Position Descriptions

2021 Elections

Executive Council

The Executive Council functions as the board of directors for the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), providing leadership for the church between the annual convocations. The Executive Council consists of the bishop, four clergy and four lay members who are elected for a four-year term. Terms begin on October 1 in the year elected and end on September 30, four years later. No member of the Executive Council, except the bishop, may serve more than two consecutive full terms. A partial term of more than two years is considered a full term. The general secretary, recording secretary and treasurer have voice but not vote on the Executive Council. The council meets quarterly, usually in January, April or May, July and October. The location of the meeting can be anywhere in North America, but usually near a major airport. Meetings usually begin at 8:00 a.m. on the first day and end by noon on the second day. They are normally held on weekdays, most often on Tuesday and Wednesday — so for each meeting members will be away from home or their "day jobs" at least two and a half days, sometimes three, depending on the travel time to get to a meeting. Participation in the annual convocation is also expected, which is another three to four days away from home and work. During the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings are conducted online.

Court of Adjudication

The Court of Adjudication hears appeals from disciplinary decisions; resolves questions of interpretation of NALC governing documents; and decides claims that a person or entity has violated these governing documents. The Court of Adjudication consists of seven members, each elected to a four-year term by the annual convocation. Terms begin on October 1 in the year elected and end on September 30, four years later. Any member of a NALC congregation shall be eligible for election and service. Usually the court is able to meet online or via a conference call, but an occasional face-to-face meeting may be needed.