



Eastern North Dakota Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

# 2026 Bishop Election Timeline

## FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Sitting Bishop must submit written notification to the synod nominating committee at least 120 days prior to the Synod Assembly as to their intentions for seeking another term.

## FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Congregations of the synod may submit the names of up to three ministers of Word and Sacrament of the ELCA to the secretary of their conference

## MARCH 7, 2026

The secretary and officers of each conference shall tabulate the names submitted by congregations and report the results to the synod Nominating Committee by this date.

## APRIL 1, 2026

Conference assemblies shall be held to vote on a maximum of seven names per conference from a list as tabulated from conference reports to the synod Nominating Committee.

## APRIL 16, 2026

Nominating Committee shall tabulate the results of the conference assembly votes as reported to the committee by the secretary of each conference. The Nominating Committee shall identify the 7 pastors, plus any tie for the 7<sup>th</sup> place, named by the greatest number of conferences.

## MAY 5, 2026

The 7 ministers, plus any tie for 7<sup>th</sup> place, shall be available for open forums to be established by the Synod Council.

## MAY 18, 2026

The secretary of the Synod shall obtain a comparable biographical summary of each of the 7 ministers identified by the Nominating Committee.

## JUNE 5-7, 2026

**Eastern ND Synod Assembly**

## JUNE 5, 2026

**On First Ballot of Assembly:**

Nominations may be received from voting members attending assembly.

## JUNE 6-7, 2026

Ballots 2-5 take place until an election takes place.