

Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly Minutes
St. Mark's, Bowling Green
Saturday, May 30, 2026

On Saturday morning, May 31, 2026, the Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly met at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Bowling Green. The following are the minutes of the business portion of the assembly. Interspersed throughout the business session were *Stories of Love* that highlighted the impact of ministries throughout Northwestern Ohio.

Opening Worship was a service of Holy Communion, led by Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin and Pastor Robin Small. Following worship, Bishop Daniel Beaudoin declared the Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly open.

Opening remarks were given by Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, which lifted up the assembly theme, connecting to the annual theme, The Way of Love

Bishop Daniel welcomed all voting members to the assembly, and continued by recognizing the following;

Northwestern Ohio Synod Council Officers

- Vice-President: Nancy Yunker
- Secretary: Michelle Schaffer
- Treasurer: Shea McGrew

He lifted up all Synod Council Members as well as the Conference Deans and present members of NWOS synod staff:

- Deacon Sherry Krieger
- Pastor Sarah Shaaf
- Cassie Mugler
- Cheryl Sondergeld
- Calla Gilson Burns
- Jillian Russell
- Jacob Henry
- Diane Stultz
- Dave Seitz
- Vince Krolak

Bishop Daniel thanked all assembly volunteers.

Bishop Daniel welcomed special guests:

- Pr. Greg Olsen from Genacross Lutheran Services
- Pr. Drew Tucker from Hopewood Outdoors

- Pr. Mary Ann Siefke from Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University
- Pr. Denise Brown from Lutheran Ministries of Mercy
- Retired Bishop Marcus and Heidi Lohrman

Bishop gave special thanks to Pastor Robin Small, the Staff, and the dear people of God at St. Mark's for their great hospitality, especially to Josh Billnitzer for sharing his musical and organizational talents and Mike Schroeder and team for all the behind-the-scenes preparations to make the day a success.

Bishop also gave special thanks to Kate Philabaum, the creative coordinator for the day who prepared the decorations and helped to develop the Synod Assembly theme.

Bishop Daniel Beaudoin turned the chair over to our Director of Administration, Cassie Mugler, Communication and Administrative Coordinator, Jillian Russell, and Nominating Committee Chair, Pastor Robin Small.

Testing of Voting Devices: Cassie Mugler, Jillian Russell

Cassie announced a few housekeeping items, where restrooms and AED were located. All were invited to participate in a mass choir as part of our closing worship. Cassie called attention to a few small edits to the business materials on page 8, Pastor Melodi Hagen's term ends in 2027. On page 81, on the mission spending plan, it should say Advocacy instead of ELCA Advocacy and St. Lucas, Toledo instead of St. Luke's, Toledo. On page 20 Pastor Deb Monnin and on page 124, Deacon Diane Wheeler added under 40 years.

Jillian explained that in the materials there were QR codes and how to use them throughout the assembly.

Business Session #1

Cassie started the first Business Session with a brief test of the voting devices.

Pastor Robin then explained voting patterns and another test was performed.

Cassie Mugler then turned the chair back to Bishop Daniel Beaudoin.

Credentials Report: Pastor Alan Fuhrop & Diane Ninke

Pastor Alan Furhop read S7.14 of the synod constitution, which states that one-third of members of the assembly constitute a quorum.

Diane Ninke reported that as of 10:00 a.m. the assembly had 304 total registered voting members with 291 voting members present. She certified that the voting membership of the Synod Assembly was in accordance with our constitution, and that a quorum had been reached.

Latrina Smith offered a prayer.

Adoption of Assembly Rules of Procedures, Floor Committees, and Order of Business: Nancy Yunker, Michelle Schaffer, and Bishop Daniel

Bishop Daniel pointed out the Assembly Rules of Procedure found on page 14 of the Assembly Business Materials.

Michelle read the standing non-parliamentary rules of the assembly, which could be adopted by a majority vote of the assembly.

Michelle read rule 1.

Nancy explained microphone etiquette.

Michelle read rules 2 and 3.

Michelle read rules 4 and 5.

Nancy instructed the assembly how to submit the bio forms via email to assembly@nwos-elca.org, or in writing to the Secretary's Table on the Assembly floor no later than 12:00 p.m. Saturday, May 30, 2026.

