

Report of the Nominating Committee



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The Nominating Committee for the Churchwide Assembly met April 29–30, 2011, to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to that committee in the bylaws of this church.

An introduction to the responsibilities of the committee was provided by Mr. David D. Swartling, secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Secretary Swartling emphasized the basic representational principles that guide the work of the Nominating Committee. Provision 5.01.f. of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* provides:

Except as otherwise provided in this constitution and bylaws, the churchwide organization, through the Church Council, shall establish processes that will ensure that at least 60 percent of the members of its assemblies, councils, committees, boards, and other organizational units shall be laypersons; that as nearly as possible, 50 percent of the lay members of these assemblies, council, committees, boards, or other organizational units shall be female and 50 percent shall be male. At least 10 percent of the members of these assemblies, councils, committees, boards, or other organization units shall be persons of color and/or persons whose primary language is other than English. Processes shall be developed that will assure that in selecting staff there will be a balance of women and men, persons of color and persons whose primary language is other than English, laypersons, and persons on the roster of ordained ministers. This balance is to be evident in terms of both executive staff and support staff consistent with the inclusive policy of this church.

In addition to representational principles, other factors apply in the nomination process. Bylaw 19.21.05. provides as follows:

The Nominating Committee shall strive to ensure that all persons nominated for any position possess the necessary competence and experience for the position. All persons elected to any position, whether nominated by the Nominating Committee or not, shall strive to represent this church and not just a particular geographic area.

Finally, the ELCA is committed to increasing the representation of youth (confirmed members under the age of 18) and young adults (persons under the age of 30) in the governing structures of each expression of this church.

Secretary Swartling also noted that ELCA constitutional provision 19.02. limits Church Council membership to a maximum of one person per synod, excluding the officers; in addition, no more than two-thirds of the synods in a region may have a council member. Bylaw 19.21.04. specifies that every synod shall have at least one person serving on a churchwide board or committee. It also states that no more than two persons from any one synod shall serve on any board or committee.

Secretary Swartling noted that this church continues to implement changes in governance and election patterns adopted by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly. These patterns call for nominees for service on the Church Council to be submitted by Synod Assembly action and transmitted by the Nominating Committee to the Churchwide Assembly. Following Secretary Swartling's presentation, the committee began its work of preparing paired tickets of nominees for the various positions to be elected by voting members at the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.

Restrictions on Nominations

The governance and election patterns adopted by the 2005 Churchwide Assembly made significant changes to the manner in which nominations are made, affecting as well the possibility of floor nominations at the Churchwide Assembly.

Regarding nominations to the Church Council, continuing resolution 19.21.B05. indicates:

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—in the first half of the biennium preceding each regular meeting of the Churchwide Assembly—shall solicit from eligible synods on a rotating basis the names of two persons in specified categories, in keeping with the representation principles of this church, for possible election to the Church Council. Upon their selection by the assemblies of the respective synods, the names of the two persons shall be presented to the Nominating Committee for submission to the Churchwide Assembly. In the event that any nominee withdraws or is disqualified from possible service, the Nominating Committee shall submit a replacement name from the same synod as the original nominee. In the event that the vacancy occurs subsequent to the preparation of the report of the Nominating Committee to the Churchwide Assembly, a floor nomination shall be provided from the same synod as the original nominee. Except as provided herein, *no floor nominations for positions on the Church Council shall be permitted* at the Churchwide Assembly [*emphasis added*].

The 22 Church Council members who continue to serve beyond 2011 come from these synods:

Members Whose Terms Continue

	Region and Synod
Ms. Rebecca Jo Brakke	4D Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod
Ms. Rebecca D. Carlson	5H Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth	1E Oregon Synod
Pr. Rachel L. Connelly	9B North Carolina Synod
Mr. John R. Emery	5I East-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Pr. Amsalu T. Geleta	8G Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod
Ms. Karin L. Graddy	5B Northern Illinois Synod
Ms. Louise A. Hemstead	5L La Crosse Area Synod
Mr. William B. Horne	9E Florida-Bahamas Synod
Mr. Mark E. Johnson	1B Northwest Washington Synod
Pr. Susan Langhauser	4B Central States Synod
Ms. Susan W. McArver	9C South Carolina Synod
Pr. Yvonne Marshall	5E Western Iowa Synod
Pr. Raymond A. Miller	7F Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod
Mr. John S. Munday	3G Minneapolis Area Synod
Mr. Mark W. Myers	2D Grand Canyon Synod
Pr. José Pablo Obregon	3F Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Mr. Iván A. Pérez	5A Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Ms. Feronika A. Raming	7B New England Synod
Mr. Blaire P. Smith	8A Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod
Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede	3H Saint Paul Area Synod
Pr. Phillip R. Wold	1F Montana Synod

The following list shows the names and regions of the 11 Church Council members whose terms expire in 2011 and are not eligible for election:

Members Whose Terms Expire

	Region and Synod
Pr. David P. Anderson	6E Northeastern Ohio Synod
Mr. Baron D. Blanchard	3A Western North Dakota Synod
Mr. Mark S. Helmke	4E Southwestern Texas Synod
Pr. Keith A. Hunsinger	6D Northwestern Ohio Synod
Pr. Steven P. Loy	2E Rocky Mountain Synod
Pr. Heather S. Lubold	8B Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
Ms. Ann C. Niedringhaus	3E Northeastern Minnesota Synod
Ms. Lynette M. Reitz	8E Upper Susquehanna Synod
Ms. Sandra Schlesinger	6B North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Pr. Jeffrey B. Sorenson	3C South Dakota Synod

The 65 synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America were paired in 2005 for the purposes of providing alternating nominations to the Church Council. Those pairings, as well as which synods have continuing members on the council or provided nominations for election in 2011, follow:

Synods with Continuing Member

Northwest Washington (1B)	Alaska (1A)
Oregon (1E)	Southwestern Washington (1C)
Montana (1F)	Eastern Washington-Idaho (1D)
Grand Canyon (2D)	Pacifica (2C)
Southwestern Minnesota (3F)	Southeastern Minnesota (3I)
Minneapolis Area (3G)	Saint Paul Area (3H)
Saint Paul Area (3H)	Minneapolis Area (3G)
Central States (4B)	Nebraska (4A)
Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana (4D)	Arkansas-Oklahoma (4C)
Metropolitan Chicago (5A)	Greater Milwaukee (5J)
Northern Illinois (5B)	Central/Southern Illinois (5C)
Western Iowa Synod (5E)	Southeastern Iowa Synod (5D)

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin (5H)	Northern Great Lakes (5G)
East-Central Wisconsin (5I)	South-Central Wisconsin (5K)
La Crosse Area Synod (5L)	Northeastern Iowa (5F)
New England Synod (7B)	New Jersey (7A), Slovak Zion (7G)
Southeastern Pennsylvania (7F)	Northeastern Pennsylvania (7E)
Northwestern Pennsylvania (8A)	Allegheny Synod (8C)
Metropolitan Washington, D.C. (8G)	Delaware-Maryland (8F)
North Carolina (9B)	Virginia (9A)
South Carolina Synod (9C)	Southeastern (9D)
Florida-Bahamas (9E)	Caribbean (9F)

Synods Nominating in 2011

Sierra Pacific (2A)	Southwest California (2B)
Rocky Mountain (2E)	South Dakota (3C)
Eastern North Dakota (3B)	Western North Dakota (3A)
Northwestern Minnesota (3D)	Northeastern Minnesota (3E)
Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast (4F)	Southwestern Texas (4E)
Southeast Michigan (6A)	North/West Lower Michigan (6B)
Indiana-Kentucky (6C)	Northwestern Ohio (6D)
Southern Ohio (6F)	Northeastern Ohio (6E)
Metropolitan New York (7C)	Upstate New York (7D)
Lower Susquehanna (8D)	Upper Susquehanna (8E)
West Virginia-Western Maryland (8H)	Southwestern Pennsylvania (8B)

In regard to nominations for particular program committees of churchwide units, 19.21.D05. directs:

In each biennium in preparation for the Churchwide Assembly, the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—on behalf of the Nominating Committee—shall solicit from synods names of persons to serve on the program committees of the following units: Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission, Global Mission, Church in Society, and Vocation and Education. Three names of persons in specified categories shall be submitted in each biennium by designated Synod Assemblies of synods in which no person currently with a continuing term sits on the Church Council or the particular program committee. Two nominees shall be chosen by the Nominating Committee, after reviewing the synodical submission, to address matters of balance, representation, and expertise in the composition of the program committees. Floor nominations *in specified categories* shall be permitted at the Churchwide Assembly [*emphasis added*].

