CALL TO ORDER
The president called to order the second meeting of the 214th General Synod of the Reformed Church in America at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at The Westin La Paloma, Tucson, Arizona.

WELCOME
The president welcomed all those present and acknowledged General Synod Council staff and the work that they do for the General Synod.

QUORUM
The Rev. Eddy Alemán, general secretary, reported:

- there are no delegates who may not be seated due to irregularities
- the presence of a quorum.

PRAYER
The president led the Synod in prayer.

INTRODUCTIONS
The president introduced the following:

- The Rev. Philip Assink, vice president of General Synod
- Russell Paarlberg, General Synod parliamentarian
- The Rev. Eddy Alemán, general secretary and stated clerk of General Synod
- Angela Worthley – meeting recorder, one member of a team of three including Terri Boven and Gael Uwera.

The president explained that the vice president of Synod and the general secretary have privilege of the floor.

The president recognized the following corresponding delegates:

- Members of the General Synod Council who will also serve as the General Synod’s Committee of Reference
- Representatives from General Synod commissions
- Representatives from RCA seminaries, RCA colleges, the Ministerial Formation Certification Agency, the RCA Church Growth Fund, and the RCA Board of Benefits Services
• Regional synod executives
• Regional synod women
• Regional synod youth

The president explained that the corresponding delegates have privilege of the floor at General Synod but do not have voting privileges.

The president also introduced:
• The Rev. Timothy TenClay and the Seminarian Seminar participants
• The Rev. Annalise Radcliffe and the Call Waiting participants
• The Rev. Judith Nelson, who is serving the General Synod as chaplain.

ORIENTATION

The president presented an overview of General Synod, including its purpose and role. Delegates were asked to refer to the statement of etiquette for maintaining decorum located on each table and in the General Synod Workbook (p. 5).

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The president invited a motion that privilege of the floor be granted to the parliamentarian and RCA staff who are asked to speak.

A motion was made and supported from the floor:

To grant privilege of the floor to the parliamentarian and RCA staff who are asked to speak.

VOTED: To adopt the motion (voice vote).

The president called upon Russell Paarlberg, General Synod parliamentarian, to explain parliamentary procedures for the General Synod. Mr. Paarlberg addressed the Synod.

The president explained how to operate the voting keypads.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The president called upon the general secretary to review certain procedural matters. The general secretary informed the Synod that the journal for each meeting will be uploaded to the website and will be available by noon the following day. Any questions or corrections are to be addressed to Paul Karssen at the back table.

A motion was made and supported from the floor:
To approve the minutes of the 2019 General Synod – The Acts and Proceedings of the 213th Regular Session of the General Synod -2019

VOTED: To adopt the motion (voice vote).

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The president explained how reports are presented to the General Synod, how delegates may access the workbook, and where any new reports will be found. Thereafter, the moderator addressed the Synod.

EC 21-1 was presented to the house.

VOTED: To adopt EC 21-1 (GS Workbook p. 39) (yes 187; no 8).

NEW BUSINESS
The general secretary explained the procedures regarding presentation and referral of new business.

The first opportunity for the presentation of new business was given. No new business was presented.

VISION 2020 TEAM
The president invited Dr. James Herrington and the Rev. Trisha Taylor from The Leaders Journey, serving as consultants for the Vision 2020 Team, to address the Synod.

Dr. Herrington and Rev. Taylor introduced the discernment group process that delegates will be participating in this afternoon and tomorrow.

RECESS
The president declared the General Synod recessed at 3:57 p.m., following prayer by Eric Moreno, regular delegate from the Classis of California and corresponding delegate from the General Synod Council and member of the General Synod Council serving as the Executive Committee of the General Synod.