

## Guide to Assembly Roles

Updated May 6, 2024

The information below is intended to guide you to the role an individual may serve for the assembly.

<b>LEGEND</b>		
<b>Role</b>	<b>Privileges</b>	
	<b>Voice?</b>	<b>Vote?</b>
<b>Voting Member</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>Voice without Vote</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Visitor</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>N</b>

<b>If you are a <u>rostered minister</u> rostered in this synod and...</b>	<b>Role:</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Actively serving a congregation	Voting Member	
Not in an active call	Voice without Vote	
<b>Retired</b>	Voice without Vote	<i>May not be elected by congregations.*</i>
<b>Retired</b> , nominated, and approved by the Office of the Bishop	Voting Member	
<b>Interim</b> , not under call, serving a congregation	Voice without Vote	
<b>Interim</b> under call	Voting Member	
Serving a <b>specialized</b> ministry call	Voting Member	

*\*Retired rostered ministers cannot be elected to serve as a voting member by their congregation because voting members elected by congregations are required to be layfolk. (\*C5.04, +S7.21, and C10.41.01.)*

<b>If you are a <u>layperson</u> and...</b> <i>(Layperson: a person who is not a Pastor or Deacon of the ELCA.)</i>	<b>Role:</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Elected to be a voting member by your congregation	Voting Member	
Not elected as a voting member for your congregation (and not meeting any criteria below)	Visitor	
A member of <b>Synod Council</b> and not elected by your congregation	Voting Member	S7. 28
A member of <b>Assembly Planning Team</b> and not elected by your congregation	Visitor	
A pastoral <b>intern</b> and not elected by your congregation	Visitor	
<b>First call assigned candidate</b> not elected by your congregation	Voice without Vote	
A <b>TEEM leader</b> not elected by your congregation	Voice without Vote	
Serving as <b>Assistant to the Bishop</b>	Voting Member	+S7.21.01.c
Office of the Bishop <b>staff member</b> , not an Assistant to the Bishop	Visitor	

Additionally...	Reference
One lay synod <b>conference officer</b> may be a voting member if not elected by their congregation	+S7.21.01
<b>Retired</b> rostered ministers cannot be elected to serve as a voting member by their congregation because voting members elected by congregations are required to be layfolk.	*C5.04, +S7.21, and C10.41.01
The <b>presiding bishop</b> of the ELCA and other <b>official representatives</b> of the churchwide organization designated by the presiding bishop shall have voice but not vote.	+S7.23
If a member of the <b>Committee on Reference and Counsel</b> is not a voting member of the Synod Assembly, the member shall have voice but not vote at a meeting of the Synod Assembly	S7.34.2.e
Voting membership shall include the <b>officers of this synod</b> (bishop, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer).	†S7.21.c and †S8.01