

# SYNOD NEWS

## Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

### Growing Young in a Changing World: Virtual Summit



*Have you watched again and again as youth leave your church after they have affirmed their baptism?*

*Or maybe you have youth who only attend youth group and are not part of the larger congregation?*

*Does your congregation have a large age gap missing of people in their 20s and even 30s?*

If you see any of the above as problems that the church needs to address, **then this event is for you!** It is also for as many folks as you can bring along with you.

The Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team is thrilled to welcome everyone in our synod to a two-day Virtual Summit titled "Growing Young in a Changing World."

Dozens of youth leaders in our synod have already reaped some of the benefits from a book called *Growing Young*. On November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, one of the authors of that book, Jake Mulder from the Fuller Youth Institute, will be working with our synod specifically to help us be more welcoming and engaging to the youth

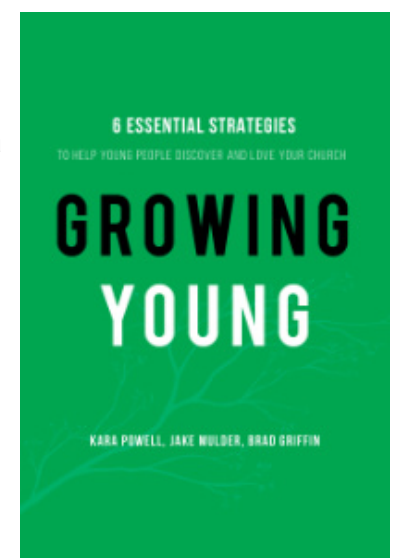
and young people in our midst. **ALL synod church staff, rostered ministers and members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.**

We will meet digitally in the morning and afternoon of Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and the morning of Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, with an optional afternoon session that day.

It is strongly encouraged that you read *Growing Young* prior to attending. You can purchase the book at <https://shop.fulleryouthinstitute.org/products/growing-young>.

**Please note:** Throughout this event, you will spend time in break out groups with others from either your congregation or mission district as we develop action plans to carry our teachings forward. Therefore, it will be helpful if you know in advance if others from your congregation or a partnering congregation are attending.

Please email [sammy@nepsynod.org](mailto:sammy@nepsynod.org) with questions and register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/growing-young-in-a-changing-world-virtual-summit-tickets-117650278149>.



# Assembly 2020 - A New Way of Being Church Together

Friday evening, October 16 & Sunday afternoon, October 18  
Friday evening, October 23 & Saturday morning and afternoon, October 24

## Watch the Assembly Online

Registration for voting members closes on October 1. However, even you didn't register as a voting member, you can still watch all the proceedings, including the election of a new bishop. The entire assembly will be broadcast live and can be viewed by anyone with an internet connection. For "visitors" - those who simply wishes to watch the proceedings - unlike past years, there is no need to register.

**The information you need to watch the Assembly will be posted on the synod website ([nepasynod.org](http://nepasynod.org)).**



We Are Church  
Together

NEPA Synod Assembly 2020

## ELCA "Stories of Faith in Action"

Stories are the foundation of our faith. They teach us how to serve God with humility. They remind us of our identity as God's beloved children. They bring us together and give us hope for the future. Given the challenges of 2020, we need stories of hope and unity more than ever before. That's where your 2020-2021 edition of "Stories of Faith in Action" comes in.

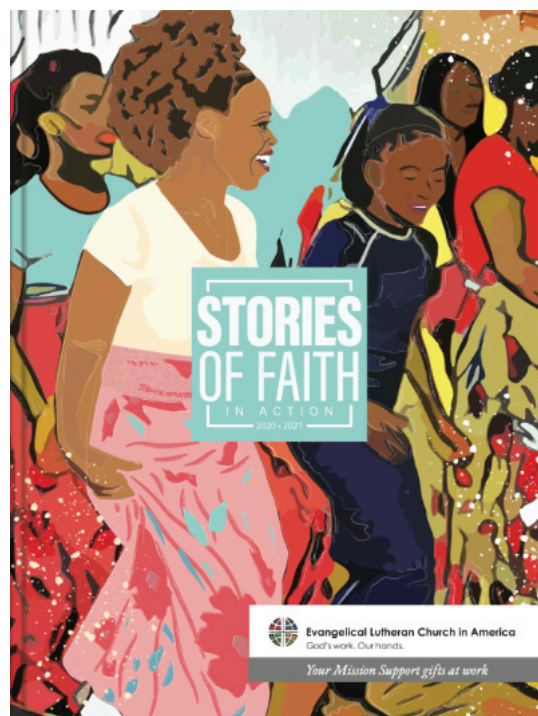
This annual publication illustrates how God is at work across the ELCA through your generosity. It highlights how a portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church – particularly the ways the ELCA nurtures vital congregations, raises up leaders and grows the global church. Most importantly, it's one way we say thank you for your faithful generosity to your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization – by showing your offering at work.

The latest edition is now available digitally and includes:

- A special message from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.
- Nine inspiring stories from around the country and world.
- Your 2019 financial report on Mission Support – the portion of your offering your congregation shares with your synod and your synod shares with the churchwide organization.
- A story-based devotional for use at Bible studies or committee meetings.

Visit the ELCA website at <https://www.elca.org/sofia> where you can either download a printable version or view it as a "Flip Book."

*[This article is taken from an email authored by Victoria Flood, Director, ELCA Mission Support and Nick Kiger, Associate Director, ELCA Mission Support.]*



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