

REPORT OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES COUNCIL

The Native American Indigenous Ministries (NAIM) Council met in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 24-26, 2023, for the first time in person since 2019.

The meeting started with our interim leadership group that was appointed by the General Synod Council (GSC) to review the draft of the council's bylaws and make updates. Those bylaws have now been forwarded to the GSC, and the GSC was asked to approve them at its March 19-20, 2024, meeting.

On Monday night, we gathered for a meal and devotions along with a time of making new friends and connecting with old friends. Connections and relationships have been our main focus as we work to reestablish our council. On Tuesday morning, we spent time in worship, followed by a time of storytelling and sharing testimonies. In the afternoon, we talked about how our stories intersect with the Reformed Church in America (RCA) and the importance of the NAIM voice in the RCA. On Wednesday, we had a greeting from the RCA's general secretary, Eddy Alemán, and director of diversity and belonging, Jeremy Simpson. We closed our time together with communion.

NAIM will be meeting again in Oklahoma on April 22-24, 2024.

**Note: At its March 19-20 meeting, the GSC requested that the bylaws drafting team address several concerns at NAIM's April 22-24 meeting and forward an updated draft of its bylaws to the GSC by May 1, 2024, so that the GSC can hold a special session to approve the bylaws and reconstitute the council (GSC 24-40). The GSC's intention is to approve the bylaws and formally reconstitute NAIM prior to the 2024 General Synod meeting.*