

# Grand Canyon Synod Bishop Election Questionnaire

Please take a few moments and complete the following questionnaire. Your feedback will help the synod transition team prepare for the election of a new bishop. The form is scanned for data entry purposes, fill in circles like this: ●. Your responses are confidential and will only be shared in the aggregate.

## Please tell us about you.

**Are you a:**

- Pastor or Deacon currently serving in a congregation
- Pastor or Deacon not currently serving in a congregation
- Lay Person
- Other

**Your Age:**

- 25 or younger
- 26 to 40
- 41 to 64
- 65 or older

**How many years have you attended an ELCA congregation in the Grand Canyon Synod?**

- Less than 1 year
- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 11 to 15 years
- 16 to 25 years
- More than 25 years

**Are you:**

- Female
- Male
- Prefer not to answer
- Not listed

**Did you attend or do you plan to attend the Fall Gathering in your Conference?**

- Yes
- No

**What is the name of your congregation?**

## Please tell us about your congregation and the synod.

**1. What is your congregation's primary focus right now?**

**2. With what is your congregation struggling?**

3. What is your congregation hoping will happen over the next three years?

4. How is your congregation reaching out to people in the community?

5. The synod's governing documents (S6.03.01 to S6.03.04) assign a variety of responsibilities to the synod in carrying out the work of the church within our geographic area. Please rank the importance of the following responsibilities to the life and ministry of the synod using the provided scale.

	<u>Not Very</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u>
a. Providing for pastoral care of congregations, ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Providing for leadership recruitment, preparation, and support.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Providing for discipline of congregations, ministers of Word and Sacrament, and ministers of Word and Service.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Providing for archives in conjunction with other synods.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Developing of new ministries, redevelopment of existing ministries, and support and assistance in conclusion, if necessary, of a particular ministry.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Leading and encouraging of congregations in their evangelism efforts.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Assisting members of its congregations in carrying out their ministries in the world.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Encouraging congregations to respond to human need, work for justice and peace, care for the sick and the suffering, and participate responsibly in society.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Providing resources for congregational life.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Grouping congregations in conferences, cluster, coalitions, or other area subdivisions for mission purposes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Promoting interdependent relationships among congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization, and entering into partnership with other synods in the region.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. Fostering organization for youth, women, and men and organizations for language or ethnic communities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
m. Developing relationships with social ministry organizations and ministries, participating in their mission planning, and providing partnership funding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
n. Supporting relationships with and providing partnership funding on behalf of colleges, universities, and campus ministries.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
o. Maintaining relationships with and providing partnership funding on behalf of seminaries and continuing education centers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
p. Fostering supporting relationships with camps and other outdoor ministries.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<b>Question 5, continued</b>	<u>Not Very Important</u>	<u>Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Very Important</u>
q. Fostering supporting relationships with preschools, elementary school, and secondary schools operated by congregations of the synod.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
r. Fostering relationships with ecumenical and global partners.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
s. Cooperating with other synods and the churchwide organization in creating, using and supporting regions to carry out those functions of the synod which can best be done cooperatively with other synods and the churchwide organization.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
t. Encouraging financial support for the work of this church by individuals and congregations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
u. Participating in churchwide programs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
v. Interpreting social statements in a manner consistent with the interpretation given by the churchwide unit or office with assisted in the development of the statement, and suggestion of social study issues.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
w. Providing ecumenical guidance and encouragement.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**6. Of the items in Question 5 you rated as “Important” or “Very Important”, which THREE (3) do you feel are *critical* for the new bishop to carry out. (Please select one response to per line.)**

1<sup>st</sup>    (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) (T) (U) (V) (W)

2<sup>nd</sup>    (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) (T) (U) (V) (W)

3<sup>rd</sup>    (A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) (T) (U) (V) (W)

**7. What should congregations in the Grand Canyon expect of the synod’s bishop in the next six years?**

**8. What should the synod’s bishop expect of congregations in the synod in the next six years?**

**9. What should be the two top priorities of the synod in the next six years?**

**Thank you for your time and completing this survey. Please return completed surveys to:**  
**Research and Evaluation**  
**ELCA**  
**8765 W Higgins Rd**  
**Chicago, IL 60631**