Secretary Swartling reported on steps that had been taken to seek the names of potential nominees. In November 2009 synods were notified of the nominations to be submitted by Synod Assembly action. In that same month, invitations for submission of the names of potential nominees for possible service on churchwide program committees, boards, and other committees were sent to: 1) synodical officers and synods; 2) program committee and board chairs and executive directors; 3) members of the Church Council; and 4) members of the Nominating Committee.

Secretary Swartling indicated that the task force on Living Into the Future Together: Renewing the Ecology of the ELCA (LIFT) had recommended changes to the constitution that would eliminate program committees in favor of other methods of obtaining grass-roots input. Depending on the decision of the 2011 Churchwide Assembly on these amendments, program committees might not exist. In that case, nominees for the program committees would be kept in a database for future service to this church.

For ELCA churchwide program committee and board nominations, under the applicable bylaw (19.21.04.), there may be no more than two people serving on a given committee or board from a single synod at the same time.

Following is a list, arranged by synod, of the number of people who remain on the Church Council, churchwide boards, and program committees.

<i>Synod</i>	<i>Baptized Members</i>	<i>#</i>
Alaska Synod (1A)	10,077	1
Northwest Washington Synod (1B)	47,134	1
Southwestern Washington Synod (1C)	37,074	1
Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod (1D)	31,647	1
Oregon Synod (1E)	39,375	1
Montana Synod (1F)	48,394	1
Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)	56,930	4
Southwest California Synod (2B)	39,201	2
Pacifica Synod (2C)	49,355	1
Grand Canyon Synod (2D)	60,179	1
Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)	78,457	5
Western North Dakota Synod (3A)	65,665	0
Eastern North Dakota Synod (3B)	102,381	0
South Dakota Synod (3C)	121,236	0
Northwestern Minnesota Synod (3D)	106,482	2
Northeastern Minnesota Synod (3E)	71,625	0
Southwestern Minnesota Synod (3F)	131,665	4
Minneapolis Area Synod (3G)	214,003	7
Saint Paul Area Synod (3H)	145,333	1
Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)	128,892	1
Nebraska Synod (4A)	118,149	5
Central States Synod (4B)	59,938	5
Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (4C)	12,069	0
Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod (4D)	32,037	1
Southwestern Texas Synod (4E)	63,008	2
Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod (4F)	43,571	2
Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)	102,277	6
Northern Illinois Synod (5B)	88,518	3
Central/Southern Illinois Synod (5C)	54,219	0
Southeastern Iowa Synod (5D)	97,337	2
Western Iowa Synod (5E)	65,278	1
Northeastern Iowa Synod (5F)	87,358	1
Northern Great Lakes Synod (5G)	33,738	0
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin (5H)	105,297	1
East-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5I)	95,770	1
Greater Milwaukee Synod (5J)	84,371	2
South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5K)	107,511	0
La Crosse Area Synod (5L)	41,685	1
Southeast Michigan Synod (6A)	56,617	2
North/West Lower Michigan Synod (6B)	48,575	0
Indiana-Kentucky Synod (6C)	68,856	0
Northwestern Ohio Synod (6D)	88,835	2
Northeastern Ohio Synod (6E)	74,664	0
Southern Ohio Synod (6F)	90,379	3
New Jersey Synod (7A)	64,843	1
New England Synod (7B)	63,054	3
Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)	70,385	3

Upstate New York Synod (7D)	70,348	1
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod (7E)	144,040	1
Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod (7F)	88,011	2
Slovak Zion Synod (7G)	4,349	0
Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod (8A)	23,050	1
Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod (8B)	81,894	1
Allegheny Synod (8C)	38,494	0
Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)	111,338	3
Upper Susquehanna Synod (8E)	38,631	1
Delaware-Maryland Synod (8F)	83,474	2
Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod (8G)	33,680	4
West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod (8H)	15,345	1
Virginia Synod (9A)	40,954	2
North Carolina Synod (9B)	80,614	3
South Carolina Synod (9C)	56,223	1
Southeastern Synod (9D)	51,565	1
Florida-Bahamas Synod (9E)	72,855	4
Caribbean Synod (9F)	4,728	3

Prior to adjournment, the Nominating Committee approved the following enabling action:

To transmit the report of the Nominating Committee to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly for election of members of the Church Council, churchwide boards, and particular committees, as required by the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*; and

To authorize the chair of the Nominating Committee and the secretary of this church, in consultation with the Nominating Committee, to fill vacancies on the slates of nominees that may occur prior to the convening of the twelfth Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The Nominating Committee met twice electronically, on May 9 and May 31, to review and approve additional slates. At its May 31 meeting, the committee approved the following:

To approve the slates of nominees as distributed on May 31, 2011, subject to completion of paired tickets for which vacancies remain;

To transmit the report of the Nominating Committee to the 2011 Churchwide Assembly for election of members of the Church Council, churchwide boards, and particular committees, as required by the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*; and

To authorize the chair of the Nominating Committee and the secretary of this church, in consultation with the Nominating Committee, which consultation may take place electronically, to fill remaining vacancies and vacancies on the slates of nominees that may occur prior to the convening of the twelfth Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Secretary Swartling and the continuing committee members expressed the gratitude of this church to former member Ms. Linda N. Lovell, who had resigned, and to those people who were completing terms on the Nominating Committee: Ms. Judith M. Bailey, Pr. Kathryn J. Gerking, Ms. Jeannine G. Grimm, Mr. Larry D. Iverson, Pr. Thomas E. McKee, and Mr. Daniel F. Wilson.

Ms. Jeannine G. Grimm, *chair*

Abbreviations

Some fields in the Nomination information may use abbreviations; if so, please refer to the following:

Advisory Board	Adv. Bd.
Assistant	Asst.
Associate	Assoc.
Association	Assn.
Board	Bd.
Board of Directors	Bd. of Dir.
California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, Calif.	CLU
Chairperson	Chair
Churchwide Committees:	
Committee on Appeals	AP
Committee on Discipline	CD
Committee of Hearing Officers	HO
Nominating Committee	NC
Churchwide Units and Sections:	
Congregational and Synodical Mission unit	CSM
Global Mission unit	GM
Mission Advancement unit	MA
College	Col.
Committee	Com.
Education	Ed.
Evangelical	Ev.
International	Int'l.
Lutheran Campus Ministries	LCM
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago	LSTC
Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.	LS
Lutheran Services in America	LSA
Lutheran Social Services	LSS
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg	LTS at Gettysburg
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia	LTS at Philadelphia
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary	LTSS
Lutheran World Federation	LWF
Lutheran Youth Organization	LYO
Member	Mbr.
National	Nat'l.
Other Churchwide entities:	
Church Periodical, <i>The Lutheran</i>	LU
ELCA Board of Pensions	PN
ELCA Foundation	FO
Publishing House of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	PH
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Women of the ELCA
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary	PLTS
President	Pres.
Professor	Prof.
Program	Prog.
Public Action to Deliver Shelter	PADS
Region	Reg.
Secretary	Sec.
Seminary	Sem.
Treasurer	Treas.
University	Univ.
Vice President	V.P.
Volunteer	Vol.
Years	yrs.

