

# 2018

## Bulletin of Reports

### Part 1



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## **Bulletin of Reports**

The Bulletin of Reports is being electronically presented in two parts: Part 1 contains all those documents that voting members will need to have in front of them as they conduct the assembly's business, such as the agenda, resolutions and memorials, nominations, the proposed budget, etc. In an effort to go green and be good stewards of the gifts God has given us, the Bulletin of Reports is available on the synod's website, [www.demdsynod.org](http://www.demdsynod.org), as of May 1, 2018. Part 2 of the Bulletin of Reports contains important information that the assembly needs for background information and to hold the officers, Synod Council and related ministries accountable. It is not information, however, that the assembly will act upon. If you plan to access information electronically, please know that high speed internet access is available in the assembly hall. We are working hard to make sure to have reliable Wi-Fi access throughout our meeting space. However, we have run into problems in the past and cannot guarantee service.

# Welcome to Hunt Valley and to the 31st Annual Assembly of the Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA

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## **General Information**

- The Assembly BOOKSTORE is located outside the plenary hall, in the display area. It will be open throughout the assembly.
- DISPLAYS from various groups, organizations and vendors can be found outside the plenary hall throughout our time together. Check them out!
- There are NO MEAL TICKETS. If you purchased a boxed lunch, it will be listed on your nametag. Please bring your nametag to the designated pickup location.
- There is ASSIGNED SEATING in the Assembly Hall again this year. When you enter the Assembly Hall, please consult the seating chart that is displayed at the entrance, then locate the seats reserved for your congregation or organization.
- During registration, you will have an opportunity to sign up for the E-Letter, the synod's weekly electronic newsletter. You may also send an email to Julie Stecker in the synod office, [jstecker@demdsynod.org](mailto:jstecker@demdsynod.org), if you wish to sign up later.

**God bless our time together!**

## Special Guest Introductions

### Keynote Speaker



**Brian D. McLaren** is an author, speaker, activist, and public theologian. A former college English teacher and pastor, he is a passionate advocate for “a new kind of Christianity” – just, generous, and working with people of all faiths for the common good. He is an Auburn Senior Fellow and a leader in the Convergence Network, through which he is developing an innovative training/mentoring

program for pastors, church planters, and lay leaders called Convergence Leadership Project. He works closely with the Center for Progressive Renewal/Convergence, the Wild Goose Festival and the Fair Food Program’s Faith Working Group.

Brian has been active in networking and mentoring church planters and pastors since the mid 1980’s, and has assisted in the development of several new churches. He is a popular conference speaker and a frequent guest lecturer for denominational and ecumenical leadership gatherings – across the US and Canada, Latin America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. His public speaking covers a broad range of topics including postmodern thought and culture, Biblical studies, church leadership and spiritual formation, pastoral survival and burnout, inter-religious dialogue, and global crises.

He is primarily known as a thinker and writer. Brian’s books have been translated into many languages, including Korean, Chinese, French, Swedish, Norwegian, German, Portuguese, and Spanish. He has written for or contributed interviews to many periodicals, including Leadership, Sojourners, Tikkun, Worship Leader, and Conversations. He is an active and popular blogger, a musician, and a songwriter, offering a variety of resources through his website, [www.brianmclaren.net](http://www.brianmclaren.net).

He has taught or lectured at many seminaries and at denominational and interfaith gatherings.

Brian is married to Grace, and they have four adult children and five grandchildren. His personal interests include wildlife and ecology, fly fishing and kayaking, music and songwriting, and literature.

## Synod Assembly Musicians



**Jeremy J. Grenhart** was called as the Creative Minister of Music at Luther Place Memorial Church in Washington, D.C. after serving for 14 years at Bridge of Peace in Camden, New Jersey. Jeremy says inviting good music into worship spaces is important to him, and is a calling he takes seriously. Jeremy is well versed in Gospel, Soul, Afro-Cuban, and Classical schools of music, and is just as happy playing a Bach fugue as he is playing African spirituals. The music at Luther Place is a reflection of diverse cultural and artistic backgrounds, and expands the boundaries of meaningful and vibrant worship. When Jeremy is not playing or rehearsing with the Ambassadors of Praise, he enjoys cooking with his good lady and reading.



