

SECTION B—WORKING TOGETHER AT CONVENTION

This section is primarily background reference for various aspects of our work together. For example, it offers examples of how to use Bourinot's Rules of Order; provides membership lists for the convention committees who are appointed to oversee such things as the accuracy of the minutes, the validity of resolutions, or the attendance figures; and sites the articles of the Synod Constitution and parts of the Synod Bylaws which will be useful when discussing the amendments proposed.

Summary of Bourinot's Rules of Order

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Proper opportunity is afforded to all concerned for an expression of opinion.
2. Rights of a minority are respected.
3. Clear decisions are reached.
4. Proceedings are governed by an assessment of the issues rather than by personality factors.

MOTIONS

1. When properly presented before the meeting a motion may be withdrawn by its mover and seconder only with the assent of the meeting as a whole.
2. A question once decided cannot be brought up again at the same sitting. If it should be necessary to rescind a motion that has been passed, notice of intention in writing can be given at one sitting and dealt with at the next sitting. In the case of a motion that has been defeated, a motion to reconsider, requiring a two-thirds majority vote, can be introduced by giving notice in writing at one sitting for decision at a later sitting. Alternatively, another motion similar to the defeated motion but differing in some particulars may be introduced at the discretion of the chair.

AMENDMENTS

1. An amending motion must be strictly relevant to the main motion. It must not alter in a material way the principle embodied in the main motion, but should merely vary its terms in one or more particulars.
2. An amendment may be moved to the amendment. It must not materially alter the underlying intent of either the original amendment or the main motion.

3. If a member wishes to make an amendment, but it is not in order at the time in view of the fact that two amendments are already before the meeting, notice of the amendment may be given, as this proposal might affect the vote on the amendments awaiting decision.

SPECIAL MOTIONS

1. Motion to adjourn debate or sitting must be seconded and voted immediately. It is not debatable.
2. Proceeding to next business must be seconded and voted immediately. It is not debatable.
3. A motion "that the debate be closed and a vote be taken on the motion":
 - i. must be moved by someone who has not spoken in the debate;
 - ii. must be seconded;
 - iii. is not debatable;
 - iv. and requires a two-thirds majority of votes cast.

This motion should be used in place of motions to "call for the question" or "move the previous question." The latter wordings cause confusion because they have different meanings and consequences in Canadian and U.S. usage, and although we follow Canadian rules of order (Bourinot), the common understanding of the latter wordings tends to follow U.S. usage.

4. Deferment. Motions to postpone to a specified time or indefinitely must be seconded and are not debatable nor amendable. The use of the phrase "to table" is not recommended as it has different meanings and consequences in Canadian and U.S. rules of order and is not understood the same way by everyone.

5. Reference or Committal. A motion to refer to a standing or special committee must be seconded, may be amended and debated, but only with respect to the reference or committal, not on the main subject at issue.
6. Debatable and Non-Debatable Motions. Generally, the distinction is made that substantive issues on which there will obviously be varying opinions are open to debate, while those of a procedural nature are not.
7. Substitute Motion. A substitute motion cannot be made. If a delegate wishes, "notice of motion" may be given. This means that if the current question being debated is defeated, a different motion may then be introduced.

POINT OF ORDER

A point of order should be raised when the alleged irregularity occurs; it is not acceptable if other proceedings have intervened.

DEBATE

If you wish to speak to a question before the house, proceed to a microphone and wait to be recognized by the chair. Upon recognition please state your name and the congregation you represent before addressing the question.

If you are making a motion, please also prepare it in writing using the motion slip form in Section A.

Bourinot's Rules at a Glance

To get an exact count after a close vote:

You say: "I call for a recount"	Interrupt? Yes	Seconded? No	Debatable? No	Amendable? No	Vote Needed: --
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To object to a procedure:

You say: "Point of order"	Interrupt? Yes	Seconded? No	Debatable? No	Amendable? No	Vote Needed: Chair decides
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To request info:

You say: "I want to request info/ clarification"	Interrupt? No	Seconded? --	Debatable? --	Amendable? No	Vote Needed: --
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To find out when you can make a motion:

You say: "When would it be in order for me to move that..."	Interrupt? No	Seconded? No	Debatable? No	Amendable? --	Vote Needed: --
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To challenge ruling of the chair:

You say: "I appeal the chair's decision"	Interrupt? No	Seconded? Yes	Debatable? No	Amendable? No	Vote Needed: Majority
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To make a motion:

You say: "I move that..." <i>- withdraw by mover and seconder only with the assent of the meeting</i> <i>- reintroduced only at following sittings</i> <i>- Rescindable only at subsequent sittings</i>	Interrupt? No	Seconded? Yes	Debatable? Yes	Amendable? Yes	Vote Needed: Majority
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For reconsideration of a motion:

You say: "I must give in writing that I move at the next sitting that a question be reconsidered."	Interrupt? No	Seconded? Yes	Debatable? Yes	Amendable? Yes	Vote Needed: 2/3 Majority
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To amend a motion:

You say: "I move to amend the motion by substituting (deleting/adding) the words..."	Interrupt? No	Seconded? Yes	Debatable? Yes	Amendable? Yes (once)	Vote Needed: Majority
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To make a motion to adjourn the meeting:

You say: "I move that this meeting be adjourned."	Interrupt? No	Seconded? Yes	Debatable? No	Amendable? No	Vote Needed: Majority
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Petitions

Petitions not directly related to matters on the agenda, may be considered by the convention. The petition should have an action component and be duly seconded before being referred to the elected secretary of the synod. The secretary will forward the petition to the Committee for Reference and Counsel. (See Section B, page 13 for a description of the role of Reference and Counsel.)

If a petition is submitted to the Committee for Reference and Counsel during the Convention, then it must be delivered to that Committee before 9:00 a.m. on the Friday (last full day of business) of the Convention.

After the motion has been read to the convention, it becomes part of the minutes and is subject to debate. When a motion (original or amended) is adopted, it becomes a resolution; that is to say, it becomes the decision or determination of the assembly with the matter under consideration.

Committee for Reference and Counsel

The Committee for Reference and Counsel is the impartial, discerning mind of the Convention, who acts inclusively and pastorally to:

- facilitate the orderly presentation of petitions so that the voice of petitioners is heard;
- clarify petitions so that the intent of the petition is complete, accurate and properly worded;
- support the chair by assessing the petition for compliance with constitutions, bylaws, decisions of previous conventions.

Six people, three lay and three rostered, (four of whom shall be delegates), are appointed by the Bishop to receive and study petitions submitted to the Secretary of the Synod by congregations, conferences, Synod Council, committees, or delegates.

Some of the petitions will have been submitted early enough to be included in the Bulletin of Reports; those received after publishing deadline will be forwarded by the Secretary of the Synod to the Reference and Counsel as they are received.

The petitions, which come to Reference and Counsel properly moved and seconded, will be presented to the Assembly with one of the options outlined here.

The Committee for Reference and Counsel will present the petition:

- a. without recommendation, for decision by the assembly; or
- b. without recommendation (but amended with the consent of the petitioners, for additional information to add clarity; or

- c. with recommendation to the chairperson that the petition be ruled out of order for stated reasons (for example, what is being proposed is already in place, or is contrary to unalterable parts of the constitution); or
- d. refer to a specified committee or office for consideration or
- e. with a dilatory motion (that is, a 'housekeeping' motion that is not debatable or amendable) to:
 - i. defer to a specified later time; or
 - ii. defer indefinitely, if the petition is one that the assembly would want neither to pass nor to defeat; or
- f. with recommendation that the petition be referred to Synod Council if the petition was received too late during the convention for the Committee to complete its deliberations.

Committee for Reference and Counsel will also:

- recommend special orders for the hearing of representatives who are not on the approved agenda;
- grant or deny permission to distribute printed matter or other items to the Assembly; and
- assist the chairperson as the chairperson may request during the course of the convention.

Use of a standard petition form is required. It is designed to give focus and helpful direction in the development of a petition. This will be distributed to all congregations prior to Convention. Petitions must be submitted to Reference and Counsel by 9:00 a.m. on Friday of Convention. Those submitted after this deadline will not be brought before the assembly for consideration.

Convention Committees

Committee for Reference and Counsel

Kevin Bolstad
Allyn Langager
Laureen Wray
Rev. Dr. Kayko Driedger Hesslein
Rev. Dr. James Hendricksen
Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler

Committee on Registration and Attendance

Glen Kneller
Sonja Myroon
Rev. Jeff Decelle

Committee on the Report of the Bishop

Greg Linglebach
Caleb Sorenson
Leanne Walton
Diaconal Minister Lorraine Schrader
Rev. David Larsen
Rev. Trish Schmermund

Elections Committee

Colin Millang
Marjorie Zelent
Rev. Dennis Aicken
Rev. Janice Whitelock

Committee on the Report of the Minutes

Nancy Kadatz
Robin Niebergall
Rev. Howard Mastin
Rev. Prema Samuel

Nominating Committee

Deans: Rev. Trish Schmermund
Rev. Kathy Calkins
Rev. Eleanor Ness
Rev. Kristian Wold
Rev. Reg Berg
Synod Staff: Rev. Dr. Julianne Barlow

Parliamentarian

Rev. Calvin Skriver

Biographical Data on Nominees ABT Synod Positions

Northern Conference - Lay

Nomination for: Synod Council - **LAY**
Northern Conference

Name: Mike Harmon

Address: 11707-88 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5B 3R6
Phone: (780) 454 9543

Home Congregation: Mt. Zion Lutheran, Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): student

Service in the church/community: Have served the past four years on Synod council, the three years on Northern Conference Council. I have been on our church council the past two years. Just finished being on the Board of Directors for Serenity Funeral Services. I share God's gifts through the opportunities the arise from being on these various councils.

Why you are interested in this position: Enjoy working with a variety of others. Also an opportunity to hear what others are doing and how God is shaping their lives. Also to see how the Spirit of God is moving amongst us and how we are each called in various ways.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: My hope for the Synod is we embrace our calling as missional peoples. To see where God is working within our communities and response to that call. To be a prayerful people, seeking God in midst of our lives and our calling.

East Central Conference - Rostered

Nomination for: Synod Council - **ROSTERED**
East Central Conference

Name: Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler

Address: P.O. Box 15 Armena, AB T0B 0G0

Phone: (780) 672-6677

Home Congregation: Armena Lutheran Parish (Scandia Lutheran, Armena and St. Joseph's, Hay Lakes)

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: Pastor of the Armena Lutheran Parish: Scandia / Armena & St. Joseph / Hay Lakes. Support activities in both of my congregations & in the communities they serve.

Why you are interested in this position: Having served on Synod Council for 6 years in the Central States Synod, ELCA, I know & understand the importance of this ministry.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: There are many congregations that are disconnected to the Synod. My hope is that they and all of us can become connected as we journey together.

Nomination for: Synod Council - **ROSTERED**
East Central Conference

Name: Rev. Dr. Deborah Ann Taylor

Address: 5807 42 Ave, Camrose, AB T4V 2S9

Phone: (780) 672-3659

Home Congregation: Bethel Lutheran Church, Camrose

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: I serve as pastor at Bethel Lutheran Church in Camrose, where in addition to the activities of a parish pastor, I am active in the Camrose Ministerial Association, PLURA (an ecumenical network of Pentecostal, Lutheran, United, Anglican, and Roman Catholic congregations), and serve on the Chaplaincy Council at the University of Alberta, Augustana Campus. My gifts as a freelance writer are shared with CLWR (Partnership Magazine), the Canada Lutheran, and misc. church based publications. Prior to call to the Alberta Synod, I served as my conference council secretary, initiated cooperative ventures among area pastors and congregations, participated in Jewish/Christian dialogue and interfaith associations, worked in emergency shelter, refugee services, community organizing and housing ventures, and volunteered as the National Rescue Coordinator for an animal rescue association.

Why you are interested in this position: I believe that we are far more effective (and have a lot more fun!) when we work together, rather than in isolation. Both my professional experience and my faith are deeply rooted in building connections: with other Christians, community organizations, social service agencies, and interfaith communities. I've appreciated the intentionality with which the Synod of Alberta and the Territories has sought to form cooperative partnerships and desire to support those efforts.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: I have tremendous hope for our synod! Although the challenges we face are significant, so also are the opportunities. It is exciting to see emerging partnerships unfold and to "think together" as we shake the dust from tradition, reclaim its value, and give it form and expression in new and innovative ways. My concern is that we seize the opportunities before us, and that we be undaunted, as we live out our faith in a present that is very different from our past.

