

## Synod Assembly 2024 Report

*Prepared by Lucas Bowley – June 9, 2024*

Delegates: Lucas Bowley & Elaine Newman

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly took place last weekend (June 7-9) in Louisville, Kentucky, guided by the theme “Waiting, Watching, Working Together in Christ”.

Keynotes were presented respectively on those 3 words by Bishop Daniel Beaudoin (NW Ohio), Bishop Donald Kreiss (SE Michigan), and Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt (Southern Ohio).

The Assembly scripture from Isaiah and Psalm 137 at Friday’s Gathering Eucharist, and Bishop Craig Satterlee used Samuel and the people’s deliberation of asking, for the people, to help guide the Assembly in this time of transition to a new Bishop at Sunday’s Sending Eucharist.

A Resolution to reserve amendments to in-person assemblies (or to provide accommodations for adequate discussion at remote assemblies) was presented and approved (R-24-01). A resolution to retiring Bishop William O. Gafkjen was also approved with a grand “woo-hoo!” (R-24-02).

With the retirement of Bishop Gafkjen, Rev. Tim Graham was elected as the newest Bishop of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Bishop-Elect Graham currently serves as the Senior Pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church in Ft. Wayne and is slated to be installed as our Synods next Bishop in October.

The Synod-wide budget was also presented on Saturday and approved on Sunday by the Assembly. The 2.3 million dollar total allots 30% to ELCA Mission Support, 10% to Congregation Mission Centers, and 16% to operations; among others.

Lastly, the sending Resolution (R-24-03) thanked everyone who made this Synod Assembly possible and for the ability to wrap up business during the weekend. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Assembly.

Thank you for reading and God bless.

--*Lucas Bowley*  
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