2023 Bishop Election Process and Timeline

May/June

Conference Assemblies
Assemblies will be held May-June 2022
Each conference can nominate up to 5 Pre-Nominees.

May/July

Post Conference Assemblies (May-July)
Committee will reach out to Pre-Nominees and send all documents to be filled out by a 2 week deadline. After receiving documents the committee will review and make sure they meet all qualifications.

June 26th Synod wide prayer gathering for discernment

August

40 days Pre-Assembly
August 1 All Pre-Nominees will be posted on Synod website in alphabetical order with completed documentation.

August 14 Committee will host a "Town Forum" style digital gathering using 'Zoom Events' where pre-nominees will answer three questions each. This will give all voting members an opportunity to engage the Pre-Nominees.

August 28 Synod Wide Zoom prayer gathering to pray for Synod Assembly

September

Synod Assembly (September 15-17)

FRIDAY Sept 15th : First vote will be an Eccesial ballot (written). Following the ballot, the committee will run a full background, bio, and disclosure check on all candidates and place all qualified candidates on ballot 2.

SATURDAY Morning Sept 16th: Second ballot with all screened candidates will be held and narrowed down to 7 top candidates plus ties. (Most likely 1st machine vote)

Candidates will be given 5 minutes each to respond to one question. Saturday Third vote will be taken

Saturday evening when candidates are narrowed to final 3 (plus ties) conferences will be split into 3 rooms each room housing 3 synods. Each candidate will respond to 5 questions with a 5 minute time limit per question. (total of 25 minutes) Following the Q&R Candidates will be escorted to the next space by a committee member. Each candidate will spend 25 minutes per room.

SATURDAY OR SUNDAY 4th vote will reduce candidates to 2 nominees (plus ties).Candidates will be given 5 minutes to address the gathering answering a specific question.

Sunday the 17th 5th vote will be taken until a new Bishop is elected.

Assembly Election Process and Required Votes to Elect Bishop

Ballot	Names Included	Votes Needed to Elect
First, Ecclesiastical (nominating) ballot	Any minister of Word and Sacrament on the roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is eligible. *NOTE: Names lifted up during the conference gatherings are **not** automatically nominated but must be nominated on the first ballot in order to move forward.*	3/4 legal votes cast (75%)
Second	Ministers of Word and Sacrament nominated on the first ballot who have not withdrawn their names.	3/4 legal votes cast (75%)

Third	Seven nominees (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes cast on the second ballot. When the candidate pool is narrowed to 7 each candidate will be given 5 minutes to respond to one question.	2/3 legal votes cast (66.7%)
Fourth	Three nominees (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes cast on the third ballot. All the voting delegates will be separated by conferences into three rooms. Each of the final three candidates will rotate through each of the rooms and will be given 25 minutes to respond to 5 questions.	60% legal votes cast
Fifth	Two nominees (plus ties) who received the greatest number of votes cast on the fourth ballot. Each Candidate will be given 5 minutes to respond to a question.	Majority of legal votes cast (50% +1)