



July 28 – August 2  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA



## Order of Business

### Schedule

Plenary Session One	Monday, July 28	6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.....	3
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Plenary Session Eleven	Saturday, Aug. 2	11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.....	20

### Reports and Recommendations Requiring Action or Review

In the Order of Business, references are by Roman numeral to the section of the *Bulletin of Reports* where the resource is located and by the name of the document (e.g., V: Election of the Presiding Bishop), unless otherwise noted. Recommended actions, also in the *Bulletin of Reports*, are noted similarly, with a page citation. Unless otherwise noted, favorable action requires a majority vote of those voting members present and voting.

### Section V: Recommendations of the Church Council

- Rules of Organization and Procedure
- Election of the Presiding Bishop
- Election of the Secretary
- Rationale for Amendments
- Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA
- Archiving of Certain Social Policy Resolutions
- 2026–2028 Budget Proposal
- Recommended Proposed Social Statement on *Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All* and implementing resolutions
- Recommended Proposed Edited *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* (2009)
- Reception of the Common Statement on the *Filioque*

### Section VI: Other Assembly-Related Documents

- Response of the Church Council to the Recommendations in the Report of the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church and the Report of the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church
- Respuesta del Consejo de la Iglesia ELCA a las recomendaciones del informe de la Comisión para una Iglesia Luterana Renovada y el Informe de la Comisión para una Iglesia Luterana Renovada
- Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns
- Fortifying Urban Ministries Task Force Report
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Report
- The ELCA Quality of Call Initiative for Women in Ministry Report
- Report and Recommendations of the Task Force on On-Leave-from-Call and Specialized Ministries

### Section VII: Report of the Memorials Committee

- Report of the Memorials Committee

### Section VIII: Report of the Nominating Committee

- Report of the Nominating Committee

## Deadlines

### **Monday, July 28, 2025**

- 9:15 p.m.** Separate consideration (removal from *en bloc*) of responses to synod memorials  
Substitute responses to synod memorials  
Separate consideration (removal from *en bloc*) 2025 archival of certain social policy resolutions  
Separate consideration (removal from *en bloc*) of the constitutions, bylaws, and continuing resolutions  
Proposed changes to the amendments to the constitutions, bylaws, and continuing resolutions  
Proposed amendments from the floor to the constitutions, bylaws, and continuing resolutions

### **Tuesday, July 29, 2025**

- 12:15 p.m.** Proposed amendments to the Recommended Proposed Social Statement on *Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All* and implementing resolutions
- 6:15 p.m.** Proposed amendments to 2026–2028 budget proposal

### **Wednesday, July 30, 2025**

- 10:45 a.m.** Non-germane resolutions  
Proposed amendments to Recommended Proposed Edited Social Statement on *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* (2009)
- 1:45 p.m.** First Common Ballot

### **Thursday, July 31, 2025**

- 12:15 p.m.** Withdrawal from ballot for secretary
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## Elections

The Nominations Desk is located outside Hall D/E near the Registration Desk. It is open on Monday, July 28, from 1:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.; Tuesday, July 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Wednesday, July 30 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and Thursday, July 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

## Election deadlines

### **Tuesday, July 29, 2025**

- 12:15 p.m.** Nominations from the floor  
Withdrawal from ballot for presiding bishop  
Questions for presiding bishop question-and-answer forum

### **Wednesday, July 30, 2025**

- 1:45 p.m.** First Common Ballot

### **Thursday, July 31, 2025**

- 12:15 p.m.** Withdrawal from ballot for secretary

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Welcome and Land Acknowledgement		
Order for the Opening of the Assembly	Worship and Song	
Greeting: Grand Canyon Synod		
Introduction: Local Chair		
Organization of Assembly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roll of Voting Members</li> <li>• Report: Credentials Committee</li> <li>• Committees of the Assembly</li> <li>• Parliamentary</li> </ul>	I: Roll of Assembly Members I: Rules of Organization and Procedure	
Introduction to Electronic Voting	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure	
Consideration: Rules of Organization and Procedure	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Recommendation: Rules of Organization and Procedure	<b><i>Two-Thirds Vote Required</i></b> <b>V: Rules of Organization and Procedure, p.1</b>
Consideration: Order of Business	<b><i>Recommendation for Assembly Action:</i></b> <b>To approve the Order of Business as the agenda of the</b> <b>2025 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran</b> <b>Church in America, in keeping with the provisions of the Rules</b> <b>of Organization and Procedure for the calling of items of</b> <b>business before the assembly.</b>	
Recess		
First Ballot for Presiding Bishop	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Presiding Bishop	
Report: Nominating Committee	VIII: Nominating Committee	
Presentation: Transforming Patriarchy and Sexism for the Life of the World		
Announcements		