West Central Conference - Lay

Nomination for: Synod Council - **LAY**
West Central Conference

Name: Mark Ree

Address: R.R. #1, Bentley, AB T0C 0J0

Phone: (403) 748-2147

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran, Bentley

Occupation (current or past): Utility Operator

Service in the church/community: I have served in almost all capacities on church council at Grace, except treasurer. I have served one term on Synod Council. I have participated as a delegate in Conference and Synod Conventions.

Why you are interested in this position: I have become interested and involved in the larger church through Synod Council and feel I have some grassroots insights to offer at the Synod level. I feel my rural roots are an asset in planning the direction of the future church.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: I have concern for the diminishing attendance numbers in smaller churches, particularly rural congregations. I have a desire to determine how best to serve the people involved at this level and feel the need to determine what God has planned for the future. The lack of clergy is definitely a challenge.

West Central Conference - Rostered

Nomination for: Synod Council - **ROSTERED**
West Central Conference

Name: Rev. John Lentz

Address: 5022 - 52 Street, Olds, AB T4H 1G9

Phone: (403) 556-8811

Home Congregation: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Olds

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: Pastor, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Olds for 18 years; LCBI Board of Regents; volunteer Chaplain for local RCMP; involved in local Ministerial Assoc.; Intern Supervisor, 2 consecutive years

Why you are interested in this position: My years of experience, the skills gained over those years of ministry, and a desire to help in some small way, the church beyond the boundaries of this parish.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: Biggest concern: for the Synod to continue moving on the path that has been set these past few years in becoming more mission minded and focused.

Nomination for: Synod Council - **ROSTERED**
West Central Conference

Name: Rev. Art Weiss

Address: Site 8, Box 18, RR1 Sylvan Lake, AB T4S 1X6

Phone: (403) 746 2702

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran, Bentley

Occupation (current or past): Executive Director, Camp Kuriakos

Service in the church/community: Served as Pastoral leader in Congregations and Administrator of church organizations.

Why you are interested in this position: Provide Leadership to the Synodical Mission

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod It is my hope that the ABT Synod can continue to grow together in mission, direction, worship, prayer, education, leadership development, and fellowship.

South West Conference - Lay

Nomination for: Synod Council - LAY
South West Conference

Name: Terrie Coombs

Address: 4645 83 ST NW, Calgary, AB T3B 2R1

Phone: (403) 470-7699

Home Congregation: Advent Lutheran, Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Spiritual Care Director

Service in the church/community: I offer Spiritual Direction in my congregation, privately, and also at the FCJ Christian Life Retreat Centre, where I also host retreat/mediation sessions.

I am a member of the international Companions in Mission Ministry in partnership with the Faithful Companions of Jesus Order.

My involvement in the community I am a member of our local Planning Committee, and a Fifth Step Listener for Simon House, a treatment centre for men recovering from addiction to drugs and alcohol.

Why you are interested in this position: I have been a member of Synod Council for the last four years, and it has been a wonderful experience. It is a privilege to work with a diverse group of people, with different gifts, talents, and opinions, but united in one common goal, listening, to the Holy Spirit, to each other, and to all people in our Synod; discerning where God is leading us.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: *Jeremiah 29:11:* For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.
Matthew 7:7: "Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. These two verses reflect my hope; God has a plan; He is "in control". We are on the threshold of the door, asking, seeking, searching, and the door of our new future is opening.

Southern Conference - Lay

Nomination for: Synod Council - **LAY**
Southern Conference

Name: Walter Alksne

Address: P.O. Box 1142, Hanna, AB T0J 1P0

Phone: (403) 854-4026

Home Congregation: Redeemer Lutheran, Hanna

Occupation (current or past): Retired

Service in the church/community: Served numerous terms on church council as:

- Chairperson,
- Co-chair,
- Elder,
- Deacon
- Sunday School Superintendent
- Active on numerous Call Committees
- Sing in the choir (when we have a choir)
- Attend Bible Studies when they are offered
- Assist with the serving of the sacraments when requested
- Assist with church property maintenance
- Attended Conference and Synod Conventions
- Have participated in various community ventures i.e. C.O.P., Ecumenical Community Church Choir, etc.
- Currently VP of the Hanna Roundhouse Society (restoration of local railroad facility)

Note: I do not belong to any service clubs or other organizations

Why you are interested in this position: Over the past 40 or so years I have served the church in a number of areas (primarily on a local basis). I feel this is an opportunity serve our Church in a broader capacity trusting I have skills to facilitate any required expectations related to the position on Synod Council.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: My concerns are:

- declining church attendance
- low enrollment in our seminary
- congregations leaving the ELCIC

My hope is that the church grows and prosper in its mission to serve in spreading word, and that its membership adapts to a changing society, as difficult as that may be for some.

Nomination for: Synod Council - **LAY**
Southern Conference

Name: Wendy Kalkan

Address: 1018 - 19 Street N, Lethbridge, AB T1H 3M1

Phone: (403) 795-1454

Home Congregation: Christ Trinity Lutheran Church,
Lethbridge

Occupation (current or past): Land Use Planning &
Community Economic Development

Service in the church/community:

- Numerous terms on church council including recording secretary
- Other church congregation positions include worship leader, communion assistant, Sunday School teacher, local social justice initiatives
- Numerous terms as Southern Conference Council Secretary
- Founding member of Kairos Lethbridge Committee
- Co-Coordinator of Kairos Prairies North Regional Committee including the duties of secretary-treasurer
- Past member Synod Campus Ministry Committee
- Past Board Director, Secretary and Governance Committee Chair of the Good Samaritan Society
- Current Board Director and Chair of Lethbridge Family Services - a community-based non-profit agency providing Home Care, Immigrant Services, Program's for Persons with Developmental Disabilities, FASD Clinic, and Counselling, Outreach and Education programs and services throughout Southwestern Alberta.
- Secretary-Treasurer Lethbridge Lifelong Learning Association - responsible for collaborative programming and funding of Adult Literacy and Foundation Learning opportunities with educational institutions and community-based agencies in Lethbridge.
- Past Commissioner with Alberta Multi-Culturalism Commission
- Past Board member of Alberta Press Council
- Past Board member and mediator of the Medication Society of Southern Alberta operating Community Conflict Resolution Services (Lethbridge) - including facilitation of mediation, restorative justice, peace

circles, extrajudicial sanctions and alternative measures.

Why you are interested in this position: An opportunity to share my faith experiences and skills in a new way, as well as learn from and contribute to the development of the same. The opportunity to represent the Southern Conference and build community.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: To further ABT synod support of congregation's and individual's faith experience, meaning and connectedness.

To contribute to the human and community capacity building that comes from God's grace and inherent in the traditions the Lutheran faith.

Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Governors

Nomination for: Lutheran Theological Seminary,
Board of Governors - **LAY**
South West Conference

Name: Laureen Wray

Address: 351 Doverview Cres. SE Calgary AB T2B 1Y7

Phone: (780) 454-9543

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Master,
Airdrie

Occupation (current or past): Office Administrator, Solas
Energy Consulting Inc.

Service in the church/community: Served as Assistant
and Executive Director of Camp Kuriakos over 12 years. I
have participated in several Synod events and provided
leadership for the LOMAN and LOMIC committees. I enjoy
volunteering in my community with a variety of
organizations.

Why you are interested in this position: I found my
experience working with the Board of Camp Kuriakos
through a decade of great change to be a rewarding
challenge. Serving with the Board of the Alberta Camping
Association, including three years as President, also
provided many lessons and insights in leadership and
governance. I believe that LTS is a vital resource for our
church which needs to be cared for diligently and
challenged constantly to provide the training opportunities
needed by our church now and moving forward.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: My hope is that
the Synod of Alberta and the Territories is prepared to
pursue God's calling. In joyous victories and difficult
decisions, I hope we seek to reflect God's grace in all we
do.

Nominated by: Synod Council

Nomination for: Lutheran Theological Seminary,
Board of Governors - **LAY**
Northern Conference

Name: Dianne Kieren

Address: 134 Rabbit Hill Court NW Edmonton, AB
T6R2R3

Phone: (780) 434-0081

Home Congregation: Hosanna Lutheran, Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Professor Emeritus of the
University of Alberta

Service in the church/community: Past Chair, Synod
Campus Ministry Board; organist for Augustana 40 years,
Chair of Council Augustana, Augustana University College
Board- 13 years; Author: 25 Years of Women's Ordained
Ministry; Family life education leadership with Rev. Ken
Kuhn; Current: Refugee Task Force Hosanna, Rethinking
Welcome Committee, Synod Congregational Action and
Response for Mental Illness; I have served on many boards:
University of Alberta, Augustana university College, Persons
with Developmental Disability, Glenrose Hospital, Good
Samaritan Society, Family Life Education Council, Vanier
Institute of the Family, various day care boards,
Professional Home Economics Association boards, National
Council on Family Relations Board, Chaired the Private
Colleges Accreditation board and member of Campus
Alberta Quality Council and currently serve on the Province
of Ontario Post Secondary Quality Assurance Board. I
received a Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal for my
work in the family field. I delight in serving my local and
wider community by sharing the leadership skills that God
has given me.

Why you are interested in this position: My knowledge
and work in various capacities in the church as well as in
higher education and as a member of many different boards
are assets to such a role on the LTS board. I care deeply
about how our pastors and laypersons are prepared for
ministry in this challenging time. I know I will learn as much
as I will contribute should I serve in this capacity.

Your concerns and hopes for the Synod: The Synod has
great potential for ministry but we live in a challenging time
as well. We need to reach the diverse needs and at the
same time stretch the understanding and capacity of our
people to the new needs for openness as well as bringing
Christ's message of hope to situations of despair. We need

to involve more people who see themselves as servant
leaders - we need to provide our lay persons with
knowledge and skill to be part of the ministry team that
reaches out to others. I am hopeful that we can be a light to
others.

Nominated by: Synod Council

Biographical Data on Nominees - ABT Delegates to National Convention At Large - Youth

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
Youth
At Large

Name: Chad Garson

Address: 4839- 10th Ave., Edson, AB T7E 1E6

Phone: (780) 712-1699

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran and St. Catherine's Anglican Church, Edson

Occupation (current or past): Student

Service in the church/community: I am the youth member of our church's Council/Vestry and on the roster of readers at church. As an Indigenous youth, I am a spokesperson in the congregation and in the community for abiding in right relations with Indigenous peoples. At school, I am a spokesperson for TRC Call to Action #62. I accompanied my pastor and other members of my congregation to deliver a copy of the KAIROS Winds of Change petition to our local MLA.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I think it is important to have Indigenous youth present at the National Convention. As a member of an Anglican/Lutheran congregation I will bring a different voice to the national convention

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Through our Synod's Abiding in Right Relations Committee, we join the national church in its commitment to the rights of Indigenous peoples.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I hope that the ELCIC will remain totally committed to the rights of Indigenous peoples. I also hope that the ELCIC will continue to encourage Anglican/Lutheran congregations like mine.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
Youth
At Large

Name: Nyajuok Kulang

Address: 2525 98 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2V0Z3

Phone: (403) 607-4942

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Cross, Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Student

Service in the church/community: As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Cross, I have been involved with activities such as helping run the VBS summer program, helping operate the power point system for the service, along with the sound system to help with worship. And also i have been involved with the Missional network team at my church, to try and expand the involvement of the church and try to perpetuate a change with the paradigm shift from how the church is involved in the community.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am interesting to be a delegate so that I may represent the interest of the youth at our congregation and be a voice for them.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Primarily the synod brings motions which need to be passed by the convention and ask the national church to consider

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I hope that ELCIC can keep up with the times and adapt as needed to continue growing with the generations and also maybe have more youth ministry in the local churches.

Additional Comments:

Northern Conference

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Northern Conference

Name: Sheryl Dubois

Address: 4434-6 Avenue, Edson, AB T7E 1B6

Phone: (780) 723-5267

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church, Edson

Occupation (current or past): Piano Teacher

Service in the church/community: I have been a church musician since I was in high school, being the regular pianist at Grace for 38 years, and participating in various church choirs. I have taught Sunday school and VBS through the years, and served on the executive, including president, of whatever women's group was happening in our congregation. In recent years, I have been on church council, served as its chairperson for 5 years, have been on call committee, constitution committee and stewardship committees. I have been involved in many Bible studies. I usually take part in whatever activities are going on in my congregation, including helping with Kate's Kitchen (free monthly community meal) and the Thrift Store (a store operated by several community churches). I have been honoured to serve as delegate from our congregation at several Northern conference conventions and synod conferences. I attended the Joint Assembly of Lutherans and Anglicans in Ottawa. Currently I am a member of the Synod Missional Formation Team. I was a Guiding Team member in our congregation's participation in the Missional Network. As a result of that, I have become involved with volunteering on a weekly basis with Reflections, an organization which provides a drop-in facility, free meals and other program activities for people with brain injuries and other mental health issues.

