

Election Process

January- February

The information gathered from the small groups from each meeting is forwarded to the Ad Hoc Committee to be compiled with information from other fourteen conference meetings.

Early March

The information gathered is synthesized by the Ad Hoc Committee and then is sent out via as many communication vehicles as possible to Rostered Leaders and laypersons. Rostered Leaders and laypersons are asked, based on the information supplied, to begin to think about possible questions which might be asked of the top seven candidates for Bishop at a forum to be held at Synod Assembly.

March

At Mission Area Assemblies the results of the conference meetings are reviewed. Participants will meet in small groups and craft questions. Once all of the questions are shared in a large group setting, attendees would “vote” on the top five-seven questions which should be considered for use at the Assembly Forum (when questions will be asked of the top seven candidates for Bishop). As was the case with the conference information, questions from each Mission Area are forwarded to the Ad Hoc Committee for compiling.

April

The questions are reviewed by the Ad Hoc Committee and the list of questions to be used at the forum is compiled.

April/May

The final list of questions is then be publicized throughout the synod via as many communication vehicles as possible.

Synod Assembly; June 8-9

The following is a tentative timeline.

Friday, June 8

Afternoon

Ecclesiastical Ballot (75% to elect)

No verbal or written nominations made in advance
Voting members nominate any ELCA Pastor

Second Ballot (75% to elect)

All names from 1st ballot
No new nominees may be added
Nominees given opportunity to withdraw beforehand

Evening **Forum for Top 7 Nominees**
Preselected questions from Mission Area Assemblies
Order of seating and speaking determined by draw

Saturday, June 9

Morning **Third Ballot- Top 7 Nominees (67% to elect)**
Each nominee invited to offer a 5 minute address to
Assembly prior to vote (order of speaking by draw)

Top 3 Address Assembly

15 minute address without other nominees present
Order of speaking by draw (Ad Hoc accompany
Speakers to and from green room)

Noon **Forum for top 3 nominees**
Question and Answer Opportunity for Voting
Members

Afternoon **Fourth Ballot- Top 3 Nominees (60% to elect)**

Fifth Ballot- Top 2 Nominees (Majority to elect)

Announcement of New Bishop