



2004 Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly

“Called Into God’s Marvelous Light”

April 23-24, 2004 • Mayo Civic Center – Exhibit Hall, Rochester

It’s that time again – time to start planning for the Synod Assembly!

Very Important Deadlines!

Mark these deadlines on your office calendar, and your personal calendar(s), in red marker or pen! Note how these dates are much earlier this year because of our earlier Assembly.

Reports and resolutions received after their deadlines (Feb. 10 and 17th) will not be included in the Pre-Assembly Report.

Feb. 10 (Tue.): Reports

- **ABSOLUTE DEADLINE** for **Agencies/Institutions/Committees/Staff Reports** to the Assembly. Make sure you e-mail them to lynsen@semnsynod.org so they arrive **ON OR BEFORE** Feb. 10.

Feb. 17 (Tue.): More Reports and Resolutions

- **ABSOLUTE DEADLINE** for **Conference Deans’ Reports** to the Assembly. Make sure you e-mail them to lynsen@semnsynod.org so they arrive **ON OR BEFORE** Feb. 17.
- **ABSOLUTE DEADLINE** for **Resolutions**. Make sure you mail or e-mail them to the Rev. Audree Catalano at 1001 14th St. NW, Suite 300; Rochester, MN 55901 or catalano@semnsynod.org so they arrive **ON OR BEFORE** Feb. 17. (Check out next month’s *River Crossings* for a handy resolution-writing guide!)

Feb. 20 (Fri.): Registration

- **Assembly registration** **POSTMARK** deadline. Your registration materials must be **POSTMARKED** by this date to be eligible for the early bird rate of \$120/person. Registration materials are included as an insert in this issue – feel free to duplicate as many copies as you need.

Elect voting members at your congregation’s annual meeting!

Congregations are encouraged to elect/choose:

- equal numbers of male and female voters
- only one member from a household
- at least one female and one male alternate

Each congregation is entitled to at least 2 lay voting members. Larger congregations that qualify for additional voting members shall elect/choose equally male and female members.

Chart for Additional Voting Members

If baptized membership as of December 31, 2002 is:

- 901-1500, 1 additional voting member is allowed.
- 1501-2100, 2 additional
- 2101-2700, 3 additional
- 2701-3300, 4 additional
- 3301-3900, 5 additional
- 3901-4500, 6 additional

All pastors and AIMS under call on the roster of this synod are voting members.

Special Guests!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Rev. Carmala Aderman, NW Synod of Wisconsin

BIBLE STUDY:

Dr. Kathryn Bradley-Love, ELCA Division for Congregational Ministries

Where do you go for the latest Synod Assembly info?

www.semnsynod.org

Abbreviated Agenda

Friday, April 23

8 a.m.	Registration
9 a.m.	Opening worship
11 a.m.	First Plenary
1 p.m.	Lunch
2 p.m.	Keynote address
3 p.m.	Evangelism Workshops
4:15 p.m.	Evangelism Workshops
5:30 p.m.	Banquet

Saturday, April 24

8:45 a.m.	Conference Caucuses with morning prayer and continental breakfast
10 a.m.	Second Plenary
12 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	Third Plenary
3 p.m.	Closing of the Assembly

Think About Nominations!

At the Assembly, we will be electing people to serve on synod leadership teams, committees, and advisory boards, as well as people to serve as voting members at the 2005 Churchwide Assembly.

We need nominations for people to serve on the following synod leadership teams. Members of these teams make up the synod council. The synod council meets 3-4 times a year in a Friday night through Saturday afternoon retreat. If you would like to know more about these teams, call the synod office at (800) 426-6376.

Synod Council: Congregational Renewal Team

- Promotes healthy, growing, mission-minded congregations
- Encourages and supports the clustering of congregations for evangelism, service, ministry and mission
- Facilitates the renewal of congregations through mentoring and resourcing
- Oversees the Lay School of Theology

Synod Council: Lay & Clergy Leadership Development Team

- Assists in the training and support of lay congregational officers and leaders
- Provides professional support for pastors, associates in ministry and church staff workers and their spouses and children
- Plans and carries out a program to recruit future pastors, associates in ministry, Diaconal ministers, deaconesses, and church staff workers
- Directs the first call theological education program

Synod Council: Mission Planning & Action Team

- Interprets the mission of the synod and Churchwide organization
- Provides leadership for stewardship development
- Explores and initiates new ministry starts
- Assists congregations to address the needs in society

In addition, we are seeking people interested in serving on the following synod committees, boards, and task forces. For descriptions, see the synod constitution in the synod handbook, or call the synod office at (800) 426-6376.

- Candidacy Committee
- Committee on Discipline
- Committee on Reference and Counsel
- Endowment Committee
- Global Mission/Companion Synods Committee
- Lay School of Theology Board
- Sabbatical Committee
- Stewardship Task Force

We are also seeking nominees for the following synod ministry partner boards. To learn more about these boards, contact the people currently serving on them (listed in the "synod ministry partners" section of the synod handbook).

- Board of Social Ministry
- Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS)
- Lutheran Coalition for Public Policy in Minnesota
- Augsburg College Corporation

The nomination form for all leadership positions listed in this article is available at www.semnsynod.org.

Want to nominate somebody (or yourself) to serve? Get the nomination form at www.semnsynod.org