

SYNOD CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER

Position Description

Qualities and Eligibility

Nominees for the Synod Consultation Committee should be deeply committed to the life and ministry of Christ's Church, especially as expressed through the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, regular in their worship attendance, and charitable with their gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Each person elected to the Consultation Committee shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod.

Nomination, Election, and Term of Office

The Nominating Committee of the Synod Council nominates clergy and lay members for election by the Synod Assembly to the Synod Consultation Committee. Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the Synod Assembly.

A member of the Consultation Committee serves for one term of six years and is not eligible for consecutive reelection. The term of service for members of the Consultation Committee commences at the close of the Synod Assembly at which they were elected.

Functions and Responsibilities

The Consultation Committee, consisting of six clergy and six lay members, serves primarily in an advisory role to the office of the synodical bishop and assists the bishop to investigate situations that are potentially matters of formal ecclesiastical discipline of a rostered person or a congregation. When such a situation arises, the Synod Council appoints from this committee three ordained and two lay members to serve as a special Consultation Committee to consider the issue.

The special Consultation Committee meets with the parties involved in an effort to resolve the situation. If, as a result of the consultation, the allegations are withdrawn, no further proceeding is required. Otherwise, the special Consultation Committee must then submit a written report to either the synodical bishop or the Committee on Discipline depending on whether disciplinary action may result.

Privileges and Accountability

- Persons elected to the Consultation Committee may simultaneously serve on other structures of the synod if they are so selected or elected.
- The Consultation Committee meets at the request of and is accountable to the office of the bishop.

Other

- Nominees for the Consultation Committee should be persons of maturity and good judgment, who can function with discretion and fairness, and are able to handle confidential information.
- The bishop of the synod shall be a member of the Consultation Committee in addition to the twelve elected members.