



## 2017 I-K Synod Assembly Summary

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly took place June 1-3, 2017, at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center, Covington, Kentucky. 111 clergy, 215 lay (which includes 12 deacons), and 54 visitors gathered around the theme “Formed, Reformed, Transformed.”

Highlights of the assembly included celebrating leaders and communities within the I-K Synod, inspiring worship, a celebratory banquet, motivating and informative plenary sessions and accompanying breakout sessions, and new this year was the opportunity for a variety of hands-on service projects. There was also a free night to engage with others in a more social time at the Reds/Braves baseball game or at a Beer and Hymn Sing.

The Thursday evening *Made New for Mission Banquet* honored rostered leaders celebrating special anniversaries. Those celebrating 50 Years of Faithful Service were Rev. Ronald Haseley, Deacon E. Louise Williams, Rev. Donald Abdon, and Rev. Oscar Holter. Those celebrating 25 Years of Faithful Service were Rev. Martin Bornhoeft, Rev. Stephen Flynn, Rev. Richard Hartman, and Rev. William Bucher. Milestone Congregational Anniversaries include Calvary, Cromwell, IN – 150 Years, St. John’s, Otwell, IN – 125 Years, Prince of Peace, Bellevue, KY – 125 Years, St. Andrew’s, Indianapolis, IN – 75 Years, Cross and Crown, Indianapolis, IN – 50 Years, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Muncie, IN – 50 Years, and Gloria Dei, Mulberry, IN – 50 Years.

Elected to the I-K Synod Council: Synod Vice President: Ted Miller; Synod Council Lay Conference Positions: Evansville Conference – lay male Larry Johnson; Indianapolis Conference – Lay female Victoria (Vicky) Carron; South Central Conference – Lay male Gregory (Shawn) Hall. Synod Council Clergy: Rev. Amy Beitelschees-Albers, Rev. Jessica King, and Rev. Randy Schroeder. Synod Council Youth: Noah Smith; Lutheran Outdoor Ministry IK Board of Directors, Lay male – Erik Johnson. Lutheran Outdoor Ministry IK Board of Directors, Clergy – Rev. Richard Hartman. The changes to the synod constitution were approved. The changes to bylaws S12.01.06

and S12.01.11. regarding Conference Deans was discussed the most. Resolution regarding Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service was approved. The 2018-19 budget was approved.

Special guests included Mikka McCracken, Director, ELCA World Hunger Planning and Engagement; Rev. Vicki Garber, serves on ELCA Church Council; Chris Burnette, ELCA Foundation Gift Planner; Rev. Cathy Schibler, Portico Benefits Regional Representative; Eric Martinez, ELCA Mission Investment Fund. Keynote Presentation 1 – FORMED in the Image of God was given by Bishop Suzanne Dillaunt, Southern Ohio Synod. Keynote Presentation 2 – REFORMED in the Cross of Christ was given by Beth Lewis, CEO of 1517 Media. Keynote Presentation 3 – TRANSFORMED in the Power of the Spirit was given by the Rev. Dr. Richard Rouse. Spark Talk presenters included: Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade, Beth Lewis, Rev. Dr. Daniel Fugate, Rev. Nancy Nyland, Mikka McCracken, Deacon Julie Peralta, Rev. Jane Aicher, Rev. Cindy Geisen, Rev. Dr. Rick Rouse, Rev. Dr. Jerry O’Neal, Phil and Susan Schmidt, Rev. Roberta Meyer, Dr. Ken Shuman, and I-K Synod Renewing Mission Table.

Gifts collected at the I-K Synod Assembly Gathering Worship designated for the *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA 2017* focus area: Global Church. This ministry supports Missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM), Global Ministries and International Women’s Leaders, came to a total of \$2373.78. Participants gave \$2941.14 to the I-K Synod Youth Ministry during the Sending Eucharist. These funds will be used to support synod youth events, equip the network of leaders and provide leadership opportunities for youth across the synod. Both amounts came to \$5,314.92!

Plenary Musicians who provided excellent musical leadership throughout the assembly included: Rev. James Capers, Rev. Amy Beitelschees-Albers, Chris Durham, Rev. Stephen Flynn, Rev. Richard Hartman, Davion Porter, Malcom Shirley, LeeAra Watson and Rev. Marcus Felde. Music leadership at the Eucharist on Saturday morning included: Tom White, Scott Heerschee, Lu Anne Wallace, John Handshoe, Jonathan Stites, and Justin Croushore. Bishop William O. Gafkjen presided over the assembly and preached at the Eucharist on Saturday.

Please visit [www.iksynod.org](http://www.iksynod.org) to view photos and find the Bulletin of Reports, including Bishop Gafkjen’s annual report.

The next I-K Synod Assembly will be Thursday, May 31 through Saturday, June 2, 2018, at the Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

