



**Southeastern Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

**2019 ELCA-SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD ASSEMBLY**  
**May 31 – June 2, 2019**  
**Chattanooga Convention Center**  
**Chattanooga, TN**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 29**

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Synod Council Executive Committee	Chattanooga Marriott Signal Mountain Room
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**THURSDAY, MAY 30**

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Assembly Office Set-up	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
8:00 AM	Plenary Hall Set-Up	Exhibit Hall C
10:00 AM – Noon	Synod Council	Chattanooga Marriott Plaza A
10:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Worship Space Set-Up	Meeting Rooms F, G, I, J
Noon - 1:00 PM	Synod Council Luncheon	Chattanooga Marriott Tennessee River Room
1:00 – 5:00PM	Synod Council Meeting continues	Chattanooga Marriott Plaza A
3:00 – 5:30 PM	Registration Set-up	Assembly Registration Meeting Room 16
4:00 - 5:00 PM	Synod Assembly Committee Walk-Through	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
5:00 - 6:00 PM	Synod Council Dinner	Chattanooga Marriott Tennessee River Room
6:00 - 8:00 PM	Assembly Registration Begins	Assembly Registration Meeting Room 16
6:15 – 8:00 PM	Synod Council Meeting continues	Chattanooga Marriott Plaza A

7:00 – 8:00 PM

**Ascension Day 2019 Worship Service**  
 Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Ascension  
 720 S Germantown Road  
 East Ridge, TN

## **FRIDAY, MAY 31**

### Today's deadlines

<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>Biographical Forms Due for Floor Nominees</b> <i>Link to online form found in Elections material (Tab D)</i>	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
<b>3:30 PM</b>	<b>Deadline for bishop nominees to submit forms to withdraw their names from election consideration</b> <i>Forms available in the Assembly Office.</i>	
<b>6:15 PM</b>	<b>Conference Caucus Election Results Due</b>	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
<b>9:45 PM</b>	<b>Deadline for submission of bishop nominee biographical forms, background check consent forms &amp; disclosure forms</b>	

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7:30 - 9:00 AM	Volunteer Training - Registration (Volunteers will be notified of their specific training time separately)	Meeting Room 16
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Volunteer Training – Non-Registration	Meeting Room 18
8:00 AM - 2:30 PM***	Registration (***Will close at 11:45 AM and reopen after Bishop Ballot 1)	Assembly Registration Meeting Room 16
8:00 AM	Plenary Hall Set-up	Exhibit Hall C
8:00 AM	Exhibitor Set-up	Convention Center Hallways
9:00 – 11:00 AM	Pre-Assembly Workshops	See Workshop Schedule For Workshop Rooms
9:00 AM – 3:30 PM	Assembly Office Open	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
10:00 AM	Ministry Exhibits Open	Convention Center Hallways

10:00 AM	Reference and Counsel Committee Meeting	Meeting Room 7
	Technical/Sound Check	Plenary Hall Exhibit Hall C
10:30 AM	Minutes Committee Meeting	Meeting Room 9
10:45 AM	Elections Committee Meeting	Meeting Room 19
11:00 AM	Credentials Committee Meeting	Plenary Hall Annex
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Food Available for Purchase	Convention Center
11:45 AM - TBD	Registration Office Closes	Assembly Registration Meeting Room 16

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**12:00 - 2:15 PM**
**PLENARY SESSION 1**
**Plenary Hall  
Exhibit Hall C**


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|----|---|-----------|
| A. | Call to Order   |           |
|    | 1. Order for Opening of Assembly  | Tab J     |
|    | 2. Assembly Objectives  |           |
|    | 3. Declaration of Bounds  |           |
| B. | Opening Prayer - Assembly Chaplain  |           |
| C. | Report of the Credentials Committee – Plenary Session 1, Report 1   |           |
| D. | Adoption of the Agenda  | Tab A     |
|    | <b>Resolved, that the Agenda for the six plenary sessions and one workshop session be adopted as the Orders of the Day.</b> |           |
| E. | Adoption of the Rules of Organization and Procedure   | Exhibit 1 |
|    | <b>Resolved, that the Rules of Organization and Procedure recommended by the Synod Council be adopted.</b>                  |           |
|    | 1. Introduction of Parliamentarian  |           |
|    | 2. Roberts Rules of Order Quick Reference Guide   | Exhibit 2 |
| F. | Report of the Nominating Committee  | Tab D     |
| G. | Churchwide representative to talk about bishop election procedures  | Tab D     |
| H. | Report of the Credentials Committee – Plenary Session 1, Report 2   |           |
| I. | Election Procedures: Bishop Ballot #1   |           |

