,617	\$ 25,178	\$ 12,903	\$ 16,330
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Education	\$ 1,064	\$ 1,074	\$ 1,222	\$ 1,200
FTEs	6	6	6	7
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total Program Service \$	35,584	39,051	26,054	\$ 30,955
Total Program Service FTEs	59	59	57	59
% of Total \$	90.6%	92.2%	86.9%	87.6%
% of Total FTEs	78.7%	78.7%	76.0%	73.8%
Support Services:				
Management & General	1,737	1,255	1,985	\$ 2,085
FTEs	5	5	5	5
Plant Operations	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	1,937	2,030	1,931	\$ 2,277
FTEs	11	11	13	16
Total Support Service \$	3,674	3,285	3,916	4,362
Total Support Service FTEs	16	16	18	21
% of Total \$	9.4%	7.8%	13.1%	12.4%
% of Total FTEs	21.3%	21.3%	24.0%	26.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	39,258	42,336	29,970	\$ 35,317
TOTAL FTEs	75	75	75	80
NET INCOME / (EXPENSE)	235	2,159	(3,049)	\$ 987

Ministers' Pension and Special Assistance Funds - Canada

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

	MPF 2012 Actual	MPF 2013 Actual	SAF 2012 Actual	SAF 2013 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 13
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	78.6%	86.7%
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	\$ 3,196	\$ 3,650	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 3,287	\$ 7,252	\$ 3	\$ 2
Total Other Income	6,483	10,902	3	2
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	21.4%	13.3%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	6,483	10,902	14	15
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Distributions	\$ 2,444	\$ 2,478	\$ 121	\$ 28
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs	-	\$ -	-	-
FTEs	-	\$ -	-	-
FTEs	-	\$ -	-	-
FTEs	-	\$ -	-	-
FTEs	-	\$ -	-	-
FTEs	-	\$ -	-	-
Total Program Service \$	\$ 2,444	\$ 2,478	\$ 121	\$ 28
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$	79.5%	78.9%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%		
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 629	\$ 663	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	1	2	-	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	629	663	-	-
Total Support Service FTEs	1	2	-	-
% of Total \$	20.5%	21.1%	0.0%	0.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 3,073	\$ 3,141	\$ 121	\$ 28
TOTAL FTEs	1	2	-	-
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ 3,410	\$ 7,761	\$ (107)	\$ (13)

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

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

	MPF 2012 Actual	MPF 2013 Actual	SAF 2012 Actual	SAF 2013 Actual
ADDITIONS:				
Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 19
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	9.5%	100.0%
Other Gift Income:				
Above Ministry Share	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Estate Gifts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Gift Income	-	-	-	-
% of Total Income	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Income:				
Participant Assessments	\$ 5,222	\$ 5,401	\$ -	\$ -
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 12,036	\$ 17,553	\$ 1	\$ -
Total Other Income	17,258	22,954	201	-
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%	90.5%	0.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	17,258	22,954	222	19
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Distributions	\$ 9,947	\$ 9,890	\$ 161	\$ 139
FTEs	-	-	-	-
FTEs				
FTEs				
FTEs				
FTEs				
FTEs				
Total Program Service \$	\$ 9,947	\$ 9,890	\$ 161	\$ 139
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-	-	-
% of Total \$	90.1%	90.1%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%		
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$ 1,091	\$ 1,087	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	2	2	-	-
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-	-	-
Total Support Service \$	1,091	1,087	-	-
Total Support Service FTEs	2	2	-	-
% of Total \$	9.9%	9.9%	0.0%	0.0%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%		
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 11,038	\$ 10,977	\$ 161	\$ 139
TOTAL FTEs	2	2	-	-
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ 6,220	\$ 11,977	\$ 61	\$ (120)

Employees' Savings Plan - U.S.

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

	2012 Actual	2013 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	\$ 2,059	\$ 2,112
Grants	\$ -	\$ -
Investment gains (losses)	\$ 2,975	\$ 4,490
Total Other Income	5,034	6,602
% of Total Income	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS	5,034	6,602
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):		
Program Services:		
Distributions	\$ 1,326	\$ 3,018
FTEs	-	-
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	\$ -	\$ -
Total Program Service \$	\$ 1,326	\$ 3,018
Total Program Service FTEs	-	-
% of Total \$	90.2%	95.7%
% of Total FTEs	0.0%	0.0%
Support Services:		
Management & General	\$ 144	\$ 137
FTEs	1	1
Plant Operations	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Fund-raising	\$ -	\$ -
FTEs	-	-
Total Support Service \$	144	137
Total Support Service FTEs	1	1
% of Total \$	9.8%	4.3%
% of Total FTEs	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$ 1,470	\$ 3,155
TOTAL FTEs	1	1
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$ 3,564	\$ 3,447

Consolidated Group Insurance - U.S.

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

		2012 Actual		2013 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	\$	10,851	\$	10,248
Grants	\$	-	\$	-
Investment gains (losses)	\$	62	\$	106
Total Other Income		10,913		10,354
% of Total Income		100.0%		100.0%
TOTAL ADDITIONS		10,913		10,354
DEDUCTIONS (FTE = Full-Time Employee):				
Program Services:				
Claims Expense	\$	7,913	\$	6,167
FTEs		-		-
Insurance Premiums	\$	1,656	\$	1,566
FTEs		-		-
TPA & PPO Fees	\$	239	\$	431
FTEs		-		-
	\$	-		-
	\$	-		-
	\$	-		-
	\$	-		-
Total Program Service \$	\$	9,808	\$	8,164
Total Program Service FTEs		-		-
% of Total \$		96.6%		94.2%
% of Total FTEs		0.0%		-
Support Services:				
Management & General	\$	345	\$	500
FTEs		3		3
Plant Operations	\$	-	\$	-
FTEs		-		-
Fund-raising	\$	-	\$	-
FTEs		-		-
Total Support Service \$		345		500
Total Support Service FTEs		3		3
% of Total \$		4.3%		5.8%
% of Total FTEs		100.0%		-
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	\$	10,153	\$	8,664
TOTAL FTEs		3		3
NET ADDITIONS / (DEDUCTIONS)	\$	760	\$	1,690

REPORT OF SYNOD 2014

RCA/CRC SYNOD 2014 SYNODICAL SERVICE OF PRAISE

Sunday, June 15, 2014
5:00 p.m.
Vermeer Pavilion
Pella, Iowa

CALL TO WORSHIP

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

GREETING

SONGS OF PRAISE

"A New Hallelujah"

"Ten Thousand Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"I Surrender All"

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 4:14-24; 1 Peter 2:4-5 Dr. Peter Borgdorff

MESSAGE

"Of Living Stones and Precious People" Dr. Peter Borgdorff

SONG OF RESPONSE

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH SUNG PRAYER REFRAIN

"Mayenziwe/Your Will Be Done"

OFFERTORY

OfferingP.E.T. (Personal Energy Transportation)

A faith-based, volunteer-powered, humanitarian organization providing the gift of mobility to people around the world.

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Worship Participants

Preacher Dr. Peter Borgdorff
Liturgist Rev. Liz Testa
Prayer Leaders Synodical delegates from the RCA and CRC
Vocal Ensemble Members of the RCA Seminarian Seminar
and the CRC Young Adult Representatives
Musicians Special thanks to Charlie Koopman and friends
for musical support

MINUTES OF SYNOD 2014

THURSDAY EVENING, June 12, 2014 **First Session**

ARTICLE 1

The General Synod 2014 of the Reformed Church in America and Synod 2014 of the Christian Reformed Church in North America meet in a joint worship service at Third Reformed Church in Pella, Iowa, for opening worship. Mr. Paul Jones welcomes the delegates to worship as one body. Delegates sing "Holy, Holy, Holy," and Rev. Carl Boersma, moderator of the RCA general synod, leads in opening prayer. The delegates sing "Holy Is the Lord" and "Our God." Rev. Ryan Faber, CRC synod president pro tem, leads with a Confession of Sin litany. Delegates sing "Create in Me a Clean Heart" and "Ancient Words" in preparation for the preaching of the Word.

Rev. Denise Kingdom-Grier, pastor of Maple Avenue Ministries, a union church in Holland, Michigan, preaches on 2 Corinthians 1:3-7. There is a famine in the land—a famine of love. May the RCA and the CRC commit to love the Lord and our neighbors this week. Together may we share in the body and blood of Christ through the bread and wine of the "love feast." Delegates recite the Apostles' Creed.

Rev. Boersma and Rev. Faber preside over communion. During the serving of the bread and wine delegates sing "One Bread, One Body," "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)," and "How Great Is Our God." A litany and prayer of thanksgiving follow, and an offering is taken for World Renew. Delegates sing "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow," and Rev. Carl Boersma leads in closing prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, June 13, 2014 **Second Session**

ARTICLE 2

Rev. Thomas De Vries and Rev. Joel R. Boot welcome the delegates to the joint morning worship service. The worship team (John Chisum, Elizabeth Testa, Dwight Bailey, and Joyce Borger) lead delegates in singing "Bless the Lord, O My Soul."

Rev. Ryan Faber reads from 2 Corinthians 2 and speaks on the need to learn repentance and reconciliation, and then to forgive and forget the offense. We must repent, seek forgiveness among each other, and resolve to make this a synod of reconciliation, marked by forgiveness and known

by our love. Let us keep the unity of the Spirit in peace. He leads in prayer. Delegates sing “Let It Be Said of Us,” and Rev. Faber offers the benediction.

Rev. Boersma recognizes Rev. Ryan Faber, pastor of Faith Christian Reformed Church in Pella, as president pro tem of the CRC synod until the election of the president of Synod 2014.

The RCA and CRC delegates take time to introduce themselves at their tables and to share something of their ministry, church, and family interaction with the CRC and RCA.

Rev. Carl Boersma leads in closing prayer.

ARTICLE 3

President pro tem Rev. Ryan Faber, pastor of Faith CRC in Pella, welcomes the CRC delegates to Synod 2014 and opens with prayer.

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

DELEGATES TO SYNOD 2014

Classis	Ministers	Elders
Alberta North	Gerrit J. Bomhof Richard J. deLange	Coby Benoit Gerry Schenk
Alberta South/Saskatchewan	Tony Maan Paul W.T. Verhoef	Albert Cramer Nelly Eyk
Arizona	Lawrence A. Lobdell, Jr. José Rayas	Rodney J. Hugen Eduardo A. Gonzalez
Atlantic Northeast	Phillip T. Westra Brent A. Averill	Henry J. Lane Michael Howarth
B.C. North-West	Walter H. Vanderwerf Andrew E. Beunk	Bill Van Triet John Franken
B.C. South-East	Joel C. DeMoor Michael J. VanderKwaak	Peter Van Huizen Benjamin J. Petroelje
California South	Ronald I. Chu Cornelius Pool	Robert R. Moore Dirk Jasperse
Central California	Justin G. Carruthers Paul H. Vander Klay	Gerald DeVries Maurice Roos
Central Plains	Ryan Faber Matthew C. McClure	Gary Verhoef Don Shippy
Chatham	Jacob Kerkof Derek A. Bouma	Ralph De Jong Diane Plug
Chicago South	Michael J. Kooy Gregory S. Janke	Karen Reppmann Alice Wisse
Columbia	Joshua E. Van Til Randall J. Simon	Herman te Velde Gerry Muller
Eastern Canada	Kenneth M. Gehrels Jacob M. Van de Hoef	John Venema Vacant
Georgetown	Joshua S. Van Drunen Jeffrey W. Scripps	Carl Wiersum Robin Schreur
Grand Rapids East	Douglas M. MacLeod David H. Kromminga	Bettye Brown Higgins James Jones
Grand Rapids North	Jerome Burton James D. Alblas	Mack Randall Christopher H. Meehan
Grand Rapids South	Henry John Schenkel, Jr. Curtis A. Walters	Donald Jay Westhouse Sheryl L. Engbers
Grandville	M. Dale Fopma Jay R. Pruim	Robert A. Mulder Brent Pollema
Greater Los Angeles	Chris Choe Joel D. Van Soelen	Julius Unawing Maged Fayez

Hackensack	Marco Avila	Samuel Boldenow
Hamilton	Douglas H. Bratt	Glenn Palmer
	Jeff Klingenberg	Adrian Guldemon
Heartland	Kenneth F. Benjamins	Andy Miedema
	Roger A. Bouwman	Henry Kramer
Holland	Todd M. Zuidema	Derrick W. Vander Waal
	Stanley Scripps	Harold R. Vanden Berge
Hudson	Christopher J. DeVos	Paula Triezenberg
	Rod D. Gorter	Natalie Beattie
Huron	Albert Sideco	Vacant
	Darrell J. Bierman	William Elisen
lakota	Gary Van Leeuwen	Murray Ritsema
	Eric B. Verhulst	Gary J. Maas
Illiana	Stephen D. Moerman	Nolan Van Gaalen
	Laryn G. Zoerhof	Tom Boomsma
Kalamazoo	Kristin J. Vos	Bernard Smit
	Dale L. Slings	Edie Gray
Lake Erie	Gregory P. Timmer	John Vander Ploeg
	Nathan D. Gritter	Bob Wait
Lake Superior	John Groen	Vacant
	Archie L. VanderHart	Nicolaas D. Hogeveen
Minnkota	Joseph L. Hamilton	Linda Ribbens
	Randall C. Raak	John Vander Bilt
Muskegon	Adam T. Eisenga	David Brons
	Jeffrey Hough	David Vander Goot
Niagara	Greg R. Dyk	Michael Jackson
	André F. Basson	Rick Roeda
Northcentral Iowa	Sidney Couperus	Michael Collins
	Kelly L. Vander Woude	Darrell Druvenga
Northern Illinois	Thomas J. Vos	Nick Verbrugge
	Kyle E. Haack	Richard Brander
Northern Michigan	Jon E. Hoekema	Bruce Bielema
	Duane J. Timmermans	Andy Liimatta
Pacific Hanmi	Brian D. Seifert	Terry Huttenga
	Jonathan J. Kim	Edward W. Yoon
Pacific Northwest	O Seog Seo	Roger Ryu
	Richard J. De Ruiter	Herman Laninga
Quinte	Robert Cumings	Stanley C. Vander Pol
	Jake Kuipers	George Zekveld
Red Mesa	Kevin teBrake	Sid VanderWilp
	William J. Kempkes	Harold Begay
Rocky Mountain	Raymond Slim	Francis Nelson
	Paul Jorden	Julie Walden
Southeast U.S.	Michael S. Johnson	Jane Pastoor
	Hector Garcia	Jesus M. Bayona
Thornapple Valley	Stanley J. Workman	Juan P. Sierra
	R. Scott Greenway	Bob Reitsma
Toronto	Bruce J. Vaandrager	Chris Van Spronsen
	John Tenyenhuus	Dickson Corro
Wisconsin	Nathaniel E. Van Denend	Theody Corton
	Verlan G. Van Ee	Floyd Leo
Yellowstone	Daniel J. Roeda	Norman Veldboom
	Peter J. DeVries	David Douglas
Zeeland	Jack Huttinga	Vacant
	Steven J. Mulder	Mark Busscher
	Arthur J. Van Wolde	Robert Brower

The roll indicates that all delegates are present.

The president pro tem declares that a quorum of the membership is present and that the assembly of Synod 2014 is duly constituted.

ARTICLE 4

The executive director welcomes and individually introduces the faculty advisers who are present: Rev. Carl J. Bosma, Dr. John Bolt, Dr. Ronald J. Feenstra, Dr. Arie C. Leder, Rev. Kathleen S. Smith, and Dr. Mary L. Vanden Berg.

The executive director welcomes and individually introduces to synod the deacon advisers who are present: Ms. Jenny Bakker, Mrs. Trena Boonstra, Mr. Bernard Feenstra, Ms. Tamara Haveman, Mrs. Valerie Dykstra McWilliams, Ms. Mary Osinga, and Mr. Dick Van Eck.

The executive director welcomes and individually introduces to synod the young adult representatives who are present: Mr. Nicholas Chuba, Mr. Daniel Gradert, Mr. Benjamin Li, Ms. Ivory Niewenhuis, Mr. Corey Van Dyk, Ms. Nicole Veenkamp, and Mr. Justin VerWoerd.

The executive director, on behalf of synod, welcomes two fraternal delegates who are present: Rev. Reinier Noppers, correspondence secretary of the Committee for Ecumenical Relationships of the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia, and Mr. Gustavo Garcia Escardó, treasurer of the IERP/Evangelical Church of the River Plate and Reformed Churches in Argentina. The executive director also welcomes an ecumenical guest: Rev. Laura A. Smit from the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.

ARTICLE 5

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

President: Rev. R. Scott Greenway

Vice President: Rev. Jake Kuipers

First Clerk: Rev. John Tenyenhuis

Second Clerk: Rev. Jerome Burton

ARTICLE 6

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

Rev. R. Scott Greenway expresses the appreciation of synod to Rev. Faber for his participation in the opening of synod.

On behalf of himself and the other officers, Rev. Greenway 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 7

The president proceeds with the reading of the Public Declaration of Agreement with the Beliefs of the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The delegates rise to show their assent.

ARTICLE 8

The executive director introduces the synod news office staff, *The Banner* staff, the synod office staff, the prayer coordinators, and denominational staff present.

ARTICLE 9

The schedule is presented for information—unique this year to accommodate the simultaneous meetings of the Reformed Church in America general synod and shared space for meals and breaks.

ARTICLE 10

The 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 2014 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). Synod 1982 added, “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 stated clerk of synod.
- B. Visitor privileges
 1. Members of the gallery (visitors) are at liberty to make audio recordings of the public proceedings of synod provided it is done unobtrusively (i.e., that it in no way inhibits or disturbs 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 11

The executive director presents the report of the Program Committee, which recommends the following advisory committees for Synod 2014:

Committee 1—Synodical Services

Chair: Kenneth F. Benjamins; **reporter:** Gregory S. Janke; **ministers:** Gerrit J. Bomhof, Jerome Burton, Joel DeMoor, Jack Huttinga, Jacob Kerkhof, Daniel

J. Roeda, Nate E. Van Denend, Paul W.T. Verhoef, Eric B. Verhulst, Thomas J. Vos; **elders:** Tom D. Boomsma, Edie Gray, Rodney J. Hugen, Terry Huttenga, Dirk Jasperse, Herman Laninga, Robert A. Mulder, Glenn Palmer, Paula J. Triezenberg, William Vantriet, Carl Wiersum; **advisers:** Mary Osinga, Mary L. Vanden Berg; **young adult representative:** Daniel Gradert.

Committee 2—Church Order and Synodical Matters

Chair: Chris Van Spronsen; **reporter:** Richard J. deLange; **ministers:** Richard J. DeRuiter, Kenneth M. Gehrels, Ryan Faber, Kyle Haack, Tony Maan, Jay R. Pruijm, Albert M. Sideco, Kevin J. teBrake, Joel D. Van Soelen, Kelly L. Vander Woude, Joshua S. VanDrunen, Todd M. Zuidema; **elders:** Harold L. Begay, Eduardo A. Gonzalez, Adrian Guldemon, Bettye R. Higgins, Henry J. Lane, Floyd H. Leo, Benjamin J. Petroelje, John H. Vander-Bilt, Robert B. Wait, Donald J. Westhouse; **advisers:** Kathleen S. Smith, Tamara Haveman; **young adult representative:** Nicole Veenkamp.

Committee 3—Education and Candidacy

Chair: Curtis A. Walters; **reporter:** Arthur J. Van Wolde; **ministers:** Ronald I. Chu, Justin G. Carruthers, Greg Dyk, Adam T. Eisenga, Jonathan J. Kim, Douglas M. MacLeod, Stephen D. Moerman, Raymond Slim, Joshua Van Til, Walt H. Vanderwerf; **elders:** Michael C. Collins, Dickson Corro, William G. Elisen, Nelly Eyk, Henry W. Kramer, Gerry Muller, Jane E. Pastoor, Robert Reitsma, Linda K. Ribbens, Harold R. Vanden Berge, Peter Van Huizen, Alice S. Wisse; **advisers:** Ronald J. Nydam, Dick Van Eck; **young adult representative:** Justin VerWoerd.

Committee 4—Congregational Support Ministry I

Chair: Archie Vander Hart; **reporter:** Laryn G. Zoerhof; **ministers:** Brent A. Averill, John Groen, William J. Kempkes, Michael J. Kooy, Brian D. Seifert, Randall Simon, Archie VanderHart, Jack Van de Hoef, Paul H. Vander Klay, Gary van Leeuwen; **elders:** Bruce J. Bielema, David G. Brons, Theody Corton, Michael K. Jackson, Gary J. Maas, Hendrick Roeda, Robin R. Schreur, Juan P. Sierra, Norman Veldboom, Nick L. Verbrugge, George Zekveld; **advisers:** Jenny Bakker, John Bolt; **young adult representative:** Ivory Niewenhuis.

Committee 5—Congregational Support Ministry II

Chair: Derek Bouma; **reporter:** Michael S. Johnson; **ministers:** Sidney Couperus, Robert B. Cumings, Peter J. DeVries, Rod D. Gorter, Joseph L. Hamilton, David H. Kromminga, Jeffrey W. Scripps, Dale L. Slings, Michael J. VanderKwaak; **elders:** Samuel J. Boldenow, Sheryl L. Engbers, Andy M. Liimatta, Mack R. Randall, Sr., Karen S. Reppmann, Donald S. Shippy, Julius B. Umawing, David Vander Goot, Derrick W. Vander Waal, Sid Vander Wilp, Edward W. Yoon; **adviser:** Carl J. Bosma; **young adult representative:** Corey Van Dyk.

Committee 6—Global Mission and Ministry

Chair: Cornelius Pool; **reporter:** Kris. J. Vos; **ministers:** James D. Alblas, Marco A. Avila, M. Dale Fopma, Nathan D. Gritter, Paul R. Jorden, Steven J. Mulder, José Rayas, Greg P. Timmer, Verlan G. Van Ee, Phillip T. Westra; **elders:** Jesus M. Bayona, Richard Brander, Robert W. Brower, Albert J. Cramer, Andy Miedema, Murray S. Ritsema, Maurice Roos, Roger Y. Ryu, Gerry

Schenk, Herman te Velde, Gary Verhoef; **advisers:** Trena Boonstra, Arie C. Leder; **young adult representative:** Benjamin Li.

Committee 7—Financial Matters

Chair: Stanley J. Workman; **reporter:** John Vander Ploeg; **ministers:** Chris T. Choe, Lawrence A. Lobdell, Jr., Randall C. Raak, Henry Schenkel, Jr., Stan R. Scripps, O Seog Seo, Duane J. Timmermans; **elders:** Natalie S. Beattie, Coby A. Benoit, Mark A. Busscher, Ralph T. De Jong, Gerald W. De Vries, David D. Douglas, John P. Franken, Nicolaas D. Hogeveen, Robert R. Moore, Francis Nelson, Stanley C. Vander Pol, John Venema; **adviser:** Bernard Feenstra.

Committee 8—Interdenominational Matters

Chair: Christopher J. De Vos; **reporter:** Douglas N. Bratt; **ministers:** Andrew E. Beunk, Andre F. Basson, Darrel J. Bierman, Roger A. Bouwman, Hector Garcia, Jon E. Hoekema, Jeffrey A. Hough, Jeff Klingenberg, Matthew C. McClure, Bruce J. Vaandrager; **elders:** Darrel D. Druvenga, Maged L. Fayez, Michael D. Howarth, James M. Jones, Christopher H. Meehan, Jeremy Mulder, Diane Plug, Brent W. Pollema, Bernard Smit, Nolan A. Van Gaalen, Julie A. Walden; **advisers:** Valerie Dykstra McWilliams, Ronald J. Feenstra; **young adult representative:** Nicholas Chuba.

Recommendation: That synod adopt the report of the Program Committee, including membership on the advisory committees for Synod 2014.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 12

The president of synod, Rev. R Scott Greenway, leads in closing prayer. Synod adjourns at 10:50 a.m. Synod will reconvene Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

SATURDAY MORNING, June 14, 2014

Third Session

ARTICLE 13

In joint morning worship, the worship team of the RCA and CRC synods leads delegates in singing “How Great Thou Art” and “I Will Exalt.” Rev. Marijke Strong, associate pastor at Fellowship Reformed Church in Holland, Michigan, reads from 2 Corinthians 3 and reflects on turning our eyes upon Jesus—nothing else matters in this world. Delegates sing “Open the Eyes of My Heart,” and Rev. Strong offers the benediction.

In the CRC plenary session, the roll indicates that the following delegates are absent: Rev. Randall J. Simon (Columbia), elder delegate Mr. Herman Te Velde (Columbia), and Rev. Verlan G. Van Ee (Wisconsin).

The executive director introduces faculty advisers Dr. Carl J. Bosma and Dr. Ronald J. Nydam, who are now present.

ARTICLE 14

The officers of synod announce the following appointments:

Worship Planning Committee:

Rev. Joyce Borger (CRC Worship Office)

Rev. Jack Van de Hoef

Elder delegate Gary Verhoef

Hospitality Committee:

Dr. Peter Borgdorff

Ms. Rebecca Warren

Sergeant at Arms:

Elder delegate Diane Plug

Minutes Review Committee:

Rev. Douglas M. MacLeod

Elder delegate Karen Reppmann

Testimonial Banquet Committee:

Young adult representative

Nicholas Chuba

Elder delegate Bettye R. Higgins

Pastor Rodney J. Hugen

Rev. Roger Y. Ryu

Rev. Paul W.T. Verhoef

ARTICLE 15

Advisory Committee 8, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. Douglas N. Bratt reporting, presents the following:

Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

A. *Materials*: Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Report, pp. 262-67

B. *Recommendation*

That synod adopt the “Resolution on the Relationship between the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church in North America: Past, Present, and Future,” prepared for the CRC synod and the RCA general synod.

Grounds:

1. This provides an overarching statement that will serve as a mutually supported agreement between the CRC and RCA.
2. Though this resolution is not intended to serve as groundwork for merger, it will serve as a guiding principle in the journey that longs for healing and reconciliation.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued in Article 49.)

ARTICLE 16

The president presents the following on behalf of the officers of synod:

A. The president announces that all 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 are 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 2014:

1. That synod encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize the third Sunday in November and Ascension Day Sunday as significant

opportunities to receive an offering for Back to God Ministries International (*Agenda for Synod 2014*, p. 130).