Bishop Daniel explained that the Synod council had moved that the assembly adopt the standing non-parliamentary rules and asked for a second. A second was provided by Melissa Micham of Olivet Lutheran Church in Sylvania. A voice vote was taken. The standing non-parliamentary rules were adopted.

Michelle read the standing parliamentary Rules 6-8 of the assembly.

Bishop Daniel explained that the Synod Council had moved that the assembly adopt the standing parliamentary rules and asked for a second. A second was provided by Pastor Deb Conklin of Peace Lutheran Church in Bowling Green. A voice vote was taken. The standing parliamentary rules were adopted.

Adoption of Floor Committees and one Task Force: Michelle Schaffer

Michelle read The Assembly Floor Committees and explained that these Floor Committees may be adopted by a majority vote of the assembly:

- Reference and Counsel Committee
- Compensation Guidelines Task Force
- Credentials Committee

Bishop Daniel explained that the Synod Council had moved for the assembly to adopt the Assembly Related Floor Committees and Task Force, and he asked for a second. A second was provided by Pastor Jarrod Schaaf of St. John Lutheran church of Port Clinton. Bishop Daniel called for any objections of the Assembly Floor Committees and Task Force. Hearing none, a voice vote was taken. The Floor Committees and Task Force were adopted.

Bishop Daniel thanked Mr. Paul Brooks who served as the Assembly Parliamentarian. He was appointed by Synod Council to this position at the Synod Council meeting December 13, 2025 meeting.

Adoption of the Order of Business: Bishop Daniel Beaudoin

Bishop Daniel called for the adoption of the Order of Business found on page 13 of the Assembly Business Material. Hearing none, the Order of Business was adopted by unanimous consent. Bishop Daniel reminded the assembly that, as we approved earlier, the Chair reserved the right to adjust the agenda to best facilitate the work of God through this Assembly.

2024 Synod Assembly Minutes: Michelle Schaffer

Michelle shared that the 2024 Synod Assembly Minutes were approved by Synod Council at the December 13, 2024, council meeting and reminded the assembly that those minutes are available on the synod assembly website. She reminded the assembly that approved Synod Council Minutes are posted on the Northwestern Ohio Synod website, along with the 2025 Independent Auditor's Report.

Bishop Daniel thanked, Michelle Schaffer, for her faithful work as our Synod Council Secretary.

2026 Way of Love Teaching: Pastor Janine Shearer & Pastor Dalton Rosa-Ruggieri

Pastor Janine and Pastor Dalton led the assembly in an introduction of the Year of Love Bible Study, including guided reflection and discussion.

Report and Close of Nominations: Pastor Robin Small

Bishop Daniel invited Pastor Robin Small of the Nominating Committee to come forward to present our slate of nominees for elected office. He reminded the assembly that in 2017, the assembly approved a bylaw change that allows for a flexible assembly and that Synod Council intends to hold the next Synod Assembly in 2028. As such, at the May 2026 assembly, we voted on candidates who were to begin their terms in 2026 and in 2027, as well as individuals who were to be provisionally elected to serve as voting members for the 2028 Churchwide Assembly. Bishop Daniel explained that the final Churchwide voting members were to be determined once the official 2028 voting member allocation is received from the Churchwide organization.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for Synod Council terms beginning in 2026.

For Synod Council Vice-President, 4-year term, Steve Detmer and Amy Schroeder.

For Synod Council At-Large Lay, 3-year term, Raegan Homan and Kathy Jurrus.

For Synod Council At-Large Youth/Young Adult Lay, 3-year term, Kelsey Schwiebert.

For Synod Council Central Lay, 3-year term, Jacob Branan.

For Synod Council Eastern Conference Rostered Minister, 3-year term, Pastor Clayton Bailey and Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt.

For Synod Council Maumee Valley Conference Rostered Minister, 3-year term, Pastor Steve Basselman and Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri.

For Synod Council Southeast Conference Lay, 3-year term, Kristen Ealy and Jerusha Walker.

For Synod Council Toledo Area Conference Lay, 3-year term, Dawn Milner and Kevin Swagler.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for all Synod Council terms beginning in 2026 to be closed.

