

Congregational Care and Justice

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Reporter: Rev. Richard Grift

I. Response to Overture 26: Identify, Train, and Maintain Individuals with a License to Exhort

A. Materials

Overture 26, p. 393

B. Recommendation

That synod encourage each classis to encourage churches to identify, train, and nurture individuals with a license to exhort in their classis by Synod 2027. Such individuals shall meet all the requirements of Church Order Article 43-b.

Grounds:

1. This recommendation may increase the number of exhorters needed to respond to our current shortage of Ministers of the Word.
2. This recommendation may lead to more potential candidates for the ministry of the Word.
3. This recommendation broadens the number of churches who may benefit beyond an individual's own local church.