**The Delaware-Maryland Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Music Team** consists of high school students from across our synod who bring their instrumental and vocal talents together to provide musical leadership for our annual youth events, youth and synodical worship services, Synod Day at the ELCA Youth Gathering, and more. The team learns 30-40 songs over the course of each year, pulling from world music, well-loved hymns, contemporary Christian artists, and original compositions. They strive to offer a variety of songs that will help people of all ages connect with their faith in both new and familiar ways. For the 2017-2018 year, the youth were mentored by Peter Carpenter-Gonia and Lauren Gray, and selected high school junior Matthew Fairchild to serve as their Leader among Leaders.

## Rules of Procedure for the Delaware-Maryland Synod Assembly

1. All mobile devices shall be on vibrate or silent during the assembly.
2. Registered voting members shall be seated within the bar of the assembly.
3. The privilege of voice (on any issue before the Assembly), but not vote shall be granted to:
  - a. The presiding bishop of the ELCA and such other official representatives of this church as may be designated from time to time by the Church Council;
  - b. The chairpersons of synodical mission teams and task forces who are not voting members of the Synod Assembly; and
  - c. The president or president's appointee of the synodical youth, women's and men's organizations, and those additional persons whom the Synod Assembly or the Synod Council shall from time to time designate.
4. **The privilege of voice and vote shall be granted to any leader rostered in a church body with which the ELCA is in full communion and who serves in a Delaware-Maryland Synod congregation or ministry.**
5. In addressing the chair, speakers shall use a microphone and shall identify themselves by name and congregation, agency, or institution.
6. No person shall speak more than twice on the same question, except by consent of the assembly, and only after all others have spoken.
7. **A member who has spoken on the pending question(s) may not move the previous question(s) at the conclusion of his/her speech. A motion to end debate by moving the previous question shall apply only to the immediately preceding motion. A motion to end debate on all matters on the floor or more than the immediately pending question is not in order.**
8. A member may not move previous question until the opportunity is available for five pro and five con points of view to be presented.
9. **When a substitute motion is made, secondary amendments may be offered first to the original motion. After all secondary amendments to the original motion have been disposed of, secondary amendments to the substitute motion may be offered. When all amendments to the substitute motion have been disposed of, the vote shall be taken on whether the substitute motion is to be substituted as the original motion or be rejected.**
10. The question shall be automatically called after thirty (30) minutes of debate unless the assembly consents to an extension of time.
11. In all business meetings, speeches from the floor shall be limited to two minutes.
12. All motions, other than routine ones, shall be written by the mover on forms furnished for that purpose, signed, and sent to the presiding officer, with a copy for the secretary.
13. When there are many pro and con statements on any motion, the chair will

- recognize alternately persons making a pro or con statement. This shall be done by those speaking “for” using the odd-numbered microphone and those speaking “against” using the even-numbered microphone. Those persons proposing a subsidiary motion should wait in queue with a red or green card.
14. If three (3) speakers have spoken in favor of a motion with no one speaking against, the chair may proceed to call for the vote on the motion.
  15. Only voting members wearing voting member badges shall receive ballots for voting. Voting members must be seated in the boundaries of the voting member section of the plenary hall.
  16. No motion is before the house until it is stated by the chair, and no discussion shall occur without a motion before the assembly.
  17. For elections other than bishop, additional nominations may be made from the floor for all positions except for conference-cluster based positions on the Synod Council, the youth position on the Synod Council, Mission Team Leaders, and the Dean on Synod Council. Those making such nominations must:
    - a. Obtain the consent of the person being nominated.
    - b. Insure the nomination fulfills the category assigned for that purpose.
    - c. Obtain a nomination form at the Pages table and turn it in to the secretary when the nomination is presented.
  18. Amendments to the budget may not increase total expenditures. Amendments changing one line item must be reflected in an equivalent change in other line item(s) so that total expenditures remain constant. Anyone suggesting an amendment must complete a form which spells out the rationale for the proposed change. The forms can be found at the Pages table.
  19. The minutes of this Synod Assembly shall be referred to the Synod Council for certification.

