

## SYNODICAL SERVICES

Chair: Rev. Daniel B. Mouw  
Reporter: Rev. Alex D. Snider

### I. Council of Delegates

#### A. Materials

1. Council of Delegates Report (sections I, A-D; II, A, 1-4, 8, 10-12; 13, a; 14-15, 18, 20-21; and II, B, 1-4, including Appendix C), pp. 21-42, 64-65
2. Council of Delegates Supplement (sections I, A-B, and E, including Appendix B)

*B. Privilege of the floor:* Rev. Paul R. De Vries, chair of the Council of Delegates; Mr. Andy de Ruyter, vice chair of the Council of Delegates; Dr. Steven R. Timmermans, executive director; and members of the executive staff as needed

#### C. Recommendations

1. That synod thank retiring COD members or those completing service in 2019 for their faithful service and significant contributions to the denomination (I, D).
2. That synod accept the invitation of Encounter Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to serve as the convening church of Synod 2020 (II, A, 1).

##### *Grounds:*

- a. Encounter Church, a multigenerational and diverse church, will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2020.
  - b. Encounter Church also has plans to plant a new church in 2020.
3. That synod accept the invitation of First CRC in Orange City, Iowa, to serve as either the *host* or *convening* church of Synod 2021, and that synod be held on the campus of Dordt University in Sioux Center, Iowa (II, A, 2).

##### *Grounds:*

- a. First CRC in Orange City, Iowa, will be celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2021.
  - b. Dordt University has communicated its availability and willingness to serve as the host college for the meetings of Synod 2021.
4. That synod adopt the changes to Church Order Articles 42 and 39 as proposed by Synod 2018 (II, A, 10; Appendix C).
  5. That synod express gratitude to Ms. Rita Buitendorp and Mr. Calvin Rozeboom for their service to the Judicial Code Committee (II, A, 13, a).
  6. That synod take note of the COD's plans to develop a revised ministry plan, including listening sessions during national and binational gatherings in 2019 to gather input, and to present a revised ministry plan to Synod 2020 (II, B, 1).

## **II. Heritage Hall and Historical Committee mandate**

### *A. Materials*

1. Calvin College Supplement (section V, including Appendix)
2. Calvin Theological Seminary Supplement (section II, D, 2, including Appendices B and C)
3. Historical Committee Report, pp. 364-73
4. Historical Committee Supplement

### *B. Privilege of the floor:*

1. For Calvin College: Mr. Craig Lubben, chair, and Dr. Michael K. Le Roy, president
2. For Calvin Theological Seminary: Mr. Sidney Jansma, Jr., chair, and Rev. Julius T. Medenblik, president
3. For Historical Committee: Dr. John Bolt, chair; Dr. James A. De Jong, secretary

### *C. Recommendations*

1. That synod endorse the recommended “Change to Library Governance” as found in the Appendix to the Calvin College Supplement (with underline indicating new text and ~~strikethrough~~ indicating deleted text).

#### *Grounds:*

- a. This change would provide clarity as to how Heritage Hall and the Curator of the Archives are administered.
  - b. This change would provide the benefit of being closely connected to the Hekman Library, given the Hekman Library’s expertise in good library practices, its efficiencies of scale, and its mission to serve a wider community.
  - c. The proposed Heritage Hall Advisory Council reflects the stakeholders and the financial supporters of Heritage Hall.
  - d. This proposal clarifies the key operations of Heritage Hall and affirms the work of the CRCNA Historical Committee.
  - e. The alterations to the Library Governance document have been approved and are recommended by the joint College-Seminary Hekman Library Committee as well as the authorized faculty bodies and boards of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary.
2. That synod instruct the COD to work with the Historical Committee to review their mandate and clarify the continued relationship between the committee and all of the stakeholders.
  3. That synod affirm the work of the Historical Committee and thank them for their continuing service.

## **III. Response to Overtures 1 and 2: Allow Transfer of All Nations Church in Bakersfield, California, from Classis Greater Los Angeles to Classis Ko-Am**

### *A. Materials:* Overtures 1 and 2, pp. 477-78

### *B. Recommendation*

1. That synod accede to Overture 1 and 2.

*Grounds*

- a. This is in keeping with Church Order Supplement, Article 39.
- b. This transfer has been requested and approved by both Classes Ko-Am and Greater Los Angeles

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

**IV. Response to Overtures 3 and 4: Approve Transfer of Bethany Korean CRC, Burbank, California, from Classis Greater Los Angeles to Classis Hanmi**

A. *Materials*: Overtures 3 and 4, p. 478-79

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod accede to Overtures 3 and 4.

*Grounds*

- a. This is in keeping with Church Order Supplement, Article 39.
- b. This transfer has been requested and approved by both Classes Hanmi and Greater Los Angeles

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

**V. Response to Overture 5: Approve Formation of a New Classis from Congregations and Ministries within Classis Pacific Northwest**

A. *Materials*: Overture 5, pp. 479-81

B. *Recommendations*

1. That synod accede to Overture 5, creating a new classis to be named *Classis Northern Cascades* with the following member congregations: Envision Mission (agency, ministry, organization) – Bellingham, WA; Hope in Christ – Bellingham, WA; The Table – Bellingham, WA; First – Lynden, WA; Second – Lynden, WA; Third – Lynden, WA; Amor Viviente – Lynden, WA; Bethel – Lynden, WA; Mountain View – Lynden, WA; Sonlight – Lynden, WA; Sumas – Sumas, WA.

*Ground*: This is consistent with Church Order Supplement, Article 39.

2. Pending approval by synod, that synod instruct the *Executive Director* to appoint a neutral moderator as per point 1 of the appendix to Overture 5.

**VI. Response to Communication 1**

A. *Materials*: Communication 1, pp. 537-38

B. *Recommendation*

That synod receive Communication 1 as information.