

***The Election and Call of a Bishop***  
***Indiana-Kentucky Synod Assembly 2010: Friday June 4 – Sunday June 6, 2010***

The process for calling a synod bishop is guided by ELCA Churchwide and IN-KY Synod constitutions and by-laws in partnership with established churchwide and synod protocols and practices. The bishop shall be a pastor who is an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Beginning in the fall of 2009, members of the IN-KY Synod were invited to complete and submit surveys regarding the role of the bishop. In early 2010, conferences and ministeriums were invited to submit names of potential candidates for bishop. Those whose names were submitted were invited to complete and submit a biographical information form. Forms submitted by any of these pastors are included with the Bulletin of Reports which is mailed on CD-ROM 30 days before the Synod Assembly.

**Please note:** Those whose names and/or biographical forms were submitted before the Synod Assembly will not be considered nominated unless their name appears on the first ballot at the Synod Assembly.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson will preside over the election process in the assembly hall, including instruction and prayer before each ballot.

**Please note:** At the time of each ballot for bishop at the assembly all non-voting participants in the assembly will be asked by Bishop Hanson to vacate the tables and stand at the periphery of the assembly hall during the voting. This will ensure that only voting members of the assembly who are seated at tables will be able to vote and provide opportunity for non-voting visitors to surround the assembly with prayerful presence as the vote occurs.

This document describes the process and timing of the ballots for bishop during the 2010 Synod Assembly.



**FIRST BALLOT: 3:30 p.m. Friday** *Ecclesiastical ballot; 75% of votes cast required for election...*

*Voting members will be invited to write the name of one pastor on their ballot; unless there is an election on this ballot, this ballot will serve as the nominating ballot.*

**ANNOUNCEMENT of FIRST BALLOT RESULTS: 6:40 p.m. Friday**

Those who received the top ten highest vote counts (plus ties) will be invited to complete and submit biographical forms if they have not done so already. The forms will be reproduced and distributed as submitted. Those in this group whose forms were submitted before the assembly will not need to resubmit; their previously submitted forms will be included in the packet with the others.

Withdrawal forms for those who desire to withdraw before the second ballot will also be available at the Information Desk.

The deadline for the submission of biographical and withdrawal forms will be 10:30 p.m. Friday night, also at the Information Desk. This is a hard deadline; no exceptions will be made.

The packet of biographical forms will be distributed to voting members as they arrive in the assembly hall for Saturday's 8:00 session.

**SECOND BALLOT: 10:00 a.m. Saturday** (if necessary)

*Will include all eligible nominees from 1<sup>st</sup> ballot who have not withdrawn; 75% of votes cast required for election*

If there is no election on the second ballot, the top seven vote receivers (plus ties) from this ballot will be asked to complete and submit background check authorization forms.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECOND BALLOT RESULTS: 1:30 p.m. Saturday**

**THIRD BALLOT: 1:40 p.m. Saturday** (if necessary)

*Top 7 candidates (plus ties) from 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot; 2/3 of votes cast required for election*

The 7 candidates with the highest percentage of votes cast on the 3rd ballot will be introduced for floor waves.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIRD BALLOT RESULTS: 3:15 p.m. Saturday**

If there is no election on the 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot, there will be a question and answer time with the three candidates (plus ties) who received the highest percentages of votes cast on the third ballot.

**FOURTH BALLOT: 4:00 p.m. Saturday** (if necessary)

*Top 3 candidates (plus ties) from 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot; 60% of votes cast required for election*

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF FOURTH BALLOT RESULTS: 5:30 p.m. Saturday**

**FIFTH BALLOT: 5:40 p.m. Saturday** (if necessary)

*Top 2 candidates (plus ties) from 4<sup>th</sup> ballot; majority of votes cast required for election*

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF FIFTH BALLOT RESULTS: 7:35 p.m. Saturday**

**SIXTH BALLOT: 8:00 a.m. Sunday** (if necessary)

*Top 2 candidates (plus ties) from 5<sup>th</sup> ballot; majority of votes cast required for election*

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SIXTH BALLOT RESULTS: AS SOON AS AVAILABLE**

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Bishop Stuck's term will end August 31, 2010 and the Bishop-Elect will assume office on September 1, 2010. The Bishop-Elect will be installed as Bishop on Saturday, September 11, 2010, at a central synodical location. The installation date has been determined by the schedule of Bishop Mark Hanson, who will preside at the installation.

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**Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

-- "The Mission of the church," ELW, p. 75

**OUR MISSION:**

Empowering, Equipping and Encouraging the People of God to make Christ known.

**OUR VISION:**

Every person a Missionary  
Every pastor a Mission Director  
Every Congregation, Conference and Ministry a Mission Center.