



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (N-T)
EVANGELISCH-LUTHERISCHE KIRCHE IM SÜDLICHEN AFRIKA(N-T)
EVANGELIESE LUTHERSE KERK IN SUIDER-AFRIKA (N-T)

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TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Date and venue for 1st SESSION OF THE 7TH CHURCH SYNOD 14-17 September 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Herewith important information which needs to be included in your year planning for 2017 and the agendas for next years Congregational AGM.

- The next Synod will take place from **14th to 17th September 2017** in Hermannsburg.
- It is the first Synod of the new Synodal Period. Thus new synod representatives are to be elected by congregations, as well as replacement synod delegates. The number of synod delegates to be elected per congregation/parish will be communicated in due course. For your guidance relevant sections of the constitution of our church are attached.

May God bless the work in our Church and congregations to His glory!

Sincere greetings,

Horst Müller, Bishop

Section 33 Election of Synod Members

(1) Lay members referred to Section 32(1)(c) are elected by congregations or parishes. The ordained members are elected by the relevant Pastors' Conventions. Details are contained in the Synod Election Rules.

(2) Alternates equal to the number of members elected according to Section 32(1)(c) must be elected by the congregations, parishes and Pastors' Conventions respectively. They stand in for Synod members who are unable to attend, in the same sequence in which votes were registered in their favour. Where a Synod member relinquishes his position, he is replaced by his alternate for the remainder of the Synod period and a by election must be held.

(3) Church Council shall be notified immediately of the names and addresses of elected persons as well as of their alternates.

Section 34 Synod Period

(1) Church Synod is constituted for six years.

(2) New elections and appointments of Synod members shall take place timeously before the end of each period.

(3) The Synod period ends with the opening of the first session of the newly constituted Church Synod. Church Synod remains in office until the newly constituted Church Synod convenes for its first session.

Rules of Procedure of Church Synod, Section 4, Participation at Sessions

- (1) It is compulsory for Synod members to attend Synod meetings.

More information at <http://www.elcsant.org.za/constitution-and-church-laws.html>