CALL TO ORDER

The president called to order the thirteenth meeting of the General Synod at 6:59 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2021. Elise Visscher, student corresponding delegate from Central College, offered prayer.

The delegates viewed a brief video presentation featuring the work of mission personnel Blaine Newhouse. The vice president offered prayer.

REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES AND NEW BUSINESS, CONTINUED

The president called upon the Rev. Charles Swoboda, regular delegate from the Classis of Cascades and moderator of the Advisory Committee on Overtures and New Business, to continue the committee’s report. Rev. Swoboda addressed the Synod.

The amendment to ONB 21-10 was once again before the house as follows (additions are underlined; deletions are stricken):

“To direct the RF 21-1 team to consider affinity regional synods in accordance with principles 1 and 4 of the Vision 2020 report; and further,

“To instruct the Commission on Church Order to study the structure and implications of affinity synods, with a report to General Synod in 2022; and further,

“To instruct the General Synod Council to petition each RCA classis and regional synod to provide their opinion(s) by the deadline for General Synod 2022 overtures on whether or not the RCA should restructure into three Synods as outlined in the “Affinity Synods Restructuring Plan” Overture 10 (i.e. New Boundaries, Central, and Canada) stating reasons why, and if such restructuring is desired, to state a preferred effective date, and for GSC to report these findings to General Synod in 2022.”

VOTED: To not amend ONB 21-10 (yes 51; no 150).
ONB 21-10 in its original form was once again before the house.

A motion was made and supported from the floor to amend ONB 21-10 as follows (additions are underlined):

“To direct the RF 21-1 team to consider affinity regional synods in accordance with principles 1 and 4 of the Vision 2020 report; and further,

“To instruct the Commission on Church Order and the Commission on Theology to study the structure and implications of affinity synods, with a report to General Synod in 2022.”

**VOTED:** To amend ONB 21-10 (yes 160; no 44).

ONB 21-10 as amended was before the house as follows:

“To direct the RF 21-1 team to consider affinity regional synods in accordance with principles 1 and 4 of the Vision 2020 report; and further,

“To instruct the Commission on Church Order and the Commission on Theology to study the structure and implications of affinity synods, with a report to General Synod in 2022.”

**VOTED:** To adopt ONB 21-10 as amended (yes 118; no 87).

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT OF GENERAL SYNOD, CONTINUED

The president invited Carol Mutch, moderator of and corresponding delegate from the Commission on Nominations, and the following vice presidential candidates to the platform:

- The Rev. Pedro Agudelo, regular delegate from the Classis of Queens and corresponding delegate from the General Synod Council and member of the General Synod Council serving as the Executive Committee of the General Synod
- The Rev. Dwayne Jackson, regular delegate from the Classis of Greater Palisades
- The Rev. Bradley Kautz, regular delegate from the Classis of the Rocky Mountains

Ms. Mutch introduced each candidate in alphabetical order and each candidate addressed the Synod.

RECESS

The president declared the General Synod recessed at 7:39 p.m., following
prayer by the Rev. Matthew Draffen, regular delegate from the Classis of Montgomery.