GENERAL SYNOD
REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

2026 Journal of Actions
Meeting 8
Sunday evening - June 14, 2026
Hermitage Ballroom

CALL TO ORDER

The Rev. Sarah Palsma, General Synod president, called to order the eighth meeting of the General Synod at 7:05 p.m. on Sunday, June 14, 2026. Tobiah Gieser, corresponding delegate from the Synod of Albany, offered prayer.

VIDEO

Delegates viewed a brief video highlighting the "why" behind the work that is done in the RCA. The video featured Rev. Marianne Lin, who serves as a chaplain in the U.S. Army.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN UNITY

The president called upon the Rev. Bob Hoffman, corresponding delegate from the Commission on Christian Unity, to present its report (GS Workbook pp. 159 - 169). Rev. Hoffman addressed the Synod.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT OF GENERAL SYNOD

The president called upon the General Secretary to review the process for electing the vice president of General Synod (GS Workbook, pp. 33-34). The delegates cast the first ballot for General Synod vice president.

ECUMENICAL GREETINGS

The president invited the Rev. Dr. Laura Osborne, Coordinator for Ecumenical Relations and Disability Concerns, and the following ecumenical delegates to the platform.

- Dr. Monica Schaap Pierce, on behalf of Christian Churches Together
- Elly Boersma Sarkany, on behalf of the Christian Reformed Church in North America
- H. Julian Gordy, on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Bishop Vashti McKenzie, on behalf of the National Council of Churches
- Jihyun Oh, on behalf of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Danielle Hickman, on behalf of the United Church of Christ
- Garland Pierce, on behalf of the World Council of Churches

Rev. Dr. Osborne and the ecumenical delegates addressed the Synod.

The general secretary offered a prayer.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT OF GENERAL SYNOD, CONTINUED

The president announced the results of the initial ballots cast for General Synod vice-president. Persons receiving at least ten votes on the first ballot were:

- Mr. Cal Brouwer, regular delegate from the Classis of Minnesota
- Rev. Kristen Brouwer, regular delegate from the Classis of East Sioux
- Rev. Marisol Ferrer Malloy, regular delegate from the Classis of Delaware-Raritan
- Rev. Edie Lenz, regular delegate from the Classis of Chicago
- Rev. Al Plat, regular delegate from the Classis of the Canadian Prairies
- Rev. Grace Rim, regular delegate from the Classis of Rockland-Westchester
- Rev. Jael Serrano-Altamirano, regular delegate from the Classis of the Americas

RECESS

The president declared the General Synod recessed at 8:43 p.m., following a closing prayer by the Rev. Tiffany Fan, regular delegate from the Classis of Queens.