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## Recommendations: Election of the Vice President

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### Process for Election

The process for election of the vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is governed by the applicable bylaws and the Rules of Organization and Procedure as adopted by the Churchwide Assembly.

The effect of the ballot on which an election takes place is the following action:

**To elect \_\_\_\_\_ to a six-year term, commencing November 1, 2009, as vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

Bylaw 19.31.01. specifies the process for nomination and election of the vice president:

The churchwide officers shall be elected as follows:

- b. The vice president shall be elected by the Churchwide Assembly. The election shall proceed without oral nominations. If the first ballot for vice president does not result in an election, it shall be considered a nominating ballot. On the first ballot, three-fourths of the votes cast shall be required for election. Thereafter only such votes as are cast for persons who received votes on the first or nominating ballot shall be valid. On the second ballot, three-fourths of the votes cast shall be required for election. On the third ballot, the voting shall be limited to the seven persons (plus ties) receiving the greatest number of votes on the second ballot and two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for election. On the fourth ballot, voting shall be limited to the three persons (plus ties) receiving the greatest number of votes on the previous ballot and 60 percent of the votes cast shall elect. On subsequent ballots, voting shall be limited to the two persons (plus ties) receiving the greatest number of votes on the previous ballot and a majority of votes cast shall elect.

Part Sixteen of the Rules of Organization and Procedure describes the process in further detail.

### Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the vice president, as specified in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, are significant, particularly in the governance of this church:

#### 11.33.

Leadership of this church shall be vested in the officers, the Churchwide Assembly, the Church Council, boards, and executive directors of churchwide administrative units. The full-time officers shall be the presiding bishop of this church, secretary of this church, and treasurer of this church. The vice president shall be non-salaried and shall serve as chair of the Church Council.

#### 13.31.

The vice president of this church shall be a layperson who shall serve as chair of the Church Council and, in the event the presiding bishop is unable to do so, as chair of the Churchwide Assembly. The vice president shall serve under the presiding bishop of this church, providing leadership as specified in provision 11.33. of this church's constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions.

#### 13.32.

The vice president shall be elected by the Churchwide Assembly to a six-year term and shall be a voting member of a congregation of this church.

##### 13.32.01.

The vice president shall be elected as provided in Chapter 19 and shall take office on the first day of the third month after election.

##### 13.32.02.

The vice president shall serve without salary.

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