- J. Bishop's Report Tab B
- K. Greetings and Report from SESLYO
- L. Recognitions: Roster and Congregation Anniversaries, Retirees, and New to the Synod
- M. Election Procedures: Report of Results of Bishop Ballot #1
- N. Announcements
- O. Closing Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- P. Recess

- 2:30 PM Deadline for Floor Nominee Biographical Forms  
*Link to online form found in Elections material (Tab D)*
- Registration Office Closes Registration Office  
Meeting Room 16
- 3:30 PM Deadline for bishop nominees to submit forms to withdraw their names  
*Forms available in the Assembly Office.*
- Assembly Office Closes Assembly Office  
Meeting Room 17

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**2:30 - 4:00 PM                      ASSEMBLY WORSHIP                      Meeting Rooms  
F, G, I, J**

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- 4:00 – 4:15 PM                      Credentials Committee Meeting                      Plenary Hall Annex
- 4:00 – 6:30 PM                      Registration and Assembly Offices Reopen

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**4:15 - 5:30 PM                      PLENARY SESSION 2                      Plenary Hall**

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- A. Call to Order
- B. Opening Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- C. Report of the Credentials Committee
- D. Election Procedures: Bishop Ballot #2

- E. Bible Study
- F. Greetings from Bishop James Arends, La Crosse Area Synod
- G. Greetings from Portico
- H. Recognition of In Spiritus
- I. Announcements
- J. Closing Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- K. Recess

**5:30 - 6:00 PM                      Conference Caucuses (as needed)**

**Conference Caucus room assignments**

Conference 1	Meeting Room H	Conference 6	Meeting Room 3
Conference 2	Meeting Room 8	Conference 7	Meeting Room 12
Conference 3	Meeting Room 9	Conference 8	Meeting Room 18
Conference 4	Meeting Room 10	Conference 9	Meeting Room E
Conference 5	Meeting Room 2		

5:30 – 6:00 PM	Ministry Exhibits Available	Convention Center Hallways
5:30 – 7:15 PM	Food Available for Purchase	Convention Center
6:00 – 7:45 PM	Dinner on Your Own	
6:00 – 7:30 PM	In Spiritus Gathering	Meeting Room 11
6:15 PM	Conference Caucus Election Results Due <i>Form found in Assembly materials Page F-6</i>	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
	Reference and Counsel Meeting	Meeting Room 7
	Worship Team Meeting and Preparation	Worship Space
6:30 PM	Registration and Assembly Offices Close	
7:30 PM	Credentials Committee meets	Plenary Hall Annex
7:30 – 8:30 PM	Registration Continues	Assembly Registration Meeting Room 16

7:30 – 9:45 PM

Assembly Office Open

Assembly Office  
Meeting Room 17

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**7:45 - 9:00 PM**

**PLENARY SESSION 3**

**Plenary Hall**

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- A. Call to Order
- B. Opening Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- C. Report of the Credentials Committee
- D. Election Procedures: Report of Results of Bishop Ballot #2
- E. Bible Study
- F. Discussion and Vote on the 2020 Ministry Funding Plan – Tab E  
**Resolved, that the 2020 Ministry Funding Plan recommended by the Synod Council be adopted.**
- G. Thanks to outgoing Synod Council members and Deans
- H. Thanks to Bishop Gordy
- I. Announcements
- J. Closing Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- K. Recess

8:30 PM Registration Office Closes

9:45 PM Deadline for Submission of Bishop Nominee Biographical Forms, Background Check Consent Forms & Disclosure Forms  
***Forms available in the Assembly Office***

