

SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

**JUNE • 4-5 • 2021
ZOOM WEBINAR**

**ABUNDANCE
JOHN 6:1-15**



JOHN 6:1-15

ABUNDANCE

SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD ASSEMBLY

JUNE 4-5, 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 29 - MAY 11

REGISTRATION

MAY 15 1-3 PM

PRE-ASSEMBLY GATHERING

Virtual gathering on Zoom
Voting member tech training
Assembly business preparation

MAY 16 3-5 PM

PRE-ASSEMBLY GATHERING

Virtual gathering on Zoom
Voting member tech training
Assembly business preparation

MAY 17 7-9 PM

PRE-ASSEMBLY GATHERING

Virtual gathering on Zoom
Voting member tech training
Assembly business preparation

JUNE 4 7 PM

OPENING OF ASSEMBLY

Virtual Synod-wide Worship Service
Start of Assembly business

JUNE 5 9 AM

ASSEMBLY CONTINUES

Assembly business
Keynote speakers
& lots of breaks!

ASSEMBLY ATTENDANCE

WHO IS INVITED TO ATTEND? YOU!

Voting members of SOS congregations are invited to be a part of the 2021 SOS Assembly as a voting member from their congregation--Each congregation is allotted 2 lay voting members in addition to their rostered ministers per SOS constitution. Additional voting members are allowed for those congregations meeting the criteria outlined in the SOS Constitution. (See Additional Voting Members section for exact constitution language on additional voting members to the Assembly.)

WHAT'S THE ASSEMBLY FOCUS THIS YEAR?

The SOS Assembly theme is 'Abundance.' Our gathering and worship will focus on the Feeding of the 5000 in John 6:1-15.

WHY SHOULD I BE A VOTING MEMBER?

The Synod Assembly, is the highest legislative authority. The powers of the Synod Assembly are limited only by the provisions in the Articles of Incorporation, our constitution and bylaws, the assembly's own resolutions, and the constitutions and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

It is also your opportunity to better understand how the synod level of the ELCA works and how your generous donations are put to good use to carry out our shared mission and ministry.

We hope you will share with your congregation members what you learn and discover during the assembly. Remember, we are stronger and better together as we join Jesus in the restoration of the world!

NOT A VOTING MEMBER?

Watch the Assembly business and worship on our Facebook page and YouTube Channel. Because this year's Assembly is a virtual event, only voting members will be able to join the Zoom Webinar and have access to our voting app.

ASSEMBLY 2021

WHEN IS ASSEMBLY?

The SOS Assembly **begins June 4, 2021 at 7 pm** with a synod-wide worship service that will stream on our Facebook page and YouTube Channel. All members of the synod are invited to watch the worship service and participate from their homes or wherever they choose to gather. After the worship service concludes, voting members will be admitted to the Zoom Webinar for the official start of the Assembly proceedings. Look for a detailed agenda in May.

The **Assembly will continue on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 9 am** for voting members only.

HOW DO I JOIN THE MEETING?

Voting members will connect to the SOS Assembly via Zoom Webinar using a computer with a reliable internet access. Your computer does not need a camera, but will require a microphone so you can be heard 'from the floor' should you wish to speak to a matter up for vote during the proceedings. The computer that will connect you to the Zoom Webinar may be shared with one or more people, as long as COVID safety protocols may be observed.

Voting members will also need a voting device. A voting device is a smart phone or tablet to which you will download a voting app that will allow you to participate in voting, Q&A, polls and other interactions. The voting device may not be shared. Each voting member will need their own voting device. If you don't have a smart phone or tablet, and wish to be a voting member, please ask a family member, friend or your pastor/deacon to borrow one.

IF THE ASSEMBLY IS VIRTUAL, CAN WE STILL GATHER?

Voting members are encouraged to gather in small groups either in someone's home or a congregation while following applicable COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines. The SOS Assembly Team is looking for congregations to serve as Assembly Host sites. Specifics regarding the technical capabilities and space requirements for an Assembly Host site will be shared with interested congregations. By gathering in small groups, you will have the opportunity to discuss the reports, presentations, and business before the assembly with someone other than your pet. Of course, individual voting members are welcome to join from their homes with their pets if they prefer.

REGISTER



Scan the QR Code to register online

I'M IN! HOW DO I REGISTER?

Voting members are encouraged to register online using this link <http://bit.ly/ELCA-SOSAssemblyReg> or scan the QR code.

Online registrants may pay with a credit card or mail a check.

You may also register using the hard copy registration form at the end of this packet. Please send a check to cover the full amount of registration fees for your voting members from your congregation.

The registration fee is \$50 per person. Congregations that register at least 2 voting members, in addition to their pastor(s)/deacon(s) will receive a free copy of Pr. Mike Ward's new book, *Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity*. Pr. Ward is our keynote speaker for this year's assembly. See his bio for more information.

WHAT'S THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE?

All voting members must be registered by May 11, 2021. Because this is a virtual event, there will be no on-site registration. May 11 is the final deadline for registrants so that all may receive and review the pre-assembly materials and participate in the Pre-Assembly Gatherings.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER BIO--REV. MIKE WARD

Rev. Mike Ward, CFRE. Mike is the fourth partner in the 44-year history of GSB. Mike began his relationship with the firm as a client for twelve years as he served as VP of Advancement for NovusWay Ministries in Arden, NC.