Why you are interested in being a delegate: I think it is important to know what is going on in the larger church. Our local congregation is only one small member of the body of Christ. All parts of the body must be aware of each other and aim to work together for the good of the total body.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Synod reflects concerns, issues and possible solutions/resources to problems that are of a more local

level. The work that the Synod does contributes to the national church's understanding of the total body.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: Our Synod must interact with churches from both large cities and small communities. We seem to be consistently blessed with strong, faithful leadership that faces a wide range of problems to overcome in our daily task of showing God's love to our congregations and communities. I feel our Synod leaders can share how we have dealt with problems of waning church membership, being an inclusive, loving and inviting church to all members of our communities, and a Synod willing to work with other Synods and the National Church in achieving common goals.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Northern Conference

Name: Mike Harmon

Address: 11707-88 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5B 3R6

Phone: (780) 454-9543

Home Congregation: Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Student

Service in the church/community: Have served the past four years on Synod council, the three years on Northern Conference Council. I have been on our church council the past two years. Just finished being on the Board of Directors for Serenity Funeral Services. I share God's gifts through the opportunities that arise from being on these various councils.

Why you are interested in being a delegate: My interest in being a delegate is my interest in the church as a place of hope. Our national church does that with many initiatives and leadership. And enjoy meeting and hearing what others in our church body are doing.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our Synod brings hope. We bring hope in our future, through our leadership, and through our congregations. We are a group which is seeking God and discerning whereas a church God is leading us.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: Hope for the ELCIC is that we continue to be a place which inspires hope. To be mediators, to bring peace to those whose lives are in need of it. My hope is that we continue to seek God in our larger communities and work together with others to bring hope to all.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Northern Conference

Name: Nancy Kadatz

Address: 51140 C Hwy 814 Leduc County, AB T4X 0K4

Phone: (780) 709-3389

Home Congregation: St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Ellerslie, Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Retired Teacher/Farmer

Service in the church/community: During the last 40+ years at St. Paul's, I have served God and our congregation in the following areas and ways:

Sunday School teacher and Superintendent, VBS teacher and Leader; Church council member: secretary, and Chair; Call committee Chair and member (for the last two Pastors); Education Liaison for Council; Choir member; Adult Forum Leader; Visitor Welcome Committee; Communion Assistant; Reader; Pastoral Assistant; Mutual Ministry Committee; Lay Pastoral Assistant Participant and other duties where needed.

Synod activities: Delegate to Synod Conventions 3 times

National Activities: Delegate to Vancouver National Convention and Lay Pastoral Assistant to Bishop Susan last Summer in Edmonton for the opening of the Convention.

Community Service: My community service relates to my teaching position with Elk Island Public Schools as a Logos Teacher (Christian Education in the Public School System). Coached girls Junior High Basketball team for two seasons.

Why you are interested in being a delegate: Being a delegate to the Vancouver National Convention brought a new understanding of how the national Church works with each Synod. It was inspiring and gave me the chance to meet many people from diverse communities and church sizes. Through it all I learned so very much that was relevant to church and community life and new approaches to spreading the Good News of God's Grace.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our Synod must interact with churches from both large cities and small communities. We seem to be consistently blessed with strong, faithful leadership that faces a wide range of problems to overcome in our daily task of showing God's love to our congregations and communities. I feel our Synod leaders can share how we

have dealt with problems of waning church membership, being an inclusive, loving and inviting church to all members of our communities, and a Synod willing to work with other Synods and the National Church in achieving common goals.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: My hopes for the ELCIC are that in all things we try to accomplish, others would see God working through us to help those in need and to spread the Good News of God's amazing Grace. I truly believe that as long as we see that as our main task, concerns will be dealt with by God through prayer and waiting on Him to Guide us in any problem or concern we have. Then we must step out in faith to do His will.

Additional Comments: It would again be a privilege to serve as delegate from St. Paul's to the National Convention.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Northern Conference

Name: Minna Peever

Address: 1924 145 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5Y 1V3

Phone: (780) 473-5592

Home Congregation: Glory Lutheran Church, Sherwood Park

Occupation (current or past): Retired RN

Service in the church/community: "I have been actively involved in church - choir, organist, reader, greeter, organized and participate in our church's prayer ministry, help plan worship services and have served on church council (chair for 3 years).

I have supported the "Truth and Reconciliation" process, contribute to our church outreach programs (clothing and food bank) as well as the annual CLWR "We Care" project and have participated with our choir in ecumenical events and community activities."

Why you are interested in being a delegate? Church has always been a part of my life - my father was a pastor. It still remains a fortress for me. For many years I was working so was unable to participate in convention activity. As the church grows and changes, I want to be an active and informed participant in this process.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? The ABT synod is a large synod body shepherded by a caring and supportive Bishop. We lost the largest number of congregations across the country as a result of the national same sex stance. We have come through this experience gaining valuable insights which can be used as learning tools in the future.

We recognize and support mission work in Central/South America (Brian Rude) as well as Canada's north land (LAMP)

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: The Triune God remains our main focus. Financial stability.

Continue with the following

- Involvement with the Aboriginal Communities
- Ongoing ecumenical dialogue
- Continue developing "ministry and discipleship" process

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Northern Conference

Name: Margaret Sadler

Address: 15104 - 51 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6H 5C1

Phone: (780) 435-3025

Home Congregation: Hosanna Lutheran Church,
Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Editor, Writer, Instructional
Designer

Service in the church/community: Within my local congregation, I have participated in various ministries (church council, the El Salvador Support Group, Community Kitchen, Stewardship, and Worship and Music) and am currently chair of an actively committed Worship and Music Committee and the newly formed Refugee Sponsorship Working Group. Worship is a passion of mine and I regularly participate as worship assistant, communion assistant, and reader, and occasionally as a musician.

For several years, I served on the Synod Communications Committee. For one term I represented the ELCIC on the Anglican Church of Canada's Partners in Mission committee. For the broader ELCIC, I was chair of the workshop planning team for the National Worship Conference, Edmonton, 2014. The following year, I used my organizational skills to chair the local arrangements team for the National Church Convention in Edmonton. I currently represent the ELCIC/Anglican Church of Canada on (and am the chair of) KAIROS's Ecumenical Global Partnerships Circle.

For three years, my husband and I have volunteered our services overseas—twice as communications practitioners with Lutheran World Federation, of which we are very proud. From 2000–01, we volunteered with the Department for World Service LWF in Nouakchott, Mauritania, and in 2007–08 with DWS LWF in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. We were both volunteers for the LWF Assembly in Winnipeg in 2003 and I was one of two lay delegates from the ELCIC to the LWF Assembly in Stuttgart in 2010. In preparation for the Stuttgart Assembly, I represented Bishop Susan at a Women's Pre-Assembly in Geneva in October 2009.

Equally proud of Canadian Lutheran World Relief, I have participated in two CLWR Global Encounters—first to the Holy Land (2014) and more recently to Ethiopia (January 2016).

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I enjoy participating in the work of the church and gatherings of the church body. I look for opportunities to share my creative and my analytical skills to further the reign of God. I anticipate the work of the Spirit in the gathered people of God.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? The Synod of Alberta and the Territories brings both a careful, respectful concern for the breadth of views in the church and a creative energy to take a new look at how we might be the church.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I hope we can focus on hope; that we can be confident that the church will live on (in spite of us) and therefore we should continue to put our energy, our hope, and our prayers into being In Mission for Others.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Northern Conference

Name: Gretta Smith

Address: Box 8 Site 220 RR 2, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1X2

Phone: (780) 963-6526

Home Congregation: St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,
Spruce Grove

Occupation (current or past): Retired Registered Nurse

Service in the church/community: Serve on church council, assisting minister, share faith in community with friends and neighbours.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I have found that going to conventions makes you realize you are not an island unto yourself. It is good to meet other Christian people in our country.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? not sure.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: Biggest concern is that we endeavour to share God's Word though out the world, regardless of the situation in our local or global community.

Additional Comments: Remember God is in control. God has the last word.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
Northern Conference

Name: Rev. Barbara Groote

Address: 8405-83 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T6C 2Z2

Phone: (780) 469-2421

Home Congregation: Ascension Lutheran Church,
Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Clergy

Service in the church/community: I am the pastor at Ascension Lutheran Church in Edmonton. I am quite interested in building interdenominational and interfaith connections with our neighbours.

One of my passions is worship, and I have been part of a few worship planning groups for different events here in Edmonton, e.g. the National Worship Conference, the National Convention, and others. Once a month I volunteer at a Community Dinner that is hosted at Trinity Lutheran Church. Several church communities come together regularly to feed the hungry with a hearty meal and fellowship.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am interested in being a delegate because participating in conventions and study conferences gives me a sense of belonging to something bigger than just my congregation. We are part of the One Body. This becomes tangible as we join together in convention, as together as God's people we share our stories, our hopes, and dreams for the church and for God's world.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our Synod's missional focus through "Missional Church" and other directives and opportunities within our Synod encourages and brings about changes within congregations, and promotes a positive attitude, energy and participation in the larger community. I see hope in our Synod. I see more collaboration and collegiality between the synods, bishops, and the national church, that, in the past was difficult to see.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I find that times have become more hopeful in the ELCIC overall. Sure, there are challenges but those will always be there. We have shrunk as many congregations have left the ELCIC (here in AB). Yet we have shrunk to health, and I find that beneficial. We are moving closer together and at the same

time we are reaching out to others in collaboration. God is breathing new life into the Church in so many ways, and I hope that we will continue to be opened and grow in this breath of life, and explore faithfully what that looks like specifically within our congregations and, even more so, how we can journey alongside those around us as God's hands and feet.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
Northern Conference

Name: Rev. Dr. James Hendricksen

Address: 11698 - 72 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T6G 0C1

Phone: (780) 222-5451

Home Congregation: Hosanna Lutheran Church,
Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Senior Pastor

Service in the church/community: I am the senior pastor of Hosanna Lutheran Church in Edmonton. I have served on the Global Mission Task Force and the Program Committee for Youth Ministry, both of the ELCIC. On a synodical level I have been a part of the Passing on the faith committee, the Study Conference planning committee, the Missional Formation Team and involved in Outdoor Ministry at a number of levels. I have also taught a few courses in practical ministry at LTS in Saskatoon.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am interested in working to shape the ministry priorities and directions of the church at all three levels (National, Synodical and Congregational). I have a passion for Mission and ministry and continue to work towards a hope filled future for the church, in whatever form that eventually takes.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? The ABT synod has many gifts to offer the national church. In particular, we have a good track record for participation, at multiple levels, in Global mission and ministry. Our synod has also shown some good leadership in working towards a more missionally focused future for our congregations and synod. We also have many talented people in our synod who have, and continue to offer their time and resources for the ministry of the wider church. This truly is a great gift.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: There are many challenges facing the church today, however, there have always been challenges of one sort or another. We certainly are working to redefine ourselves for ministry in our present context. While this does mean there will be struggles, it also means there are opportunities, if we choose to accept them. My prayer is that we can work together to discern God's will for our church and how we might live out our call to discipleship. For me this includes a significant emphasis on relationships and community.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
Northern Conference

Name: Rev. Aaron Schnell

Address: 105 Meridian Loop, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 0B9

Phone: (587) 988-4327

Home Congregation: St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,
Spruce Grove

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: Served as Pastor at St. Matthew's for 2.5 years, recently elected chairperson of Northern Conference Council, convener of South Edmonton Ministerial, Parkland Area Lutheran Network committee. In leadership, I seek to be a permission giver and equipper for grass roots ministry.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I have been unable to participate in a national convention previously. I wish to participate in the life of the broader church.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Having felt a significant impact to congregations leaving the synod, I believe our synod is in a place of hope, optimism and gratitude for opportunities to serve.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I believe the ELCIC is uniquely situated to be a faithful, missional and progressive church body.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
Northern Conference

Name: Rev. Heidi Wachowiak

Address: 5104 Ellerslie Road SW Edmonton, AB T6X 1A4

Phone: (780) 224-3956

Home Congregation: St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Ellerslie, Edmonton

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: I have participated in church all of my life including involvement in the wider church since my youth. I have served the church as a youth staffer, youth and education worker then eventually went to seminar. I have been ordained over 10 years. I have also served as national staff, volunteered on synodical and national committees - such as Parish Life and youth ministry, planned youth gatherings on all levels. I have participated in an international Lutheran World Federation event and volunteer as I am able in my community primarily through community league needs and most recently as chaplain for evacuees from Fort McMurray. I am trying to listen for where God is already at work and join in.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I have been interested in the way the church functions on a larger level since my youth. I know sometimes it can be frustrating because it can take longer to get things done, but it is important for the church to work well at this level. I believe my varied experience in the church and having lived in a number of synods helps my understanding and provides valuable insight.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our synod brings a wide variety of gifts and perspective- because of our size and varied geography we encompass communities from large cities to remote places. We also have engaged intentionally in being missional - joining where God is already at work. I understand that other synods are in this process as well. I do believe that this is one of the ways forward during this exciting and challenging time to be the church.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: One concern I have for the ELCIC is that with our smaller size of convention we find good ways to function and make decisions that take into account all aspects of who we are. One hope is that we be a church that exudes grace on all

levels - from how we interact with our members, to our partnerships in Canada, and our international presence in the world.