9:45 PM Assembly Office Closes

**SATURDAY, JUNE 1**

<b>7:00 – 8:15 AM</b>	<b>Global Mission Breakfast</b>	<b>Marriott Plaza A&amp; B</b>
7:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Food Available for Purchase	Convention Center
8:00 AM	Credentials Committee Meeting	Plenary Hall Annex
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Ministry Exhibits Available	Convention Center Hallways
8:15 – 10:45 AM	Assembly Office Opens	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
	Registration Continues	Assembly Registration Meeting Room 16
Noon – 2:30 PM	Food Available for Purchase	Convention Center

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<b>8:30 - 10:30 AM</b>	<b>PLENARY SESSION 4</b>	<b>Plenary Hall</b>
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- A. Call to Order
- B. Opening Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- C. Report of the Credentials Committee
- D. Election Procedure: Speeches by Bishop Nominees
- E. Report of Churchwide Representative
- F. Voting Member Formulation of Questions for Bishop Nominees (30 minutes)
- G. Discussion and Vote on Resolutions and Memorials brought by the Reference and Counsel Committee (if necessary)
- H. Election Procedure: Ballot for Bishop (#3) & other positions
- I. Announcements
- J. Closing Prayer – Assembly Chaplain
- K. Recess

**10:45 AM – 12:15 PM****ASSEMBLY WORSHIP**

12:15 PM	Registration Moves to Assembly Office	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17
12:15 PM	Lunch Break	
12:15 – 1:15 PM	Ministry Exhibits Available	Convention Center Hallways
	Credentials Committee Meeting	Plenary Hall Annex
	<b>Lunch &amp; Conversation – Trustworthy Servants</b> In this workshop, Pastor Henning will present a brief review of the “Trustworthy Servants” document, why we have such a document, and how it is developed within the Church we share. There will also be time for questions and answers about this document and our church polity.	Meeting Room 3
	Synod Council Working Lunch	Meeting Room 19
12:15 – 7:00 PM	Assembly Office Reopens	Assembly Office Meeting Room 17

**1:15 – 2:30 PM****WORKSHOP SESSIONS****2:45 – 3:30 PM****PLENARY SESSION 5****Plenary Hall**

- A. Call to Order
  - B. Opening Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
  - C. Report of the Credentials Committee
  - D. Election Procedure: Report of Result of Bishop Ballot #3  
Additional ballot for non-bishop positions as needed
  - E. Presentation of 2020 Compensation Guidelines  
**Resolved, that the 2020 Compensation Guidelines recommended by the Synod Council be adopted.**
- Exhibit 3



- F. Explanation of Q&A Sessions with Bishop Nominees
- G. Other Announcements
- H. Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- I. Move to Assigned Rooms for Q&A Sessions with Bishop Nominees

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**3:45 – 6:30 PM**

**Q&A SESSIONS WITH BISHOP NOMINEES**

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6:30 PM	Dinner on your own	
	Assembly Choir Rehearsal	Worship Space
	Worship Team Meeting & Preparation	Worship Space
8:00 PM	African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA) Caucus	Meeting Room 7

**SUNDAY, JUNE 2**

7:30 – 9:30 AM                      Food Available for Purchase                      Convention Center

**8:30 - 9:45 AM                      ASSEMBLY WORSHIP                      Worship Space**

9:45 AM                                  Credentials Committee Meeting                      Plenary Hall Annex

9:45 AM – 12:30 PM                      Assembly Office Opens                      Assembly Office Meeting Room 17

**10:00 AM - 12:15 PM                      PLENARY SESSION 6                      Plenary Hall**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Opening Prayer - Assembly Chaplain
- C. Final Report of the Credentials Committee
- D. Election Procedure: Bishop Ballot #4; others as needed
- E. Discussion and Vote on Resolutions and Memorials brought by the Reference and Counsel Committee Cont., if necessary                      Tab G
- F. Recognition of Ministries of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Nashville
- G. Greetings from Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA
- H. Election Procedure: Report of Results of Bishop Ballot #4
- I. Speeches by Bishop Nominees (if no election on ballot #4)
- J. Election Procedure: Bishop Ballot #5
- K. Bible Study
- L. Other unfinished business as needed
- M. Election Procedures: Report of Results of Bishop Ballot #5
- N. Installation of persons elected at this assembly