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Hymn and Prayer

Worship and Song

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OFFICIAL NOTICES:

**9:15 p.m., July 28**

REMOVAL OF RESPONSES TO MEMORIALS AND SOCIAL POLICY RESOLUTIONS  
TO BE ARCHIVED FROM THE EN BLOC MOTION;  
SUBMISSION OF SUBSTITUTE RESPONSES TO MEMORIALS

*Deadline for submission of notification to the secretary for requests for the removal of responses to synod memorials and social policy resolutions to be archived from the en bloc motion for separate consideration, or for offering amendments or substitute responses to synod memorials. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary's assistant, who is seated to the left (presider's side) of the speakers' platform during the plenary session.*

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**9:15 p.m., July 28**

REMOVAL OF AMENDMENTS FROM THE EN BLOC MOTION REGARDING  
AMENDMENTS TO GOVERNING DOCUMENTS;  
CHANGES TO AMENDMENTS TO GOVERNING DOCUMENTS;  
OTHER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GOVERNING DOCUMENTS;

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of requests for removal from the en bloc motion related to proposed amendments for the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary's assistant, who is seated to the left (presider's side) of the speakers' platform during the plenary session.*

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of substitute proposals to proposed amendments for the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary's assistant, who is seated to the left (presider's side) of the speakers' platform during the plenary session.*

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of proposals to amend the Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary's assistant, who is seated to the left (presider's side) of the speakers' platform during the plenary session.*

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Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Elections Report: First Ballot for Presiding Bishop	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Results of the First Ballot for Presiding Bishop	
Introduction: recommended proposed social statement “Faith and Civic Life”	V: Recommended Proposed Social Statement “Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-Being of All”	
College Corporation Meeting	Other: Wartburg 2025 ELCA CWA Report	
Recognition of ELCA Higher Education Leaders		
Update: Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery		
Announcement of <i>Constitutions, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the ELCA</i>		
Reports: Vice President and Church Council	II: Report of the Vice President V: Recommendations of the Church Council XI: Report of the Church Council	
Recognition of Separately Incorporated Ministry Leaders		
Announcements		
Hymn and Prayer	Worship and Song	

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OFFICIAL NOTICE:

12:15 p.m., July 29

WITHDRAWAL FROM BALLOT FOR PRESIDING BISHOP  
QUESTIONS FOR PRESIDING BISHOP NOMINEE FORUM

*Deadline for those nominated on the first ballot for presiding bishop to notify the secretary of their withdrawal from further consideration of their names on the second ballot for presiding bishop. Such notice may be submitted in paper form to the Nominations Desk (outside Hall D/E near the registration desk), electronically via email ([Nominations@elca.org](mailto:Nominations@elca.org)), or by phone in the hearing of two members of the elections committee.*

*Deadline for submitting questions for the presiding bishop nominee forum. The form entitled “Questions for Nominees for Presiding Bishop” can be submitted electronically through the ELCA Churchwide Assembly Guide.*

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OFFICIAL NOTICE:

12:15 p.m., July 29

NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR  
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RECOMMENDED PROPOSED SOCIAL  
**STATEMENT “FAITH AND CIVIC LIFE: SEEKING WELL-BEING OF ALL” AND**  
IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTIONS

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of nominations to the Church Council, churchwide boards, and committees. Nominations may be filed electronically through the ELCA Guide app or in paper form at the Nominations Desk (outside Hall D/E near the registration desk).*

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of proposed amendments to the recommended proposed social statement “Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-Being of All” and implementing resolutions. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary’s assistant, who is seated to the left (presider’s side) of the speakers’ platform during the plenary session.*

