

BISHOP ELECTION PROCEDURE

The ELCA Churchwide Representative will chair the election of the bishop aided by the chair of the NT-NL Elections Committee. The process will be as follows. Before each ballot a credentials report will be read.

1st Ballot: The first ballot is a nominating/write-in ballot. Any Rostered leader of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA is eligible to be nominated. 75% of legal votes required for election.

If there is no election on the first ballot. Those nominated on this ballot and wishing to continue in the election process must make their willingness known and submit a vitae by a time to be published in the assembly schedule. Those electing to move forward then indicate their willingness to serve as bishop should they be elected. They also will be subject to a background check and expected to voluntarily disclose anything the assembly should be made aware of that might disqualify them from service.

2nd Ballot: Names of nominees will be posted on a screen in descending order. Voters will receive a paper ballot with a number of letters and boxes. The voter will select the letter that corresponds to their desired nominee's name and mark it on their ballot. 75% of legal votes required for election.

If there is no election the top seven (plus ties) will speak at a time published in the assembly schedule. The 3rd ballot will occur immediately following the speeches.

3rd Ballot: As with previous ballots the names of nominees will be posted on a screen in descending order. Voters will select the letter that corresponds to their desired nominee's name and mark it on their ballot. 2/3rds of legal votes required for election.

If there is no election the top three (plus ties) will participate in a Q&A Session at a time published in the assembly schedule. Each individual will be asked the same questions, rotating the order of speaking after each question. 90 seconds allotted for answers. The session will last for no more than 45 minutes.

4th Ballot: As with previous ballots names of nominees will be posted on a screen in descending order. Voters will select the letter that corresponds to their desired nominee's name and mark it on their ballot. 60% of legal votes required for election.

If there is no election the top two (plus ties) immediately proceed to the 5th ballot.

5th Ballot: Names of nominees will be posted on a screen in descending order. Voters will select the letter that corresponds to their desired nominee's name and mark it on their ballot. A majority of legal votes (50%+1) required for election.

In the case of a tie we will immediately proceed to a 6th ballot until a majority is declared.