Alphabetical Listing of Nominees

Nominee	Church Council, Board, or Committee	Region/Synod	Vita Page
Archer, Paul G.	Church Council	6A	29
Asta, Theodore W.	Nominating Committee	7B	75
- B -			
Beaman, Tempie D.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	2B	31
Beasley, Joe	Nominating Committee	9A	80
Beck, Cherlyne V.	Nominating Committee	6A	74
Beckman, Ronald G.	Mission Advancement	2E	40
Beebe, Kristi K.	Mission Advancement	2E	40
Beeson, Rose	Committee on Discipline	2D	91
Bell, Miji	Mission Investment Fund	9B	61
Berg, Susan M.	Nominating Committee	1B	76
Biggs, William L.	Committee on Discipline	4A	94
Blanchard, Baron	Nominating Committee	3A	79
Blomquist, David M.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	5G	32
Boston, Linda	Mission Investment Fund	2A	60
Bouzard, Walter (Chip) C.	Global Mission	5F	35
Brinkman, W. Paul	Mission Advancement	5I	42
- C -			
Chinnia, Linda M.	Nominating Committee	8F	78
Christensen, Jeannette	Nominating Committee	8B	78
Connell, Christine P.	Church Council	7C	25
Cook, Bradford E.	Committee on Appeals	7B	73
Countess, Sylvia S.	Committee on Discipline	9D	90
- D -			
Dartt, Betsy A. H.	Committee on Discipline	3I	83
Denne, Jay E.	Committee on Discipline	5E	85
Drew, Janette E.	ELCA Board of Pensions	2A	57
Duckworth, Jessicah L. K.	Publishing House of the ELCA	8G	65
Dumke, Mark P.	Committee on Discipline	3I	82
Dyke, James R.	Committee on Discipline	2A	93
- E -			
Edison-Albright, Anne	Publishing House of the ELCA	5I	65
Ekdale, Elizabeth E.	Church Council	2A	19
Ellis, Marjorie B.	Church Council	6F	24
Endres, Theresa J.	Mission Advancement	3G	48
- F -			
Falk, William J.	ELCA Board of Pensions	5A	58
Fiebrink, Mark E.	Mission Investment Fund	9A	63
Fitzgerald, Kevin K.	Committee on Discipline	2B	93
Flugstad, Joel M.	Global Mission	4C	36
Fogt, Thomas M.	Mission Investment Fund	4B	64
Foster, Randall S.	Publishing House of the ELCA	2B	69
Fry, N. Keith	Mission Advancement	5A	42
- G -			
Gabrielson, Gary D.	Church Council	2E	27
Garber, Vicki T.	Church Council	6C	22
George, Nicole E.	Church Council	7C	25
Gioe, Sarah	Mission Advancement	7C	45
Gubrud, Ronald C.	Mission Advancement	4D	50
- H -			
Harber, Meredith	Global Mission	8A	37
Harms, Henry	Committee on Discipline	5C	96
Haywood, Diana G.	Mission Investment Fund	9B	61
Heidrich, Gregory W.	ELCA Board of Pensions	5A	59
Heintz, Frederick H.	Mission Advancement	6D	52
Helgen, Anna K.	Committee on Discipline	3H	91
Helmke, Mark S.	Mission Investment Fund	4E	64

- H - (continued)			
Henderson, Robert R.	Committee on Discipline	6E	81
Herr, Stephen R.	Church Council	8D	23
Hix, David M.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	9C	33
Hoover, Robert L. Jr.	Church Council	8D	23
Hsu, Robert C.	Global Mission	2B	39
Hurst, William L. Jr.	Global Mission	2B	36
- I -			
Ingersol, Laura D.	Committee on Appeals	7F	70
Isensee, Emily	Nominating Committee	1C	80
- J -			
Jesse, Duane A.	Committee on Discipline	6E	81
Johnson, Eric D.	Mission Advancement	2B	54
Johnson, Jeff R.	Church Council	2A	19
Johnson, Larry P.	Mission Advancement	1B	50
- K -			
Kaelin, Robin B.	Committee on Appeals	6F	72
Kangas, Joel T.	Church Council	3B	28
Kintner, Susan M.	Committee on Discipline	1E	87
Kitahata, Stacy D.	Global Mission	1B	38
Klawiter, David J.	Committee on Discipline	3I	82
Knobler, Carla H.	Committee on Discipline	8D	88
Kreidler, John D.	Committee on Discipline	4B	85
- L -			
Lemmerbrock, Kathleen B.	Mission Advancement	6D	46
Leonard, Charles R.	Global Mission	7F	35
Lindell, Joseph P.	Mission Advancement	3G	53
Linman, Jonathan W.	Nominating Committee	7C	75
Lloyd, William R. Jr.	Committee on Discipline	8C	95
Lohr, Mary C.	Publishing House of the ELCA	9B	67
Lowden, Janice M. E.	Mission Advancement	8D	44
Lu, Abraham C.	Global Mission	7C	34
- M -			
Malone, Amber R.	Committee on Discipline	7D	84
Malone, Julie R.	Mission Advancement	3I	41
Maxon, William S.	Mission Advancement	7E	43
McCaskey, Raymond F.	ELCA Board of Pensions	5A	59
McCracken, Anna	Congregational and Synodical Mission	1C	30
Mees, Theo H. Jr.	Church Council	2E	27
Mellum, Loren D.	Church Council	3D	20
Meuser, Philip C.	Mission Advancement	6D	52
Meylink, Daniel E. Sr.	ELCA Board of Pensions	5K	58
Miller, Danette C.	Church Council	6F	24
Mills, Gary E.	Global Mission	7C	34
Moehlman, Louis Y.	Mission Advancement	2C	54
Moore, Robert G.	Church Council	4f	21
Moreno-Velazquez, Ivonne	Committee on Appeals	9F	72
Mortensen-Wiebe, Joy	Nominating Committee	5I	74
Mueller, Robert F.	Committee on Discipline	5C	96
Murray, Alex	Church Council	6A	29
- N -			
Natwick, Laurie A.	Committee on Discipline	3D	88
Norris, Elizabeth A.	Mission Advancement	9B	45
Nylander, Raye Nae D.	ELCA Board of Pensions	3C	55
- O -			
Olson, Pamela F.	ELCA Board of Pensions	8G	56
Olson, Stephen E.	Committee on Discipline	3E	86
- P -			
Patrick, Kathy	Committee on Discipline	4F	90
Pederson, John M.	Church Council	3B	28

- P - (continued)			
Peter Dass, Rakesh	Global Mission	7B	39
Peters, Deborah	Global Mission	1F	38
Peters, Janet G.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	7A	31
Peterson, C. Bjorn	Mission Advancement	1B	51
Peterson, Eric M.	Mission Advancement	5K	51
Peterson, Ralph B. K.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	5G	32
Post, JoAnn A.	Committee on Discipline	7B	83
Poston, Rozella	Publishing House of the ELCA	9D	68
Pritt, Pamela E.	Church Council	8H	26
- Q -			
Quitmeyer, John M.	Publishing House of the ELCA	3G	69
- R -			
Radford-Hill, Sheila	Mission Advancement	5A	49
Rafferty, Gerry L.	Mission Advancement	3H	41
Ramsey, Laura L.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	8D	30
Reed, Nancy M.	Committee on Discipline	9A	92
Rinehart, Jane	Global Mission	3I	37
Roschke, David A.	Church Council	4F	21
- S -			
Samuelson, Erik T. R.	Mission Advancement	1B	43
Sawyer, Katherine S.	Mission Advancement	5A	46
Schnekloth, Clint A.	Publishing House of the ELCA	4C	66
Schwier, Steven L.	Church Council	6C	22
Shermoen, Steven M.	Committee on Discipline	3E	95
Skow-Anderson, Laurie F.	Church Council	3D	20
Smith, Pamela I.	Committee on Discipline	9E	89
Snyder, Robin	Church Council	8H	26
Southward, Roger E.	Mission Investment Fund	6F	63
Splinter, Lori J.	Nominating Committee	2B	76
Stecker, Julie M.	Publishing House of the ELCA	8F	67
Stevens, Marty E.	ELCA Board of Pensions	8D	55
Stuart, Cheryl G.	Committee on Discipline	9E	92
Stuck, James R.	Committee on Appeals	6C	71
Swanson, Paul R.	Committee on Appeals	1E	71
- T -			
Tatum, Josh S.	Committee on Discipline	6C	94
Taylor, Vicki A.	Committee on Discipline	3E	86
Teinert, Carl A.	Congregational and Synodical Mission	4E	33
Thomas-Breitfeld, Viviane E.	Mission Investment Fund	5J	60
Thompson, Janet E.	Mission Advancement	3H	48
Torgerson, Megan L.	Committee on Discipline	3H	84
Travick-Jackson, Cecelia J.	Mission Advancement	2B	47
Tuttle, Robert W.	Committee on Appeals	8G	73
Tvedt, Ronald C.	Nominating Committee	3A	79
Tweed, Rita G.	Committee on Discipline	9E	89
- U -			
Underwood, Doris M.	Mission Advancement	9D	49
- V -			
Vagts, Gerald J.	Mission Advancement	3G	53
Valenzuela, José R.	Publishing House of the ELCA	2D	66
Varnum, Stephanie S.	Nominating Committee	4D	77
Vaughn, Kimberly A.	Committee on Appeals	6E	70
- W -			
Waters, Kristina L.	Mission Advancement	3F	44
Whited, Leslie A.	Mission Advancement	2E	47
Wilcox, Brenda K.	ELCA Board of Pensions	5K	56
Wildermuth, Deanna M.	Committee on Discipline	1B	87
Wilson, Vernetta I.	Nominating Committee	4C	77
Witte, Dianne	ELCA Board of Pensions	7B	57
Worst, Susan G.	Publishing House of the ELCA	7B	68

