Welcome to the Assembly

Dear Friends in Christ,

Whether you are a voting member or a visitor, it is my privilege to welcome you to the 2019 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly. The materials included in the pre-assembly packet are intended to prepare you for your participation in this year’s gathering.

I hope you will find everything you need to know in what is provided here.

All the people involved in planning this year’s gathering are excited about what lies ahead for us when we are together. As we prepare for worship, informational and interactive sessions, and to welcome special guests, we want you to experience that in Christ, the bread of life, we are one Body. **ONE Bread. ONE Body.**

I am especially looking forward to sharing some of my thoughts about the ways God continues to call us into a hope-filled future and I am anxious to hear and learn from you.

Select portions of this assembly will be recorded and made available on the synod’s website for those who are not able to gather with us.

Again, welcome. Your presence matters to this church and to the mission God has entrusted to us. As we meet in assembly and reflect on our life together, my hope is that through us, the world will be blessed by our celebration of **ONE Bread. ONE Body.**

Peace to you all,

Michael Burk

Bishop Michael L. Burk
What is a Synod Assembly?
Each spring, synods gather in assembly to lift up and celebrate ministries and address the official business of the synod – approve compensation guidelines, adopt a budget, address resolutions, and elect members to Synod Council. The Assembly is this synod’s highest legislative authority, limited only by the constitution and bylaws of the synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and the assembly’s own resolutions. Assembly is also a cherished time when we gather from across the synod to reconnect with friends, meet new ones, and share what it means to be the body of Christ. There will be opportunity to spend time in biblical reflection and gather with members from other congregations in small group discussion, as well as participate in a variety of forums with topics related to our life together.

Location
Lutheran Church of Hope located at:
925 Jordan Creek Parkway
West Des Moines, IA 50266
515-222-1520

Hotel Information
Hotel rooms at the Sheraton West Des Moines Hotel have been reserved at a special rate of $109 for Friday, May 19 for assembly participants. Rooms will be released on April 25. After this date, we cannot guarantee availability or price. Make reservations online. Or by phone call 515-223-1800 and mention the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly to receive the discounted rate.

Sheraton West Des Moines Hotel
1800 50th Street,
West Des Moines, IA 50266
515-223-1800

Parking
Parking is available in any of the lots surrounding Lutheran Church of Hope. The main entrance of the church is located on the south side of the building.

Registration & Information Session
Onsite registration at assembly begins Friday, May 10 at 8:00 a.m. in the foyer at Lutheran Church of Hope. An information session will be offered at 9:15 am providing time for conversation about budget, compensation and questions you may have about the work of the assembly.

Who May Register?
In accordance with S7.21 of the synod constitution, voting members to the Assembly are the following:
1) All rostered individuals in the synod, under call and in attendance.
2) The formula for congregational representation for the synod assembly is: Two voting members elected by each congregation (one male, one female) plus an additional lay voting member for every 500 baptized members over 750 (ie: 1250=1 additional, 2250=3 additional, etc).
3) Members of the Synod Council
*All assembly voting members must be voting members of their congregations.
*For broader representation, only one member per household is preferred.
*The total lay delegation from any congregation must be, as nearly as possible, 50% male and 50% female.

For more information on registration including registering youth, please visit the 2019 Synod Assembly webpage.

Assembly Visitors
Any interested person may register as a visitor to the assembly. Visitors will be seated in a special section during plenary sessions.

Pre-Assembly Materials
To be good stewards of our environmental and financial resources, the pre-assembly book will only be available online on the synod’s website: www.seiasynod.org. Paperwork essential to assembly business will be provided at assembly registration.
Guidebook
In a further attempt to save resources the Southeastern Iowa Synod will be using an electronic guidebook for those who choose to go paperless. The app to view the guide can be downloaded to a smartphone or tablet (Android or iOS) and the guide can be found by searching for Southeastern Iowa Synod within the Guidebook app. It is strongly recommended to download this in advance to save time.

Business
The assembly will approve a budget and compensation guidelines. The assembly will also consider resolutions that are brought before the gathering.

Wi-Fi
The log-in information needed to access Hope’s Wi-Fi will be provided onsite.

Offering
An offering will be taken at this year’s synod assembly.

