

MODIFIED ECCLESIASTICAL BALLOT

BISHOP ELECTION COMMITTEE
NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD, EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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VOTING MEMBER

- ▶ Lay members who are elected by the congregations of this synod. Voting members at the 2019 Synod Assembly are the voting members at the 2020 Conference Assemblies.
- ▶ Pastors and deacons under call on the roster of this synod, synodically authorized ministers, retired pastors elected in caucus, the officers of the synod, and members of the synod council who participate in the business conducted at synod assemblies.
- ▶ Voting members vote their conscience and are not restricted to vote the will of their congregation. They are encouraged to vote as the Holy Spirit moves them.

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DEFINITIONS

- ▶ **Modified Ecclesiastical Ballot:** The process used by the Northeastern Minnesota Synod to elect a bishop. Nominations at conference assemblies are sent to the 2020 Synod Assembly. Modified ecclesiastical ballot process permits additional write-in nominations to be made on the first ballot at the synod assembly.
- ▶ **Candidate:** A rostered minister of word and sacrament whose name has been brought forward as a potential nominee for bishop.
- ▶ **Nominee:** A candidate who has been nominated at a conference assembly, accepted the opportunity to become the future bishop, and is willing to move through the process leading to the election.

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SYNOD CONSTITUTION S9.04.04.6

"The names of up to three (3) conference nominees elected by a majority from each Conference Assembly are tabulated by the synod officers. Up to five (5) conference nominees receiving the highest number of conference votes will be listed on the first nominating ballot for synodical bishop at the Synod Assembly. If there is a tie for position number five (5), there could be six (6) or more nominees."

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CONFERENCE NOMINATION PROCESS

- ▶ Voting member casts one vote for one person on each ballot.
- ▶ To be nominated, candidate must receive 50% +1 of the legal votes.
- ▶ The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes is removed from the ballot.
- ▶ Once a candidate has been nominated, the process continues with eliminated candidates returning to the ballot.
- ▶ Once one candidate has been nominated, "No more nominations" becomes a ballot option and can close nominations.
- ▶ Each conference will have a minimum of one and a maximum of three nominees.

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Imagine....
 Sunday, February 9, at the "Lakes,
 Forests, and Fields Conference"
 Assembly ...

6

"LAKES, FORESTS, AND FIELDS CONFERENCE"

- ▶ There are 50 voting members present.
- ▶ Before the assembly, five pastors agreed to be candidates, and completed the necessary paperwork.
- ▶ Each conference may nominate up to three conference nominees.
- ▶ These nominees may appear on the first ballot at the 2020 Synod Assembly.

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 1

Pastor Pam
 Pastor Stanley
 Pastor Kevin
 Pastor Meredith
 Pastor Dwight

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 1 Results

Pastor Pam	14
Pastor Stanley	10
Pastor Kevin	08
Pastor Meredith	12
Pastor Dwight	06

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 1 Results

Pastor Pam	14
Pastor Stanley	10
Pastor Kevin	08
Pastor Meredith	12
Pastor Dwight	06

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

10

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 2

Pastor Pam
Pastor Stanley
Pastor Kevin
Pastor Meredith

11

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 2 Results

Pastor Pam	16
Pastor Stanley	12
Pastor Kevin	09
Pastor Meredith	13

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

12

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 2 Results

Pastor Pam	16
Pastor Stanley	12
Pastor Kevin	09
Pastor Meredith	13

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

13

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 3

Pastor Pam
Pastor Stanley
Pastor Meredith

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 3 Results

Pastor Pam	26 ... nominated
Pastor Stanley	11
Pastor Meredith	13

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 4

Pastor Stanley
Pastor Kevin
Pastor Meredith
Pastor Dwight
No more nominations

16

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 4 Results

Pastor Stanley	09
Pastor Kevin	08
Pastor Meredith	15
Pastor Dwight	11
<i>No more nom.</i>	07

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 4 Results

Pastor Stanley	09
Pastor Kevin	08
Pastor Meredith	15
Pastor Dwight	11
<i>No more nom.</i>	07

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 5

Pastor Stanley
Pastor Meredith
Pastor Dwight
<i>No more nominations</i>

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 5 Results

Pastor Stanley	10
Pastor Meredith	19
Pastor Dwight	13
<i>No more nom.</i>	08

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 5 Results

Pastor Stanley	10
Pastor Meredith	19
Pastor Dwight	13
<i>No more nom.</i>	08

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 6

Pastor Meredith
Pastor Dwight
No more nominations

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 6 Results

Pastor Meredith	27
Pastor Dwight	15
<i>No more nom.</i>	08

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

23

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 6 Results

Pastor Meredith	27 ... nominated
Pastor Dwight	15
<i>No more nom.</i>	08

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 7

Pastor Stanley
 Pastor Kevin
 Pastor Dwight
No more nominations

50 valid votes cast
 26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 7 Results

Pastor Stanley 10
 Pastor Kevin 12
 Pastor Dwight 11
No more nom. 17

50 valid votes cast
 26 needed

26

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 7 Results

~~Pastor Stanley~~ 10
 Pastor Kevin 12
 Pastor Dwight 11
No more nom. 17

50 valid votes cast
 26 needed

27

"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 8

Pastor Kevin
 Pastor Dwight
No more nominations

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 8 Results

Pastor Kevin	13
Pastor Dwight	11
<i>No more nom.</i>	26

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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"Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"

Ballot 8 Results

Pastor Kevin	13
Pastor Dwight	11
<i>No more nominations</i>	<i>26 ... ends balloting</i>

50 valid votes cast
26 needed

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Nominees from the "Lakes, Forests, and Fields Conference"...