Plenary Session Three

**Beginning: 2:00 p.m.**

**Ending: 6:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, July 29

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Second Ballot for Presiding Bishop	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Presiding Bishop	
<i>En Bloc</i> Action on Social Policy Resolutions	V: Archiving of Certain Social Policy Resolutions	<b>V: Archiving of Certain Social Policy Resolutions, p. 1</b>
Report: Treasurer Introduction of 2026–2028 budget proposal	II: Report of the Treasurer V: 2026–2028 Budget Proposal	
Introduction: recommended proposed edited <i>Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust</i> (2009)	V: Recommended Proposed Edited <i>Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust</i>	
Report on Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church	VI: CRLC Final Report and Recommendations and Church Council Response	
Recess		
Report: Memorials Committee	VII: Report of the Memorials Committee	
Elections: First Common Ballot	X: First Common Ballot	
Elections Report: Second Ballot for Presiding Bishop	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Results of the Second Ballot for Presiding Bishop	
Announcements		
Hymn and Prayer	Worship and Song	



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OFFICIAL NOTICES:

**6:15 p.m., July 29**

AMENDMENTS TO THE 2026–2028 BUDGET PROPOSAL

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of proposed amendments to the 2026–2028 Budget Proposal. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary’s assistant, who is seated to the left (presider’s side) of the speakers’ platform during the plenary session.*

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Plenary Session Four  
**Beginning: 9:00 a.m.**  
**Ending: 10:30 a.m.**

Wednesday, July 30

Agenda Item	Reference	<i>Recommended Action</i>
Speeches by Presiding Bishop Nominees	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Biographical Information for Nominees for Presiding Bishop	
Third Ballot for Presiding Bishop	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Report of the Elections Committee	
Elections Report: Third Ballot for Presiding Bishop	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Results of the Third Ballot for Presiding Bishop	
Report: Memorials Committee	VII: Report of the Memorials Committee	
Announcements		
Prayer		

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OFFICIAL NOTICES:

**10:45 a.m., July 30**

NON-GERMANE RESOLUTIONS;

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RECOMMENDED PROPOSED EDITED

HUMAN SEXUALITY: GIFT AND TRUST (2009)

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of resolutions not germane to matters before the assembly or on the assembly agenda. Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary's assistant, who is seated to the left (presider's side) of the speakers' platform during the plenary session.*

*Deadline for submission to the secretary of proposed amendments to the recommended proposed edited social statement Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust (2009). Such notice may be submitted electronically through the ELCA Guide app (or in paper form if electronic form is not functional) to the secretary's assistant, who is seated to the left (presider's side) of the speakers' platform during the plenary session.*

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OFFICIAL NOTICE:

**1:45 p.m., July 30**

FIRST COMMON BALLOT

*Deadline for submission of the First Common Ballot. After this time, the polls are closed, and no further ballots shall be transmitted to the Elections Committee.*

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<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b><i>Recommended Action</i></b>
Theological Presentation: The Rev. Chad Rimmer		
Presiding Bishop Nominees Forum (Q&A)	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Biographical Information for Nominees for Presiding Bishop	
Fourth Ballot for Presiding Bishop	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Presiding Bishop	
Elections Report: Fourth Ballot for Presiding Bishop	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Results of the Fourth Ballot for Presiding Bishop	
Fifth Ballot for Presiding Bishop	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Presiding Bishop	
Elections Report: Fifth Ballot for Presiding Bishop	V: Election of the Presiding Bishop X: Results of the Fifth Ballot for Presiding Bishop	
Response from the Presiding Bishop-elect		
Recess		
Report: Conference of Bishops		
Report: Secretary	II: Report of the Secretary	
Recognition of Secretary's Service		
First Ballot for Secretary	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Secretary	
Greeting: Federal Chaplain		

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Announcements

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Hymn and Prayer

Worship and Song

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Plenary Session Six  
**Beginning: 7:00 p.m.**  
**Ending: 8:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, July 30

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Address: Bishop Sani Ibrahim Azar Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land		
Greeting: Bishop Susan Johnson Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada		
Elections Report: First Common Ballot	X: First Common Ballot	
Elections: Second Common Ballot	X: Second Common Ballot	
Elections Report: First Ballot for Secretary	V: Election of the Secretary X: Results of the First Ballot for Secretary	
Consideration: 2026–2028 Budget	V: 2026–2028 Budget Proposal	<b>V: 2026–2028 Budget Proposal, p. 1.</b>
Report: Memorials Committee	VII: Report of the Memorials Committee	
Announcements		
Hymn and Prayer	Worship and Song	

