

SYNODICAL SERVICES II

Chair: Rev. Scott VanderPloeg
Reporter: Rev. Phil Apoll

I. Response to Overture 28: Envision Two Distinct Christian Reformed Churches

A. Material

Overture 28, pp. 395-401

B. Recommendation

That synod not accede to Overture 28.

Grounds:

1. While synod recognizes the important matters presented by Meadowlands Fellowship CRC, and understands that these issues need to be considered as the CRCNA moves forward, it is our opinion that dividing the denomination is not the answer.
2. There does not seem to be a consensus among Canadian congregations that a division is necessary for the Canadian CRC to continue to engage in its unique context.
3. Considerable work has happened in the last few years regarding the organizational relationship between the Canadian and US organizations, securing direction and control for each country to pursue ministry in their own context.
4. Our current Church Order Article 44 provides an ecclesiastical avenue to address many of the concerns the overture raises. We are thankful that initiatives are being considered to move the Canadian portion of the CRCNA forward in its unique ministry opportunities. Synod encourages the Canadian portion of the CRCNA in its ministry initiatives and pledges support as ministry opportunities are realized.