Resolutions
In accordance with S7.51.04 of the synod constitution, the deadline for resolutions was March 26, 2019. The Reference and Counsel Committee may take into consideration resolutions that arrive after the deadline. Submit resolutions to Lorraine Jordan at Jordan@seiasynod.org. Tips for writing resolutions can be found on the synod website.

Meals
Meals included in assembly registration:

- Friday: breakfast, lunch, banquet
- Saturday: breakfast and lunch

As part of our registration this year we are offering the menu in advance for Synod Assembly. We will not be requesting information for specific dietary needs. Each meal will offer items that are suitable for vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, lo-carb, and low-dairy dietary restrictions. If you are unable to eat what is listed, please plan accordingly. For more information about the menu and dietary restrictions see the menu online.

Des Moines Area
As Iowa’s capital city, Des Moines is a hub of government action, business activity, arts and cultural events. The city has a population approaching 200,000 and a metro population of nearly 500,000. For more information about the Des Moines area, visit https://www.catchdesmoines.com/

Photography/Video Notice
Please be aware that the portions of the assembly will be recorded. This means you may end up on camera. We will also be taking photos of the event. It is likely your image will be taken and possibly used for publication or broadcast.

Additional Information
Questions concerning synod assembly may be directed to the Southeastern Iowa Synod Office at: 319-338-1273. For an emergency during synod assembly contact: 319-351-9054
What is a Synod Assembly?
The synod assembly is an annual gathering of pastors, deacons, and lay people from the congregations that make up the Southeastern Iowa Synod. The assembly serves as the synod’s highest legislative authority.

The assembly:
- receives information and reports
- elects nominees to leadership positions in the church
- reaches decisions on matters brought before the assembly
- sets priorities for the synod’s ministry
- equips and educates those who attend to interpret the mission of the synod and the ELCA in local ministry settings

The theme of the 2019 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly is “ONE Bread. ONE Body. The assembly will:
- welcome Rachel Alley, the ELCA Churchwide Representative
- adopt the 2020 Synod Budget
- adopt the 2020 Compensation Guidelines
- consider resolutions brought to the assembly floor

What is expected of me as a voting member?
You will find that your experience as a voting member of a synod assembly can be a spiritually enriching experience. You will also find that the degree to which this is true will depend on your attitude, your own sense of discipleship and commitment, and the manner in which you conduct yourself before, during, and after the assembly.

Things you can do include:
  Pray: Ask to be open constantly to the Lord’s presence and guidance and seek the prayers of the congregation
  Prepare: Study and be familiar with assembly materials
  Attend: Share fully in the assembly’s work in worship, business meetings, forums, and informal settings.
  Act: An effective voting member serves the assembly by functioning as a representative of the synod.
  Listen: Speakers during presentations and debate will provide insight and information. Also listen for special announcements and directions that will be made during the course of the assembly.

The concept of Voting Member
The use of the term Voting Member (and avoidance of the term delegate) in the governing documents of the ELCA is intentional. The idea is that a synod assembly or churchwide assembly is different from a convention of constituent units. Voting members of Synod Assemblies meet, pray for wisdom and the presence of the Holy Spirit, deliberate together, and vote on issues and in elections.
How Can I Participate in the Work of the Assembly?

1. Wear your nametag and be seated in the voting members section.
2. As a voting member you have the privilege to speak to any issue under consideration, to make appropriate motions, and to vote.
3. When seeking recognition when the Bishop is presiding, address the chair as “Bishop Burk”. Identify yourself by name and congregation when you speak at one of the floor microphones.
4. Provide things in writing. If you have a detailed motion, such as an amendment, give it to the Secretary. If you will be making a nomination from the floor, use the form provided for that purpose. If you are proposing a resolution, submit it to the Reference and Counsel Committee by the announced deadline.
5. Strive to submit a well-written resolution. Any Voting Member may submit a resolution. The deadline for resolutions at this assembly is 5:00 p.m. Friday. Special rules apply to the consideration of resolutions so submitted. If you are unsure about how to write a resolution, consult a member of the Reference and Counsel Committee. Remember that a Preamble (the section containing one or more “Whereas” clauses) is not required, and it is suggested that they be limited to providing little known information or information necessary for the record.
6. If you are unsure about what motion to make, raise a “parliamentary inquiry” and ask the chair for advice. Or you may consult with the parliamentarian outside of the business meeting.
7. Bring focus to any speech you might make. This is helpful to your position on an issue. Remember there is a two-minute limit on speeches.
8. Use the colored cards. Many of the votes will be taken by using green and red cards. Green and red cards are also used to identify proponents and opponents of questions during debate. Show a white card if you seek recognition to propose an amendment, ask a question, or make a procedural motion (such as “close debate”).
9. Remember that all voting members can contribute to a well run assembly. The ultimate goal of parliamentary procedure is to assure that the will of the assembly is discerned.

