REGIONAL SYNOD OF ALBANY

Kent McHeard

Classis of Albany
MINISTERS
Dawn May Alpaugh
David Jones

ELDERS
Rebecca Hudak
Doris Neese

Classis of Columbia-Greene
MINISTER
Paige Convis

ELDERS
Andrea DiPace
Patricia Varga

Classis of Montgomery
MINISTERS
Matthew Draffen
Nancy Ryan

ELDERS
Debra Sanburn
Diane Reynolds

Classis of Rochester
MINISTERS
Bryant Brozik
Kyle Delhagen

ELDERS
Lois Fieg1
Sharon Hann

MISSIONARY*
Peter Ford

Classis of Schenectady
MINISTERS
Lindsey De Kruijf
Lisa Vander Wal

ELDERS
Clara Lasselle
Traute Lehner

*Missionary delegate appointed per BCO Chapter 1, Part IV, Article 3, Section 5 (2016 edition, p. 67)
Classis of Schoharie
MINISTERS
Orville Hine
Rebecca Town

ELDERS
Geraldine Mattice
Donald Nadler

REGIONAL SYNOD OF CANADA

Ricardo Gouvea

Classis of British Columbia
MINISTERS
Jonathan Manlove
Murray Moerman

ELDERS
Alida Bouwman
Ralph Spyker

Classis of Canadian Prairies
MINISTERS
Albert Plat
John (Doug) Smith

ELDERS
Leanne Duiker
Jeffrey Pasche

Classis of Ontario
MINISTERS
Abram Blaak
John DeGiovanni

ELDERS
Nilton Barbosa
Anja Noordam

REGIONAL SYNOD OF THE FAR WEST

John Alwood

Classis of California
MINISTERS
Richard DeBruyne
Mark Schwarz
Juno Smalley

ELDERS
Eric Moreno
James Nakakihara
Marvin Zwart
ROLL OF GENERAL SYNOD

Classis of Cascades
MINISTERS
Thomas Katsma
Matthew Waite

ELDERS
Mark Van Kommer
Kevin Whipple

Classis of Central California
MINISTERS
Daniel Teerman
Joshua Wierenga

ELDERS
Kenneth Shepard
Benjamin Sweet

Classis of the City
MINISTERS
Larry Barber
Fred Harrell

ELDERS
Michael Ehrenfried
John Yates

Classis of Rocky Mountains
MINISTERS
Bradley Kautz
Benjamin Byoung Eun Park

ELDERS
Ina Montoya
Harry Ness

Classis of Southwest
MINISTERS
Susan Hetrick
James Poit

ELDERS
James Noble
Todd Norris
REGIONAL SYNOD OF THE GREAT LAKES

Judith Nelson

Classis of Great Lakes City
MINISTERS
Chad Farrand
Bruce Osbeck
Steven Petroelje
Joshua Wall
Nathan Weller

ELDERS
Jim Frye
Rick Gossett
Daniel Hibma
Wayne Schipper
Betty Shuster

Classis of Holland
MINISTERS
Amy Avery
Denise Kingdom Grier
Ronald Rienstra
Dawn Vagle

ELDERS
Clarence Falstad
John Hoekstra
Daniel Kruithoff
Lois Maassen

Classis of Muskegon
MINISTERS
John Koedyker
Michael Van Kampen

ELDERS
Kenneth Kuzma
Donald Stressman

Classis of Northern Michigan
MINISTERS
Daniel DeVries
Adam Grill

ELDERS
Olivia DuPont
David Oosting
Classis of North Grand Rapids
MINISTERS
Mara Norden
Christopher Westerbeek

ELDERS
Patricia DeMoss
Jody Horton

Classis of Southwest Michigan
MINISTERS
Nate Bull
Mark Heijerman
Laura Osborne

ELDERS
Timothy Buis
Brian DeVries
David Mejeur

Classis of Zeeland
MINISTERS
Miriam Barnes
Steven DeVries
Jonathan Elgersma
Karsten Voskuil
Paul Wernlund