Church Council

The Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America consists of the four churchwide officers and 33 other people nominated by Synod Assemblies and elected by the Churchwide Assembly. It serves as the interim legislative authority between meetings of the Churchwide Assembly and as the board of directors of the churchwide organization. Its specific duties are listed in bylaws 14.21.01. through 14.21.14. Responsibilities of the Church Council include acting on policy,

reviewing procedures and programs of churchwide units, responding to synodical resolutions, submitting budget proposals to the Churchwide Assembly, setting salary ranges for the churchwide officers, and adopting personnel policies. It also elects the treasurer of this church.

Note: The abbreviation PC/L indicates “people of color or whose primary language is other than English.” The abbreviation Y/YA indicates youth and young adults.

Slate of Nominees

1. **Clergy (*Sierra Pacific Synod, 2A*)**
 - A. Pr. Elizabeth E. Ekdale, San Francisco, Calif.
 - B. Pr. Jeff R. Johnson, Berkeley, Calif.
2. **Clergy (*Northwestern Minnesota Synod, 3D*)**
 - A. Pr. Loren D. Mellum, Moorhead, Minn.
 - B. Pr. Laurie F. Skow-Anderson, Pelican Rapids, Minn.
3. **Clergy (*Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, 4F*)**
 - A. Pr. Robert G. Moore, Houston, Texas
 - B. Pr. David A. Roschke, Houston, Texas
4. **Clergy (*Indiana-Kentucky Synod, 6C*)**
 - A. Pr. Vicki T. Garber, Lakeside Park, Ky.
 - B. Pr. Steven L. Schwier, South Bend, Ind.
5. **Clergy (*Lower Susquehanna Synod, 8D*)**
 - A. Pr. Stephen R. Herr, Gettysburg, Penn.
 - B. Pr. Robert L. Hoover Jr., York, Penn.
6. **Lay Female (*Southern Ohio Synod, 6F*)**
 - A. Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis, Worthington, Ohio
 - B. Ms. Danette C. Miller, Loveland, Ohio
7. **Lay Female (*Metropolitan New York Synod, 7C*)**
 - A. Ms. Christine P. Connell, Staten Island, N.Y.
 - B. Ms. Nicole E. George, East Elmhurst, N.Y.
8. **Lay Female (*West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod, 8H*)**
 - A. Ms. Pamela E. Pritt, Minnehaha Springs, W.Va.
 - B. Ms. Robin Snyder, Charleston, W.Va.
9. **Lay Male (*Rocky Mountain Synod, 2E*)**
 - A. Mr. Gary D. Gabrielson, Colorado Springs, Colo.
 - B. Mr. Theo H. Mees Jr., Arvada, Colo.
10. **Lay Male (*Eastern North Dakota, 3B*)**
 - A. Mr. Joel T. Kangas, Fargo, N.D.
 - B. Mr. John M. Pederson, Mayville, N.D.
11. **Lay Male (*Southeast Michigan Synod, 6A*)**
 - A. Mr. Paul G. Archer, Dearborn, Mich.
 - B. Mr. Alex Murray, Grand Blanc, Mich.

Restrictions

Nominations to the Church Council are made by designated synods by Synod Assembly action. Floor nominations can be made only by the designated synods and only in the event that one of the nominees no longer is eligible for election.

Continuing Members of the Church Council

Clergy

Pr. Rachel L. Connelly, Wilmington, N.C. (9B) [2013]
Pr. Susan Langhauser, Olathe, Kan. (4B) [2013]
Pr. Yvonne Marshall, Council Bluffs, Iowa (5E) [2015]
Pr. Raymond A. Miller, Quakertown, Pa. (7F) [2015]
Pr. Kathryn A. Tiede, Lino Lakes, Minn. (3H) [2015]
Pr. Philip R. Wold, Sheridan, Wyo. (1F) [2013]

Clergy (PC/L)

Pr. Amsalu T. Geleta, Springfield, Va. (8G) [2015]
Pr. J. Pablo Obregon, Willmar, Minn. (3F) [2013]

Lay Female

Ms. Rebecca ‘Becky’ Jo Brakke, Dallas, Texas (4D) [2013]
Ms. Deborah L. Chenoweth, Hood River, Ore. (1E) [2013]
Ms. Karin Graddy, De Kalb, Ill. (5B) [2013]
Ms. Louise A. Hemstead, La Farge, Wis. (5L) [2015]
Ms. Susan W. McArver, Columbia, S.C. (9C) [2015]

Lay Female (PC/L)

Ms. Feronika A. Raming, Somersworth, N.H. (7B) [2015]

Lay Female (Y/YA)

Ms. Rebecca D. Carlson, Grantsburg, Wis. (5H) [2015]

Lay Male

Mr. John R. Emery, Fond du Lac, Wis. (5I) [2013]
Mr. Mark E. Johnson, Sammamish, Wash. (1B) [2013]
Mr. John S. Munday, Isanti, Minn. (3G) [2013]
Mr. Mark W. Myers, Las Vegas, Nev. (2D) [2013]

Lay Male (PC/L)

Mr. Bill B. Horne, Clearwater, Fla. (9E) [2015]
Mr. Iván A. Pérez, Chicago, Ill. (5A) [2015]

Lay Male (Y/YA)

Mr. Blaire P. Smith, Erie, Pa. (8A) [2015]

Program Committee for the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit

This unit brings together ELCA churchwide ministries that support congregations in their call to be faithful, welcoming, and generous. It assists congregations, synods, and institutions and agencies of this church to grow in evangelical outreach. Among its responsibilities are supporting discipleship and lifelong learning, increasing awareness about the centrality of prayer,

starting and renewing congregations, and the implementing of the ELCA evangelism strategy and pertinent portions of all ethnic-specific strategies.