Robert’s Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary procedure of this assembly, except as otherwise provided in the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of this synod and in these rules of procedure of the Synod Assembly, unless otherwise ordered by the assembly.



# Synod Assembly Agenda

Thursday, May 31st

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM | <b>Registration, vendors, displays, exhibits</b>   |
| 10:30 AM          | <b>Opening Worship</b><br>Communion with the Reading of the Necrology<br>Presiding: Pr. Emily Scott, Lauraville Mission Developer<br>Preaching: Bp. Chilton Knudsen, Episcopal Diocese of Maryland<br>Opening of Assembly: Bp. Bill Gohl   |
| 12:00 PM          | <b>Lunch</b>   |
| 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM | <b>Business Session #1</b><br>[Forward in] Faith Stories<br>Organization of the Assembly<br>Report of the Committee on Credentials<br>Adoption of Rules of Procedure<br>Adoption of Agenda<br>Introduction of Assembly Theme<br>Introductions and Greetings<br>Report of the Nominating Committee<br>Introduction of 2018 Faith Spending Plan<br>Report of the Synod Council Vice President<br>Report on Program and Resource Allocation<br>Creation Care Team |
| 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM | <b>Business Session #2</b><br>Opening Prayer<br>Report Reference & Counsel Committee<br>First Ballot<br>Report from the Communications Team<br>Report from the Connectedness Team<br>Report from the ELCA Churchwide Representative<br>Announcements/Directions for Evening Activities   |
| 5:45 PM           | <b>Dinner and Evening Activities</b><br>6.30pm - Dinner Church (Campus Ministry, host: St. Paul, Lutherville)<br>7.00pm - Organ Crawl<br>(7.00pm St. Marks → 7.45 Zion City Hall Plaza → 8.30 Christ Inner Harbor)<br>7:05pm - Orioles v. Yankees (Camden Yards)<br>8.30pm - Beer & Hymns (Practice Discipleship Young Adult Task Force)   |

## Friday, June 1

8:30 AM - 5:30 PM	<b>Registration, vendors, displays, exhibits</b>
8:30 AM - 10:15 AM	<b>Business Session #3</b> [Forward in] Faith Stories Report of Committee on Credentials Report of the Committee on Elections Second Ballot Report of Committee on Reference and Counsel Report of the Secretary Report of the Treasurer Report from the Leadership Team Report from the Discipleship Team Hunger Ministry Team Announcements & Noisy Offering
10:30 AM	<b>Worship</b> Recognition of Congregation & Ministerial Anniversaries Presiding: Bp. Gohl Preaching: Pr. Amsalu Geleta, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
12:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>Business Session #4</b> Opening Prayer [Forward in] Faith Stories Report of Committee on Credentials Finance Team Report, Constitutional Amendment & Faith Spending Plan Report of the Committee on Elections – Second Ballot Report of the Bishop Introductions: Staff, Outdoor Ministry, Campus Ministry, Chaplains & St. Dysmas Greetings from United Lutheran Seminary Report of the Committee on Reference and Counsel Report from LEAD Team Report from Forward in Faith & Generosity Mission Table
4:00 PM - 5:45 PM	<b>Business Session #5</b> Opening Prayer [Forward in] Faith Stories Report of Committee on Credentials Report of the Committee on Elections – Third Ballot Report from the Racial Justice Taskforce Greetings from ADLA & AAPI Communities Announcements/Directions for Evening Activities
5:45 PM - 7:15 PM	Dinner
7:15 PM - 8:45 PM	Keynote Address: Brian McLaren

