

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (N-T)

At its meeting on 15 October 2015 Church council of ELCSA (N-T) resolved in terms of sections 60 and 61 of the Constitution of ELCSA (N-T) to submit the following amendments to the Constitution for consideration and adoption.

REVISED CHURCH LAW No. 2 / 2015 (15th Constitution Amendment Law)

Section 55 is amended by adding a new sub-section:

- (5) Where a Dean is elected to the position of Deputy to the Bishop, or as alternate to the deputy to the Bishop, he may retain the position of Dean in addition to such new position. He shall inform the Church Council accordingly.*

Section 2 This Law shall come into effect on

Motivation:

- (i) When ELCSA (N-T) was founded, the deputy to the bishop had to be a dean. This was later changed to enable any ordained pastor in ELCSA (N-T) to be elected as deputy, including the deans. The current formulation could be and has been interpreted to mean that a dean can not simultaneously be deputy to the bishop. This is now corrected. The same applies to the alternate to the deputy to the Bishop.
- (ii) Church Council proposed to amend the Rules of Procedure of Church Synod: Section 16 (5) (d) the addition of the following sentence: ***however with the proviso, that Deans when elected to the position of Deputy to the Bishop, or, as Alternate to the Deputy to the Bishop will be entitled to retain their position as Dean simultaneously.***
- (iii) Subsequently as part of the Synod preparation it was proposed to rather amend the constitution giving effect to the same intent.
- (iv) Church Council advises Synod Members that it made a mistake and should have submitted a proposal to change the Constitution rather than the Rules of Procedure of Church Synod;
- (v) Church Council advises Synod Members that it will apply to Synod at its sitting to condone this mistake;
- (vi) Advise Synod members that apart from making an honest mistake, Church Synod and ELCSA(N-T) will not be prejudiced by this move, as Synod Members have already had prior notice of the proposed amendment;
- (vii) Church Law 2 was sent out to members in terms of section 36(2), i.e. 3 months before Synod;
- (viii) Church Council concurs that the amendment is not essential, but Church Council wishes to rule out any uncertainties in the future;

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (N-T)

At its meeting on 27 July 2015 Church council of ELCSA (N-T) resolved in terms of sections 60 and 61 of the Constitution of ELCSA (N-T) to submit the following amendments to the Rules of Procedure of Church Synod to Church synod for consideration and adoption.

CHURCH LAW No. 2 / 2015

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL AS CIRCULATED TO SYNOD MEMBERS

Section 1 Section 16 (5) (d) is hereby amended by the addition of the following sentence and changed accordingly:

Rules of Procedure of Church Synod: Section 16 (5) (d) ensure that, when a person has been nominated for more than one position, and has been elected into one of these positions, this name is removed from the list of nominations for all subsequent elections; ***however with the proviso, that Deans when elected to the position of Deputy to the Bishop, or, as Alternate to the Deputy to the Bishop will be entitled to retain their position as Dean simultaneously.***

Section 2 This Law shall come into effect on

Motivation:

When ELCSA (N-T) was founded, the deputy to the bishop had to be a dean. This was later changed to enable any ordained pastor in ELCSA (N-T) to be elected as deputy, including the deans. The current formulation could be and has been interpreted to mean that a dean can not simultaneously be deputy to the bishop. This is now corrected. The same applies to the alternate to the deputy to the Bishop.