

## Report of the Commission on Nominations

*\*\*Note: Because the General Synod will not meet in 2020, it will not be able to act on any recommendations contained in reports to General Synod 2020. For the 2020–2021 year, the General Synod Council appointed the nominees in this report on an ad-interim basis, subject to approval by the next stated session of the General Synod; see the end of this report for further information.\*\**

The Commission on Nominations convened in person on October 17–18, 2019, and January 21, 2020, and teleconferenced on February 19, March 4, April 1, and April 22. Two final electronic votes were held through email, ending on May 15 and May 20.

Throughout the year, members of the commission actively sought qualified candidates, solicited completed profile forms, and checked references of those who were interested in serving on a commission or agency of the General Synod, or on the board of directors or trustees of an RCA-related institution. In these ways, the commission sought to fulfill its responsibilities as stated in the Bylaws of the General Synod—namely, “in consultation with the general secretary, [the commission] shall search the denomination for suitable nominees. In making nominations it shall consider the geographic location, occupation, and record of previous service to the denomination of persons suggested by classes, regional synods, and other sources. It shall consider this and other pertinent data in light of each commission’s or agency’s responsibilities, membership needs, suggested nominees, and place and schedule of meetings” (*Book of Church Order* Chapter 3, Part I, Article 5, Section 8.c.2 [2019 edition, p. 116]).

The commission seeks to nominate individuals for service on agencies, commissions, and boards of directors on the basis of their spiritual gifts, interests, heart (or passion), abilities, personality, experience, and special leadership abilities, and when possible, seeks to involve young adult members of the RCA (so they can be nurtured and encouraged to serve the RCA in a variety of ways in the future). Through its efforts, the Commission on Nominations has proactively fulfilled its responsibility to “search the denomination” and believes those nominated have traits that make them well-suited for the work of the positions to which they are being nominated. The commission is pleased to report once again that it has, to the best of its ability, fulfilled its responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the *Book of Church Order* are upheld.

When the number of qualified candidates from which to choose increases, the commission’s work is enhanced, and the work of the General Synod’s agencies and commissions is carried out more effectively. Consequently, the commission encourages anyone interested in serving to submit a completed profile form to the Commission on Nominations as indicated on the form. Profile forms are available from staff to the Commission on Nominations, Laura Tarbous (908-812-7897 or [ltarbous@rca.org](mailto:ltarbous@rca.org)) or through the “Profile Form and Commission Information” link on the General Synod page of the RCA website ([www.rca.org/profile](http://www.rca.org/profile)).

### Nominations

Nominees identified by the Commission on Nominations are as follows (\* indicates a final term and # indicates an official nomination from the assembly, institution, or agency listed):

## **GENERAL SYNOD COUNCIL**

### Class of 2024

- \*Michelle Chahine
- \*Devonna Cousins
- \*Sheila Moses (Regional Synod of New York)#
- \*Kimberly Van Es
- \*Harris Van Oort (Regional Synod of the Heartland)#
- \*Patricia Varga

## **COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN ACTION**

### Class of 2023

- Rev. Beryl Banks
- \*Rev. Mark Ennis
- Bradley Prince
- \*Reginald Smith (Reformed ecumenical observer)
- \*Kim Winchell (ELCA ecumenical observer)

## **COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP AND EDUCATION**

### Class of 2023

- Rebecca Koerselman
- \*Pamela Van Beek

## **COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN UNITY**

### Class of 2021

- Rev. Dale Buettner

### Class of 2023

- Anthony Elenbaas (ecumenical)
- \*Rev. Donna Field
- Carol (Kitt) Jackson
- Rev. Jeffery Lampen

## **COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN WORSHIP**

### Class of 2022

- Steven Granlund

### Class of 2023

- Geimy Alvarado
- \*Dirk Gieser

## **COMMISSION ON CHURCH ORDER**

### Class of 2023

- \*Joshua Scheid
- \*Jennifer Van Regenmorter

## **COMMISSION ON HISTORY**

### Class of 2023

Rev. Corstian Devos

\*Rev. Steven Pierce

## **COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS**

### Class of 2023

\*Rev. Stephen Breen (Regional Synod of the Heartland)#

\*Rev. Kendra Van Houten (Regional Synod of New York)#

## **COMMISSION ON NOMINATIONS**

### Class of 2023

Rev. Wanzette (Ann) Bilbrew (African American Black Council)#

\*Rainey Enjady

\*Carol Mutch (Regional Synod of the Mid-Atlantics)#

Dean Schramm (Regional Synod of Mid-America)#

## **COMMISSION ON RACE AND ETHNICITY**

### Class of 2021

Vacancy (Council for Hispanic Ministries)#

### Class of 2022

Mike Larsen

### Class of 2023

\*June Denny

Rev. Young Na

Rev. Nathan Pyle

## **COMMISSION ON THEOLOGY**

### Class of 2023

Steven Bouma-Prediger

\*Rev. Ronald Citlau

John Lunn

Aaron Baart (other Reformed bodies ecumenical observer)

