

LSS Connections June 2017

Telling our stories. Sharing our faith. Together WE are Synod.

In recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, our theme for the 30th annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly was R3: reFORM + reNEW + reVISION. Together we explored congregational renewal that springs from nurturing relationships with God, with one another, and with the communities our congregations are called to serve. We shared a festival worship service with a combined choir and ordinations and consecration of five candidates for ministry. We learned about ministries and mission in our synod and the ELCA and shared time in wider community



Our Friday afternoon edification workshops were led by The Rev. Dr. David Daubert, and explored the theme "Luther's Teachings 500 Years Later: Some Implications for Missional Congregations in the 21st Century." Pastor Daubert's PowerPoint slides and video are available on our website here: <http://www.lss-elca.org/events/synod-assembly/resources/>.

FILL THE TRUCK A SUCCESS! THANK YOU!

Fill the Truck to Feed the Children, this year's assembly hunger initiative, was a huge success thanks to your amazing generosity. Together we collected more than 7,000 pounds of food (11 pallets!) along with monetary donations for the Central PA Food Bank to use in feeding hungry children and their families this summer.

"Our partner agencies will be so lucky to receive these boxes," said Beth Hamilton, Director of Food Sourcing and Logistics for the Food Bank. "We rarely get such a nice variety of clean, new products! Our volunteer staff were so thrilled to receive those items. This was by far one of the best food drives we have ever received here." *(Story continues on reverse side)*



**Lower Susquehanna Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

900 S. Arlington Ave. 220B, Harrisburg, PA 17109 ♦ 717-652-1852 ♦ 717-652-2504 (fax)
www.lss-elca.org ♦ Visit us on Facebook and Twitter

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We give thanks for Joyce Frigm for her vision in making this event happen and for all of our volunteers who helped collect, deliver, sort, and pack this nourishing food. Together we are feeding others as we have been fed by Christ.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

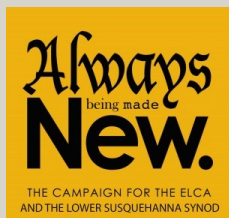
Welcome newly ordained Pastors and newly consecrated Deacon: Matthew Bernard Best (St. Stephen, New Kingstown), Kelsey Lee Fitting-Synder (St. Paul, Davenport, IA), Amy Michelle Wagner (Zion, Newville), and Linda Pearl Shank (Christ, New Bloomfield). Consecrated as Deacon was April Ellen Trout (ELCA Global Mission Unit and St. Paul Area Synod as Program Coordinator of the Bega Kwa Bega companion synod program).

Elected at Assembly: Joseph Stepansky (Treasurer); Jennifer R. Lau, Dr. Jayne A. LeGore, Darren M. Hamric, The Rev. Joel S.B. Folkemer, The Rev. Timothy J. Seitz-Brown, and Emma L. Johns (Synod Council); Sister Deborah A.S. McClellan, Gary P. Wendt, M. Jane Wigand, The Rev. Dana J. Blouch-Hanson, The Rev. Tina H. Minnich, and The Rev. Robert W. Swartz (Consultation Committee); Deacon Chelle J. Huth, Stephen E. Ruth, The Rev. Jane C. Nicholson, and The Rev. David J. Schreffler (Discipline Committee)

Important Synod Assembly Actions Adopted: the proposed agenda and rules of procedure for the 2017 Synod Assembly; proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget of \$2,700,000; beginning minimum base salary/housing allowance for 2018 of \$49,918 for full-time ministers of Word and Sacrament (\$34,738 for ministers of Word and Sacrament when housing is provided), and \$42,025 for full-time ministers of Word and Service; proposed amendments to bylaws S9.01.01; S9.03.02; S10.06.07; proposed Policy for the Lutheran Disaster Response Fund; approval for a 2018 Synod Assembly food-packing event with advance financial commitment not to exceed \$75,000; and A Resolution to Encourage the Use of Technology So That Individuals May Attend Meetings from Remote Sites. Visit <http://www.lss-elca.org/events/synod-assembly/resources/> for complete details.

We give thanks for your generosity! Our Synod Assembly worship offering of \$2,328.85 (benefits the Bishop's Congregational Mission Fund), the Bishop's Sock-It-to-Hunger Challenge \$896, and Fill-the-Truck-to-Fed-the-Children \$1,502.50 to-date. Thank you!

The 2017 *Always Being Made New* focus is our Bishop's Congregational Mission Fund. This fund provides grants for renewal and new mission. Will you help by making a gift and investment in our congregations' ability to share the Good News in a vastly changing world? Together as synod we are stronger. Thank you for your generous support!



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