2. That synod approve two offerings for Calvin Theological Seminary (the Facing Your Future program and the Distance Education program) (*Agenda*, p. 181).
3. 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*, p. 192).
4. That synod along with the Board of Trustees encourage all Christian Reformed churches to recognize Pentecost Sunday and the fourth Sunday of September 2014 as significant opportunities to pray for and to take an offering for Christian Reformed World Missions (*Agenda*, p. 204).
5. That synod commend the work of mercy carried on by World Renew and urge the churches to take at least four offerings per year in lieu of ministry-share support (*Agenda*, p. 218).

—Adopted

C. That synod hold the official vote regarding the CRC-RCA joint resolution during the joint session on Saturday evening, June 14, 2014, of the CRC synod and the RCA general synod (delegates from each synod taking a singular voice vote) and authorize the clerks of synod to enter that decision into the official record of Synod 2014 (BOT Supplement section I, C).

Ground: Because joint sessions with the RCA general synod fall outside of established rules of procedure, it is necessary to approve a process in advance.

—Adopted

D. That synod take note of the following protests submitted by way of the Credentials for Synod:

1. Classis Minnkota: “The following delegates and alternates wish to record their protest against the seating of women as delegates to synod: Rev. Adam T. Eisenga and elder John Vander Bilt.”
2. Classis Yellowstone: “Rev. Jack Huttinga would like to record his protest that seating of women delegates is in violation of the Word of God (per *Acts of Synod 2007*).”

E. The officers have ruled that two appeals received by synod are out of order.

F. The officers have reviewed the Rules for Synodical Procedure, section III, D, 1, a; p. 4, which states: “The position of ethnic adviser is continued as long as the number of ethnic minority delegates is fewer than twenty-five, after which it shall be discontinued.” Because the number of ethnic minority delegates to Synod 2014 is greater than twenty-five, the role of ethnic adviser has concluded.

ARTICLE 17

The executive director presents the ballot for board and committee elections, and the delegates vote. Voting for agency boards 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 2014* 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 18

Dr. Peter Borgdorff welcomes fraternal delegate Rev. Chris Ferguson, newly appointed general secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

ARTICLE 19

The morning session is adjourned at 9:14 a.m. so that delegates can work in advisory committees. Rev. Jake Kuipers, vice president of synod, leads in closing prayer. Synod will reconvene in the joint session with the RCA general synod at 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY EVENING, June 14, 2014

Fourth Session

ARTICLE 20

The joint session convenes with the RCA Seminarian Seminar and the Young Adult Representatives singing "Gracious Lord, Hear Our Pleading." Rev. Carl Boersma opens with prayer and introduces Rev. Thomas De Vries. Rev. R. Scott Greenway introduces Rev. Joel R. Boot. Rev. De Vries and Rev. Boot introduce the fraternal delegates of the RCA and the CRC to the delegates.

Rev. Boersma and Rev. Greenway introduce Mrs. Rebecca Warren, chair of the CRCNA's Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee, and Mr. Jeff Japinga, moderator of the RCA's Commission on Christian Unity, who serve as co-moderators of the joint session. They share that the purpose of this simultaneous session of the synods of the CRC and the RCA is to consider a resolution providing a context and grounding for the increasing number of cooperative initiatives that are already happening between our two denominations. The desire is to have a broader, guiding, common language for both denominations that would build fruitful endeavors. This relationship needs to be placed in the broader context of our common commitment to the global church of Jesus Christ.

Mrs. Warren introduces Dr. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, who frames the evening discussion in a global ecumenical context.

The moderators introduce the following resolution:

**Resolution on the Relationship
between the
Reformed Church in America
and the
Christian Reformed Church in North America:
Past, Present, and Future**

The Past

Recognizing that the history of our two denominations, since 1857, has been marked by division and often accompanied by mutual mistrust, judgmental attitudes toward one another, and an unholy distance in our fellowship; and

Acknowledging that our dispositions and actions toward one another often have been marred by sin and have fallen short of the mutual love and bonds of unity desired by God for the church of Jesus Christ; and

Realizing that the history of our broken relationship has caused pain and suffering throughout generations within families and between others divided by this separation, and has presented a distorted witness within society;

Therefore, we encourage our churches to reflect on the costs of the lack of faithfulness that have marked the history of separation between our two denominations, and to prayerfully ask for the healing of memories and wounds endured by many over the past 157 years.

The Present

Noting the significant growth in partnership and programmatic cooperation between our denominations, especially in the past two decades, encompassing a wide range of activities from starting new churches to combining health insurance programs; and

Affirming our relationship of full communion, the exchangeability of Ministers of Word and Sacrament between our congregations, and examples of new congregations belonging jointly to both our denominations; and

Welcoming the growth of trust and the greater effectiveness of ministry that has been the frequent result of our growing cooperation together;

Therefore, we celebrate the new realities being created through expanding initiatives of partnership between the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church in North America, and we give thanks to God for all those situations in which we are now working together for the sake of God's kingdom.

The Future

Believing that participation in God's mission calls all followers of Christ to deepen bonds of unity and to strengthen our common witness; and

Desiring to obey the persistent biblical call to seek the unity of Christ's body and the reconciliation of relationships with one another, even while we acknowledge long-standing differences remaining between us; and

Understanding that this particular relationship is part of the broader ecumenical journey which beckons us to make more manifest our unity in Christ, which is both God's gift and our obligation;

Therefore, as the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America and the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, we declare that the principle that guides us, and the intention that motivates us, is to "act together in all matters except those in which deep differences of conviction compel [us] to act separately"; and, further,

We jointly instruct the Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church and the General Synod Council of the Reformed Church in America, in looking to the future relationship between our two denominations, to be guided by this principle.

* * *

Delegates spend time at their tables to discuss each section of the resolution and then share a highlight of their discussion.

Recommendation: That synod adopt the joint resolution prepared for the CRC synod and the General Synod of the RCA.

—*Adopted*

Note: This was a unanimous vote made by both synods simultaneously.

The delegates join Rev. Christopher DeVos in a litany of thanksgiving and hope, celebrating the work and ministry of the Reformed Church in America and the Christian Reformed Church in North America and the commitment we have made to each other.

ARTICLE 21

The joint session adjourns at 9:15 p.m. Rev. R. Scott Greenway leads in closing prayer, and delegates sing the doxology. Synod will reconvene jointly on Monday at 8:00 a.m. in the Kuyper Fieldhouse.

MONDAY MORNING, June 16, 2014

Fifth Session

ARTICLE 22

The delegates to the general synod of the RCA and the synod of the CRC convene for opening worship in the Kuyper Fieldhouse. Rev. Testa opens in prayer, and the worship team leads delegates in singing "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," "You Are Worthy of My Praise," and "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." The presidents of the two synods call the meeting to order, and Rev. Joel R. Boot and Rev. Thomas De Vries introduce the session, explaining that the cooperative efforts of the RCA and the CRC come together under the umbrella of the Reformed Collaborative. They introduce the following presenters:

Rev. Jeffrey Hough speaks on union churches. God is uniting the body of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

A video on the Kingdom Enterprise Zone in the Phoenix, Arizona, area shows the work there being a light in the community. Rev. Boot and Rev. De Vries ask delegates from Classis Arizona and the Southwest Classis to stand and be recognized.

Rev. Mark Stephenson and Rev. Terry DeYoung speak on the collaborative work of Disability Ministries, in which “everybody belongs” and “everybody serves” as collaborators for Christ.

Rev. Tony Campbell and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo speak about World Renew being the hands and feet of God.

Dr. Kurt Selles and Rev. David Bast speak about Back to God Ministries International and Words of Hope working through radio ministries and media technology.

Mr. Cal Hofland and family serving in West Africa, Mr. Justin Meyers, and Mr. Rick Peterson and family serving in Turkey speak about engaging and working in these areas. They give thanks that we serve a God who is able to do the impossible.

Mr. Andrew Ryskamp leads in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Kenya and Nigeria, asking that the grace of God may prevail in our world.

Delegates sing “God of the City” and “There Is a Redeemer,” and Rev. Thomas De Vries closes in prayer, followed by a prayer time around delegate tables.

ARTICLE 23

Roll call indicates that Verlan Van Ee (Wisconsin) is absent with notice.

ARTICLE 24

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services, Rev. Greg S. Janke reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (sections I, A-C; II, A, 1-15, 17-18, 20-23; B, 1, 4; Appendices A-D), pp. 21-34, 36, 42-72
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, A-F, including Appendices A-B)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

C. Recommendations

1. That synod approve the interim appointments made by the Board for synodical deputies and alternate synodical deputies (II, A, 3), as well as to the agency and institution boards as needed.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod, following a successful interview, appoint Dr. Steven R. Timmermans as executive director of the CRCNA, effective June 30, 2014.
 - a. The interview will be conducted by the chair of Advisory Committee 1, Rev. Kenneth F. Benjamins.

- b. The interview will be thirty minutes, followed by a thirty-minute time for questions from the delegates.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 29.)

ARTICLE 25

Advisory Committee 3, Education and Candidacy, Rev. Arthur J. Van Wolde reporting, presents the following:

Candidacy Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Candidacy Committee Report (including Appendix), pp. 245-54
2. Candidacy Committee Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. David R. Koll, director of candidacy, and an additional member of the Candidacy Committee, if one is present

C. *Recommendation*

That synod declare the following as candidates for ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church:

Bradley J. Bierma
Richard C. Boomsma
Richard J. Braaksma
Daniel S. DeGraff
Adrian R. de Lange
Nevada L. DeLapp
Jonathan H. DeRuiter
Paul D. DeWeerd
Woodrow P. Dixon
Jun Kyoung Eo
Joseph M. Groeneveld
Robert J. Gruessing
Patrick N. Guarracino
Byung Soo (Paul) Han
Gareth P. Harker
Ryan Hoogerbrugge
Erik W. Kamp
T. Brent Kladder
Joel H. Klingenberg
Michelle J. Kool
Jeremy D. Kreuze
Victor S. Laarman
Mark E. Langenbach
C. Gregg Lawson
Dae Jong Lee

Ezra Lee
Samuel Y. Lee
Timothy Leferink
John C. Medendorp
Dena E. Meyerink
Cornelius M. Muasa
Brady Mulder
Michael D. Nanninga
Brent W. Pollema
David A. Reynolds
Kyle D. Sanford
Kurt C. Schaefer
Sarah E. Schreiber
Paula S. Seales
Eunchong (David) W. Shin
Evan D. Steensma
Jay E. Stringer
Lesli L. van Milligen
Cory L. Van Sloten
Dayna J. Vreeken
Albert K. Wu
Luke B. Wynja
Leo H. Yoon
Andrew D. Zylstra

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued in Article 33.)

ARTICLE 26

Advisory Committee 2, Church Order and Synodical Matters, Rev. Richard J. deLange reporting, presents the following:

I. Response to Overtures 1, 2, 3, and 4

A. *Materials*: Overture 1, p. 383; Overture 2, p. 383; Overture 3, p. 384; Overture 4, p. 384

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod approve the transfer of East Bay Korean Christian Reformed Church of El Cerrito, California; Happy Valley CRC, Pleasanton, California; Lord's Grace CRC, Tracy, California; and San Jose Church of God's Love, Saratoga, California, from Classis Pacific Hanmi to Classis Central California.

Grounds:

- a. These transfers have been requested by the churches and have been approved by both Classes Pacific Hanmi and Central California.
- b. These congregations are geographically close to Classis Central California.
- c. This move allows these congregations to be better engaged in the ministry and classis meetings of, and training opportunities offered by, Classis Central California.
- d. These congregations are at a point in their ministry where they desire to function in an English-language setting.
- e. This is in keeping with Church Order Supplement, Article 39.

—*Adopted*

2. That this be synod's response to Overtures 1, 2, 3, and 4.

—*Adopted*

II. Response to Overtures 5 and 6

A. *Materials*: Overture 5, p. 384; and Overture 6, p. 385

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod approve the transfer of Terra Ceia CRC, Terra Ceia, North Carolina, from Classis Hackensack to Classis Southeast U.S.

Grounds:

- a. This transfer has been requested by the church and has been approved by both Classes Hackensack and Southeast U.S.
- b. This move allows this congregation to be better engaged in the ministry and classis meetings of, and training opportunities offered by, Classis Southeast U.S.
- c. Airline travel from Terra Ceia is better into regions of Classis Southeast U.S. than into Classis Hackensack, thus enhancing items listed in Ground b above.
- d. This is in keeping with Church Order Supplement, Article 39.

—*Adopted*

2. That this be synod’s response to Overtures 5 and 6.

—Adopted

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

ARTICLE 27

Synod enters into executive session. The vice president assumes the chair.

The president leads in prayer prior to presenting the officers’ report.

The president of synod, on behalf of the officers, presents the following for action:

A. As the officers of synod considered the Judicial Code Committee (JCC) report and its potential place on the agenda, we believe it is prudent to clarify a number of issues before bringing this report to synod. Therefore, in order to gain clarification, the officers recommend that synod appoint an ad hoc committee to (a) consider how synod should deal with the JCC’s recommendations and observations and (b) present its findings to Synod 2015.

Grounds:

1. The recommendations presented are contradictory; while one recommendation is to sustain the appeal, another is that synod not grant a new hearing.
2. The potential legal implications are not yet clear.
3. Judicial Code Article 26-b provides synod with this option.

—Adopted

B. That synod instruct its officers to recommend membership of the ad hoc committee to include the following: a representative of JCC, a member at large with legal expertise, a person with conflict resolution/pastoral expertise, a delegate to Synod 2014, an officer of Synod 2014, and the ED (nonvoting *ex officio*).

—Adopted

Rev. Richard J. DeRuiter leads in prayer.

Synod returns to open session, and the president resumes the chair.

ARTICLE 28

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued from Article 26.)

Advisory Committee 2, Church Order and Synodical Matters, Rev. Richard J. deLange reporting, presents the following:

I. Ministerial retirements

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

Minister	Classis	Effective date
Benjamin J. Becksvoort	Thornapple Valley	December 31, 2013
Timothy J. Berends	Grand Rapids North	October 1, 2013
Carl W. Bergman	Atlantic Northeast	March 1, 2014
Robert L. Bierenga	Muskegon	September 1, 2014
Carl J. Bosma	Thornapple Valley	August 31, 2014

Wout (Walt) Brouwer	Alberta North	April 1, 2014
Roger D. Bultman	Thornapple Valley	May 20, 2014
Merlin N. Buwalda	Thornapple Valley	May 31, 2014
Hyoung Joon (Joseph) Chun	Greater Los Angeles	November 1, 2013
Robert M. Crawford	Hackensack	May 31, 2013
Peter DeHaan	Holland	May 15, 2014
Melvin J. Flikkema	Grand Rapids South	October 10, 2012
Henry G. Gunnink	Lake Superior	July 31, 2014
Thomas L. Haan	Pacific Northwest	February 1, 2014
Donald E. Hekman	Eastern Canada	May 1, 2012
Jack Huttinga	Yellowstone	August 24, 2014
Donald J. Klop	Grand Rapids South	January 1, 2014
James W. Knochenhauer	Zeeland	April 30, 2014
Warren H. Lammers	Minnkota	May 13, 2014
Lynn A. Likkel	Pacific Northwest	July 1, 2014
Lawrence A. Lobdell, Jr.	Arizona	September 30, 2014
Albino Melendez	California South	October 20, 2013
Ronald J. Nydam	Grand Rapids South	August 31, 2014
Tong Kun Park	Pacific Hanmi	June 30, 2013
William Redondo	Central California	December 26, 2013
Gary Roest	Hackensack	February 28, 2014
Frank Sawyer	B.C. North-West	September 2, 2013
Steven L. Schulz	Northcentral Iowa	July 31, 2014
Dale L. Slings	Kalamazoo	October 1, 2014
Henry Smidstra	B.C. South-East	May 1, 2012
David N. Snapper	Pacific Northwest	October 5, 2014
Jeff R. Stam	Georgetown	May 31, 2014
David E. Stravers	Georgetown	May 10, 2014
Stephen R. Steenstra	Arizona	March 1, 2014
Thomas B. Swieringa	Grandville	January 16, 2014
Adriana F. Sybenga	Greater Los Angeles	July 5, 2014
Elzo Tenyenhuis	Chatham	September 24, 2013
Bernard J. Van Ee	Central California	December 2, 2013
Betty Vander Laan	Chicago South	January 25, 2014
William Verhoef	California South	August 31, 2014
Winston J. Visser	Eastern Canada	March 28, 2013
Myungsoo (William) Yang	Pacific Hanmi	September 10, 2013
George R. Young	Thornapple Valley	October 31, 2013

B Synod has received notice of the following commissioned pastor retirements:

Commissioned pastor	Classis	Effective date
Donald L. Jabaay	Yellowstone	April 30, 2014
Greg Kasprzak	Lake Superior	January 31, 2014

C. Recommendations

1. That synod instruct the executive director to send a letter of appreciation to each of the retirees listed above.

—Adopted

2. That synod offer a prayer of gratitude for these servants of God, and for the many years of service they represent.

—Granted

II. Work of the synodical deputies

A. *Ministers from other denominations, Church Order Article 8*

1. Synodical deputies T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), W. Verhoef (California South), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Myo Sook Cho**, 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 September 19, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Hope International Church CRC of Arcadia, California.
2. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), B.A. Pennings (Atlantic Northeast), and J.C. Dekker (Niagara), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Joo Sung Chung**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Hudson, in session on September 17, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is East-West Church of New York CRC of New York, New York.
3. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East) and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend SangHee Han**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session on March 1, 2014, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Han-Bit Korean CRC of Rochester Hills, Michigan.
4. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and R.J. DeRuiter (Pacific Northwest), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Chan Gun Jeong**, 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 10, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is The Good Shepherd CRC of Anaheim, California.
5. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and R.J. DeRuiter (Pacific Northwest), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Heejin Kang**, 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 10, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Eastbay Korean Presbyterian CRC of El Cerrito, California.

6. Synodical deputies E.D. Westra (Greater Los Angeles), T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Edward Young Kim**, 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 20, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Faith Community CRC of Fullerton, California.
7. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East) and R.D. De Young (Zeeland) having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Ku Gyong Koh**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session on March 1, 2014, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Han-Bit Korean CRC of Rochester Hills, Michigan.
8. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and R.J. DeRuiter (Pacific Northwest), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Boo Hwan Kwak**, 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 10, 2013, 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 Disciples Community CRC of Buena Park, California.
9. Synodical deputies B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), R.J. DeRuiter (Pacific Northwest), and G.H. Pols (Alberta North), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Gary Roosma**, 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 March 4, 2014, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is The Tapestry CRC of Richmond, British Columbia.
10. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), B.A. Pennings (Atlantic Northeast), and J.C. Dekker (Niagara), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Joon Hee Shin**, in accordance with Church Order Article 8, and having received the favorable recommendation of the Candidacy Committee, concur in the decision of Classis Hudson, in session on September 17, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Evergreen Tree of Life CRC of Englewood, New Jersey.
11. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and R.J. DeRuiter (Pacific Northwest), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Yong Chae**

Shin, 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 10, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Miju Nanum Korea Church CRC of Buena Park, California.

12. Synodical deputies E.D. Westra (Greater Los Angeles), T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having heard the colloquium doctum (doctrinal conversation) of **Reverend Sung-Pil Yang**, 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 20, 2013, to declare him eligible for call to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. The calling church is Hanaro Community CRC of La Puente, California.

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

—*Adopted*

B. Classical examination of candidates, Church Order Article 10

1. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), G.P. Timmer (Kalamazoo), and J. Kerkhof (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session October 5, 2013, to admit candidate **Matthew Ackerman** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), B.F. Tol (Illiana), 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 Northern Illinois, in session March 5, 2014, to admit candidate **Michael Altena** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), R. Gorter (Hudson), and C. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session September 17, 2013, to admit candidate **Samuel Boldenow** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), 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 September 18, 2013, to admit candidate **Ashley Bonnes** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
5. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), 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 September 18, 2013, to admit

candidate **Mark A. Bonnes** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

6. Synodical deputies T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), W. Verhoef (California South), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session September 19, 2013, to admit candidate **Micah Bruxvoort** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
7. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), B.F. Tol (Illiana), and M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session September 5, 2013, to admit candidate **Derek Buikema** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
8. Synodical deputies J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), E.D. Westra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Central California, in session October 1, 2013, to admit candidate **Justin Carruthers** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
9. Synodical deputies T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), W. Verhoef (California South), and J.J. Greydanus (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 October 11, 2013, to admit candidate **Andrew Chun** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
10. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), D.R. Fauble (Grandville), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session November 21, 2013, to admit candidate **Josiah Chung** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
11. Synodical deputies H.P. Bruinsma (Toronto), R. Koops (Hamilton), and J. Kerkhof (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Huron, in session February 12, 2014, to admit candidate **Kenneth M. deBoer** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
12. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), and G.P. Timmer (Kalamazoo), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session February 15, 2014, to admit candidate **Timothy A. De Vries** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
13. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H.F. Vlaardingerbroek (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the

examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session January 16, 2014, to admit candidate **James DeZeeuw** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

14. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), D.R. Fauble (Grandville), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session January 21, 2014, to admit candidate **Gina L. Dick** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
15. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), G.D. Postema (Muskegon), 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 May 15, 2014, to admit candidate **J. Mark Douglas** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
16. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), J.C. Dekker (Niagara), and J. Kerkhof (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Hamilton, in session May 20, 2014, to admit candidate **Anthony Elenbaas** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
17. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), 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 October 8, 2013, to admit candidate **Joseph D. Ellis** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
18. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), 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 October 8, 2013, to admit candidate **Michelle R. Ellis** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
19. Synodical deputies T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), W. Verhoef (California South), and J.J. Greydanus (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 October 11, 2013, to admit candidate **Ruth Febriana** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
20. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), J. Kuipers (Quinte), 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 Atlantic Northeast, in session March 20, 2014, to admit candidate **Jonathan Fischer** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

21. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), G.P. Timmer (Kalamazoo), and J. Kerkhof (Chatham), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Erie, in session October 5, 2013, to admit candidate **Anthony J. Gretz** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
22. Synodical deputies H. Jonker (B.C. Northwest), G.H. Pols (Alberta North), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session March 5, 2014, to admit candidate **Sam J. Gutierrez** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
23. Synodical deputies A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), B.F. Tol (Illiana), and J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Wisconsin, in session September 24, 2013, to admit candidate **Brandon L. Haan** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
24. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), and T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Superior, in session September 17, 2013, to admit candidate **Joseph L. Hamilton** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
25. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), R. Walter (Arizona), and T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Red Mesa, in session September 14, 2013, to admit candidate **Joshua R. Holwerda** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
26. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), D.R. Fauble (Grandville), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session November 21, 2013, to admit candidate **Shannon Jammal-Hollemans** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
27. Synodical deputies R.G. Fisher (Huron), H.P. Bruinsma (Toronto), and R. Koops (Hamilton), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Quinte, in session September 24, 2013, to admit candidate **Allan R. Kirkpatrick** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
28. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), and M.D. Bennink (Georgetown), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of

Classis Northern Michigan, in session December 3, 2013, to admit candidate **Dirk Koetje** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

29. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), R. Walter (Arizona), and T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Red Mesa, in session September 14, 2013, to admit candidate **Susan E. LaClear** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
30. Synodical deputies J.C. Dekker (Niagara), J. Kuipers (Quinte), 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 Chatham, in session September 24, 2013, to admit candidate **Timothy R. Luimes** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
31. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and M.D. Bennink (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 May 15, 2014, to admit candidate **Suzanne McDonald** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
32. Synodical deputies M.D. Bennink (Georgetown), R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), 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 Grandville, in session March 27, 2014, to admit candidate **Cedric W. Parsels** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
33. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and J.J. Greydanus (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 3, 2014, to admit candidate **Victor M. Perez-Ballesteros** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
34. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), and T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Arizona, in session March 1, 2014, to admit candidate **Jose Rayas** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
35. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), B.F. Tol (Illiana), 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 Northern Illinois, in session March 5, 2014, to admit candidate **Benjamin J. Ribbens** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

36. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), G.D. Postema (Muskegon), 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 September 19, 2013, to admit candidate **Matthew Riddle** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
37. Synodical deputies D.R. Fauble (Grandville), M. De Vries (Holland), 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 East, in session August 1, 2013, to admit candidate **Sue A. Rozeboom** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
38. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Kalamazoo, in session December 10, 2013, to admit candidate **Benjamin J. Schaefer** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
39. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), B.F. Tol (Illiana), 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 Northern Illinois, in session March 5, 2014, to admit candidate **Micah Schuurman** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
40. Synodical deputies D.R. Fauble (Grandville), W.C. De Vries (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 Thornapple Valley, in session October 15, 2013, to admit candidate **Heather Strooboscher** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
41. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), and T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Lake Superior, in session September 17, 2013, to admit candidate **Michael Lee Ten Haken** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
42. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), and T.D. Draayer (Rocky Mountain), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Arizona, in session March 1, 2014, to admit candidate **Marc Van Berkum** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
43. Synodical deputies F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), and T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session September 21, 2013, to admit

candidate **Josh Van Engen** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

44. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), D.R. Fauble (Grandville), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session November 21, 2013, to admit candidate **Adam J. Van Gelder** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
45. Synodical deputies J.F. Schuurman (Northern Illinois), F.E. Pott (North-central Iowa), 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 October 15, 2013, to admit candidate **Justin Van Zee** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
46. Synodical deputies J.P. Groenewold (Columbia) and G.H. Pols (Alberta North), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Alberta South/Saskatchewan, in session October 25, 2013, to admit candidate **Henry J. Veldboom** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
47. Synodical deputies D.R. Fauble (Grandville), M. De Vries (Holland), 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 East, in session August 1, 2013, to admit candidate **Jan Anthony Westrate** to the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
48. Synodical deputies J.C. Fraser (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), D. Cheung (B.C. North-West), and B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), having heard the examination for ordination in accordance with Church Order Article 10, concur in the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session March 6, 2014, to admit candidate **Ferry Yang** 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 J.C. Dekker (Niagara), H.P. Bruinsma (Toronto), and J. Kerkhof (Chatham), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Waterloo Christian Reformed Church of Waterloo, 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 Huron, in session on May 7, 2014, to approve the position of Program Director as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Ms. Amanda C. Bakale**.
2. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), and G.P. Timmer (Kalamazoo), having reviewed the

evidence supplied by the council of New Life Christian Reformed Church of New Lenox, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Chicago South, in session on February 15, 2014, to approve the position of Executive Director, Vision 2:14 as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Mr. Timothy A. De Vries**.

3. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), and M. De Vries (Holland), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Madison Square 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 January 16, 2014, to approve the position of Assistant Professor of Theological Studies at Kuyper College as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Jeffrey A. Fisher**.
4. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W. Verhoef (California South), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Palo Alto Christian Reformed Church of Palo Alto, 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 Central California, in session on March 6, 2013, to approve the position of Church Resource Ministries, Rewire as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Daniel J. Hutt**.
5. Synodical deputies R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and M. De Vries (Holland), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Oakdale Park 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 September 19, 2013, to approve the position of Project Developer with the CRC Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Ms. Shannon Jammal-Hollemans**.
6. Synodical deputies D.J. Roeda (Wisconsin), B.F. Tol (Illiana), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church of Elmhurst, Illinois, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Northern Illinois, in session on March 5, 2014, to approve the position of Professor of Theology as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Benjamin J. Ribbens**.
7. Synodical deputies D.R. Fauble (Grandville), M. De Vries (Holland), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), 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 August 1, 2013, to approve the position of Assistant Professor of Theology at Western Theological Seminary as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Dr. Sue A. Rozeboom**.

8. Synodical deputies H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Third Christian Reformed Church of Kalamazoo, 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 Kalamazoo, in session on December 10, 2013, to approve the position of Chaplain as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Mr. Benjamin J. Schaefer**.
9. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), D.R. Fauble (Grandville), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Church of the Servant 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 April 16, 2014, to approve the position of Operations Director for Timothy Leadership Training Institute as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Albert A. Strydhorst**.
10. Synodical deputies B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), R.J. DeRuiter (Pacific Northwest), and G.H. Pols (Alberta North), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Christ Community Christian Reformed Church of Nanaimo, British Columbia, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on March 4, 2014, to approve the position of local Missionary Pastor as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Andrew P. Turkstra**.
11. Synodical deputies F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), and T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Sully Christian Reformed Church of Sully, 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 Central Plains, in session on September 21, 2013, to approve the position of Disciple/Leadership Developer as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Justin Van Zee**.
12. Synodical deputies D.R. Fauble (Grandville), M. De Vries (Holland), and M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Church of the Servant 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

August 1, 2013, to approve the position of Bible Teacher with Rain Forest International School as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Mr. Jan Anthony Westrate**.

13. Synodical deputies B.B. Bakker (Quinte), R. Koops (Hamilton), and R.G. Fisher (Huron), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Willowdale Christian Reformed Church of Willowdale, 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 Toronto, in session on October 3, 2013, to approve the position of International Director (World Vision) as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Frederick J. Witteveen**.
14. Synodical deputies B. Bolkema (Hackensack), C.A. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), and C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), having reviewed the evidence supplied by the council of Faith Community Christian Reformed Church of Wyckoff, New Jersey, and having been satisfied that lines of accountability have been established, according to Church Order Article 12-c, concur in the decision of Classis Hudson, in session on January 16, 2014, to approve the position of Chaplain at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital as consistent with the ministry of the Word. This position is to be filled by **Reverend Stephen J. Wolma**.

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. Verhoef (California South), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 11, 2013, to approve loaning **Reverend Andrew Chun** to serve Korean Christian Church of Denver, Colorado.
2. Synodical deputies J. Kerkhof (Chatham), R. Koops (Hamilton), and H.P. Bruinsma (Toronto), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Huron, in session on September 18, 2013, to approve loaning **Reverend Jack De Vries** to serve the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia in Brisbane, Australia.
3. Synodical deputies J. Van Marion (Lake Superior), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), satisfied that synodical regulations have been followed in accordance with Church Order Article 13-c, concur in the decision of Classis Minnkota, in session on September 12, 2013, to approve loaning **Reverend Mark T. Klompfen** to serve Chamshil Presbyterian Church of Seoul, South Korea.
4. Synodical deputies T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), W. Verhoef (California South), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), 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

September 19, 2013, to approve loaning **Reverend David Lee** to serve Mars Hill Church, West Seattle Campus, of Seattle, Washington.

5. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), B.A. Persenaire (Central California), and E.D. Westra (Greater Los Angeles), 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 11, 2014, to approve loaning **Reverend Won Soek Song** to serve Alaska Oriental Mission Church of Anchorage, Alaska.
6. Synodical deputies T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), W. Verhoef (California South), and B.A. Persenaire (Central California), 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 September 19, 2013, to approve loaning **Reverend Gary Stevens** to serve Harrison Square Presbyterian Church of Centralia, Washington.

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

—Adopted

E. Release from office to enter a ministry outside the Christian Reformed Church under Church Order Article 14-b

1. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Dionisio Aguhob** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 22, 2013, to declare that **Rev. Dionisio Aguhob** is dismissed from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Steven J. Alsum** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 11, 2013, to declare that **Rev. Steven J. Alsum** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies T.J. Brown (Minnkota), F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Nicolas R. Davelaar** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Heartland, in session on September 28, 2013, to declare that **Rev. Nicolas R. Davelaar** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), E.D. Westra (Greater Los Angeles), and W. Verhoef (California South), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Frederick P. Eng** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Central California, in session on October 1, 2013, to declare that **Rev. Frederick P. Eng** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

5. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), M.D. Bennink (Georgetown), and H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Robert (Rik) L. Stevenson** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on May 15, 2014, to declare that **Rev. Robert (Rik) L. Stevenson** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
6. Synodical deputies T.J. Niehof (Northcentral Iowa), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the discussions relating to the resignation of **Rev. Jung H. Suh** in accordance with Church Order Article 14-b, concur in the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session on March 1, 2014, to declare that **Rev. Jung H. Suh** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—Adopted

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

1. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), M. DeVries (Holland), and S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 16, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Beth Guikema-Bode** is released, as a resigned minister dismissed, from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having heard the discussion of Classis Illiana, in session on September 18, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Douglas E. Pruim** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.
3. Synodical deputies B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), B.A. Persenaire (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having heard the discussion of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 6, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Young Su Shin** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.
4. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. North-West, in session on October 8, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-c, that **Rev. Philip H. Weaver** is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America to enter a non-ministerial vocation.

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

—Adopted

G. Release from office of one whose vocation is judged to be nonministerial under Church Order Article 14-d

1. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), having heard the discussion of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 22, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-d, that **Rev. Paul Jay Cha**, having entered a vocation that is judged to be non-ministerial, is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies C.A. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), S.A. Vander Ploeg (Southeast U.S.), and R.D. Gorter (Hudson), having heard the discussion of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 18, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-d, that **Rev. Chan Mun (John) Jeong**, having entered a vocation that is judged to be non-ministerial, is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), W. Verhoef (California South), and T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), having heard the discussion of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on October 22, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-d, that **Rev. J. Daniel Mendez**, having entered a vocation that is judged to be non-ministerial, is honorably released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—Adopted

H. Return to office of one who was released to enter a nonministerial vocation under Church Order Article 14-e

Synodical deputies J.C. Fraser (Alberta South/Saskatchewan), L.M. Korff (Columbia), and H. Jonker (B.C. North-West), having heard the interview of the applicant and the discussion of Classis Alberta North, in session on May 26, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 14-e, that **Mr. Kirk MacNeil** is not 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

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

1. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrock (Georgetown), H. Vlaardingerbroek (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on January 16, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Daniel R.**

Ackerman is released from ministerial service in Kelloggsville Christian Reformed Church of Kentwood, Michigan.

2. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), M. De Vries (Holland), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having read the weighty reasons provided and the communications of Classis Northern Michigan's Classical Interim Committee, in session on July 1, 2013, concur in the decision of the Classical Interim Committee to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Larry D. Baar** is released from ministerial service in Prosper Christian Reformed Church of Falmouth, Michigan.
3. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), C.A. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), and R.D. Gorter (Hudson), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 17, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Brian Bolkema** is released from ministerial service in Prospect Park Christian Reformed Church of Prospect Park, New Jersey.
4. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W. Verhoef (California South), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Central California, in session on March 6, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Frank C. Guter** is released from ministerial service in Alameda Christian Reformed Church of Alameda, California.
5. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), D.A. Fauble (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Georgetown, in session on October 3, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Stephen M. Hasper** is released from ministerial service in Jamestown Christian Reformed Church of Jamestown, Michigan.
6. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), M. Palsrok (Georgetown), and R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on May 13, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Kevin Heeres** is released from ministerial service in Red Arrow Ministries Christian Reformed Church of Paw Paw, Michigan.
7. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and J. J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 11, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Patrick A. Hennen** is released from ministerial service in Cawker City Christian Reformed Church of Cawker City, Kansas.

8. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), L.M. Korf (Columbia), and H. Jonker (B.C. North-West), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on May 15, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Thomas J. Kok** is released from ministerial service in Third Christian Reformed Church of Lynden, Washington.
9. Synodical deputies J. Van Marion (Lake Superior), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Minnkota, in session on March 6, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Philip Landers** is released from ministerial service in Faith Community Christian Reformed Church of Colton, South Dakota.
10. Synodical deputies R. Vander Kooij (Huron), R. Koops (Hamilton), and H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Niagara, in session on April 9, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Dr. Richard W. Loerop** is released from ministerial service in Maranatha Christian Reformed Church of St. Catharines, Ontario.
11. Synodical deputies T.J. Kok (Pacific Northwest), W. Verhoef (California South), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Central California, in session on March 6, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. David J. Nederhood** is released from ministerial service in Alameda Christian Reformed Church of Alameda, California.
12. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrock (Georgetown), H. Vlaardingerbroek (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on January 16, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Henry Persenaire-Hogeterp** is released from ministerial service in Community Christian Reformed Church of Wyoming, Michigan.
13. Synodical deputies J.C. Fraser (Alberta North/Saskatchewan), L.M. Korf (Columbia), and H. Jonker (B.C. North-West), having heard the weighty reasons provided and the discussion of Classis Alberta North, in session on May 26, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-a, that **Rev. Michael S. Van Boom** is released from ministerial service in First Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton, Alberta.

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

—*Adopted*

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

1. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East) and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having heard the discussion of Classis Lake Erie, in session on March 1, 2014, 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.
2. Synodical deputies R. Arbogast (Lake Erie), M. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and M.M. DeVries (Holland), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 19, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Lora A. Copley's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
3. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), R.D. Gorter (Hudson), and C.A. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), having heard the discussion of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 17, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Efren Echipare's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
4. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), J. Kuipers (Quinte), and J.M. Van de Hoef (Eastern Canada), having heard the discussion of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on September 21, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Edward H. Gerber's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
5. Synodical deputies R. Arbogast (Lake Erie), M. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and M.M. DeVries (Holland), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on September 19, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Duane K. Kelderman's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
6. Synodical deputies B. Bolkema (Hackensack), C.A. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), and C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), having heard the discussion of Classis Hudson, in session on January 16, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. John M. Kuperus's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
7. Synodical deputies J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), J. Kerkhof (Chatham), and H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), having reviewed the documentation of Classis Hamilton, in session on February 18, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. James E. Pot's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
8. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), J. Kuipers (Quinte), and J.M. Van de Hoef (Eastern Canada), having heard the discussion of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on March 20, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Stanley J. Sturing's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.

9. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), B.F. Tol (Illiana), and M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), having heard the discussion of Classis Chicago South, in session on September 5, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Gerry G. Van Dam's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
10. Synodical deputies J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), and J.M. Van de Hoef (Eastern Canada), having heard the discussion of Classis Quinte, in session on January 28, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Lisa R. Vander Leek's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.
11. Synodical deputies K.E. Van Wyk (Grand Rapids South), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and W.C. DeVries (Grand Rapids East), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on September 17, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Paul Worster's** eligibility for call is extended for one year.

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

—*Adopted*

K. Release from the office of minister of the Word under Church Order Article 17-c

1. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), having heard the discussion of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 7, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. George Boyd** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
2. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), H. Jonker (B.C. North-West), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having heard the discussion of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 5, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Margaret J. Hummelman** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
3. Synodical deputies J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), and C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), having heard the discussion of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on March 7, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. James Koo Lee** is released from the office of minister of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.
4. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), D.R. Fauble (Grandville), and R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), having heard the discussion of Classis Grand Rapids North, in session on January 21, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-c, that **Rev. Jesus Augusto A. Liza** 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. Release from the office of minister of the Word under Church Order Article 17-d

Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having heard the discussion of Classis Lake Superior, in session on March 4, 2014, concur in the decision of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 17-d, that **Rev. Henry J. Reyenga** 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*

M. Declaration that a commissioned pastor position fits synodical guidelines under Church Order Article 23-a

1. Synodical deputies J.C. Fraser (Alberta/South Saskatchewan), D. Cheung (B.C. North-West), and B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Wolf Creek Christian Reformed Church of Lacombe, Alberta, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Alberta North, in session on March 6, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Richard Abma** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
2. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), M. DeVries (Holland), and S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Madison Square Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 16, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Steven Agler** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Chaplain, Emerald Meadows.
3. Synodical deputies R. Vander Kooij (Huron), H.P. Bruinsma (Toronto), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Forest City Christian Reformed Church of London, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Chatham, in session on February 11, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Ronald Baker** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Associate Pastor.
4. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), and S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Wyoming, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grandville, in session on September 19, 2013,

that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Rodney M. Betten** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Missionary of Compassion and Care in the Heartside Neighborhood.

5. Synodical deputies H.D. Praamsma (Toronto), R. Kooops (Hamilton), and R. VanderKooij (Huron), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Covenant Christian Reformed Church of St. Catharines, Ontario, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Niagara, in session on May 21, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Eleanor Boersma** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Music Coordinator.
6. Synodical deputies M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), M. DeVries (Holland), and S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Madison Square Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on January 16, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Kristen Buurma** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Children's Ministry Pastor.
7. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), and W. Verhoef (California South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Bellflower, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on May 7, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Hiron M. Chow** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Pastor of New Dawn Church.
8. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Imagine Fellowship Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Holland, in session on July 11, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Pam Cook** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach.
9. Synodical deputies T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), and A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Bridgewood Christian Reformed Church of Savage, Minnesota, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Lake Superior, in session on March 4, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Donald Finger** is in keeping

with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.

10. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), C.A. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), and R.D. Gorter (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of New Horizon Christian Reformed Church of Paterson, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 17, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Pedro Luis Gomez** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
11. Synodical deputies W.C. De Vries (Grand Rapids East), H. Admiraal (Grand Rapids North), and Mark D. Bennink (Georgetown), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Roosevelt Park Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on May 15, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Peter Gordon** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Leader of Jabez Ministries.
12. Synodical deputies M. Winnowski (Wisconsin), J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Crown Point Christian Reformed Church of Crown Point, Indiana, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Illiana, in session on March 4, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. James C. Hollendonner** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Associate Pastor.
13. Synodical deputies F.E. Pott (Northcentral Iowa), A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), and T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Chinese Christian Reformed Church of Iowa City, Iowa, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Central Plains, in session on September 9, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Ed Jiang** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
14. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and J. J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Crestview Christian Reformed Church of Boulder, Colorado, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 11, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Adie Johnson** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.

15. Synodical deputies E.D. Westra (Greater Los Angeles), T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), and J. J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Oasis Community Christian Reformed Church of Moreno Valley, California, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis California South, in session on October 20, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Robert Johnson** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
16. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), B.A. Persenaire (Central California), and T. Lim (Pacific Hanmi), 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 regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Greater Los Angeles, in session on February 25, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Charles Kim** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Korean Ministry Coordinator.
17. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), R.L. Boersma (Grand Rapids South), and D.R. Fauble (Grandville), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on May 15, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. David LaGrand** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Minister to Inmates in the Kent County Jail.
18. Synodical deputies C.A. Fluit (Atlanta Northeast), S.A. Vander Ploeg (Southeast U.S.), and R.D. Gorter (Hudson), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Madison Avenue Christian Reformed Church of Paterson, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on March 18, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Shamshadeen Mayers** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
19. Synodical deputies M. Palsrock (Georgetown), H.F. Vlaardingerbroek (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Immanuel Christian Reformed Church of Wyoming, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on January 16, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Wayne Ondersma** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.

20. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), R.D. De Young (Zeeland), and D.R. Fauble (Grandville), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Faith Christian Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Holland, in session on May 15, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Joe Ortega** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Church Planter, Celebration Community Church.
21. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), M.N. Buwalda (Thornapple Valley), and R.A. Arbogast (Lake Erie), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Church of the Servant Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids East, in session on June 21, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Barbara Schultze** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor and Chaplain.
22. Synodical deputies B.A. Persenaire (Central California), L.M. Korf (Columbia), and H. Jonker (B.C. North-West), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of First Christian Reformed Church of Seattle, Washington, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on May 15, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Jaehun Shim** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
23. Synodical deputies B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), B.A. Persenaire (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Tacoma Christian Reformed Church of Tacoma, Washington, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 6, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Yee Hwa Soon** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
24. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H.F. Vlaardingerbroek (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Discovery Christian Reformed Church of Culterville, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on January 16, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Mary Sterenberg** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.

25. Synodical deputies D.H. Bratt (Hackensack), J. Kuipers (Quinte), and J.M. Van de Hoef (Eastern Canada), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Sacred Journey Christian Reformed Church of Providence, Rhode Island, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Atlantic Northeast, in session on September 21, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Michael Sullivan** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor/Church Planter.
26. Synodical deputies S. Draayer (Grand Rapids North), M. Palsrok (Georgetown), and R.A. Blacketer (Grand Rapids South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Third Christian Reformed Church of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Kalamazoo, in session on May 13, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Angela Taylor-Perry** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Pastor of Prayer.
27. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), and J. J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Luctor Christian Reformed Church of Prairie View, Kansas, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 11, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Cornelius B. (Ian) Van Leeuwen** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Commissioned Pastor.
28. Synodical deputies G.H. Pols (Alberta North), H. Jonker (B.C. North-West), and K.D. Koeman (Pacific Northwest), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Fleetwood Christian Reformed Church of Willoughby, Langley, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis B.C. South-East, in session on March 5, 2014, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Ms. Natasha Vedder** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Youth Pastor.
29. Synodical deputies C.J. Aardsma (Illiana), J.R. Huizinga (Northern Illinois), and M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), having examined the written materials submitted by the council of Oasis Community Christian Reformed Church of Winter Garden, Florida, and having compared them with the synodical guidelines regarding office and ordination, concur with the decision of Classis Southeast U.S., in session on September 18, 2013, that the commissioned pastor position to be filled by **Mr. Terrence T. Wilson** is in keeping with synodical guidelines for commissioned pastor. The position title is Church Planter of Emerge Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

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

—*Adopted*

N. Article 23-a commissioned pastors, filling previously approved positions

The following commissioned pastors 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
Michael Fallon	Hamilton	February 18, 2014
Ron L. Glass	California South	October 20, 2013
Ryan Taylor Pedde	Alberta North	October 16, 2013
Josh Shaarda	Georgetown	July 24, 2013

Recommendation: That synod take note of the above named persons ordained within their classis as commissioned pastor.

—*Adopted*

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

1. Synodical deputies B. Slofstra (B.C. South-East), B.A. Persenaire (Central California), and J.P. Groenewold (Columbia), having examined the materials submitted by the council of Mill Creek Christian Reformed Church of Mill Creek, Washington, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a commissioned pastor to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Pacific Northwest, in session on March 6, 2014, that a commissioned pastor, **Mr. Christopher R. Allen**, may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
2. Synodical deputies M.A. Palsrok (Georgetown), H.F. Vlaardingerbroek (Grandville), and R.D. De Young (Zeeland), having examined the materials submitted by the council of Immanuel Christian Reformed Church of Wyoming, Michigan, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a commissioned pastor to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Grand Rapids South, in session on January 16, 2014, that a commissioned pastor, **Mr. Wayne Ondersma**, may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
3. Synodical deputies W. Verhoef (California South), T. Zuidema (Heartland), and J.J. Greydanus (Red Mesa), having examined the materials submitted by the council of Luctor Christian Reformed Church of Prairie View, Kansas, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a commissioned pastor to an organized congregation, concur with the decision of Classis Rocky Mountain, in session on October 11, 2013, that a commissioned pastor, **Mr. Cornelius B. (Ian) Van Leeuwen**, may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.
4. Synodical deputies M.J. Kooy (Chicago South), C. Fluit (Atlantic Northeast), and R. Gorter (Hudson), having examined the materials submitted by the council of Jersey City Mission Christian Reformed Church of Jersey City, New Jersey, and having compared them with the synodical guideline for calling a commissioned pastor to an organized congregation, concur

with the decision of Classis Hackensack, in session on September 17, 2013, that a commissioned pastor, **Mr. Jose Vazquez**, may serve the congregation as its solo pastor.

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

—*Adopted*

P. Deposition of a minister of the Word under Church Order Articles 82 and 83

Synodical deputies A.L. Kuiper (Iakota), T.J. Ouwinga (Minnkota), and T.M. Zuidema (Heartland), having heard the grounds submitted by the council of Bethel Christian Reformed Church of Princeton, Minnesota, and the discussion of Classis Lake Superior, in session on December 2, 2013, concur in the decision of classis to approve, in accordance with Church Order Articles 82 and 83, the deposition of **Rev. Calvin J. Friend** from the ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

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

—*Adopted*

Q. Church Order Article 84: Reinstatement of a Deposed Minister of the Word

Synodical deputies R. Koops (Hamilton), R. Vander Kooij (Huron), and J.J. Hoytema (Niagara), having heard the discussion of Classis Toronto, in session on April 10, 2014, concur in the judgment of classis to declare, in accordance with Church Order Article 84 and its Supplement, that **Mr. Kenneth Rip** is not 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*

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued in Article 36.)

ARTICLE 29

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 24.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services, Rev. Greg S. Janke reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (sections I, A-C; II, A, 1-15, 17-18, 20-23; B, 1, 4; Appendices A-D), pp. 21-34, 36, 42-72
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, A-F, including Appendices A-B)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

C. Recommendations

1. That synod adopt the following recommendations as found in the Role of Advisers to Synod Report:

- a. That synod acknowledge the importance of advisers in the work of synod and affirm the intent to select all future faculty advisers from a pool of qualified personnel. The primary criteria for the selection of all faculty advisers shall be their knowledge and expertise as it pertains to the issues on the agenda of a particular synod. In the case of ethnic and deacon advisers and young adult representatives, the pool of selection will, at least in part, depend on recommendations received from the churches and classes.

Note: Although the category of ethnic adviser is no longer applicable due to meeting the requirements set out by Synod 2005 (*Acts of Synod 2005*, pp. 681-84), the category is retained in the event that it will be reinstated in the future.

—Adopted

b. That synod approve the following classifications of advisers:

- 1) *Faculty advisers* shall be selected from among the faculty of Calvin Theological Seminary. The following general appointment procedures shall be followed:

- a) The executive director shall, in consultation with the Program Committee of synod, at the earliest possible date determine the theological expertise that will be needed for any given year, and, in consultation with the administration of Calvin Theological Seminary, select faculty members with the particular expertise needed for that year. The administration of Calvin Theological Seminary shall, in consultation with the executive director of the CRCNA, identify the faculty members available to serve as advisers to synod in a particular year, depending on the needs of synod and the expertise of the faculty members. The number of faculty advisers shall ordinarily not be fewer than five.
- b) Advisers shall be assigned to an advisory committee by the Program Committee of synod as proposed by the executive director.
- c) The parameter of service of the adviser, in advisory committee or plenary session, is to be in keeping with the general regulations of synod.

- 2) *Note:* The Advisory Committee recommends retaining the following draft guidelines for ethnic advisers in the event that Ethnic Advisers are reinstated in the future.

Ethnic advisers are representative voices of ethnic minority communities in the membership of the CRC that are not adequately represented in the delegations by the classes. Up to seven such ethnic minority non-voting advisers may be appointed, subject to the selection rules as adopted by Synod 2005 (see Rules for Synodical Procedure, section III, D). The number of seven (or proportion

- of) such persons shall be appointed as long as the total number of ethnic minority delegates is less than twenty-five persons. The number of ethnic minority advisers appointed shall be less than seven if the number of voting delegates from ethnic-minority origin exceeds eighteen delegates. However, in no instance shall the appointment of ethnic minority advisers be less than two. In order to provide for an appropriate notification timeline for those appointed to serve, the number of ethnic minority advisers to be appointed shall be based on a previous three-year rolling average of diversity presence at synod.
- a) Advisers shall be assigned to an advisory committee as proposed by the executive director and approved by the Program Committee of synod.
 - b) The parameter of service of the adviser, in advisory committee or plenary session, is to be in keeping with the general regulations of synod.
- 3) *Deacon advisers* are the representative voice of the office of deacon within the CRC, which is not represented in the delegations by the classes. Up to seven deacons may be appointed as advisers to synod.
- a) Advisers shall be assigned to an advisory committee as proposed by the executive director and approved by the Program Committee of synod.
 - b) The parameter of service of the adviser, in advisory committee or plenary session, is to be in keeping with the general regulations of synod.
- 4) *Young adult representatives* are representative voices of the young adult membership (ages 18-26) within the CRC that are not represented in the delegations by the classes. Appointment of these representatives to synod is made according to the guidelines previously adopted by synod (see Rules for Synodical Procedure, section III, E).
- a) Young adult representatives shall be assigned to an advisory committee as proposed by the executive director and approved by the Program Committee of synod.
 - b) The parameter of service of the young adult representative, in advisory committee or plenary session, is to be in keeping with the general regulations of synod.
- 5) *Staff consultants* are members of the executive staff of the denomination serving in association with the office of the executive director and designated by the executive director, in consultation with the Program Committee of synod, to serve the assembly of synod. The following general procedures shall be followed:
- a) Procedural advice for all matters on synod's agenda shall be the responsibility of the executive director or his/her designee.