O. Remarks from the Bishop-Elect

P. Closing of an Assembly

Tab J

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12:30 PM

Synod Council/Deans Luncheon

Marriott Tenn. River Rm



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**WORKSHOPS**

**PRE-ASSEMBLY WORKSHOPS**

***Friday, May 31, 9:00-11:00 AM***

**Meeting Room 3**

**Spirit Embodied Breakthroughs and Disability Ministries**

Whether through the roof, over the wall, or passing underground, Jesus liberates us so that we can glorify God (Acts 11 & Luke 5). In this workshop, we will explore ways in which children, youth, young adults and families living with varying abilities (cognitive, learning, physical, psychological and sensory-related disabilities) enrich and inform our understandings of scripture, faith, and spiritual vocations. Together we will name intentional and practical steps that any congregation can take to grow into greater inclusivity and become reconciled as the body where all members pray, praise and worship together as a means of glorifying God.

*Led by Ms. Carol Josefowski, ELCA Coordinator for Disability Ministries, Chicago; sponsored by the Lutheran Theological Center, Atlanta.*

**Meeting Room H**

**Boundary Training**

This workshop explores the role of self-care in exercising responsibility for maintaining the safety of relationships and preventing boundary violations.

*Led by the Rev. Dr. Ben Moravitz, Assistant to the Bishop*

**WORKSHOP SESSION****Saturday, June 1, 2019 1:15-2:30 PM****Meeting Room E****Beyond the Walls - Community Outreach**

This workshop is the outcome of an intentional conversation at Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church in October 2018 regarding community outreach in congregations consisting mostly of retirees. While some congregations in retirement communities have difficulty in outreach efforts, others appear to succeed. Bishop Gordy asked the question, "What is the secret to your engagement?" This workshop presentation will include the seven salient points that surfaced which can apply to any congregation who may be experiencing challenges reaching out to the community beyond the church walls.

*Led by the Rev. Ingrid Schalk, pastor, Shepherd of the Lake, Loudon TN, and congregation members Mr. Tim Schalk, Ms. Kandie Shubeck, and Mr. Charlie Shubeck*

**Meeting Room H****Opening Our Hearts and Our Homes**

The need for safe and compassionate homes for some of our most vulnerable neighbors across the United States has never been greater. With 451,000 children and youth in need of foster homes, and youth and young adults as the fastest growing segment of those experiencing homelessness, as well as the growing need for housing options for adults with disabilities, the demand for these services far exceeds the supply. People of faith have a biblical call to care for the most vulnerable in our communities. Have you ever considered opening your home but thought it wasn't right for you? Come learn about the needs for safe and loving homes and how In Spiritus can partner with you to accompany those we serve on a journey from surviving to thriving.

*Led by Deacon Michelle Angalet, Vice President of Programs, In Spiritus*

**Meeting Room 2****It's a MIRACLE**

Now in its second year, the MILAGRO (miracle) Women's Center is a beacon of hope to young rural Guatemalan women. Hear from Diego Gil and our Synod Guatemala Team about how these young women are beating the dismal odds for a better life. The MILAGRO Women's Center is a ministry of the Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG), a Global Mission Companion of the Southeastern Synod. Diego Gil serves as the Delegations Coordinator for ILAG. He hosts and coordinates visits for individuals and congregations from the ELCA as they visit Guatemala to partner with ILAG in God's mission. Diego is a sports enthusiast, and his favorite bible verse is Philippians 4:13.

*Led by Mr. Diego Gil, Delegations Coordinator for Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG)*

### **Meeting Room 3**

#### **A Pastor Looks at Faith and Science: God's Work in The World**

How does God accomplish God's work in the world? Christians confess that God made everything in the world, yet there are many questions that the Bible does not address; questions that are wonderfully addressed by science. At the same time, there are many questions addressed by the Bible, particularly Jesus, that are not addressed by science, and probably cannot ever be. Most Americans and many Lutherans think that you have to choose between science and faith (God). Let's explore how our Christian faith is related to scientific findings like evolution, the big bang theory, string theory, the uncertainty theory, and other scientific findings. How does Luther comment on these matters? The good news is you do not have to choose. This conversation will give fresh perspectives on God, God's work and eternal life.