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Slate of Nominees

12. Lay Female (Y/YA)

- A. Ms. Anna McCracken, Spanaway, Wash. (1C)
- B. Ms. Laura L. Ramsey, New Kingston, Penn. (8D)

13. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Tempie Denise Beaman, Los Angeles, Calif. (2B) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Janet G. Peters, Ringoes, N.J. (7A)

14. Lay Male (*Northern Great Lakes, 5G*)

- A. Mr. David M. Blomquist, Florence, Wis. (5G)
- B. Mr. Ralph B.K. Peterson, Escanaba, Mich. (5G)

15. Lay Male

- A. Mr. David M. Hix, Columbia, S.C. (9C)
- B. Mr. Carl A. Teinert, Austin, Texas (4E)

Continuing Members of the Program Committee

Clergy

- Pr. Megan J. Jones, Chicago, Ill. (5A) [2013]
- Pr. Kevin R. Maly, Denver, Colo. (2E) [2015]
- Pr. Lori Ann Strang, Toledo, Ohio (6D) [2015]

Clergy (PC/L)

- Pr. Rani R. Abdulmasih, Wyandotte, Mich. (6A) [2013]
- Pr. William O. Voss, Scottsbluff, Neb. (4A) [2013]
- Pr. Lamont A. Wells, Philadelphia, Pa. (7F) [2015]

Lay Female

- Ms. Julia H. Accola, Rochester, Minn. (3I) [2013]
- Ms. Kari A. Lipke, Somerville, Mass. (7B) [2015]

Lay Female (PC/L)

- Ms. Fumei Liang, Huntington Beach, Calif. (2C) [2013]
- Ms. Deborah Covin Wilson, Ellenwood, Ga. (9D) [2013]

Lay Male

- Mr. Paul H. Lewellan, Bettendorf, Iowa (5D) [2015]
- Mr. Robert S. Schroeder, Shawnee, Kan. (4B) [2013]

Program Committee for the Global Mission unit

This unit is responsible for the mission of the ELCA outside the United States and includes ministries that enable this church to deepen and extend its global, ecumenical, and interreligious relationships. The unit accompanies companion churches and inter-Lutheran and ecumenical partners to make Christ known through proclamation and service in other countries, facilitates dialogue with people of other faiths, and engages in common efforts to build just and peaceful communities. It develops and recommends policy relating to international relationships and activities and develops programs on behalf of the ELCA.

Slate of Nominees

16. Clergy

- A. Pr. Abraham C. Lu, Elmhurst, N.Y. (7C) (PC/L)
- B. Pr. Gary E. Mills, New York, N.Y. (7C)

17. Clergy

- A. Pr. Walter C. Bouzard, Waverly, Iowa (5F)
- B. Pr. Charles R. Leonard, Philadelphia, Penn. (7F) (PC/L)

18. Clergy [Two-year term]

- A. Pr. Joel M. Flugstad, Oklahoma City, Okla. (4C)
- B. Pr. William L. Hurst Jr., Torrance, Calif. (2B)

19. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Meredith Harber, Indiana, Penn. (8A) (Y/YA)
- B. Ms. Jane Rinehart, Northfield, Minn. (3I)

20. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Stacy D. Kitahata, Seattle, Wash. (1B) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Deborah Peters, Billings, Mont. (1F)

21. Lay Male (PC/L)

- A. Mr. Robert C. Hsu, Monterey Park, Calif. (2B) (PC/L)
- B. Mr. Rakesh Peter Dass, Cambridge, Mass. (7B) (PC/L)

It assists ELCA congregations, synods, other churchwide units, and agencies and institutions to receive the gifts of companion churches. The Global Mission unit also assists this church to act as a public church in matters of global concern. Global Mission serves as the primary channel through which churches in other countries engage in mission with and to the ELCA.

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Continuing Members of the Program Committee

Clergy

Pr. Douglas S. Cox, Excelsior, Minn. (3G) [2015]
Pr. Dennis M. Maurer, Pandora, Ohio (6D) [2013]
Pr. Lisa Smith Fiegel, Anchorage, Alaska (1A) [2015]

Lay Female

Ms. Terry E. Cole, Albuquerque, N.M. (2E) [2013]
Ms. Amanda F. Tompkins, Henryville, Pa. (7E) [2015]

Lay Female (PC/L)

Ms. Martha R. Norat, Dorado, Puerto Rico (9F) [2015]

Lay Male

Mr. Henry T. Tkachuk, Moorhead, Minn. (3D) [2013]
Mr. George "G.T." T. Johnson, Xenia, Ohio (6F) [2013]
Mr. Timothy Muth, Delafield, Wis. (5J) [2015]

Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit

The Mission Advancement unit is responsible for coordinating this church's communication, marketing, public relations, mission funding, major gifts, planned gifts, and constituent data management. It also shall oversee the work of *The Lutheran* magazine and the ELCA Foundation.

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Slate of Nominees

22. Clergy

- A. Pr. Ronald G. Beckman, Broomfield, Colo. (2E)
- B. Pr. Kristi K. Beebe, Commerce City, Colo. (2E)

23. Clergy [Four-year term]

- A. Pr. Julie R. Malone, Owatonna, Minn. (3I)
- B. Pr. Gerry L. Rafferty, Mahtomedi, Minn. (3H)

24. Clergy [Four-year term]

- A. Pr. W. Paul Brinkman, Wautoma, Wis. (5I)
- B. Pr. N. Keith Fry, Elgin, Ill. (5A)

25. Clergy [Two-year term]

- A. Pr. William S. Maxon, Allentown, Penn. (7E)
- B. Pr. Erik T.R. Samuelson, Mill Creek, Wash. (1D)

26. Clergy [Two-year term]

- A. Pr. Janice M.E. Lowden, Landisville, Penn. (8D)
- B. Pr. Kristina L. Waters, Jackson, Minn. (3F) (Y/YA)

27. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Sarah Gioe, New York, N.Y. (7C)
- B. Ms. Elizabeth A. Norris, Lenoir, N.C. (9B) (Y/YA)

28. Lay Female [Four-year term]

- A. Ms. Kathleen B. Lemmerbrock, Bowling Green, Ohio (6D)
- B. Ms. Katherine S. Sawyer, Barrington, Ill. (5A)

29. Lay Female [Four-year term]

- A. Ms. Cecelia J. Travick-Jackson, Thousand Oaks, Calif. (2B) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Leslie A. Whited, Salt Lake City, Utah (2E) (PC/L)

30. Lay Female [Two-year term]

- A. Ms. Theresa Jean Endres, Minneapolis, Minn. (3G)
- B. Ms. Janet E. Thompson, Eagan, Minn. (3H)

31. Lay Female [Two-year term]

- A. Ms. Sheila Radford-Hill, Chicago, Ill. (5F) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Doris M. Underwood, Montgomery, Ala. (9D) (PC/L)

32. Lay Male

- A. Mr. Ronald C. Gubrud, Dallas, Texas (4D)
- B. Mr. Larry P. Johnson, Renton, Wash. (1B)

33. Lay Male

- A. Mr. C. Bjorn Peterson, Edmonds, Wash. (1E) (Y/YA)
- B. Mr. Eric M. Peterson, Madison, Wis. (5K) (Y/YA)

34. Lay Male

- A. Mr. Frederick H. Heintz, Sylvania, Ohio (6D)
- B. Mr. Philip C. Meuser, Ottawa Hills, Ohio (6D)

35. Lay Male [Four-year term]

- A. Mr. Joseph P. Lindell, Edina, Minn. (3G)
- B. Mr. Gerald J. Vagts, Minneapolis, Minn. (3G)

36. Lay Male [Two-year term]

- A. Mr. Eric D. Johnson, Los Angeles, Calif. (2B) (Y/YA) (PC/L)
- B. Mr. Louis Y. Moehlman, Garden Grove, Calif. (2C) (Y/YA) (PC/L)

Board of Trustees of the ELCA Board of Pensions

The Board of Pensions manages and operates this church's pension and other benefits program, and administers the benefits plans that continue from its predecessor church bodies. Congregations, churchwide units, and church-related agencies are the primary sponsors of participants in the plan. The board also administers alternative programs for such ministries as church-related nursing homes, governmental chaplains, and seminarians. ELCA bylaw 17.61.03. limits the number of members of this board that may be participants in the plans provided by the Board of Pensions.

