

SYNOD 2018: AT A GLANCE

“Spiritual preparation is at the heart of what we are called to do and be as Synod delegates. Lifting the Synod and all the participants up in prayer before God is vital to our preparation. Prayer, meditation and reflection is essential to discerning the leading of our Lord and Savior, who is Head and Chief Elder of our Moravian Church. In a very real way, serving as a delegate to Synod is our calling...[and] we believe that God’s Spirit will be present with us as we worship, work, pray and fellowship together.” (Scott Venable, from the 2018 Synod Devotional)



WHO ARE SYNOD DELEGATES? All pastors under call are delegates to Synod. Every congregation has one lay delegate for every 125 adult communicant members. Small congregations are entitled to one delegate in addition to the pastor. Each Fellowship is represented by an advisory delegate. Provincial boards and agencies are also represented, as are retired pastors and certified, full-time DCEs. Non-voting, or advisory delegates, representing our various ecumenical partners and emerging ministries also attend.

A delegate is not a “representative” of the congregation, in the restrictive nature of the term; he or she is not someone instructed to vote a certain way by the congregation or leadership. The *Book of Order* states that a delegate, “must not lose sight of the interests of the Province and of the Unity as a whole,” even as they consider the perspective of their home congregation.

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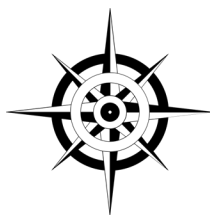
Delegates elected from congregations are sent with prayers and the guidance of the Spirit to use their gifts and maturity to engage in matters at Synod of their own conviction and to discern the direction God desires for the Moravian Church Southern Province.

Delegates, whether official (voting) or advisory (non-voting):

- Pray before and during Synod for God's leading and direction for the Province. Invest preparation time to understand the Synod process, including parliamentary procedures and voting.
- Read and reflect on reports and information from boards and agencies of the Province.
- Become knowledgeable about nominees for various elected offices and membership on boards.
- Attend and participate in pre-Synod gatherings for orientation and committee meetings.
- Actively participate in Synod itself, including: worship, committee meetings, small working group sessions, and plenary (total group) sessions for business, elections, and consideration of resolutions that are proposed.
- Share, interpret and help implement the results of and direction set by Synod.

View FAQ Videos here: bit.ly/SynodVideos
Find Synod devotions here: bit.ly/SynodDevotional

Note: both links are case-sensitive



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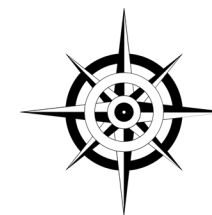
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