What Can I Do After the Assembly?

Following the assembly, you can continue the work of the synod by reporting about the assembly to the members and leaders of your congregation.

- Present a report during worship or an education hour
- Write an article for your congregation’s newsletter or website
- Present a report to your congregation council

Your faithful and positive witness will help your congregation see itself as a participant in the synod’s service and ministry.
Maps & Directions:

Map 1: Area Map

From West of Des Moines, Iowa
East on I-80 to the Jordan Creek Parkway exit.
Turn right (south) on Jordan Creek Parkway.
Go 3/4 mile south on Jordan Creek Parkway to Ashworth Road intersection.
Go straight through the intersection continuing south.
Turn left into the parking lot driveway just past the intersection.
Lutheran Church of Hope is on southeast corner of Ashworth and Jordan Creek Parkway

From East of Des Moines, Iowa
West on I-80 to the Jordan Creek Parkway exit.
Turn left (south) on Jordan Creek Parkway.
Go 3/4 mile south on Jordan Creek Parkway to Ashworth Road intersection.
Go straight through the intersection continuing south.
Turn left into the parking lot driveway just past the intersection.
Lutheran Church of Hope is on southeast corner of Ashworth and Jordan Creek Parkway.
Map 2:
Level 1 of Lutheran Church of Hope
Map 3:
Basement Level of Lutheran Church of Hope

Below the Chapel
1. Registered representatives of institutions and agencies supported by this synod, members of synod commissions, and members of synod assembly committees who are not voting members may, at the discretion of the chair, be granted voice to serve as a resource to the assembly. (See S7.23)

2. The Reference and Counsel Committee shall establish priorities and recommend time allotments for the consideration of resolutions. The committee shall report all resolutions as required by S7.51.04. Resolutions submitted less than 45 days prior to the first day of the assembly will be reported as information to the assembly and may be brought to the floor for consideration at the discretion of the committee of reference and counsel, or by a 2/3 majority vote of the assembly following the final report of the committee. Resolutions not brought to the floor of the assembly will be referred to the synod council.” The deadline for resolutions at the assembly is Friday, May 10th at 5:00 pm.

3. Voting members shall wear name tags issued at the time of registration.

4. Each voting member wishing to speak shall prominently display a green, red, or white card at all times while waiting to be recognized by the chair. A green card indicates that the speaker wishes to speak in favor of the resolution under consideration. A red card indicates that the speaker wishes to speak against the resolution under consideration. A white card indicates that the speaker wants to raise a procedural matter (for example, point of information, point of order, question of privilege, etc.)

5. Each speaker shall self-identify by name, congregation or other affiliation and clearly state their purpose after recognition by the chair.

6. No speaker shall speak more than twice on the same question at the same plenary session, nor longer than two minutes per speech. A second time to speak on one subject shall be granted only after all other voting members desiring to speak on the subject have had the opportunity to do so.

7. During the sessions voting members shall be seated in the voting members’ section while all nonvoting participants shall remain in their designated areas. At the chair’s discretion, visitors may join voting members for discussion. Votes may only occur when only voting members are in the voting members section.

8. Any amendment to the proposed budget for 2020 that would increase a budget area must include a proposal for decreasing another area by the same amount so that the budget total remains unchanged; and, in accordance with S10.04, shall require a 2/3 vote for adoption.

9. Guests shall be introduced at the discretion of the chair.

10. The chair may order a vote by written ballot on any question to assure the accuracy of the count.

11. At the discretion of the chair and in light of situations during the assembly, the chair shall have the authority to make minor adjustments to the approved agenda and program.

12. In the event the Bishop is unable to preside over any portion of the Synod Assembly, the Vice President shall assume the chair.

