

Appendix H: Sample Questions for Synod Bishop Nominees

What do you see as the principal challenge for this synod's bishop in the next six (6) years?

What is your vision for the ministry of this synod in the next six (6) years?

What is your principal priority for this synod and what will you do to address it?

If you could change one thing in the administration or organization of this synod, what would it be?

What gifts will you bring to the office of bishop of this synod?

What experiences in your life have prepared you for the responsibilities of synod bishop?

Describe some of the leadership positions that you have held in the past and how you made a difference in those positions.

As you look at the difficult issues facing this synod and this church, how will you provide leadership to facilitate decision-making to help address them?

One of the strategic directions of the ELCA is to assist members, congregations, synods, institutions, and agencies of this church to grow in evangelical outreach. If you are elected bishop, what ideas do you have to facilitate and motivate evangelical outreach?

The strategic directions of the ELCA include a commitment to be a "public church." What does this mean to you and how would your leadership reflect this commitment?

One of the strategic directions of the ELCA is to deepen and extend global, ecumenical, and interfaith relationships. What steps would you undertake as bishop to advance this strategic goal?

What specific steps will this synod take under your leadership as bishop to identify and develop lay leaders and rostered ministers for the mission and ministry of this church?

Describe specific events or experiences in your life that reflect your commitment to making this church diverse and multicultural.

The office of synod bishop requires significant time away from the synod in leadership throughout this church. Tell us what you have done in the past to balance two very demanding roles.

Tell a story about how God's Word has shaped your life.

Tell us a favorite story about Jesus and how you use in your daily life.

Describe the defining moment in your call to the ministry.