



Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

To: Rostered Leaders, Congregations, Synod Council Members, and Executive Officers of Synod Related Social Ministry Organizations, Agencies, and Institutions

From: Pr. Christopher McKinstry, Chair, Nominating Committee, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod

Re: Nominations for 2018 Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly

Date: December 2017

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod's Nominating Committee is asking for your help in identifying gifted and qualified persons, both clergy and lay, to serve as nominees for election at the **Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly on May 4-5, 2018**.

Every year the Synod Assembly elects members of the **Synod Council**, which serves as "the board of directors of the synod" and "its interim legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly." The 2018 assembly will elect the following:

Synod Council positions:

- Three Ministers of Word and Sacrament, terms ending 2021
- One lay female representative from Central Philadelphia Conference, term ending 2021
- One lay male representative from Upper Bucks Conference, term ending 2021
- One lay female at large, term ending in 2021
- One lay male at large, term ending in 2021

The **Committee on Discipline** specifically considers the discipline of rostered leaders, officers, congregations, and members of congregations. The process of discipline is described in detail in Chapter 20 of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*. The Committee on Discipline does not hold regular meetings. The members of this committee serve on an "as needed" basis. Members serve for one six year term.

Committee on Discipline, terms expire 2024

- Two Ministers of Word and Sacrament
- One lay female
- One lay male

Churchwide Assembly positions:

August 5-9, 2019 is the date of the **Churchwide Assembly** in Milwaukee WI. Our Synod is to send a total of 17 voting members to the CWA. The Bishop and the Vice President are two of that number. In addition to them we have the following positions:

- Five Ministers of Word and Sacrament
- Four Lay Male
- Four Lay Female

To ensure diversity in ethnicity, language, and age at the CWA, we also are to have

- 1 additional Minister of Word and Sacrament that is a Person of Color or whose primary language is other than English
- 1 additional Lay Male Youth or Young Adult, that is, a person who is 30 or under at the time of election or appointment.

Please use the synod's nominating form, available at the synod website or by request, to suggest one or more persons for the positions under consideration for the Churchwide Assembly and the Synod Council. You may make additional copies of the nominating form if necessary. Please submit names of prospective nominees as soon as possible, but before February 15, 2018.

The Nominating Committee requires all nominees submit a digital photo of themselves and respond to the following questions – (1) List your top five spiritual gifts and/or personal gifts you would bring to the position if elected, and (2) How have you used these gifts in service to the church and your work? Please answer in 50 words or less

A digital photo and response to the questions are required for a nominating form to be considered completed. Nominating forms submitted without the required information will not be accepted and will not be placed in nomination.

Completed nominating forms, and answers to the “spiritual and personal gifts” question, should be sent to:

Pr. Christopher McKinstry, Nominating Committee Chairperson
pastorchrismckinstry@gmail.com

Digital photos must be sent to:

Ms. Cynta Outterbridge
Database Manager
Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod
coutterbridge@sepa.org

Please note:

- Those nominated must be active members of congregations of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod.
- As always, we seek a diversity of candidates.
- Before suggesting a person, ask whether the person is willing to serve if elected.
- The Nominating Committee is not required to place in nomination the name of any person suggested.
- Except for the congregations of the officers and the youth and young adult representatives, two people from the same congregation may not serve on the Synod Council at the same time. The Synod Council may make exceptions to this requirement to promote greater diversity and/or inclusivity.
- In light of the level of responsibility and influence of the following positions, it is our practice that a person may serve as one of the following at a time: Synod Council Member, Conference Dean, or Member of the Candidacy Committee. A person serving in any of these roles may stand for election or appointment to another, but if chosen must resign their current position.