



ACELC Congregation Membership Application Procedure

(Following is a suggested procedure for congregations considering joining the Association of Confessing Evangelical Lutheran Congregations (ACELC). It is not the ACELC's desire to direct the steps of any congregation in this process leading up to a decision by the Voter's Assembly, but we only offer the following as advice.)

1. The Pastor(s) of the congregation will review the ACELC information mailed in July 2010, to your congregation; our proposed Governing Guidelines; the ACELC Definition of Confessional Lutheranism in Light of Present Day Issues; and, the documented errors of the LCMS. [All documents are downloadable from <http://www.ancelc.net/>.]
2. If in agreement with the documents in item #1 above, the Pastor(s) will present these materials for study and discussion with his Board of Elders, the Church Council, the adult Bible class(es), and the voter's assembly, providing ample time for study and discussion.
3. The Pastor(s) will ascertain whether the congregational leadership is interested in giving consideration to membership in the ACELC, and if so, gain the permission of the Elders, Church Council, and Voter's Assembly to host a presenter from the ACELC Speaker's Bureau.

(Note: It would be helpful if the host congregation(s) help with the cost of travel expenses to bring in an ACELC speaker. While financial donations to the ACELC are welcome, there is no charge for the presentation and ACELC speakers accept no personal honoraria.)

(Note: The greatest possible publicity will be provided to the inviting congregation prior to the visit of the ACELC speaker. Also, the documents in item #1 above, should be widely distributed throughout the congregation prior to the visit of the ACELC speaker.)

4. The ACELC speaker will come to the congregation and make his presentation to the largest possible group assembled to hear him. This group could be a Voter's Assembly or a congregational information meeting without voting authority depending on the desires of the congregation at the time. (The speaker will have a Power Point presentation and will answer any and all questions regarding the ACELC during this visit.)
5. The Voter's Assembly of the congregation will hold a meeting to determine if the congregation wishes to join the ACELC. The appropriate officers will complete and sign the Membership Application form and send it, along with the initial membership fee of \$200.00 to the address shown on the Membership Application form. The annual membership fee is \$200.00. The year after a congregation joins the ACELC, their membership fee will be pro-rated as follows:

Join ACELC	Subsequent Year Fee
January – March	\$200.00
April – June	\$150.00
July – September	\$100.00
October – December	\$50.00

6. The ACELC Board of Directors will consider the application at its next regular scheduled Board of Directors meeting and they will notify the congregation of the decision.
7. The Voter's Assembly of the congregation will elect its Pastor and a lay representative to attend subsequent ACELC Conferences.