ELDERS
Mary Beth Gernaat
Sandra Houston
Gordon Kempkers
Marcia Kuipers
Brent Renkema

REGIONAL SYNOD OF THE HEARTLAND

Randy Blumer

Classis of Central Iowa
MINISTERS
Kevin Korver
Todd Rempe
Thomas VandeBerg
Craig Wagner

ELDERS
David Jansen
Paul Jones
Jeff Kruger
Gary Van Genderen
Classis of Central Plains
MINISTERS
Amy Jo Hawley
Darrin Kimpson

ELDERS
Nathan Doorlag
Wallace Walcher

Classis of Dakota
MINISTERS
David Landegent
Dean Ulmer
Ronald Van Peursem

ELDERS
Gene Juffer
Eugene Poelstra
Jerry Schilling

Classis of East Sioux
MINISTERS
Scott Bonestroo
John Hubers
David Powers

ELDERS
Vernell Buyert
Terry Johnson
Muryl Korver

Classis of Minnesota
MINISTERS
Roger Lokker
Glenn Shoup
Timothy Sluiter

ELDERS
Tim Beseman
Elaine Noel

Classis of Pleasant Prairie
MINISTERS
Philip Arnold
Jack Ritsema

ELDERS
Iris Shaffer
Joel Sult
ROLL OF GENERAL SYNOD

Classis of West Sioux
MINISTERS
Jamie Dykstra
Matthew Miller
David Poppen
Calvin Ver Mulm

ELDERS
Sharla Boone
Ronald Boote
Nancy Franken
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REGIONAL SYNOD OF MID-AMERICA

Ken Hoogstra

Classis of Chicago
MINISTERS
William Crowder
Christopher Poest

ELDERS
Richard Schuler
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Classis of Illiana-Florida
MINISTERS
Dale Buettner
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ELDERS
Sid Geers
William Nyeholt

Classis of Illinois
MINISTERS
Edith Lenz
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ELDERS
Gloria Busman
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Classis of New Thing
MINISTERS
Dennis Colton
Jason De Vries
David Izenbart

ELDERS
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Glenn Sterrett
Classis of Wisconsin
MINISTERS
Philip Rose
Brian Taylor
William Te Winkle

ELDERS
Lucinda Heinen
Robin Holzinger
Thomas Laur

REGIONAL SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTICS
Ursula Cargill

Classis of Delaware-Raritan
MINISTERS
Christopher Heitkamp
Mark Swart

ELDERS
Daniel Smith
Diana Weiss

Classis of Greater Palisades
MINISTERS
Jay Kim
Kirsten Shepler-Ross

ELDERS
Ron Romaine
Arlene Romaine

Classis of New Brunswick
MINISTERS
Susan Kramer-Mills
George Montanari

ELDER
Mark Poyner

Classis of Passaic Valley
MINISTERS
Karyn Ratcliffe
Eugene Voss

ELDERS
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Bruce Holland
REGIONAL SYNOD OF NEW YORK

James Steward

Classis of Brooklyn
MINISTERS
De’Lafayette Awkward
Douglas Banks

ELDERS
Sheila Friend
Deborah King

Classis of Mid-Hudson
MINISTERS
Paul Ruter
Eric Titus

ELDERS
Janice Melichar-Utter
Ruth Ellen Nielson

Classis of Nassau-Suffolk
MINISTERS
Donna Field
Joshua Scheid

ELDERS
Anna Bishop
Kim Pavlovich

Classis of New York
MINISTER
Kirsty DePree

ELDERS
Joseph Panetta
Irma Williams
Gerri Yoshida

Classis of Orange
MINISTER
James O’Connell

ELDERS
Thomas Kaiser
Peter Newman

MILITARY CHAPLAIN**
Kim Donahue

**Military chaplain delegate appointed per BCO Chapter 1, Part IV, Article 3, Section 6 (2016 edition, p. 67)
Classis of Queens
MINISTERS
Eric Hodges
Young Aie Na