- b) When the executive director assigns a staff consultant to serve an advisory committee, then a faculty adviser may not need to be assigned to the same advisory committee.
 - c) The parameter of service of the staff consultant is restricted to the particular area of their expertise. This provision shall apply to both serving in the advisory committee and in the plenary sessions of synod.
- 6) *Agency board representatives* (normally the agency board presidents and the agency directors) *and presidents of the educational institutions* shall have the privilege of access to the advisory committee of synod that deals with the report of the agency or institution they represent. In addition, they shall be granted the privilege of the floor at the plenary session of synod when their respective report is discussed. The presidents of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary are designated as advisers to synod with respect to issues that affect their respective institutions.
- 7) *Board of Trustees of the CRCNA representation* shall consist of the chair of the BOT, at least one other member of the BOT Executive Committee (ensuring representation from both Canada and the United States), the executive director of the CRCNA, and such other members of the denominational executive staff as are needed to serve synod and its advisory committees. They shall have the privilege of meeting with the advisory committees that address Board of Trustees agenda matters as well as the privilege of the floor when Board of Trustees matters are addressed in plenary session.
- Adopted
- c. That synod adopt regulations that apply to the role of all advisers to synod:
- 1) Advisers shall observe and honor the conditions of their appointment.
 - 2) Advisers shall normally be present for the duration of synod's meetings.
 - 3) Advisers shall normally have access only to the advisory committee to which they are assigned by the program committee. A request to speak to, or be present at, another advisory committee is to be processed through, and approval is at the discretion of, the chair and reporter of that advisory committee.
 - 4) Faculty advisers shall participate in synod's deliberations in plenary session to give advice and theological expertise.
 - 5) Ethnic and deacon advisers and young adult representatives may participate in synod's deliberations in plenary session, representing the voice of their advisory group to the issue being addressed.
- Note:* As previously noted in section I, C, 3, a, above, the category of ethnic adviser is retained in the event that it will be reinstated in the future.

- 6) Advisers may, within the normal rotation of discussion, speak to issues brought to the plenary sessions of synod by the advisory committees but must do so in an advisory capacity and as a service to the delegates of synod in their deliberations.
- 7) Advisers are not allowed to vote in the advisory committees they serve nor in plenary sessions of synod.

—Adopted

- d. That synod instruct the executive director's office to update the Rules for Synodical Procedure regarding advisers to reflect these decisions, specifically replacing the responsibilities of advisers listed in sections III, D, 3 and III, E, 3, and any other sections affected, with these new regulations that apply to all advisers to synod.

—Adopted

2. That synod adopt the following as an addition to the end of Rule VI, D, 1 of the Rules for Synodical Procedure, regarding the appointment of synodical study committees (see Appendix D):

If additional time is necessary to complete the appointment of a study committee, a two-week extension will be granted and responsibility to do so will be entrusted to the officers of synod, the chair and reporter of the advisory committee, and one additional person chosen by the advisory committee from among its members.

—Adopted

3. That synod take note that the deadline for the final report of the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force has been extended to Synod 2016.

—Adopted

4. That the executive director introduce Dr. Darren C. Roorda as the Canadian ministries director appointee, and briefly explain the process leading to his selection.

—Adopted

5. That synod grant Dr. Darren C. Roorda an opportunity to speak briefly in order to share his vision for Canadian ministries.

—Granted

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 32.)

ARTICLE 30

The morning session adjourns at 11:50 a.m. Rev. Kenneth F. Benjamins leads in closing prayer.

ARTICLE 31

The afternoon session convenes at 1:15 p.m. Mr. Nicholas Chuba, young adult representative, leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 32

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 29.)

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services, Rev. Greg S. Janke reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (sections I, A-C; II, A, 1-15, 17-18, 20-23; B, 1, 4; Appendices A-D), pp. 21-34, 36, 42-72
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (sections I, A-F, including Appendices A-B)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

C. Recommendations

1. That synod ratify the appointment of Dr. Darren C. Roorda as Canadian ministries director, effective August 4, 2014 (BOT Supplement section I, E).
—Adopted
2. That synod express its thanks to Mr. Ben Vandezande for his faithful service as interim Canadian ministries director.

—Adopted

II. Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture

A. Materials: Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture report (including Appendices A-C), pp. 351-80

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Joel R. Boot, chair, and Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, reporter

C. Recommendation

That synod allow up to thirty minutes to hear an update report from members of the Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture and, in addition, allow up to thirty minutes for a guided table discussion on the TFRSC report during a plenary session to be determined by the officers of synod.

—Granted

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

ARTICLE 33

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued from Article 25.)

Advisory Committee 3, Education and Candidacy, Rev. Arthur J. Van Wolde reporting, presents the following:

I. Calvin College

A. *Materials*

1. Calvin College Report (including Appendix), pp. 131-76
2. Calvin College Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: President of the college, Dr. Michael K. Le Roy, and chair of the board, Mr. Scott A. Spoelhof.

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod ratify the following faculty reappointments with tenure (promotion indicated in *italics*), effective September 1, 2014:
 - a. Adejoke B. Ayoola, Ph.D., *associate* professor of nursing
 - b. Randall J. DeJong, Ph.D., *associate* professor of biology
 - c. Herbert R. Fynewever, Ph.D., *associate* professor of chemistry and biochemistry
 - d. David J. Leugs, M.F.A., *associate* professor of communication arts and sciences
 - e. Christopher G. Moseley, Ph.D., *associate* professor of mathematics and statistics
 - f. David C. Noe, Ph.D., *associate* professor of classics
 - g. Blake M. Riek, Ph.D., *associate* professor of psychology
 - h. Jason E. VanHorn, Ph.D., *associate* professor of geography
 - i. John T. Wertz, Ph.D., *associate* professor of biology
 - j. Amy M. Wilstermann, Ph.D., *associate* professor of biology
 - k. Jeffrey T. Winkle, Ph.D., *associate* professor of classics

—Adopted

2. That synod receive for information and commend to the churches the document *Confessional Commitments and Academic Freedom at Calvin College* (see Appendix), submitted in response to the instructions of Synods 2011 and 2012, as being faithful to and honoring synod's own prior work on confessional subscription.

—Adopted

3. That synod ratify the following administrative appointment, effective July 1, 2014:

Cheryl K. Brandsen, Ph.D., provost, for five years, retaining tenure as professor of sociology

—Adopted

4. That synod give appropriate recognition to the following individuals for service to Calvin College and the Christian Reformed Church in North America:

- a. Roy M. Anker, Ph.D., professor of English, emeritus
- b. Ronald L. Blankespoor, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, emeritus
- c. Randall L. Bytwerk, Ph.D., professor of communication arts and sciences, emeritus
- d. Richard G. De Jong, Sc.D., professor of engineering, emeritus
- e. Roger L. DeKock, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, emeritus
- f. Earl D. Fife, Ph.D., professor of mathematics and computer science, emeritus
- g. Nancy L. Hull, M.A., assistant professor of English, emerita
- h. Diane B. Obenchain, Ph.D., professor of religion, emerita
- i. Steven D. Steenwyk, Ph.D., professor of physics, emeritus
- j. John H. Timmerman, Ph.D., professor of English, emeritus
- k. David A. Van Baak, Ph.D., professor of physics, emeritus

—*Adopted*

5. That synod approve the following revisions to the college's Articles of Incorporation, Article II, section 3, to read, "To grant to students Associates', Bachelors', and Masters' degrees based on completion of the requirements as shall be determined by the Board of Trustees," and to delete Article II, section 4. (Article II text to be deleted – "To grant to students Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art, Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Master of Arts in Education, Bachelor of Science in Education, and cooperative Bachelor of Science Degrees based on completion of the requirements as shall be determined by the Board of Trustees; to grant such other certificates or diplomas for less than four years training as are appropriate to like instruction").

—*Adopted*

II. Calvin Theological Seminary

A. *Materials*

1. Calvin Theological Seminary Report, pp. 177-81
2. Calvin Theological Seminary Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Paul De Vries, chair, and Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, president

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod, with gratitude to God, acknowledge the years of faithful service of Rev. Carl J. Bosma and note the new title conferred on him by the Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees: Associate Professor of Old Testament, *emeritus*, effective August 31, 2014.
2. That synod, with gratitude to God, acknowledge the years of faithful service of Dr. Ronald J. Nydam and note the new title conferred on him by the Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees: Professor of Pastoral Care, *emeritus*, effective August 31, 2014.

—*Adopted*

—*Adopted*

3. That, following a successful interview, synod approve the appointment of Mrs. Sarah Schreiber as assistant professor of Old Testament, beginning in 2014-2015, and with some negotiated reduction from full workload in 2015-2018.

—Adopted

Note: The advisory committee has assigned Rev. Douglas MacLeod to conduct the initial thirty-minute interview on behalf of synod.

III. Candidacy Committee

A. Materials

1. Candidacy Committee Report (including Appendix), pp. 245-54
2. Candidacy Committee Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor:* Rev. David R. Koll, director of candidacy, and an additional member of the Candidacy Committee, if one is present.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod remind classes and local congregations of both the responsibilities and the opportunities implicit in the role of serving as the calling church for the growing number of pastors serving in non-parish ministries.

—Adopted

2. That synod instruct the denominational Candidacy Committee to work with Calvin Theological Seminary and the Office of Pastor-Church Relations in developing a plan for continuing education of pastors that includes opportunity for growth in familiarity with our denominational ministries, our confessional commitments, and our polity, and that this plan be presented to Synod 2016.

—Adopted

3. That synod instruct the ED to request that the Office of Synodical Services insert the following comments in an appropriate place in the *Manual for Synodical Deputies*:

Observations and Advice from the Synodical Candidacy Committee

Upon review of recent situations and actions of CRC classes called to the attention of the Candidacy Committee, the committee offers the following advice to the classes and synodical deputies when candidates are being considered for call by other denominations. This advice is not intended to diminish the guidelines adopted by Synod 2011 as found in Church Order Supplement, Article 8, D, 12.

- a. There is sound reasoning behind the statement in Church Order Supplement, Article 8, D, 12. The differences between RCA and CRC polity are more than minor, and it makes sense to have a “default practice” that requires gaining an acquaintance with the practices of one’s “home denomination” before serving in a sister denomination.

- b. There are also compelling reasons for the potential use of Church Order Article 13-c for candidates. These reasons include (1) a lack of opportunity within the CRCNA for waiting candidates of ethnic minority groups, (2) the desirability of allowing certain waiting candidates to participate in residency opportunities offered in the RCA and elsewhere, and (3) the significant number of candidates that are currently waiting for a call.
- c. For all these reasons and more, it may be judged by a classis and the synodical deputies to be in the denomination's best interest, by way of exception to Church Order Supplement, Article 8, D, 12, to use Church Order Article 13-c in order to keep relationship with candidates who desire to be affiliated with the CRCNA while serving a denomination other than the CRCNA. Some of these uses of Article 13-c may appear to be contradictory to the statement of Church Article Supplement, Article 8, D, 12, but may, in fact, be wise.
- d. In all cases of the use of Church Order Article 13-c, especially in cases involving candidates, it is wise for classes and calling congregations to establish a meaningful mechanism for active relationship with the person placed "on loan" so that they can both continue to learn about the CRCNA and its polity and contribute to the CRCNA as persons ordained within our denomination.
- e. The ambiguity and challenges identified in this discussion are also present in cases in which candidates (and pastors) are called to parachurch, chaplaincy, and mission ministry under Church Order Articles 12-b and 12-c.

—Adopted

5. That synod approve the following extensions of candidacy:

Bernard T. Ayoola	Katherine Hirschberg
Amanda Bakale	Joseph Hwang
Kevin J. Boss	Daniel B. Jung
Matthew D. Burns	Lee Khang
Yoon Chul (Daniel) Choi	Daniel Meyer
Douglas J. De Groot	Matthew Postma
Cynthia de Jong	Juli Stuelpnagel
Kyle Dieleman	Richard W. Visser
Richard France-Coe	Kristopher R. Walhof
Tyler Greenway	Beverly A. Weeks
Sang Jin	Douglas M. Wood

—Adopted

6. That synod approve the work of the Candidacy Committee in declaration of *need* for affiliation under Church Order Article 8-c for the following persons:

Kao, Yi Ming	California South	Assemblies of God
Kwak, Boo Hwan	Pacific Hanmi	Presbyterian Church of Korea
Jeong, Chan Gun	Pacific Hanmi	Evangelical Church Alliance
Yang, Sung Pil	California South	Korean Presbyterian Church
Chung, Joo Sung	Hudson Korean	American Presbyterian Church
Shin, Joon Hee	Hudson	Presbyterian Church of Korea
Shin, Yong Chae	Pacific Hanmi	Korean Presbyterian Church
Han, Sang Hee	Lake Erie	Presbyterian Church of Korea
Koh, Ku Gyong	Lake Erie	Presbyterian Church of Korea
—Adopted		

7. That synod approve the action of the Candidacy Committee relative to the process used for readmission to CRC ministry for Rev. Gary Roosma under Church Order Article 8.
—Adopted
8. That synod approve the action of the Candidacy Committee relative to the process used for the admission of Rev. Peter Van Drunen as a minister of the Word emeritus under Church Order Article 8.
—Adopted
9. That synod take note of the various initiatives and challenges identified by the Candidacy Committee as noted in this report.
—Adopted

IV. Dordt College

A. *Materials*: Dordt College Report, pp. 301-302

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report for information, taking note that Dordt College, whose enrollment passed the 1,500 mark this spring, rejoices that God has allowed them to accomplish the following:

1. The on-going construction of a new state-of-the art Science and Technology building.
2. A new community development major, which will help students become a transforming presence in various settings.
3. Funded by a \$1.375 million gift, Dordt College has set up the Center for the Advancement of Christian Education.

—Adopted

V. Institute for Christian Studies

A. *Materials*: Institute for Christian Studies Report, pp. 303-304

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report for information, noting that “small is beautiful.” The Institute for Christian Studies (ICS), located in Toronto, Ontario, is approaching 50 years of service and ministry. ICS has been a blessing to the broader Reformed community and society by equipping leaders with a strong commitment to a biblical worldview. Their master’s and Ph.D. degree programs continue to be offered at the school. They currently are dealing

with a leadership vacuum and significant financial struggles. We request that synod and the churches commit the current blessings and needs of ICS to prayer.

—Adopted

VI. The King's University College

A. *Materials*: The King's University College Report, pp. 305-306

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report for information, noting that The King's University College in Edmonton, Alberta, was excited to receive the gift of a new president, Dr. Melanie Humphreys, who has brought much enthusiasm to this educational body. One of the highlights of the year was recognition by the government of Alberta for contributions to the education and outreach efforts of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; this effort was awarded the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize.

—Adopted

VII. Kuyper College

A. *Materials*: Kuyper College Report, pp. 307-308

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report for information, noting that Kuyper College has been blessed in 2014 to celebrate its 75th anniversary. Over the past 75 years, the college has trained many men and women to serve in fields of ministry and service around the world. The college has recently been blessed with a large donation to establish a business leadership program to help train students in leadership in business, church, parachurch, and non-profit sectors.

—Adopted

VIII. Redeemer University College

A. *Materials*: Redeemer University College Report, pp. 309-10

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report for information, noting that Redeemer University College has experienced both challenges and blessings in the past academic year, falling short of enrollment and financial goals but experiencing the rich blessing of God's provisions through a strengthened Career Services department, developments in their B.Ed. degree and business co-op program, and renewed efforts to ensure qualitative curricular and co-curricular programs. Redeemer University College also celebrates surpassing a milestone of 4,000 alumni after 31 years of faithful service to quality Christian education.

—Adopted

IX. Trinity Christian College

A. *Materials*: Trinity Christian College Report, p. 311

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive the report for information, noting that Trinity Christian College enjoys artfully constructed new buildings set on a beautiful campus in a Chicago suburb. Besides great facilities, Trinity continues to grow academically and is now offering a new master's degree program in counseling psychology—all this for students whose education is founded on Reformed theology.

—*Adopted*

(The report of Advisory Committee 3 is continued in Article 56.)

ARTICLE 34

Advisory Committee 6, Global Mission and Ministry, Rev. Kris J. Vos reporting, presents the following:

I. Back to God Ministries International

A. *Materials*: Back to God Ministries International Report, pp. 121-30

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Kurt Selles, director of Back to God Ministries International, and Rev. Gary Bomhof, board president

C. *Observations*

During 2013, Back to God Ministries International logged as many as 30 million interactions with people through letters, emails, calls, face-to-face conversations, and web visits. Back to God Ministries International is active in 134 countries through ministry opportunities such as radio and television broadcasts, resource distribution, and discipleship centers. In addition, through 35 websites and social media venues in 10 languages, they reach people in at least 181 countries.

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod recognize, with appreciation, the work of Back to God Ministries International.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod celebrate Back to God Ministries International's 75 years of spreading the good news worldwide through media ministries.

—*Adopted*

II. World Renew

A. *Materials*

1. World Renew Report, pp. 207-18

2. World Renew Supplement

B. Privilege of the floor: Mr. Roy Zuidema, president of World Renew-U.S.; Mr. James Joosse, president of World Renew-Canada; Mr. Andrew Ryskamp, director of World Renew-U.S.; and Ms. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, director of World Renew-Canada

C. Observations

In 2013 God used World Renew to spread the love of Christ to 1.2 million people around the world. This work was supported by World Renew's staff around the world—and by 3,429 volunteers who contributed more than 288,000 hours of volunteer labor last year. During the 2012-2013 ministry year, World Renew staff walked alongside Christian leaders from 78 local churches and community organizations in 24 of the world's poorest countries to equip them to recognize and respond to needs in their communities. As a result, 463,061 individuals and their families improved their lives through community-based programs and were able to work toward their God-given potential.

D. Recommendations

1. That synod recognize with appreciation the work of World Renew.
—*Adopted*
2. That synod note with appreciation the work of the Disaster Response Services director, Mr. Bill Adams, who retired after 10 years of service.
—*Adopted*
3. That synod take note that Mr. Ron Willett is taking over the role of Disaster Response Services director.
—*Adopted*

III. Partners Worldwide

A. Materials: Partners Worldwide Report, p. 259

B. Observations

God has used Partners Worldwide to equip thousands of businesspeople and entrepreneurs around the world. In 2012, 17,000 businesses created 33,604 jobs, making a direct impact on 170,000 lives. To God be the glory!

C. Recommendation

That synod recognize with appreciation the work of Partners Worldwide.
—*Adopted*

IV. Timothy Leadership Training Institute

A. Materials: Timothy Leadership Training Institute Report, pp. 319-20

B. Observations

In 2013 Timothy Leadership Training Institute (TLTI) more than doubled the number of master trainer graduates worldwide to 112. In the past fiscal year, TLTI directly conducted 259 training sessions in 35 separate countries attended by 3,342 trainees. To God be the glory!

C. Recommendations

1. That synod recognize with appreciation the work of Timothy Leadership Training Institute.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod note that Rev. Albert Strydhorst, long-term missionary to Nigeria with CRWM, has taken over the leadership of Timothy Leadership Training Institute.

—*Adopted*

V. Christian Reformed World Missions

A. Materials

1. Christian Reformed World Missions Report, pp. 193-204
2. Christian Reformed World Missions Supplement

B. Privilege of the floor: The president of World Missions-Canada, Rev. Derek A. Bouma; the president of World Mission-U.S.A., Rev. Ron Meyer; and the director of World Missions, Dr. Gary J. Bekker

C. Observations

1. Christian Reformed World Missions is addressing the challenges of a changing landscape. World Missions has sent out new missionaries and has new openings. This has not happened in years. World Missions staff have met a new reality with a new paradigm for ministry, and they are seeing the benefits in the growth of ministry.
2. One of the new strategic ways of doing ministry is developing partners. Some years ago, World Missions had around 70 partners, but that was not a major focus. Partners were a side benefit of sending CRC missionaries. Now we have 160 partners in expanding the kingdom all over the world. We have more missionaries working for partner organizations than we have career missionaries accountable directly to World Missions.
3. There are 1.7 billion Muslims in the world! The Salaam Project is designed to train local churches in engaging the Muslim community.
4. In 2007 World Missions reached 9,000 people for Christ. In 2013 with new partnerships and a new paradigm for ministry World Missions reached 24,000! In 2007 World Missions launched 70 new worshiping communities; this past year the number was 3,400!

D. Recommendation

That synod recognize with appreciation the work of Christian Reformed World Missions.

—*Adopted*

Note: Synod, having heard the reports of the blessings of God in all of these CRC ministries mentioned in Article 34, asked the various directors and agency board presidents to the podium to received synod's appreciation. Rev. John Tenyenhuis led in a prayer of thanksgiving.

VI. Response to Overtures 15 and 16

A. *Materials:* Overture 15, pp. 403-404; Overture 16, p. 404-405

B. Background

The committee appreciates the sentiment of these overtures and the desire to protect and uphold the work of our missionaries. We also note that these overtures have brought helpful attention to an important matter regarding support for our missionaries. Our conversation with Christian Reformed World Missions about this situation and the agency's decision has provided helpful information about missionary support that many churches have not previously been aware of.

C. Recommendation

That synod not accede to Overtures 15 and 16.

Grounds:

1. World Missions has thoroughly examined the policy in question, having spent a year in reviewing their situation from all angles and exploring alternative options. The Christian Reformed World Missions Supplement report to Synod 2014 provides more information regarding the need for this change.
2. The missionaries in the field were engaged in this discussion, and the majority of them understand and agree with this decision.
3. The decline in ministry shares and the current value placed on personal relationships between churches and missionaries makes this essential.
4. This decision allows World Missions to open the door for eight new missionaries for the first time in many years.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 35

Advisory Committee 7, Financial Matters, Mr. John Vander Ploeg reporting, presents the following:

I. Board of Trustees

A. Materials

1. Board of Trustees Report (sections I, D; II, C, including Appendix H), pp. 23-24, 37, 88-118
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, B, including Appendix C)

B. Privilege of the floor: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

C. Recommendations

1. In spite of several concerns expressed about salary levels, that synod take note of the change in salary administration of CRCNA employees and receive it as information.

—Adopted

2. That synod adopt the denominational salary grid for senior positions as proposed (BOT Supplement section II, B, 7).

—*Adopted*

3. That synod receive as information the condensed financial statements for the agencies and educational institutions (see Appendix H).

—*Adopted*

4. That synod receive the agencies and institutional unified budget as information and approve a ministry share of \$336.12 for calendar year 2015 (BOT Supplement sections II, B, 1-2).

—*Adopted*

5. 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).
- b. That synod accept the following new request for inclusion on the list of denominationally related agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 4):

Communities First Association

Communities First Association is a professional association of intermediary Christian community developers that provides a supportive learning environment, resources, and tools to those who transform low-income communities. Originated within World Renew, the organization is currently working in more than 300 neighborhoods with 522 churches and 98 CRC congregations.

- c. That synod receive as information the list of nondenominational agencies, previously accredited, that have been approved for calendar year 2015 (BOT Supplement section II, B, 5).
- d. That synod accept the following new requests for inclusion on the list of accredited nondenominational agencies (BOT Supplement section II, B, 6):

Canada

1) Canadian Council of Churches

The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is an inclusive Christian council with twenty-five member denominations, representing more than 85 percent of the Christians in Canada. The Christian Reformed Church in North America is a member of the CCC. In addition, the Canadian Council of Churches is the institutional home for the Canadian Theological Students Conference.

2) A Rocha Canada

A Rocha Canada is an international Christian organization that engages in scientific research, environmental education, and community-based conservation projects. Started in 2000 in Canada and part of the A Rocha organization founded in Portugal in 1983,

they are restoring salmon habitats, training young scientists, feeding low-income families, equipping churches, and encouraging community groups through hands-on conservation projects, environmental education programs, and sustainable agriculture initiatives.

United States

3) Talking Bibles

Talking Bibles provides leaders worldwide in communities of oral learners with “talking” Bibles in their native language. The ministry trains leaders to use the “talking” Bibles to equip indigenous non-readers to become church leaders, pastors, and missionaries to their own communities. This organization’s direct focus is within East Africa and South Asia. Affiliate mission agencies, including Wycliffe and New Tribes Missions, focus on Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America.

—Adopted

II. Pensions and Insurance

A. *Materials*: Pensions and Insurance Report, pp. 219-23

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod designate up to 100 percent of a minister’s early or normal retirement pension or disability pension for 2015 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

2. That synod agree to hear a brief update from Mr. John Bolt, director of finance and administration for the CRCNA, regarding the status of the Minister’s Pension Plans in the U.S. and Canada.

—Adopted

III. Response to Overture 14: Appoint a Study Committee to Provide Guidelines for Fiscal Management of Donations by CRC Agencies and Institutions

A. *Materials*: Overture 14, pp. 402-403

B. *Background*

Overture 14 calls for the establishment of a committee to provide guidelines for fiscal management of CRC donations. While we appreciate the concern expressed, this overture is framed in a set of misunderstandings, and we feel that the following clarifying statements would be helpful:

1. The issues at Calvin College did not involve a breach of policy or the use of risky investments. The report of Dr. Le Roy, published in February 2013, provides details of how the college reviewed and resolved the issues they faced.

2. The prior issue facing the investments of the denomination in the 1990s, while causing significant levels of concern, did not result in any loss of funds for the agencies and institutions of the CRC.
3. Investment of donated funds carefully follows the detailed investment policies with oversight from the appropriate board committees.

C. Recommendation

That synod not accede to Overture 14.

Grounds:

1. The investment policies of both the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA and the Calvin College Board of Trustees are able to assure that careful stewardship is being consistently practiced.
2. Current practices include oversight of all funds by the finance committee of the BOT as well as the investment committees of the boards of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 36

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

Advisory Committee 2, Church Order and Synodical Matters, Rev. Richard J. deLange reporting, presents the following:

I. Sermons for Reading Services Committee

A. Materials: Sermons for Reading Services Report, p. 296-97

B. Background

The advisory committee recognizes that it is impossible to measure the actual use of our denomination's website providing sermons for reading, but it has heard good reports about the use of this service. The service is particularly appreciated in more remote areas where finding guest preachers is difficult and an elder or another appointed reader leads the worship. We appreciate that the committee has been working hard to diversify the sermon base to include Spanish sermons, and it offers on the website some options for people who are seeking additional sermons, including some video-based messages. However, the committee does not have the mandate or resources to recommend specific websites where biblically Reformed video sermons could be found and used. In addition, our committee heard testimonies of some pastors who use the sermons to do research as they prepare their own sermons. Emails of thanksgiving for the sermons on this site have also been received from places such as England and New Zealand. We are thankful for the work of this committee and encourage them in the good work they are doing.

