

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C. SYNOD**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Proposed 2022 Amendments to Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions

Additions are underlined. Deletions are ~~struck through~~ in the text.

1. Modify S7.13.A21. to read as follows:

~~S7.13.A21~~22. All recommendations and resolutions of units of this synod, the Synod Council, as well as those from affiliated or related agencies of this synod, upon which Synod Assembly action is requested shall be submitted to the secretary of the synod no later than March 1, or 60 days before the opening of the assembly.

2. Modify **S7.14**. to read as follows:

**S7.14.** One-~~half~~ third of the members of the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum.

3. Modify S7.21.03. to read as follows:

S7.21.03. Congregations with a baptized membership which consists of at least 10 percent persons of color and/or persons whose primary language is other than English will be entitled to one additional member. That member will be a person of color and/or person whose primary language is other than English.

4. Modify **S7.22**. to read as follows:

**S7.22.** This synod may establish processes that permit retired rostered ministers, or those granted disability status, or on leave from call, on the roster of the synod to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, provided that such processes not result in fewer than 60 percent of the voting members of the Synod Assembly being laypersons in contravention of consistent with ~~†S7.21.e~~. If the synod does not establish processes to permit the rostered ministers specified above to serve as voting members, they shall have voice but not vote in the meetings of the Synod Assembly.

5. Modify **S7.24**. to read as follows:

**S7.24.** Ministers under call on the rosters of this synod shall remain as members of the Synod Assembly so long as they remain under call and so long as their names appear on the rosters of this synod. Lay members of the Synod Assembly representing congregations shall continue as such until the opening of the next regular synod assembly, or unless replaced by the election of new members for a special synod assembly, or until they have been disqualified by termination of congregation membership. ~~Normally, congregations will hold elections prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.~~

6. Modify **S7.26**. to read as follows:

**S7.26.** This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit lay representatives of authorized worshipping communities of the synod, under ELCA bylaw 10.01.04., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †**S7.21**.

7. Modify **S7.27.** to read as follows:

**S7.27.** This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council to grant a minister of Word and Sacrament from a church body with which a relationship of full communion has been declared and established by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America the privilege of both voice and vote in the Synod Assembly during the period of that minister's service in a congregation of this church.

8. Modify **S8.42.c.** to read as follows:

c. Receipt and acknowledgment of offerings, contributions, and bequests made to this synod, collecting interest and income from its invested funds, and paying regular appropriations and orders on the several accounts as approved and directed by the Synod Council. The treasurer shall transmit each month to the treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America the funds received by this synod for the general work of this church as well as any funds to support restricted programs of this church.

9. Delete **S8.42.f.**, which previously read as follows:

f. Giving of corporate surety in the amount determined by the Synod Council, which shall be in the custody of the secretary, and the premium therefor shall be paid by this synod. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement.

10. Modify **S10.03.d.** to read as follows:

d. Provide for an annual review of the roster of Ministers ministers of Word and Sacrament and the roster of Ministers ministers of Word and Service, receive and act upon appropriate recommendations regarding those persons whose status is subject to reconsideration and action under the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and make a report to the Synod Assembly of the Synod Council's actions in this regard.

11. Modify S10.07.01. to read as follows:

S.10.07.01. The Synod Council shall consist of the four officers of this synod; one rostered minister of Word and Sacrament and one layperson from each of this synod's conferences; four members one member elected at-large, one of whom who shall be a minister of Word and Service young adult; and one member from the youth organization; and one member from the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on the

~~territory of this synod.~~ The rostered minister ~~of Word and Sacrament~~ and layperson for each conference shall be members from different congregations.

12. Modify S10.07.02. to read as follows:

S.10.07.02. The representatives of the conferences to the Synod Council shall be elected by the Synod Assembly from nominations made from the conferences. At least one nominee shall be given for each representative from the conferences. The members-at-large shall be elected by the Synod Assembly from the nominees presented by the Nominating Committee. The youth representative shall be elected by the Synod Assembly from the nomination made by the youth organization. The term of office for the youth representative shall be one year and the youth representative would be eligible for two successive terms. ~~The representative from the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on the territory of this synod shall be elected by the Synod Assembly from the nomination made by the women's organization. The term of office shall be two years and she would be eligible for two successive terms.~~

13. Modify S10.07.03. to read as follows:

S.10.07.03. The representatives from the conferences and the members elected at large shall be elected for a term of two years and are eligible for two full successive terms. Terms of office shall be staggered so that terms of one-half of the representatives who are rostered ministers ~~of Word and Sacrament~~ and the terms of one-half of the lay representatives shall expire each year. Within each conference, the terms for rostered ministers ~~of Word and Sacrament~~ and laypersons shall expire in alternate years. ~~The terms of one half of the at large members shall expire each year.~~

14. Modify S12.01.03. to read as follows:

S12.01.03. Each conference shall elect from its rostered ministers ~~of Word and Sacrament~~ a dean, and from among its rostered ministers ~~of Word and Sacrament or lay members~~ a secretary under procedures established by each conference. They shall serve two-year terms and are eligible for two full consecutive terms.

15. Modify **S14.13.** to read as follows:

**S14.13.** The pastor shall (a) keep accurate parochial records of all baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials, communicants, members received, members dismissed, or members excluded from the congregation, (b) shall submit a summary of such statistics annually to this synod, and (c) shall become a member of the congregation upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple congregations, the pastor shall hold membership in one of the congregations.

16. Modify **S14.15.** to read as follows:

**S14.15.** Each minister of Word and Sacrament on the roster of this synod shall submit a report of ~~his or her~~ ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.

17. Modify **S14.25.** to read as follows:

**S14.25.** All ministers of Word and Sacrament under a call shall attend meetings of the Synod Assembly, and the pastors of congregations shall also attend the meetings of the conference, ~~cluster, coalition, or other area subdivision~~ to which the congregation belongs.

18. Modify **S14.34.** to read as follows:

**S14.34.** Each minister of Word and Service on the roster of this synod shall submit a report of ~~his or her~~ ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.

19. Modify **S14.47.** to read as follows:

**S14.47.** All ministers of Word and Service under a call shall attend meetings of the Synod Assembly, and the ministers of Word and Service of congregations shall also attend the meetings of the conference, ~~cluster, coalition, or other area subdivision~~ to which the congregation belongs.

Kevin D. Anderson, Secretary  
January 2022