Additional Comments:

West Central Conference

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
West Central Conference

Name: Gail Berg

Address: Box 418, Eckville, AB, T0M 0X0

Phone: (403) 7462930

Home Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church, Bentley

Occupation (current or past): Music Teacher

Service in the church/community: Local congregation:

- Involved with worship & music planning for 20+ years, including pianist, arranging special music and assisting with bulletins and PowerPoints.
- Treasurer for our council for 10+ years, as well as for the ELW
- served as a deacon on church council

Synod – served eight years on the Synod Leadership Development committee,

- served on the steering & planning committee for the Lay Pastoral Assistants program
- Participated in the LPA program, and completed in 2005.
- served 4 years on Synod council

National - member of Discipleship working group, which provided a real learning and growing experience for me, as I was involved in the ministry of the church body at large.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I feel encouraged, challenged and motivated, as I hear about the work of the church, and how lay people can be involved. I enjoy the fellowship and connecting with other committed and engaging Christians within our church family. I have also served on the Local Arrangements committee for 3 conventions, so see firsthand all the energy and commitment that goes into planning these events.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our synod has been very supportive of world missions, both financially and through personal contact and involvement. It is also very supportive of collaborative partnerships, both with the Anglican and Catholic churches, as well as with other organizations and agencies that support our national church's challenge to reach out with compassion, sharing God's grace and love. Congregational

life events, mental health workshops, missional events, Lay Pastoral Assistant courses, and the Study conference all provide opportunities to enable leaders to cultivate a passion for their call and use the gifts entrusted to them by the Holy Spirit as we seek ways to live as a church in Mission for Others.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: The ELCIC needs to continue to be involved with ecumenical relations, & missions, through LWF, World Council of Churches, and CLWR. It is so important for our church to have a voice, and be seen as an active & caring partner involved in compassionate justice, and joining in solidarity with those who are marginalized. I feel that it would be beneficial for each synod (bishop, staff & congregational members) to share in more of the global commitments and responsibilities, so there is involvement & commitment all across the country.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
West Central Conference

Name: Sharon Besler

Address: Site 8 Box 6 RR 1, Leduc, AB T9E 2X1

Phone: (780) 980-2027

Home Congregation: Peace Lutheran Church, Leduc

Occupation (current or past): Food Services

Service in the church/community: I currently am a member of our church council, a lay worker, and serve on our witness committee.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I attended the national convention in 2015 and found it an amazing experience. I learned so much, and would like the opportunity to attend again.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? They provide financial support, and have many people serving on various boards, and volunteering.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: To see our local and national churches grow. We have seen a decline in our congregation and need to work to rebuild the church as a whole.

Additional Comments: I feel what I would learn at convention, would enable me to bring new ideas forward to my own congregation, to help our church grow.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
West Central Conference

Name: Ebeline Zee-Hawtin

Address: 10160 - 115 St. NW, Edmonton, AB T5K 1T6

Phone: (780) 488-2622

Home Congregation: St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Thorsby

Occupation (current or past):

Service in the church/community: Current participation in St. Matthew's: Church Council Sec., Chair of Membership and Education committees, co-ordinator of Sunday School, V. P. of St. Matthew's Lutheran Women; in the past, Parish Nurse at St. Matthew's, President of West Central Conference ELW. In the community participated in ecumenical activities, World Day of Prayer, Seniors' Educational Planning Comm. I share my organizational and leadership skills in many of the above and my personal relationship skills through pastoral visiting in the church and community, endeavouring to share my faith through action.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? Wish to be more informed and inspired about ELCIC at a national level, experience the fellowship of such a gathering, bring back ideas to local level

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Involved in national committees, international contact, eg. Bishop Larry visiting Colombia, support through awareness, prayer, financial contribution

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: Church membership at both local and national levels seem to be decreasing especially of younger families; how can we be relevant to those we serve and those who are still seeking; how do we as Christians live in a changing society in terms of standards and policies

Additional Comments: My upbringing was not Lutheran but Christian Reformed so there is much history I have not experienced and being involved at this level would expand my knowledge and appreciation.

Please note that my mailing address is in Edmonton but I live at Pigeon Lake, therefore membership in Thorsby as my husband and I wished to be part of the community where we spend most of our time.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
West Central Conference

Name: Rev. Scott Brown

Address: Box 511, Thorsby, AB T0C 2P0

Phone: (780) 789-1936

Home Congregation: St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,
Thorsby

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: I have been pastor in Thorsby for the past 8 years. I am chair of the World Missions Ministry in the Synod. I am Legion chaplain here in Thorsby and have done that for the past 8 years.

I have served as Dean for a total of 12 years in three different conferences in two synods of the church. I also have mentored and continue to mentor several fellow clergy.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I was at the National Convention that was held right after the 1988 decision by the United Church to allow same sex clergy. We are at another watershed moment like that one was.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? We bring a sense of the Holy Spirit in that we still have a World Mission ministry and support a missionary in a foreign country. We bring a strong sense of the word being central in the life and work of the church.

We bring a willingness to explore where the Spirit will take us. Examples such as Advent and Lenten VBS, Area Confirmation classes and a willingness to be involved in our communities are some examples.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: We need to know each other better locally and support each other's explorations in the Holy Spirit.

We need to be more adventuresome in our witness. We need to have a vision and purpose to engage those around us as the early church did.

Additional Comments: I am passionately concerned about our church and joyfully expectant of where God is leading us in the Holy Spirit.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
West Central Conference

Name: Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry

Address: 39 Issard Close, Red Deer, AB T4R 0C1

Phone: (403) 861-6217

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Red Deer

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community:

- Member, National Church Council: 2013-2017
- Chair, NCC Faith, Order, and Doctrine Committee: 2013-2017 (Responsible for Chairing Word and Sacrament Study Guide team and process; I am now working on the Orders of Ministry Study Guide with the FOD team.)
- West Central Conference Council: 2012-2014 (Secretary 2012-2013)
- Ecumenical: Local Anglican Clergy Examining Committee
- Ecumenical: Shared Ministries with Local Anglican Congregations
- Strong supporter of CLWR
- Current Call: Pastor - Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd - Red Deer

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am keenly interested in serving the church at a National Level: I believe that our National Church IS the way in which we can do more for the world that we ever could as individual conversations as we are In Mission with others, and attending and actively participating in the National Convention is an important part of supporting that work.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our Synod is a part of the National Expression of the church, and as demographics (and ideologies) vary significantly across the country, it is important that our Synodical Expression of the church is represented at the national table. Also, our Synod financially supports the National Church, and it is important for elected delegates to ask important questions and hold to account as to how our funds are being spent.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: The ELCIC continues to be a place where the Holy Spirit is indeed active and present in this expression of the Body of Christ. I pray that we will continue to hear God's call to us to serve the greater church and the world beyond our own walls.

Additional Comments: This upcoming National Convention will include an important commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the reformation.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
West Central Conference

Name: Rev. John Lentz

Address: 5022 - 52 Street, Olds, AB T4H 1G9

Phone: (403) 556-8811

Home Congregation: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Olds

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: Pastor at St. Paul's, Olds, Alberta; Volunteer Chaplain, RCMP, Olds Detachment; Intern Supervisor for Intern Pastor in Hanna, AB.; Member of Board of Regents, Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute (LCBI), Outlook, Sask.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? It's not that I don't have enough to do already! The work of the Church at large, both Synod and nationally, are of vital importance and of great benefit to each congregation of the ELCIC. I believe I have something to offer to the Synod, and will be willing to give it.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? This Synod has always been a key part of the national ELCIC picture, and has also been a key leader in that national context! I have no doubt that the direction that our Synod is moving at present (proactive, rather than reactive), is also keeping us fully in that leadership position. This, along with the very talented, inspired and willing people that I see in this Synod, inspire me to continue being active in a forward thinking Synod; may it inspire the national context as well!

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I am deeply concerned with aging of many of our churches and the affects that has on us as a whole. I am proud of our Synod's insistence in maintaining as much as possible, our ministry to our children, youth and young adults through such things as our Camps, Campus Ministry, Synod Youth gatherings and so on. We do need more of this kind of thinking, without omitting our concern for and ministry to that aging part of our church. They are valuable. I am delighted in the CARE Initiative.

Additional Comments: We have a Synod that is moving in many right directions. May we continue to move in the direction the Spirit leads us!

East Central Conference

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
East Central Conference

Name: Vivian Baier

Address: PO Box 1031, Provost, AB T0B 3S0

Phone: (780) 753-3985

Home Congregation: Central Lutheran Church, Provost

Occupation (current or past): Massage Therapist

Service in the church/community: I have served on Church Council for two separate terms. I actively attend church. I act as a Servant several Sundays per year. This involves, reading scripture, greeter, serve coffee, communion etc. I help count the offering. In the past I have played the organ for church. I taught Sunday School when my children were of that age. I am on the Hastings Lake Lutheran Bible Camp Board. Camp has always been a part of my life and I continue to attend and be involved in the program committee.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I think it is important to be informed as to what is going on in the church at large. If we don't know what is going on, we won't know how we can help to strengthen our church as a whole. Conventions are an opportunity to network with other churches and meet up with friends from our past and reconnect with Pastors and meet other Pastor's in our church family.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? My knowledge of this is limited. That is one of the reasons I was willing to attend the Synod Convention. I did attend the National Convention in Ottawa. I thoroughly enjoyed it. I think it takes a few conventions to get the hang of how things work. I would like to learn more as to what role our Synod plays in the National Church.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: The ELCIC has had some rough years. Concerns: Many churches have left the ELCIC. There has been division in the churches, causing hardship among members of churches. When I attended the Ottawa Convention, I sensed that people were ready to move on. It was time for growth. My hopes for the ELCIC is that there is healing from difficult times and growth in our future.

Additional Comments: It would be a privilege to represent my Congregation at the National Convention.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
East Central Conference

Name: Ruth Jensen

Address: 6008 Marler Drive, Apt. 101, Camrose, AB
T4V 3C3

Phone: (780) 672.0283

Home Congregation: Messiah Lutheran Church, Camrose

Occupation (current or past): International development administrator; currently semi-retired

Service in the church/community: At Messiah I volunteer in the office, also hold a part-time paid position in admin.; have served on the Witnessing Committee; involved with the single seniors group; I am on the Synod Roster for pulpit supply and do so as called, served at a two point parish for 3 months; write devotions for Eternity for Today for ELCIC; I am a former executive director for CLWR where I served 1996-2005, in that capacity have spoken and preached in congregations from Lunenburg, NS to Victoria, B.C.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I have a life-long interest in the life and witness of the broader church. While at the helm of CLWR I attended church conventions and appreciated the opportunity to hear the discussion and dialogue as it provided greater understanding of what and why things were as they were. I look forward to sharing this with my congregation.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? When one is based in a national office one is blessed if we can be rooted in local realities. Synods do this for the national church. It is my experience that each Synod has its own dynamism and reality. The AB Synod has a heart for missions and that is born out in our support for Brian Rude. The Synod organized a tour to El Salvador to expose people to the work and witness in that place. This brings a riches to the Synod that in turn blesses the National body. We also have solid, long-term support for CLWR and are currently waiting for refugees to come through this network this also enhances the witness of the National church as we are all part of this body.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: We really need a National Church office as it brings all our various Synods together into one whole. To that end we require adequate and appropriate financial support for the National office.

Regular visits from the National office to congregations would help to congregations across the church to recognize this factor. Without a National office my concern is that the Lutheran church as we know it, could splinter. This would not be good for our overall witness as Church.

Additional Comments: I would be honoured to serve as a delegate to the National Convention.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
East Central Conference

Name: Rev. Paul McCormick

Address: PO Box 818, Provost, AB T0B 3S0

Phone: (780) 753-2622

Home Congregation: Central Lutheran Church, Provost

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community:

- Rostered minister since 2006
- Member of ABT Synod Council 2008-2016
- Volunteer Provost & District Ministerial Food Bank since 2006

Why you are interested in being a delegate? Keen interest in the trajectory of our church, need to question everything we do in terms of God's mission and Word.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Resources, energy, wisdom, pragmatism...

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: Hope: that we can witness to the world what a saving relationship with Jesus Christ looks like. Concern: that we are jumping on activist bandwagons best led by others.