Slate of Nominees

37. Female Plan Participant †

- A. Ms. Raye Nae D. Nyulander, Baltic, S.D. (3C)
- B. Pr. Marty E. Stevens, Gettysburg, Penn. (8D)

38. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Pamela F. Olson, Arlington, Va. (8G)
- B. Ms. Brenda K. Wilcox, Madison, Wis. (5K)

39. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Janette E. Drew, Walnut Creek, Calif. (2A) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Dianne Witte, New Haven, Conn. (7B)

40. Lay Male

- A. Mr. William J. Falk, Arlington Heights, Ill. (5A)
- B. Mr. Daniel E. Meylink, Lake Mills, Wis. (5K)

41. Lay Male

- A. Mr. Gregory W. Heidrich, Glen Ellyn, Ill. (5A)
- B. Mr. Raymond F. McCaskey, Palatine, Ill. (5A)

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Continuing Members of the Board of Trustees

Clergy

†Pr. Jeffrey D. Thiemann, Walnut Creek, Calif. (2A) [2015]

Lay Female

Ms. Lisa Ann Kro, Plymouth, Minn. (3G) [2015]
Ms. Kathleen K. Mooney, Cold Spring, Minn. (3F) [2015]
†Ms. Jill A. Schumann, Gettysburg, Pa. (8D) [2015]

Lay Female (PC/L)

Ms. Ruby M. Joy, Jamaica, N.Y. (7C) [2013]

Lay Male

Mr. Kevin D. Anderson, Bethesda, Md. (8G) [2015]
Mr. Cecil D. Bykerk, Omaha, Neb. (4A) [2013]
Mr. Michael J. McCoy, Fort Myers, Fla. (9E) [2013]
Mr. Roger A. Saylor, New Canaan, Conn. (7B) [2013]

† **At least one plan participant shall be elected as a trustee by the 2011 Churchwide Assembly.**

Board of Trustees of the ELCA Mission Investment Fund

The Mission Investment Fund enables congregations and their members, synods, and ELCA-related organizations to earn interest on their financial resources while furthering the mission and ministry of this church. With these investments, the Fund provides loans to new mission congregations for purchases of land and construction of initial buildings and to established congregations to expand existing facilities, renovate or repair church buildings, relocate, or increase the accessibility of church buildings. The Fund also makes loans to ELCA-related organizations such as colleges and universities, schools, outdoor ministries, and social ministry organizations.

Slate of Nominees

42. Clergy (PC/L)

- A. Pr. Linda Boston, San Francisco, Calif. (9D)
- B. Pr. Viviane E. Thomas-Breitfeld, Brookfield, Wis. (5J)

43. Lay Female (PC/L)

- A. Ms. Miji Bell, Durham, N.C. (9B) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Diana G. Haywood, Durham, N.C. (9B) (PC/L)

44. Lay Female

- A. *To be determined*
- B. *To be determined*

45. Lay Male

- A. Mr. Mark E. Fiebrink, Abingdon, Va. (9A)
- B. Mr. Roger E. Southward, Columbus, Ohio (6F)

46. Lay Male [Two-year term]

- A. Mr. Thomas M. Fogt, Overland Park, Kan. (4B)
- B. Mr. Mark S. Helmke, San Antonio, Texas (4E)

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Continuing Members of the Board of Trustees

Clergy

Pr. Lorenz W. Lutey, Milwaukee, Wis. (5J) [2015]

Lay Female

Ms. Kendra D. Brodin, Shoreview, Minn. (3G) [2015]
Ms. Judy L. Conklin, Crystal Lake, Ill. (5B) [2013]
Ms. Julie E. Swanson, Roanoke, Va. (9A) [2013]

Lay Male

Mr. Daniel M. Bringman, Gettysburg, Pa. (8D) [2015]
Mr. Warren M. Hanson, Saint Paul, Minn. (3G) [2015]
Mr. Harold C. Mueller, St. Louis, Mo. (4B) [2013]

Board of Trustees of the Publishing House of the ELCA

Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, is the publishing ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Augsburg Fortress creates worship and faith-formation resources for congregations as well as textbooks and scholarly publications for higher education. Funded through sales revenue, Augsburg Fortress is called to provide products and services that communicate the Gospel, enhance faith, and enrich the life of the Christian community from a Lutheran perspective. These resources are distributed primarily through the www.augsburgfortress.org website.

Slate of Nominees

47. Clergy

- A. Pr. Jessicah L.K. Duckworth, Arlington, Va. (8G)
- B. Pr. Anne Edison-Albright, Stevens Point, Wis. (5I)

48. Clergy

- A. Pr. Clint A. Schneklath, Fayetteville, Ark. (4C)
- B. Pr. José R. Valenzuela, Phoenix, Ariz. (2D) (PC/L)

49. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Mary C. Lohr, Durham, N.C. (9B)
- B. Ms. Julie M. Stecker, Baltimore, Md. (8F) (Y/YA)

50. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Rozella Poston, Atlanta, Ga. (9D) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Susan G. Worst, Cambridge, Mass. (7B)

51. Lay Male

- A. Mr. Randall S. Foster, Carson, Calif. (2B) (PC/L)
- B. Mr. John M. Quitmeyer, Edina, Minn. (3G)

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Continuing Members of the Board of Trustees

Clergy

- Pr. Beth M. Halvorsen, The Woodlands, Texas (4F) [2013]
- Pr. Brian C. King, Cedar Falls, Iowa (5F) [2015]
- Pr. Scott J. Suskovic, Charlotte, N.C. (9B) [2013]

Clergy (PC/L)

- Pr. Winston D. Persaud, Dubuque, Iowa (4B) [2015]

Lay Female

- Ms. Linda J. Brown, Fargo, N.D. (3D) [2013]
- Ms. Mary L. Butler, Durango, Colo. (2E) [2013]

Lay Female (PC/L)

- Ms. Rosemary R. Ohles, Lincoln, Neb. (4A) [2015]

Lay Male

- Mr. Robert T. Flynn, North Hollywood, Calif. (2B) [2013]
- Mr. Robert D. Hahn, Walkersville, Md. (9F) [2015]
- Mr. Timothy I. Maudlin, Eden Prairie, Minn. (3G) [2015]

Committee on Appeals

The Committee on Appeals receives appeals from proceedings before discipline hearing committees and petitions for the recall of a churchwide or synodical officer. It conducts appropriate proceedings to resolve such appeals and petitions, in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of this church.

Slate of Nominees

52. Clergy (PC/L)

- A. Pr. Laura D. Ingersol, Newtown, Penn. (7F) (PC/L)
- B. Pr. Kimberly A. Vaughn, Canton, Ohio (6E) (PC/L)

53. Clergy

- A. Pr. James R. Stuck, Carmel, Ind. (6C)
- B. Pr. Paul R. Swanson, Oregon City, Ore. (1E)

54. Lay Female (PC/L)

- A. Ms. Robin B. Kaelin, Hamilton, Ohio (6F) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Ivonne Moreno-Velazquez, San Juan, Puerto Rico (9F) (PC/L)

55. Lay Male

- A. Mr. Bradford E. Cook, Manchester, N.H. (7B)
- B. Mr. Robert W. Tuttle, Washington, D.C. (8G)

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Continuing Members of the Committee on Appeals

Clergy

Pr. A. Donald Main, Sunbury, Pa. (8E) [2013]
Pr. Philip L. Hougen, West Branch, Iowa (5D) [2015]
Pr. Matthew L. Riegel, Morgantown, W.Va. (8H) [2015]
Pr. Leah K. Schafer, Reston, Va. (8G) [2013]

Lay Female

Ms. Rebecca J. Poppe, Fremont, Neb. (4A) [2013]
Ms. Madelyn H. Busse, Denver, Colo. (2E) [2015]

Lay Male

Mr. Gary A. Dahlke, Spokane, Wash. (1D) [2013]
Mr. George C. Watson, Port Huron, Mich. (6A) [2015]

†Note: Constitutional provision 20.64. states: "The Committee on Appeals shall be comprised of six ordained ministers and six laypersons, elected by the Churchwide Assembly for a term of six years, without consecutive re-election."

Nominating Committee

The responsibility of the churchwide Nominating Committee is to nominate two people for each position on boards and committees for which an election will be held by the Churchwide Assembly and for which a nominating procedure has not otherwise been designated in the constitution and bylaws of this church. Under those bylaws, the slate of nominees for the Nominating Committee is prepared by the Church Council.

