

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

For Calendar Year 2017/8

Church Name _____

Every year, each Classis is required to ask the following questions of each congregation within its bounds. (BCO Part II, Article 7, Section 1) Please ask these questions at your next consistory meeting, record your answers, and return them to Brenda Van Beek, Stated Clerk by March 15, 2018.

NOTE: A "NO" answer requires an explanation!

a. Are the doctrines of the Gospel preached in your church in their purity, and in conformity with?

A. The Word of God? Yes No

B. The Standards of the Reformed Church? Yes No

b. Are the points of doctrine contained in the Heidelberg Catechism explained in your congregation as required by Chapter 1, part I, Article 2, Section 11f of the Book of Church Order?

Yes No

c. Does your congregation regularly engage the principles of the Belhar Confession, Heidelberg Catechism, Canons of the Synod of Dordt, and Belgic confession?

Yes No

d. Has your consistory or governing body considered the nature and extent of the ministry of the congregation in accordance with Chapter 1, Part I, Article 2, Section 1 of the *Book of Church Order*?

Yes No

e. Is your congregation engaged in significant, regular activities which faithfully witness to the gospel and which encourage others to respond to God's Spirit in commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Yes No

f. Does your congregation contribute annually and significantly in its prayers, gifts, and service to the mission of the Reformed Church in America?

Yes No

g. Does the consistory or governing body provide for worship, including the celebration of the sacraments, in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 1, Part I, Article 2, Section 11 of the *Book of Church Order*?

Yes No

h. Does the consistory or governing body regularly review the activities of the church in order that the congregation and those whom it serves may become more faithful in their walk as disciples of the Lord Jesus?

___Yes ___No

i. Is the education of the young people in the essential truths of the Word of God faithfully attended to in your congregation?

___Yes ___No

j. Has the consistory or governing body prayerfully considered persons within the congregation, particularly young people, in order to identify with them their spiritual gifts, especially the gift for ministry of Word and sacrament; to encourage the development of these gifts; and to pray for those individuals on a regular basis?

___Yes ___No

k. Does the board of elders fulfill its responsibilities of supervision and discipline as set forth in Chapter 1, Part I, Article 5 of the *Book of Church Order*?

___Yes ___No

l. Does the board of deacons fulfill its responsibilities in mercy, service, and outreach as set forth in Chapter 1, Part I, Article 6 of the *Book of Church Order*?

___Yes ___No

m. Does the consistory or governing body regularly engage its minister/s in a mutual reflection on the ministerial needs and challenges of the congregation?

___Yes ___No

n. Do the salary, housing, arrangements for professional development, and all other benefits received by the minister/s meet the terms of the original call or contract, subsequent revisions thereof, and the minimum standards of the classis?

___Yes ___No

Done in Consistory on ___/___/___

Clerk of Consistory

President or Vice President