- ▶ Pastor Pam
- ▶ Pastor Meredith
- ▶ These nominees are submitted to the 2020 Synod Assembly.
- ▶ The names of the top five conference nominees, and ties, will appear on the first ballot at the 2020 Synod Assembly, along with write-in nominees.

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NOMINATIONS AT THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY

- ▶ First ballot nominees determined by the conferences nominating and write ins.
- ▶ Five Conferences submit one to three nominees each.
- ▶ A given nominee could be nominated by multiple conferences.
- ▶ There could be one to 15 names on the first ballot.
- ▶ Conference nominees are joined by write-in nominees on the first ballot.

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NOMINEES ON FIRST BALLOT AT A SYNOD ASSEMBLY

	Living Waters	Laurentian	Lake Superior	Kettle River	Heartland	Total	Rank
Pastor Alpha	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5	First
Pastor Beta		✓	✓			2	Third
Pastor Gamma	✓		✓		✓	3	Second Tie
Pastor Epsilon				✓		1	Fourth Tie
Pastor Zeta		✓				1	Fourth Tie
Pastor Omega	✓			✓	✓	3	Second Tie

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VOTING AT THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY (S9.04.)

- ▶ Three-fourths of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot.
- ▶ If no one is elected, the first ballot shall be considered the nominating ballot.
- ▶ Three-fourths of the legal votes cast on the second ballot shall be necessary for election.
- ▶ The third ballot shall be limited to the seven persons (plus ties) who received the greatest number of legal votes on the second ballot, and two-thirds of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.
- ▶ The fourth ballot shall be limited to the three persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the third ballot, and 60% of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.
- ▶ On subsequent ballots a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. These ballots shall be limited to the two persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the previous ballot.

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ALL 2020 CONFERENCE ASSEMBLIES MEET ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 AT 3:00 PM

- ▶ Lake Superior Conference - Gloria Dei, Duluth
- ▶ Laurentian Conference - United in Christ, Eveleth
- ▶ Living Waters Conference - St. Andrew's, Grand Rapids
- ▶ Heartland Conference - First, Aitkin
- ▶ Kettle River Conference - Hope, Moose Lake
- ▶ SNOW DATE February 16
- ▶ "Speeches by nominees or on their behalf shall be allowed and each shall be limited to two (2) minutes in length." (S9.04.04.1)

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NOMINEE FORUMS

- ▶ March 12, Calvary Lutheran, Mora, 7:00 pm
- ▶ March 13, St. Andrew's Lutheran, Grand Rapids, 7:00 pm
- ▶ March 14, Grace Lutheran, Hermantown, 2:00 pm

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2020 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

- ▶ May 1-3
- ▶ DECC, Duluth
- ▶ First ballot for bishop will be Friday evening.
- ▶ Write-in nominations are permitted only on the first ballot.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ON BEC WEB PAGE

- ▶ Nomination forms
- ▶ Synod Survey from 2019 Synod Assembly
- ▶ Bible Study (Leader & Participant)
- ▶ Bishop Election Glossary
- ▶ Synod Ministry Site Profile

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BISHOP ELECTION COMMITTEE

Ms. Rachel Berry (Synod Vice President), Littlefork, Littlefork. Laurentian Conference.
 Mr. Dave Erdman, Synodically Authorized Minister, SALT Parish, Culver, Canyon, Saginaw, Meadowlands. Lake Superior Conference
 Rev. Erika Foss, Trinity, Cook. Laurentian Conference
 Ms. Emelia Hinrichs (Youth), First, Brainerd. Heartland Conference
 Ms. Susanne Hinrichs (BEC Co-secretary), First, Brainerd. Heartland Conference.
 Mr. Mark Hollabaugh (BEC Chair), Trinity, Hovland. Lake Superior Conference
 Ms. Paula Jackson, Our Saviors, Hibbing. Laurentian Conference
 Mr. Tim Johnson, First, Hinckley. Kettle River Conference
 Mr. Brady Johnson (LYO), First, Hinckley. Kettle River Conference
 Rev. Matt McWaters, Hope, Walker. Living Waters Conference
 Ms. Amy Loken, Church of the Good Shepherd, Duluth. Lake Superior Conference
 Rev. James Muske, Bethesda (Malmo), Isle. Heartland Conference.
 Rev. Joyce Piper, Grace, Hermantown. Lake Superior Conference
 Ms. Jennifer Svatos, Zion, Grand Rapids. Living Waters Conference
 Deacon Brenda Tibbetts (Synod Staff Liaison), Trinity, Cook. Laurentian Conference
 Deacon Susan Williams (BEC Co-secretary), Calvary, Mora. Kettle River Conference

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Almighty God, you have given your Holy Spirit to the church to lead us into all truth. Bless with the Spirit's grace and presence we the people of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod as we prepare to elect a bishop. Keep us steadfast in faith and united in love, that we may manifest your glory and prepare for the way of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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