Additional Comments:

South West Conference

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
South West Conference

Name: Terrie Coombs

Address: 4645 83 ST NW Calgary, AB T3B 2R1

Phone: (403) 470-7699

Home Congregation: Advent Lutheran, Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Spiritual Care Director

Service in the church/community: I offer Spiritual Direction in my congregation, privately, and also at the FCJ Christian Life Retreat Centre, where I also host retreat/mediation sessions.

I am a member of the international Companions in Mission Ministry in partnership with the Faithful Companions of Jesus Order.

My involvement in the community I am a member of our local Planning Committee, and a Fifth Step Listener for Simon House, a treatment centre for men recovering from addiction to drugs and alcohol.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? It is such a wonderful experience to connect with Lutherans from across Canada, sharing our joys, concerns, and hopes.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? The national church is very broad and sees the "forest" of our church, the synods are the voice of the "trees" in that great forest.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I know people say the church is in transition. Isn't that wonderful! God is continually in transition and new creation, that is the string attached to our kite. So we can soar in faith, learn different ways, cherish traditions, make mistakes because we will never become adrift.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
South West Conference

Name: Garry Mihaichuk

Address: 421 Pinnacle Ridge Place, Calgary, AB T3Z 3N8

Phone: (403) 975-0081

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of Our Saviour,
Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Retired CEO

Service in the church/community: I am currently the Chair for the LCOS Board. As well I am the co-chair of the refugee sponsorship committee for LCOS and a member of the SW Conference Refugee Committee. We are in the process of trying to sponsor 8-10 refugees in 2016. I am also a member of the funding board for the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Having been on 30 boards over the years I share in my experience in my service to the LCOS Board.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I believe that we need to have input into the activities and focus of the national church. After the last national convention, the decisions resulted in a loss of 33% of the Alberta Synod Lutheran congregations. This is unacceptable!

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? We have been involved with the Alberta Synod on the Mission Shaped Ministries and the SW Conference of the Alberta Synod on refugee sponsorship. The Synod also promotes and champions the priorities of the National Church including the 2017 Reformation Challenge.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I have concerns for the existence and viability of the ELCIC. With the decline in the congregations there is an increased contribution expectation from the remaining congregations. Most of these (in Alberta) are suffering their own financial problems with the increasing problem of job loss. There will be a push from the congregations to lower their Synod and National contributions and also a continued questioning on the value the congregations are receiving from the National Church and the Alberta Synod (less so).

Additional Comments: There is real concern that the National Church is much more focused on eastern Canada than western Canada. If this continues with the 2017 convention there will be a continued move for congregations

to leave the ELCIC. Where are we going and how do we attract congregations back?

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
South West Conference

Name: Betty Pollock

Address: Box 13 Site 16 RR7, Calgary, AB T2P 2G7

Phone: (403) 861-9925

Home Congregation: Emmanuel Community Church,
Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Office Administrator

Service in the church/community: I have been an employee at Emmanuel for 17 years, as Office Administrator. And I've also volunteered in Sunday School, with VBS, on the Audio Visual team, and the Future Planning Committee. I'm also involved in my local community on the High School Alumni committee, and the High School Scholarship committee. In all these capacities, I use the gift of administration that God has given me.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? After 40 years as a member at Emmanuel, I decided it's about time I volunteer as a Convention delegate!

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? I feel that Bishop Larry, and staff at the AB Synod, have a lot of good insight into what our greater church should evolve into.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I hope the ELCIC can flourish, in spite of many changes seen in the past few years.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
South West Conference

Name: Rev. Dr. Kayko Driedger Hesslein

Address: 3277 Cedarille Dr., Calgary, AB T2W 2N2

Phone: (403) 463-8973

Home Congregation: St John Lutheran Church, Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: I am the part-time pastor at St. John Lutheran Church, I serve as the Lutheran representative on the Calgary Council of Christians and Jews, I am on the executive of the Southwest Conference of the ABT Synod, I am a sessional instructor at both LTS and WLS, I write articles on theology for Canada Lutheran, and I teach on Lutherans and World Religions in adult bible study as a guest at other churches. My gifts include teaching and theological reflection, and so I share that as widely as I can.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am particularly interested in ensuring that a diversity of voices are represented at the National Convention. From personal and professional experience, I am committed to creating spaces where the voices of the marginalized can be heard, and to examining issues from the perspectives of as many as possible. I believe this is critical at a Convention where there are a smaller number of delegates. I am interested in being a delegate because I want to be able to carry the voices of the less-heard to a wider venue. God speaks in diverse ways and particularly among those on the margins - I want to be sure we hear God's voice in those places.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? The ABT Synod brings a particular voice to the work of the national church, and its own gifts, that combine with the other Synods to deepen the witness of the national church. As Lutherans in Alberta and the Territories, we have our own unique perspectives on the elderly, employment and vocation, the environment, indigenous relationships.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: My concern is that we might spend too much time focused on what we can do to keep surviving, but my hope is that God brings new life in death, even if we don't always recognize that new life. My concern is that the ELCIC continues to focus too much on traditional forms of church, but my hope comes from being rooted in a theology of grace that allows us to risk all trusting that God will work all things for good.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
South West Conference

Name: Rev. Dr. Laura Holck

Address: 111 Queen Anne Way SE, Calgary, AB T2J 4R3

Phone: (403) 540-0053

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Cross,
Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: Since 1993 I have been working for the renewal of the Church in various capacities: as a volunteer in youth detention, parish pastor, youth mentor and coach, retreat leader, preaching coach, and congregational transformation

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I believe the broader expressions of the church (synodical and national) have the power, potential, and global reach to inspire us personally on a bigger scale. These connections and opportunities help us to focus on God's call and impact society in more effective ways. That's important to me as a congregational, synodical & seminary leader.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? We are creative, excited about, and open to transformation. We have energy for mission and a heart for the world, as well as a deep sense that God loves the world and empowers every day people to join God in re-creative work. We are spiritually grounded and super clear that we are blessed to be of service for the sake of the life of the world. We seem to dig in and get to work, whatever faces us.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I see the potential for our church tone at the heart of the renewal of communal life, inspiring our towns and cities to value one another and the life we share and to dream big about our future together. I am concerned about the ways we get side tracked by small thinking and arguments that don't make a difference for anyone but derail us from vibrant communal life.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
South West Conference

Name: Rev. Kristian Wold

Address: 6 Glenhill Court, Cochrane, AB, T4C 1G9

Phone: (587) 581-4154

Home Congregation: Hope Lutheran Church, Calgary

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: As a pastor, the things that give me most joy in ministry are worship leadership and education. It is wonderful to work with church members to create a vibrant and faithful worship experience, and I love the discussions that result from Bible and theological study groups, especially confirmation students.

What I enjoy most about my work as Dean of the SW Conference is building community and strengthening relationships between colleagues in ministry. I also get to help create learning opportunities for many in the Synod through my work with the Leadership Development Group.

My community activities (outside the church) are mostly limited to being a parent-helper in my child's activity groups, which is (almost) always a joy. It is also a pleasure to extend my interest in Nonviolent Communication by being a participant and helper in regional events for that movement.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? Two things I have always loved about National Conventions are 1) the social opportunity of getting to know other Lutherans from across the country - I come to appreciate again how rich and diverse a people we are; and 2) the chance to deliberate, discuss, and debate policies, statements, and other things of national and international concern. There is a joy in contributing to the work of the church at this level.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Most of what I relate to as "church" beyond the congregation happens through the Synod. I love the immediate community of colleagues and leaders in the Synod, who pool their resources of time and talent to benefit the people of Alberta and the Territories. I like the leadership this Synod has offered in the national church, especially with regards to global mission. The ABT Synod encompasses a diverse territory and population, and for that reason is a valuable voice at the national table.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: My concerns are smaller than my present joys and hopes for the ELCIC. As a small church grounded very firmly in the gospel of grace, peace, and reconciliation, we have the possibility of responding flexibly and speedily to a changing Canadian society. I hope the ELCIC will continue to be the vibrant and faithful community it is.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
South West Conference

Name: Rev. Dr. Tim Wray

Address: Box 495 Irricana, AB T0M 1B0

Phone: (780) 246-9729

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Master,
Airdrie

Occupation (current or past): Pastor/Farmer

Service in the church/community: 8 years of ordained parish ministry. Involvement with camps, LTS and CircleM.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? For the opportunity to gather with the ELCIC body, to pray, worship and discern.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? I believe that our Synod has a growing sense of mission ("missional") that does not require big budgets, extensive policies or central planning.

ABT remains a strong supporter of CTEL candidates and the seminary.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I pray for another generation of rostered leaders to step forward, seek training and lead with discerning hearts.

I pray that my children will be able to find supportive congregations that will root them in a theology of the cross as they grow and raise their families one day.

I pray for a variety of creative ministries that will be recognized and supported by our denomination, and that what will continue to unite us across the ELCIC will be more of a theological movement than a particular polity or culture.

Additional Comments:

Southern Conference

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Southern Conference

Name: Arnold Follinglo

Address: 205 Jerry Potts Blvd W, Lethbridge, AB T1K 6G8

Phone: (403) 381-6858

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Lethbridge

Occupation (current or past): CPA, CA, ICD.D

Service in the church/community: I am currently the Treasurer of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. In prior years, I served on Council as a Deacon, Treasurer and Chair Person. I was confirmed at Good Shepherd, and attended there except for a 2-year period when we lived in Kelowna (attended Grace Lutheran), and for 12 years when we lived in Edmonton. We were members there at Hosanna, and both my wife and I served on Council there. After leaving Hosanna, we worshipped at Holy Spirit in Edmonton for several years, before returning to Lethbridge in retirement. I was fortunate to attend two Synod Conventions, one in Camrose a number of years ago as a delegate from Good Shepherd, and once in Edmonton as a delegate from Hosanna. I am a member of the University of Lethbridge Senate, a member and Treasurer for The Sons of Norway Lodge in Lethbridge, and serve on the Complaints Enquiry Committee of Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta. I am also a member of the Board of Riverwalk Park Community Association. I am a past President of the Lethbridge JayCees, and a past member of the Kiwanis Club of Lethbridge.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I have never been a delegate at a National Church Convention, and would very much like to participate in this event. A number of years ago, my father was a delegate to a National Convention, and he spoke about the experience for years after the event. To have the experience and sense of belonging to something larger than our local congregation, and to have the responsibility of representing fellow Lutherans in decision making at Convention is something that really appeals to me.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our Synod has always had people involved in the

workings of the national church, both lay and rostered. Our Synod represents both large urban, mid-sized urban and rural congregations, so a good cross-section of our national church membership

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: A hope that we can at some point in the future, welcome back pastors and congregations that have left the ELCIC. A hope that we can work together with other Lutherans in Canada and local, provincial, national and international issues. A concern for the aging membership of our ELCIC and the potential impact that will have. A concern that we can encourage enough willing people to become ordained pastors, to deal with pending and future retirements.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Southern Conference

Name: Gerda Lewke

Address: #101 - 75 Temple Blvd W., Lethbridge, AB
T1K 5M2

Phone: (403) 942-4442

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Good
Shepherd, Lethbridge

Occupation (current or past): Occupational Therapist

Service in the church/community:

- Served on church council nominating committee
- Active in Church Services ie reading lessons
- Active in supporting many church activities
- Active in our ladies quilting group (Creative Fingers)
- Make layettes for CLWR
- Member of church choir

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am a good listener and am able to formulate questions to get a better understanding of spoken topics. I have a good grasp on the different levels and functions of the church structure Interested in the ongoing workings of the church Willing to share what I learn from the convention

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church?

- Active participation
- Contribute financially
- Provide members for various national and synodical committees

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: Concern I have is for the exaggerated focus on same sex blessing. While it is important it should not be the most important issue in the church. My hope is for a focus on making the church more dynamic and appealing to a wider audience which will increase church membership.

Additional Comments: I have been involved with the Lutheran Church my entire life and feel strongly that I can continue to contribute to the growth of the church.