Slate of Nominees

56. Clergy

- A. Pr. Cherlyne V. Beck, Detroit, Mich. (6A)
- B. Pr. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Oshkosh, Wis. (5J)

57. Clergy

- A. Pr. Theodore W. Asta, Worcester, Mass. (7B)
- B. Pr. Jonathan W. Linman, New York, N.Y. (7C)

58. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Susan M. Berg, Bothell, Wash. (1B)
- B. Ms. Lori J. Splinter, Palmdale, Calif. (2B)

59. Lay Female (*Restricted to Region 4*)

- A. Ms. Stephanie S. Varnum, Dallas, Texas (4D)
- B. Ms. Vernetta I. Wilson, Tulsa, Okla. (4C)

60. Lay Female (*Restricted to Region 8*)

- A. Ms. Linda M. Chinnia, Baltimore, Md. (8F) (PC/L)
- B. Ms. Jeannette Christensen, Monroeville, Penn. (8B)

61. Lay Male (*Western North Dakota Synod, 3A*)

- A. Mr. Baron Blanchard, Bismarck, N.D. (3A)
- B. Mr. Ronald C. Tvedt, Bottineau, N.D. (3A)

62. Lay Young Adult [Two-year term]

- A. Mr. Joe Beasley, Richmond, Va. (9A) (Y/YA)
- B. Ms. Emily Isensee, Vancouver, Wash. (1C) (Y/YA)

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Nominating Committee Continuing Members

Clergy

Pr. Herbert E. Anderson, Berkeley, Calif. (2A) [2015]
Pr. Jonathan L. Eilert, Loveland, Ohio (6F) [2013]
Pr. Loren D. Mai, Lindsborg, Kan. (4B) [2013]
Pr. Kathie Bender Schwich, Park Ridge, Ill. (5A) [2015]

Lay Female

Ms. Gwen E. Arneson, Cottonwood, Minn. (3F) [2013]
Ms. Kathy J. Magnus, Edina, Minn. (3G) [2015]

Lay Female (PC/L)

Ms. Judith A. Tutt-Starr, Los Angeles, Calif. (2B) [2015]

Lay Male

Mr. Ken F. Aicher, Tampa, Fla. (9E) [2015]
Mr. James M. Hushagen, Edgewood, Wash. (1C) [2013]

Lay Male (PC/L) (Y/YA)

Mr. Jeremy D. Posadas, New York, N.Y. (7C) [2013]

Lay Male (Y/YA)

Mr. Brandon W. Huston, Hamilton, Ohio (6F) [2015]

Committee on Discipline†

Members from the Committee on Discipline, together with the members of a synod's Committee on Discipline, serve as the discipline hearing committee that considers written charges seeking disciplinary action upon congregations, ordained ministers, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers where such action has been requested as outlined in the constitution and bylaws of this church.

Slate of Nominees

63. Clergy (*Northeastern Ohio Synod, 6E*)

- A. Pr. Robert R. Henderson, Chagrin Falls, Ohio (6E)
- B. Pr. Duane A. Jesse, Cortland, Ohio (6E)

64. Clergy

- A. Pr. Mark P. Dumke, Winona, Minn. (3I)
- B. Pr. David J. Klawiter, Owatonna, Minn. (3I)

65. Clergy

- A. Pr. Betsy A.H. Dartt, Harmony, Minn. (3I)
- B. Pr. JoAnn A. Post, Manchester, Conn. (7B)

66. Clergy

- A. Pr. Amber R. Malone, Castleton-on-Hudson, N.Y. (7D) (Y/YA)
- B. Pr. Megan L. Torgerson, West St. Paul, Minn. (3H) (Y/YA)

67. Clergy

- A. Pr. Jay E. Denne, Sioux City, Iowa (5E)
- B. Pr. John D. Kreidler, Liberty, Mo. (4B)

68. Clergy (*Northeastern Minnesota Synod, 3E*)

- A. Pr. Stephen E. Olson, International Falls, Minn. (3E)
- B. Pr. Vicki A. Taylor, Deer River, Minn. (3E)

69. Clergy [Four-year term]

- A. Pr. Susan M. Kintner, Beaverton, Ore. (1E)
- B. Pr. Deanna M. Wildermuth, Mercer Island, Wash. (1B)

70. Clergy [Four-year term]

- A. Pr. Carla H. Knobler, Schaefferstown, Penn. (8D)
- B. Pr. Laurie A. Natwick, Moorhead, Minn. (3D)

71. Clergy [Four-year term]

- A. Pr. Pamela I. Smith, Clearwater, Fla. (9E)
- B. Pr. Rita G. Tweed, Palm Harbor, Fla. (9E)

72. Lay Female

- A. Sr. Sylvia S. Countess, Knoxville, Tenn. (9D)
- B. Ms. Kathy Patrick, Bellaire, Texas (4F)

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73. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Rose Beeson, Phoenix, Ariz. (2D) (Y/YA)
- B. Ms. Anna K. Helgen, White Bear Lake, Minn. (3H) (Y/YA)

74. Lay Female

- A. Ms. Nancy M. Reed, Luray, Va. (9A)
- B. Ms. Cheryl G. Stuart, Tallahassee, Fla. (9E)

75. Lay Male

- A. Mr. James R. Dyke, Stockton, Calif. (2A)
- B. Mr. Kevin K. Fitzgerald, Pasadena, Calif. (2B)

76. Lay Male

- A. Mr. William L. Biggs, Omaha, Neb. (4A)
- B. Mr. Josh S. Tatum, Indianapolis, Ind. (6C) (Y/YA)

77. Lay Male

- A. Mr. William R. Lloyd Jr., Somerset, Penn. (8C)
- B. Mr. Steven M. Shermoen, International Falls, Minn. (3E)

78. Lay Male (*Central/Southern Illinois Synod, 5C*) [Four-year term]

- A. Mr. Henry Harms, Springfield, Ill. (5C)
- B. Mr. Robert F. Mueller, Wyoming, Ill. (5C)

Committee on Discipline Continuing Members

Clergy

Pr. Mary W. Anderson, Columbia, S.C. (9C) [2013]
Pr. Michel D. Clark, Knoxville, Ill. (5B) [2015]
Pr. Nancy J. Goede, Oak Lawn, Ill. (5A) [2013]
Pr. Lee J. Griess, Omaha, Neb. (4A) [2013]
Pr. Joyce L. Piper, Willmar, Minn. (3F) [2015]
Pr. Kenneth M. Rupp, Richmond, Va. (9A) [2013]

Clergy (PC/L)

Pr. Lawrence J. Clark, Chicago, Ill. (5A) [2013]
Pr. Andrea L. Walker, Summit, N.J. (7A) [2015]

Lay Female

Ms. Faith A. Ashton, Chapel Hill, N.C. (9B) [2013]
Ms. Kathryn L. Baerwald, Washington, D.C. (8G) [2015]
Ms. Gayle Gordon Bouzard, Wimberley, Texas (4E) [2013]
Ms. Joanne Chadwick, San Francisco, Calif. (2A) [2015]
Ms. Janice M. Quirl, Austin, Texas (4E) [2015]

Lay Female (PC/L)

Ms. Yvonne A. Wells, St. John, Virgin Islands (9F) [2013]

Lay Female (Y/YA)

Ms. Meghan E. Smith, Chicago, Ill. (5A) [2013]

Lay Male

Mr. Mark A. Betley, Utica, N.Y. (7D) [2013]
Mr. Larry D. Moeller, Sacramento, Calif. (2A) [2013]
Mr. Arthur E. Murphy, Bellaire, Texas (4F) [2015]

Lay Male (PC/L)

Mr. Alan W. Chen, Forest Hills, N.Y. (7C) [2013]
Mr. Miguel A. Hernandez, El Paso, Texas (2E) [2015]

†Note: Bylaw 20.21.11. states: "The churchwide Committee on Discipline shall consist of 36 persons, 19 of whom shall be laypersons and 17 of whom shall be ordained ministers, elected by the Churchwide Assembly for a term of six years, each without consecutive re-election, to serve as needed on a discipline hearing committee in any of the synods in this church."

1. Church Council: Clergy (*Restricted to Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)*)

A. The Rev. Elizabeth E. Ekdale

Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Mark's Lutheran Church (ID: 05163) - San Francisco, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Board member, including Vice-Chair, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
Member of Sierra Pacific Synod Candidacy Committee
Member of Metro New York Candidacy Committee
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Arizona State University, Bachelor Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
Lead Pastor, St. Mark's Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1961
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have been ordained for 23 years and am currently the Lead Pastor of St. Mark's, San Francisco, where I have served for 13 years. During my tenure we have undergone several transitions, including a challenging \$11 million seismic retrofit of our church building.