13. The Bishop may remain in the chair during the oral presentation of his report to the Synod Assembly.

14. Any Assembly business not completed by the Voting Members at the time of adjournment shall automatically be referred to Synod Council for disposition.
Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly Schedule
ONE Bread. ONE Body.
Lutheran Church of Hope, West Des Moines
May 10-11, 2019

Friday, May 10

8:00 am  Registration opens  Atrium
8:00 am  Breakfast Available
9:15 am  Information Session  Chapel
10:00 am  Session One  Bridge
12:00 pm  Lunch  Atrium
1:00 pm  Session Two  Bridge
2:30 pm  Break
3:15 pm  Session Three  Bridge
4:15 pm  Forums: Session 1 of 2  Various Locations
5:30 pm  Holy Communion  Worship Center
6:45 pm  Banquet and Program  Bridge

Saturday, May 11

8:00 am  Breakfast available  Atrium
9:00 am  Morning Worship  Bridge
9:30 am  Session Four  Bridge
11:00 am  Forums: Session 2  Various Locations
12:15 pm  Lunch  Atrium
1:00 pm  Session Five  Bridge
2:30 pm  Closing of Assembly  Bridge
ELCA Churchwide Representative
Rachel Alley
Program Director- Youth Ministry Domestic Mission Unit

Sharing God’s love and grace with youth and equipping adults who work with teens are Rachel’s greatest passions! Making sure that every person realizes that they are a beloved child of God, created with gifts to be shared with others, just as God intended, is very important to her. She understands the joys and difficulties that the teenage and young adult years bring and tries to affirm those with whom she engages with. She has over 30 years’ experience working in youth ministry and will tell you that the most important thing about youth ministry is building relationships with those you serve.

Before joining the ELCA Churchwide Staff in July of 2018 as the Program Director for Youth Ministries, she served as Assistant to the Bishop for Youth and Young adults in the Southeastern Synod for almost 15 years. And prior to her synodical work, Rachel served three different congregations in the Atlanta area beginning in 1992.

Rachel serves in the Domestic Mission Unit of the ELCA on the Faith Formation Team which includes Children’s Ministry, Young Adult Ministries, Stewardship, Faith Practices and Book of Faith, and the Youth Gathering. She coordinates the work of the Youth Core Leadership Team and the Youth Leadership Summit. She is a member of the ELCA Network for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry and the SYMBOL Board (Synod Youth Ministry Band of Leaders) and serves as a consultant on both. And most recently she was trained as a Growing Young Speaker by Fuller Youth Institute.

Rachel grew up in Social Circle, Georgia, lived in Marietta, Georgia for over 20 years before moving to Kingsland, Georgia 10 years ago. She is married to Alex and has two young adult children, Maggie and Alex. She worships at Lord of Life Lutheran Church on St Simons, Island when not on the road. She attended Georgia Southern University and the University of Georgia where she studied Early Childhood Education. In her free time, Rachel loves hanging out with her family, antiquing, walking on the beach and is an avid sports fan, especially the Jacksonville Jaguars and the Atlanta Braves.
Wendy Davidson is a global executive with over 25 years of experience in the branded CPG, retail, and food away from home industries, with a record of accomplishment in innovation, turnaround and profitable growth of mature businesses. As the President of U.S. Specialty Channels, Wendy is responsible for leading a $1.5B business in growth channels from small retail formats including convenience and vending to foodservice business-to-business operations such as schools, restaurants, lodging and healthcare as well as specialty ventures such as e-commerce direct-to-consumer and Girl Scouts. She is a member of the Kellogg Global Leadership Team, the North American Leadership Team, the Kellogg Political Action Committee and Board of Trustees for the Kellogg Company Fund, eighteen94 Venture Capital Fund Investment Committee, the K Pride & Allies (KPA) and Women of Kellogg (WOK) networks and Executive Sponsor for the company’s Young Professionals (YP) business/employee resource group.

Previously, Ms. Davidson worked 3 years as Vice President & General Manager for the US & Latin America for McCormick & Company and spent 16 years as a part of the executive team at Tyson Foods Inc. During her tenure, she held a variety of leadership roles including Senior Vice President and General Manager for the Prepared Foods; Group Vice President of Food Service; and Senior Vice President and General Manager of the McDonald’s Global Business Unit.

A graduate of Luther College, Wendy serves as the Chair of the Board of Regents. She is a non-Executive Director on the Board of First Horizon National Corporation (NYSE: FHN) and a Trustee on the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Global Board. She is past board chair of Women’s Foodservice Forum, and a member of The Network of Executive Women, the International Women’s Forum, The Chicago Network and serves on the Advisory Board of BRAVA Investments, a venture capital fund.

