



Lower Susquehanna Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The Rev. Beth A. Schlegel
Synod Secretary

bschlegel@lss-elca.org

OFFICIAL NOTICE: CALL OF THE 2021 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

To: The congregations and the rostered ministers of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA
From: Beth A. Schlegel, synod secretary
Date: December 1, 2020
Re: Call of the 2021 Synod Assembly

This is the official notice that the Session for Worship and Business of the 2021 Synod Assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA, will be held Friday evening, June 4, 2021, and Saturday, June 5, 2021 by means of digital conferencing. At this assembly, we will elect a vice president, treasurer, Synod Council members, members of the Consultation Committee, members of the Committee on Discipline, and voting members to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. The 2021 Synod Assembly includes edification, so voting members are urged to choose one of two Edification Days scheduled as follows: Saturday, May 8, 2021, or Saturday, May 22, 2021. Both Edification Days will be held by means of digital conferencing and will share the same content.

The voting membership of this assembly is constituted by: all ministers of Word and Sacrament and all ministers of Word and Service rostered in the Lower Susquehanna Synod; two laypersons, typically one of whom shall be a man and one of whom shall be a woman, elected by each congregation of the Lower Susquehanna Synod; members of the Synod Council; and the synod officers. In addition, congregations having more than 500 baptized members may send a third voting member. In selecting voting members, remember that the assembly is required by the ELCA constitution to be comprised of 60 percent laypersons, of whom at least 45% shall be men and at least 45% shall be women. All congregations are encouraged to consider electing youth, young adults, and persons of color or of primary language other than English. **It is very important that each congregation send lay voting members to the assembly.** Assembly registration will open no later than March 1, 2021.

This year, we will elect a vice president. Upon the resignation of Lucinda Bringman and because of the inability to conduct elections at the 2020 Synod Assembly due to the coronavirus pandemic, 2020 nominee Jennifer R. Lau was appointed by Bishop Dunlop with the consent of the Executive Committee to be the acting vice president until an election could be held by the 2021 Synod Assembly. Vice president is a volunteer office for a lay person and requires wisdom and faith, as well as administrative dedication. Acting Vice President Lau is willing to be elected by the assembly.

This year, we will also elect a treasurer. Joseph M. Stepansky has ably served as treasurer for the past four years and is willing to be elected to a second term. Since our current constitution requires that two names be presented for election, the Gifts Discernment Committee is seeking another person with gifts for this office to be placed into nomination. The treasurer may be a layperson or an ordained minister. The treasurer shall be qualified in accounting and financial management and preferably shall be a certified public accountant.

All officers must be voting members of congregations in this synod. As we seek individuals with gifts for these offices, our Synod Council calls us to prayerful deliberation and alertness to the call of God.

Information about the 2021 Synod Assembly including registration materials will be posted on the synod website as plans are completed. A single registration fee will register voting members for the entire assembly, that is, both the business session and the edification day. **Registration fees for this assembly remain unchanged from last year and those congregations who paid registration for the 2020 Synod Assembly will be credited that amount for the 2021 Synod Assembly. Early registration is important to assure this credit.** To meet registration deadlines, congregations may pre-register voting members (as voting member #1, etc.) without providing personal information. Hard copies of essential assembly materials will be mailed only to those requesting to receive information in this manner.

Is God Calling You?

Our synod celebrates the diverse gifts of its members and asks that members consider sharing those gifts in leadership roles in this church. The Gifts Discernment Committee, a Synod Council committee, is seeking nominees for synod treasurer. The synod Nominating Committee, comprised of one member of each conference and two members of the Synod Council, is seeking volunteers who are willing to be nominated for election to the Synod Council, the Committee on Discipline, and voting members to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. We need your help to identify possible nominees. Share this information with members of your congregation! (<https://www.lss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021-Nominations-Handbook-rev.11-04-20.pdf>) Visit our synod assembly web page to read and print a Nomination Information Form, read ministry position descriptions or contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

Have questions? Contact Debbie Clark at dclark@lss-elca.org or 717-652-1852, ext. 117. To seek nomination, please complete the nomination form and return it by January 8, 2021.