

Voting Members to the Central States Synod Assembly June 5-7, 2025

The Synod Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the Synod and is charged with electing members to the Synod Council, Synod committees, and Churchwide voting members when needed, as well as voting on a budget and other resolutions that are presented to the assembly.

- At least 60% shall be laypersons who are voting members of a congregation in the synod.
- A minimum of two lay members shall be elected or appointed by each congregation as voting members. Additional lay voting members from congregations shall be based on the number of baptized members. (See the chart below) No more than 50 percent of the voting members from a congregation shall be of the same gender.
- In the event a congregation needs to send two lay voting members who are both men or both women* they must request a waiver, which must be filled out and **sent to the synod office by March 1** for approval by the Synod Council. Please note that in order to ensure that at least 45% of the lay voting members are women and at least 45% are men, the synod council may not approve all waivers. (A waiver is not required if only one lay voting member is able to attend.)
 - * Congregations with 500-1500 baptized members must complete a waiver if sending three voting members who are male or three who are female.*
- Congregations may send additional voting members provided that the person is a person of color or whose primary language is other than English or the person is a youth under the age of 18 at the time of their election.
- Authorized worshipping communities shall have only one lay member as a voting member at the assembly.
- All rostered ministers under call on the roster of the synod and Deacons shall be voting members.
- Retired rostered ministers and those who are on leave from call may be voting members as long as 60% of the assembly voting members remain lay persons.
- Parish Ministry Associates serving as lay pastoral leaders for congregations by the authority of the bishop shall be voting members of the assembly.
- Officers of the synod, as well as Synod Council members who are not serving as lay voting members of their congregations, shall be voting members of the assembly.

Number of Voting Members

A minimum of two lay members (typically one man and one woman) are elected or appointed by each congregation in the synod as voting members

Additional lay representation from congregations shall be based on the number of baptized members as reported in the most recently published ELCA Yearbook. Congregations with 500-1500 baptized members may have 4 voting members (2 men, 2 women); 1501-2500 baptized members may have 6 voting members (3 men, 3 women); 2500 baptized members may have 8 voting members (4 men, 4 women).

CONGREGATIONS

500 - 1500 Baptized Members (4 voting members/2 men, 2 women)

CONG ID	CONGREGATION	CITY	STATE	BAPT MBRS
30626	Kaw Prairie Community Church	Lenexa	KS	505
20153	Lutheran Church of the Atonement	Florissant	MO	513
01585	Salemsborg Lutheran Church	Smolan	KS	598
01584	St. John Lutheran Church	Salina	KS	678
07623	Living Lord Lutheran Church	Lake St Louis	MO	688
01652	Trinity Lutheran Church	McPherson	KS	717
01576	Bethany Lutheran Church	Lindsborg	KS	748
01650	Emanuel Lutheran Church	Hutchinson	KS	790
10197	Atonement Lutheran Church	Overland Park	KS	1060
07821	Holy Cross Lutheran Church	Overland Park	KS	1185
30005	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Manchester	MO	1223