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Allegheny Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

2023 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

35th Annual Assembly • June 17, 2023 • Altoona, PA

BULLETIN OF REPORTS



Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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SECTION

1

INTRODUCTION



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2023 Allegheny Synod AGENDA

June 17, 2023

- 8:30 am Opening of Assembly
Morning Prayer
Welcome
2022 Minutes
Adopt Agenda
Report of Registration
Rules and Procedural Items
Voice and Vote for UCC Pastors and Vicars
Introductions
Practice Ballot with V-Poll
- 9:20 am Plenary 1
Report of the Treasurer
First Ballot
Report of the Vice President, Ann Ferry
Report of the Secretary, David Finney
Bible study with Kristen Opalinski
- Noon –
1:00 pm LUNCH (Buffet, remain in ballroom seating)
Anniversary recognition
- 1:00 pm Plenary 2
Report of the First Ballot
Second Ballot
Report from Churchwide Representative
Report of Second Ballot
Questions or discussion on budget
Break
Vote on Budget, Compensation and Mission Support Proposal
Vote on Constitutional Amendments
Report of votes
Report of the Bishop
Report of the DEM/Assistant to the Bishop
Report from ELCA Foundation
Report from Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State
- 3:40 pm Plenary 3
Unfinished Business
Afternoon Prayer and Closing of the Assembly

2023 Rules of Procedure for Synod Assembly

The Bishop, chair of the Assembly, shall designate which sections of the auditorium, if any, are reserved for voting members. Microphones will be located in the aisles of these sections for the use of voting members. Visitors shall sit in the sections designated by the chair.

The privilege of voice and vote is extended to: all Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ministers of Word and Service on the roster of the Allegheny Synod, members of Synod Council, and Voting Members from congregations.

The privilege of seat and voice are given to: The Presiding Bishop of the ELCA and any other official representative of the church, recognized lay professional leaders, non-voting members of task forces and committees in connection with their reports, committee chairpersons, representatives of institutions and agencies related to this Synod, representatives of the Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization, Lutheran Men in Mission, and youth of this Synod.

Alternate voting members and visitors are welcome to the Assembly. They shall be seated in sections of the auditorium as directed by the chair of the Assembly. They may be permitted to speak only by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly. They are not permitted to vote.

Those addressing the chair should use a microphone and should state their name and home congregation.

In all plenary sessions, speeches from the floor shall be limited to three minutes. No person shall speak more than twice on the same questions, except by consent of the Assembly. This rule shall not apply to persons presenting a report nor when direct questions are posed to specific individuals for clarification.

All motions, other than routine ones, shall be written in advance by the mover on a form provided for that purpose, signed, and sent to the secretary's desk prior to its presentation. No motion shall be debated on the floor until a written copy is in the hands of the chair.

When there is much discussion on any motion for and against, the chair will recognize alternately persons making pro and con statements.

Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary law of this Assembly, except as otherwise provided in the Synod's Constitution and Bylaws. A parliamentarian will be appointed to rule on procedure.

Election Procedure:

IN ALL ELECTIONS:

A majority of the votes cast is needed for election. The names of the persons receiving the highest number of votes, but not elected by a majority of votes cast on the preceding ballot, shall be entered on the next ballot-two in number for each vacancy. For election of Bishop see Synod Constitution S9.04.

Report:

The results of each ballot in every election shall be announced in detail to the Assembly.

- A. When constitutional changes are required provisions for the ELCA, the Synod secretary may change the constitution immediately upon formal certification from the Secretary for the Church.
- B. When the Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA has amended the model constitution for synods, amendment of the constitution of the Allegheny Synod may reflect such changes by simple majority vote.
- C. Other amendments to the Synod Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote at a regular meeting of the Synod Assembly after movement and presentation in writing, with ten signatures at a prior Assembly.

Officers elected at the June Assembly will assume legal responsibility for their office on September 1 following the election.

continued

A Committee on Reference and Counsel shall be appointed by the chair at the opening session of the Assembly. The committee:

- A. Shall receive resolution not germane to matters before the Assembly.
 1. The committee shall review those resolutions and transmit them to the Assembly with one of the following recommendations:
 - that the Assembly consider the resolution. If the committee recommends that the Assembly consider the resolution, the committee may also recommend:
 - that the Assembly pass the resolution;
 - that the Assembly defeat the resolution;
 - that the Assembly amend the resolution in a specified manner.
 - that the Assembly refer the resolution to the Synod Council, a committee of the synod, or some other defined group for its consideration;
 - that the Assembly not consider the resolution.
 2. shall state its reasons for its recommendations if it recommends anything other than that the Assembly considers the resolution.
 3. shall determine if a resolution submitted after the pre-assembly deadline is of imminent concern.

Resolutions of imminent concern would include any resolutions pertaining to issues which call for attention or action prior to the next regularly scheduled assembly of this synod.

- B. May edit resolutions and the committee may combine similar resolutions to expedite the work of the assembly, but the committee shall not change the substance of any resolution.
- C. May consult with the author of a resolution and encourage them to take action that would not bring the resolution to the assembly.
- D. In consultation with the chair, shall recommend the order in which resolutions are transmitted to the assembly. Whenever possible, resolutions of a similar nature should be presented consecutively.
- E. May recommend that a resolution be considered as a special order.
- F. May grant or deny permission to distribute printed matter not introduced on the floor of the assembly.
- G. Shall give assistance to the chair as requested by the chair during the assembly.

Anyone wishing to distribute printed matter not introduced on the floor as part of a report to the assembly or as part of the business of the assembly must receive the approval of the Committee on Reference and Counsel before distributing the material.

Proposed amendments to the 2023 Rules of Procedure for Synod Assembly

One of the first matters of business each year at the beginning of Synod Assembly is to Adopt the Rules of Procedure. The previous Secretary of the ELCA Wm Chris Boerger wrote recommendations for adoption of two additions to the Rules of Procedure, both of which are routinely adopted at Churchwide Assembly. A two-thirds (2/3) vote to adopt rules is required, as these items are changes to or additions to Robert's Rules of Order.

1. **Moving the Previous Question** – A member who has spoken on the pending question(s) may not move the previous question(s). A motion to end debate by moving the previous question shall apply only to the immediately preceding motion. A motion to end debate on all matters

on the floor or more than the immediately pending question is not in order.

2. **Substitute Motions** – When a substitute motion is made, secondary amendments may be offered first to the original motion. After all secondary amendments to the original motion have been disposed of, secondary amendments to the substitute motion may be offered. When all amendments to the substitute motion have been disposed of, the vote shall be taken on whether the substitute motion is to be substituted as the original motion or be rejected.

We would ask you to consider both of these articles, as we vote on their adoption at the beginning of the 2023 Synod Assembly.