

LIBERIAN EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN (LECUSA)

2026 Elections Guidelines
21st Annual Gathering – Philadelphia, PA
April 10th – 12th, 2026

Article VIII – Section 3, of the By-Laws of LECUSA establishes the appointment of the Nominating Committee, an Ad Hoc committee, to conduct the elections of officers of LECUSA in the year of general elections at an Annual Gathering. Members of the Nominating Committee for the 21st Annual Gathering are:

1. Lady Elfreda Thorpe
2. Augusta J. Paye-Elliott
3. G. Alvin Jones
4. Rev. Fr. Edward Thompson
5. Paul Bel George, Chairman

The following offices/positions, as per Article III, Sections 1 of the By-Laws of LECUSA, are declared open for nominations and elections on 11 April 2026:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer
Chaplain
Parliamentarian

All officers are elected to serve a two-year term.

Eligibility of Candidates (ARTICLE IV-a)

1. Members desirous of contesting for offices in LECUSA must have attended at least one of the last four Annual Gatherings and must be present at the Gathering of the election.
2. All incumbents of open positions/offices, who have not served two consecutive terms, are eligible for re-election.
3. All aspiring nominees must be in good standing – annual dues paid in full for last three years including current Gathering year and fully registered for Gathering Year of the election.

Eligibility of Voters

1. Annual dues paid in full
2. Duly and fully registered for the Gathering

Process for Nomination to Contest Offices in LECUSA

1. Members desirous to contest an office or position shall do so by a written application to the Nominating Committee – via Committee Chairman’s email address: paulbel1111@msn.com.
 - a) A copy of a clearance of good standing (dues payment and attendance of Gathering as mentioned) from the Finance Team must be attached to the application).
2. Aspiring nominees must indicate their motivations and qualifications for seeking respective offices in LECUSA, along with a short bio.
3. The deadline for submitting applications for the 21st Gathering Election Year 28th February 2026.
4. There shall be no nominations on the floor (vetting process will not permit).

Elections Process

1. Election shall be conducted by secret ballot – ballots shall be obtained from the Nominating Committee, only, upon the presentation of a clearance issued by the Finance Team.
2. Candidates for all positions will be allowed to make a 2-minute speech on why they believe that they are best qualified for the respective positions – remarks should attempt to address:
 - a) Leadership and professional experience
 - b) Upholding the Mission statement of LECUSA - ability to represent a balanced mission and needs of LECUSA, in terms of membership, ECL, and other bodies.
 - c) Commitment to transparency on all matters – financial, and the like
 - d) Would you continue to support the mission and ministry of LECUSA even if you lose the election?
3. Voting will take place 1 hour before lunch on Saturday, April 11th, 2026.
4. A simple majority shall be sufficient to determine a winner – tie vote shall be recast until a winner emerges. Winners will be announced after the results of the elections are verified by the Nominating Committee
5. Results of all elections will be made available to the LECUSA voting public – number of votes received by each nominee
6. Written complaints or challenges to elections results and/or any perceived unfairness in the administration of the elections shall be presented to the Nominating Committee within two hours, after the announcement of elections results, for investigation by an independent body to be appointed by the outgoing President.