Pastor Robin presented the Synod Council nominees for terms beginning in

2027:

For Synod Council At-Large Minority Lay, 3-year term, Birdena Martin.

For Synod Council North Central Conference Lay, 3-year term, Andy Kessler and Karen Young.

For Synod Council North Central Conference Rostered Minister, 3-year term, Pastor Brandi Bailie and Pastor Robin Small.

For Synod Council Southeast Conference Rostered Minister, 3-year term, Pastor Tanyce Addison and Pastor Richard Genzman.

For Synod Council Southwest Conference Lay, 3-year term, Kara Manning and Ingrid Miller-Tebbe.

For Synod Council Southwest Conference Rostered Minister, 3-year term, Pastor Mark Bauer.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for Synod Council terms beginning in 2027 closed.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for Consultation Committee 6-year terms beginning in 2026:

For Consultation Committee Rostered Minister, 6-year term, Pastor Adam Sornchai and Pastor David Westphal.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for Consultation Committee terms beginning in 2026 closed.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for Consultation Committee 6-year term beginning in 2027:

For Consultation Committee Lay, 6-year term, Jeannine Fuhrhop and Tristan Schryer.

For Consultation Committee Rostered Minister, 6-year term, Pastor Matthew Diehl and Pastor Doug Pretorius.

This concludes nominations for the Consultation Committee for terms beginning in 2027.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for Consultation Committee terms beginning in 2027 closed.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for Discipline Committee 6-year terms beginning in 2026:

For Discipline Committee Lay, 6-year term, Brian Miller and Jana Ringwald.

For Discipline Committee Rostered Minister, 6-year term, Pastor Howard Abts and Pastor Mark Wentz.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for Discipline Committee terms beginning in 2026 closed.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for Discipline Committee 6-year terms beginning in 2027:

For Discipline Committee Lay, 6-year term, Steve Reinhard.

For Discipline Committee Rostered Minister, 6-year term, Pastor Alan Brown and Deacon Jennifer Heinze.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for Discipline Committee terms beginning in 2027 closed.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for the Nominating Committee, 3-year terms beginning in 2026:

For Nominating Committee At-Large, 3-year term, Megan O'Brien and Jessica Sornchai.

For Nominating Committee, Eastern Conference, 3-year term, Hannah Mapus.

For Nominating Committee, Maumee Valley Conference, 3-year term, Helena Morris and Kelly Weber.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for the Nominating Committee terms beginning in 2026 closed.

Pastor Robin presented the nominees for the Nominating Committee, 3-year terms beginning in 2027:

For Nominating Committee North Central Conference, 3-year term, Pastor Brandi Bailie, Sherry Ferne and Linda Henry.

For Nominating Committee Southeast Conference, 3-year term, Linda Aufdencamp and Kevin McNeal.

For Nominating Committee Southwest Conference, 3 year-term, Pastor Carol Pretorius.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for the Nominating Committee terms beginning in 2027 closed.

Pastor Robin Small reminded the assembly that the next Churchwide Assembly will be held August 7–11, 2028, in Des Moines, Iowa and that Churchwide staff had not yet released the allotments of voting members per synod for the 2028 Churchwide Assembly. Therefore all individuals elected will serve as provisional candidates and will be called to serve as Churchwide voting members in the role and position in the order in which they are elected during this assembly. Pastor Robin noted that Bishop Daniel and the Synod Vice-President are ex officio voting members of the Churchwide Assembly. She then presented the nominations:

For Churchwide Voting Member, lay female, Crystal Chapman, Kristen Ealy, Helena Morris, Sarah Neal, Cary Roehm, Becky Seibert, Sheila Smith Jessica Sornchai, Ellen Williams, Karen Young, three to be elected as provisional voting members.

For Churchwide Voting Member, lay male, Paul Brooks, Marvin Coressel Don Davis, Todd Hone, Brad Isbell, Shea McGrew, Alex Schmidt, Nick Wenzel, three to be elected as provisional voting members.

For Churchwide Voting Member, at large youth or young adult, Phoebe Jackson, one to be elected.

For Churchwide Voting Member, At-Large persons of color and / or persons whose primary language is other than English, LaTrina Smith, one to be elected.