ELDERS
Nancy Gessner
Lorraine Parker

Classis of Rockland-Westchester
MINISTERS
Donald Heringa
John Vanden Oever

ELDERS
William Hertlein
David Walker

GENERAL SYNOD PROFESSORS

Carol Bechtel
Timothy Brown
Renée House
Allan Janssen
Gregg Mast
CORRESPONDING DELEGATES

GENERAL SECRETARY
Thomas R. De Vries

GENERAL SECRETARIES EMERITUS
Wesley Granberg-Michaelson
Edwin Mulder

COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE
Ned Beadel
Bruce Cornwell
Gary De Witt
Lee DeYoung
Andrea DiPace
Daniel Gillett
Thomas Goodhart
Christopher Jacobsen
James Kuplic
Benjamin Lin
Eric Moreno
Arlan Moss
Sharon Palms
Barbara Pimentel
Erma Rolle
Andres Serrano
Kenneth Shepard
Willie Si
Cora Taitt
Wai Choon Tan
Lisa Tice
Michael Van Buren
Clare VanDis
Nancy Van Heerde
Cynthia Veldheer DeYoung
Evan Vermeer

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President John Knapp

GENERAL SYNOD COMMISSIONS
Commission on Christian Action
Patricia Sealy
Commission on Christian Discipleship and Education
Kent McHeard
Commission on Christian Unity
Lisa Vander Wal
Commission on Christian Worship
Katherine Baker
Commission on Church Order
Larry Schuyler
Commission on History
James Brumm
Commission on Nominations
Carl Boersma
Commission on Race and Ethnicity
   Richard DeBruyne
Commission on Theology
   Mark Husbands
Commission for Women
   San-Yi (Shirley) Lin

ADDITIONAL COMMISSION DELEGATES
Commission on Christian Discipleship and Education
   Jared Duimstra
Commission on Race and Ethnicity
   Rodrigo Cano
Commission for Women
   Kristin Gray

REGIONAL SYNOD WOMEN
Regional Synod of Albany
   Marilyn Paarlberg
Regional Synod of Canada
   Gail DeGiovanni
   Margaret Richie
Regional Synod of the Far West
   Carol Alwood
   Lauralyn Vasquez
Regional Synod of the Great Lakes
   Jennifer Jackson Nkansah
   Laurel Kempkers
Regional Synod of the Heartland
   Missy Dokter
   Marla Rotman
Regional Synod of Mid-America
   Pam Otten
   Mary Strawsma
Regional Synod of the Mid-Atlantics
   Tricia Sheffield
Regional Synod of New York
   Anna Jackson
   Patricia Singletary

YOUTH
Regional Synod of Canada
   Emily Smith
Regional Synod of the Great Lakes
   Justin Keating
Regional Synod of New York
   Bianca Williams

GENERAL SYNOD PROFESSOR
   Cornelis Kors
ECUMENICAL DELEGATES
Peter Borgdorff (Christian Reformed Church in North America)
Kathryn Lohre (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)
Campbell Lovett (United Church of Christ)
J. Herbert Nelson II (Presbyterian Church [U.S.A.])

ECUMENICAL GUESTS
Whayne Hougland (The Episcopal Church)
Betsy Miller (Moravian Church in North America)
Carlos Malavé (Christian Churches Together)
Sharon Rader (United Methodist Church)
Sue Rozeboom (Christian Reformed Church in North America)
Elijah Mueller (Orthodox Church in America)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE PEOPLE
General Synod Council Mission Observers
Adrián Bobb and Bernardeth Kelly Bent
David Ford
F. Peter and Patty Ford
Olivia Holt
Abraham and Sayuri Kist-Okazaki
Jennifer Lucking
John Paul Sundararajan
Tim and JJ TenClay

Global Mission Guests
Gilberto Aguirre (CEPAD, Nicaragua)
Dámaris Albuquerque (CEPAD, Nicaragua)

Parliamentarian
Bruce Neckers

Call Waiting Leader
Matthew van Maastricht

Seminarian Seminar Leader
Tim TenClay

SEMINARIAN SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS
New Brunswick Theological Seminary
Vivian Campbell
Jeffrey Chu
Sharon Gross
Cheryl Miller
Kimberley Trinidad

