



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**2005 AMENDMENTS
TO THE
CONSTITUTION FOR SYNODS**

*as approved by the Ninth Churchwide Assembly
Orlando, Florida • August 8-14, 2005*

Prepared by the Office of the Secretary
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
August 19, 2005

**Additions are underlined. Deletions are
~~struck through~~ in the text.**

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF REQUIRED PROVISIONS

Under †S18.11., required provisions are to be “introduced at once” into the synod’s constitution upon this “formal certification” by the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Required provisions become *effective immediately* upon their adoption by the Churchwide Assembly and this subsequent formal notification of their adoption. Therefore, no vote of the Synod Assembly is needed for such required provisions; neither is such a vote to be taken.

Required provisions are those that are marked by a dagger “†” in this summary of amendments adopted by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly. Such required provisions may be amended *ONLY* by the Churchwide Assembly.

These required provisions adopted by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly are *now in force*; the text of the amendments of required provisions should be incorporated immediately into your synod’s constitution.

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The following changes were approved by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly for required provisions in the *Constitution for Synods* and are incorporated into the synod's constitution under †S18.11.:

To mark S14.14., S14.15., S14.16., S14.17., and S14.18. in the Constitution for Synods as required provisions for consistency in practice related to the oversight of synods in the pastoral care of congregations:

†S14.14., †S14.15., †S14.16., †S14.17., and †S14.18.

To amend provision †S18.11. in the Constitution for Synods to clarify the meaning related to required provisions:

†S18.11. Certain sections of this constitution incorporate and record therein required provisions of the constitution and bylaws of this church. [*Remainder of provision unchanged.*]

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The following recommended amendment to the *Constitution for Synods* may be adopted by the Synod Assembly on a majority vote at one assembly under †S18.12.:

S7.26. This synod may establish processes through the Synod Council that permit representatives of mission settings formed with the intent of becoming chartered congregations and authorized worshipping communities of the synod, which have been authorized under ELCA bylaw 10.02.03., to serve as voting members of the Synod Assembly, consistent with †S7.21. ~~Such authorized~~ Authorized worshipping communities, acknowledged under criteria, policies, and procedures ~~of the ELCA Division for Outreach and approved by~~ the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, shall accept and adhere to the Confession of Faith and Statement of Purpose of this church, shall be served by leadership under the criteria of this church, and shall be subject to the discipline of this church.