



January 11, 2024

*How Can I Keep From Singing?*

Epiphany Greetings!

The 36th Synod Assembly will take place in person on **May 11, 2024**, at **Grounds for Sculpture**, 80 Sculptors Way, Hamilton Township, NJ 08619, under the theme “**How Can I Keep From Singing?**”.

All assembly information can be found online at [www.njsynod.org/assembly](http://www.njsynod.org/assembly).  
All are welcome!

#### **REGISTRATION:**

Online registration for voting members will open in February. Visitor registration will soon follow. The deadline for registration is **March 27, 2024** (45 days prior to the Assembly, in keeping with our Synod Constitution). Late fees will apply after this date. If you are unable to register online, please call the synod office at 609-586-6800.

\$130 per Voting Member (**\$180 after March 27, 2024**)

\$65 Retired Rostered Minister not serving in a congregation (**\$85 after March 27, 2024**)

\$75 Visitor or Non-voting Rostered Minister (**\$95 after March 27, 2024**)

All registrations include continental breakfast, cold lunch buffet, all day beverages, and entrance to Grounds for Sculpture on May 11<sup>th</sup> from open until close. Carpooling is encouraged.

**Please note:** Every voting member must be present in person to vote and will need an electronic device for voting purposes (i.e. smart phone/tablet with internet capability or data plan). More details can be found on the assembly page.

In keeping with Synod policy, **registration fees must be paid prior to the Assembly**. You may pay online by credit card when you register or mail a check to the synod office. More details available when registration opens.

Voting Members are: *Lay Voting Members elected in their congregation; Lay NJ Synod Council Members; Rostered Ministers under call, special ministry, retired living in NJ.*

Visitors /Non-Voting Members are: *Visitors; Guests; Rostered Ministers on leave from call or retired out of state; Display persons (who do not attend as voting members)*

Each congregation is entitled to send two lay voting members of any age. In addition, the Synod Council adopted the following Continuing Resolution regarding Voting Members under the age of 30:

*Congregations with fewer than 500 baptized members may elect one additional Voting Member under the age of 30, and congregations with baptized membership of 500 or more may elect two additional Voting Members under the age of 30; however congregations that failed to file a Parochial Report in the prior year are assumed to have fewer than 500 baptized members, and therefore may elect only one additional Voting Member under the age of 30.*

### **CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS:**

You are invited to submit Resolutions for consideration by the Assembly. The Office of the Secretary must receive all resolution submissions by **Tuesday, March 12, 2024** (60 days prior to the Assembly, in keeping with our Synod Bylaws). Please use the resolution form found on the Synod website. Be succinct and to the point, following the guidelines on the "Resolution Worksheet." A resolution may be submitted by any voting member, synod council member or NJ Synod committee. Resolutions that are on time will be posted in the 2024 Assembly Bulletin of Reports and should be sent to the Office of the Secretary at [secretary@njsynod.org](mailto:secretary@njsynod.org).

### **BULLETIN OF REPORTS**

All reports from synod committees, teams and mission partners are due to the Office of the Secretary by **Tuesday, March 12, 2024**. The 2024 Bulletin of Reports will be posted online no later than April 20th. ([secretary@njsynod.org](mailto:secretary@njsynod.org))

### **HOTEL INFORMATION:**

Should you need accommodations, rooms will be blocked for the NJ Synod at a local hotel. Please visit the assembly webpage for details, costs, and deadlines.

### **MISSION DISTRICT MEETINGS & ELECTIONS:**

We shall elect persons to serve in leadership of the synod. Please plan to attend. All Meetings are from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Included in this day is an introduction to mental health de-escalation training. All are welcome! Contact your Mission District Dean with any questions.

**Delaware / Shore Districts:** Sat., January 27<sup>th</sup> – St John, Williamstown  
**Middle District:** Sat., February 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hope, Freehold  
**Gateway/Northern/Western Districts:** Sat., March 2<sup>nd</sup> – St John, Summit

On behalf of our synod secretary, I thank you for your faithful attention to these matters and ask that you share this information with your congregation so they might prayerfully consider full participation in this process. If you have any questions regarding assembly, please reach out. 609-586-6800 ext. 107 or [assembly@njsynod.org](mailto:assembly@njsynod.org)

We look forward to our time together in assembly!

Epiphany Blessings,

Dawn Roberts, Registrar

*"...No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?"*

~ELW 763