



**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Synod Assembly**  
**Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA**  
**June 10-11, 2022**

**Resolution Submittal Form**

Please use this form to submit resolutions to be considered by the 2022 Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly. **The Committee of Reference and Counsel will review resolutions submitted to it before the assembly and requests that resolutions be submitted as soon as possible, so that voting members can consider them before the assembly.** Please note: a resolution adopted by

the 2005 Synod Assembly requires that resolutions submitted less than 2 weeks before the assembly (by Thursday, May 26, 2022) will be considered only if the assembly votes to receive them.

**Please read the guidelines on the reverse side of this page.** Return the form to the synod office (address information below)

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*Please type or write legibly. You may submit only one resolution on each form. Copy form for additional resolutions.*

*Sign the form where indicated; include the name and location of your congregation. If you are a lay member of a congregation, include the signature of the pastor or president of the congregation (this signature is requested to certify that you are a participating member of an ELCA congregation in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod).*

A resolution concerning COVID Mitigation

WHEREAS, all of our public buildings are required to follow fire codes, with smoke detectors and extinguishers; and

WHEREAS, like a fire COVID also spreads rapidly with significant potential for destruction of: life, mental health and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, Jesus commanded us to love one another; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that all the congregations of the Northeastern PA Synod live-out this Christian love by implementing and communicating on-going COVID policies based upon current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) data,<sup>1</sup> and be it further

RESOLVED, that these implemented COVID policies dynamically increase & decrease mitigation as threat levels increase & decrease respectively – such as requiring properly worn, effective masking and reducing activities that increase air-borne contagion risks (singing, close unmasked prolonged gatherings, indoor eating); and be it further

RESOLVED, that they will know we are Christians by our love.

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<sup>1</sup> Such data may be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html> and <https://covidactnow.org/>

Rev. Rebecca Knox, Zion (Spies), Reading (Alsace Twp.), Salem, Shalters, Fleetwood; Part-time Chaplain at Reading Hospital  
SALM Doug Didyoung – St. Mark’s Lutheran, Reading  
Pastor Tom Irwin – Advent Lutheran, West Lawn  
Rev. Beverly K Wenrich, Pastor - St James Lutheran Church, Geigertown  
Rev. Carol Kehler, Pastor – St. Paul’s and Nativity Lutheran Churches, Reading  
Pastor Rob Argot - Holy Spirit Lutheran, Reading  
Pastor Sonja Ware, St. John’s German, Reading  
Pastor Michael Ware, Robeson, Mohnton

For suggested mitigation phases email Pastor Rebecca Knox at [RevKnox7@gmail.com](mailto:RevKnox7@gmail.com)

Date of submission: Thursday May 26, 2022

**Return to:** *Committee of Reference and Counsel, 2022 Synod Assembly, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, 2354 Grove Rd., Allentown PA 18109-3044, email [info@nepssynod.org](mailto:info@nepssynod.org).*

**Recommendation of the Committee of Reference and Counsel:**

The Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends that the proposed resolution “Concerning COVID Mitigation” be referred to Synod Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod for their consideration.