

# SYNOD NEWS

**Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA**

## **Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly 2020 “We Are Church Together”**



**We Are Church  
Together**  
NEPA Synod Assembly 2020

**INFORMATION SESSION LIVESTREAM via YouTube**

**With Bishop Samuel Zeiser**

**- Live from The Kalahari Resort -**

**Thursday, March 19 at 10:30 AM**

Join Bishop Zeiser and others on the 2020 Synod Assembly Planning Team, LIVE via YouTube Livestream from the Kalahari Resort. This Information Session will give you the latest details on:

- The election of a new Bishop
- Ministry table displays
- What will happen when
- The speakers, presenters and special guests
- Who should attend and why
- How to download and use the Guidebook app

This YouTube video stream will be available live at the date and time listed above; or you can view it anytime later, as a recording.

To watch it, either live or later: simply search this name on Google: “NEPS Assembly 2020 Info Session”, or type this into your internet browser: <https://youtu.be/RwZFsLahD34>.

For event details about Synod Assembly 2020, including to register and to book a room at Kalahari, you can visit the Assembly 2020 Event page at <http://nepasynod.org/event/assembly-2020>.

For all information needed for the Assembly itself (nomination forms, resolution forms, agenda, etc.), you can visit the Assembly 2020 Information page at <http://nepasynod.org/assembly2020-info>.

### **Festival Worship at the Assembly**

On Friday morning there will be a Eucharist with Bishop Zeiser preaching and music led by Bobby Siegfried. The offering will be for the World Hunger Appeal.

On Saturday morning there will be a Eucharist in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women. Dr. Catherine Ziel will preach, and music will be led by Deacon Tom Yenser and a brass quintet.

## Pianist becomes Organist at Trinity, Bangor



Before Easter our organist/music director resigned at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bangor, PA. We let it be known to the community through FB, emails and the synod newsletter that we needed an organist/music director. For a few weeks we had substitute organists with no choir director. The choir continued to practice, and we managed to do some *a capella* pieces for a few weeks. The choir improved dramatically, feeling determined to sing with much more focus and dedication.

Within weeks we had some inquiries from pianists and organists. We interviewed Ms. Bethann Kratzer. She is an excellent pianist, but she admitted that she didn't play the organ. She does play 8-10 other instruments. We hired her for the summer on a trial basis, since we do worship services during the summer in our air-conditioned fellowship hall and only use the piano for that worship.

In addition, we asked her if she was willing to take organ lessons from Dr. Michael Krentz over the summer. We offered to pay for 10 lessons and to continue paying for 1 lesson a quarter over the next year. She agreed to try. By the end of the summer she had "fallen in love" with the organ and is becoming an accomplished organist. She now plays the organ for worship in our sanctuary, works with our Sunday School children, leads the choir, and plays the piano when needed. We are thrilled with her willingness to try and learn the organ, her ability to work with the choir, and her outstanding piano playing. We have hired her as our full-time music director. She continues to take organ lessons on her own and learn the instrument.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA  
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