Western Theological Seminary
Marcia Bosma
Rosalyn De Koster
Stacey Duensing
Tara Woodward

Ministerial Formation Certification Agency
Sara Gregory
Susan Mulholland
Ciro Romero
Nicole Contreras Romero
PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

So the parliamentarian, speakers who have received official invitations from the General Synod Council, and General Synod Council executive staff may respond to questions for clarification and participate as requested by the General Synod president in presentations to the General Synod and in other activities that appear on the agenda, the General Synod:

**VOTED:** To grant privilege of the floor to the parliamentarian, speakers who have received official invitations from the General Synod Council, and General Synod Council executive staff.

SEATING OF DELEGATES/DECLARATION REGARDING QUORUM

The general secretary informed the synod that there were no irregularities and all delegates could be seated. The possible membership of General Synod was 235, with enrolled membership at 229; therefore, a quorum was declared present.

MINUTES AND JOURNAL/TELLERS

The Acts and Proceedings of the 210th regular session of the General Synod were read by title.

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes of the meeting of June 9-14, 2016, the procedure for approving the journal of actions, and the membership of the advisory committees.

The Rules of Order were read by title, and copies were placed on the secretary’s table.

Sharon Palms and Willie Si (Committee of Reference members), Carl Boersma (corresponding delegate from the Commission on Nominations), and all Seminarian Seminar participants were appointed as tellers.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE


In addition to the prescribed agenda, the schedule provided for the following presentations, forums, programs, or activities:

- On the evening of Friday, June 9, the General Synod heard a presentation by Rev. Dr. Richard Mouw entitled “Can Reformed Christians Be Civil—with Each Other?”
- On the evening of Saturday, June 11, the General Synod heard a presentation regarding Transformed and Transforming, the denomination’s fifteen-year goal. Leaders, presenters, and musicians included Ben Aguilera, Bruce Benedict, Sarah Carpenter, Stacy Duensing, Lane Ellens, Jack Miller, Courtney Myers, Ken Neevel, Jon Sherrill, Krystal Sherrill, Lauren Sweers, Liz Testa, and Bianca Williams.
- On the evening of Sunday, June 12, the General Synod participated in a commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Leaders in the commemoration included James Brumm (Commission on History), Kathryn Lohre
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America), Carlos Malavé (Christian Churches Together), Sue Rozeboom (Christian Reformed Church in North America), and Lisa Vander Wal (Commission on Christian Unity).

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The following delegates were designated by the president to serve on advisory committees that considered specific business on church order and governance and overtures and new business.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH ORDER AND GOVERNANCE**

**Moderator:** James Poit (Southwest)  
**Vice Moderator:** Mara Joy Norden (North Grand Rapids)  
**Ministers:**  
Carol Bechtel (General Synod Professor)  
Abram Blaak (Ontario)  
Nate Bull (Southwest Michigan)  
Lindsey De Kruif (Schenectady)  
**Elders:**  
Paul Jones (Central Iowa)  
James Nakakihara (California)  
Wallace Walcher (Central Plains)

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES AND NEW BUSINESS**

**Moderator:** Kevin Korver (Central Iowa)  
**Vice Moderator:** Gerri Yoshida (New York)  
**Ministers:**  
Bradley Kautz (Rocky Mountains)  
Edith Lenz (Illinois)  
Gregg Mast (General Synod Professor)  
Mark Schwarz (California)  
Matthew Waite (Cascades)  
**Elders:**  
Gordon Kempkers (Zeeland)  
Irma Williams (New York)

**MODERATORS OF THE ALL-SYNOD ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

Katherine Baker  
Amy Jo Hawley  
David Izenbart  
Laurel Kempkers  
Muryl Korver  
Shirley Lin  
Kent McHeard  
George Montanari  
Ina Montoya  
Laura Osborne  
Christopher Poest  
Karyn Ratcliffe  
Philip Rose  
Marla Rotman  
Patricia Singletary  
Lauralyn Vasquez  
Karsten Voskuil  
Eugene Voss