For Churchwide Voting Member, male Rostered Minister, Rev. Clayton Bailey, Rev. Ian Boden, Rev. Chris Hanley, Rev. Doug Pretorius, Rev. Mark Wentz two to be elected. Bishop Daniel counts as a male rostered voting member.

For Churchwide Voting Member, female rostered minister, Rev. Tanyce Addison, Deacon Jennifer Heinze, Rev. Beth Ferne-Johnson, Rev. Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri, Rev. Janine Shearer, Rev. Robin Small, Pastor Deb Monnin, Rev. Rebecca West-Estell, three to be elected.

Bishop Daniel called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he declared the nominations for all 2028 Churchwide Voting Members closed.

Bishop Daniel called nominations for all elected positions are now complete and closed. We will be voting on this slate of nominees after lunch.

SAM Jeanine Grimm offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

Story of Love: Pastor Jarrod Schaaf (FX: Community Table in Port Clinton, Ohio)

Lunch

Business Session #2

Story of Love: SAM Paul Brooks (CaSTLE Project)

Voting on Candidates: Bishop Daniel & Pastor Robin Small

Bishop Daniel invited a prayer before voting on the slate of nominees.

Denise Etzler prayed.

Bishop Daniel announced that the assembly would elect uncontested nominees by unanimous consent those nominees for which there is only a single candidate for terms beginning in 2026:

- Kelsey Schwiebert Synod Council At-Large Youth/Young Adult.
- Jacob Branan Synod Council Central Conference Lay.
- Hannah Mapus Nominating Committee Eastern Conference

Bishop Daniel called for any objection. Hearing none, he declared those nominees elected by unanimous consent.

Bishop Daniel announced that the assembly would elect by unanimous consent those nominees for which there is only a single nominee for terms beginning in 2027:

- Birdena Martin, Synod Council At-Large Minority.
- Pastor Mark Bauer, Synod Council Rostered Minister.
- Steve Reinhard, Discipline Committee, Lay.

- Pastor Carol Pretorius, Nominating Committee, Southwest Conference.

Bishop Daniel called for any objections. Hearing none, he declared those nominees elected by unanimous consent.

Voting on the nominees for Synod Council terms beginning in 2026

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Vice President:

- Steve Detmer 55.76%
- Amy Schroeder 44.24%

Bishop Daniel declared Steve Detmer elected to the position of Synod Council Vice President.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council At-Large Lay

- Raegan Homan 62.50%
- Kathy Jurrus 37.50%

Bishop Daniel declared Raegan Homan elected to the position of Synod Council At-Large Lay.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Eastern Conference Rostered Minister:

- Pastor Clayton Bailey 51.60%
- Deacon Carolyn Steinfeldt 48.32%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Clayton Bailey elected to the position of Synod Council Eastern Conference Rostered Minister.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Maumee Valley Rostered Minister:

- Pastor Steve Basselman 31.00%
- Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri 69.00%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri elected to the position of Synod Council Maumee Valley Rostered Minister.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Southeast Conference Lay:

- Kristen Ealy 45.53%
- Jerusha Walker 54.48%

Bishop Daniel declared Jerusha Walker elected to the position of Synod Southeast Conference Lay.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Toledo Area Conference Lay:

- Dawn Milner 55.94%
- Kevin Swagler 44.06%

Bishop Daniel declared Dawn Milner elected to the position of Synod Council Toledo Area Conference Lay.

Voting on the nominees for Synod Council terms beginning in 2027

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council North Central Conference Lay:

- Andy Kessler 53.23%
- Karen Young 46.77%

Bishop Daniel declared Andy Kessler elected to the position of Synod Council North Central Conference Lay.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council North Central Rostered Minister:

- Pastor Brandi Bailie 34.69%
- Pastor Robin Small 65.31%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Robin Small elected to the position of Synod Council North Central Conference Rostered Minister.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Southeast Conference Rostered Minister:

- Pastor Tanyce Addison 57.09%
- Pastor Richard Genzman 42.91%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Tanyce Addison elected to the position of Synod Council Southeast Conference Rostered Minister.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Synod Council Southwest Conference Lay:

- Kara Manning 37.74%
- Ingrid Miller-Tebbe 62.26%

Bishop Daniel declared Ingrid Miller-Tebbe elected to the position of Synod Council Southwest Conference Lay.