Ms. Davidson was awarded the National Diversity Council’s Top 15 Business Women in Illinois in 2017 and received the Luminary Award in 2016 from Girl Scouts of Chicago & NW Indiana. She was named to the Northwest Arkansas Business Journal’s “40 under 40” and “Diamond Decade” as well as Tyson Food Service Marketer of the Year.
Dear Friends in Christ,

For such a time. The world has changed and is changing. But what shapes us as Lutherans is being God’s beloved people gathered around word and sacraments. In Christ through the Spirit, God has invited us into a deeply intimate and loving relationship with God and with each other for such a time as this.

This is our time to tell the story of the church we are becoming, a church confident about who we are in Christ and what God is calling us to do. As I have said previously, if God wills that there be a witness to the gospel through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), no force on earth, not even our own, can stop it.

As we gather in synod assemblies, I invite you to pray for one another and listen for God’s will. Your prayers and discernment will be crucial as the assembly season culminates at the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee, Aug. 5-10. As part of our legislative business, we will be receiving and considering proposals from your synod assemblies. I hope you will have time and space to talk together, pray together and listen together as you consider resolutions and memorials before you. We need time for discernment.

This church continues to engage in God’s reconciling work through Christ in the world. At the churchwide organization, the ELCA Church Council is overseeing implementation of this church’s strategic plan, Future Directions 2025 (ELCA.org/future). Through this initiative, we’re cultivating new leaders and revitalizing congregations. Thank you for your faithful commitment.

Thank you also for your generosity to *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* (ELCA.org/campaign). Your continued support is an example of all the ways we are church, we are Lutheran, we are church together and we are church for the sake of the world.

God’s blessings to you as you gather as the living body of Christ. May you be guided by the Spirit as you do God’s will for God’s people for such a time.

With gratitude,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Roster Changes April 13, 2018 through April 1, 2019

Ordinations and Consecrations
Pastor Nathaniel Bothwell, Bethlehem, Slater
Pastor Kari Lee, Holy Trinity, Newton and St. Andrew, Sully
Pastor Phouthaly Onelangsy, St. Paul, Des Moines
Pastor Daniel Pell, Bethlehem, Lost Nation

New to Synod
Pastor Susan Debner, Zion, Iowa City
Pastor Rhea Evanson, retired, interim, Seeds of Faith, Lisbon
Pastor Josh Feala, Good Shepherd, Knoxville
Pastor Neil Harrison, First, Maquoketa
Pastor Jayne Thompson, Holy Redeemer, Cedar Rapids
Pastor Dennis Wright, retired

Change in Call
Pastor Eric Carlson, Faith, Clive

Synod Council Calls
Pastor Jeffery Alvestad, Interim, St. Andrew, Ames
Pastor Duane Miller, Interim, Good Shepherd, Des Moines
Pastor Jack Mithelman, Interim, Elim, Marshalltown
Pastor Heidi Williams, Interim, Redeemer, Indianola

Serving under Contract (new since previous assembly)
Pastor Dave Aanonson, Interim, Gloria Dei, Cedar Rapids
Pastor Gregory Davis, Interim, Grand View, Des Moines
Pastor Kathryn Franzenberg, Interim, Hope, Cedar Rapids

On Leave From Call
Pastor Elizabeth Bachman Caulfield
Pastor Zachary Bey
Pastor Kristine Dohrmann
Pastor Jan Rippentrop

Retirement with continuation on the roster
Pastor Ken Ahntholz
Pastor Daniel Clark Bridges
Pastor Dave Cline
Pastor Karen Cluts
Pastor Dwight DuBois
Pastor Michael Foss
Pastor Randy Kasch
Pastor Vicki Pedersen
Pastor Chaitram Prashad

Transfer to another Synod
Pastor David Burling, Northeastern Iowa Synod
Pastor Lisebet Gravley, Indiana Kentucky Synod
Pastor Randy Olson, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Pastor Sharon Worthington, Western Iowa Synod

No Longer on the Roster of the ELCA
Stephanie Malin
Steven Zittergruen

Deaths
Pastor Edward Brown – January 10, 2019
Pastor Eugene Cedarholm – July 12, 2018
Pastor Eugene Hanson – September 18, 2019
Pastor Jordan Jacobson – May 10, 2018
Deacon Larry Lundgren – October 11, 2018
Deacon Norita Lundgren – September 8, 2018