

\_\_\_\_\_ has informed the Northeastern Iowa Synod that \_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran Church (has scheduled, is scheduling, or may be scheduling) a special meeting of the congregation (on \_\_\_\_\_) to begin the process to terminate their relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. I am enclosing some information from the Secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that outlines and summarizes the necessary constitutional considerations for this meeting.

As your church council plans the special meeting of the congregation, please note the following:

1. Prior to the meeting, the church council prepares a list of members eligible to vote.
2. At the meeting, members eligible to vote register by signing in next to their name on the list.
3. A written ballot would be appropriate.
4. A two-thirds majority is determined by the number of registered voting members present at the meeting; not by the total number of votes cast.

The Model Constitution for the Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America defines voting members: *\*C8.02.c. **Voting** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.*