Voting for Consultation Committee terms beginning in 2026

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Consultation Committee at large, rostered minister:

- Pastor Adam Sornchai 59.19%
- Pastor David Westphal 40.81%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Adam Sornchai elected to the position of Consultation Committee at large, rostered minister.

Voting for Consultation Committee terms beginning in 2027.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Consultation Committee at large lay:

- Jeannine Fuhrhop 60.61%
- Tristan Schryer 39.39%

Bishop Daniel declared Jeannine Fuhrhop elected to the position of Consultation Committee at large lay.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Consultation Committee at large, rostered minister:

- Pastor Matthew Diehl 41.38%
- Pastor Doug Pretorius 58.62%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Doug Pretorius elected to the position of Consultation Committee at large, rostered minister.

Voting for Discipline Committee terms beginning in 2026

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Discipline Committee at large lay:

- Brian Miller 52.71%
- Jana Ringwald 47.29%

Bishop Daniel declared Brian Miller elected to the position of Discipline Committee at large lay.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Discipline Committee, at large, rostered minister:

- Pastor Howard Abts 35.34%
- Pastor Mark Wentz 64.66%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Mark Wentz elected to the position of Discipline Committee at large, rostered minister.

Voting for Discipline Committee terms beginning in 2027

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Discipline Committee at large, rostered minister:

- Pastor Alan Brown 37.26%
- Deacon Jennifer Heinze 62.74%

Bishop Daniel declared Deacon Jennifer Heinze elected to the position of Discipline Committee at large, rostered minister.

Voting for Nominating Committee members, for terms beginning in 2026

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Nominating Committee at-large lay:

- Megan O'Brien 36.94%
- Jessica Sornchai 63.06%

Bishop Daniel declared Jessica Sornchai elected to the position of Nominating Committee at-large lay.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Nominating Committee Maumee Valley Conference:

- Helena Morris 39.76%
- Kelly Weber 60.24%

Bishop Daniel declared Kelly Weber elected to the position of Nominating Committee Maumee Valley Conference.

Voting for Nominating Committee members, for terms beginning in 2027

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Nominating Committee members:

- Pastor Brandi Bailie 53.26%
- Linda Henry 19.92%
- Sherry Ferne 26.82%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Brandi Bailie elected to the position of Nominating Committee North Central Conference.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for Nominating Committee Southeast Conference:

- Linda Aufdencamp 53.73%
- Kevin McNeal 46.28%

Bishop Daniel declared Linda Aufdencamp elected to the position of Nominating Committee Southeast conference.

Voting for 2028 Churchwide Assembly Nominees

Pastor Robin called for the voting for the 2028 Churchwide Assembly that will be held August 7-11, 2028, in Des Moines, IA and explained that the assembly would be selecting nominees as provisional voting members for 2028 Churchwide Assembly.

Bishop Daniel explained that the assembly would elect by unanimous consent the nominees in those positions for which there was only a single candidate:

- LaTrina Smith (Person of Color)
- Phoebe Jackson (Youth/Young Adult)

Bishop Daniel opened the floor for objection. Hearing none, he declared the nominees elected by unanimous consent.

Pastor Robin presented the next ballot. She took a moment to explain the constitutionally mandated (Chapter 9. S9.08) voting pattern for ballots where more two or more nominees were lifted up for an elected position. She explained that the first ballot would include all nominees for each provisional position. If one nominee receives a majority vote on the first ballot, they will be elected to the first provisional position as a Churchwide voting member. If there is not an election by majority on the first ballot, the top two vote-getters will advance to a second ballot to determine the position by a majority vote. After an election to the first position, all remaining candidates will be available on the next ballot for the second position and so on.

Pastor Robin called for the first vote for Churchwide Voting Member, female lay, 3 to be elected:

- Crystal Chapman 7.35%
- Kristen Ealy 11.77%
- Helena Morris 12.87%
- Sarah Neal 9.19%
- Cary Roehm 6.25%
- Becky Siebert 17.28%

- Sheila Smith 4.78%
- Jessica Sornchai 22.06%
- Ellen Williams 2.94%
- Karen Young 5.52%

No nominee received a majority, the top two vote-getters, Becky Siebert and Jessica Sornchai, advanced to the next ballot.

