



32nd Annual Synod Assembly
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
June 1, 2019
Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites
Hazleton, PA

Directions for Assembly Registration

The 32nd Annual Assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be held at the Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites, 1341 North Church Street in Hazleton on June 1, 2019. Find more information and an agenda at www.godslove.org.

This year's assembly will be conducted in one day. You will be able to check in at 7:30 a.m. Opening worship will start at 9:00 a.m. and the assembly will close at 4:00 p.m.

REGISTER ONLINE at www.godslove.org. Congregations may register all rostered ministers and voting members at one time; this option is available for online registration only. The cost for online registration is \$100 per person until midnight, May 9, and \$110 per person from May 10 through May 16.

REGISTER BY MAIL by completing separate registration forms for each voting member. The cost to register by mail is \$110 per person if postmarked on or before May 9, and \$120 from May 10 through May 16.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS IS MAY 16. Please note the importance of the deadline. The caterer, ballroom staff, and synod staff need final registration numbers to prepare for a successful assembly.

Every voting member will receive a confirmation letter that will include information needed before arriving.

ACTIVE ROSTERED MINISTERS are expected to attend the assembly as voting members. Retired rostered ministers are welcome to attend. Pastors of full communion partners serving congregations in the Northeastern PA Synod should register as voting members.

NEW FOR 2019 – We will be using the **ELCA GUIDEBOOK**, a free app that you will be able to download on your smart phone or tablet before the assembly to access the agenda, biographical information for candidates, resolutions, and reports. Updated and new materials will be added to it during the assembly. The Guidebook will go live on April 15 and a training webinar will follow. Watch Synod E-News for more information and the date of the webinar. There will also be an orientation when the assembly opens on Saturday morning.

IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT this year that LAY VOTING MEMBERS attend their perspective mission district assemblies. The mission district assemblies will provide opportunities to distribute some synod assembly materials and related information, as well as to give further updates about developments related to synod assembly participation (including directions to use the ELCA Guidebook app).

SCHEDULE OF MISSION DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES:

Bethlehem/Easton

May 11 – 9:00 a.m. – Arndt’s Easton

East Berks

May 2 – 6:00 p.m. – Lutheran Home at Topton

Hazleton/Lehigh

May 5 – 3:00 p.m. – Jerusalem, Trachsville

Lehigh

May 5 – 5:00 p.m. – Lutheran Center

Northern Lehigh Valley

May 16 – 7:00 p.m. – Grace, Belfast

Pocono

May 5 – 2:30 p.m. – Zion, Brodheadsville

Schuylkill

May 5 – 3:00 p.m. – Trinity, Buck Run

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre

May 4 – after lunch – St. Paul, Mountaintop

West Berks

May 14 – 7:00 p.m. – Bern, Bern Township

FESTIVAL WORSHIP WITH EUCHARIST will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and Bishop Zeiser will preach. An offering will be received for the ELCA’s World Hunger Fund.

A LUNCH to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod is included with EACH registration. The entrée will be boneless stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, rolls and butter, coffee and tea, and cake. A vegan and gluten-free lunch option will be available.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME and encouraged to attend the assembly and will be seated in a special visitors’ section. The fee for visitors is \$20 to cover the cost of the lunch. Visitors are asked to check in at the registration desk at the assembly. Visitors can observe plenary sessions, join in worship, and enjoy fellowship.

WHAT DOES THE FEE COVER? Many costs are incurred by gatherings of this size: rental of the venue; labor and equipment for staging, lighting, and sound; photocopying, production and mailing of assembly materials; worship costs such as instrument rental, and fees for copyrighted music.

WHO PAYS? The registration fee for all assembly voting members is to be paid by the congregation or employing agency.

EXCUSES NEEDED: Written excuses for the absence of pastors or deacons under call, or for congregational voting members should be sent in advance of the assembly to Debbie Frey at debbie@nepsynod.org or mail to 2354 Grove Road, Allentown, PA, 18109-3044.

THE DEADLINE FOR RESOLUTIONS AND NOMINATIONS to be submitted to the synod office is May 17. The forms needed can be found at www.godslove.org.

QUESTIONS regarding the assembly may be directed to Pr. Kurt Garbe or Debbie Frey. They can be reached at The Lutheran Center, 610-266-5101, kurt@nepsynod.org, or debbie@nepsynod.org.

What a Difference a Day Makes!