



21st Annual Synod Assembly
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

May 29-31, 2008

Split Rock Resort, Lake Harmony

2008 Synod Assembly Program Assembly Edition

Thursday, May 29, 2008

- 1:00 - **Registration begins and continues throughout assembly**
- 4:45 - 6:45 PM **Buffet dinner** (for those staying at Split Rock or who have purchased tickets *in advance*)
- 6:45 - 7:00 PM **Gathering Music**
- 7:00 - 9:30 PM Plenary Session One**
- Adoption of the Program
 - Report of the Constitution Committee
 - Prayerful Preparation for the Election of a Bishop
 - Explanation of the Election Process
 - Report of the Credentials Committee
 - First ballot for bishop; collection of first ballot for bishop
 - Report of the Nominating Committee
 - Connection Building Ministry Team Report
 - Introduction to, first report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel
 - Report of the Bishop
 - Report of the Vice President and Synod Council
 - Report of the Secretary
 - Report of the Treasurer
- 9:45 PM **Eucharist** (Lehigh Room)

Friday, May 30, 2008

- 7:00 AM **Eucharist** (Lehigh Room)
- 7:00 - 8:15 AM **Breakfast buffet** (for those staying at Split Rock or who have purchased tickets *in advance*)
- 8:15 - 8:30 AM **Gathering Music**
- 8:30 - 10:00 AM Plenary Session Two**
- Report of first ballot for bishop
 - Report of the Credentials Committee
 - Second ballot for bishop; collection of second ballot for bishop
 - First ballot for other elections; collection of first ballot for other elections
 - Report of the ELCA representative (the Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich)
 - Witness and Service Ministry Team Report
 - Report of second ballot for bishop
- 10:00 - 10:30 AM **Break**
- 10:30 - 11:45 **Forums** (locations to be announced)
- 11:45 - 1:15 PM **Buffet lunch** (for those staying at Split Rock or who have purchased tickets *in advance*)
- 1:15 - 1:30 PM **Gathering music**
- 1:30 - 2:15 PM Plenary Session Three**
- Report of first ballot for other elections; second ballot for other elections; collection of second ballot for other elections
 - Introduction and addresses by each of the seven nominees for bishop

- 2:15 - 2:45 PM **Break**; voting members move to mission district gatherings
- 2:45 - 5:30 PM Mission district conversations with candidates for bishop
- 5:30 - 7:00 PM **Buffet dinner** (for those staying at Split Rock or who have purchased tickets *in advance*)
- 7:00 - 7:15 PM **Gathering music**
- 7:15 - 8:35 PM Plenary Session Four**
 Report of the Credentials Committee
 Third ballot for bishop; collection of third ballot for bishop
 Report of second ballot for other elections; third ballot for other elections
 Collection of third ballot for other elections
 Greetings from PA Council of Churches Executive Director Gary L. Harke
 Leadership Development Ministry Team Report
 Q&A with the ELCA representative, the Rev. Kathie Bender Schwich
 Second report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel
 Report of third ballot for bishop
- 8:35 - 9:00 PM **Compline** in assembly hall
- 9:00 - 10:30 PM **Reception** honoring Bishop David and Doris Strobel and the synod staff

Saturday, May 31, 2008

- 7:00 - 8:15 AM **Buffet breakfast** (for those staying at Split Rock or who have purchased tickets *in advance*)
- 8:15 - 8:30 AM **Gathering music**
- 8:30 - 10:15 AM Plenary Session Five**
Bible study reflections by three nominees for bishop
 Report of the Credentials Committee
 Fourth ballot for bishop; collection of fourth ballot for bishop
 Report of third ballot for other elections; fourth ballot if needed
 Adoption of 2009 program proposal
 Action on 2009 compensation guidelines
 Announcement about **LIFT 2009**
- 10:15 - 10:30 AM **Break**
- 10:30 - Noon Plenary Session Five (continued)**
 Introduction of candidates for the roster
 Introduction of rostered individuals new to the synod
 Recognition of rostered individuals who retired since 2007 assembly
 Recognition of major anniversary celebrations
 Report of fourth ballot for bishop
- Noon - 1:30 PM **Buffet lunch** (for those staying at Split Rock or who have purchased tickets *in advance*)
- 1:30 - 3:00 PM Plenary Session Six**
 Report of the Credentials Committee
 Fifth ballot for bishop; collection of fifth ballot for bishop
 Final report of the Committee of Reference and Counsel
 Report of fifth ballot for bishop
 Worship and Spirituality Ministry Team Report
 Unfinished business
 Report of the Committee of Minutes
 Report of the Committee of Registration and Excuse
- 3:15 PM **Sending Eucharist**