

Election of a Bishop by Ecclesiastical Ballot

The Bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly by ecclesiastical ballot. Any person on the ELCA Roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament may be written in on the first ballot. 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 receive the greatest number of legal votes on the second ballot and who are willing to serve, 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 percent 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.