

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Assembly 2018 Sharing Ministries - Building Relationships

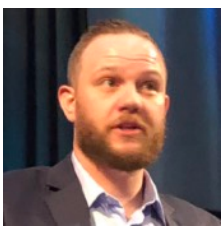
Churchwide Ministries



Pastor President Gustavo Gómez Pascua from our companion church, Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Unida, in Argentina and Uruguay addressed the Assembly on Friday.

He shared some of the topics and concerns trending in his church. Many were similar to the challenges faced by congregations of the ELCA.

Pastor President Pascua brought along his guitar; and on several occasions, he led the Assembly in songs used by congregations in his church.



Nick Kiger, ELCA Associate Director for Mission Support, brought greetings on behalf of Presiding Bishop

Elizabeth Eaton. He shared two videos: "2017 in Review" and "We Are Lutheran" (available on the synod website: godslove.org).

NEPA Synod Ministries



The Assembly was delighted to receive the **Hmong Community Evangelical Lutheran Church** as a congregation of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. In 1978, Saint Simeon's Lutheran Church in

Philadelphia sponsored the first Hmong family from Laos to the Greater Philadelphia area. In February of 1996, the Hmong Community Evangelical Lutheran Church was established. When all of its members relocated and settled within Berks & Lancaster counties, the church found a new home at Allegheny, Knauers in 2012.

Bishop Zeiser welcomed Pr. ShongChai Hang, congregational president Cheng Lo, vice president Kai Lee, and other congregational representatives to come forward for the official vote by the Assembly.

On Saturday the **Bear Creek Camp Summer Staff** was installed. Under the leadership of director Dan Scharnhorst, the



summer camp program has dramatically increased in numbers; and the Assembly warmly applauded both Dan and the dedicated young people who will staff the camp.

During worship at the Assembly, offerings were collected in support of **Young Adults in Global Ministry** (\$2,859.92) and the **ELCA World Hunger Appeal** (\$2,547).