C. Recommendation

That synod recognize the challenges that the Sermons for Reading Services Committee faces, approve the work of the committee, and encourage the churches to avail themselves of the sermons for reading services on the CRCNA website.

—Adopted

II. Historical Committee

A. *Materials*: Historical Committee Report, pp. 287-95

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

C. *Background*: The advisory committee heard a wonderful report by Richard Harms, the archivist at Calvin College, and appreciated the good work being done by him and his staff on recent history and some matters related to the early life of the CRC.

D. *Recommendations*

1. That synod instruct all churches and classes to send duplicates (photocopies, faxes, or email attachments) of their articles of incorporation and bylaws to the archives. Copies can be sent to Archives, Calvin College, 1855 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4402; or by fax: 616-526-7689; or by email: crcarchives@calvin.edu.

—Adopted

2. That synod encourage the 40 classes whose 175-member churches more than ten years old have not had their minutes duplicated to contact the archives to make such arrangements.

—Adopted

III. Task Force to Study the Offices of Elder and Deacon

A. *Materials*: Task Force to Study the Offices of Elder and Deacon Report, pp. 323-50

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Mr. Chris Ganski, reporter, and Mr. Andrew Ryskamp (staff adviser)

C. *Recommendation*

That synod encourage the churches and classes to begin actively engaging with the content of this report prior to submission of the final report to Synod 2015.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued in Article 52.)

ARTICLE 37

The afternoon session adjourns at 4:55 p.m. Rev. John Groen leads in closing prayer.

MONDAY EVENING, June 16, 2014 Seventh Session

ARTICLE 38

The evening session convenes at 7:05 p.m. First clerk, Rev. John Tenyenhuis, leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 39

Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director, addresses the delegates on “At the Limit of the Possible,” focusing on Deuteronomy 33:27: “The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” Rev. Boot shares that even though there are problems, pain, agony, frictions, misunderstandings, and disasters all around us, we all are still in the hands and held in the arms of a loving God. We are a people on a journey for the Christian Reformed Church in North America. We can make a difference in our work by remembering that we are in those hands.

The president thanks Rev. Boot for his service, and elder delegate Rev. Chris Van Spronsen (Thornapple Valley) leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 40

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued from Article 32.)

Board of Trustees

Synod proceeds according to the adopted procedure and, following the completed interview, considers the following recommendation:

That synod appoint Dr. Steven R. Timmermans to the position of executive director of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, effective June 30, 2014.

—Adopted

The president of synod congratulates Dr. Timmermans and welcomes him as the new executive director.

(The report of Advisory Committee 1 is continued in Article 48.)

ARTICLE 41

The evening session adjourns at 9:10 p.m. Dr. Darren Roorda leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY MORNING, June 17, 2014 Eighth Session

ARTICLE 42

Synod convenes for opening worship, led by a worship team in singing “Your Grace Is Enough” and “Marvelous Grace.” President R. Scott Greenway calls the meeting to order, Rev. Marco Avila offers a call to worship, and the delegates sing “That’s Why We Praise Him” and “Speak, O Lord.” Rev. Jack Van de Hoef speaks on fixing our eyes on what is unseen and putting our daily lives in an eternal perspective. Delegates read responsively from 2 Corinthians 9. Rev. Marco Avila offers a prayer, and delegates sing “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending.” Rev. Van de Hoef offers a closing blessing.

Rev. Peter Borgdorff offers an update from Christian Reformed World Missions on unrest and loss of life among members of our ecumenical partner the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria.

Roll call indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 43

Advisory Committee 4, Congregational Support Ministry I, Rev. Laryn G. Zoerhof reporting, presents the following:

I. Specialized Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church

A. *Materials*

1. Board of Trustees Report (sections II, B, 3, 5, including Appendix G), pp. 34-37, 85-87
2. Board of Trustees Supplement (section II, A)

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed.

C. *Committee for Contact with the Government*

1. Materials: Committee for Contact with the Government Report, pp. 227-28
2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Committee for Contact with the Government (operating in Canada as the Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue) in its pursuit of peace and justice in society, particularly in its pursuit of reconciliation and justice for Aboriginal people in Canada, developing quality education opportunities for First Nations children, pursuing just policies for refugees, and calling for civility in political discourse.

—Adopted

D. *Disability Concerns*

1. Materials: Disability Concerns Report, pp. 228-31
2. Recommendations

- a. That synod take note of the new mandate for the Office of Disability Concerns (II, B, 5), adopted by the BOT in February 2014.

—Adopted

- b. That synod encourage the inclusion of, and engagement with, children and youth who have disabilities as an important part of congregational ministry and denominational youth ministry programs. Specifically, that synod encourage the following strategies:

- 1) Identify and prioritize the inclusion of adolescents with disabilities in youth programs and ministries.
- 2) Minister with children and youth who have disabilities and their families because families with teenagers who have disabilities face an often-challenging transition to adulthood.
- 3) Include peers with disabilities in their leadership, worship, youth gatherings, Bible studies, and event planning.
- 4) Build awareness and changing attitudes about physical, intellectual, behavioral, and other disabilities, and about mental illnesses,

throughout their youth programs and especially within their leadership structures.

Grounds:

- a. All people are made in God's image; therefore, all people deserve respect and dignity.
- b. Baptized children and youth are members of the covenant; therefore, all baptized children and youth need to be nurtured in faith by the church and engaged in the ministry of the church.
- c. Jesus' body, the church, has many parts but is one in Christ; therefore, each member of Christ's body (including each with a disability) is essential for the church to function in a healthy way (1 Cor. 12:12, 22).
- d. All believers are called by God; therefore, each believer has a God-given mission to fulfill (Eph. 2:10).
- e. All believers have spiritual gifts; therefore, each believer receives gifts to accomplish God's mission, and each fulfills an essential function in the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12).
- f. Inviting children and youth who have disabilities to engage in ministry reflects the welcome our Lord gives to all people (Luke 14:15-24).
- g. In healthy churches and ministries, everybody belongs and everybody serves (1 Pet. 4:8-10).

—Adopted

3. That synod encourage CRC churches, classes, and educational institutions to sponsor events to celebrate Disability Awareness Week, October 13-19, 2014, and Disability Awareness Sunday on October 19.

Grounds:

- a. 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).
- b. This date coincides with the CRC denominational schedule for offerings, which assigns the third Sunday in October to Disability Concerns.
- c. The RCA General Synod in 2006 designated the first Sunday in March as Disability Awareness Sunday. Moving this designation to the third Sunday in October would facilitate and enhance deeper collaboration between the Disability Concerns offices of the RCA and CRC. Further, moving the RCA date from March to October would eliminate a frequent conflict with the season of Lent while aligning with numerous organizations and agencies that highlight disability awareness in October.
- d. 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*

E. Race Relations

1. Materials: Race Relations Report, pp. 233-35
2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Office of Race Relations as it works in partnership with congregations, agencies, ministries, and the Reformed Church in America focusing on awareness, advocacy, and alignment, and informing and helping believers to become a diverse and unified community.

—*Adopted*

F. Safe Church Ministry

1. Materials: Safe Church Ministry Report, pp. 235-37
2. Recommendations

a. That synod commend the work of the Office of Safe Church Ministry as it seeks to educate, encourage, and lead churches in implementing and maintaining policies approved by previous synods.

—*Adopted*

b. That synod again remind all churches in the denomination of the critical importance of documenting, developing, and implementing a safe church policy and remind all classes in the denomination of the vital importance of a safe church team. There are many resources available from the Office of Safe Church Ministry and on its website. The director informs us that only 22 of the 46 classes have formed safe church teams. A safe church team is an important part of the pastoral care that the church offers to its members. Awareness and prevention, if given high priority, can minimize the risk of abuse and the damage it causes.

—*Adopted*

c. That synod instruct the executive director to work with staff teams, such as the Better Together team, to explore ways of developing and promoting safe church teams in each classis.

—*Adopted*

d. That synod take note of the following five goals that continue to guide the work of Safe Church Ministry:

- 1) Each church has implemented a written Safe Church/abuse prevention policy.
- 2) Each church includes abuse prevention in its church school and youth education. Programs such as Circle of Grace, which teach positive respect in relationships, are recommended.

- 3) Each church has protocols in place for responding to misconduct and is aware of the recommended "Guidelines for Handling Abuse Allegations against a Church Leader" approved by Synod 2010.
- 4) Abuse is acknowledged as an important issue and can be freely discussed.
- 5) Leadership at all levels is supportive of Safe Church Ministry, and each church is represented on a classis Safe Church team.

—Adopted

G. *Social Justice and Hunger Action*

1. Materials: Social Justice and Hunger Action Report, pp. 238-40
2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action in peacemaking, creation care, immigration reform, and global poverty. We are grateful for what this office is doing to stir up the people of the CRC to become advocates for those who are poor, oppressed, powerless, and cannot speak for themselves, and for this office's work in promoting the sanctity of human life.

—Adopted

The following negative votes are registered: Glenn Palmer (Hackensack) and Eric B. Verhulst (Iakota).

H. *Urban Aboriginal Ministries*

1. Materials: Urban Aboriginal Ministries Report, pp. 240-41
2. Recommendation

That synod commend the work of the Edmonton Native Healing Centre, the Indigenous Family Centre in Winnipeg, and the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship in Regina as they provide pastoral support and encouragement in the challenges of life to First Nations people in those communities.

—Adopted

II. **Dynamic Youth Ministries**

A. *Calvinist Cadet Corps*

1. Materials: Calvinist Cadet Corps Report, p. 312
2. Recommendations

- a. That synod commend the good work of the Calvinist Cadet Corps. Engaging in the lives of boys through interests, community development, and Christian leadership, Cadets has touched countless lives, continuing into the future generation. This summer 1,200 men and boys are expected to gather in Lacombe, Alberta, for a week of wilderness camping and growing closer to God.

—Adopted

- b. That synod encourage the leadership of the Calvinist Cadet Corps to continually evaluate and revitalize its program and materials in order to meet the changing needs of boys today.

—*Adopted*

B. GEMS Girls' Clubs

1. Materials: GEMS Girls' Clubs Report, pp. 312-13

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. GEMS currently has 942 clubs; 24,000 girls; and 5,300 women participating in GEMS clubs. God has blessed the 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, pp. 313-14

2. Recommendations

- a. That synod commend Youth Unlimited in helping churches challenge youth to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and transform their world for him. Last year 2,052 students and leaders from 197 congregations participated in Serve, Live It, or The Chicago Project. Isaiah 58 will be the theme for the 2014 Serve faith-forming experiences in cooperation with World Renew. Students will be challenged to celebrate the gospel's call to be coworkers with Christ by bringing about restoration in the world.

—*Adopted*

- b. That synod encourage Youth Unlimited to continue to promote itself and its resources to all churches so that all our youth and their leaders have the chance to enjoy the gifts of this organization.

—*Adopted*

III. Friendship Ministries

A. Materials: Friendship Ministries Report, pp. 315-16

B. Recommendation

That synod receive this report with appreciation and heartily recommend this ministry to the churches. We give thanks for this ministry that touches so many lives, both in North America and around the world. There are more than 1,200 Friendship programs in 28 countries. Friendship groups are in more than 75 denominations. Friendship serves approximately 18,000 people who have an intellectual disability. We are grateful for Friendship Ministries in providing resources for people to be baptized and to make public profession of faith.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 44

The president of synod welcomes the candidates to Synod 2014. Rev. David Koll, director of the Candidacy Committee, presents the 2014 candidates for ministry of the Word in the Christian Reformed Church. (Names in **bold** print indicate those present at Synod 2014; names in *italics* indicate those not present.)

Bradley J. Bierma

Richard C. Boomsma

Richard J. Braaksma

Daniel S. De Graff

Adrian R. de Lange

Nevada L. DeLapp

Jonathan H. DeRuiter

Paul D. DeWeerd

Woodrow P. Dixon

Jun K. Eo

Joseph M. Groeneveld

Robert J. Gruessing

Patrick N. Guarracino

Byung Soo (Paul) Han

Gareth P. Harker

Ryan Hoogerbrugge

Erik W. Kamp

T. Brent Kladder

Joel H. Klingenberg

Michelle J. Kool

Jeremy D. Kreuze

Victor S. Laarman

Mark E. Langenbach

C. Gregg Lawson

Dae J. Lee

Ezra Lee

Samuel Y. Lee

Timothy Leferink

John C. Medendorp

Dena E. Meyerink

Brady Mulder

Cornelius M. Muasa

Michael D. Nanninga

Brent W. Pollema

David A. Reynolds

Kyle D. Sanford

Kurt C. Schaefer

Sarah E. Schreiber

Paula S. Seales

Eunchong (David) Shin

Evan D. Steensma

Jay E. Stringer

Lesli L. van Milligen

Cory L. Van Sloten

Dayna J. Vreeken

Albert K. Wu

Luke B. Wynja

Leo H. Yoon

Andrew D. Zylstra

Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, president of Calvin Theological Seminary, addresses the candidates and delegates about the stories that are represented by all the candidates. He shares a passage from John 15:4 and encourages candidates to remember “who” they are and “whose” they are—“remain in God, and he will remain in you.”

Delegates respond by singing “There’s No God as Great” followed by a Litany of Celebration and Dedication (taken from Psalm 118:23, 2 Corinthians 1:3-5, 1 Peter 2:9, Romans 12:36, Heidelberg Catechism Q and A 1 and 32, and the Contemporary Testimony, para. 1, 56) and the singing of “Day by Day.” President Greenway offers prayer, and the celebration concludes with singing “God Be with You Till We Meet Again.”

ARTICLE 45

Vice president Jake Kuipers assumes the role of chair.

As adopted by synod, Rev. R. Scott Greenway and Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, members of the Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture, give a presentation and provide an update on the work of the task force. Delegates participate in a time of table conversation regarding the report of

the task force as found in the *Agenda for Synod*, to provide feedback to the task force in its work.

ARTICLE 46

The morning session adjourns at 11:46 a.m. Rev. Doug MacLeod (Grand Rapids East) leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, June 17, 2014

Ninth Session

ARTICLE 47

The afternoon session convenes at 1:20 p.m. The vice president assumes the role of chair.

The fraternal delegate from the Reformed Churches in Argentina, Mr. Gustavo García Escardó, addresses synod and expresses gratitude for being a part of Synod 2014.

Rev. Jay Pruim (Grandville) leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 48

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

Advisory Committee 1, Synodical Services, Rev. Greg S. Janke reporting, presents the following:

Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture

A. *Materials*: Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture Report (including Appendices A-C), pp. 351-80

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Joel R. Boot, chair, and Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, reporter

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod recommend this report to the churches and, in particular, the “range of proposals” presented in section VII for further discussion and discernment within the church, its agencies, boards, and planning groups. This discussion and discernment will occur in the coming year, led by the Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture, and continuing to incorporate the Five Streams (*Agenda for Synod 2014*, p. 375). A final proposal will be presented to Synod 2015.

—Adopted

2. That synod ask the Board of Trustees to explore the development of a nominating committee that would not only identify potential persons to serve on denominational boards/committees but also keep a list of persons who have served previously on denominational boards and advisory committees.

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered: Glenn Palmer (Hackensack).

3. That synod ask the Board of Trustees to explore the opportunity to train all board members, including the present Board of Trustees, in board governance—policy development, strategic planning, decision-making, and models of governance.

—Adopted

4. That synod thank Mr. Terry Vander Aa and Mrs. Jane Vander Haagen for their service on the Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture from 2011 until 2013. Both of these individuals resigned from the task force because of personal health matters that arose. We are glad to report that both have experienced a measure of healing and improved health.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 49

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued from Article 15.)

Advisory Committee 8, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. Douglas N. Bratt reporting, presents the following:

Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

A. *Materials*

1. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Report, including Appendices A-E, pp. 255-86
2. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Ms. Rebecca Warren (chair), Rev. Joel R. Boot, and Dr. Peter Borgdorff

C. *Recommendations*

1. That Synod 2014 express its gratitude to Rev. Peter Slofstra and Ms. Rebecca Warren for serving the cause of ecumenicity for the CRC.

—Adopted

2. That Synod 2014 approve the following amendment to the Orderly Exchange of Ordained Ministers with the RCA to be reflected in Church Order Supplement, Article 8, D, 7 (proposed change indicated by *italics*):

Approval for extended service must be done in consultation with and with the concurrence of the sending body. (In the CRC, the sending body is the calling church council; in the RCA, it is the classis holding the pastor's membership.) The minister remains accountable to the sending body for continuation of ministerial status. *In the event of termination of a call, the polity of the calling church shall be followed, in consultation with the sending church.*

Grounds:

1. There have been situations recently in which clarification of procedure for a separation of an RCA pastor from a CRC congregation was needed.
2. The original 2005 Orderly Exchange of Ordained Ministers—Christian Reformed Church in North America and Reformed

Church in America (*Acts of Synod 2005*, pp. 741-42) did not include provisions for separation in the orderly exchange between the CRC and the RCA.

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod 2014 instruct the EIRC to continue its assessment of the place of the Belhar Confession in the life and ministry of the CRC and report back to synod at appropriate times.

—*Adopted*

4. That synod approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Protestant Church in the Netherlands.

—*Adopted*

5. That synod, upon the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Protestant Church in the Netherlands (PCN), classify the relationship with the PCN beyond the category of a church in formal dialogue to that of a church in ecclesiastical fellowship.

Ground: Though recognizing the differences we have with the PCN on various issues—differences we also have with numerous other churches we are in relationship with through the WCRC—the thrust of our Ecumenical Charter leads us to have fellowship with a denomination with which we share much history and confessional unity.

—*Adopted*

The following negative votes are registered: Richard J. deLange (Alberta North), Jeffrey W. Scripps (Georgetown), Carl Wiersum (Georgetown), Glenn Palmer (Hackensack), and Kenneth F. Benjamins (Hamilton).

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

ARTICLE 50

The vice president introduces Dr. Kurt Selles, director of Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI). Delegates view a short video highlighting the history of Back to God Ministries International and the changes that the internet has brought into the way ministry is done. The video outlines the faithfulness of God in moving his church to grow around the world.

Dr. Selles shares that as technology changes, so must BTGMI. He also highlights the many different ministries that are a part of Back to God Ministries International and the diversity of people they are able reach.

President R. Scott Greenway shares a personal story about how he witnessed the widespread reach of Back to God Ministries International and offers a prayer for the ministry.

ARTICLE 51

(The report of Advisory Committee 8 is continued from Article 49.)

Advisory Committee 8, Interdenominational Matters, Rev. Douglas N. Bratt reporting, presents the following:

I. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

A. Materials

1. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Report, including Appendices A-E, pp. 255-86
2. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Supplement

B. Privilege of the floor: Ms. Rebecca Warren (chair), Rev. Joel R. Boot, and Dr. Peter Borgdorff

C. Recommendations

1. That Synod 2014 designate the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians to be a church in ecclesiastical fellowship (see *Agenda for Synod 2014*, pp. 259-60).

—Adopted

2. That Synod 2014 designate the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Egypt (Synod of the Nile) to be a church in ecclesiastical fellowship (see *Agenda for Synod 2014*, p. 260).

—Adopted

II. Response to Overture 18: Establish a Study Committee to Look into Recent Theologies That Teach That the Genesis Accounts of the Creation and Fall of Humankind Are Not Historical Events and That Adam and Eve Are Literary Rather Than Historical Characters

A. Material: Overture 18, pp. 408-420

B. Background

Overture 18 raises serious theological and pastoral concerns. Christian theologians and scientists, including many in the CRC, have been addressing these concerns.

C. Recommendations

1. That Synod 2014 not accede to Overture 18.

Grounds:

- a. The request to investigate and determine the reading of Genesis 1-3 (as referenced in Overture 18C) comes into conflict with Synod 1991's ruling in Article 86, 4, b as restricting the freedom of exegetical readings of Scripture.
- b. The issues addressed as to the theology of creation, fall, and redemption have been clearly stated and addressed in Article 86, 4, d (*Acts of Synod 1991*, p. 766), which was revisited by Synod 2010 (*Acts of Synod 2010*, pp. 872-75).
- c. Calvin College has examined and refined the processes by which academic discussions of this nature occur as now defined in the "Confessional Commitments and Academic Freedom at Calvin" (*Agenda for Synod 2014*, pp. 136-76).
- d. Existing policies and procedures have been applied appropriately, or are in the process of being applied, to the published articles referred to in the overture.

- e. The study requested in the overture would require an enormous amount of resources and would duplicate efforts that are under way among Christian theologians and scientists, including many in the CRC.
- f. Recommendation F in the overture is sufficiently ambiguous that it would be difficult to apply and could endanger healthy dialogue and inquiry in the CRC.

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod 2014 instruct the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA to encourage Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary, in concert with other CRC-related institutions of higher education, to (a) make available to a future synod a list of resources on the relationship of science and theology, especially as they relate to the doctrines of creation, the fall, original sin, and the atonement, and (b) to organize one or more conferences or open conversations on these same topics.

Grounds:

- a. These actions would respond to the plea for clarity expressed in Overture 18.
- b. These actions would serve as a gracious space for the church to discuss and learn together regarding these difficult questions.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 52

(The report of Advisory Committee 2 is continued from Article 36.)

Advisory Committee 2, Church Order and Synodical Matters, Rev. Richard J. DeRuiter reporting, presents the following:

I. Response to Overture 7: Permit Classis Pacific Hanmi to Divide to Form Two Classes

A. Materials: Overture 7, pp. 385-87

B. Background

In 1996 Classis Pacific Hanmi was created for a trial period of 15 years because it was difficult for Korean-speaking pastors to engage in ministry as meaningfully as wished due to translation issues. The classis has grown from 11 churches originally to 50 today. Synod 2007 recognized the success of this model classis and lifted its “trial” status. The churches feel welcome in the CRC and have welcomed other congregations into the denomination as well, feeling that the CRC is a good home. We also note that as Korean-speaking congregations grow in their use of English, they are moving into other nearby classes (as evidenced in Overtures 1-4 of the *Agenda for Synod 2014*). The Korean CRCs themselves request a type of mentoring committee to walk alongside the Korean pastors and churches as they continue to learn CRC polity.

C. Recommendations

1. That synod grant Rev. David Koll privilege of the floor when this overture is discussed, because he was asked by this classis to represent them regarding this overture.
2. That synod allow Classis Pacific Hanmi to divide into two classes with the following understanding:
 - a. Both classes will begin to meet separately in September 2014.
 - b. A tentative roster of the two classes is available in the *Agenda for Synod 2014* (p. 386), including a few undecided churches (p. 387). The official roster and name of the new classis, along with classis functionaries in the two classes, will be provided to the synodical office in the fall of 2014 by the clerk of each classis after the two classes officially meet. The membership of the new classes will be reported to Synod 2015.
 - c. The executive director of the CRCNA will appoint mentoring committees for each classis, and these committees will provide these classes with guidelines to assist in their transition and will offer continuing guidance to enable them to grow into healthy CRC classes.

Grounds:

- 1) In comparison to other classes, Classis Pacific Hanmi is extremely large—50 congregations as of 2014.
- 2) Requests have been submitted by some of the churches within Classis Pacific Hanmi to form a new classis.
- 3) The classis leadership and classis as a whole have agreed that there is a need to divide into two classes for the sake of better management of classical work and ministry.
- 4) The central goal in forming two classes is for a renewed vision in the classis and in the development of its ministry.
- 5) The classis itself, in Overture 7, has requested mentoring.

—Adopted

3. That synod give thanks to God for his blessing on the Korean churches within the CRCNA, and on the CRCNA as a whole, as evidenced by the growth of Classis Pacific Hanmi over the past decade, and that synod celebrate this blessing in prayer and song in our plenary session.

Ground: It is apparent that God has blessed and is continuing to bless the strategy of a Korean-language classis.

—Adopted

The Pacific Hanmi delegation comes forward to be recognized. Rev. Roger Ryu addresses synod and speaks about what God is doing in Classis Pacific Hanmi and the growth that is happening. The delegates join in singing “Great Is Thy Faithfulness.” Rev. Jonathan Kim offers a prayer in Korean.

4. That this be synod’s response to Overture 7.

—Adopted

Note: The Classis Holland delegation withdrew Overture 17: Amend CRC Church Order Article 38 to Include Provisions for Congregations to Affiliate

with Denominations in Ecclesiastical Fellowship (see *Agenda for Synod 2014*, pp. 405-408) for consideration by a future synod.

II. Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (section II, A, 16, including Appendix E), pp. 30, 72-84

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed.

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod adopt the proposed revision of the Judicial Code (Church Order Supplement, Article 30-c) as found in Appendix E.

—*Adopted*

2. That synod instruct the BOT to address the following and bring proposals for possible revisions to the Judicial Code to Synod 2015:

- a. That the role of the executive director in relation to the Judicial Code Committee be addressed directly in the proposed Judicial Code, Section 8.

Ground: The job description of the executive director includes ex officio membership in this committee, though the Judicial Code does not explicitly recognize this.

- b. That section 1, d, i of the Judicial Code be amended to read as follows (exact wording to be determined by the BOT):

“when written charges are filed by an employee, an assembly, or an individual who is directly affected either materially or personally; and”

and that section 5, d be amended as necessary to coordinate with this change.

Ground: This limitation of scope in the procedures for the Judicial Code is found in section 5.d., but it would help clarify the understanding of the scope of the Judicial Code, if it appears in this section.

- c. That the preamble include the citation(s) to the *Agenda for Synod 2010*, p. 497, that describe the formation and function of the Advisory Panel Process (*Agenda for Synod 2014*, p. 78).

Grounds:

- 1) As it stands, there is no immediate context for understanding what this Advisory Panel is and does. Tying this to the *Acts of Synod* clarifies what this panel and its functions are.

- 2) The section on restorative justice in the preceding paragraph does cite the appropriate *Acts of Synod*.
- d. That the Church Order in some way reconcile the potential conflict between Articles 30-a and 30-c that may occur when a matter is first brought to an assembly as an appeal, and then at a later time when that same matter is brought to the same assembly via the Judicial Code.

