



## Appendix B: Roster Statistics

The secretary is responsible for maintaining the official rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. These include the rosters of congregations, ordained ministers, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers.

### Roster of Congregations

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America counted 10,397 congregations on December 31, 2008, including congregations under development.

The record of those added to the roster of congregations is indicated in Table 1.

The record of removals from the roster of congregations by categories is shown in Table 2.

The process for *withdrawal* of a congregation is specified by constitutional provisions 9.62. and 9.71. in the *Constitution*,

*Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

“Merged” is defined as involving a congregation giving up its separate identity and uniting with an already existing congregation (i.e., being *merged* into an existing congregation).

“Consolidated” is defined as involving two or more congregations that join together to become a new entity with a new name and a new congregation identification number (i.e., the congregations are *consolidated* to become a new congregation).

The roster of congregations is published annually in the yearbook of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, prepared by staff of the Office of the Secretary. Congregations that have been received into this church or that have been consolidated, merged, withdrawn, disbanded, or removed are listed at the end of the roster of congregations in the yearbook.

Congregations	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Received by synodical action	22	25	22	30	20	17	25	19	29	18	31	16	9	12	12	16	22	11
Resulting from consolidations	6	5	3	6	4	8	5	4	5	2	1	0	2	1	5	5	10	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>

Congregations	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Withdrawn	4	4	8	8	2	4	5	2	5	12	6	17	8	26	22	18	7	13
Disbanded	31	30	36	32	34	34	40	32	29	33	42	26	39	40	31	38	29	24
Merged	4	6	7	7	5	5	9	4	5	2	2	0	9	7	3	10	2	5
Consolidated	10	11	6	13	10	18	12	15	10	4	0	0	6	2	5	12	12	8
Removed	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>

### Change of Synodical Relationship

Any change in a congregation’s synodical relationship is to be reported to the Churchwide Assembly. As provided by ELCA bylaw 10.02.02., “Any congregation in a border area desiring to change its synod relationship may do so upon approval of the synod assemblies of the synods concerned, which shall report any such change to the Churchwide Assembly.”

No changes in synodical relationship for congregations were reported in the 2007–2008 biennium.

## Roster of Ordained Ministers

As of December 31, 2008, the roster of ordained ministers of this church listed a total of 17,660 ordained ministers (active and retired). Included in that number were 3,515 women and 610 persons of color or whose primary language is other than English.

Additions to the roster of ordained ministers take place only in the ways defined by the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Those specific ways are:

1. Individuals who are ordained in accord with the constitution and bylaws of this church in effect at the time of their ordinations, after having been approved by a duly constituted synodical candidacy committee and having received and accepted a regular, attested Letter of Call to be a pastor.
2. Individuals received from other church bodies:
  - a. Individuals approved by a synodical candidacy committee who previously were ordained in another Lutheran church body or another Christian church body, under bylaw 7.31.14., whose ordination is recognized by this church under the policy that addresses such recognition. Others would be ordained by this church under the policy of such reception.
  - b. Individuals received, under churchwide bylaw 8.72.15.c., through the candidacy process for the roster of ordained ministers who were ordained in a full-communion partner church body.
3. Individuals reinstated to the roster of ordained ministers, under churchwide bylaw 7.31.15., who previously were ordained in this church or one of its predecessor church bodies.

<i>Additions</i>	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Ordained	296	315	310	298	339	336	338	361	308	315	309	279	308	270	279	283	295	327
Reinstated	26	20	20	14	13	15	17	9	20	23	19	9	19	22	11	8	15	2
Received from other churches	23	8	35	18	21	20	23	19	18	15	25	12	11	9	9	8	18	14
<b>Totals</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>343</b>
<i>Removals by</i>																		
Death	196	154	196	182	188	210	207	211	249	211	224	213	246	223	226	208	227	226
Resignation	58	50	51	42	50	47	56	57	48	52	57	48	45	63	62	78	48	44
Removal	96	115	71	89	55	97	107	58	41	42	36	56	46	50	48	62	45	33
Transfer to ELCIC*	1	1	5	2	4	4	1	1	0	2	3	2	4	1	2	3	5	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>306</b>

\* Indicates Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

As was the case in our predecessor church bodies, including those that existed prior to 1960, unauthorized or irregular ordinations are not recognized.

**Only ELCA clergy called:** In keeping with the criteria for membership in the ELCA, congregations agree to call as pastors only ordained ministers on the ELCA roster or duly approved candidates for the roster (churchwide constitutional provision 9.21.d. and bylaw 9.21.01.).

**Partner church clergy under contract:** Service by ordained ministers from full-communion partner church bodies is addressed in churchwide bylaws 8.72.15. and 9.21.02. and takes place under contract with the approval of the synodical bishop. Such ministers are not eligible for call by an ELCA congregation.

**Added to roster:** Only the names of individuals ordained or received in conformity with the governing documents and policy statements in place at the time of the ordination or reception are added to the roster of ordained ministers of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The names of people added to and removed from the roster of ordained ministers are listed annually in the yearbook of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The number of additions to the roster of ordained ministers and removals from that roster are shown in Table 3.

Percentages of pastors who are women as part of the *whole* clergy roster (active and retired) and as part of the *active* roster for 1990 through 2008 appear in Table 4.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Whole Roster	7.5%	8.1	8.7	9.3	9.7	10.5	11.3	12.0	12.7	13.4	14.2	14.9	15.6	16.5	17.0	17.7	18.3	19.1	19.9
Active Roster	9.4%	10.3	11.3	12.2	12.8	14.1	15.4	16.4	17.5	18.7	19.9	21.2	22.2	24.6	25.4	26.7	28.0	30.2	31.2

## Official Rosters of Laypersons

This church has established three rosters of laypersons. They are associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers.

The names of those approved by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for admission to the roster of associates in ministry, the roster of deaconesses, and the roster of diaconal ministers—as well as the names of those removed from those rosters—are listed annually in the yearbook of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

As of December 31, 2008, the roster of associates in ministry numbered 1,079 people (*see Table 5*).

The roster of deaconesses numbered 68 women as of December 31, 2008 (*see Table 6*). This figure does not include those in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Diaconal ministers, as of December 31, 2008, numbered 146 people (*see Table 7*). The roster of diaconal ministers, established by the 1993 Churchwide Assembly, was started in 1996 with the consecration of seven people.

**Table 5: Associates in Ministry**

<i>Additions</i>	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Commissioning	42	40	39	33	30	34	39	25	34	34	27	33	24	31	36	28	35	27
Reinstatement	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	1	3	0	1	1	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>28</b>
<i>Removals by</i>																		
Death	9	6	5	8	6	5	8	9	12	11	2	9	12	12	11	11	12	15
Ordination	8	10	12	2	9	9	9	4	6	2	1	9	9	8	2	2	3	4
Consecration	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resignation	12	9	7	18	7	12	10	9	8	10	2	3	2	2	7	5	5	5
Removal	71	79	49	36	24	30	33	11	15	29	16	17	16	9	8	17	12	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>

**Table 6: Deaconesses**

<i>Additions</i>	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Consecration	—	—	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	0	2	0	3	4
Reinstatement	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Removals by</i>																		
Death	2	4	2	2	6	3	3	2	8	7	4	3	4	2	2	1	0	1
Ordination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resignation	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Removal	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Table 7: Diaconal Ministers**

<i>Additions</i>	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Consecration	7	7	4	12	20	12	11	13	14	10	15	28	12
Reinstatement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Removals by</i>													
Death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ordination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0
Resignation	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Removal	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>