The second ballot for position one was presented and Bishop Daniel called for the vote:

- Becky Siebert 48.72%
- Jessica Sornchai 51.28%

Bishop Daniel declared Jessica Sornchai elected to the first position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, lay female.

Ballot for Position 2: For Churchwide Voting Member, female lay:

- Crystal Chapman 5.54%
- Kristen Ealy 12.18%
- Helena Morris 12.92%
- Sarah Neal 8.86%
- Cary Roehm 6.64%
- Becky Siebert 40.96%
- Sheila Smith 5.90%
- Ellen Williams 2.95%
- Karen Young 4.06%

No nominee received a majority, so the top two vote-getters, Helena Morris and Becky Siebert, advanced to the next ballot.

The second ballot for position two was presented and Bishop Daniel called for the vote:

- Helena Morris 28.31%
- Becky Siebert 71.69%

Bishop Daniel declared Becky Siebert elected to the second position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, lay female.

Voting commenced on the ballot for position 3, for Churchwide Voting Member, female lay:

- Crystal Chapman 4.96%
- Kristen Ealy 16.03%
- Helena Morris 41.06%
- Sarah Neal 9.54%

- Cary Roehm 7.63%
- Sheila Smith 7.25%
- Ellen Williams 4.58%
- Karen Young 8.40%

No nominee received a majority so the top two vote-getters, Kristen Ealy and Helena Morris, advanced to the next ballot:

- Kristen Ealy 34.35%
- Helena Morris 65.65%

Bishop Daniel declared Helena Morris elected to the third position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, lay female.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for the first Churchwide Voting Member position, lay male:

- Paul Brooks 34.35%
- Marvin Coressel 6.11%
- Don Davis 5.34%
- Todd Hone 6.11%
- Brad Isbell 4.20%
- Shea McGrew 19.08%
- Alex Schmidt 11.01%
- NickWenzel13.74%

The top two vote-getters, Paul Brooks and Shea McGrew, advanced to the next ballot:

- Paul Brooks 59.23%
- Shea McGrew 40.77%

Bishop Daniel declared Paul Brooks elected to the first position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, lay male.

Pastor Robin called for a vote on the second position of the Churchwide Voting Member, lay male:

- Marvin Coressel 7.20%
- Don Davis 6.82%
- Todd Hone 5.30%
- Brad Isbell 3.79%
- Shea McGrew 51.52%
- Alex Schmidt 12.50%
- Nick Wenzel 12.88%

A majority of votes was received by Shea McGrew.

Bishop Daniel declared him elected to the second position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, lay male.

Pastor Robin called for a vote on the third position of the Churchwide Voting Member, lay male:

- Marvin Coressel 6.95%
- Don Davis 7.34%
- Todd Hone 12.74%
- Brad Isbell 7.34%
- Alex Schmidt 21.24%
- Nick Wenzel 44.40%

No nominee received a majority; the top two vote-getters Alex Schmidt and Nick Wenzel, advanced to the next ballot:

- Alex Schmidt 31.92%
- Nick Wenzel 68.08%

Bishop Daniel declared Nick Wenzel elected to the third position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, lay male.

Pastor Robin called for the first vote for the first position Churchwide Voting Member, rostered female:

- Pastor Tanyce Addison 16.1%
- Deacon Jennifer Henize 7.49%
- Pastor Beth Ferne Johnson 10.49%
- Pastor Deb Monnin 13.48%
- Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri 13.48%
- Pastor Janine Shearer 12.72%
- Pastor Robin Small 11.61%
- Pastor Rebecca West-Estell 14.61%

No nominee received a majority; the top two vote-getters, Pastor Tanyce Addison and Pastor Rebecca West-Estell advanced to the next ballot:

- Pastor Tanyce Addison 51.16%
- Pastor Rebecca West-Estell 48.84%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Tanyce Addison elected to the first position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, rostered female.