Plenary Session Seven

Thursday, July 31

**Beginning: 10:30 a.m.**

**Ending: 12:00 p.m.**

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Report: Presiding Bishop and Churchwide Organization	II. Report of the Presiding Bishop III: Reports of the Churchwide Organization	
Recognition of Presiding Bishop's Service		
Consideration: Amendments to Governing Documents	V: Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA	<b><i>Two-Thirds Vote Required</i></b> <b>V: Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA, p. 1</b>
Announcements		
Hymn and Prayer	Worship and Song	

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OFFICIAL NOTICE:

**12:15 p.m., July 31**

WITHDRAWAL FROM BALLOT FOR SECRETARY

*Deadline for those nominated on the first ballot for secretary to notify the secretary of their withdrawal from further consideration of their names on the second ballot for secretary. Such notice may be submitted in paper form to the Nominations Desk (outside Hall D/E near the registration desk), electronically via email ([Nominations@elca.org](mailto:Nominations@elca.org)), or by phone in the hearing of two members of the elections committee.*

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Plenary Session Eight  
**Beginning: 2:00 p.m.**  
**Ending: 6:00 p.m.**

Thursday, July 31

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Second Ballot for Secretary	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Secretary	
Ecumenical and Inter-religious Relations Recognition	III: Office of the Presiding Bishop	
Greeting: Lutheran World Federation		
Consideration: Reception of Common Statement on the Filioque	V. Common Statement on the <i>Filioque</i>	<b>V: Common Statement on the Filioque, p. 1</b>
Consideration: Amendments to Governing Documents	V: Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA	<b><i>Two-Thirds Vote Required</i> V: Amendments to the Constitutions of the ELCA, p. 1</b>
Recess		
Report: Memorials Committee	VII: Report of the Memorials Committee	
Report: Reference and Counsel Committee	IX: Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee	
Elections Report: Second Ballot for Secretary	V: Election of the Secretary X: Results of the Second Ballot for Secretary	
Announcements		
Hymn and Prayer		

Plenary Session Nine

Friday, Aug. 1

**Beginning: 9:00 a.m.**

**Ending: 12:00 p.m.**

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Speeches by Secretary Nominees	V: Election of the Secretary X: Biographical Information for Nominees for Secretary	
Third Ballot for Secretary	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Secretary X: Report of the Elections Committee	
Elections Report: Third Ballot for Secretary	V: Election of the Secretary X: Results of the Third Ballot for Secretary	
Consideration: Recommended Proposed “Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All”	V. “Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All”	<b>V. “Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All” recommended proposed social statement, p. 2</b>
Consideration: Implementing Resolutions		<b>V. “Faith and Civic Life,” p. 2</b>
Announcements		
Hymn and Prayer	Worship and Song	

Plenary Session Ten

**Beginning: 2:00 p.m.**

**Ending: 5:00 p.m.**

Friday, Aug. 1

Agenda Item	Reference	Recommended Action
Secretary Nominees Forum (Q&A)	V: Election of the Secretary X: Biographical Information for Nominees for Secretary	
Fourth Ballot for Secretary	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Secretary	
Elections Report: Fourth Ballot for Secretary	V: Election of the Secretary X: Results of the Fourth Ballot for Secretary	
Fifth Ballot for Secretary	I: Rules of Organization and Procedure V: Election of the Secretary	
Elections Report: Fifth Ballot for Secretary	V: Election of the Secretary X: Results of the Fifth Ballot for Secretary	
Response from the Secretary-elect		
Recess		
Consideration: Recommended, Proposed Edited <i>Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust</i> (2009)	V. <i>Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust</i>	<b>V. <i>Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust</i> recommended, proposed edited statement, p. 2</b>
Report: Reference and Counsel Committee	IX: Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee	
Announcements		
Prayer		

Plenary Session Eleven

Saturday, Aug. 2

**Beginning: 11:00 a.m.**

**Ending: 12:30 p.m.**

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Agenda Item	Reference	<i>Recommended Action</i>
Report: Reference and Counsel Committee	IX: Report of the Reference and Counsel Committee	

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Unfinished Business		
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Honoring Outgoing Synod Bishops		
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Recognition of Synod Officers		
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Recognition of Church Council Members		
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Announcement of 2028 Churchwide Assembly		
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Order for the Closing of the Assembly	Worship and Song	
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