*Led by the Rev. Dr. Everett Flanigan, Administrative Dean, Lutheran Theological Center, Atlanta; Associate Pastor, Christ Our Hope Lutheran Church, Riverdale GA*

### **Meeting Room 7**

#### **Welcoming the Stranger**

Come and learn about current realities for migrants and refugees seeking a safe home. LIRS and Inspiritus staff will answer questions and explore with you ways to become involved in ministries of welcome.

*Led by Ms. Whitney Palmer, Program Manager for Circle of Welcome, LIRS, and Deacon Melanie Johnson, Director of Community Engagement, Inspiritus*

### **Meeting Room 8**

#### **Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation in the Age of Climate Change**

We will discuss how to prepare and mitigate potential damage in the event of a disaster in a changing climate environment. We will talk about concrete ways congregations can respond post-disaster through mission teams and serving as a congregational care connector and also how they can be a part of the healing of the planet.

*Led by the Rev. Dr. P. Morgan Gordy and Mr. John Boettner, Chair, Disaster Ministry Committee*

### **Meeting Room 9**

#### **Who is My Neighbor? A Prophetic Vision**

In this workshop we will explore the question, 'Who is my Neighbor?' and what that means when it comes to being advocates for our neighbors within congregations. We will have a panel of Southeastern Synod leaders led by Mr. Hilton Austin Jr., Director of Advocacy for the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, who will ask questions and facilitate the conversation with the audience. No matter whether your congregation is already doing public policy advocacy work, or whether your congregation is still afraid to have these conversations within the Church, or maybe somewhere in between, this workshop will be meaningful.

*Led by Mr. Hilton Austin, Southeastern Synod Director of Advocacy and a panel of seasoned Southeastern Synod Advocates*

**Meeting Room 10****Breaking the Silence About Suicide**

A "no cost/low cost" congregational suicide prevention plan in three parts: Preaching, Asking, and Learning. It involves the pastor and congregation in responding to Presiding Bishop Eaton's call, "...it is time to break the silence around suicide."

*Led by Mr. Gerald (Jerry) Weyrauch, MBA, and Mr. Adam Renner, MDiv*

**Meeting Room 11****Stamina for Your Soul: Cultivating Healthy Spiritual Practices**

In the midst of busy, overfilled lives, too often we don't listen to what our bodies really need. Join Portico Regional Representative Barbara Debski for a look at what we can learn from the story of the Feeding of the 5000 about how to be healthy. We'll also identify spiritual practices that can help us navigate our daily responsibilities while still finding time for self-care.

*Led by Ms. Barbara Debski, Regional Representative for Portico Benefit Services*

**Meeting Room 12****GODISNOWHERE...In Prayer**

Come and enjoy a variety of hands-on activities that explore the way we pray. Be ready for some great conversation and have some fun with your very own 2019/20 SESLYO Board.

*Led by 2019/2020 SESLYO Board*

**Meeting Room 18****Congregation Presidents (& Leaders) Gathering**

A gathering of Congregation Presidents (& other leaders) to foster fellowship and cooperation among our Synod's congregations. We will be celebrating our fellow congregation's successes and lifting our fellow congregation's failures. We will look for points of connection and ways that we can work together.

*Led by Mr. Imran Siddiqui, Synod Vice President, and Mr. Ed Ringer, At-Large Member of the Synod Council*

**Marriott Plaza East Room****Southeastern Synod Spouses Group**

The Southeastern Synod Spouses Group is an informal gathering of spouses, or soon to be spouses of rostered ministers or soon to be rostered ministers (Pastors, Deacons). Our discussion will center around sharing "wins" and "woes" we have experience. Participants are encouraged to share scripture or meditation which they find helpful. Contact information is gathered and distributed so that we will be able to contact one another for encouragement and support during the year.

*Led by Ms. Barbara Tedrow, member, Celebration of Grace, Canton, GA and spouse of the Rev. Harry Tedrow, pastor, Celebration of Grace*

**Marriott Plaza West Room****Compensation & Benefits Guidelines Discussion**

This workshop is to discuss any topics with regards to the Compensation & Benefits Guidelines.

*Led by Ms. Sabra Black, member, Holy Trinity, Marietta, GA and chair of the Southeastern Synod Compensation & Benefits Guidelines Committee*