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Southern Conference

Name: Colin Millang

Address: PO Box 1101, Hanna, AB T0J 1P0

Phone: (403) 854-0713

Home Congregation: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hanna

Occupation (current or past): Intern Pastor

Service in the church/community: For the last 25 years I have been "working" toward ordination. I am now an intern pastor at Redeemer in Hanna and will be ordained in 2017. My primary giftedness is my voice and I use it to proclaim the Good News.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am very positive about the direction the ELCIC is going and want to be a part of our mission.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Expertise from our leaders.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: My hope is in our faith in our Lord as being the head of our church, nationally and locally.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
LAY
Southern Conference

Name: Adena Skanderup

Address: PO Box 29, Tilley, AB T0J 3K0

Phone: (403) 377-2224

Home Congregation: Bethany Lutheran Church, Tilley

Occupation (current or past): Dental Receptionist

Service in the church/community: I have been a member of Bethany for 20 years. Right now I am the treasurer of the church. In the past I have held different council positions: deacon, vice-chair, Sunday School superintendent. I have been Sunday School teacher and youth leaders. I organize any funeral lunch served at our church and volunteer at any event we sponsor for the community, i.e. Shrove Tuesday or Beef on a Bun on Heritage Day.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? Yes, I have attended before and appreciate the services, meeting others from congregations and sharing what some of our difference can because we are a small country church.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? I feel our Synod brings a more rural voice to our national church. There is so much diversity within our national church and that's important to recognize.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: My concerns revolve around the brokenness in our national church. I would like to see love and repair, not judgement and fear mongering. God's will be done

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
Southern Conference

Name: Rev. Jeff Decelle

Address: 8 Palliser PI NE, Medicine Hat, AB T0B 3L0

Phone: (403) 502-1940

Home Congregation: Unity Lutheran Church, Medicine Hat

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community:

- Parish Pastor, Unity Lutheran Church
- Synod Canadian Missions Committee / Missional Formation Team, 2012-present.
- Medicine Hat Area Refugee Team (MHART) - Executive Member
- Medicine Hat Ministerial Association

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I believe the gathering of the church in convention is important, and I'm honoured to be nominated. It's good to have a chance be among our church gathered from across the country.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Because of the turmoil and loss our synod experienced in the last number of years, I sense the Holy Spirit's renewal over this last while bringing new life and hope to us again, and a renewed sense of mission. I think it's this hope that we have to share with the national church at this time.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: My concern is that we often seem so focussed on numbers and dwindling resources, and less on how God is calling us to be the church today, with the gifts we have been given. My hope is that even if we may not know what the shape of the church will be in the future (both our National Church and congregations) that we trust that God is still at work and active in our churches and neighbourhoods.

Additional Comments:

Nomination for: National Convention Delegate
ROSTERED
Southern Conference

Name: Rev. Thomas Peterson

Address: 54 Heritage Road W. Lethbridge, AB T1K 6T8

Phone: (403) 328-8508

Home Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Lethbridge

Occupation (current or past): Pastor

Service in the church/community: Over the years I have served on our synod's Worship and Music Committee, also on its World Missions Committee. I have served as a bilingual pastor (German and English), which gave me a view of some of the roots of our church, and I helped establish and sustain a mission congregation during its building program.

Why you are interested in being a delegate? I am happy to reflect on the church's future and help make decisions about the general direction of its future ministry, weighing what it wants to accomplish and what it can in reality and modesty undertake with success.

What does our Synod bring to the work of the national church? Our synod and its pastors bring what I would describe a unique and wholesome complement of professionalism (formality) and informality to ministry. We are not shy when sharing our view of what works in our Albertan context. Among other strengths, we have respect for the environment and rural ministry.

Your concerns and hopes for the ELCIC: I have great hopes for the future of the ELCIC and its message of reconciliation and encouragement. We want to make our voice heard and respected in spite of being a rather small church relative to other church bodies. I want us to focus on our message and not persist in worrying about our tangible resources (money). Yes, we need resources, but first things first - our voice and message!

Additional Comments:

Synod of Alberta and the Territories Constitution

Amended June, 2014

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ARTICLE I Name and Incorporation

- Section 1. The name of the synod functioning under this constitution shall be The Alberta Synod whose operating name shall be The Synod of Alberta and the Territories of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.
- Section 2. The synod shall be incorporated under the laws of Alberta.
- Section 3. The seal of the synod shall consist of a cross encircled by the words "The Alberta Synod - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada." The bishop shall have custody of the seal.

ARTICLE II Territory

The Territory of this synod shall be the province of Alberta plus the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

ARTICLE III Confession of Faith

- Section 1. This synod confesses the Triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - as the one true God. It proclaims the Father as Creator and Preserver; His Son, Jesus Christ, as Redeemer and Lord; and the Holy Spirit as Regenerator and Sanctifier.
- Section 2. This synod confesses that the Gospel is the revelation of God's saving will and grace in Jesus Christ, which He imparts through Word and Sacrament. Through these means of grace, the Holy Spirit creates believers and unites them with their Lord and with one another in the fellowship of the Holy Christian Church.
- Section 3. This synod confesses the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God, through which God still speaks, and as the only source of the Church's doctrine and the authoritative standard for the faith and life of the Church.

- Section 4. This synod confesses the following symbols, comprising the Book of Concord of 1580, which it subscribes specifically as witnesses to the way in which the Holy Scriptures have been correctly understood and explained and confessed for the sake of the Gospel, namely
- a. the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds as the chief confessions of the Christian faith;
 - b. the Unaltered Augsburg Confession as its basic formulation of Christian doctrine;
 - c. Luther's Small Catechism as a clear summary of Christian doctrine;
 - d. the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Luther's Large Catechism, the Smalcald Articles with the Treatise, and the Formula of Concord as further witnesses to the Unaltered Augsburg Confession.

ARTICLE IV Mission

- Section 1. As the regional expression of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, in faithfulness to the Lord of the Church, this synod shall facilitate and advance the mission of this church within its territory.

Guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, it shall carry out this mission by shepherding its congregations and ordained ministers, and by engaging in other forms of ministry which proclaim God's Word and serve to bring reconciliation to the world.

- Section 2. The mission of this church, as an expression of the universal church and as an instrument of the Holy Spirit, is to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people in Canada and around the world through the proclamation of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments and through service in Christ's name.

ARTICLE V Membership

- Section 1. The membership of the synod consists of member congregations. Baptized individuals who are members of a congregation ("baptized members") shall exercise their privileges and responsibilities through participation in the congregation in which they are members.

- Section 2. The synod shall recognize those congregations on its territory that are recognized by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and certified to it by the secretary of the church.
- Section 3. Additional congregations may be recognized by the synod acting on behalf of this church in the manner described in the constitution and bylaws of this church.
- Section 4. The synod may revoke its recognition of any congregation in the manner described in the constitution and bylaws of this Church.

ARTICLE VI Congregations

- Section 1. **Constitutions**
Every congregation which is recognized by this synod shall have a constitution which, in the judgment of the Synod Council, is in harmony with the constitution and bylaws of this Church and of the synod.
- Section 2. **Representation to ELCIC Conventions**
Every parish not represented by an ordained minister shall elect a lay delegate to the convention of this Church. If a parish has more than eight hundred (800) baptized members two lay delegates shall be elected, unless a pastor of the parish has been chosen by the conference, in which case one lay delegate shall be elected.
- Section 3. **Representation to the Synod and Conference Conventions**
Every congregation of the synod shall choose a delegate or delegates to represent it at conventions of the synod and at meetings of the conference to which the congregation is assigned in accordance with procedures as defined in the bylaws of the synod. An alternate or alternates may act in the stead of the delegate or delegates in the event of their absence.
- Section 4. **Relation to Synod**
The alignment of congregations in pastoral charges shall be subject to approval of Synod Council.

- Section 5. Petitions
Congregations shall have the right to petition this synod, according to procedures set forth in the bylaws.
- Section 6. Solicitation of Funds
The approval of this Church or a convention of the synod or of its council shall be required for the solicitation of funds from congregations for institutions, agencies and causes of this Church.
- Section 7. Provision of Pastors
When a pastor resigns, the congregational council shall receive the resignation, report it to the congregation and notify the bishop of the synod.
- Section 8. Advice of the Bishop
In case of strife and division in a congregation, the congregational council shall seek the advice of the bishop of the synod.
- Section 9. Appeals from Discipline
A lay member of any congregation, who is under discipline, may appeal to the synod. All such appeals must be in writing to the bishop within thirty (30) days after the disciplinary action has been taken. Copies of said appeal shall be transmitted by the appellant to the pastor and to the secretary of the congregation. The bishop shall appoint a special committee to investigate the appeal. The decision of the committee shall be final and reported to the appropriate parties.
- Section 10. Procedures for Withdrawing
A congregation desiring to withdraw from this church shall notify the synod bishop. Decision to withdraw must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote at a legally called and conducted meeting and immediately reported to the synod bishop.

Decision to withdraw shall not be effective until action has been ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of those who were members at the time of the first vote. This subsequently legally called and conducted meeting held not less than 90 days and not more than 180 days after the first vote to withdraw.

- Section 11. Congregation Becoming Defunct
A congregation which has ceased to exist or whose membership has so diminished in numbers as to render it impossible or impractical for the congregation to function according to its constitution and bylaws shall, after consultation with any remaining members, be deemed by the synod of which it was a part to be defunct. The synod through the Synod Council shall appoint trustees, including where feasible former members of the congregation, who shall take charge and control of the property of said congregation to hold, manage and convey the same on behalf of this synod.

ARTICLE VII Ordained Ministers

- Section 1. The synod shall have a roster of ordained ministers.
- Section 2. The standards of acceptance and continuance on the roster of ordained ministers shall be defined in the bylaws of the synod.
- Section 3. An ordained minister shall preach the Word, administer the Sacraments and conduct public worship in harmony with the faith and practices of the Church; shall baptize, confirm and marry in accordance with the teaching of the Church and with the laws of the province; shall visit the sick and distressed and bury the dead; shall inculcate piety in individual and family life and provide pastoral leadership to all schools and auxiliary organizations of the congregation; shall install members of the congregational council and, with the council, administer discipline; shall seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel and strive to extend the Kingdom of God in the community, at home and abroad; and shall encourage the members to be generous in support of the ministry of the congregation, the synod and the church.

ARTICLE VIII Diaconal Ministers

- Section 1. The synod shall have a roster of diaconal ministers.
- Section 2. The standards of acceptance and continuance

on the roster of diaconal ministers shall be defined in the bylaws of this synod.

ARTICLE IX Full Communion Provisions

Section 1. Ordered ministers of churches with which this church has a full communion agreement, who are serving in this church under the provisions of that full communion agreement, shall have the same rights and privileges as the equivalent order of ministry in this church.

ARTICLE X Conferences

Section 1. The synod shall be organized regionally into conferences whose members and boundaries shall be determined by the synod in convention upon the recommendation of the Synod Council.

Section 2. The role of the conferences shall be defined in the bylaws of the synod.

ARTICLE XI Conventions

Section 1. The convention of the synod shall be its highest legislative authority.

Section 2. Conventions of this synod shall be held according to times, policies, and procedures as described in the bylaws of the synod.

ARTICLE XII Synod Council

Section 1. Synod Council is the governing body of the synod and shall carry out all normal functions and responsibilities on behalf of the synod in accordance with the constitution, the bylaws and resolutions of the synod in convention.

Section 2. Synod Council shall consist of the officers of the synod, and members elected and appointed according to procedures defined in the bylaws of the synod. Synod Council may appoint a replacement member to fill a vacancy between conventions.

Section 3. The terms of the elected members shall begin the first day of the third month following election.

Section 4. The bishop shall be an ex officio member of Synod Council.

ARTICLE XIII Officers

Section 1. The officers of the synod shall be the chairperson, the secretary and the treasurer. Two of the three officers shall be lay members of the synod.

Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be defined in the bylaws of the synod.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected by the synod convention according to procedures defined in the bylaws of the synod. All officers shall serve until their successors assume office.

Section 4. Synod Council may appoint a replacement officer to fill a vacancy between conventions.

Section 5. The terms of officers shall begin no later than the first day of the third full month following election.

Section 6. The recall or dismissal of an officer of the synod shall follow the procedure set out in the constitution and bylaws of this church.

Section 7. Synod Council may extend a call to an assistant to an officer in accordance with procedures defined in the bylaws of the synod. Such persons shall be ineligible for membership on Synod Council.

ARTICLE XIV The Office of the Bishop

Section 1. The bishop shall be a pastor and counsellor to all pastors and lay members of the synod, and with the Synod Council, shall be the guardian of the procedures relating to the good standing in the faith, and the welfare of congregations, pastors and institutions of the synod.

Section 2. The bishop shall be the chief executive officer of the synod, and an ex officio member of all committees of the synod.

Section 3. The bishop, as the chief executive officer of the synod, has full authority, responsibility and accountability to discharge all duties and

obligations of that office as mandated in the constitution, the bylaws and by resolution of Synod Council.

Section 4. The authority to elect and call a bishop shall rest with the synod at a regular convention or a special convention called for this purpose. Synod Council shall seek the advice and counsel of the bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada in the call process.

Section 5. All synod staff and staff committees shall be accountable to the bishop. The bishop may delegate responsibility to other staff as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XV Committees

Section 1. Synod Council shall have authority to establish such committees deemed necessary for the mission of the synod.

