

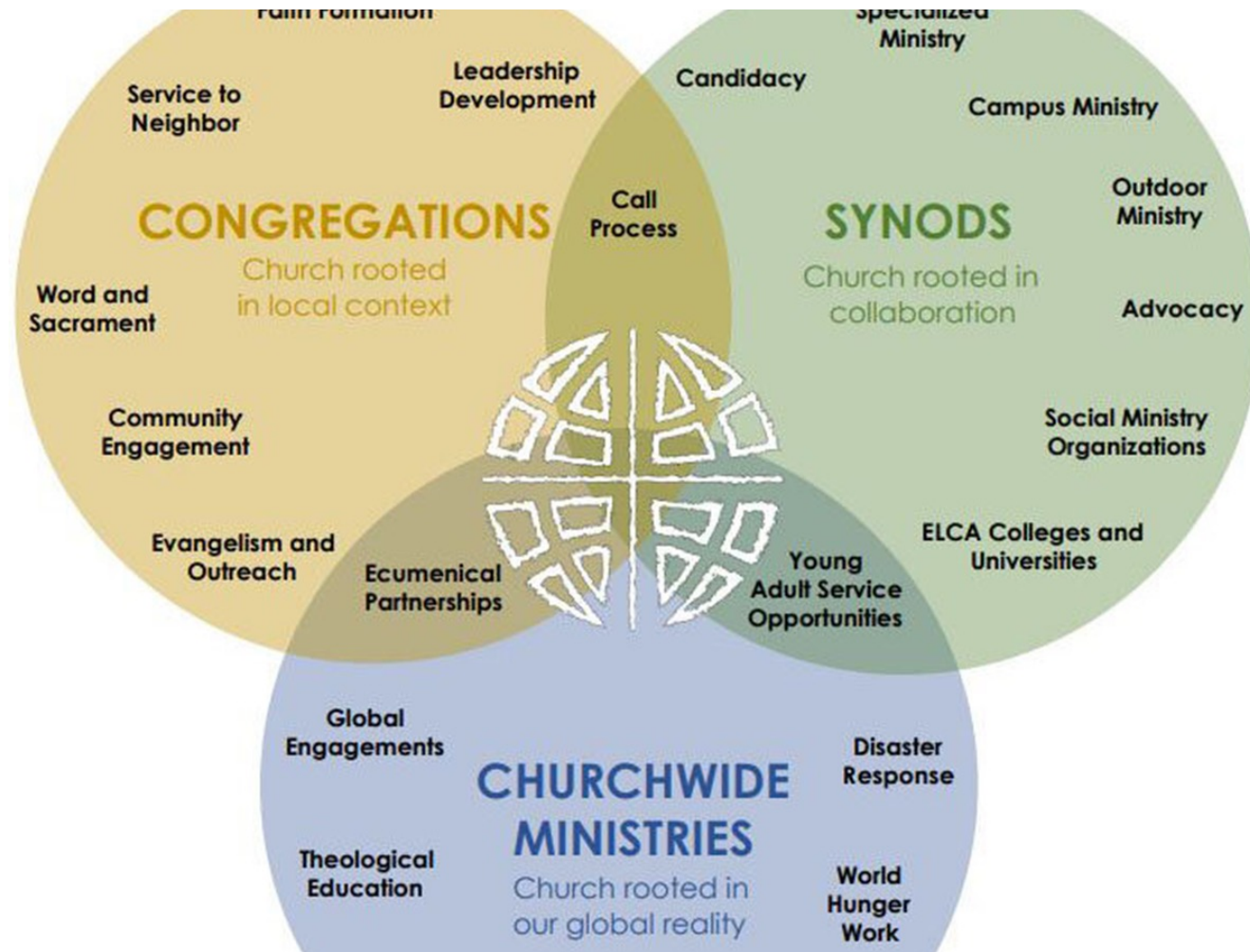


MNYS MISSION FORWARD 2024-25

Governance

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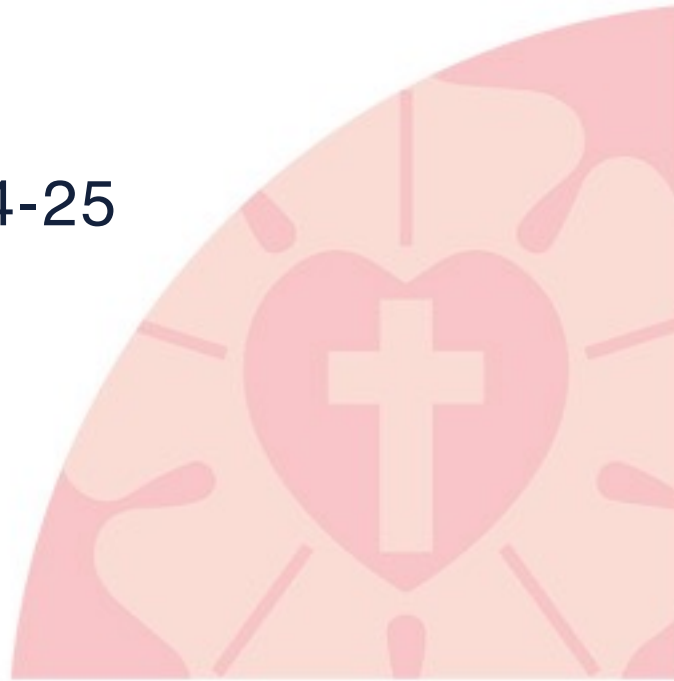
ELCA Structure



