

Letter of Call



To the Rev. _____, grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Whereas, the _____
Church of _____

is well satisfied with the piety, gifts, and ministerial qualifications of you,

_____ /
and has good hope that your labors as a minister of the gospel in this place will be attended with a blessing.

Therefore, we, _____
LEGAL TITLE OF THE CHURCH

hereby solemnly and in the fear of the Lord do call you, the said

NAME OF CANDIDATE

to be our pastor and teacher; to preach the Word of God in truth and faithfulness; to administer the holy sacraments agreeably to the institution of Christ; to edify the congregation, and especially the youth by catechetical instruction and by explaining the essential truths of the Holy Scriptures; to maintain Christian discipline; and to fulfill as a faithful servant of Jesus Christ the whole work of the gospel ministry in conformity with the Word of God and the Constitution of the Reformed Church in America, to which you, upon accepting this call, must, with us, remain subordinate.

It is further stipulated that in fulfilling the ordinary duties of your ministry, besides preaching on such texts of Scripture as you may deem proper to select for our instruction, you also explain the points of doctrine contained in the *Heidelberg Catechism*, and that you conform to the usual practice of our congregation in rendering all customary public service. The particular services required of you are:

We promise you in the name of this church all proper attention, love, and obedience in the Lord. We promise and oblige ourselves to encourage you in the discharge of the duties of your important office, and to free you from worldly avocation while you are dispensing spiritual blessings to us, to pay you the sum of \$_____ in _____ payments

yearly and every year, and to consider annually whether such payments are adequate, as long as you continue to be the minister of the church, together with

As long as you continue to be the minister of this church, we also promise to pay the stipulated contributions to the Reformed Church retirement plan and provide benefits including group life insurance, long-term disability insurance, and medical insurance for you and your immediate family—which means those dependents eligible for family medical insurance according to the insurance plan documents of the Reformed Benefits Association. Such insurance coverages shall meet or exceed the minimum standards stipulated by the Board of Benefits Services.

If you and your immediate family elect medical coverage through your spouse's employer-sponsored group plan, we promise to compensate you for any medical premium costs incurred by your immediate family, up to the premium cost of the Reformed Benefits Association plan meeting the minimum standards stipulated for the year compensated.

In addition we promise to provide a minimum of one week and a stipend equal to not less than the equivalent of 1/52 of the minimum cash salary established by the classis for a study program mutually agreed upon by you and us for your professional development, for each year in service with our congregation. By mutual agreement this time and money may be accumulated to a maximum equivalent of four years of service. We hereby bind ourselves and our successors for the performance of all the foregoing by the underwritten signatures of the consistory members to this instrument.

May the Lord incline your heart to a cheerful acceptance of this call and send you to us in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of peace.

Done in consistory and subscribed with our names this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

ELDERS

DEACONS

Attested by _____
SUPERVISOR OF THE CALL

Approved by the Classis of _____

_____, 20_____
DATE OF CLASSIS APPROVAL

PRESIDENT CLERK