Grounds:

- 1) Having potentially already heard an appeal with substantially the same material and issues, that assembly may not always be expected to be, and appear to be, impartial.
- 2) A matter that first proceeds as an appeal and then returns through the vehicle of the Judicial Code seems to duplicate efforts.
- 3) This may put a respondent in the position of double jeopardy.
- 4) The Church Order in no way clarifies whether this possible duplication of efforts is permissible or not, or under what circumstances such a scenario might be permitted.
- 5) Clarification on this point would be a benefit to the churches and its assemblies if and when such a scenario would arise.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 53

Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, president of the Board of Trustees, reads from Psalm 105. She shares about her journey in becoming connected to the Christian Reformed Church, beginning as a young adult in Paterson, New Jersey. She came into the CRC as an ethnic minority and encourages us not to see ourselves by our ethnicity, but as being part of God's covenant family. She shares about her journey in different leadership roles in the denomination, leading up to her current role as president of the Board of Trustees. She said God has led her this far and is not finished with her yet.

The vice president thanks Rev. Holmes for her dedicated service on the Board of Trustees. He also thanks all the members of the Board of Trustees for their faithful work.

Rev. Jerome Burton shares that he sees God moving in the Christian Reformed Church, including in the way that he feels accepted and in the way that the church is reaching out across the world. He offers prayer for Rev. Holmes.

ARTICLE 54

The afternoon session adjourns at 5:11 p.m. Rev. Jerome Burton (Grand Rapids North) leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING, June 17, 2014

Tenth Session

ARTICLE 55

The president of synod resumes the chair.

The evening session convenes at 7:08 p.m. Elder delegate Ms. Diane Plug (Chatham) leads in opening prayer.

Executive director Rev. Joel R. Boot leads synod through the list of denominational boards and committees. He asks the delegates to send any changes or corrections to the Office of Synodical Services.

ARTICLE 56

(The report of Committee 3 is continued from Article 33.)

Calvin Theological Seminary

Synod proceeds according to the adopted procedure and, following the completed interview, considers the following recommendation:

Synod enters into executive session.

That synod approve the appointment of Mrs. Sarah Schreiber as assistant professor of Old Testament, beginning in 2014-2015, and with some negotiated reduction from full workload in 2015-2018.

—Adopted

Synod returns to open session. The president congratulates Mrs. Sarah Schreiber on her new appointment.

Rev. Jeffrey Hough leads in a prayer for Mrs. Schreiber and thanks God for the gifts with which she has been endowed.

ARTICLE 57

The evening session adjourns at 8:51 p.m. Elder delegate Mr. Peter Van Huizen (B.C. South-East) leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 18, 2013

Eleventh Session

ARTICLE 58

Delegates begin worship with singing "I Will Rise," and all respond with a reading, followed by singing "Come, Thou Almighty King" and "Holy, Holy Is Our God." A prayer is sung: "Christ Be Our Light." The worship team presents a dramatic reading from 2 Corinthians 5:7-6:2, and the soloist sings "Abana alathi fi ssama" ("Abana in Heaven"), the Lord's Prayer in Arabic. Delegates sing "In Christ There Is No East or West," followed by a blessing. Delegates close by singing "My Friends, May You Grow in Grace."

Worship participants for the morning are as follows: Liturgist, Denise Posie; Voice: Nicole Veenkamp and Ben Li; Keyboard, Cindy Gritters;

Readers, Corinne Verhoef, Tressa Bos, Paul Verhoef; Guitar, Kyle Haak; Soloist (Arabic): Maged Fayed.

First clerk Rev. Jerome Burton offers a prayer for Addie, Rev. Joel R. Boot's granddaughter, who was hospitalized during the night with an infection.

Roll call indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 59

The president, on behalf of the officers, announces that an ad hoc committee will be appointed to study the personal appeal of Mr. and Mrs. Weber and report of the Judicial Code Committee by the officers following synod.

ARTICLE 60

Advisory Committee 5, Congregational Support Ministry II, Rev. Michael S. Johnson reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (sections II, A, 19; B, 2, including Appendix F), pp. 31, 34, 84-85; Overture 8, pp. 387-88; Overture 9, pp. 388-90; Overture 10, pp. 390-95; Overture 11, pp. 396-97; Overture 12, pp. 398-400; Overture 13, pp. 400-402; Communication 1, pp. 421-22; Communication 2, pp. 422-23; Communication 3, pp. 423-25

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

C. *Recommendation*

That synod declare its lament regarding the publication in *The Banner* of two articles in June 2013 ("Tomorrow's Theology") and July 2013 ("Where Do We Draw the Line?").

Grounds:

1. Synod has higher expectations of discernment, insight, clarity, and direction through difficult and complex issues in our time.
2. While part of the mandate of *The Banner* is to challenge its readers, articles need to communicate truths from God's Word within the parameters of our creeds, confessions, and testimonies, helping us to dialogue with claims of secularism and unbelief.
3. The two articles have caused harm and created confusion in regard to CRCNA positions on two complex issues in our culture today.

—Adopted

(The report of Advisory Committee 5 is continued in Article 62.)

ARTICLE 61

A delegate presents the following motion:

That synod retract the publication in *The Banner* of two articles, one in June 2013, "Tomorrow's Theology," and one in July 2013, "Where Do We Draw the Line?"

—Defeated

ARTICLE 62

(The report of Advisory Committee 5 is continued from Article 60.)

Advisory Committee 5, Congregational Support Ministry II, Rev. Michael S. Johnson, reporting, presents the following:

Board of Trustees

A. *Materials*: Board of Trustees Report (sections II, A, 19; B, 2, including Appendix F), pp. 31, 34, 84-85; Overture 8, pp. 387-88; Overture 9, pp. 388-90; Overture 10, pp. 390-95; Overture 11, pp. 396-97; Overture 12, pp. 398-400; Overture 13, pp. 400-402; Communication 1, pp. 421-22; Communication 2, pp. 422-23; Communication 3, pp. 423-25

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Sheila E. Holmes, chair of the Board of Trustees; Rev. Joel R. Boot, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

C. Recommendations

1. That synod affirm the work of the BOT in regard to this issue as providing appropriate first steps for addressing the editorial concerns raised by the publication of the two articles (*Agenda for Synod 2014*, pp. 31, 84-85).

Grounds:

- a. In light of personnel changes (executive director, etc.), restructuring efforts, and the ongoing nature of the work of the BOT, it would be premature to designate a complete resolution at this time.
- b. Representatives of the BOT and the *Banner* editor have voiced confidence that this work-in-progress will end in a workable solution.

—Adopted

The following negative vote is registered: Glen P. Palmer (Hackensack).

2. That synod take note of the newly adopted mandate of the *Banner* Advisory Council found in Appendix F.

—Adopted

3. That synod reaffirm that the BOT is the body to which the *Banner* editor is accountable, until the reorganization process dictates otherwise.

Ground: Because of the dissolution of Faith Alive Christian Resources as an agency, there are different understandings regarding lines of authority and the placement of the *Banner* editor in the organizational structure.

—Adopted

4. That synod instruct the BOT to ensure a review of the 1998 mandate of *The Banner* and report to Synod 2015 with any proposed changes.

Grounds:

- a. There is confusion regarding expressions such as “stimulate critical thinking about issues related to the Christian faith and the culture of which we are a part” included in the 1998 mandate.

b. There is a need for clarity on how *The Banner* can challenge and stimulate critical thinking on contemporary issues while affirming Scripture and our confessions.

c. It is appropriate to review mandates from time to time.

—*Adopted*

5. That these recommendations are our answer to Overtures 8-13 and Communications 1-3.

—*Adopted*

The following negative vote is registered: Ms. Theody Corton (Toronto).

Rev. Robert De Moor gives a heartfelt apology to synod and thanks the delegates for the careful deliberations and decisions. First clerk John Tenyen-huis offers prayer for Rev. De Moor.

(The report of Committee 5 is continued in Article 66.)

ARTICLE 63

The morning session adjourns at 11:50 a.m. Rev. Sid Couperus (Niagara) leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, June 18, 2014

Twelfth Session

ARTICLE 64

The afternoon session convenes at 2:20 p.m. Elder delegate Albert Cramer (Alberta South/Saskatchewan) leads in opening prayer.

Note: Rev. Rod D. Gorter (Hudson) is not present for this session.

ARTICLE 65

The president introduces Rev. Moses Chung, director of Christian Reformed Home Missions, who addresses delegates on the work of Home Missions. He shares a video and describes how Home Missions is sharing the saving gospel of Jesus Christ with people across North America by (1) starting and encouraging new churches, (2) discipling and developing leaders, and (3) engaging clusters, classes, and communities so that God's name is spread throughout North America.

Rev. Harvey Roosma, CRHM board president, gives thanks for the years of support for Home Missions in serving God through abundant opportunities and challenges.

The president prays for the work of Christian Reformed Home Missions.

ARTICLE 66

(The report of Advisory Committee 5 is continued from Article 62.)

Advisory Committee 5, Congregational Support Ministry II, Rev. Michael S. Johnson reporting, presents the following:

I. Christian Reformed Home Missions

A. *Materials*: Christian Reformed Home Missions Report, pp. 182-92

B. *Privilege of the floor*: Rev. Harvey Roosma, board president; and Rev. Moses Chung, director

C. Recommendations

1. That synod receive, with abundant gratitude, the written report of Christian Reformed Home Missions.
2. That synod applaud the diligent work of CRHM to assess and interpret the challenges and opportunities before CRCNA congregations.
3. That synod encourage CRHM to continue their work of helping members of the CRCNA to understand their *context* and think creatively about their *direction*, and to maintain the *posture* of Spirit-led collaboration.

—Adopted

II. Specialized Ministries of the Christian Reformed Church

A. Chaplaincy and Care Ministry

1. Materials: Chaplaincy and Care Ministry Report, pp. 224-27

2. Recommendation

That synod receive the report with gratitude, noting especially

- that Chaplaincy and Care Ministry directly blesses a great many lives and communities at a relatively low cost.
- that Rev. Ronald A. Klimp faithfully provides meaningful support for our 123 chaplains, and that the CRCNA produces high-quality chaplains.

—Adopted

B. Pastor-Church Relations

1. Materials: Pastor-Church Relations Report, pp. 231-33

2. Recommendations

- a. That synod receive with gratitude the report of Pastor-Church Relations (PCR) for information.
- b. That synod encourage PCR to continue to explore and provide ways of resourcing leadership (local, classical, and denominational) within the CRCNA. The fruit of the work is already seen in their “Better Together” initiative.
- c. That synod note with excitement that an upgraded web-based Ministerial Information Service will be available by the end of 2014.
- d. That synod pray for PCR as they step into anxious moments and places throughout the CRCNA to encourage peace, reconciliation, and growth.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 67

Ms. Tamara Haveman and Mr. Bernard Feenstra, deacon advisers, report on behalf of this advisory group on the wonderful experience of participating during synod as deacon advisers. They are impressed, thankful, and privileged. The advisers look forward to conveying to their churches what they have learned. They have particularly appreciated participating in the Sunday afternoon workshops.

ARTICLE 68

Mr. Nicholas Chuba, young adult representative, reports on behalf of the young adult representatives on their experiences during synod. They are uplifted in what they have observed, seeing the passion of each delegate. They cherish the smiles and words shared with the delegates they have met, making them feel that they are an important part of the church. They have gained confidence through the experience.

ARTICLE 69

Rev. David Kromminga shares fond memories of Rev. George Vander Weit, who deeply cared for this church and was willing to speak on many matters. Rev. James Jones offers a prayer for Rev. Vander Weit's family as they continue to mourn his disappearance.

ARTICLE 70

The president notes the following motions received from delegates and how they will be addressed:

1. Two motions regarding membership in ecumenical organizations are referred to the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
2. A motion regarding the Sermons for Reading Services Committee is referred to that committee for its consideration.
3. Ethnic advisers to synod

That synod reinstate the practice of including ethnic advisers at synod as described in section 1, b, 2 of the Advisory Committee 1 report regarding the Role of Advisers to Synod Report (see *Acts of Synod 2014*, pp. 537-38).

Grounds:

- a. The makeup of one particular synod does not necessarily constitute a trend toward increased diversity in the CRCNA.
- b. Ensuring diversity in denominational leadership is an adopted goal in the denomination.
- c. The practice of appointing ethnic advisers allows the perspectives of ethnic minorities in the CRCNA to be expressed at synod.

—Adopted

ARTICLE 71

Given the recent violence in Nigeria experienced by our sister denomination, the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria, the following resolution is presented for adoption by Synod 2014:

To: Rev. Dr. Caleb Ahima, President of the Christian Reformed Church of Nigeria

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

We received your report of the very challenging and trying times in which our Lord has called you to serve him. Your report made very personal what we learned in general from public media. We grieve with you and all in the CRCN the loss of a pastor, your finance director, and others close to you but unknown to us. We promise to continue calling God’s people within the Christian Reformed Church in North America, all across Canada and the United States, to stand with you in prayer, imploring our heavenly Father to bless your nation with justice, peace, and mercy, and to end the mayhem you now endure; to comfort all who have lost people dear to them; to restore the basics of life to those who have lost homes and property; to enable you to stand firm in the faith and to live for him in the challenging and trying times in which he has placed you.

With love and in full communion through Christ and by his Spirit,
Synod 2014 of the Christian Reformed Church in North America

—Adopted

ARTICLE 72

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 2015

A. Officers

- 1. Executive director: Dr. Steven R. Timmermans
- 2. Canadian ministries director: Dr. Darren C. Roorda
- 3. Director of ministries and administration: To be determined
- 4. Director of finance and administration: Mr. John H. Bolt
- 5. Director of synodical services: Ms. Diane S. Recker

B. Functionaries

Arrangements for Synod 2015: Ms. LeeAnn Moerman, executive administrative assistant for the President’s Office at Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa.

C. Convening church

Convening church for Synod 2015: First CRC, Sioux Center, Iowa.

II. Synodical deputies

Classis	Deputy	Alternate	Term Expires
Alberta North	Rev. Gordon H. Pols	Rev. Allan C. Groen	2015(2)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Rev. J. Cameron Fraser	Rev. H. Charles Kooger	2016(2)
Arizona	Rev. Merle Den Bleyker	Rev. Robert Walter, Jr.	2017(1)
Atlantic Northeast	Rev. Christopher A. Fluit	Rev. Brent A. Pennings	2015(1)

B.C. North-West	Rev. David Cheung	Rev. Henry Jonker	2015(1)
B.C. South-East	Rev. Bert Slofstra	Rev. Andrew G. Vander Leek	2016(2)
California South	Rev. William Verhoef	Mr. Steve Wunderink	2016(2)
Central California	Rev. Bruce A. Persenaire	Vacant	2016(1)
Central Plains	Rev. Gilbert J. Kamps	Rev. Dale W. Visser	2015(2)
Chatham	Rev. Jacob Kerkhof	Rev. Richard T. Vander Vaart	2017(2)
Chicago South	Rev. Gerald R. Erffmeyer	Rev. Michael J. Kooy	2017(1)
Columbia	Rev. Jelmer P. Groenwold	Rev. Louis P. Korf	2017(2)
Eastern Canada	Rev. Jacob M. Van de Hoef	Rev. Pieter A. Heerema	2015(2)
Georgetown	Rev. Matthew A. Palsrok	Rev. Mark D. Bennink	2016(1)
Grand Rapids East	Rev. William C. De Vries	Rev. Philip V. De Jonge	2015(1)
Grand Rapids North	Rev. Sidney Draayer	Rev. Henry Admiraal	2016(1)
Grand Rapids South	Dr. Raymond A. Blacketer	Rev. Robert L. Boersma	2016(1)
Grandville	Rev. Douglas R. Fauble	Rev. Hank F. Vlaardingerbroek	2016(1)
Greater Los Angeles	Rev. Erick D. Westra	Rev. Paul A. Hansen	2015(1)
Hackensack	Rev. Douglas H. Bratt	Vacant	2015(2)
Hamilton	Rev. Ralph Koops	Rev. Henry P. Kranenburg	2016(2)
Heartland	Rev. Todd M. Zuidema	Rev. David L. Heilman	2015(1)
Holland	Rev. Michael De Vries	Rev. Christopher J. De Vos	2016(2)
Hudson	Rev. Rod D. Gorter	Rev. Norman F. Brown	2016(1)
Huron	Rev. Ronald G. Fisher	Rev. Ray Vander Kooij	2016(2)
Iakota	Rev. Aldon L. Kuiper	Rev. Clifford Hoekstra	2016(2)
Illiana	Rev. Calvin J. Aardsma	Rev. Bernard F. Tol	2016(1)
Kalamazoo	Rev. Gregory P. Timmer	Rev. Timothy L. Raakman	2017(1)
Lake Erie	Rev. David L. Spoelma	Rev. Randall D. Engle	2017(1)
Lake Superior	Rev. Jack Van Marion	Rev. Henry G. Gunnink	2015(1)
Minnkota	Rev. Timothy J. Brown	Rev. Timothy J. Ouwinga	2016(2)
Muskegon	Rev. John Rop, Jr.	Rev. Gerald D. Postema	2016(1)
Niagara	Rev. James C. Dekker	Rev. Benjamin J. Ponsen	2017(1)
Northcentral Iowa	Rev. Thomas J. Niehof	Rev. Frank E. Pott	2016(2)
Northern Illinois	Rev. John F. Schuurman	Rev. John R. Huizinga	2015(2)
Northern Michigan	Rev. Jaclyn D. Guikema Busch	Rev. Chris Kostelansky	2016(2)
Pacific Hanmi	Rev. Theodore Lim	Rev. Seung Jai Kang	2016(1)
Pacific Northwest	Rev. Richard J. DeRuiter	Rev. Kenneth D. Koeman	2016(1)
Quinte	Rev. Jake Kuipers	Rev. B. Bernard Bakker	2016(2)
Red Mesa	Rev. John J. Greydanus	Rev. John W. Dykhuis	2015(1)
Rocky Mountain	Rev. Robert L. Westenbroek	Rev. Thomas D. Draayer	2016(1)
Southeast U.S.	Rev. Scott A. Vander Ploeg	Rev. Vernon G. Vander Zee	2016(1)
Thornapple Valley	Rev. Merlin N. Buwalda	Rev. Gerard Bouma	2016(2)
Toronto	Rev. Herman D. Praamsma	Rev. Hendrik P. Bruinsma	2016(1)
Wisconsin	Rev. Michael Winnowski	Rev. Daniel J. Roeda	2017(2)
Yellowstone	Rev. Jack Huttinga	Rev. Jerry L. Blom	2016(2)
Zeeland	Rev. Timothy Howerzyl	Rev. Stephen F. Terpstra	2017(1)

III. Denominational boards

Note: Members of the regional boards (Board of Trustees of the CRCNA, the boards of Back to God Ministries International, Calvin College, Calvin Theological Seminary, Christian Reformed Home Missions, and Christian Reformed World Missions) 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—Classes 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. Michael Wevers	2017(2)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Rev. Dale Melenberg	2015(2)
B.C. North-West	Rev. Trevor Vanderveen	2015(2)
B.C. South-East	Ms. Gavrielle (Gavy) Tran	2017(2)
Chatham	Rev. Norman J. Visser	2017(1)
Eastern Canada	Mrs. Katherine M. Vandergrift	2016(2)
Hamilton	Mr. Garry Sytsma	2016(1)
Huron	Vacant	
Lake Superior	Rev. Donald Draayer	2017(1)
Niagara	Mr. Bert Witvoet	2015(1)
Quinte	Rev. Jake Kuipers	2017(1)
Toronto	Mr. Peter Noteboom	2016(2)
At-large	Mr. Bruce Dykstra	2015(2)
	Mrs. Verney Kho	2016(1)
	Rev. William C. Veenstra	2016(2)
<i>U.S. members</i>		
Region 5	Rev. Peter J. DeVries	2016(2)
Region 6	Mr. Kyu Paek	2017(2)
Region 7	Mr. David De Ridder	2016(1)
Region 8	Rev. Calvin Hoogendoorn	2016(1)
	Dr. Socorro Woodbury	2017(1)
Region 9	Ms. Elizabeth Rudenga	2017(1)
Region 10	Rev. Kenneth Baker	2015(1)
	Ms. Angela Taylor Perry	2016(2)
Region 11	Ms. Joan Flikkema	2015(2)
	Rev. R. Scott Greenway	2016(2)
	Mr. Chris Van Spronsen	2017(2)
Region 12	Mr. Jose Tagle	2017(1)
At-large	Mr. Mark Charles	2015(2)
	Rev. Christian Y. Oh	2016(2)
	Dr. Peter Szto	2015(1)
Ex officio	Dr. Steven R. Timmermans, executive director	

B. Back to God Ministries International Board

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Mr. John Vegt	2017(2)
Region 2	Mrs. Evelyn Bakker	2017(1)
Region 3	Rev. Ed Visser	2015(2)
Region 4	Rev. Gregory A. Fluit	2016(1)
Region 5	Rev. Gregory Selmon	2017(1)
Region 6	Mrs. Alison Libolt Renkema	2016(1)
Region 7	Mrs. Xiuyn (Sherry) Shen	2017(1)
Region 8	Mr. Leland Vanderaa	2016(1)
Region 9	Rev. Dr. Calvin J. Aardsma	2016(2)
Region 10	Mr. Wayne Brower	2015(1)
	Ms. Cynthia (Cindi) Veenstra	2017(2)
Region 11	Mr. Edwin de Jong	2017(1)

Region 12	Rev. Dr. Reginald Smith Rev. Joel Vande Werken	2017(2) 2015(1)
At-large	Mr. Mark Van Beveren Mr. Mark Volkers	2016(1) 2017(1)

C. Calvin College Board of Trustees

Region	Member	Term Expires
Regions 1 and 2	Ms. Margaret Verboon (Pan Zhang)	2017(2)
Region 3	Dr. Laurens Vandergrift	2015(2)
Region 4	Dr. Wytse van Dijk	2016(2)
Region 5	Mr. Dale H. Venhuizen	2015(2)
Region 6	Mr. Daniel Meester	2016(2)
Region 7	Mr. Michael K. DenBleyker	2016(1)
Region 8	Ms. Andrea (Harms) Van Kooten	2016(2)
Region 9	Rev. Pedro Aviles	2017(1)
	Mr. William J. Katt	2015(2)
Region 10	Mr. R. Scott Boot	2015(1)
	Rev. Michael D. Koetje	2016(2)
	Mr. David VanRandwyk	2015(2)
Region 11	Rev. Dr. Randall D. Engle	2015(2)
	Mr. Thomas A. Geelhoed	2015(1)
	Mr. Ray Vander Kooi	2017(1)
Region 12	Dr. David Cok	2017(1)
Alumni	Ms. Mary Bonnema	2016(1)
	Ms. Ruth Palma	2015(2)
	Ms. Paula Wigboldy	2017(2)
At-large	Mr. William J. Boer	2017(1)
	Dr. Philip J. Brondsema	2017(2)
	Mr. Bradley Haverkamp	2015(2)
	Mr. Allen E. Hoekstra	2015(1)
	Ms. Wendy Granger Hofman	2015(1)
	Ms. Marjorie Hage Hoozeboom	2015(1)
	Mr. Craig H. Lubben	2017(2)
	Ms. Christine A. Metzger	2017(3)
	Mr. Thomas J. Nobel, Jr.	2017(3)
	Mr. David Schutt	2016(1)
	Mr. Scott A. Spoelhof	2015(3)
	Dr. Jack Veltkamp	2017(3)

D. Calvin Theological Seminary Board of Trustees

Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Andrew Vander Leek	2016(2)
Region 2	Rev. Victor Y. Ko	2017(2)
Region 3	Ms. Wendy Gritter	2016(2)
Region 4	Rev. M. Jeffery Klingenberg	2017(2)
	Mr. Hank Vander Laan	2015(2)
Region 5	Rev. William S. Wilton	2015(2)
Region 6	Vacant	
Region 7	Rev. John Dykhuis	2015(1)
Region 8	Rev. Timothy Ouwinga	2015(1)
Region 9	Rev. William R. Sytsma	2017(2)
Region 10	Rev. Jaclyn Guikema Busch	2016(1)
Region 11	Rev. Curtis A. Walters	2017(1)
Region 12	Dr. Donald G. Belanus	2016(2)
Regional at-large		
Region 8	Dr. Karen De Mol	2015(1)
Region 10	Mr. Myles Kuperus	2017(2)
Region 11	Mrs. Teresa Renkema	2015(1)

At-large	Mr. Sidney Jansma, Jr. Ms. Susan Keesen Dr. Yudha Thianto	2016(2) 2016(3) 2016(1)
<i>E. Christian Reformed Home Missions Board</i>		
Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Rev. Harvey J. Roosma	2015(2)
Region 2	Rev. Bruce Gritter	2015(2)
Region 3	Ms. Jennifer Young	2017(1)
Region 4	Mr. Gerald Klein-Geltink	Ms. Beth Fellingier 2015(1)
Region 5	Pastor Gerry Muller	Rev. George Den Oudsten 2015(1)
Region 6	Rev. Daniel Brink	Rev. Doug Bouws 2016(2)
Region 7	Rev. B. Joy Engelsman	2015(1)
Region 8	Mr. Kevin Schutte	Rev. Kory L. Plockmeyer 2017(1)
Region 9	Mr. Bruce McMurry	2015(1)
Region 10	Rev. Jeffrey Hough	Rev. James Halstead 2017(1)
Region 11	Rev. Dirk VanEyck	Rev. Nicholas D. Hopkins 2017(1)
Region 12	Dr. Peter Steensma	Ms. Ruth Kuder 2016(1)
At-large	Ms. Sara De Moor Ms. Jenna Huitink Mr. John Hwang Mr. Allan Kramer Mr. Ricardo Tavares Mr. Adam Veenstra	2016(1) 2016(1) 2016(1) 2017(1) 2016(2) 2016(1) 2015(1)
<i>F. Christian Reformed World Missions Board</i>		
Region	Member	Term Expires
Region 1	Ms. Jenny Siebring-deGroot	2015(1)
Region 2	Ms. Cora Rempel	2016(1)
Region 3	Rev. Jacob Boer	2015(2)
Region 4	Rev. A. Carel Geleynse	2017(1)
Canada at-large	Ms. Andrea Bootsma Rev. Thomas Oosterhuis	2016(2) 2015(2)
Region 5	Rev. Bomsu Kim	2015(1)
Region 6	Rev. Elmer Tandayu	2016(1)
Region 7	Rev. John Eigege	2016(1)
Region 8	Ms. Dee Kramer	2015(1)
Region 9	Ms. Lois Ooms	2016(2)
Region 10	Rev. Ronald J. Meyer	2015(1)
Region 11	Mr. Timothy Bosscher	2017(1)
Region 12	Rev. Dr. Ricardo E. Orellana	2017(1)
U.S. at-large	Rev. Eduardo A. Gonzalez Rev. Joseph Kamphuis Dr. William (Bill) Svelmoe Ms. Lisa Thomson	2017(2) 2015(2) 2016(2) 2016(1)
<i>G. World Renew Board</i>		
Classis	Member	Term Expires
Alberta North	Mr. Ray Prins*	2017(1)
Alberta South/ Saskatchewan	Ms. Truusje Genesis*	2015(2)
Arizona	Mr. Dennis Preston	2015(1)
Atlantic Northeast	Ms. Hyacinth Douglas-Bailey*	2016(1)
B.C. North-West	Mr. George Horlings	2015(1)
B.C. South-East	Mr. Rob Aukema	2017(1)
California South	Mr. Joel Verhoef	2015(2)

