

POLICY AGAINST ELECTIONEERING, THIRTEENTH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION (2026)

The executive committee presents the following policy and implementing language for consideration by the executive board. In the 2014-2017 triennium, a task group was appointed by the churchwide president and given the responsibility of reviewing the policy against electioneering that had been used in the past and that review was to be done with a look to social media. Both the task group and the executive committee thought the policy should remain as is but added specific implementing language. What appears below was used for the Twelfth Triennial Convention (2023) and is now recommended for the Thirteenth Triennial Convention (2026).

Proposed policy:

There are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit AND
There are a variety of services, but the same Lord AND
There are a variety of activities, but the same God who activates them in everyone.
Women of the ELCA affirms and believes all women should have equal opportunity for involvement and leadership in the organization.

Women of the ELCA further believes that the Spirit that binds us all through baptism is the guiding factor for each voting member to prayerfully review and consider each nominee's biographical information prior to conventions of the SWOs and the triennial convention of the CWO.

Each participant further understands that promoting one candidate over another through campaigning is in fact interfering with God's plan and actions for participants of Women of the ELCA.

With the policy to be implemented by:

- Listing the policy on the Women of the ELCA website
- Including the policy on the nomination form
- Requiring nominees to sign the policy on the nomination form
- Helping SWO presidents to understand and educate the voting members on what the policy states

Action requested: That the executive board adopt the Policy Against Electioneering and the implementing language.