

## 2021 Synod Assembly Elections:

- We will be electing people to the **Consultation Committee, the Committee on Discipline, Synod Council and to serve as Voting Members to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly.**
- Below are the number of roles, descriptions of the positions, and names of those who were nominated by our March 31 deadline.
- **WE ARE STILL SEEKING:**
  1. a male youth or young adult to attend the 2022 Churchwide Assembly
  2. an unrestricted layperson for Synod Council (non-binary, woman, or man)
- According to our synod assembly's proposed standing rules, there is now opportunity for you as a synod assembly voting member to nominate yourself or any member of the synod "from the floor" for any position listed below. These **FLOOR NOMINATIONS ARE DUE April 15 online: <https://forms.gle/Aw5uua84tmhCpW2N6>**
- We will send out a complete packet of brief bios for each nominee following this April 15 deadline.
- YA = Young Adult; Y = Youth; POC = Person of color/or primary language is other than English; F = Female; M = Male; NB = Non-binary

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### Synod Consultation Committee

The Consultation Committee consists 12 persons, of whom half shall be ministers of word and sacrament and half shall be laypersons. They are elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of 6 years without consecutive re-election. When there is disagreement among factions within a congregation on a substantive issue that cannot be resolved by the parties, members of a congregation shall have access to the synodical bishop for consultation after informing the chair of the Congregation Council of their intent. If the consultation fails to resolve the issue(s), the Consultation Committee of this synod shall consider the matter.

Fortunately, the members of this committee are rarely called upon. (*Details in the ELCA Constitution Ch 20 and Synod Constitution Ch 17.*)  
**Electing a total of 4 persons: 2 rostered ministers, 1 lay male, and 1 lay female; 6-year terms**

#### NOMINEES:

##### Rostered Ministers:

Rev. John Guthridge  
Rev. Richard Rouse

##### Laypersons:

Donald Pearson (M)  
Margaret (Maggie) Smith (F)

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### Synod Committee on Discipline

The Committee on Discipline of this synod consists 12 persons, of whom six shall be ministers of Word and Sacrament and six shall be laypersons, who shall be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive re-election. Members of this committee may be called upon to participate in a hearing when charges are brought against governing officers, ministers of Word and Sacrament, ministers of Word and Service, congregations, and/or members of a congregation. Fortunately, the members of this committee are rarely called upon. (*Full description in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the ELCA.*)

**Electing a total of 4 persons: 2 rostered ministers, 1 lay male, and 1 lay female; 6-year terms**

#### NOMINEES:

##### Rostered Ministers:

Rev. Malcolm Brown  
Rev. Darla DeFrance

##### Laypersons:

James Colver (M)  
Elizabeth Stitt (F)  
Colin Walker (M)

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### Synod Council

The council typically meets every 2 months. The Synod Council is the board of directors of this synod, serving as the legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly. Additional leadership functions include trusteeship responsibilities on behalf of this synod; recommending program goals and budgets; carrying out resolutions of the Synod Assembly; etc. (*See Chapter 10 of the Synod Constitution for full definition of Council.*) **Electing 4 rostered ministers; 1 lay male; 1 lay female; 1 lay unrestricted; 1 young adult – all with 3-year terms; and 1 youth for a 2-year term**

#### NOMINEES:

##### Rostered Ministers:

Rev. Ivar Hillesland  
Rev. Rebecca Langholz  
Deacon Amy O'Collins  
Rev. Herbert Shao (POC)

##### Laypersons:

Celine Imani Austin (Y, POC - NB)  
Curt Eidem (M)  
Sherianne Molzahn Caldwell (F)  
Lauren Ode-Giles (YA - F)  
Elizabeth Stitt (F)

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### Voting Members to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly

In addition to our synod bishop and synod vice president, we are to send 7 persons to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly to be held in Columbus, Ohio, August 8 through 13, 2022. In keeping with the representational principles set by the ELCA, the nine will be at least 60% laypersons; 50% of laypersons will be male and 50% will be female; at least 2 will be persons of color – or persons whose primary language is other than English; at least 2 persons will be a youth (not yet 18 at time of election) or a young adult (age 18-30 at time of election.)

#### Rostered Ministers in addition to Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee:

Rev. Esaú Cuevas (POC)  
Rev. Rachel Swenson (YA)  
Rev. Anne VanKley

#### Laypersons in addition to Synod VP Kay Edgerton (F)

Curt Eidem (M)  
Kyrie Fairbairn (YA - F)  
Franklin Loulan (M)  
Sherianne Molzahn Caldwell (F)  
Laura Norton (POC - F)  
Kasey Shultz (YA - F)  
Elizabeth Stitt (F)  
Kristie Walker (F)