

GLOBAL MISSION AND DENOMINATIONAL UNITY

Chair: Stephen F. Terpstra
Reporter: Robert J. Toornstra

I. Council of Delegates

A. *Materials*

1. Council of Delegates Report – deferred from 2020 (section II, A, 13, including Appendix D), pp. 138, 156-61
2. Council of Delegates Report – deferred from 2021 (section II, B, 8), p. 243

B. *Privilege of the Floor*: Mr. Andy DeRuyter, chair of the Council of Delegates; Rev. Michael TenHaken, vice chair of the Council of Delegates; Mr. Colin P. Watson, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed.

C. *Recommendations*

1. That synod receive the Classis Ministry Plans report as a fulfillment of the request from Synod 2018 and instruct the COD to request that the Classis Renewal Advisory Team report to Synod 2021 regarding (1) new resources being developed for creating or refining a classis ministry plan and (2) an update on which classes have a ministry plan, since many are currently in process (2020, II, A, 13; Appendix D).
2. That synod hear a brief report and presentation by Resonate Global Mission on raising missionary support as a follow-up to decisions on missionary support approved by Synod 2014 (2021 II, B, 8; p. 247).

II. ReFrame Ministries

A. *Materials*: ReFrame Ministries Report (section IV), p. 192

B. *Privilege of the Floor*: Rev. Kurt Selles, director of ReFrame Ministries

C. *Recommendation*

That synod commend the work of ReFrame Ministries, and encourage congregations to use their materials to support their own local ministries and outreach.

III. Resonate Global Mission

A. *Materials*: Resonate Global Mission Report (section IV), pp. 199-200

B. *Privilege of the Floor*: Zachary King, director of Resonate Global Mission

C. *Recommendation*

That synod, along with the Council of Delegates, encourage all Christian Reformed congregations to recognize the following Sundays as significant opportunities to pray for and to receive an offering for Resonate Global Mission: Easter, Pentecost, and the second and third Sundays in September. (The committee notes that this was approved during the morning session of synod on June 10, 2022.)

IV. World Renew

A. *Materials:* World Renew Report (section IV, A), p. 247

B. *Privilege of the Floor:* Charles Adams, president of World Renew-U.S.; Andrew Geisterfer, president of World Renew-Canada; Carol Bremer-Bennett, director of World Renew-U.S.; and Ken Kim, interim director of World Renew-Canada

C. *Recommendation*

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.

V. Response to Overture 13: Establish a Task Force on Unity, from Classis Grand Rapids South

A. *Materials:* Overture 13, pp. 520-23

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod receive for information Overture 13, and direct the executive director to instruct churches and classes to seek the unity of the church and the denomination in ways that are consistent with biblical principles and our Reformed Confessions.
2. That synod direct the executive director to gather best practices on pursuing unity from the various classes, and share these with the broader church.
3. That synod declare this to be its response to Overture 13.

Grounds:

- a. Unity is commanded by Jesus, and is essential for the church.
- b. Unity must be grounded in biblical principles and shaped by our Reformed Confessions.
- c. We have much to learn about unity from one another, and gathering best practices from churches and classes will help promote the practice of unity.