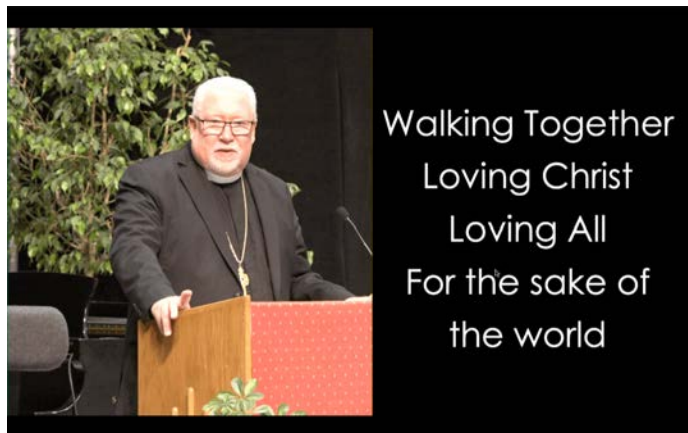


The 31st Annual Northern Illinois Synod Assembly was held June 14-15 at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. See photos, videos, and find out more at <http://assembly.nisynod.org>.



## The Work We Do Together – Bishop’s Report to the 2019 Assembly

Bishop Jeffrey Clements gave his verbal report during the second plenary session of the 2019 Assembly on Friday, June 14, 2019. His report was a recap of the work we have done together and a framework for the ministry we hope to accomplish in our work together this coming year. He introduced the synod’s new mission statement, vision statement, and core values. The video of his verbal report is available for congregations to show during worship, adult forums, temple talks, confirmation, congregation meetings, or other gatherings.

Watch the video online at <http://assembly.nisynod.org/bishop>

## Assembly Keynote Presentations – The Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen



Keynote Presenter, the Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen is a “freelance theologian” from her OMG Center for Theological Conversation in Two Harbors, MN. She gave three keynote presentations to the 2019 NIS Assembly, June 14 and 15 at Augustana College in Rock Island. They were based on the synod’s new mission statement and were titled “Walking Together for the Sake of the World,” “Loving God for the Sake of the World,” and “Loving All for the Sake of the World.”

Watch the keynote videos at <http://assembly.nisynod.org/highlights/>.



## Recognition, Celebration, and Remembrances

The Friday night service at the 2019 Assembly was a special time of recognition, celebration, and remembrance. Attendees filled the worship room of Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline to overflowing.

Special celebrations were held for landmark anniversaries:

- Trinity, Durand 175th Anniversary
- Capron, Capron 175th Anniversary
- Pr. Dennis Heaney – 50 yrs of ordination
- Pr. Arlyn Tolzmann – 50 yrs of ordination

The evening ended with lighting candles in remembrance of those lost during the last year and Holden Evening Prayer.

Videos at <http://assembly.nisynod.org/highlights/>.



## More Assembly Highlights

Visit the Assembly Highlights page on the NIS assembly website for many more stories, videos, and photos from the event. See election results and resolutions that were passed. Watch videos from our churchwide representative, Presiding Bishop Eaton’s video report, and the new Light youth ministry team. Hear from our synod officers, Portico, LSSI, and about the CycleToSynod team. Watch the ordination service of Pr. Paul Gebo and hear Bishop James Dunlop’s sermon. Download a bulletin insert or a slideshow to share highlights with your congregation.

Find these and more assembly highlights at <http://assembly.nisynod.org/highlights/>.



### Assembly Election Results

Thanks to all those individuals who have been willing to stand for election to the various offices of the Synod.

Synod Council: Vice President (4-year term) Minnette Scott, Synod Council: Treasurer (4-year term) Tammie Farley, Synod Council: Laity (3-year term) Carla Vanatta, Synod Council: Laity (3-year term) George Sanchez, Synod Council: Clergy (3-year term) Janet Wold, Synod Council: Clergy (3-year term) Robert Franek, Synod Council: Laity, Person of Color (3-year term) Monique Castillo, Synod Council: Youth Representative (1-year term) Grace Hoening

Congregational Life Committee: Laity (3-year term) Melinda Alekna, Congregational Life Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Elizabeth Mascall, Congregational Life Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Zachary Baer

Global Mission Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Jessica Bakken, Global Mission Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Reed Pedersen

Ministry Support Committee: Laity (3-year term) Deanna Swanson, Ministry Support Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Karyn Kost

Outreach Committee: Laity (3-year term) Amanda Schanze, Outreach Committee: Laity (3-year term) Roger Haefner, Outreach Committee: Laity (3-year term) Nathan Knowles, Outreach Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Frank Langhoff, Outreach Committee: Clergy (2-year term) Lisa Burbank

Social Ministry Committee: Laity (3-year term) Joan Soltwisch, Social Ministry Committee: Clergy (3-year term) Chuck Olson

Consultation Committee: Laity (6-year term) Lyn Tubbesing, Consultation Committee: Laity (6-year term) Randy Mullin, Consultation Committee: Clergy (6-year term) Elizabeth Martin, Consultation Committee: Clergy (6-year term) Preston Fields

Discipline Committee: Laity (6-year term) Karen Dolan, Discipline Committee: Laity (6-year term) Michael "Mic" Brooks, Discipline Committee: Clergy (6-year term) Henrietta Milner, Discipline Committee: Clergy (6-year term) Jacob Gawlik



### ELCA Churchwide Assembly to meet August 5-10, 2019

The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the primary decision-making body of the ELCA, is a process of communal spiritual discernment. The fifteenth Churchwide Assembly will meet in Milwaukee, WI, August 5-10, 2019 to discuss and make decisions about how to go about God's work as a church. This year the assembly will gather under the theme "We are church."

Over the course of the assembly, voting members: hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units; receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies; elect officers, this year including Presiding Bishop and Secretary, church council members, board members, and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws; establish ELCA churchwide policy; worship together; adopt a budget; and conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization. Please keep the assembly in your prayers.



### Grace, Ophiem closes doors

On Sunday, June 30, 2019, Bishop Jeff Clements attended the final worship service of Grace Lutheran Church, Ophiem after 130 years of ministry. Pastor Nancy Jaster preached a sermon which was perfect for the occasion.

Bishop prayed, "May the witness of the people who have ministered in the name of Jesus Christ through Grace Lutheran Church be undiminished and continue as they leave this place. Amen."