Pastor Robin called for the first vote for the second position for Churchwide Voting Member, rostered female:

- Deacon Jennifer Henize 6.14%
- Pastor Beth Ferne Johnson 8.99%

- Pastor Deb Monnin 12.73%
- Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri 10.49%
- Pastor Janine Shearer 13.48%
- Pastor Robin Small 14.61%
- Pastor Rebecca West-Estell 32.96%

No nominee received a majority; the top two vote-getters, Pastor Robin Small and Pastor Rebecca West-Estell, advanced to the next ballot:

- Pastor Robin Small 40.15%
- Pastor Rebecca West-Estell 59.85%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Rebecca West-Estell elected to the second position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, rostered female.

Pastor Robin called for the vote for first position Churchwide Voting Member, rostered male:

- Pastor Clayton Bailey, 22.14%
- Pastor Ian Boden 16.79%
- Pastor Chris Hanley 25.95%
- Pastor Doug Pretorius 15.27%
- Pastor Mark Wentz 19.85%

No nominee received a majority, so the top two vote-getters, Pastor Clayton Bailey and Pastor Chris Hanley, advanced to the next ballot:

- Pastor Clayton Bailey 43.99%
- Pastor Chris Hanley 56.02%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Chris Hanley elected to the first, position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, rostered male.

Pastor Robin called for the first vote for the second position for Churchwide Voting Member, rostered male:

- Pastor Clayton Bailey 40.46%
- Pastor Ian Boden 23.66%
- Pastor Doug Pretorius 14.50%
- Pastor Mark Wentz 21.37%

No nominee received a majority, so the top two vote-getters, Pastor Clayton Bailey and Pastor Ian Boden, advanced to the next ballot:

- Pastor Clayton Bailey 55.91%
- Pastor Ian Boden 44.09%

Bishop Daniel declared Pastor Clayton Bailey elected to the second position of provisional Churchwide Voting Member, rostered male.

Pastor Robin announced the conclusion of voting for all candidates for all offices, committees, and provisional voting members for Churchwide Assembly.

Bishop Daniel thanked Pastor Robin, and turned the chair over to Synod Council Vice President, Nancy Yunker.

Presentation, Debate and Voting on Constitutional Updates: Jacob Henry

Nancy Yunker invited Synod Governance and Policy Specialist, Jacob Henry, to present the proposed Updates to the Synod Constitution.

Jacob presented the materials.

Bishop Daniel thanked Jacob and welcomed discussion before proceeding to a vote. Bishop Daniel explained that synod council had made a motion that the Assembly should approve the constitutional updates. He suggested that the assembly consider the updates *en bloc*. A second was made by retired Pastor Bauer.

During discussion, Pastor Greg Olsen from Genacross made motion to vote on 9.02 separate from the block. Jacob Henry clarified the non-required nature of the provision being discussed. After discussion, Pastor Olsen rescinded his motion.

Pastor Shawn Schneider from St. Paul in North Robinson and First Lutheran in Galion, raised a point of order on s7.26. Jacob Henry clarified the process that could be put forth by churchwide in section 10.01.04. Pastor Shawn thanked Jacob.

Synod Staff and volunteers began distributing pie to tables as discussion was continued.

Pastor Melissa Micham from Olivet in Sylvania, raise a point of inquiry about s7.26 regarding access of SAMs to synod assembly. Bishop Daniel clarified the limitations of the policy.

Bishop Daniel called for a vote to approve the Constitutional Updates as presented:

- Approve 97.63%
- Reject 2.38%

Bishop Daniel declared the constitutional updates approved.

Deacon Rodney West-Estell prayed.

Presentation and Voting on Mission Spending Plan: Shea McGrew

Nancy Yunker invited Synod Council Treasurer Shea McGrew to present the proposed 2027-2028 Mission Spending Plan.

Shea presented the materials.

Bishop Daniel opened discussion on the 2027-2028 Mission Spending Plan. He explained that Synod Council had made a motion that the Assembly approve the 2027-2028 Mission Spending Plan. A second was made by Pastor Paul Myers of St. Lucas, Toledo.

Pastor LeeAnn Pomrenke, interim pastor at Grace Lutheran, Toledo asked for clarification on cuts to in giving to Trinity Seminary, ELCA universities in Ohio and deletion of campus ministry giving. Bishop Daniel explained that the ELCA grant for campus ministry is now held at the Churchwide organization. He also shared that the synod council had decided to reduce giving to ELCA universities in Ohio and to shift giving from Trinity, putting 10,000 into candidacy and lay-leader training, as all of the NWOS candidates are at Wartburg and Luther.

