

Synod Constitution

Detailing Congregational Voting Members for Synod Assembly

- †S7.21. The membership of the Synod Assembly, of which at least 60 percent of the voting membership shall be composed of laypersons, shall be constituted as follows:
- a. All rostered ministers under call on the roster of this synod shall be voting members of the Synod Assembly. A minimum of one lay member elected by each congregation with fewer than 175 baptized members and a minimum of two lay members elected by each congregation with 175 or more baptized members related to this synod, typically one of whom shall be a man and one of whom shall be a woman, shall be voting members. The Synod Council shall establish a formula to provide additional lay representation from congregations on the basis of the number of baptized members in the congregation. The Synod Council shall seek to ensure that, as nearly as possible, at least 45 percent of the lay members of the assembly shall be women and, as nearly as possible, and 45 percent shall be men.
 - c. Voting membership shall include the officers of this synod.

S7.21.A01. The formula established by the Synod Council for additional voting members to Synod Assemblies is: In addition to the two voting members from each congregation, each congregation with membership in excess of 500 baptized members shall be represented by one voting member for each fraction of 500 members in addition to 500. (501-1,000 allows a third voting member, 1,001 to 1,500 gives a congregation a fourth voting member, etc.) To determine the number of lay voting members, all congregations shall use the baptized membership reported for December 31 on the previous year's parochial report.

S.7.21.A02. In addition to the voting members to Synod Assemblies established by the above provisions, each congregation may send as one additional voting member a confirmed youth/young adult up to the age of 24.

S7.21.01. Voting members shall begin serving with the opening of a regular Synod Assembly and shall continue serving until the opening at the next regular Synod Assembly.