



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear Friends in Christ,

The election of a new bishop is reason to celebrate. It is important to remember that in addition to serving in and on behalf of your synod, your newly elected bishop serves on behalf of the whole Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

As presiding bishop, I am responsible for supervising all aspects of the installation that have Churchwide implications and for supporting your planning efforts in ways that bring Synodical mission and ministries to rich expression. Toward that goal, I am pleased to provide you with this installation planning packet. It is designed to assist you in the many areas that will require your attention.

You will note that most of the documents are reproducible single sheets, each focusing on a particular area or issue and each intended to assist specific individuals or groups involved in the planning. They may be reprinted without additional permission. For convenience, these same documents (text files) may be downloaded from the ELCA website at www.elca.org/en/resources/synod (select the "Synod Assembly" tab on this page).

If you have not set a date for the installation of the next bishop of your synod, please contact Violet Bonner, my Executive Administrative Assistant. You may contact her at: Violet.Bonner@elca.org. Her phone number is 773-380-2600. This should be done as soon as possible, so that a mutual date can be set with my calendar and your synod. After a date is set, this should be communicated with your synod and ecumenical and interfaith guests. (See enclosed sheet for protocol information.)

If you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations for other planners, please use the sheet "Where to Go for Answers" for direction. Blessings to you as you take up the important task of planning for the installation of a bishop. I look forward to being with you at the celebration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop

Ever-living God, strengthen and sustain bishops, that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people. Grant that together they may follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

from Evangelical Lutheran Worship