



To: **CRC Church members**

From: Kristen deRoo VanderBerg, Director of Communications & Marketing

Date: September 9, 2025

Highlights from meeting of September 4, 2025

The Council of Delegates (COD) of the Christian Reformed Church in North America met via video conference on September 4, 2025. This was a special meeting, held a month before the regularly-scheduled October meeting, in order to review a report, make recommendations, and present information to churches and classes with enough notice for robust review and conversation in the lead up to Synod 2026.

For the past few years, the CRCNA has seen a decline in overall giving via ministry shares. This has made it harder to maintain and budget for essential costs of being a denomination and sustaining our shared ministries. In February, the Council of Delegates approved the creation of a COD Task Force to consider ways to reduce CRCNA governance costs, fund synod, and use time more wisely. At the special, September meeting the COD:

- Received the draft report. This can be viewed [here](#).
- Agreed to forward two recommendations on to Synod 2026 for consideration. These are:
 - That synod meet every other year beginning in 2027, and that synod direct the COD to provide specific recommendations to Synod 2027 about the changes to the candidacy process, process for approving key denominational leadership, and other matters which are currently handled by synod annually. During the "off" years, other gatherings of CRC people such as regional, agency, or inter-classis events would be encouraged.
 - That synod establish a one-year task force, working in close coordination with the classes, to review the current classis structure and make recommendations to Synod 2027 for potential classis consolidations and/or overall restructuring.
- Did not agree to forward a third recommendation to Synod 2026 regarding the establishment of an annual assessment that classes would pay to provide funding for synod and COD.
- Did not dismiss the taskforce, and instead asked it to report again at the COD's October meeting.
- Asked that this report and the two recommendations be shared with churches and classes as soon as possible so that robust review and conversation can happen in the lead-up to synod.

For more information, please contact:

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Upcoming meeting dates:

- October 8-10, 2025, Grand Rapids, Mich.