



ECO

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Dear Commissioners,

Welcome to the 2022 Synod Business Meeting! I could not be more grateful for each of you and your service to ECO. The materials included in this packet will prepare you for the resolutions you will be asked to vote on during the meeting. Rev. Dr. Dana Allin and I will be hosting a webinar to train commissioners for the Synod Business Meeting on January 13, 2022 at 10am (Pacific). [Register here](#) for the webinar. Commissioners may attend this training live to ask questions or to watch the recording later at their convenience. In addition to this forum, there will be a breakout session during the National Gathering taught by Dr. Leonard Young for Commissioner preparation, this will be held prior to the Synod Business Meeting on Thursday February 3, 2022. Dr. Young will also have office hours available (please see the National Gathering Program for those times and location).

Please remember, registration for the National Gathering is not registration for a commissioner. Every registered commissioner must separately register for the National Gathering (and if an individual has registered for National Gathering 2022 but has not been recognized on the Commissioners List as a commissioner, their church must do so by filling out the Commissioners List and have it confirmed by their presbytery). ***Please also remember to print a copy of the docket materials as there will not be space for laptop devices.***

Commissioners must be physically present at the Synod Business Meeting to vote. There will not be any online voting options for those registered as a commissioner. All commissioners will be given wristbands at the National Gathering's general check-in to wear to the Synod Business Meeting. Commissioners shall wear these wristbands and their name badges to check-in (which includes picking up your assigned electronic voting device) between 7:00am and 7:50am on Thursday, February 3, 2022 outside the sanctuary (the narthex) as the Synod Business Meeting will begin promptly at 8:00am. Commissioners who arrive after 7:50am will be allowed in shortly after the first commissioner count is given and assessed by Synod staff so that the meeting may begin. Commissioners shall sit in the sanctuary while guests will be seated in a separate venue (Elliott Hall), so please make appropriate arrangements with others in your party. In order to make sure we accomplish everything on our agenda, we will have one 15-minute break with snacks provided. We will not be stopping for a lunch break, so please prepare in advance for any additional items you may need for the duration of the meeting. As I hope was demonstrated to those in attendance of the 2020 Synod Business Meeting, the work which is completed at this meeting will serve to enhance ECO's mission of building flourishing churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ. As you will soon see in this year's docket, we are hoping to complete our work no later than noon.

ECO meetings are governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, and therefore you may expect adherence to those rules during the meeting. As you read through the proposed "Standing Rules" as presented by the Synod Executive Council, the goal is to minimize the time the Synod spends on minutia and maximizes the time spent on resolutions submitted by ECO Presbyteries and/or the Synod Executive Council. If you plan to offer an amendment to one of the resolutions, please seek Dr. Young's advice before the meetings, so that you are properly prepared. Dr. Young will offer office hours during the National Gathering. His breakout and office hours will be listed in the National Gathering's program.

Finally, it is important to thank the many, many people who have volunteered their time and talents in their churches, presbyteries, and to the Synod to bring these resolutions forward for the Synod's consideration. I cannot say thank you enough to each ECO Synod Staff member and the volunteer Presbytery Leadership Teams that help ECO to flourish. If we can be of any assistance to you in your preparation, please contact my assistant Sydney Wolfe at ecadmin@eco-pres.org.

In Christ,
Rev. Nate Dreesmann, ECO's Executive Director of Ecclesiastical Support