ARTICLE XVI Theological Institutions

Section 1. This synod acknowledges its responsibility to maintain a theological seminary within the guidelines provided by this church, to strengthen this seminary spiritually and academically, and to provide for its financial support.

Section 2.

- a. The Board of Governors of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, shall control and manage the seminary and determine its academic and administrative affairs. The property of the seminary, both real and personal, shall be held by the Board of Governors in trust for and under the guidance of the British Columbia Synod, Alberta Synod, Saskatchewan Synod and Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod.
- b. The board may, in consultation with the church, propose to the synod(s) an increase in the number of its members, such increase to include an equal number of ordained ministers and lay persons. Any proposal for increase in the number of members of the board must have the approval of the synod(s).

c. The term of office for each member of the board shall be four years except in the following cases:

- i. Where a member is appointed to fill a vacancy, such appointment shall be by the Synod Council and shall be for the remainder of the term of the predecessor.
- ii. In the case of the first of any new elections in connection with increasing the number of the said board, the terms of office shall be for two or four years, so spaced that one-half of the membership of the board shall be elected each biennium.

d. Members of the board shall be eligible to serve for not more than two consecutive terms.

e. Financial support for the seminary shall be determined by a process of consultation between the Board of Governors, this Church and the Synod Council.

f. The board shall make an annual report to the regular convention of the synod.

ARTICLE XVII Auxiliaries

There shall be synodical units of the official auxiliaries of this church. Such units shall report to the Synod Council and conventions. The bishop, or an appointee, shall have seat and voice at synodical unit conventions and board meetings.

ARTICLE XVIII Bylaws

Section 1. This synod may adopt such bylaws, not in conflict with this constitution, as may be necessary. Such bylaws may be amended at any convention by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting. At least one day shall elapse between first presentation and convention action unless unanimous consent to amend is given.

Section 2. Bylaws relating to convention procedure may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting.

ARTICLE XIX Amendments

- Section 1. The Confession of Faith as stated in Article III shall be that of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and is not amendable.
- Section 2. Amendments to this constitution shall be in writing and may be proposed by either
- the National Church Council
 - the Synod Council,
 - a congregation of the synod, or
 - ten delegates
- Section 3. All proposed amendments must be reported to the convention no later than the first full day of business. The Synod Council shall make a report and recommendation during that convention on all proposed amendments.

Adoption of an amendment shall require passage at this and the next regular convention by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting. Notice of the full text thereof shall be sent to the pastors and congregations of the synod at least one month prior to the second reading. Further amendment at the second reading shall require unanimous consent. Such amendments shall be effective upon ratification by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada in convention or by its National Church Council.

Synod of Alberta and the Territories Bylaws

Amended June, 2014

Part I Headquarters

(Constitution, Article II)

- Section 1. The headquarters of this synod shall be located in Edmonton.
- Section 2. All executive offices shall be located at the headquarters of the synod unless otherwise approved by the synod council.

Part II Organizational Relationships

- Section 1. Congregation (Constitution, Article VI)
- In relating to congregations within its territory, the synod shall organize, recognize, receive, release and exclude congregations, and approve or disapprove of the relocation or the merger of congregations.
 - Congregations may petition the synod according to the procedures set forth in these bylaws, Part V, Section 8.
- Section 2. Conferences (Constitution, Article IX)
The synod shall be divided into five

conferences as follows: East Central, Northern, Southern, Southwestern and West Central.

- All members of the congregations are encouraged to attend conference meetings. The voting membership shall be all ordained ministers and diaconal ministers residing within the territory of the conference, and three lay delegates from each congregation, the third of whom shall be a confirmed member under the age of twenty-five. Congregations having more than three hundred baptized members shall be entitled to an additional lay member for each additional two hundred baptized members or major fraction thereof.
- The bishop of the synod or the bishop's appointee shall attend the conference meetings.

- c. The purpose of the conferences shall be to:
 - i. Assist its congregations and the synod in planning, promoting and implementing the mission of this Church;
 - ii. Encourage fellowship among ordained and diaconal ministers and congregations;
 - iii. Arrange opportunities for the study of the Bible and Lutheran confessions;
 - iv. Respond in consultation with the synod to particular needs within its territory;
 - v. Elect the required number of rostered ministers as delegates to the conventions of this Church; and
 - vi. Elect representatives to synodical positions as determined in these bylaws.
- d. A conference may adopt for itself any rules and regulations not in conflict with the constitution and bylaws of the synod.
- e. Each conference shall meet at least once a year at a time and place set by the conference. Conferences shall designate their own quorums.
- f. Each conference shall have the right to petition the synod according to procedures set forth in these bylaws, Part V, Section 8.
- g. Each conference shall elect from its membership a dean, a chairperson, a secretary or secretary/treasurer, and at least one other person who shall constitute a conference council. The conference may elect a treasurer who shall be a member of the council, or the council may appoint a treasurer who shall not be a member of the council.
- h. The conference council shall appoint persons to fill all vacancies in the council membership until the next meeting of the conference. In the event of the resignation of a conference dean, an interim dean shall be appointed by the conference council in consultation with the

bishop. Time of service completed in fulfilment of vacant conference council positions shall not be included for the purposes of determining eligibility for further election.

- i. The conference council shall be authorized to receive and hold funds from its member congregations for the purpose of defraying reasonable administrative or program expenses related to the work of the conference. A printed financial report shall be presented at all regular meetings of the conference.
- j. The dean of each conference shall report to the synod through the bishop.
- k. The deans of the conferences and the bishop shall meet at least once a year for spiritual renewal and for general discussion of programs, plans and problems affecting conferences and the synod. Except where otherwise provided in this constitution and its bylaws, the function of such a meeting shall be consultative and advisory.
- l. The bishop may call upon the deans of the conferences to assist in the duties of installations and pastoral care of the ministers and congregations in their conferences.

Section 3. Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (Constitution, Article V)
In relating to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, the synod shall:

- a. Recognize where operating within the territory of the synod, all organizations recognized by the ELCIC, as provided for in the ELCIC Constitution, Article XVII, Section 3.

Section 4. Theological Institutions (Constitution, Article XV)

- a. The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon is owned by the Synods of Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the Territories,

and British Columbia. Its Board of Governors is made up of the bishops of those synods, a lay and clergy representative from each of those synods, and one clergy and two lay representatives appointed by this Church. Advisory members are the president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary and the national staff person assigned to relate to theological institutions.

- b. In relating to Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon, the synod in convention shall elect two members to the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Governors, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, one clergy and one lay, according to the terms determined by the seminary.

Part III

Ordained Minister/Congregation Relationship

(Constitution, Article VII)

- Section 1. Ordination of approved candidates shall take place at a time and place designated by the bishop.
- Section 2. The synod shall have a call process manual approved by the synod council. A congregation wishing to extend a call shall follow the general procedures set out in the call process manual unless otherwise advised by the bishop due to unusual circumstances.
- Section 3. A minister shall inform the congregational council and the bishop immediately upon receipt of a call to another ministry, and shall inform the calling agency and the bishop of any decision made within thirty days unless an extension is granted by mutual consent of all the parties involved. A minister shall terminate an existing call within two months of accepting another call, unless an extension is granted by mutual consent of all the parties involved.
- Section 4. If a conflict arises within a congregation that cannot be resolved internally, the pastor or the council chairperson shall notify the dean or the

bishop in order that a mediation counsellor or other person with special expertise may be called in for the purpose of resolution and reconciliation. This process may be requested by the minister(s), the congregational council, or one quarter of the members in good standing of the congregation.

Recommendations from the mediator shall be dealt with at a meeting of the congregation called for this purpose. If the conflict cannot be resolved satisfactorily by this process, the bishop shall be advised for follow up action.

- Section 5. When no term is specified, a regular call accepted by an ordained minister to a congregation shall constitute a relationship which may be terminated only for the following causes:
 - a. The resignation of the minister
 - b. The disqualification of the minister as a result of discipline
 - c. The division of the pastoral charge
 - d. The physical or mental incapacity of the minister
 - e. The continued neglect of ministry by the minister
 - f. The inability to conduct the ministerial office satisfactorily in a congregation in view of local conditions, without reflection on the moral and spiritual character of the minister.
 - i. In the last three contingencies, the bishop may, following consultation with the conference dean, appoint an advisory committee of two rostered ministers and two lay members to investigate. Upon the request of the congregational council or the rostered minister; or on receipt of a petition signed by at least one-third of the voting members of a congregation, the bishop shall appoint an advisory committee to investigate.

- ii. The bishop may, with the concurrence of the congregational council, suspend the minister from ministerial duties pending the outcome of the formal proceedings when circumstances warrant.
- iii. An advisory committee appointed to investigate an allegation of physical or mental disability shall secure medical testimony to confirm or refute such allegation. If incapacity is confirmed, the bishop may, on the advice of the committee and with the concurrence of the congregational council, declare the pastorate vacant. Should the minister be restored to health, the bishop shall take steps to enable the minister to resume ministry in the congregation last served or in another ministry.
- iv. An advisory committee appointed to investigate an allegation of neglect of ministry or of local conditions that imperil the well-being of a congregation shall provide an opportunity for all concerned parties to be heard. At the conclusion of the investigation, the bishop, in company with the committee, shall bring recommendations to the minister and the congregation for consideration and action. Such counsel shall be offered in Christian love and is not to be regarded as a disciplinary measure. If the situation cannot be resolved amicably, the pastor may resign, or the congregation may terminate the call by a majority vote at a properly called congregational meeting.
- v. The foregoing procedure shall not be invoked when questions of doctrine or morality are involved. Such cases shall be treated as disciplinary matters.

Section 6. Between called ministers an interim minister shall be appointed by the bishop in consultation with the congregational council in accordance with procedures set forth in the call process manual. An interim minister shall have the rights and duties of a regularly called minister. An interim minister shall not be eligible for call to the congregation he or she is serving as interim. Interim or ministers providing occasional pulpit supply during an interim shall refrain from exerting influence in the call process.

Section 7. A minister shall not preach or perform any ministerial act within the parish of another minister except at the latter's request or consent, or visit or perform ministerial acts in a time of a ministerial vacancy, except by invitation of the interim minister or congregational council.

Section 8. The minister shall ensure that the congregation keeps accurate records of membership, baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials and communicants, and shall report such statistics annually to the secretary of the Synod on the forms prescribed by the Church. These records shall be certified as being correct by the congregational secretary on the same forms. The congregational records shall be kept in a separate book which shall remain the property of the congregation.

Section 9. When members move, the minister shall commend them to the ministerial care of the parish in which their new home is located.

Section 10. All rostered ministers serving under call are expected to attend all conventions of the synod and the meetings of the conferences to which they belong.

Part IV Diaconal Ministers

(Constitution, Article VIII) (As defined by this Church)

Part V Conventions

(Constitution, Article X)

- Section 1. The regular conventions of the synod shall be held biennially between national conventions.
- Section 2. The secretary shall publish the time and place of each regular convention at least six months in advance. The secretary shall send out a bulletin of reports to all voting members at least thirty (30) days before each regular convention.
- Section 3. The voting membership of conventions shall consist of:
- a. One lay delegate from each congregation and, from congregations having more than three hundred (300) baptized members, one lay delegate for each additional two hundred (200) baptized members. A congregation is entitled to one extra voting delegate if that person is between the ages of 16 and 22 years as of December 31 of the convention year.
 - b. Ordained ministers on the roster of the synod;
 - c. Diaconal ministers on the roster of the synod; and
 - d. All lay members of synod council.
- Section 4. At least sixty days prior to the opening day of the convention,
- a. Each congregation shall submit the name(s) and address(es) of its lay delegates to the synod secretary, and
 - b. Each ordained and diaconal minister, active, non-parish, and retired, shall submit his/her name and address to the synod secretary.
- Section 5. One-third of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 6. Seat and voice at conventions shall be granted to:
- a. The bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and such other official representatives of this Church as may be designated by the national church council,
 - b. Chairpersons of synodical committees in connection with their reports,
 - c. Representatives of institutions and agencies related to or officially recognized by the synod, and
 - d. The presidents of the synodical units of the official auxiliaries of this Church.
- Section 7. All arrangements for worship services or public meetings shall be made in consultation with the bishop.
- Section 8. Congregations and conferences may petition the synod in convention by submitting the petition in writing to the secretary of the synod for inclusion in the bulletin of reports. If the petition is too late for inclusion in the bulletin of reports, the secretary shall deliver the petition to the appropriate committee for presentation to the convention.
- Section 9. The synod council shall approve the convention budget which will include the participation of all delegates - lay, ordained and diaconal. Convention costs shall be shared among the congregations by dividing the total convention costs by the total number of confirmed members in the synod times the number of confirmed members last reported by each congregation.
- Section 10. Special Conventions
- a. Special conventions for specified purposes shall be called by the chairperson of the synod within ninety days of receiving in writing a request for such a convention from:
 - i. The synod council by at least a two-thirds majority vote, or
 - ii. One-fifth of the congregations of the synod and one-fifth of the ordained ministers under call on its roster.
 - b. The secretary shall give written notice of a special convention to each congregation, each ordained minister,

and each diaconal minister, and shall publish the same at least thirty days prior to the opening date of the convention.

