

January 5, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: All ELCA Rostered Leaders, Congregations and Authorized Worshipping Communities of the Metropolitan New York Synod

FROM: The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Secretary of the MNYS

DATE: January 5, 2019

RE: 2019 Synod Assembly

On behalf of the Synod Council, I announce to you that the 2019 annual Metropolitan New York Synod Assembly will be held May 16-18, 2019, at the Westchester Marriott in Tarrytown, New York.

The theme for the Assembly is *Care for Creation*. We will focus on how, as disciples of Christ, we are called more than ever before to care for this wonderful creation of God.

This is a significant Assembly in that we will be electing a new bishop to lead us forward. Information from the Town Hall meetings will be distributed mid-January, together with devotional and worship materials to help us discern whom God will raise up as our new bishop.

The registration fees are as follows:

January 5 – March 6 \$175 per voting member* \$75 per visitor \$225 per optional meal plan **Payment must be received by March 6*

March 7 – April 24 \$200 per voting member* \$100 per visitor \$225 per optional meal plan *Payment must be received by March 14

May 11-12 \$300 per voting member \$150 per visitor No meal plans available

If you need help with the form, need to make changes to a registration (or confirm a registration), or need to submit a payment, please contact Maria Rodas (212-870-2387 or mrodas@mnys.org).

The special rate at the hotel is \$164 per room, per night; that rate expires April 24 or when our block of rooms is filled. Reservations should be made through the <u>MNYS assembly webpage</u> or by calling 914-631-2200, and stating that you are with the "Metropolitan New York Synod."

The following formula has been adopted for the election of voting members by congregations and authorized worshiping communities based on the current year's congregational statistics:

Congregations Up To 699 Baptized Members 2 lay voting members

Congregations of 700-999 Baptized Members 3 lay voting members

Congregations of 1,000 or More Baptized Members 4 lay voting members

Authorized Worshiping Communities 1 lay voting member

In addition, all ELCA rostered ministers of the synod (including retired or on leave from call) are voting members of the assembly. Those congregations that will not be sending voting members or rostered ministers who will not be attending are expected to submit a letter of excuse, <u>here</u>.

All congregations are encouraged to submit registrations for alternate voting members (at no cost) to account for changes.

Sincerely, The Rev. Robert Schoepflin, Secretary of the MNYS