Central California	Rev. Daniel J. Hutt		2017(2)
Central Plains	Ms. Marilyn Harms		2015(1)
Chatham	Mr. John DeGroot*		2015(1)
Chicago South	Rev. Roger Nelson		2017(2)
Columbia	Ms. Joy Anema*		2015(1)
Eastern Canada	Mr. Nick Van Dyke*		2015(2)
Georgetown	Ms. Jodi Cole Meyer*		2017(2)
Grand Rapids East	Ms. Gail Hanson		2016(1)
Grand Rapids North	Vacant		
Grand Rapids South	Vacant		
Grandville	Mr. Steve Westra*		2016(2)
Greater Los Angeles	Mr. Dick Van Eck, Jr.		2015(2)
Hackensack	Rev. John Algera		2016(2)
Hamilton	Ed Scharringa		2017(1)
Heartland	Dr. Harlan VanderGriend		2017(2)
Holland	Mr. Bruce Heckman		2015(1)
Hudson	Mr. Roy Heerema		2016(1)
Huron	Ms. Eve Mazereeuw		2017(1)
lakota	Rev. Carl H. Bruxvoort		2017(2)
Illiana	Mr. James L. Groen		2017(2)
Kalamazoo	Ms. Cheri Dykstra		2016(1)
Lake Erie	Ms. Mary Rupke		2016(1)
Lake Superior (Canada)	Mr. Don Miedema		2016(1)
Lake Superior (U.S.)	Mr. Michael Pluimer		2015(2)
Minnkota	Ms. Mary Van Hulzen		2016(1)
Muskegon	Mr. Cornelius Van Tol		2016(2)
Niagara	Mr. Lawrence DeGraaf		2017(1)
Northcentral Iowa	Mr. William Janssen		2016(2)
Northern Illinois	Ms. Bonnie Zigterman		2015(2)
Northern Michigan	Mr. Dennis Anderson		2017(2)
Pacific Hanmi	Vacant		
Pacific Northwest	Ms. Kendra Bengelink		2016(1)
Quinte	Mr. Hans Vink		2016(1)
Red Mesa	Mr. Caleb Dickson		2017(2)
Rocky Mountain	Mr. Henk Dykhous		2015(1)
Southeast U.S.	Ms. Erika Izquierdo*		2016(1)
Thornapple Valley	Mr. Nathan Terbeek		2016(1)
Toronto	Ms. Suzanne Christie		2015(1)
Wisconsin	Mr. Garry Friesema		2015(2)
Yellowstone	Mr. Howard Walhof		2017(1)
Zeeland	Mr. Donald Kloosterhouse		2017(2)
Pastoral adviser (U.S.)	Rev. Thea Leunk*		2016(2)
Pastoral adviser (Can.)	Rev. Rita S. Klein-Geltink*		2015(1)
At-large Canada	Mr. John DeWilde*		2016(2)
	Mr. Al Hummel		2015(1)
	Mr. James Joosse*		2017(2)
	Ms. Danielle Kooy Temple		2015(2)
	Ms. Marguerite Ridder*		2016(1)
	Ms. Rebecca Warren		2017(1)
At-large U.S.	Dr. Mariano Avila		2015(1)
	Mr. Lyman Howell*		2015(1)
	Ms. Sarah B. Rinsema-Sybenga		2016(1)
	Rev. Phonh Sinbondit		2015(1)
	Ms. Mary VanBuren (Ritsema)		2016(1)
	Rev. Andrew Woja Henry		2015(1)
Young Adult at-large U.S.	(Calvin College)	Vacant	
	(Dordt College)	Mr. Tyler Couperus	2017(1)
	(Trinity College)	Ms. Ruby Gunderson	2017(1)
Young Adult at-large: Canada	(Redeemer College)	Mr. Jeff Becker	2016(1)
* Also a member of the Board of Directors			
Joint Ministry Council = 7 members from U.S. Board, 8 members from Canada Board			

* Also a member of the Board of Directors
Joint Ministry Council = 7 members from U.S. Board, 8 members from Canada Board

IV. Service committees

A. Candidacy Committee

Rev. Melvin Jackson (2015/2), Rev. Joel Kok (2015/1), Ms. Kristin Pikaart (2015/2), Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma (2016/2), Dr. LaVerne Jordan (2016/1), Rev. Ken Koeman (2016/2), Rev. Fernando Valencia (2016/1), Dr. Amanda Benckhuysen (2017/2), Rev. Chang Guk (Joseph) Byun (2017/1), Rev. David R. Koll (staff), Dr. Steven R. Timmermans (*ex officio* as ED), Rev. Julius T. Medenblik (*ex officio* as Calvin Theological Seminary representative).

B. Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S. Committee

Mr. Scott K. Ritsema (2015/1), Mr. Jon Swets (2015/2), Ms. Chery De Boer (2016/1), Mr. Kenneth J. Stienstra (2016/1), Ms. Andrea P. Kaarsten (2017/2), Mr. Thomas J. Sinke (2017/2), Mr. David E. Veen (*ex officio* member).

C. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee

Rev. Karen Norris (2015/1), Dr. James Payton (2015/1), Dr. Shirley Roels (2015/2), Dr. Robert Sweetman (2015/1), Rev. Emmett Harrison (2016/1), Mr. Anthony Elenbaas (2016/1), Ms. Debra Vasquez (2016/2), Rev. Jay Shim (2017/2), Rev. Andrew E. Beunk (2017/1), Ms. Sharon Jim (2017/1), Dr. Peter Borgdorff (*ex officio* member), Dr. Steven R. Timmermans (*ex officio* member), Dr. Darren C. Roorda (*ex officio* member).

D. Historical Committee

Dr. Robert Schoone-Jongen (2015/1), Rev. Paul Bremer (2016/1), Dr. Kristin Kobes DuMez (2016/1), Dr. Lyle Bierma (2017/2), Dr. Richard Harms, secretary (*ex officio*).

E. Judicial Code Committee

Ms. Deb De Jong (2015/2), Mr. Joel P. Hoekstra (2015/2), Mr. Charles C. Adams (2016/2), Ms. Rita Buitendorp (2016/1), Mr. Ron Nightingale (2016/1), Dr. John Van Schepen (2016/2), Mr. Joel D. Vos (2016/1), Ms. Laura B. Bakker (2017/2), Rev. Henry P. Kranenburg (2017/1).

F. Ministers' Pension Funds committees

Canadian Pension Trustees

Mr. Henry Eygenraam (2015/1), Ms. MaryAnn Kokan-Nyhof (2015/1), Rev. Kevin te Brake (2015/2), Mr. Keith Oosthoek (2016/2), Ms. Cynthia Stutski (2016/1).

U.S. Board of Pensions

Mr. Jack Byeman (2015/2), Mr. Thomas Dykhous (2015/1), Mr. Kurt Knoll (2015/2), Rev. Joel Sheeres (2016/1), Mr. Howard Van Mersbergen (2016/2).

G. Sermons for Reading Services Committee

Rev. Kenneth F. Benjamins (2015/2), Rev. John H. Noordhof (2016/1), Rev. Kory Plockmeyer (2017/1), Rev. Colin Vander Ploeg (2017/1).

V. Synodical study committees and task forces

A. Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture (scheduled to report in 2015)

Dr. Calvin J. Aardsma, Rev. R. Scott Greenway, Ms. Tammy Heidbuurt, Mrs. Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo, Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, Mr. Peter Meerveld,

Mr. William Terpstra, Dr. Steven R. Timmermans, Ms. Katherine Vandergrift, Mr. Colin Watson, Rev. Joel R. Boot (chair).

B. Task Force to Study the Offices of Elder and Deacon (scheduled to report in 2015)

Ms. Amanda Bakale, Rev. Roy Berkenbosch, Dr. Henry De Moor, Dr. Chris Ganski, Mr. Rudy Gonzalez, Dr. Calvin Hoogendoorn, Dr. George Monsma, Rev. Nick Monsma, Ms. Rosetta Polk-Pugh, Dr. Mick Vanden Bosch, Mr. Terry Woodnorth, Mr. Andy Ryskamp (staff).

C. Committee to Study Religious Persecution and Liberty (scheduled to report in 2016)

Prof. Jane Bruin, Dr. Kevin den Dulk, Dr. Rob Joustra, Rev. Jonathan Kim, Ms. Cele Mereness, Dr. James Payton, Jr., Mr. Stephen Snow, Rev. Naji Umran, Rev. Ken Van De Griend, Ms. Ruth Veltkamp.

D. Committee to Provide Pastoral Guidance re Same-sex Marriage (scheduled to report in 2016)

Rev. Rolf Bouma, Mr. Joseph Bowman, Ms. Jessica Driesenga, Ms. Wendy Gritter, Dr. John Rottman, Ms. Julia Smith, Dr. Karl Van Harn, Mr. Curtis Witte.

E. Doctrine of Discovery Task Force (scheduled to report in 2016)

Ms. Carissa Bakker-Johnson, Mr. Mark Charles, Mr. Mike Hogeterp (chair), Mr. Steve Kabetu, Mr. Harold Roscher, Ms. Susie Silversmith, Mr. Peter Vander Meulen.

VI. Recommendation

That synod approve the list of boards and committees.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 73

Rev. Reinier Noppers, fraternal delegate from the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia, shares parting words as he prepares to return home.

ARTICLE 74

The afternoon session adjourns at 5:15 p.m. Rev. Cornelius Pool (California South) leads in closing prayer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 18, 2014 Thirteenth Session

ARTICLE 75

Synod resumes at 7:05 p.m. Elder delegate Dickson Corro (Toronto) leads in opening prayer.

ARTICLE 76

The president of synod, Rev. R. Scott Greenway, on behalf of synod expresses thanks to his fellow officers: Rev. Jake Kuipers, Rev. John Tenyenhuus, and Rev. Jerome Burton. He thanks Mr. Lowell Olivier-Shaw

and the Central College staff for the arrangement and use of their facilities. He also expresses gratitude on behalf of synod to the prayer coordinator, Mr. Marv Goodyk.

The president expresses gratitude to the synod office staff: Ms. Theona Cooke, Ms. Kim De Vries, Ms. Staci De Vries, Ms. Beverly Koetje, Ms. Karen Kusters, Ms. Maribeth Stech, Ms. Dorothy Vandersteen, and Ms. Dorothy Wallinga. He expresses thanks to the IT staff: Mr. Matt Andrews, Mr. Jim Boldenow, Ms. Shirley De Vries, Mr. Austin Rivet, Mr. Lee Schiebel, and Mr. Ben Stephenson; the news office staff: Mr. Henry Hess and Mr. Tim Postuma; and the *Banner* staff: Rev. Robert De Moor, Mr. Charley Honey, Ms. Karen Huttenga, Ms. Gayla Postma, Ms. Roxanne Van Farowe, and Rev. George Vink.

The president of synod expresses appreciation for the faculty advisers, young adult representatives, fraternal delegates, presidents of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary (Dr. Michael K. Le Roy and Rev. Julius T. Medenblik), and staff consultants: Mr. John Bolt, Dr. Peter Borgdorff, Ms. Diane Recker, Dr. Darren Roorda, Dr. Steven Timmermans, and Mr. Ben Vandezande.

The president expresses the gratitude of synod delegates and attendees, as well as of the denomination, to Rev. Joel R. Boot for his leadership in his role as executive director.

The vice president, Rev. Jake Kuipers, expresses thanks on behalf of synod to the president, Rev. R. Scott Greenway, for his leadership during Synod 2014.

Thanks are also expressed to the worship team; to Rev. Sheila Holmes, BOT president; to first-time delegates, and to the families and local churches who supported those in attendance at synod throughout the week.

The executive director expresses the gratitude of synod to the four officers and presents them with gifts.

ARTICLE 77

Synod 2014 concludes its business and spends time in worship. Delegates sing “Better Is One Day” and engage in a call to worship from Psalm 103:1-2, 20-22. The mutual greeting among the delegates comes from Philippians 1:2: “Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” Delegates sing “Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah,” and “God, We Sing Your Glorious Praises.” Delegates respond with a call to confession and prayer for the church, recognizing the assurance of Christ as our peace. All sing “Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God.”

Rev. R. Scott Greenway reads from John 1:14, reflecting on “speaking words of truth, grace, and love.” He leads in closing prayer. Delegates respond by singing “In Christ Alone.”

Delegates spend time in prayer in small groups, concluding with the singing of “O Lord, Hear My Prayer.” Rev. Greenway offers the sending benediction, and delegates sing “We Receive Your Blessing.”

Worship team: liturgist, Ron Chu; keyboard, Cindy Gritters; vocals, Joyce Borger, Nicole Veenkamp, and Nicholas Chuba; guitar, Josh Van Til and Kyle Haak.

ARTICLE 78

Synod 2014 is adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY SHARES AND RECOMMENDED AGENCIES FOR 2015

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY SHARES AND RECOMMENDED AGENCIES FOR 2015

I. Denominational Ministry Shares for 2015

AGENCY	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Area 7	Area 8
Base amount per member	304.52	304.52	304.52	304.52	304.52	304.52	304.52	304.52
Calvin College*	85.95	54.21	35.04	8.61	45.93	16.69	7.15	2.86
Total ministry shares per member	390.47	358.73	339.56	313.13	350.45	321.21	311.67	307.38

*Areas which benefit from a ministry shares reduction should employ the following monies saved to finance their area colleges:
Per professing member - 12.33 31.53 57.93 20.63 49.83 59.33 63.63

Classis Area Table for Calvin College amount:

AREA 1	Grand Rapids East; Grand Rapids North; Grand Rapids South; Grandville; Thornapple Valley
AREA 2	Georgetown; Holland; Kalamazoo; Lake Erie; Muskegon; Northern Michigan; Zeeland
AREA 3	Chicago South; Illiana; Northern Illinois; Southeast U.S.; Wisconsin
AREA 4	Central Plains; Heartland; Lakota; Lake Superior; Minnkota; Northcentral Iowa
AREA 5	Atlantic Northeast; Hackensack; Hudson
AREA 6	Arizona; Columbia; California South; Central California; Greater Los Angeles; Pacific Hanmi; Pacific Northwest; Red Mesa; Rocky Mountain; Yellowstone
AREA 7	Chatham; Eastern Canada; Hamilton; Huron; Niagara; Quinte; Toronto
AREA 8	Alberta North; Alberta South/Saskatchewan; B.C. North-West; B.C. South-East

Denominational ministry shares allocation

	2014 ministry shares allocation eff. 7/01/2014	2015 ministry shares allocation eff. 1/01/2015
BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL	\$ 43.97	\$ 43.97
CALVIN COLLEGE*	31.60	31.60
CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	35.91	35.91
HOME MISSIONS	46.88	46.88
WORLD MISSIONS	60.56	60.56
WORLD RENEW	-	-
SYNODICAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: General Administration Synodical Services Board of Trustees	32.28	32.28
FAITH FORMATION & CHURCH SUPPORT MINISTRIES: <i>The Banner</i> Chaplaincy and Care Ministry Committee for Contact with the Government Disability Concerns Pastor-Church Relations Race Relations Safe Church Ministry ServiceLink Social Justice and Hunger Action Urban Aboriginal Ministries	81.23	81.23
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUND	0.36	3.69
	<u>\$ 332.79</u>	<u>\$ 336.12</u>

*Represents the composite rate. Actual rate varies by area.

II. Agencies recommended for financial support in 2015

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. Distance Education 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. Faith Formation and Church Support Ministries—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. Race Relations 856901285 RR0002
 - f. Safe Church Ministry 856901285 RR0002
 - g. ServiceLink 856901285 RR0002
 - h. Social Justice and Hunger Action 856901285 RR0002
 - i. Urban Aboriginal Ministries 856901285 RR0002
8. World Renew—one offering per quarter because World Renew
receives no ministry-share support 118857366 RR0001

B. Denominationally related or affiliated agencies recommended for one or more offerings

1. Communities First Association NA
2. Diaconal Ministries Canada 89309 3377 RR0001
3. Dynamic Youth Ministries
 - a. GEMS 88992 0799 RR0001
 - b. Calvinist Cadet Corps 88992 0799 RR0001
 - c. Youth Unlimited 88992 0799 RR0001
4. Friendship Ministries (Friendship Ministries - Canada) 11893 2375 RR0001
5. Partners Worldwide 83675 7807 RR0001
6. 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. Ascending Leaders
 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. Kids Hope USA
 10. The King's University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
 11. Kuyper College
 12. Langham Partnership (formerly John Stott Ministries)
 13. Redeemer University College (through the U.S. Foundation)
 14. Rehoboth Christian School
 15. Trinity Christian College
 16. Worldwide Christian Schools
 17. Zuni Christian Mission School
- C. Miscellaneous agencies*
1. Association for a More Just Society
 2. Audio Scripture Ministries
 3. Bible League International
 4. Care of Creation
 5. Center for Public Justice
 6. Crossroad Bible Institute
 7. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (endorsed for local specified staff support only)
 8. Middle East Reformed Fellowship, U.S. (MERF)
 9. Mission India
 10. Talking Bibles
 11. The Tract League
 12. World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)
 13. Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc.

Canadian agencies

- A. Benevolent agencies* Canadian Business Number
1. Beginnings Family Services 11880 2388 RR0001
 2. Homestead Christian Care 13129 5198 RR0001
- B. Educational agencies*
1. Dordt College (per Schedule VIII)
 2. Edu Deo Ministries (formerly Worldwide Christian Schools –
Canada) 88945 9970 RR0001
 3. Institute for Christian Studies. 10750 8434 RR0001
 4. The King's University College 10808 5911 RR0001
 5. Kuyper College (per Schedule VIII)
 6. Redeemer University College. 12331 3660 RR0001
 7. Trinity Christian College (per Schedule VIII)

C. *Miscellaneous agencies*

1. A Rocha Canada.	86663 8943 RR0001
2. Bible League of Canada	10822 2084 RR0001
3. Canadian Council of Churches	11883 0512 RR0001
4. Cardus (Work Research o/a Cardus)	11892 9207 RR0001
5. Citizens for Public Justice (CJL Foundation)	89438 3512 RR0001
6. Evangelical Fellowship of Canada	10735 3922 RR0001
7. Gideons International in Canada	10808 2991 RR0001
8. InterVarsity Christian Fellowship of Canada	10751 3160 RR0001
9. Middle East Reformed Fellowship, Canada (MERF)	89085 1058 RR0001
10. World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC)	
11. 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 2014*

APSS – Accelerated Pre-Seminary Studies Program
 BAC – *Banner* Advisory Council
 BOT – Board of Trustees
 BTGMI – Back to God Ministries International
 CAMC – Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee
 CANAAC – Caribbean and North America Area Council
 CCAF – *Confessional Commitments and Academic Freedom at Calvin College*
 CCC – Canadian Council of Churches
 CCCS – Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship
 CCG – Committee for Contact with the Government
 CCIT – Church Connection Initiative at Trinity
 CCRCC – Council of Christian Reformed Churches in Canada
 CCT-USA – Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A.
 CFA – Communities First Association
 CFGB – Canadian Foodgrains Bank
 CIDA – Canadian International Development Agency
 CJM – Congregation Justice Mobilization
 CLC – Christian Learning Center
 CMD – Canadian Ministries Director
 CMI – Church Multiplication Initiative
 CMT – Canadian Ministries Team
 CPRSE – Centre for Philosophy, Religion, and Social Ethics
 CRC – Christian Reformed Church
 CRCNA – Christian Reformed Church in North America
 CRHM – Christian Reformed Home Missions
 CRWM – Christian Reformed World Missions
 CTS – Calvin Theological Seminary
 CWGs – Collaborative Work Groups
 DED – Deputy Executive Director
 DFA – Director of Finance and Administration
 DFATD – Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (Canada)
 DLPG – Diversity in Leadership Planning Group
 DO – Denominational Office
 DORR – Dance of Racial Reconciliation
 DRC – Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa
 DRS – Disaster Response Services

DSS – Director of Synodical Services
 DYM – Dynamic Youth Ministries
 ECO – Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians
 ED – Executive Director
 EFC – Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
 EFD – Ecumenical Faith Declaration
 EFICOR – Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief
 EIRC – Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee
 ELCA – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 EPC – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 EPCE – Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Egypt
 EPMC – Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidacy
 EPTS – Evangelical Presbyterian Theological Seminary
 ESM – *Expanded Statement of Mission*
 FTE – Full-time equivalent
 GCF – Global Christian Forum
 GDUF – *God's Diverse and Unified Family*
 GEMS – Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior
 GKN – Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland
 GRACE – Grand Rapids Area Center for Ecumenism
 HR – Human Resources
 ICCRD – Christian Reformed Church in the Dominican Republic
 ICS – Institute for Christian Studies
 IGCPR – Institute for Global Church Planting and Renewal
 IPRM – Presbyterian Reformed Church of Mexico
 IRM – International Relief Manager
 JCC – Judicial Code Committee
 JMMC – Joint-Ministries Management Committee
 KCVS – King's Centre for Visualization in Science
 KEZ – Kingdom Enterprise Zone
 KIM – Korean Institute for Ministry
 LDN – Leadership Development Network
 LEAP – Linked Engagement Action Programs
 LEAP – Livelihoods for Earthquake-Affected People
 MERF – Middle East Reformed Fellowship
 MLC – Ministries Leadership Council
 MLT – Ministries Leadership Team
 NAE – National Association of Evangelicals
 NIV – New International Version
 OPCW – Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
 OSJ – Office of Social Justice and Hunger Action
 PCN – Protestant Church in the Netherlands
 PCR – Pastor-Church Relations
 PCUSA – Presbyterian Church in the USA
 PLC – Placement, Learning, and Care
 PPC – Planning and Priorities Committee
 PSC – Professional Status Committee
 RBA – Reformed Benefits Association
 RCA – Reformed Church in America
 RCJ – Reformed Church in Japan

REC – Reformed Ecumenical Council
 SCE – Sustaining Congregational Excellence
 SCM – Safe Church Ministry
 SCORR – Synodical Committee on Race Relations
 SMART – Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Timely
 SMCC – Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee
 SMT – Staff Ministry Team
 SPACT – Strategic Planning and Adaptive Change Team
 SPE – Sustaining Pastoral Excellence
 SPTG – Strategic Planning Task Group
 SRI – System of Rice Intensification
 STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics
 STM – Specialized Transitional Ministry
 SWAP – Serve with a Purpose
 TFRSC – Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture
 TLT – Timothy Leadership Training
 TLTI – Timothy Leadership Training Institute
 UCC – United Church of Christ
 URCSA – Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa
 WCRC – World Communion of Reformed Churches
 WR – World Renew
 WTC – Widening the Circle
 WTS – Western Theological Seminary
 WWCS – Worldwide Christian Schools
 YU – Youth Unlimited

A

Aboriginal Ministries. *See* Urban Aboriginal Ministries.

Abuse Prevention. *See* Safe Church Ministry.

Acts of Synod, 33

Addresses to synod

Chung, Rev. Moses, **574**

Boot, Rev. Joel R., **556**

Escardó, Gustavo García, **563**

Holmes, Rev. Sheila E., **570**

Kromminga, Rev. David, **576**

Medenblik, Rev. Julius T., **562**

Noppers, Rev. Reinier, **584**

Reformed Collaborative, presentation of the, **504-505**

Roorda, Dr. Darren C., **540**

Ryu, Rev. Roger, **568**

Selles, Dr. Kurt, **565**

Advisers to synod. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of; Young adult representatives.

Deacon advisers, 28, **496, 576**

Ethnic advisers, 28, **501, 537-39, 576**

Faculty advisers, **496, 499**

Advisory committees, **497-99**

Affiliation with denominations in ecclesiastical fellowship. *See* Overture 17.

Agencies. *See* Recommended agencies/causes.

