

Synod Council Member, Metro D.C. Synod Position Description & Expectations as of February 2022

As you consider this opportunity for service, we would like you to know something of the expectations and responsibilities of this office so that you may make an informed decision.

Commitment /Frequency

The Synod Council usually meets an average of eight (8) times per year. Council meetings are scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on a Saturday morning. The first Synod Council meeting for newly-elected Synod Council members (other than the officers) will be held in the middle of July 2022, on a date that is yet to be determined. In addition to the four officers, four Synod Council members are elected to serve on the Synod Executive Committee. The Synod Executive Committee usually meets virtually one evening a month (typically the first or second Tuesday of the month) from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Composition of the Synod Council

The Synod Council is currently composed of 22 members, as follows:

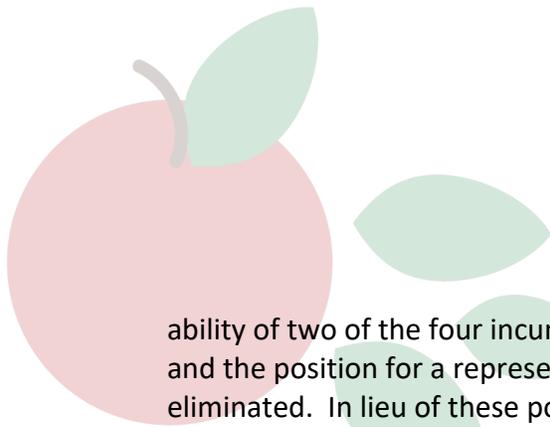
- The four officers (bishop, vice president, secretary, and treasurer);
- One minister of Word and Sacrament from each of the six conferences;
- One lay person from each of the six conferences;
- One at-large member who must be a minister of Word and Service;
- Three other at-large members, who may be rostered ministers or lay persons;
- A representative from the Synod Women's Organization; and
- A representative from the youth organization.

Note: The Synod Council has recommended that the 2022 Synod Assembly approve a series of changes to the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions* of the synod that would, if adopted, reduce the size and alter the composition of the Synod Council. Provided that these changes are adopted by the 2022 Synod Assembly, the size of the Synod Council will be reduced from 22 to 20 immediately, and from 20 to 18 after the 2023 Synod Assembly. Pursuant to these recommended changes, the four at-large positions would be eliminated (subject to the



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ability of two of the four incumbents to serve the remainder of their two-year term until 2023) and the position for a representative from the Synod Women's Organization would also be eliminated. In lieu of these positions, one at-large position would be reserved for a young adult (an individual between 18 and 30 at the time of election). Finally, the six conference positions currently reserved for ministers of Word and Sacrament would be opened to all rostered ministers, *i.e.*, both ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service.

Election Process and Term

In accordance with our synod's *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions*, members of the Synod Council (other than the officers and the youth representative) are elected to a two-year term and may be reelected to a second consecutive term. The term of office of the youth representative is one year. Each member of the Synod Council shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, with the exception of ministers on the roster of this synod who reside outside the territory of this synod. The term of office for each elected Synod Council member (other than the officers) will begin at the conclusion of the 2022 Synod Assembly.

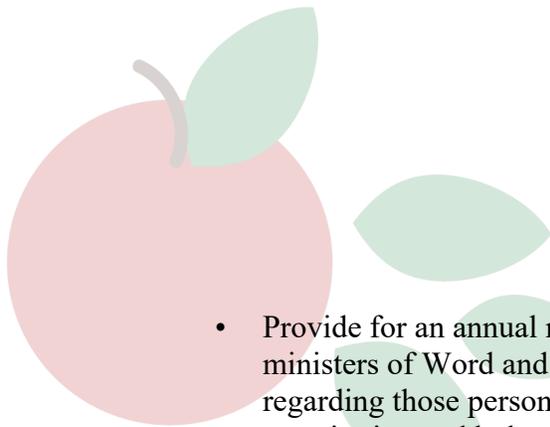
Although the historical pattern of elections was interrupted by the cancellation of the 2020 Synod Assembly, the 2022 Synod Assembly will return to the normal pattern of electing approximately one-half of the Synod Council to two-year terms. Accordingly, elections will be held only for one representative from each conference (either rostered minister or lay), the at-large position for a young adult, and the youth representative.

Functions and Duties

Pursuant to the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions* of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, the Synod Council shall:

- Serve as the board of directors of this synod and serve as its interim legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly, making decisions which are not in conflict with actions taken by the Synod Assembly or which are not precluded by provisions of this constitution or the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).
- Exercise trusteeship responsibilities on behalf of this synod.
- Recommend program goals and budgets to the regular meetings of the Synod Assembly.
- Carry out the resolutions of the Synod Assembly.





- Provide for an annual review of the rosters of ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service, receive and act upon appropriate recommendations regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration and action under the constitution and bylaws of the ELCA, and make a report to the Synod Assembly of the Synod Council's actions in this regard.
- Issue letters of call to rostered ministers in accordance with Chapter 7 of the constitution and bylaws of the ELCA.
- Determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of this synod.
- Fill vacancies in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of this synod until the next regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- Report its actions to the regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- Perform such other functions as are set forth in the bylaws of this synod, or as may be delegated to it by the Synod Assembly.
- Assist the life and mission of this synod through oversight, coordination, and support of all the committees and other organizational units of this synod.

No elected member of the Synod Council shall receive compensation for their service.

If a member of the Synod Council who is a lay person ceases to be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, the office filled by such member shall at once become vacant.

If a member of the Synod Council who is a minister of Word and Sacrament or minister of Word and Service ceases to be a member in good standing on a roster of this synod, the office filled by such member shall at once become vacant.

Nomination Process

Interested individuals should complete the Candidate Information Form at the web page for the 2022 Synod Assembly, at <http://metrocelca.org/2022assembly/>.

We are looking for people who are faithful Christians, highly participative, ask questions, generate ideas, make decisions, accept responsibility, and work collegially. Are you willing to have your name submitted for nomination?



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