



**2026 Northeastern Minnesota
Synod Assembly**
April 24-26, 2026
Breezy Point Resort

PROPOSED AGENDA

Friday, April 24

4:00 – 6:00

Synod Registration Begins – outside Whitebirch rooms
6:00 – 9:00 in Heartland 4

5:00 pm

Check-in at Breezy Point – Lobby
Dinner on your own – several restaurants on site

7:00 pm

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement: Bishop Amy Odgren
Opening Devotion
Order for Opening of the Assembly

7:15 pm

FIRST PLENARY SESSION (Whitebirch I and II)

Introductions: Bishop Amy Odgren
Declaration of Quorum: Ms. Anne Laechel, registrar
Adoption of Assembly Agenda: Jon Moe
Adoption of Rules and Procedures: Rev. Tanner Howard, Parliamentarian
Acceptance of Minutes of the 2025 Assembly: Mr. Jon Moe

Introduction to Election of a Bishop
Secretary Rev. CeCee Mills & Deacon MaryAnn Schwabe
Credentials Report: Ms. Anne Laechel, registrar
First Ballot for Synod Bishop

Report of the Bishop: Bishop Amy Odgren
LYO Report: Mr. Trevor Ranisate
Gather YA Report: Mr. Colby Hubbel or Ms. Julia Gwash
Video: *What is the Role of a Bishop?*
2025 *Holy Cow!* Award:
Hunger, Justice Rural Life Concerns Committee Chair
Holden Evening Prayer – Whitebirch Rooms

9:00 pm

Report of the Bishop Election Ballot #1:

Announcements

Campfire with our Outdoor Ministries

Saturday, April 25

6:30–8:15 am Breakfast Buffet – Marina restaurant

8:30 am SECOND PLENARY SESSION (Whitebirch I & II)
DEADLINE: Bishop Nominee Withdrawals or Biographical
Information at Bishop Election table near assembly office

Morning Worship
Welcome & Announcements
Report of the Conference Nominations: Rev. Kevin Olson
Report of Synod Wide Nominations: Rev. Kevin Olson

9:00 am Churchwide Report: Secretary Rev. CeCee Mills
9:45 am Break (All Nominee biographical forms available for review online
or at Bishop Election table)

10:00 am Treasurer’s Report & Budget Report: Ms. Theresa Jacobson

Credentials Report: Ms. Anne Laechel
Second Ballot for Synod Bishop

10:30 am Compensation Guidelines presentation: Mr. Andy Larson
Proposed Constitution amendments: Rev. Rollie Bockbrader
Portico Report: Rev. Tim Schroeder
Immersion Trip to El Paso, Texas video: Ms. Vicki Schmidt
Announcements

11:00 am Report of Second Ballot for Bishop (top seven)

Mental Health Moment: Ms. Joy Hensel

5-minute Statements by Bishop Nominees

Credentials Report: Ms. Anne Laechel
Third Ballot for Synod Bishop

12:30 pm Lunch – Minnesota Room

1:45 pm THIRD PLENARY SESSION (Whitebirch I and II)

Report of Third Ballot for Synod Bishop

Nominees: Question & Response (3 candidates)

Credentials Report: Ms. Anne Laechel
Fourth Ballot for Synod Bishop

2:45 pm	Synod Wide Ballot #1 (Synod Council & Synod Committees) Announcements
3:00 pm	Break with snacks
3:20 pm	Report of Ballot #4 for Bishop 3-minute statements by 2 remaining nominees
	Credentials Report: Ms. Anne Laechel Fifth Ballot for Synod Bishop
	Break
4:00	Mental Health Moment: Ms. Joy Hensel Reference, Counsel, and Memorial: Ms. Crystal Whitney
	Report of Synod Wide Ballot #1; Synod Wide Ballot #2 (if needed)
5:15 pm	Anniversary Recognition, In Memoriam
	Report of Fifth Ballot for Synod Bishop Remarks from the Bishop-Elect
	Announcements
6:30 pm	Emmaus Fund Gala (doors open at 5:45) Dinner – Minnesota Ballroom I & II Co-Hosted by Bishop Amy Odgren and Rev. Tim Ehling Speaker - Ms. Abby Hartog & slideshow Basket Auction and Live Auction

Sunday, April 26

6:30 – 8:15 a.m. Breakfast Buffet – Marina

8:30 a.m. FOURTH PLENARY SESSION (Whitebirch I and II)
Opening Devotion

Synod Vice President Ballot #1
LSS Report and Servant of Christ Award:

Report of Synod Wide Ballot #2 (if needed)

Report of VP Ballot #1

VP Ballot #2 if needed

Report of the Synod Council: Ms. Rachel Berry

*Recommendation 1: 2027 Compensation & Benefits
Guidelines*

Recommendation 2: 2027 Budget action

Recommendation 3: changes/updates to synod's constitution

*Possible Bylaw Amendment (allow additional Youth voting
member from a congregation)*

Announcements

Break

10 a.m. Closing Worship - Whitebirch Ballroom I & II
Offering recipient: Synod Seminary Fund (scholarship & debt relief)
Order for Closing of the Assembly
Preaching: Bishop Amy Odgren

12:00 noon Check out of rooms