- c. The voting members at a special convention shall consist of:
 - i. The lay delegates who were seated in the preceding regular convention provided that they have not been disqualified by termination of membership in the congregation they represented. Vacancies in the lay delegates shall be filled by the congregations affected at a regular or specially called congregational meeting. Vacancies thus filled shall be reported to the secretary of the synod not less than five days before the special convention.
 - ii. Ordained ministers on the roster of the synod at the time of the special convention; and
 - iii. Diaconal ministers on the roster of the synod at the time of the special convention.

Section 11. Nominations and Elections (Constitution, Articles XI-XIV)

- a. The convention shall elect synod council members, officers of the synod, and the bishop in the following manner:
 - i. The committee on nominations shall nominate at least two persons for each synod council position.
 - ii. Additional nominations may be made from the floor for all positions except that of the bishop and the chairperson, with the prior consent of the person being nominated.
 - iii. Synod council shall nominate the secretary and the treasurer. Nominations for chairperson shall be made by secret ballot without oral

nomination. Nominations for two of the three synod officer positions shall be limited to lay persons.

- iv. Nomination for bishop shall be made by secret ballot without oral nomination, and shall be limited to those who are qualified to be on the roster of ordained ministers of this Church.
- v. All elections shall be by secret ballot.
- vi. In all elections, except for the offices of the bishop and chairperson, a majority of the votes cast shall elect.
- vii. The election of the bishop and the chairperson shall be held on alternate convention years.
- viii. If an election does not occur on a first ballot for any position except that of the bishop and the chairperson, voting on a second ballot shall be limited to the two persons receiving the highest number of votes cast on the first ballot.
- ix. The election of the bishop and the chairperson shall be by secret ballot without oral nomination, and shall proceed in the following manner:
 - 1. On the first ballot, three-fourths of the votes cast shall elect. If the first ballot does not result in an election, it shall be considered a nominating ballot. Thereafter, voting shall be limited to those persons named on the first ballot.
 - 2. On the second ballot, two-thirds of the votes cast shall elect. If the second ballot does not result in an election, voting shall be limited to the four persons receiving the highest number of votes cast.
 - 3. On the third ballot, a majority of the votes cast shall elect. If the third

ballot does not result in an election, voting shall be limited to the three persons receiving the highest number of votes cast.

4. On the fourth ballot, a majority of the votes cast shall elect. If the fourth ballot does not result in an election, voting shall be limited to the two persons receiving the highest number of votes cast.

5. On the fifth ballot, a majority of the votes cast shall elect.

x. The result of each ballot in every election shall be announced to the convention.

b. Election of synodical representatives to the Lutheran Theological Seminary shall proceed as follows:

1. The synod council, in consultation with the seminary, shall nominate one or more persons for each position for which election is required.

2. Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of those nominated.

3. Normally, nominations will be presented in such a way that representation alternates between male and female at the completion of an individual's term or terms.

4. A majority of the votes cast shall elect. If an election does not occur on a first ballot, voting on a second ballot shall be limited to the two persons receiving the highest number of votes cast on the first ballot.

c. Eligibility for positions as synod officers, synod council members and synod representatives to the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Governors shall be limited to the confirmed membership of the member congregations of the synod and of those

church bodies in shared ministry within the Synod with whom the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada is in full communion.

Section 12. The convention procedures shall be published in a convention manual approved by the synod council.

Part VI Elections of Delegates to the National Church Convention

(Constitution, Article VI, Sec. 2)

Section 1. The synod secretary shall inform each of the conferences of the number of ordained delegates to be elected to the national church convention as determined by the secretary of this Church.

Section 2. Rostered delegates and alternates shall be elected at least seven months before the national church convention, after which the synod secretary shall inform those parishes eligible to elect lay delegate(s). Conferences are encouraged to consider those rostered ministers who have not previously attended a national church convention. Lay delegates and alternates shall be elected not earlier than twelve (12) months and not later than four (4) months before a convention by each member congregation which is not represented by a delegate who is a rostered minister elected by a conference.

Section 3. Where more than one rostered delegate is elected from a congregation or a multiple-congregational parish, the additional rostered delegate must secure the written consent of the congregation or parish to pay the additional fee or make other arrangements for payment. (ELCIC Bylaws, Part V, Section 5)

Part VII Synod Council

(Constitution, Article XI)

Section 1. The elected membership of Synod Council shall consist of one ordained and one lay representative from each conference in the Synod.

Appointed membership shall consist of one representative of a full communion partner who is actively serving in that partner Church. This person shall have seat, voice and vote.

Members shall serve for four-year terms, with half of the terms expiring each biennium. No elected member is eligible to serve for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 2. The synod council shall:

- a. Plan, coordinate, supervise and evaluate the activities of the synod in carrying out its mission and ministry, including development of appropriate policies for synod council;
- b. Be the directors of the corporation and trustees for the synod;
- c. Elect executive staff if and when such positions are created by the synod in convention;
- d. Issue letters of call to rostered ministers who are full-time officers or staff officials of the synod, or who are called to special service;
- e. Fill vacancies until the next convention except as otherwise provided;
- f. Determine the fact of the incapacity of an officer of the synod according to the procedures in the constitution and bylaws of this Church;
- g. Approve candidates for call, ordination and admission to the rosters of ordained and diaconal ministers;
- h. Appoint all committees for which there is no other provision;
- i. Carry out duties in good faith with a reasonable degree of diligence, care, and skill;
- j. Expect the same standard of conduct from lay and rostered members;

- k. Make and enforce its own policies, including the discipline of its members; and
- l. Perform such additional duties as prescribed in the constitution, the bylaws, or by resolutions of the synod in convention.

Section 3. The synod council shall appoint an ordained minister to assume the duties and responsibilities of the bishop in the event of the resignation, incapacity, or death of the bishop, pending the election of a new bishop at the next regular or specially called synod convention.

Section 4. The synod council shall hold at least two meetings annually.

Section 5. Special meetings of the synod council may be called by the bishop or chairperson of the synod when circumstances warrant.

Section 6. A majority of the members of the synod council shall constitute a quorum.

Part VIII Synod Officers

(Constitution, Article XII)

Section 1. Officers of the Synod shall serve for a term of four years, without limitation.

Section 2. The chairperson of the synod shall:

- a. Convene and preside over conventions of the synod and meetings of the synod council, and
- b. Perform additional duties as prescribed in the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Section 3. The secretary shall oversee all secretarial and record keeping duties on behalf of the synod as prescribed in these bylaws and in the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Section 4. The treasurer shall:

- a. Oversee all financial affairs and accounts of

the synod, including deeds, mortgages, contracts, trust funds, investments, etc.,

- b. Be bonded under the fidelity coverage provided by the synod, and
- c. Perform additional duties as prescribed in the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Part IX Duties of the Bishop

(Constitution, Article XIII)

Section 1. The bishop shall:

- a. Provide spiritual leadership and counsel to the synod, its conventions, and conferences;
- b. Ordain or consecrate approved candidates for rostered ministry;
- c. Oversee the call process as outlined in the call process manual;
- d. Attest to all official documents of the synod as may be required;
- e. Appoint the synod archivist/necrologist to maintain historical records on behalf of the synod;
- f. Discipline staff and program committee members in keeping with Biblical principles;
- g. Report to the synod council and the synod convention all significant matters affecting the mission and ministry of the synod; and
- h. Perform other duties as prescribed in the constitutions and bylaws of this Church and the synod, and the synod council governance and policy manuals.

Part X Synod Council Committees

(Constitution, Article XIV)

Section 1. This synod shall participate in an Examining Committee serving the Synods of British Columbia, Alberta and the Territories, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba/Northwestern

Ontario.

- a. The Synod Council of each synod shall appoint two lay persons and two rostered persons. Of the eight rostered persons appointed, at least one rostered person shall be a diaconal minister, with that position assigned to one of the synods by agreement of the synod bishops. Members shall be appointed to serve for a term of four years, with a limit of two consecutive terms, staggered so that no more than half are replaced at any one time.
- b. The President of Lutheran Theological Seminary shall annually appoint two faculty members.
- c. The synod bishops shall serve ex officio on the Examining Committee.
- d. It shall be the duty of this Committee to examine candidates for ordained and diaconal ministry and candidates for reception from other Lutheran churches with whom mutual recognition of ministry has not been established. The committee shall report its recommendations to the Synod Council of the Synod where the candidate is registered.
- e. Each examination shall be conducted by a sub-committee of the Examining Committee comprised of one faculty, two lay persons, two rostered persons, and the bishop of the candidate's synod. When a diaconal candidate is being examined, the sub-committee shall include a diaconal minister.
- f. Further terms of reference for, and procedures of, the Examining Committee shall be defined in the Candidacy Manual of this Church.

Section 2. The Committee for Theological Education and Leadership (Candidacy) shall be a standing committee of the synod council.

- a. The Committee for Theological Education and Leadership shall consist of eight

members. Five of the members shall represent the conferences of the synod, and shall be appointed by the synod council upon nomination by the conference councils. The other three members will be appointed by the synod council at large. Four of the committee members shall be lay persons, four shall be rostered. The synod bishop shall be an ex officio member. The committee will name its own chairperson and secretary.

- b. The appointed members shall serve for four year terms with a two consecutive term limit, staggered so that no more than half are replaced at any one time.
- c. It shall be the duty of this committee to select and endorse candidates for the ordained and diaconal ministry; review applications to the ministries of the synod by persons seeking readmission to the rosters of the synod; receive applications from candidates who come from Lutheran churches with whom mutual recognition of ministry has not yet been established, or who come from other churches; and refer candidates to the Examining Committee for colloquy according to the policies and procedures established by this Church.
- d. This committee shall receive applications for financial aid from ministry candidates, and authorize the disbursement of synod funds designated for this purpose.

Section 3. The Congregation Constitutional Review Committee shall be a standing committee of the synod council.

- a. The Congregation Constitutional Review Committee shall consist of not less than three members and not more than five members appointed by the Synod Council, including the administrative coordinator from the synod office and one person from Synod Council who will serve as the chair.
- b. The appointed members shall serve for two-

year terms with a two consecutive term limit, staggered so that no more than one-half are replaced at any one time.

- c. The purpose of the Committee shall be to:
 - i. review congregations' constitutions and proposed amendments to ensure:
 - They do not conflict with the ELCIC or Alberta Synod Constitution or Bylaws;
 - They are based on the model constitution for congregations provided by the ELCIC for the guidance and practice of congregations within the ELCIC;
 - They provide consistency and clarity for congregational members in carrying out their ministerial and administrative duties and obligations including editing.
 - That differences in congregations and practices are recognized as acceptable in certain circumstances provided they do not conflict with the national and synodical governing documents.
 - ii. be available to confer and/or meet with a congregation or its representatives to discuss proposed amendments and assist in helping the congregation make the amendments acceptable to Council examination.
 - iii. make recommendations to Synod Council regarding the Model Constitution for Congregations, its procedures and other related matters.
- d. The following principles will guide the work of the Committee:
 - i. Most reviews may be handled by mail (e-mail) without the need for a face-to-face meeting.

- ii. Committee members' responses should be forwarded to the synod office to the attention of the administrative coordinator.
 - iii. When there is a lack of consensus from the first round of Committee responses, then further communication will be solicited from the Committee.
 - iv. If a proposed amendment from a congregation is unacceptable, and an understanding cannot be resolved by mail/phone call and negotiation, a real time meeting will be arranged that is mutually agreeable to the congregation and to most of the Committee members (this should occur infrequently).
 - v. The Committee will then make recommendation to Synod Council through the appointed Council member, for approval or modification as deemed necessary.
- e. Approval, amendment or rejection must be based on the review criteria as stated above. The Committee only recommends - the Synod Council approves, amends, or rejects.

Section 4. Synod council may appoint other ad hoc committees for a specific purpose and duration as deemed necessary.

Part XI Ministry Committees

(Constitution, Article XIV)

- Section 1. Synod Council may appoint ministry committees to help the synod meet its stated priorities.
- Section 2. Committee terms of reference and membership shall be determined by the Synod Council, with due attention given to clergy/lay, male/female, and regional representation. No person shall be a member of more than one committee, or a member of a committee and the Synod Council, at the same time.

Section 3. Committees shall be accountable to the Synod Council through the office of bishop.