



# Opening: General Editor

The Journal of Lutheran Ethics (JLE) [www.elca.org/jle](http://www.elca.org/jle) is a free, monthly, ecclesial, online publication living out the Lutheran tradition of addressing social issues theologically, using the resources of the humanities and sciences as well as biblical interpretation.

A bridge between the academic study of Christianity and the contemporary life of the Church, JLE is a meeting place for scholars and professors, seminary and university students, pastors and deacons, and theologically informed lay persons, advocates, and activists. The scope embraces the concerns of both church and society, including foundational questions and current social issues, domestic and global questions, as well as personal and public dimensions of the moral life.

JLE is published by the [Theological Discernment Team](#) (TDT) in the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) as a means to promote reasonable and constructive dialogue among faithful people, aspiring to speak in love while seeking understanding.

## Position Description

The general editor of the Journal of Lutheran Ethics has lead responsibility for planning, seeking, and managing the journal's content, consistent with JLE's goals as a publishing ministry of the ELCA. The editor collaborates with the Director for Theological Ethics who serves as publishing editor on behalf of the Theological Discernment Team, Office of the Presiding Bishop. Given the Journal's role as a bridge, the general editor needs to have a background involving some significant level of academic study (PhD. preferred) with a history of demonstrated awareness and participation in congregational life--whether pastor, deacon or lay.

The editor shall:

1. Determine a schedule of 5 monthly issue themes, in collaboration with the Director for Theological Ethics and input from the JLE Advisory Council. Of particular concern here is for diversity of authors, perspectives, and topics.
2. Ensure there are 3 articles for 5 issues per year published on the 1st of every odd numbered month. (The July/August issue is the responsibility of the book review editor.) At least one of these shall be intentionally prepared for use in congregational settings.

3. Exercise primary responsibility for contacting potential authors, soliciting articles, and working with contributors until delivery, keeping the publication process moving and on schedule without sacrificing the quality of the finished product.
4. Receive articles and edit as needed--ensuring they meet JLE standards and are in JLE format--and then deliver to JLE's Editorial Assistant by middle of the month preceding publication, with sign off when issue is ready for posting.
5. Prepare an editor's introduction for each issue.
6. Determine suitability of unsolicited articles for publication, consulting in borderline cases with the Director.
7. Consult regularly with JLE Advisory Council members and attend the annual meeting.
8. Attend the annual Lutheran Ethicists' Gathering, and occasionally other conferences, as determined in consultation with Director for Theological Ethics.

### **Editor Compensation and Benefits**

The editor serves as an independent contractor with the Theological Discernment Team in the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and reports to the Director for Theological Ethics. The anticipated workload averages 10 hours per week throughout the year. Compensation is negotiated accordingly, commensurate with experience and credentials. All reasonable travel expenses are included for attendance at the Advisory Council meeting, the Lutheran Ethicists' Gathering and other approved events relevant to this work. Both parties are bound by the terms of a standard contract.

### **Application Procedure**

**In several paragraphs describe your interest and experience relevant to a publication like JLE and the gifts you would bring as general editor. Highlight briefly your current scholarly interests and particular competencies, as well as thoughts about how JLE might expand its concerns for a diversity of voices across the church and better reach congregational audiences. Include a curriculum vitae and email contact information for two references.**

Applicants should submit the short essay, CV, and reference information to Heather Dean [Heather.Dean@elca.org](mailto:Heather.Dean@elca.org) (773-380-2608), JLE Editorial Asst., Office of the Presiding Bishop.

*This search remains open until February 28, 2019.*