This letter contains the information needed for your congregation to cast its nominations: (1) for President and First Vice-President and (2) for Regional Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Encourage your congregation wisely and prayerfully to cast these important nominating votes.

Specific instructions

The slates to be presented for election will be determined by the number of ballots received by each nominee, so each nomination makes a difference.

The congregation may make two nominations per position (order does not matter) but may nominate a given ordained minister only once per position. Specific Ministry Pastors (SMP) are not eligible. Additional information regarding this process can be found at https://www.lcms.org/convention/governance/guide#4C.

The President and First Vice-President must be rostered ministers of religion—ordained of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and members of voting member congregations thereof (so must regional vice-presidents). President and First Vice-President are full-time executive positions. Both serve on the Board of Directors of the Synod, the President as voting and the First Vice-President as non-voting.

The President, as the chief ecclesiastical officer of the Synod, supervises the doctrine taught and practiced in the Synod (Bylaw 3.3.1.1) and has ecclesiastical supervision of all officers and agencies of the Synod, its districts and their presidents (Bylaw 3.3.1.1.1). As chief ecumenical officer, he represents the Synod in contacts with partner churches and other church bodies (Bylaw 3.3.1.1.2). He exercises administrative oversight to see that officers, executives, and agencies act in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod (Bylaw 3.3.1.2) and performs other ecclesiastical and administrative responsibilities and duties related to the conventions, districts, district presidents, commissions, boards, agencies, entities, offices, and officers of the Synod as specified in Bylaw 3.3.1.3.

The First Vice-President, an elected advisor and assistant to the President, assists the President in discharging his responsibilities and represents him. He assumes the presidency if the office is vacated and performs the President's duties in a time of temporary incapacity. He also chairs colloquy committees for pastoral and commissioned ministry and performs other duties as assigned.

The five Regional Vice-Presidents fulfill duties as assigned on a part-time basis and stand, as ordered by the convention, in line of succession to the First Vice-Presidency and Presidency of the Synod. A map showing the five (5) regions of the Synod as determined by the Board of Directors and Council of Presidents.

Your congregation is eligible to nominate for Regional Vice-President in the East-Southeast region. To be eligible, your congregation's nominee must reside in this region as of February 18, 2026, and throughout his time of service. You may use the Synod's church worker locator at locator.lcms.org or consult the current Lutheran Annual to check an ordained minister's current residence