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Governance

- Constitutions
- Governing Councils
- Officers



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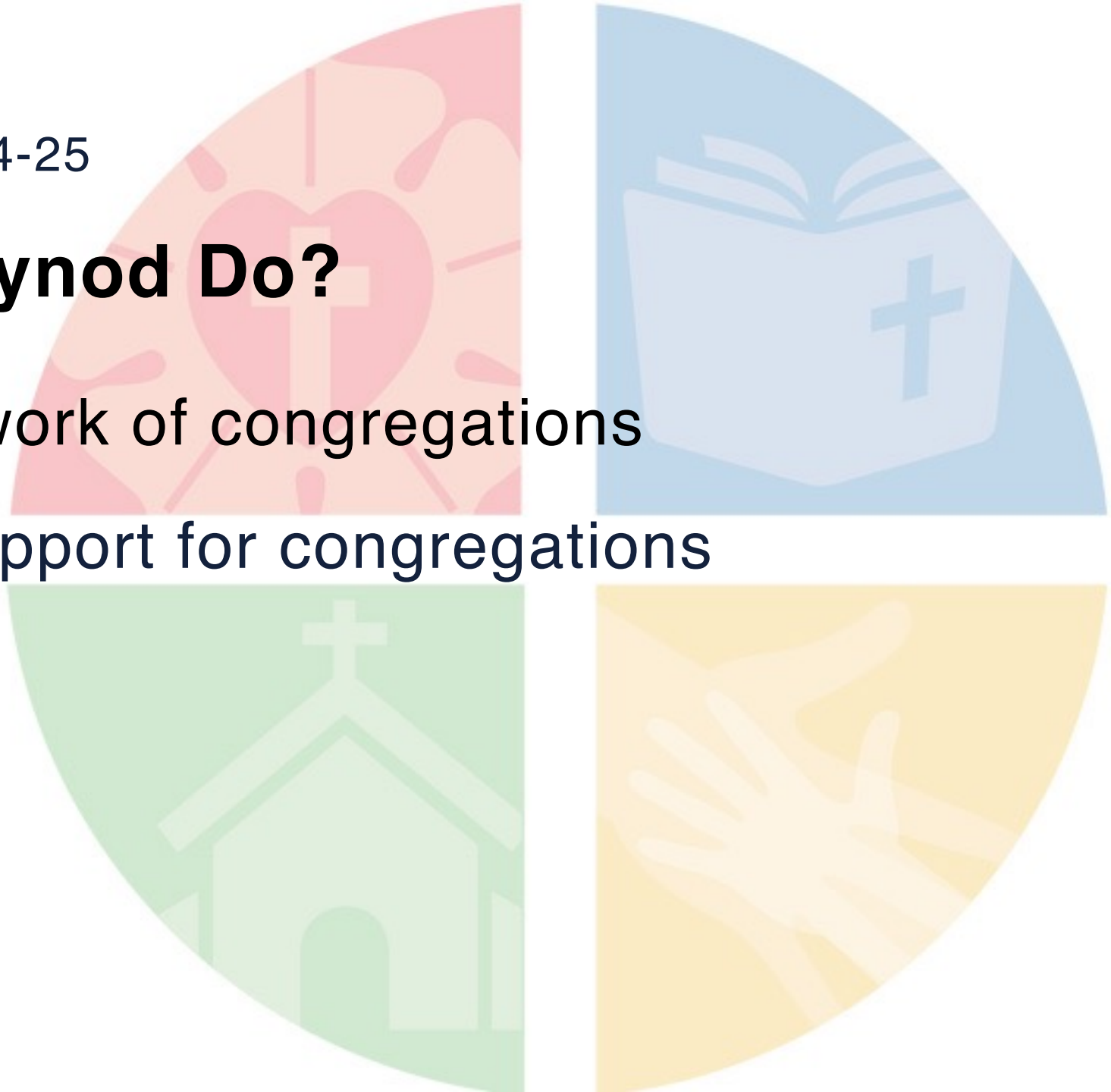
What Is a Synod?

- The English word “synod” combines two Greek words that literally mean “on the road together.”
- Synods coordinate the work of congregations within their territories and plan for the ELCA mission in their area
- 65 synods in the ELCA

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What Does the Synod Do?

- Synods unite the work of congregations
- Synods provide support for congregations



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What Does the Synod Do?

- Facilitate pastoral transition and the call process
- Congregational crisis management
- Candidacy
- Youth, outdoor, campus ministries
- Companion synod

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Congregational Roles

- Congregations participate in the life of the larger church by providing financial resources and developing and nurturing collaborative relationships
- Serve and support our mutual ministries
- Provide annual congregational report

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Management of a Congregation

- Congregation council: C12.05.a
- Congregation assembly
- Congregational Offices: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Council member

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Congregation President

- Preside at all meetings and prepare agenda
- Encourage each member to contribute their abilities
- Encourage participation in synod assemblies
- Represent the congregation in matters of business and sign legal documents

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Congregation Secretary

- Keep the minutes of all meetings
- Ensure the storage and protection of important documents
- Ensure timely filing of the parochial report
- Sign the Letter of Call

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Congregation Secretary

- Attest to congregation's records
- Submit copies of constitution and bylaw amendments to the Synod
- Carry out correspondence on behalf of the council and congregation

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Congregation Treasurer

- Serve as financial officer of the congregation
- Attend meetings of the council
- Provide financial oversight
- Responsible to ensure payments are documented by invoices

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Congregation Treasurer

- Perform or oversee bookkeeping functions
- Prepare financial reports for the council
- File required federal and state tax forms
- Monitor the cash position of the congregation

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The Role of a Council Member

- Duty of care
- Duty of loyalty
- Fidelity to purpose



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Resources

- <https://www.elca.org/About/Churchwide/Office-of-the-Secretary>
- <https://www.elca.org/About/Churchwide/Office-of-the-Treasurer>