\*Rev. William Russell (ELCA ecumenical observer)

## **COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

### Class of 2021

Claudette Reid

### Class of 2022

Jane Dickie

### Class of 2023

Rev. Florence Dekker

Mary Morgan

## **BOARD OF BENEFITS SERVICES – NEW YORK**

### Class of 2022

Lynn Barnes

### Class of 2023

Timothy Cumings

\*Rev. Jack Doorlag

\*Douglas Struyk

Though both of this year's openings were in the Class of 2023, the Board of Benefits Services wished to even out its class rotation by placing one of the new directors in the Class of 2022.

## **BOARD OF BENEFITS SERVICES – MICHIGAN**

### Class of 2021

Dana Chapman

Ralph Condis

### Class of 2022

Lynn Barnes

Joseph Laswell

### Class of 2023

Timothy Cumings

\*Rev. Jack Doorlag

\*Douglas Struyk

## **CHURCH GROWTH FUND BOARD**

### Class of 2023

Rev. Michael Bos

\*Nicole Kouba

George Schneiderman

## **MINISTERIAL FORMATION CERTIFICATION AGENCY**

### Class of 2023

\*Rev. Dustin DeVriend

\*Rev. Frances Nelson

## **PASTORAL FORMATION OVERSIGHT BOARD**

### Class of 2021

Kristen Johnson (WTS Theological Agent designee)

### Class of 2023

Rev. Gregory Dunlap (NBTS Theological Agent designee)

Rev. Daniel Gillett

Rev. Chad Pierce

## **NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### Class of 2023

\*David Choi

Samuel Cruz

\*Brittnee Crawford (Regional Synod of New York)  
Cambria Kaltwasser  
\*Rev. John Kapteyn (Regional Synod of Canada)  
Felicia McGinty  
\*Russell Paarlberg (Regional Synod of Mid-America)  
\*Ronald Slaughter  
Rev. Anthony Vis (Regional Synod of the Heartland)  
\*Dean Zimmerman

## **WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### Class of 2023

Percy Gilbert  
Fred Johnson  
Tite Tiénou  
\*Rev. Brian Vriesman  
Emilie Prince Wierda  
Vacancy (Regional Synod of Mid-America)

### **Recommendation**

To elect the above-named nominees to the General Synod commissions, agencies, and the boards of directors or trustees of RCA-related educational institutions as indicated.

### **Recommendation**

To elect Carl Boersma as moderator of the Commission on Nominations for the 2020–2021 term.

The memberships on the Commission on Nominations of James Nakakihara, James Steward II, and Cary Winn conclude June 30, 2020. The Commission on Nominations wishes to thank them for their service. We are grateful for their prayers, insight, and contribution to the commission's ministry. The Commission on Nominations appreciates Laura Tarbous, RCA staff to our commission, for her tireless attention to detail and diligent service in so many ways. Laura has given valuable service to our commission and denomination for many years. We are so grateful to God for her sacrificial ministry. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carl Boersma, moderator

## **GENERAL SYNOD COUNCIL AD-INTERIM APPOINTMENTS**

The General Synod will not be able to meet in 2020 to appoint the nominees identified by the Commission on Nominations in the above report, which would leave a significant number of vacancies on commissions and agency boards from terms that ended June 30, 2020. The *Book of Church Order* gives the General Synod Council the authority to fill vacancies on General Synod commissions and agency boards in an ad-interim capacity between sessions of the General Synod (Chapter 3, Part I, Article 4, Sec. 3 [2019 edition, p. 110]). During a videoconference meeting on June 9, 2020, the GSC adopted the following motion, appointing the nominees identified above by the Commission on Nominations to their respective positions in an ad-interim capacity until the next regular session of General Synod, at which time the General Synod will approve the appointments.

**GSC 20-29**

To appoint ad-interim the nominees for RCA commissions, boards, and agencies identified in the Commission on Nomination's 2020 report to General Synod, until such time as the General Synod can meet and give final approval;

And further, to elect ad-interim Carl Boersma as moderator of the Commission on Nominations for the 2020–2021 term.