



2026 SWMN SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Date: June 5 - 6, 2026

Time: registration opens 11:30 am - Friday, June 5th (on-site)

Place: Gustavus Adolphus College & online via Zoom

Theme: Grounded in Hope.

The SWMN Synod Assembly provides the opportunity for both rostered and lay people to prayerfully use voice and vote at the highest legislative authority in our synod. Together members deliberate carefully and faithfully, learn from God's Word, listen deeply to one another, and worship together.

DATE: June 5 – 6, 2026

TIME: 11:30 am. Friday - 5:00 pm. Saturday.

PLACE: Online & On-site at Gustavus Adolphus College, St Peter.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- Rev. Joseph Yoo, Episcopal priest, author, theologian for 2026 ELCA Youth Extravaganza.
- Jill Beverlin, Director of Coaching Ministries, ELCA.
- Rev. Dr. Phyllis Blair Milton, Virginia Synod Bishop, partner Synod to SWMN.

ELIGIBLE SWMN VOTING MEMBERS:

- Rostered ministers under call in SWMN Synod.
- Retired and On Leave rostered ministers who are members of a congregation in this synod.
- Lay members elected by congregations of this synod.
- Lay members of the Synod Council who are not primarily elected by their congregation to serve as voting members.
- Lay conference chairpersons not primarily elected by their congregation to serve as voting members.
- Lay persons (SAM) serving at least half time in a Synod Authorized Ministry Site of this synod during Assembly. (SAMs are *in addition* to the lay numbers below.)

*The number of lay voting members to which each congregation is allotted shall be determined according to the guidelines set forth below. Congregations shall use the numerical data reported on their 2024 Congregational Report for this purpose. Congregations shall attempt to ensure equitable representation between male and female voting members, to the best of their ability.

- A youth voting member is defined as an individual who will be under 18 years of age on May 31, 2026.
- A young adult voting member is defined as an individual who will be between 18 and 30 years of age on May 31, 2026.

Let love be genuine;
hate what is evil;
hold fast to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
outdo one another in showing honor.
Do not lag in zeal;
be ardent in spirit;
Serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope;
be patient in affliction;
persevere in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the saints;
pursue hospitality to strangers.
-Romans 12:9-13.



BAPTIZED MBRS.	LAY VOTING MBRS.	YOUTH OR YOUNG ADULT.
0 - 150	1 or 2	plus one additional youth or young adult
151 - 400	2	plus one additional youth or young adult
401 - 800	3	plus one additional youth or young adult
901 - 1300	4	plus one additional youth or young adult
1301 - 1700	5	plus one additional youth or young adult
1701 - 2100	6	plus two additional youth or young adult
2101 - 2500	7	plus two additional youth or young adult
2501 - 2900	8	plus two additional youth or young adult
2901 - 3300	9	plus two additional youth or young adult

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Register online by visiting the synod website:

<https://swmnelca.org/synod-assembly/>

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

- Voting members will have the option to register to attend on-site (in person) or online via Zoom.
- On-site attendance is limited. Register early to secure your spot.
- Voting members registering to attend ONLINE will also need to register in ZOOM.
- VOTING: It's NEW! It's EASY! Practice on MAY 18 at 6:30 pm – Assembly Orientation (Zoom).

WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO REGISTER:

- Full name: first and last.
- Home address.
- Email address of each voting member. (if possible)
- Cell phone number of each voting member.
- Assembly attendance: online or on-site.
- Optional campus selection.
- NEW* - register to attend the pre-assembly hearings.
- Payment is required to finalize registration.
- Visitors registering to attend on-site will be placed in a “watch” room separate from the Plenary Floor.

EARLY RATE: (Prior to 4/10/26)

Rostered/Lay Voting member: \$175
Rostered Retired/OL – not serving. \$150
Visitor: \$175

REGULAR RATE: (After 4/10/2026)

Rostered/Lay Voting member: \$225
Rostered Retired/OL – not serving. \$175
Visitor: \$225

OPTIONAL CAMPUS HOUSING:

Campus housing may be reserved for Friday night, which also then includes Saturday breakfast.

*All dorm rooms have a/c:

- Single room (twin bed) \$60
- Double room (two twin beds) \$45 (must include roommate's name).

A NOTE ABOUT CAMPUS LIVING:

Dorms offer **communal-style accommodations** that are different from hotel stays. Rooms are simple, furnished with a TWIN bed, and bathrooms ARE SHARED, either by floor or within a suite. However, they are more affordable than a hotel, making them a budget-friendly option for the assembly while keeping you close to meals and events.

All rooms are also equipped with air conditioning for added comfort. Remember **LINENS ARE NOT INCLUDED**. You will need to bring a **sleeping bag, pillow, towel, and personal toiletries. (do NOT bring sheets unless you have TWIN XL)**. For older adults who may be unfamiliar with dorm life, the experience can feel simple, communal, and close to the heart of campus activities. Bringing a few comforts from home can help make the stay more enjoyable.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION FEE?

- Friday: supper, snacks, beverages.
- Saturday: lunch, breakfast pastries, coffee, water, snacks.
- Speakers: honorariums, travel (flights, car rental), housing, meals.
- GAC: AV – mics, speakers, amps, screens, control systems, etc.
- GAC Rental: rooms, linens, tables, staff time, etc.
- Synod Tech: Webinar, Guidebook, VPoll, etc.
- All assembly materials.

THE MARKET PLACE: - Hours: Friday 7:00 am – 8:00 pm. and Saturday 7:00 am – 1:30 pm.

For your convenience, the Market Place will be open throughout the Assembly! Select from over twenty daily entrees and side dishes. Or select from items in the Country Garden, Market Deli, Grab & Go, or Convenience areas.

HANDICAP ASSESSIBLE:

Please alert the team in advance if you need additional assistance.

SAVE THE DATE!

- April 7, 2026 – Resolution Submission deadline.
- April 10, 2026 – Early Registration ends.
- May 12, 2026 – Resolution Hearing – 6:30 pm – ZOOM.
- May 18, 2026 – Assembly Orientation – 6:30 pm – ZOOM.
- May 19, 2026 – 2027 Compensation Guidelines – 6:30 pm – ZOOM.
- May 21, 2026 – FY2028 Budget & Financial Statement – 6:30 pm – ZOOM.
- May 27, 2026 – Assembly Registration closes.
- May 27, 2026 - Assembly Refund deadline. (for any reason).
- **June 5 – 6, 2026 – SWMN Synod Assembly.**

OTHER INFORMATION:

Hotels in St Peter:

- AmericInn by Wyndham, St Peter (507) 931-6554.
- Best Western Plus, St Peter (507) 519-1234.
- Konsbruck Hotel (507) 381-1089.



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



www.swmnelca.org/synod-assembly