



Hamilton, September 30th, 2024

To: General Synod Aldergrove 2025

From: Blessings Christian Church, Hamilton

Re: Overture regarding amendment of questions in the forms for Baptism of Infants and Public Profession of Faith

Dear Brothers,

May the Lord guide you with his Spirit so that all you decide will bring honour to the Father and serve for the edification of the Church.

Blessings Christian Church (BCC) is in the unusual situation of submitting a proposal (overture) directly to the General Synod (GS). In doing this, we direct your attention to the Acts of GS 2022, Art 78. But first, let us share some background.

In 2022, BCC submitted an appeal to GS. In this appeal, BCC addressed a decision of Regional Synod East (RSE) 2020 concerning a proposal (overture) BCC had presented to Classis Central Ontario (CCO). CCO had adopted the proposal and forwarded it to RSE 2020 with the request that it be sent to GS 2022, with the intent that the proposal be adopted and implemented. RSE declined the request. We are thankful that GS 2022 sustained our appeal against this decision of RSE. Attached to the appeal was a request that if the appeal were sustained, GS would consider the proposal.

Although GS 2022 sustained the appeal, it decided not to address the overture embedded in the appeal based on procedural grounds. As grounds for the decision not to consider the content of the overture, GS 2022 ruled that:

It is not possible for GS 2022 to adopt the overture since all the churches have not had the opportunity to interact with the overture through submissions to GS 2022. Since this overture has already been considered by a Regional Synod, a church can take over this exact same overture and submit it directly to GS 2025, at least six months prior to the synod, also distributing it to all the churches, analogous to Synod Guidelines I.F (Article 78 Grounds 4.3).





We have acted on this directive, following the advice from GS 2022, and submitted the overture to you for consideration. We have also distributed a copy to all the churches, analogous to Synod Guidelines I.F.

With Fraternal greetings from Blessings Christian Church.

greg kamstra

Greg Kamstra
Clerk of Council

