

June 1, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Nominating Committee of the Florida-Bahamas Synod is preparing the slate of elections for the 2017 Synod Assembly in Kissimmee on **October 12-14**. In preparation for those elections, we ask your help in identifying nominees to fill these important positions.

2017 Synod Assembly Elections:

1. ***Vice President*** *(in good standing for a four-year term)*

Lay, male or female

1. ***Secretary*** *(in good standing for a four-year term)*

Lay or Clergy, male or female

1. ***Synod Council Representatives*** *(in good standing for a three-year term)*

Southwest Mission District - PCLE\*

(Includes Lake, Mid-Gulf, Tampa, Sun Coast, Gulf Coast & Caloosa Conferences)

Southwest Mission District - Lay Male

(Includes Lake, Mid-Gulf, Tampa, Sun Coast, Gulf Coast & Caloosa Conferences)

Southeast Mission District - Clergy

(Includes Miami-Dade, Broward-Bahamas, Tradewinds & Space Coast Conferences)

North Mission District - Lay Female

(Includes 1st Coast, Heart of Florida, Pinelands, Panhandle & Flagler-Volusia Conferences)

Youth - male or female - 15 to 18 (rising 9th to 11th grader at time of election) - Two (2) year term

After all the open positions on Synod Council are elected, the need for an At-large member, if any, will be identified and announced.

1. ***Consultation Committee 3 positions*** (in good standing for a six-year term)

Two Lay and One Clergy, male or female

\* A person of color or language other than English

A completed Nomination Data Form must be received at Synod Office no later than **September 1**. A photo needs to be included with each nomination submission. The form is available on the Synod website under Resources/Forms (<http://fbsynod.com/resources2/forms>). After this deadline, the Nominating Committee will work to assure that there are two nominations for each position. While floor nominations are greatly discouraged, they may be made from the floor of the assembly. Descriptions of the elected positions are provided on page 2.

Your prayerful consideration of these opportunities for service is encouraged.

Yours in Christ

Tracy Moffatt for the Nominating Committee

**Synod Secretary**

This position shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Synod Assembly and Synod Council, attest all instruments signed and sealed by the bishop, classify and arrange all important papers and documents and deposit them in the archives of this synod, and provide to the secretary of this church a certified list of the voting members elected by the Synod Assembly. The Secretary shall be a lay or clergy person, male or female, elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of 4 years, and may be reelected.

**Synod Vice President**

This position shall chair the Synod Council and Synod Executive Committee. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as are assigned by the Synod Council or the bishop, in the capacity of president of the synod. The Vice-President shall be a lay person, male or female, elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of 4 years and may be reelected.

**Synod Council Representatives**

TheSynod Council sees to it that the mission and vision of the Synod are lifted and carried forward.

Mission: **Share Christ, Make Disciples, Do Justice in the world.**

Vision: **To be deeply rooted in Christ, firmly grounded in Word and Sacrament, and joyfully sent for the sake of the world.**

A Synod Council member shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod. The term of office shall be three years. The Synod Council is the board of directors of the synod and serves as its interim legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly.

The functions of synod council are:

* Trusteeship responsibilities on behalf of the synod
* Recommend program goals and budgets to meetings of the Synod Assembly
* Carry out the resolutions of the Synod Assembly
* Provide for an annual review of the roster of the rosters, receive and act upon recommendations regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration.
* Issue letters of call to rostered persons
* Fill vacancies in elected positions until the next regular meeting of Synod Assembly
* Report its actions to regular meetings of Synod Assembly.

The Synod Council meets four times a year at various sites around the territory of the Synod.

**Consultation Committee**

The committee consists of 12 members, 50% clergy and 50% lay persons. They are elected by Synod Assembly for a term of six years. Members of this committee may be called upon by the Bishop when there are indications that a cause for discipline may exist of a clergy or layperson and before charges are made. The Bishop may wish to resolve the situation by consultation and would call upon the consultation committee for assistance. The Consultation Committee will advise the Bishop as to whether the Bishop should bring charges or other recommendations for the resolution of the controversy that would not involve proceedings before a discipline hearing committee. If requested by the Bishop, members of the committee also may assist, as representatives of the accuser, in the presentation of evidence and examination of witnesses before a discipline hearing committee. A member of the consultation committee may not be a member of the Discipline Committee.