Agenda for Synod, 33
 All Nations Heritage Week, 233-34
 Antiracism. *See* Race Relations.
 Appeal: Mr. and Mrs. Weber, 572
 Appointments. *See also* Synodical appointments.
 Interim. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.
 To CRC ministries. *See* Board of Trustees.
 Arabic-language ministry, 122, 127, 286
 Archives. *See* Historical Committee.
 Audio recording of synod, 9-10, 497

B

Back to God Ministries International, 29, 121-30, 500-501, 505, 548, 565, 579-80
 75th-anniversary celebration, 121
 Board, 128-29, 502, 579-80
 Cooperative organizations, 127
 Finances, 129-30. *See also* Financial Statements.
 Ministries, 121-27
 Offerings for, 130, 500-501
 Presentation at synod, 565
 Salary disclosure, 129
Banner, The, 31, 41, 84-85, 387-403, 408-10, 413, 421-25, 496, 572-74, 585.
 See also Overtures 8-13; Communications 1-3.
 Belgic Confession. *See* Forms of Unity.
 Belhar Confession, 155, 157. *See also* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
 "Better Together" Initiative. *See* Pastor-Church Relations.
 Binationality discussion. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Binationality discussion and report.
 Board governance. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters; Study committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture.
 Board of Trustees, 21-118, 222, 232, 388, 429-46, 458, 500-502, 505-506, 536-41, 551-53, 556-60, 563-65, 567, 569-70, 572-74, 576, 579. *See also* Study committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture; Overtures 8-14; Communications 1-3.
 Board membership, 22, 38, 429-30, 502, 579
 Financial matters. *See also* Recommended agencies/causes.
 Christian Reformed Church Foundation, 37
 Condensed financial statements, 41, 88-118, 473-88, 552
 Investments, 436, 442-46
 Ministry share, 33, 37, 432, 437, 552
 Salary disclosure, 23-24, 38, 436, 438, 551-52
 Polity matters
 Advisers to synod, role of, 28-29, 38-41, 52-71, 536-40. *See also* Advisers to synod; Young adult representatives.
 Agency presentations, 29, 565, 574
 Banner editor and editorial council, 31, 41, 84-85, 572-74. *See also* Overtures 8-13; Communications 1-3.
 Binationality discussion and report, 432, 440-42

Board governance, training in, **564**
 Board nominations, 25-27, 429-30, 437, **502, 579**
 Canadian ministries director search, nomination, appointment, ratification, 30-31, 429, 431, 437, **540-41, 577**
 Classes that have declared women officebearers may not be delegated to classis, 25, **501**
 Classis Minnkota, transfers to, 29
 CRCNA-Canada Corporation mandate, 30
 Deacon advisers, 28, **496**. *See also* Advisers to synod; Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of; Study committees.
 Diversity efforts reports, 27, 45-52
 Diversity in Leadership Planning Group implementation of directives, 45-52
 Doctrine of Discovery Task Force, 31, 41, **540**
 Ethnic advisers, 28, **501, 537-40, 576**. *See also* Advisers to synod; Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of.
 Executive Director search, nomination, leadership transition plan, appointment, 24, 38, 42-45, 431, **505-506, 556**. *See also* Study committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture.
 Interim appointments, 24, 38, **505**
 Joint resolution with RCA, 431, 437, **501-504**. *See also* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee, Reformed Church in America.
 Joint sessions of Synod 2014: 431, 437, **493, 501-505**
 Judicial Code Committee, 29-30, 41, **508, 572, 583**
 Judicial Code review, 30, 41, 72-84, **569-70**
 Leadership development, 32
 Leadership Exchange dissolution, 32
 Nominating committee, development of, **563**
 Publications and services, 32-33
 Rules for Synodical Procedure, proposed changes, 41, 71-72, 75, **537-40**
 changes re advisers to synod, **537-40**
 Science and theology resources list relating especially to creation, fall, original sin, atonement, **567**
 Sermons for Reading Services Committee, change of membership, 432, 437, **502, 583**
 Study committees, appointment of, 29, 41, 71-72, **540**
 Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture, 31, 46, **563-64**. *See also* Study committees.
 Young adult representatives, 28, **496, 576**. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of.
 Program matters
 Agency, institution, and specialized ministry reports, 36, 119-241, 447-61
 Collaborative Work Groups, 35-36, 432
 Faith Alive Christian Resources, changes, 34-35, 432, **573**
 Faith formation, 34-36, 432. *See also* Study Committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture.
 Disability Concerns recommendations, 36-37, 41, 85-87, **557-59**
 revised mandate, 36-37, 41, **557**
 Ministry Plan of the Christian Reformed Church, 33-34
 Boards and committees, **578-84**

C

- Calvin College, 131-76, 447-49, **539, 542-43, 580**. *See also* Overtures 14, 18.
 - Administrative appointment, 448-49, **542**
 - Articles of Incorporation, 448-49, **543**
 - Board of trustees, 132-36, 448-49, **502, 580**
 - Confessional Commitments and Academic Freedom at Calvin College*, 132-33, 136-76, **542**
 - Creation, sin, and other doctrinal teachings, resources on. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Science and theology resources; Overture 18.
 - Faculty, 136, 447-49, **542-43**
 - Promotions, 136, 447, 449, **542**
 - Reappointments, 136, 447, 449, **542**
 - Recognition, 447, 449, **542-43**
 - Retirements, 447, 449, **542-43**
 - Finances, 131-32, 135-36, 449. *See also* Financial Statements.
 - President's report, 131-32
- Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 127
- Calvin Theological Seminary, 177-81, 450-55, **501, 537, 539, 543-44, 562, 567, 571, 580-81**
 - Administration, 177-78
 - Board of trustees, 177, 181, 450, **502, 580-81**
 - Candidates. *See* Candidacy Committee.
 - Creation, sin, and other doctrinal teachings, resources on. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Science and theology resources; Overture 18.
 - Distinguished Alumni, 450
 - Faculty and staff appointments, 178, 179-80, 450-55, **544, 571**
 - Finance, 181. *See also* Financial Statements.
 - Graduates, 450
 - Offerings for, 181, **501**
 - Position openings, 450
 - Program highlights, 178-80
 - Retirement, 178, 181, **543**
 - Students, 180-81
- Calvinist Cadet Corps, 312, **560-61**
- Campus ministry. *See* Christian Reformed Home Missions.
- Canadian Council of Churches, 239, 255, 257-58, 286, 435, 438, 471, **552**
- Canadian Ministries, 30-31, 33, 257-58, 429, 431, 437, **540-41, 557, 560, 577**. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Binationality discussion and report.
- Christian Stewardship Services, 37
- Committee for Contact with the Government (Centre for Public Dialogue), 227-28, 241, **557**
- Director, 30-31, 33, 257-58, 429, 431, 437, **540-41, 577**
 - appointment, ratification, 431, **541**
- Ecumenical relations, 257-58. *See also* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
- Finances, 111. *See also* Financial Statements.
- ServiceLink. *See* ServiceLink.
- Urban Aboriginal Ministries, 240-41, **560**
- Candidacy Committee, 245-54, 386, 465-68, **506, 544-46, 583**
 - Call process, guidance regarding, 248, 250, 252, **544**

Candidates, 465-66, 468, **506, 545-46**
 Church Order Article 8, special cases regarding, 467-68, **546**
 Commissioned pastors, 248-50, 254. *See also* Synodical Deputies, Work of.
 Continuing education for pastors, 250, 252, **544**
 Mandate, 245
Manual for Synodical Deputies, proposed change regarding candidates on
 loan, 250-53, **544-45**
 Membership, 245, 252, **502, 583**
 Nonresident EPMC program, 246
 Ordination trends and statistics, 249-50, 254
 Student fund survey, 246-48
 Training and orientation, 248-49
 Candidates. *See* Candidacy Committee, Candidates.
 Canons of Dort. *See* Forms of Unity.
 Causes recommended for financial support. *See* Recommended agencies/causes.
 Centre for Public Dialogue. *See* Canadian Ministries, Committee for Contact
 with the Government.
 Chaplaincy and Care Ministry, Office of, 224-27, 253, **575**
 Chinese-language ministry, 122, 249
 Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A., 257, 259, 262, 286, 469
 Christian Reformed Church Foundation, 37
 Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund, Inc., U.S., 205-206, **502, 583**
 Christian Reformed Home Missions, 29, 35-36, 182-92, 248, **501, 574-75, 581**
 Board matters, 190-91, **502, 581**
 Campus ministries, 186-87
 Church multiplication initiative and Kingdom Enterprise Zones, 184, 189,
505
 Church planting and renewal, 183-84
 Collaborative efforts, 188-89
 Discipleship, 186
 Engaging with clusters, classes, communities, 188
 Ethnic ministry council, 184-85
 Finances, 191-92. *See also* Financial Statements.
 Global Coffee Break, 189
 Leadership development, 186
 Mandate, 182, 190
 Ministries, 182-90
 Offerings for, 192, **501**
 Presentation at synod, **574**
 Regional leadership, 184-85
 Salary disclosure, 191
 Strengthening congregations, 184
 Christian Reformed World Missions, 193-204, 312, 319, 456-60, **501, 550-51,**
556, 581. *See also* Overtures 15-16.
 Board matters, 202-204, **502, 581**
 Collaborative efforts, 194
 Discussion regarding Overtures 15-16: 456-60, **550-51**
 Finance, 204. *See also* Financial Statements.
 Ministries, 193-201

Mission and ministry stories, 195-201
 Asia, 196-201
 Africa, 196, 200
 Europe, 199-200
 Latin America, 195, 197-98
 Offerings for, 204, **501**
 Placement, learning, and care, 201-202
 Recognition of service, 194
 Salary information, 204
 Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (renamed). *See* World Renew.
Church Order and Its Supplements, 32. *See also* Church Order; Church Order Supplement.
 Church Order deliberation and use at synod. *See also* Church Order Supplement; Overture 17.
 Administrative actions according to
 Article 8: **510-12**. *See also* Candidacy Committee.
 Article 10: **512-18**
 Article 12-c: **518-21**
 Article 13-c: **521-22**
 Article 14-b: **522-23**
 Article 14-c: **523-24**
 Article 14-d: **524**
 Article 14-e: **524**
 Article 17-a: **524-26**
 Article 17-c: **527-29**
 Article 17-d: **529**
 Article 23-a: **529-35**
 Article 23-d: **535-36**
 Articles 82-83: **536**
 Article 84: **536**
 Church Order Supplement, discussion, study, revision. *See also* Overture 17.
 Article 8, D, 7: 267-68, **564-65**
 Article 30-c: 41, 72-84, **569-70**
 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, 25, **501**
 Collaborative Work Groups. *See* Board of Trustees, Program matters.
 Commissioned pastors, **529-35**. *See also* Candidacy Committee.
 Committee for Contact with the Government. *See* Canadian Ministries.
 Committees. *See* Advisory committees; Service committees; Study committees; Synodical committees.
 Communications
 1: Classis Alberta South/Saskatchewan, 421-22, **572-74**
 2: Classis Eastern Canada, 422-23, **572-74**
 3: Council of Living Hope CRC, Sarnia, Ontario, 423-25, **572-74**
 Confessions. *See* Forms of Unity.
 Confidentiality of executive sessions, 9, **497**
 Consolidated Group Insurance. *See* Pensions and Insurance.
 Convening churches of synod, 7, **577**

Covenant for Officebearers, 133, 139, 157, 170, 270. *See also* Overture 13.
Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO). *See* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
Creation care, 239-40, **560**
Creation, sin, and other doctrinal teachings, resources on. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Science and theology resources; Overture 18.
Culture, Task Force Reviewing Structure and. *See* Study committees.

D

Deacon advisers. *See* Advisers to synod.
Deacon, Office of. *See* Study committees.
Declaration of Agreement, Public. *See* Public Declaration of Agreement.
Delegates to Synod 2014: 13-17, **494-95**
Disability Concerns, Office of, 36-37, 41, 85-87, 228-31, 281, **505, 557-59**
revised mandate, 36-37, 41, **557**
Disaster Response. *See* World Renew.
Diversity in Leadership Planning Group II. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Diversity efforts reports.
Doctrine of Discovery Task Force. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.
Donations, management of. *See* Overture 14.
Dordt College, 301-302, **546, 577**
Dynamic Youth Ministries, 312-14, **560-61**

E

Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee, 255-86, 469-71, **500, 502-505, 564-66, 576, 583**
Belhar Confession, 255, 261, 269-74, 469-71, **565**
Bilateral relationships, 259-260, 267-69
Christian-Muslim dialogue, 471
Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, proposed ecclesiastical fellowship with, 259-60, 471, **566**
Dialogue with Roman Catholic Church, 260-61
Ecclesiastical fellowship, 259-60, 262-67, 276-77, 470-71, **565-66**
Ecumenical Faith Declaration, criteria of, 261-62, 269-75, 469-70, **565**
Ecumenical organizations, membership in, **576**
Ecumenical relations, 257, 267, 276-77, 469-71. *See also* Ecumenical representatives and observers; Fraternal delegates.
Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Egypt, proposed ecclesiastical fellowship with, 260, 471, **566**
Expressions of gratitude, 267, **564**
Formal dialogue, 277
Fraternal delegates, 257, 469, **496, 502, 563, 584**. *See also* Ecumenical representatives and observers; Fraternal delegates.
Hospitality Committee. *See* Hospitality Committee.
Interfaith dialogue, 261
Membership, 255-56, 267, **502, 583**
Multilateral relationships, 258-59
Reformed Church in America. *See also* Reformed Church in America.
Joint resolution with, 262-67, **500, 502-504**

Orderly Exchange of Ordained Ministers with, 267-68, **564-65**
 Reformed Collaborative, The, 278-86, **504-505**
 Protestant Church in the Netherlands
 Memorandum of Understanding with, 260, 267-69, 471, **565**
 Proposed ecclesiastical fellowship with, 470-71, **565**
 Ecumenical Faith Declaration. *See* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
 Ecumenical representatives and observers. *See also* Fraternal delegates.
 From an ecumenical organization
 Christian Churches Together, Rev. Carlos Malavé, 469
 To ecumenical organizations
 Canadian Council of Churches, Rev. Peter Slofstra, 257
 Christian Churches Together in the U.S.A. (CCT-USA), Rev. Joel Boot and Dr. Peter Borgdorff, 257
 Commission for Christian Unity, Dr. James Payton, 257
 Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, Dr. William T. Koopmans, 257
 Global Christian Forum, Rev. Joel Boot (CRCNA representative) and Dr. Peter Borgdorff (member of North America Foundation of GCF), 257
 National Association of Evangelicals, Rev. Joel Boot, 257
 Sojourners, Rev. Peter Borgdorff (board member), 257
 World Communion of Reformed Churches, Dr. Peter Borgdorff (member of executive committee) and Dr. William T. Koopmans (adviser), 257
 Elder and deacon study. *See* Study committees.
 Employee benefit programs. *See* Pensions and Insurance.
 English-language ministry (ReFrame Media), 122-24
 Ethnic advisers, 28, **501, 537-39, 576**. *See also* Advisers to synod;
 Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of.
 Evangelical Fellowship of Canada, 239, 257-58, 286
 Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Egypt. *See* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.
 Executive director. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.
 Executive sessions of synod, 9, **497, 508, 571**

F

Faculty advisers. *See* Advisers to synod. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of.
 Faith Alive Christian Resources, 34-35, 194, 233-34, 265, 278, 285, 432, **573**
 Faith formation, 34-36, 309, 432. *See also* Financial statements;
 Study committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture.
 Financial statements, 88-118, 473-88, **552**. *See also* Board of Trustees, Financial matters; Ministry share; Pensions and Insurance; Recommended agencies/causes.
 Five Streams ministry priorities. *See* Study committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture.
 Form of Subscription, 133, 139, 148. *See also* Covenant for Officebearers.
 Forms of Unity, 145, 169, 469-70. *See also* Public Declaration of Agreement with the Beliefs of the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Fraternal delegates, 257, 469, **496, 502, 563, 584**

From churches, organizations

Christian Reformed Churches in Australia, Rev. Reinier Noppers, 469, **496, 584**

Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians, Rev. Laura A. Smit, 469, **496**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 469

Presbyterian Church (USA), 469

Reformed Churches in Argentina, Mr. Gustavo García Escardó, 469, **496, 563**

United Church of Christ in the United States, 469

World Communion of Reformed Churches, Rev. Chris Ferguson, **502**

To churches, organizations

Korean Presbyterian Church (Hapdong), Rev. Joel Boot and Dr. Jay Shim, 257

Reformed Church in America, Rev. Joel Boot, 257

Reformed Church in Japan, Rev. Jeong Gho, 257

World Communion of Reformed Churches (CANAAC – regional meeting), Ms. Rebecca Warren and Dr. William T. Koopmans, 257

French-language ministry, 124

Friendship Ministries, 230, 315-16, **561**

G

Gay marriage. *See* Study committees.

Global Christian Forum, 257, 259, 286

GEMS Girls' Clubs, 312-13, **561**

H

Heidelberg Catechism. *See* Forms of Unity.

Hindi and related languages ministry, 125, 127

Historical Committee, 287-95, **502, 555, 583**

Recognition of individuals, 288-92

Recognition of ministries, 292-94

HIV-AIDS ministries, 209-10

Homosexuality. *See* Study committees.

Hospitality Committee, **500**

I

Immigration awareness, 215, 234, 239-40, 259, 274, **560**

Indonesian-language ministry, 125, 127, 286

Institute for Christian Studies, 303-304, **546-47**

Insurance. *See* Pensions and Insurance.

Intellectual disability. *See* Friendship Ministries.

Interchurch Relations. *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, 125, 196

Joint resolution with RCA, 262-67, 431, 437, **500, 502-504**. *See also* Reformed Church in America.

Judicial Code Committee. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.

Judicial Code review. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.

Justice efforts, 27, 30, 35, 72, 75-76, 171, 173, 194, 207-208, 211-12, 218, 227-28, 230-31, 233-41, 258, 272, 285-86, 303, 314, 432, **557, 560**

K

KAİROS – Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, 239, 258

King's University College, The, 305-306, **547**

Korean-language ministry, 127, 185, 196, 229, 245, 248-49, **568**

Kuyper College, 307-308, **547**

L

Leadership development, 32, 67, 186-87, 207-208, 225, 280-82

Leadership Exchange. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.

Leadership Planning Group II, Diversity in. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Diversity efforts reports.

Loan Fund. *See* Christian Reformed Church Loan Fund.

M

Manual for Synodical Deputies, 33

proposed change to, 250-53, **544-45**

Mental (intellectual) disability. *See* Friendship Ministries.

Ministerial Information Service. *See* Pastor-Church Relations.

Ministers. *See also* Candidacy Committee, Candidates; Commissioned pastors; Synodical deputies, Work of.

Admitted via classical examination of candidates, **512-18**

Approved for specialized service, **518-21**

Approved from other denominations, **510-12**

Declared not eligible for call, **524, 536**

Deposed, **536**

Granted extension as eligible for call, **527-28**

Loaned to another denomination, **521-22**

Released from ministerial service, **524-26**

Released from office, **522-24, 528-29**

Retirements, **508-509**

Ministers' Pension. *See* Pensions and Insurance.

Ministries Leadership Council, 33

Ministry associates (renamed); *see* Commissioned pastors. *See also* Candidacy Committee.

Ministry Plan of the Christian Reformed Church. *See* Board of Trustees, Program matters.

Ministry share, 33, 37, 432, 437, **552**. *See also* Financial statements.

Minutes Review Committee, **500**

Missionary support. *See* Overtures 15-16; Christian Reformed World Missions, Discussion regarding Overtures 15-16.

N

National Association of Evangelicals, 257, 259

Nominating committee. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters;
Study committees, Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture.

O

Officers and functionaries for Synod 2015: 577

Offices of elder and deacon study. *See* Study committees.

Overtures

1. Permit the Transfer of East Bay Korean CRC of El Cerrito, California, to Classis Central California, 383, **507**
2. Permit the Transfer of East Bay Korean Church of El Cerrito, California, to Classis Central California, 383, **507**
3. Permit the Transfer of Three Congregations from Classis Pacific Hanmi to Classis Central California, 384, **507**
4. Permit the Transfer of Three Congregations to Classis Central California from Classis Pacific Hanmi, 384, **507**
5. Permit the Transfer of Terra Ceia CRC, Terra Ceia, North Carolina, from Classis Hackensack to Classis Southeast U.S., 384, **507-508**
6. Approve the Transfer of Terra Ceia CRC, Terra Ceia, North Carolina, from Classis Hackensack to Classis Southeast U.S., 385, **507-508**
7. Permit Classis Pacific Hanmi to Divide to Form Two Classes, 385-37, **567-68**
8. Mandate *The Banner* to Include in Every Issue a Segment That Clearly Teaches the Truths of Our Confessions, 387-88, **572-74**
9. Review the Membership of the *Banner* Editorial Council and Review the Editorial Policy of *The Banner*, 388-90, **572-74**
10. Remove the Current Editor of *The Banner*, Retract Two Articles, and Publish Articles That Faithfully Reflect the Bible and the CRC's Doctrinal Standards, 390-95, **572-74**
11. Remove and Replace the Editor-in-chief of *The Banner*, 396-97, **572-74**
12. Repudiate the Unbiblical and Contra-Confessional Content of Articles Published in *The Banner*, and Replace the Current Editor and Editorial Council of *The Banner*, 398-400, **572-74**
13. Direct the BOT to Create an Editorial Policy for *The Banner* That Requires Adherence to the Covenant for Officebearers, 400-402, **572-74**
14. Appoint a Study Committee to Provide Guidelines for Fiscal Management of Donations by CRC Agencies and Institutions, 402-403, **553-54**
15. Re-examine Missionary Support Policies, Specifically the Policy That Requires Missionaries to Raise 90 Percent of Their Support, 403-404, **551**
16. Establish a Review Committee to Study Two Aspects of Christian Reformed World Missions, 404-405, **551**
17. Amend CRC Church Order Article 38 to Include Provisions for Congregations to Affiliate with Denominations in Ecclesiastical Fellowship, 405-408, **568-69**

18. Establish a Study Committee to Look into Recent Theologies That Teach That the Genesis Accounts of the Creation and Fall of Humankind Are Not Historical Events and That Adam and Eve Are Literary Rather Than Historical Characters, 408-20, **566-67**

P

Partners Worldwide, 317-18, **549**

Pastor-Church Relations, Office of, 231-33, 252, **544, 575**

“Better Together” Initiative, 232, **575**

Ministerial Information Service, 232-33, **575**

Sustaining Congregational Excellence, 233

Sustaining Pastoral Excellence, 233

Pensions and Insurance, 219-33, **553, 583**

Board matters, 219, **583**

Consolidated Group Insurance, 222

Employees’ retirement plans, 221-22

Financial disclosures, 223. *See also* Financial Statements.

Ministers’ pension plans, 219-21, 223, **553**

Reformed Benefits Association, 222

Persecution, religious. *See* Study committees.

Portuguese-language ministry, 126

Protestant Church in the Netherlands. *See* Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.

Public Declaration of Agreement with the Beliefs of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, **496**. *See also* Forms of Unity.

R

Race Relations, Office of, 27, 233-35, **559**

Recommended agencies/causes, 433-38, **552-53, 591-93**

Redeemer University College, 309-10, **547**

Reformed Benefits Association. *See* Pensions and Insurance.

Reformed Church in America, 10, 257, 262-68, 270, 277-86, 431, 437, 469, **493, 496, 500, 503-505, 559**

Collaborative areas of ministry with CRC, 32, 36-37, 47, 85-87, 122-23, 125, 183, 184, 186, 189-90, 204, 222, 226, 228-31, 233-34, 250-51, 262-68, 278-86, 319, 469, **503-505, 559**

Joint resolution with CRCNA, 262-67, 431, 437, **500, 503-504**

Reformed confessions. *See* Forms of Unity.

Religious persecution and liberty. *See* Study committees.

Resolution with RCA. *See* Joint Resolution with RCA.

Restorative justice, 30, 72, 75-76, 239, **570**. *See also* Justice efforts.

Retirements, ministerial. *See* Ministers.

Role of advisers to synod. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters.

Rules for Synodical Procedure, 32, **501, 537-38**

proposed changes to, 41, 71-72, 75, **540**

Russian-language ministry, 126

S

- Safe Church Ministry, 72-78, 81-82, 235-37, **559-60**
- Salary disclosure, 23-24, 38, 436, 438, **551-52**
- Same-sex marriage. *See* Study committees.
- Science and theology resources. *See* Board of Trustees, Polity matters; Overture 18.
- Sergeant at Arms, **500**
- Sermons for Reading Services Committee, 296-97, 432, 437, **502, 554, 576, 583**
- Service committees, **583**
- ServiceLink, 202
- Social Justice and Hunger Action, Office of, 228, 234, 236, 238-40, **560**
- Spanish-language ministries, 126-27, 229, 234, 249, 297, 315, **554**
- Specialized Ministries, 35-36, 48, 224-41, 432, **557-60, 575**
- Structure and Culture, Task Force Reviewing. *See* Study committees.
- Study committees
- Task Force Reviewing Structure and Culture, 31, 46, 351-80, **541, 562-64, 583-84**
 - Task Force to Study the Offices of Elder and Deacon, 323-50, **555, 584**
 - To report to future synods, **583-84**
- Sustaining Congregational Excellence. *See* Pastor-Church Relations.
- Sustaining Pastoral Excellence. *See* Pastor-Church Relations.
- Synodical
- Addresses. *See* Addresses to synod.
 - Advisers. *See* Advisers to synod.
 - Advisory committees, **497-99**
 - Appointments, **500, 577-84**
 - Boards, **578-82**
 - Committees, **583-84**
 - Convening churches, 7, **577**
 - Delegates, 13-17, **494-95**. *See also* Fraternal delegates; Ecumenical representatives and observers.
 - Deputies, 24, 33, 38, 251-53, **577-78**
 - Work of, **510-36**
 - Executive sessions, 9, **497, 508, 571**
 - Functionaries, **577**
 - Officers, **496, 577**
 - Procedure. *See* Rules for Synodical Procedure.
 - Resources, 32-33
 - Service of Praise, 491-92

T

- Task forces, **583-84**. *See also* Study committees.
- Testimonial Banquet Committee, **500**
- Timothy Leadership Training Institute, 194, 196, 319-20, 457, **549-50**
- Trinity Christian College, 42, 311, **548**

U

Urban Aboriginal Ministries, 240-41, **560**

V

Video recording of synod, 9-10, **497**

W

World Communion of Reformed Churches, 257-58, 286, 469, **502**

World Literature Ministries, 127

World Renew (formerly Christian Reformed World Relief Committee), 24, 37, 207-18, 461, **493, 501, 505, 548-49, 552, 561, 581-82**

Board matters, 216-18, 461, **502, 581-82**

Finance, 217-18. *See also* Financial Statements.

Human resources management, 216

Ministries, 208-16

Church-based community transformation, 210-11

Disaster Response, 212-16, **549**

HIV and AIDS response, 209-10

International community development, 208-209

Justice education and advocacy, 211-12

Refugee resettlement, 214-15

Service Learning, 212

Mission and partnership, 207-208

Offerings for, 37, 218, **501**

Resource development, 218

Salary disclosure, 217-18

Worship at synod, **493, 499, 504, 556, 571, 585**

Worship leadership and resources, 35, 229, 280, 282, 285-86, 432, 492, **500, 554, 557, 585**

Worship Planning Committee, **500**

Y

Yearbook, 32

Young adult representatives, 28, **496, 576**. *See also* Board of Trustees, Polity matters, Advisers to synod, role of.

Youth Unlimited, 313-14, **561**