CALL TO ORDER
The president called to order the sixth meeting of the General Synod at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 15, 2021. The Rev. Dr. Micheal Edwards, regional synod executive corresponding delegate from the Regional Synod of New York, offered prayer.

The General Synod viewed a brief video presentation featuring the work of mission personnel Peter and Patty Ford.

REPORT OF THE PASTORAL FORMATION OVERSIGHT BOARD
The president called upon the Rev. Dr. Chad Pierce, regular delegate from the professorate and moderator of the Pastoral Formation Oversight Board, to present the Report of the Pastoral Formation Oversight Board (GS Workbook, pp. 311-13). Rev. Dr. Pierce addressed the Synod.

REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL FORMATION CERTIFICATION AGENCY
The president called upon the Rev. Dr. Scott Christiansen, corresponding delegate from and moderator of the Ministerial Formation Certification Agency, to present the report of the Ministerial Formation Certification Agency (GS Workbook pp. 314-17). Rev. Dr. Christiansen addressed the Synod.

TE 21-1 was presented to the house.

VOTED: To adopt TE 21-1 (GS Workbook, p. 316-17) (yes 198; no 1).

Upon the request of the president, the vice president prayed for the Rev. Dr. Cornelis Kors and his ministry.

REPORT OF NEW BRUNSWICK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
The president called upon the Rev. Dr. Micah McCreary, corresponding delegate from and president of New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and the Rev. Gregory Dunlap, corresponding delegate from the New Brunswick Theological Seminary Board of Trustees, to present the report of New Brunswick Theological Seminary (GS Workbook, pp. 318-28). The Synod viewed a brief video featuring the work of New Brunswick
Theological Seminary. Rev. Dr. McCreary addressed the Synod.

Rev. Dunlap presented TE 21-2 to the house.

VOTED: To adopt TE 21-2 (GS Workbook, p. 327-28) (yes 190; no 9).

INSTALLATION TO THE OFFICE OF GENERAL SYNOD PROFESSOR

The president read the installation liturgy. The General Synod stood while Rev. Dr. Micah McCreary read aloud the Form of Declaration for a General Synod Professor. The president then declared Rev. Dr. McCreary to be a General Synod Professor and Rev. Dr. McCreary signed the Declaration.

REPORT OF WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The president called upon the Rev. Dr. Felix Theonugraha, corresponding delegate from and president of Western Theological Seminary, and the Rev. Gail Ebersole, chairperson of the Western Theological Seminary Board of Trustees, to present the seminary’s report (GS Workbook, pp. 329-54). The Synod viewed a brief video featuring the work of Western Theological Seminary. Rev. Dr. Theonugraha and Rev. Ebersole addressed the Synod.

TE 21-3 was presented to the house.

VOTED: To adopt TE 21-3 (GS Workbook, p. 332-33) (yes 199; no 6).

Upon the request of the president, the vice president prayed for Rev. Dr. Timothy Brown and his ministry.

TE 21-4 was presented to the house.

The president called upon the Rev. Benjamin Lin, moderator of the Advisory Committee on Church Order and Governance, to provide the advice of the advisory committee. The advice of the advisory committee was to vote in favor of TE 21-4 (Report of the Advisory Committee on Church Order and Governance, p. 4).

A motion was made and supported from the floor to refer TE 21-4 to the Commissions on Theology and History for study, with a report on the implications of such a change to the next General Synod.

VOTED: To deny the referral of TE 21-4 to the Commissions on Theology and History (yes 78; no 126).
A motion was made and supported from the floor to refer TE 21-4 to the General Synod Council in consultation with the Commission on Church Order to work out details regarding:

- whether or not there should be a clause preventing the dilution and removal of the three General Synod appointed trustees
- whether WTS will be affiliated or officially related to the Reformed Church in America
- whether future amendments to the articles and bylaws should require approval of the General Synod, per Book of Church Order Chapter 1, Part IV, Article 7, section 3 [2019 edition, p. 71]
- Put in a binding agreement with General Synod that RCA-affiliated students will receive a 25% tuition discount, and that students currently in ministry or with significant ministry experience can receive additional scholarships up to 40 percent off tuition.

**VOTED:** To adopt the referral of TE 21-4 to the General Synod Council in consultation with the Commission on Church Order (yes 131; no 70).

**RECESS**

The president declared the General Synod recessed at 8:39 p.m., following prayer by Rev. Scott Stephan, regular delegate from the Classis of Illinois.