



**Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C. SYNOD, ELCA

# **CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBER**

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION - Update: 4/2018**

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*As you consider this opportunity for service, we would like you to know something of the expectations and responsibilities of this office so you can make an informed decision.*

### **Commitment/Frequency**

The Churchwide Assembly meets triennially in regular session, and the next regular session is scheduled to meet during the week of August 5, 2019, in Milwaukee, WI. Voting members of the Churchwide Assembly have their travel expenses paid for by the ELCA.

### **Election Process & Term**

The Churchwide Assembly is the highest legislative authority of the ELCA churchwide organization and deals with all matters which are necessary in pursuit of the purposes and functions of this church. The powers of the Churchwide Assembly are limited only by the provisions of the ELCA's Articles of Incorporation, the ELCA's constitution and bylaws, and the assembly's own resolutions.

In accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the ELCA and the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, voting members of the Churchwide Assembly shall be elected by the Synod Assembly and each voting member of the Churchwide Assembly shall be a voting member of a congregation of this church and synod. Voting members of the Churchwide Assembly shall begin serving with the opening of the regular Churchwide Assembly to which they were elected and shall continue serving until voting members are seated at the next regular Churchwide Assembly.

This synod will send eight voting members to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly, including the bishop and vice president. Accordingly, six voting members will be elected by the Synod Assembly. At least one voting member must be a youth or young adult (not over 30 at the

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time of election). Not more than three members (including the bishop) may be a minister of word and sacrament. At least five members (including the Vice President) must be a lay person (including for this purposed a minister of word and service). Certain gender balance considerations will also apply.

## **Function**

The Churchwide Assembly shall:

- Review the work of the churchwide officers, and for this purpose require and receive reports from them and act on business proposed by them.
- Review the work of the churchwide units, and for this purpose require and receive reports from them and act on business proposed by them.
- Receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies.
- Establish churchwide policy.
- Adopt a budget for the churchwide organization.
- Elect officers, board members, and other persons as provided in the constitution or bylaws.
- Establish churchwide units to carry out the functions of the churchwide organization.
- Have the sole authority to amend the constitution and bylaws.
- Fulfill other functions as required in the constitution and bylaws.
- Conduct such other business as necessary to further the purposes and functions of the churchwide organization.

At the 2019 Churchwide Assembly, a presiding bishop and secretary will be elected to six-year terms.

## **Nomination**

We are looking for people who live faithfully under the discipline of Word and Sacrament, who love our Lord and the Church, and who are well informed about our life together in Christ, able to listen, pray, and decide in regard to all matters before this church when it assembles. The work of voting members of the Churchwide Assembly is that of trustees,

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not representatives of our personal points of view. Therefore, we are looking for people of faith, of knowledge, and of wisdom. Are you willing?