



Synod Assembly Voting Member Information

Voting Members:

Except as otherwise provided in this constitution and bylaws, the Synod Council has established processes that will ensure that at least 60% of the members of the synod assemblies, councils, committees, boards, and other organizational units shall be lay persons; and that at least 45% of the lay members of assemblies, councils, committees, boards, or other organizational units shall be women and at least 45% shall be men; and that, where possible, the representation of Rostered Minister shall include both men and women. *The percentage of lay persons that is not allocated to women or men may be allocated to persons who identify as gender non-binary, gender fluid, women, men, or other genders.*

This synod has established processes that will enable it to reach a minimum goal that 10% of its assemblies, councils, committees, boards, or other organizational units be persons of color and/or persons whose primary language is other than English. (*Synod Constitution; S6.04*)

Congregations

All congregations use the following formula to determine the number of lay (non-rostered) voting members they are allowed to register for the assembly. The formula has been created to meet the constitutional expectation that 60% of the voting membership of the assembly be composed of lay persons, and to achieve the goal of at least 45 percent of the lay members of the assembly shall be women and, as nearly as possible, at least 45 percent shall be men. *The percentage of lay persons that is not allocated to women or men may be allocated to persons who identify as gender non-binary, gender fluid, women, men, or other genders.*

- Up to 1000 baptized members = 2 voting members (one male/one female)
- 1001 – 2000 baptized members = 3 voting members (one male/one female/one either)
- 2001 – 3000 baptized members = 4 voting members (two male/two female)
- 3001 – 4000 baptized members = 5 voting members (two male/two female/one either)
- 4001 – 5000 baptized members = 6 voting members (three male/three female)
- 5001 – 6000 baptized members = 7 voting members (three male/three female/one either)
- 6001 – 7000 baptized members = 8 voting members (four male/four female)



Youth and Young Adult Voting Members

In addition to the aforementioned allotment of voting members, in June of 2010 the Synod Council passed a continuing resolution allowing congregations to register additional Youth and Young Adult Lay Voting Members. To be eligible for a youth or young adult voting member registration, the individual shall not have obtained the age of 30 years old at the time of registration.

- Up to 175 baptized members = 1 youth or young adult voting member of either gender
- 176 or more baptized members = 2 youth or young adult voting members (one male/one female)

Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities

Each congregation under development and Synodically Authorized Worshiping Community may register one lay voting member of any gender.

Campus Ministries

The campus ministry sites within this synod, UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and UW-Whitewater, each may elect not more than two lay voting members, one of whom shall be male and one of whom shall be female, to the Synod Assembly. The persons elected under this section shall not have attained the age of 30 years at the time of election to the Assembly.

Rostered Ministers

- **Ministers of Word & Sacrament** – All Ministers of Word & Sacrament (pastors) under call in this synod are voting members of the synod assembly. This includes those under call to specialized ministry and under synod call. All pastors under call in the synod are expected to register for and attend the assembly. Each registered pastor has one vote at the assembly, even if they are serving more than one congregation or ministry site.
- **Ministers of Word & Service** – All Ministers of Word & Service (deacons) under call in this synod are voting members of the synod assembly and are expected to register for and attend the assembly. This includes those under call to specialized ministry and under synod call. Each deacon has one vote at the assembly even if they are serving more than one congregation or ministry site.
- **Retired Rostered Ministers** – Retired Rostered Ministers may elect up to 10% of their number to be registered as voting members of the assembly.
- **Interim Rostered Ministers** – Rostered Ministers serving in interim ministry under contract but not under call shall be seated as voting members of the Assembly from the congregations they are currently serving at the time of the Assembly.