## Saturday, June 2

- 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM    **Registration, vendors, displays, exhibits**
- 8:30 AM    **Opening Prayer** & Instructions for the Day
- 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM    **Workshop I:** Brian McLaren
- 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM    **Workshop II:** *See options*
- 11:30 AM    **Closing Worship**  
Commissioning of ELCA Youth Gathering Participants  
Presiding: Pr. Surekha Nelavala, Beloved Community Mission Developer  
Preaching: Bp. Katherine Finnegan, Northern Great Lakes Synod  
Assisting/Gathering Commissioning: Deacon Julie Stecker  
Closing of the Assembly: Bp. Gohl

## **Constitution and Bylaws Committee**

Mykel Hitselberger, Chair

Proposed Amendments to the DE-MD Synod Constitution in re the Budget Development Committee and the Finance Committee

Purpose: To more closely align the work of the two committees in accordance with the best practice of the ELCA and thus to make the Budget Development Committee a sub-committee of the Finance Committee.

What follows are the proposed constitutional changes.

S10.07.08c. A Budget Development Committee composed of the treasurer and at least eight other persons shall be appointed annually by the Synod Council. A Budget Development Committee composed of the vice-president, treasurer and up to eight other persons shall be appointed annually by the Synod Council to serve as a sub-committee to the Finance Committee. Support staff shall be provided. The committee shall prepare and present a comprehensive budget to the Synod Council for its consideration and presentation to the Synod Assembly. The committee shall prepare and present a comprehensive budget to the Finance Committee for its recommendation to the Synod Council for its consideration and presentation to the Synod Assembly.

S10.07.08d. A Committee on Finance shall be appointed annually by the Synod Council composed of at least six persons, including a member of the Synod Council, and persons with skills in law, accounting, investments, insurance, and computer programming. Duties of the committee shall include:

- 1) overseeing the operations of the office of treasurer;
- 2) reviewing the synod's insurance policies and recommending changes in coverage/carrier(s) when, and if, necessary;
- 3) recommending to the Synod Council the auditor for the synod's accounts, reviewing the report thereof, and recommending changes in operations and/or practices as necessary;
- 4) monitoring the synod's investments and recommending changes to the Synod Council and/or the treasurer; and
- 5) assisting the Synod Council and/or the treasurer in implementing finance-related assignments as requested by the Synod Council or the treasurer;
- 6) overseeing the work of the Budget Development Committee.

## **Memorials and Resolutions**

To be posted...

## **Synod Council**

### **Secretary's Report**

Nancy Gordon

### **Treasurer**

## 2018 Faith Spending Plan

### Delaware-Maryland Synod Faith Spending Plan

		Proposed Period ending Jan 31, 2020	Approved SY2018
	SY2019		
<b>Income</b>			
1 Congregation Mission Support	100.0%	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
2 ELCA Mission Support	50.0%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
3 Synod Portion	50.0%	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
4 Draw on Income from Invested Funds	\$120,000		\$100,000
5 ELCA Subsidies and Grants	\$14,000		\$10,000
6 Non-Restricted Funds	\$60,000		\$0
7 Miscellaneous Receipts	\$0		\$1,000
8 ELCA Psych Evaluations Reimbursement *	\$4,000		\$4,000
9 Self Supporting Synod Events *	\$15,000		\$22,000
10 Synod Assembly *	\$80,000		\$80,000
11 <b>Total Other Revenue</b>		\$293,000	\$224,000
12			
13 Anticipated Draw from General Fund Balance		\$0	\$18,377
14			
15 <b>Available for Ministry</b>		\$1,293,000	\$1,242,377
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Discipleship</b>			
19 Support for New/Renewing Congregations	\$60,000		\$54,000
20 Youth and Family Ministries/Young Adults	\$22,500		\$22,500
21 Program and Operating Expenses	\$2,700		\$2,700
22 <b>Total Discipleship</b>		\$85,200	\$79,200
<b>Connectedness</b>			
24 Campus Ministries	\$123,000		\$123,000
25 African Descent Strategy Coordinator	\$18,000		\$18,000
26 ReKindle	\$0		\$500
27 Lutheran Development Alliance	\$10,250		\$9,000
28 Mar-Lu-Ridge Camping and Retreat Center	\$10,350		\$10,350
29 Central Maryland Ecumenical Council	\$3,240		\$3,240
30 Hunger and Mission Force	\$810		\$810
31 Lutheran Community Services	\$450		\$450
32 Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center	\$450		\$450
33 Program and Operating Expenses	\$2,700		\$2,700
34 <b>Total Connectedness</b>		\$169,250	\$168,500
<b>Communications</b>			
36 Synod Communications (SynComm)	\$7,750		\$6,750
37 Network Administration	\$10,000		\$9,900
38 <b>Total Communications</b>		\$17,750	\$16,650
<b>Leadership</b>			
40 Candidacy/Seminarians/Psych Evals *	\$11,000		\$11,000
41 Leadership Development (combined leadership events) *	\$11,000		\$22,000
42 United Lutheran Seminary (formerly LTGS)	\$72,000		\$72,000

