

Episcopal officials: An ordained diaconate is required in the ELCA to achieve full communion.

“We understand that the **ordained diaconate** is not presently existent in the ELCA, but within the provisions of the *Concordat* it **would come into being**, so that the historic threefold ministry is maintained in the service of the Gospel.” (“An Evaluation of the *Concordat of Agreement*” by the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations of the Episcopal Church, 1/16/95)

When Episcopal and Lutheran bishops met in October 1996 “bishops from both churches underscored the urgency of **moving quickly to ‘sell’ the *Concordat*** which they said has not been adequately explained to parishioners in either denomination.” (*Episcopal Life*, 11/6/96 p. 6)

“Consistent with the ancient teaching of the Church, **ordination and consecration** provide the gifts necessary for the **sacramental effectiveness** of all bishops.” (<http://arc.episcopalchurch.org/pastoraldev/supplemental.html>)

Epting, Christopher (Deputy for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations of the Episcopal Church) “Those Lutherans whom [Tim] Huffman [Professor, Trinity Seminary] perceives **‘were not told the whole truth about the implications of CCM’** apparently did not bother to read material produced by the ecumenical office of their church or the document itself, which make clear that **traditional elements of ordination** (i.e. the laying on of hands and invocation of the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a bishop) **are indeed employed,**” (*The Living Church*, 3/3/2002, p.15.) (Under CCM the ELCA rite for “installing” a bishop is made **non-repeatable** and equivalent to ordination into the office of Bishop.)

Griswold, Frank (Then Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church) He stated in Feb 1999 that Episcopalians are **not moving forward with COCU**, a union agreement among nine American churches, because it no longer requires what is **“integral** to our ecumenical discussions with the Lutheran community... **the historic episcopate and the threefold ministry.**” (*Anglican Voice*, 2/18/99)

Gulick, Ted (Episcopal Bishop) Episcopalians are willing “to **recognize ministries** when the road to the **reconciliation of ministries** is clear. We need to see the path before we can embrace the signs.”

Kimsey, Rustin (Bishop, Chairman of the EC Standing Committee on Ecumenical Relations) “You need to remember that the [ELCA] Churchwide **Assembly did not vote on the Lutheran Bishops’ statement [Tucson resolution]** of what they believed about it. That was **not important. So that it does not carry the weight that it would appear to carry.**” (Addressing the Episcopal General Convention, July 7, 2000)

Wright, J. Robert (Rev. Dr. J. Robert Wright, Episcopal canon lawyer and on the drafting team for the *Concordat* and *CCM*)

- Wright spoke at the 1997 Churchwide Assembly after the defeat of the *Concordat*. He said that Episcopalians were troubled by the way **ELCA leaders “were fudging” on the ordination of bishops and the future requirement for ordained deacons.** (*Lutheran Forum* 10/97, p.5)
- Under the *Concordat* Lutheran bishops ... would have been **“installed,” a term which the *Concordat* stipulated would be understood as tantamount to, and interchangeable with the term “ordination,”** both terms having similar Greek origins in the earliest rites of ordination” (*The Anglican*, 10/97, p.4)

- “Lutherans may not have an **ordained diaconate in the near future**, but by the *Concordat* both churches would share it and accept it in principal.” (*Sewanee Theological Review*, 40:2 (1997) 172)
- “When [ELCA bishops] join our Bishops in the laying on of hands, they represent the **sacramental intentionality** that has been **solemnly voted on by their church.**” Address to the International Anglican/Old Catholic Consultation, 2002.

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See also [The Mind of the House Resolution](#) of the Episcopal House of Bishops, especially ## 2, 3:

2. In common with all churches of the Anglican Communion, The Episcopal Church continues to maintain, as the Preface to the Ordination Rites makes clear (Book of Common Prayer, 510), that **"three distinct orders of ordained ministers", namely, bishops, priests, and deacons**, are "characteristic of Christ's holy catholic church," and that "it has been, and is, the intention and purpose of this Church to maintain and continue these three orders."
3. The Episcopal Church's recognition of the full authenticity of the ministers ordained in the ELCA or its predecessor bodies (CCM para. 15) is made in view of **the voted intention of that church to enter the ministry of the historic episcopate (para. 18)**. According to catholic tradition of which The Episcopal Church is a part, **the order of the historic episcopate properly includes within itself all three of these orders.**