The 28th Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly was held June 5-7, 2015, at Messiah College in Grantham, PA. The theme was “Hungry for the Word,” and everything from worship to Bible study to our keynote speaker to ministry moment videos reflected this theme. This year all business and worship was conducted in Parmer Hall of the High Center for Performing Arts. A pre-assembly educational event about rethinking faith formation took place Friday afternoon and was attended by more than 300 people, and 631 people attended the Assembly.

The Word In Song
Lutheran singer/songwriter Rachel Kurtz introduced her new Blues Liturgy, played a feature concert Saturday evening, and provided interlude music for the assembly plenary sessions. Lutherans were even seen dancing along with Rachel!

Sunday morning’s closing worship and rite of ordination featured Of The Land & Seasons, the revised liturgy of prayer and Holy Communion rooted in seasons of farm and orchard. Synod vocalists and musicians joined the composers, Dr. Stephen and Pr. Beth Folkemer, in sharing their musical gifts for this service. Sunday morning’s worship was livestreamed so that individuals and congregations could participate from other locations.

Inspired by God’s Word
Keynote presenter John Roberto both challenged and inspired us to rethink faith formation and to use all available technologies and tools to move beyond our walls to equip and engage families for daily discipleship and growth.

God’s Word in Sacred Conversation
The entire assembly entered into conversation about our future as the church in our Lower Susquehanna Synod to discuss and discern the ways in which we move forward together in mission and ministry in central Pennsylvania. Another highlight was a massively multi-player thumb wrestling game. If you missed the worship, conversation, learning, and fun this year, check out the videos archived on our YouTube channel or synod website. Then start making plans to join us in 2016.

Business Highlights
The Assembly adopted a resolution in support of legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, and public services on the basis of sexual orientation or
gender identity or expression. The full text of the resolution is available on our synod website.

Election Results

**Vice President:** Lucinda L. Bringman
**Secretary:** The Rev. Thomas E. McKee

**Synod Council (clergy):** The Rev. Beth A. Schlegel and The Rev. Jillian E. Riddle
**Synod Council (lay female):** Joyce E. Frigm and Christine C. Lowe
**Synod Council (lay male):** Jered L. Hock
**Synod Council (youth):** Zoe L. Clark

**Board of Directors of Gettysburg Seminary (clergy):** The Rev. Lisa M. Leber
**Discipline Committee (clergy):** The Rev. Caitlin M. Glass and The Rev. Alex Martini
**Discipline Committee (lay):** Ellen D. Doughty, diaconal minister and Dr. Marcus W. Thomsen

**Voting Members of the 2016 Churchwide Assembly:** Hailey E. Kuhn (youth at large); Rebekah A. Thomas (young adult at large); The Rev. Martine Joseph (person of color or whose primary language is other than English – clergy); The Rev. Clifton D. Eshbach and The Rev. Caitlin M. Glass (clergy at large); Holly C. Hoffman, MD, diaconal minister (lay female at large); Moses Robson Kavishe (lay male at large)

**Assembly Offerings:** Offers at this year’s Assembly totaled $6,089.70 and will be split equally for the Bishop’s Congregational Mission Fund, new congregations in the Konde Diocese (our companion synod), and ELCA new congregations as part of the Always Being Made New Campaign (ABMN). The offering from the Faith Formation Event is designated to our synod’s ABMN campaign to be used where needed most.

**Interested in the Reimagining Faith Formation project?**
The Lower Susquehanna Synod’s Center for Faith Formation, in partnership with John Roberto, is offering a Reimagining Faith Formation initiative to guide churches in creating a faith formation network for age groups and families in the church community. Participants will build a website for faith formation, learn how to use the new digital media and resources in faith formation, and develop skills for curating religious content and experiences for all generations. Interested? For questions and details email Deacon Marsha Roscoe at mroscoe@lss-elca.org. **Confirm your commitment by July 15, 2015.**

**Connect with our synod digitally.** Visit our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter using #LSS15. Check out more details, video clips and other resources on our synod’s website: www.lss-elca.org.

**GIVE** to support the ministries of our synod and the ELCA. Use our QR code or visit our website to give securely.