

Overture 1:

The council of First Christian Reformed Church of Rock Valley, Iowa, overtures Classis Iakota to require all Officebearers who were ordained and installed to office who signed the Covenant for Officebearers prior to synod 2022, be willing to re-sign the Covenant for Officebearers with clear understandings of the decisions of Synod 2022 in view.

Grounds:

1. All leaders of the church sent to Classis are required to be of one mind and heart in faith and covenant revealed in God's Word, taught by our Lord Jesus Christ and directed by the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor 1:10; 2 Cor 13:11; Phil 2:2)
2. Synod 2022 gave clarity to the doctrines of Penal Substitutionary Atonement and Human sexuality that should be affirmed by all signers of the Covenant of Officebearers.
3. The goal of this re-signing is to highlight our unity and fidelity to the full revelation of God's Word and in unity with our denominational decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Council of First Christian Reformed Church of Rock Valley

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Overture 2:

The council of First Christian Reformed Church of Rock Valley, Iowa, overtures Classis Iakota to require all those currently holding licensure to exhort in Classis Iakota to affirm their shared faith in the gospel by signing the covenant for office bearers at the Classical level.

Grounds:

1. The classis has oversight in addition to the local church council of all those who hold licensure to exhort.
2. While we realize license to exhort is not necessarily an Officebearer by ordination, they are given the role of elder when they license to exhort the Word of God in public worship. This makes their work accountable to the Classis, and to the Churches, they serve to be in confessional alignment.
3. It is important that all license holders are able to sign without exception the covenant that every Pastor, Elder and Deacon are required to sign at the classical level as teachers of God's people.
4. This signature requirement clarifies the submission to the Word of God and to the leadership of Classis and the Church, for doctrinal understandings, faith, and its applied living.

Respectfully submitted,

The Council of First CRC