Mike is called by the North Carolina Synod, ELCA to full-time stewardship ministry. His clients include congregations, synods, camps, seminaries, and social service agencies. He is a popular speaker at conferences in the areas of annual fund, campaign, congregational partnership, major donor development, and more. His first book, *Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity* was published and released by Fortress Press in January, 2020 where it became the publishers #1 title of 2020.

His previous service on boards includes the ELCA National Church Council and the ELCA Youth Ministry Network. Mike is a beekeeper and manages between 12-15 hives per year. His wife is a Spanish teacher at Veritas Christian Academy in Fletcher. Mike's daughter is in graduate school and son has just started college at NC State.

PRE-ASSEMBLY

HOW CAN VOTING MEMBERS PREPARE FOR ASSEMBLY?

We have a couple of pre-assembly preparation opportunities for voting members to help you get ready to fully participate in the Assembly proceedings. Even if this isn't your first Assembly, it is probably your first virtual Assembly and while much remains the same, there are many differences.

A. Voting members are invited and encouraged to attend 1 of 3 virtual Pre-Assembly Gatherings. During these gatherings, voting members will have an opportunity to try out the voting app and the various ways members will be able to interact with Bishop Dillahunt and others during the Assembly. You may gather with those you will be with on the day of assembly or join by yourself for the Pre-Assembly Gatherings. Specific details and links to the gatherings will be shared with voting members once registered.

Pre-Assembly Gathering Dates

- May 15 1-3 pm
- May 16 3-5 pm
- May 17 7-9 pm

B. Voting members and all other SOS members are invited to read through and discuss a special Bible Study being prepared by a member of the SOS Assembly Planning Team. This special study is intended to prepare your mind and spirit to be fully present and ready to fully participate in the Assembly. We firmly believe and expect the Holy Spirit to be present and lead the SOS Assembly in their decisions and actions while we are together and even when we convene. The Spirit is always palpable during our time together and we expect the same to be true when we meet virtually.

REGISTER NOW!

Scan the QR Code to register online
or go to URL below

[HTTP://BIT.LY/ELCA-SOSASSEMBLYREG](http://bit.ly/elca-sosassemblyreg)



ADDITIONAL VOTING MEMBERS

CAN MY CONGREGATION REGISTER MORE THAN 2 LAY VOTING MEMBERS?

Possibly...

In 2018, the Synod Council approved the following resolution establishing a process for allowing additional Voting Members for the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly.

1. Congregations of the Southern Ohio Synod who meet the following baptized, confirmed and worship thresholds as stated on their submitted reports to the ELCA in the calendar year of the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly will receive the following additional voting members to the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly.

a. Congregations exceeding 750 baptized members, 500 confirmed members and 250 worshippers (average weekly attendance) shall receive one additional lay voting member at the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly.

b. Congregations exceeding 1500 baptized members, 1000 confirmed members and 500 worshippers (average weekly attendance) shall receive two additional lay voting members (one man and one woman) at the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly.

c. Congregations exceeding 2250 baptized members, 1500 confirmed members and 750 worshippers (average weekly attendance) shall receive three additional lay voting members (at least one of a different gender) at the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly.

Congregations that desire additional voting members should submit a request to Susan Barton-Nonno (sbarton-nonno@southernohiosynod.org), including numbers of baptized members, confirmed members, and average weekly attendance as reported on the 2020 Parochial Report. After she has confirmed those numbers, she will contact the congregation with the number of Voting Members allocated.

REGISTER NOW!

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[HTTP://BIT.LY/ELCA-SOSASSEMBLYREG](http://bit.ly/elca-sosassemblyreg)



2021 SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION

CONGREGATION NAME: _____

CONGREGATION CITY: _____ CONGREGATION ID #: _____

THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR EACH VOTING MEMBER IS \$50. A FREE COPY OF *ABUNDANCE: CREATING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY* BY PR. MIKE WARD WILL BE SENT TO EVERY CONGREGATION THAT REGISTERS AT LEAST 2 LAY VOTING MEMBERS AND THEIR PASTOR/DEACON.

PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAMES OF YOUR VOTING MEMBERS AND THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION

ROSTERED MINISTER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

LAY VOTING MEMBER 1: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

LAY VOTING MEMBER 2: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____



Scan the QR Code to register online

REGISTER ADDITIONAL ROSTERED MINISTERS BELOW

ROSTERED MINISTER 3: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

ROSTERED MINISTER 4: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

ROSTERED MINISTER 5: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

2021 SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION CONTINUED

THE REGISTRATION FEE FOR EACH VOTING MEMBER IS \$50. A FREE COPY OF *ABUNDANCE: CREATING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY* BY PR. MIKE WARD WILL BE SENT TO EVERY CONGREGATION THAT REGISTERS AT LEAST 2 LAY VOTING MEMBERS AND THEIR PASTOR/DEACON.

REGISTER ADDITIONAL LAY VOTING MEMBERS BELOW

LAY VOTING MEMBER 3: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

LAY VOTING MEMBER 4: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

LAY VOTING MEMBER 5: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____



Scan the QR Code to register online

TOTAL REGISTERED _____ X \$50 FOR EACH VOTING MEMBER = \$ _____

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS MAY 11

**BECAUSE THIS IS A VIRTUAL EVENT,
THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATIONS**

CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE SYNOD OFFICE BY MAY 17

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD

**SEND CHECK TO:
SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD
9200 WORTHINGTON RD, SUITE 140
WESTERVILLE, OH 43082**