Pastor Kevin Maxey of Hope Lutheran in Ottawa Hills shared his concern about the reduction in giving to the Churchwide organization and the increase in the Annual Fund. Shea McGrew spoke to this concern and discussed the sustainability of percentages of mission support, in discussion with Churchwide representative, and action was taken by Synod Council. Bishop Daniel added that the team considered mission support numbers as given by neighboring synods.

Pastor Marcus Lohrman of Olivet, Sylvania rose to the microphone to share the importance of the voices of each representative to share back in their congregation and the importance of considering how to be generous to the church.

Pastor Dave Westphal of St. John, Bellevue spoke to the concerns around the impacts on the local church if less funding was going to Churchwide. He asked the Synod Council to talk about ways to emphasize local and national funds on an equal basis. Shea responded that there is a great interest in having

conversations with congregations about what the three expressions do and how to support them.

Connor Przysiecki of Zoar, Perrysburg spoke to former points and discussed why he chose Trinity seminary as a place to study.

Pastor Shawn Schneider called the question and the motion was seconded.

A hand vote passed.

Bishop Daniel invited Vicar Jacinda Jones to pray a prayer. Bishop mentioned that Vicar Jacinda recently graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary, was called by St. John, Findlay and Trinity, Arcadia and would be ordained on Sunday, July 19 at Trinity, Arcadia. He expressed his thanks to Vicar Jacinda.

Vicar Jacinda Jones offered a prayer.

Bishop Daniel called for the voted to approve the 2027-2028 Mission Spending Plan as presented:

- Approve 88.62%
- Reject 11.38%

Bishop Daniel declared the 2027-2028 Mission Spending Plan approved.

Bishop Daniel invited everyone to take a 5 minute break.

Presentation of Compensation Guidelines: Pr. Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri

Nancy Yunker invited Compensation Guidelines Task Force Member Pastor Ashley Rosa-Ruggieri forward to present the proposed 2027-2028 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers of the Northwestern Ohio Synod.

Bishop Daniel thanked Pastor Ashley and the team. He explained that Synod Council had previously made a motion that the Synod Assembly would approve the guidelines, and he called for a second to open discussion.

A second was provided by Patti Strasbaugh of Good Hope, Arlington.

No discussion occurred.

Pastor Adam Sornchai prayed.

Bishop Daniel called for the vote to approve the 2027-2028 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers of the Northwestern Ohio Synod as presented:

- Approve 94.71%
- Reject 5.29%

Bishop Daniel declared the 2027-2028 Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers of the Northwestern Ohio Synod approved.

Story of Love: Pastor Tanyce Addison (Growing in Faith)

Presentation of Churchwide Greetings: Pastor Sarah Schaaf
Pastor Sarah introduced the new presiding Bishop, Bishop Yehiel Curry. She recognized his background and explained how NWOS is also investing in the same alternative paths to ministry. Video greetings from Bishop Curry were shared.

Story of Love: Brent Gardner (Generosity Team)

Leadership Report: Nancy Yunker

Nancy Yunker reflected on her time as Synod Council Vice President and thanked all the outgoing council for their dedication and Synod staff for their support.

Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin thanked Nancy Yunker for her dedication as Synod Council Vice-President and presented her with a gift of appreciation.

Presentation of Financial Report: Shea McGrew

Bishop Daniel invited Synod Council Treasurer Shea McGrew forward to present a financial report.

Shea presented a report which reflected his enthusiasm for the ways that NWOS is not only stable financially and has resources, but how NWOS partners and dreams.

Pastor Ian Boden prayed.

Bishop's Report: Bishop Daniel Beaudoin

Bishop Daniel spoke of the Way of Love: 2026, resources available, and the love of Jesus, that when mobilized, can change the world.

Story of Love: Pastor Tim Philabaum (New Ministry Journey)

Bishop Daniel thanked all for their diligent work today.

Pastor Dave Frye prayed.

Business sessions were followed by sending worship at 5 PM in the sanctuary of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. During this service, the 2026 Synod Assembly was formally closed.