



South Dakota Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Voting Member Determination

Voting Members have both Voice and Vote privileges and include the following:

- Additional voting members determined by baptized membership scale located in Chapter 7 of the synod constitution.
- Each congregation is entitled to one additional voting member if between the ages of 16-21 years of age.
- Each congregation is entitled to one additional voting member if a person of Color and/or non-English origin.
- Every Ordained Minister, Associate in Ministry, Deaconess, and Diaconal Minister under call on the roster of this synod.
- Officers of this synod
- Ordained Ministers from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared shall be granted the privilege during the period of called or contracted service to a congregation of this synod.
- ELCA pastors serving as interim pastors, under contract to a congregation of this synod.
- Licensed Lay Ministers certified by the South Dakota Synod, under contract to a congregation of this synod.

* Baptized Member Increments	** Lay Voting Members	+ 16-21 Year Old Member	+ Person of Color and/or Non-English Origin	Maximum Total Lay Voting Members
0– 500	2	1	1	4
501 – 1000	3	1	1	5
1001 – 1500	4	1	1	6
1501 – 2000	5	1	1	7
2001 – 2500	6	1	1	8
2501 – 3000	7	1	1	9
3001 – 3500	8	1	1	10
3501 – 4000	9	1	1	11
4001 – 4500	10	1	1	12
4501 – 5000	11	1	1	13

**Figures used are the published baptized membership totals from the most recent South Dakota Synod Handbook.*

***Goal of a balance of female/male voting members.*

Advisory and Visitor Determination

- Advisory have voice only privileges.
 - All retired ordained ministers; all ordained ministers on leave from call; all associates in ministry, deaconesses of the ELCA, and diaconal ministers on leave from call or retired
 - Presiding Bishop and other official representatives
 - Interns

- Visitors have no voice or vote privileges.
 - Display table hosts
 - Anyone who is not a voting member or advisory
 - Refer to the South Dakota Synod Constitution and Bylaws, Chapter 7.