\* Income and Expenses offset

Delaware-Maryland Synod Faith Spending Plan

43	Region 8 Office/Archives/First Call	\$5,000		\$12,600
44	Program and Operating Expenses	\$5,000		\$3,000
45	Practice Discipleship Support	\$2,500		\$0
46	<b>Total Leadership</b>		\$106,500	\$120,600
47	<b>Staffing</b>			
48	Staff Salaries	\$424,864		\$419,050
49	Pension & Benefits, All Staff	\$163,701		\$100,267
50	Social Security & Medicare, All Staff	\$29,755		\$14,010
51	Staff Continuing Education/Book Allowance	\$4,500		\$4,500
52	<b>Total Staffing</b>		\$622,820	\$537,827
53	<b>Operations</b>			
54	Office Space	\$69,000		\$69,000
55	Synod Office (Phone/Supplies/Postage)	\$24,300		\$24,300
56	Program and Operating Expenses	\$10,000		\$10,000
57	Synod Worship Action team	\$1,800		\$1,800
58	Insurance	\$14,000		\$14,000
59	Audit	\$10,000		\$10,000
60	Equipment Lease	\$18,000		\$18,000
61	Staff Travel	\$49,880		\$53,000
62	Staff Workshops & Retreat	\$2,700		\$2,700
63	Mutual Ministry Expenses	\$450		\$450
64	Bank/Credit Card/Payroll Svc Expenses	\$4,000		\$4,000
65	Synod Council Program and Operating	\$6,000		\$6,000
66	Conference of Deans Program & Operating			
66	Expenses	\$1,350		\$1,350
67	Synod Assembly *	\$80,000		\$80,000
68	Forward in Faith Consultant	\$0		\$25,000
69	<b>Total Operations</b>		\$291,480	\$319,600
70				
71	<b>Proposed Ministry Expenses</b>		\$1,293,000	\$1,242,377
72	Difference Income/Expense		\$0	\$0

\* Income and Expenses offset



## **Nominations Committee/ Biographies of Nominees Overview**

### **Nominations**

## **Report of the Bishop**

The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl Jr., Bishop

**Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA  
Roster and Congregational Changes  
June 4, 2017 to June 2, 2018**

(as of May 1, 2018)

**RESIGNED AND REMOVED FROM THE ROSTER  
OF THE DELAWARE-MARYLAND SYNOD**

**REMOVED FROM THE ROSTER OF THE  
DELAWARE-MARYLAND SYNOD**

**CONGREGATIONS RESIGNED FROM THE ROSTER  
OF THE DELAWARE-MARYLAND SYNOD**

**CONGREGATIONS REMOVED FROM THE ROSTER  
OF THE DELAWARE-MARYLAND SYNOD**