

Council of First Christian Reformed Church (CRC), “An overview of existing ‘same-sex’ overtures.” Letter from (unidentified) CRC Council to congregation, August 31, 2021

Dear congregation of First CRC,

, we wanted to share with you some of the existing overtures related to the Human Sexuality Report that have already been written by churches and classes across the denomination and which they hope will be discussed at Synod 2022. We pray this will help you to further understand the breadth and diversity of overtures, give you a glimpse into the conversation that is already happening on the report within the CRCNA, and help you to further consider both the implications of the report and how First CRC might respond to it. **Please note that the overtures below represent only a small number of the existing overtures and you can find more at the following links:**

- Calvin University Library [site](#)
- [Draft Agenda for Synod 2022 \(pages 390-469\)](#) -- with over 80 pages of overtures solely on the Human Sexuality Report, it is obvious that this will be a focus for Synod 2022. We strongly suggest you at least review some of the overtures in this agenda, as these are the ones (plus those submitted in future) that will certainly be on the discussion table at Synod.

Further overtures will be submitted by various congregations and classes before June 2022, as outlined in the timeline in our previous email.

And now a brief glimpse (note that some of these overtures are part of larger classes agendas. We have tried to link directly to the correct page but the link may not work properly for all of you, in which case you will need to scroll to the page number noted):

1. [Overture supporting the report \(page 22\)](#)
2. [Overture asking that Synod not approve the report](#)

3. Overture that Synod appoint a new study committee (page 60)
4. Overture against Recommendations D and E in the report
5. Overture in favour of Recommendations D and E in the report (as well as other recommendations) (page 18)

Please remember that we will be hosting an **“Open hour” on Zoom on Thursday, September 9 at 7:30 pm**, to make space for clarifying questions about any of the topics and terms addressed in the summer emails. We’ll send out a Zoom link (as well as an overview of what that “Zoom hour” will and will not be) in future.

On Wednesday, September 29 at 7:30 pm (over Zoom), we’ll be holding the communal congregational discussion in which we will make space for those in attendance to share specifically about their thoughts on the report and their thoughts on how First CRC may or may not respond to it. Watch First Glance for further details!