



**Northern Illinois Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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January 4, 2018

Dear congregations and rostered ministers:

Grace and peace to you in this New Year! This letter will provide you with some initial important information about the **Thirty-First Annual Northern Illinois Synod Assembly**, being held on Friday and Saturday, June 15-16, 2018 at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois.

Please refer to the lists provided on pages 2 and 3 of this letter to confirm the number of **lay voting members** your congregation is allowed. These voting members are asked to be equally divided between male and female<sup>1</sup> and from different households.<sup>2</sup> In addition, each congregation may register one additional voting member as a youth<sup>3</sup> or one young adult.<sup>4</sup> Your congregation is also encouraged to elect one or two alternates to attend as visitors this year with the possibility of their attending as voting members at next year's assembly. Although this procedure would be costlier to your congregation, your congregation will benefit by future voting members observing the assembly operation one year and, thus, being better prepared to represent your congregation the following year at assembly. (Note: Visitors are welcome to attend the assembly and are requested to send in a registration form with appropriate assembly fees which includes registration fee. Visitors are responsible for their assembly fees.)

Pastors (ministers of Word and Sacrament) and deacons (ministers of Word and Service) under call are expected to attend all synod assemblies.<sup>5</sup> All pastors and deacons under call as well as interim pastors will be voting members of the assembly (costs are the congregation's responsibility). Retired pastors and deacons as well as those on leave from call<sup>6</sup> have voice and vote provided they register prior to the assembly date, otherwise they have voice, but not vote (registration fees are waived; they are responsible for all other costs).

Basic, dorm-style housing will be available in the Augustana dorms or, if you prefer, we have arranged for a small block of hotel rooms. Please refer to that information on page 3.

Walking with you,

The Reverend Jeffrey Clements, Bishop

JC/nc

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<sup>1</sup> Constitutional Provision S7.21.c: "...normally one of whom shall be male and one of whom shall be female..."

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 7, Synod Assembly: "It is the intention of this Synod that normally there shall be no more than one voting member of the Synod Assembly from a single household."

<sup>3</sup> Synod Constitutional Bylaw S7.21.A11 "... a voting member who has not reached the age of 18 at the time of election or appointment for service"

<sup>4</sup> Synod Constitutional Bylaw S7.21.A11 "...a voting member between the ages of 18 and 30 at the time of election or appointment for service"

<sup>5</sup> S14.21.1. "All ordained ministers under a call shall attend meetings of the synod assembly..." and Constitutional Provision S14.31.d. "Deacons on the roster of this synod... shall attend meetings of the synod assembly."

<sup>6</sup> ACTION SC-17-09-25 The Council voted to approve permitting ministers not under active call to have both voice and vote at Synod Assemblies and establish a process through which this can take place – much in the same way that retired ministers are allowed both voice and vote at Synod Assemblies.

## 2018 Assembly of the Northern Illinois Synod, ELCA

The listed "baptized membership figures" of the 149 Northern Illinois Synod congregations, as reported to the ELCA through each congregation's year-end statistical report (parochial report) as of 12/31/2016, is the basis for determining the "number of lay voting members" selected to attend the assembly.

The "baptized membership" formula consists of the top 10% of our congregations receiving four lay voting members, the next top 10% of our congregations receiving three lay voting members, and the remainder of our congregations receiving two lay voting members.

### Congregations allowed FOUR voting members, plus one additional youth or young adult:

	<b>Baptized Membership</b>	<b>Congregation</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Conference</b>
1	3044	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church	McHenry	Northeast
2	2319	Alleluia! Lutheran Church	Naperville	East
3	1682	Grace Lutheran Church	Woodstock	Northeast
4	1617	Salem Lutheran Church	Sycamore	Northeast
5	1609	St. John Lutheran Church	Joliet	East
6	1363	Peace Lutheran Church	New Lenox	East
7	1333	Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church	Huntley	Northeast
8	1328	Light of Christ Lutheran Church	Algonquin	Northeast
9	1277	Trinity Lutheran Church	Moline	West
10	1218	Bethany Lutheran Church	Crystal Lake	Northeast
11	1106	Grace Lutheran Church	Loves Park	North
12	1090	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Orion	West
13	1080	Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Rockford	North
14	978	First Lutheran Church	Geneseo	West
15	959	Zion Lutheran Church	Rockford	North

**Congregations allowed THREE voting members, plus one additional youth or young adult:**

	<b>Baptized Membership</b>	<b>Congregation</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Conference</b>
1	957	Cross and Crown Lutheran Church	Roscoe	North
2	900	Trinity Lutheran Church	Rockford	North
3	874	Trinity Lutheran Church	Ottawa	South
4	843	Our Saviour Lutheran Church	Sandwich	East
5	812	First Lutheran Church	DeKalb	Northeast
6	797	St. Mark Lutheran Church	Rockford	North
7	763	St. John's Lutheran Church	Mendota	South
8	743	New Life Lutheran Church	Bolingbrook	East
9	733	St. Paul Lutheran Church	Dixon	Central
10	700	Immanuel Lutheran Church	Dixon	Central
11	697	All Saints Lutheran Church	Byron	Central
12	681	Grace Lutheran Church	Knoxville	Southwest
13	671	Trinity Lutheran Church	Harvard	Northeast
14	643	St. John Lutheran Church	Somonauk	South
15	611	St. John Lutheran Church	Sterling	Central

**All other congregations are allowed TWO voting members, plus one additional youth or young adult.**

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### **Housing Information**

Basic, dorm-style housing is offered in the dorms at Augustana, however, for those that prefer hotel accommodations, we have arranged for a small block of rooms at the two hotels closest to Augustana campus:

- **Radisson on John Deere Commons**, 1415 River Drive, Moline, 309-764-1000
- **Stoney Creek Hotel & Convention Center**, 101 18<sup>th</sup> St., Moline, 309-743-0101

If your congregation wishes to make reservations at one of these hotels, we encourage you to do so now because of the limited number of rooms available. Stoney Creek room rate begins at \$104. Radisson room rates begin at \$105. (Note: These rates will change when the block of rooms is released).

These rooms are on a first come/first serve basis, and *rooms at both hotels will be released May 14, 2018.*