

2021 Nominations for Central States Synod

Introduction

Each year the voting members of the Synod Assembly elect people who have been nominated to various positions, such as members of the Synod Council. Ultimately, the voting members of the Assembly are responsible for the nominations, but they are assisted by members of congregations, area ministry leaders, and the Nominating Committee. There are two stages to the nominating process, one before the assembly and one at the assembly. All Synod Council positions (except the youth positions) require a background check and therefore nominees need to submit a disclosure form along with the nomination form.

Pre-Assembly

Early in the calendar year, the Nominating Committee works with conferences to fulfill its responsibility as described in the synod bylaws (S9.03.04). Nomination forms are to be submitted to the synod office no later than April 15, 2021. The chair of the Nominating Committee is Pat Bjuland, Atonement Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS. Phone: 816-674-0828. E-mail: pbjuland@sbcglobal.net.

At the Assembly

Nominations may also take place at the assembly as described in the synod bylaws (S9.03.05). People nominated from the floor need to provide information requested on the biographical form and in some cases, a disclosure form.

Participating in the Process

Whether you are a voting member of the assembly or not, if you have questions about how you can participate in the nominating process or would like to suggest someone for nomination, please contact your pastor, the chair of the Nominating Committee, Pat Bjuland, or Tim Anderson at the synod office (913-948-9701 or tanderson@css-elca.org).

Helpful information:

Responsibilities for Synod Council members:

- Be the board of directors for the synod and serve as its interim legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly.
- Carry out the resolutions of the assembly.
- Attend council meetings, ordinarily three times a year.
- Interpret the work of the synod through their conferences and across the synod.

The Consultation Committee is one of several committees required in all synods. It is a group of people who assist the bishop by investigating complaints and recommends actions in an attempt to resolve issues that could lead to discipline of a rostered minister or a congregation as outlined in Chapter 20 of the Constitution of the ELCA. It consists of six members, three clergy and three lay who serve a six-year term.

The Discipline Committee is one of several committees required in all synods. The functions of the Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution of the ELCA. Committee members are called upon in cases involving the discipline of a rostered minister or a congregation. The committee consists of twelve members, six clergy and six lay who serve a six-year term.

The term "persons of color and/or person whose primary language is other than English" (PC/L*) is understood to mean African American, black, Arab, and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latino, American Indian, and Alaska Native people.

The term "youth" means a voting member of a congregation who has not reached the age of 18 at the time of election. The term "young adult" means a voting member of a congregation between the ages of 18 and 30 at the time of election.

It is the goal of this synod that at least 10 percent of the voting members of the Synod Assembly, Synod Council, committees, and organizational units of this synod be youth and young adults. (S6.04.B09. Adopted by 2009 Churchwide Assembly)