I am excited to be nominated to serve on the Church Council. We are a church experiencing change. I believe my experience and skills can be helpful. It was an honor to serve for 12 years on the Board of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary during several challenging transitions. Transitions are not easy but each one can provide an opportunity for growth.

I can contribute on behalf of Lutherans who live west of the Rockies. We serve in a vibrant mission field where we participate in a lively ecumenical and interfaith dialogue. After serving on the San Francisco Interfaith Council for 12 years, I've grown to deeply appreciate working with people from other walks of faith.

Thank you for this opportunity.

B. The Rev. Jeff R. Johnson

Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
University Lutheran Chapel (ID: 20003) - Berkeley, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Member -- Synod Council, Sierra Pacific Synod
Dean -- San Francisco Conference of Lutheran Churches (2 terms)
- 3) *Education*
California Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Arts
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, University Lutheran Chapel
- 5) *Year of birth*
1962
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I tell young people in our parish who go to seminary, "there is no better time to become a leader in our church." This is a time of possibility and promise. An old way of "being the church" is yielding to a new way forward.

As a pastor received in 2010 onto the ELCA's roster, and a member of our Synod Council, I am deeply grateful for this change underway. Our ELCA is bolder in its witness and more flexible and responsive in our structure and policies. I believe strongly in the future of our church. Since my 1990 ordination, I have worked with urban communities of faith finding sustainable and missional ways for justice-based, gospel-centered ministry. I've been blessed with good leadership gifts and skills, and if granted the chance, would value the opportunity to serve on the Church Council.

2. Church Council: Clergy (*Restricted to Northwestern Minnesota Synod (3D)*)

A. The Rev. Loren D. Mellum

Northwestern Minnesota Synod (3D)

1) *Congregational membership*

Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ID: 11593) - Moorhead, Minn.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

New and Renewing Mission Table
Joint Synod Renewal Team
Churchwide Assembly voting member

3) *Education*

Luther Seminary, Doctor Of Ministry
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Trinity Lutheran College, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Senior Pastor, Our Savior's Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1969

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Whatever our role or position is in the ELCA, we are challenged to see the whole and to see who we are together in mission. My call as a baptized child of God and as an ordained minister in the ELCA is to join others in tending to the relationships and processes that help us as denomination (i.e., body of Christ) to see who we are together and to discern what God is doing in the world and to participate in God's work.

Christianity in North America is coming to grips with the reality that the public role of the church has changed radically and in many respects we've experienced a loss or at least a significant change in regard to the church's social location within culture. These changes provide a unique opportunity as a denomination to re-missionize and to re-root ourselves in God's triune life that is alive and well in the world and for the church to go there. The Church Council has a strategic responsibility to biblically and theologically imagine a church in mission.

B. The Rev. Laurie F. Skow-Anderson

Northwestern Minnesota Synod (3D)

1) *Congregational membership*

Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 11618) - Pelican Rapids, Minn.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Synod Council
New and Renewing Mission Table Leader
Synod Transformation Team

3) *Education*

Luther Seminary, Doctor Of Ministry
Luther Northwestern Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Moorhead State University, Bachelor Of Science In Education

4) *Employment*

Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1958

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God's mission has a church. God's mission is to redeem creation. As Christ's followers led by God's Holy Spirit, we join in that work to bring hope and healing, reconciliation and redemption to the world. The ELCA is the hands and feet of God's healing, reconciliation, and redemption to the world. The ELCA is the hands and feet of God's mission.

For the last ten years I've served a program-sized, rural, small-town congregation in a multiracial community. The thesis for my Doctor of Ministry program was titled, "Pentecost on the Prairie." Watching for the Holy Spirit and learning how to develop the capacity to do multiracial ministry in a rural community was the focus of the thesis. I hope that my experience with missional experiments in this context will be helpful to the larger church. Currently I am serving on two of our synod's new mission tables and on the synod council. I have supervised four interns, including one Horizon Grant intern. I would consider it an honor to serve on the Church Council.

3. Church Council: Clergy (*Restricted to Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod (4F)*)

A. The Rev. Robert G. Moore

Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod (4F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Christ the King Lutheran Church (ID: 05959) - Houston, Texas
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Board of Regents Texas Lutheran University
Tri-synodical Theological Conference Committee
Ecumenical Representative
- 3) *Education*
Texas Tech University, Bachelor Of Business Admin
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Rice University, Doctor Of Philosophy
- 4) *Employment*
Senior Pastor, Christ the King Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1949
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I came into the ELCA from another tradition in search of a denominational home where I could live out my calling to pastoral ministry. I found that home in the ELCA, which combines the uniquely Lutheran appreciation of the catholic tradition and the reformed understanding of the gospel as the life-giving word of faith. I was eager to integrate the biblical, theological, liturgical, musical, pastoral, ecumenical, and social dimensions of the Lutheran heritage into the context of parish life. I was called to serve one of the most dynamic congregations in our synod and region.

I am very aware of the importance of the work in the "trenches," which is where parish life occurs. I am equally aware of the need for synodical and churchwide support for the work of proclaiming and living the baptismal life in the parish. Even in a time of downsizing I continue to support the work of the churchwide offices as essential to the work of congregations and synods.

B. The Rev. David A. Roschke

Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod (4F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church (ID: 05967) - Houston, Texas
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
LCA Convention, ELCA Constituting Convention, Churchwide Assembly
Synod Council
Dean, Central Houston Ministerium
- 3) *Education*
Concordia Senior College, Bachelor Of Arts
Concordia Seminary-in-Exile, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Senior Pastor, Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1948
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I sense the Holy Spirit moving through the nominating process and stand willing to serve. I have served in numerous areas of church life and am deeply committed to and love the Church. I trust in and am convinced of the truth of the Gospel and continue to look for ways for the Church to be faithful to the Gospel.

I am a respected leader. I'm told that I'm an excellent board member and have gifts for thinking globally while working through local details. I believe that I have a clear understanding of and sense for the Church's mission. I am skilled at good stewardship and finding ways to lead organizations in facilitating mission even in difficult times. I am committed to a church that is concerned more with communicating and living what it is for than what it is against. I am passionate about the Church being a welcoming community of faith that, in response to God's grace, both cares for people and equips them for discipleship in today's world.

4. Church Council: Clergy (*Restricted to Indiana-Kentucky Synod (6C)*)

A. The Rev. Vicki T. Garber

Indiana-Kentucky Synod (6C)

1) *Congregational membership*

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (ID: 07696) - Lakeside Park, Ky.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Partner in Evangelism

Synod Council

Trinity Seminary/Bexley Hall Board

3) *Education*

Augustana College, Sioux Falls, Bachelor Of Arts

Illinois College of Optometry

Trinity Seminary, Master Of Divinity

4) *Employment*

Senior Pastor, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1950

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Because I love the Lord, I have passion for the mission of the church. I bring wisdom and years of experience working on boards and in team dynamics to the table. I believe that God calls me to be at work wherever I can to grow in mission. I serve as the chair of the Statewide Citizen's Review Panel for Ky. In this capacity I lead a group of dedicated citizens who look after the well-being and safety of the most vulnerable children in our state. I believe the church is well-served when it cares for the most vulnerable. In my first call I served on the Synod Council as well as a voting member of the Evangelism Team of the Episcopal Diocese. I currently serve as the Trinity board representative to Bexley Hall (Episcopal) Seminary. I believe that this ecumenical understanding is a valuable background to the work of the greater church.

B. The Rev. Steven L. Schwier

Indiana-Kentucky Synod (6C)

1) *Congregational membership*

Christ the King Lutheran Church (ID: 10795) - South Bend, Ind.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Executive Board / dean

Synod Council

First Call Theological Education group facilitator

3) *Education*

Ball State University, Bachelor Of Science

Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Master Of Divinity

Lutheran School of Theology, Doctor Of Ministry

4) *Employment*

Senior Pastor, Christ the King Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1949

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

During my sabbatical this summer one of the foci is to continue to explore what it means to be missional congregations and missional people. I continue to be very excited and intrigued by what I am reading, observing, and experiencing regarding the path on which God is leading God's people at this time in the history of the church. It certainly appears to be a time of reformation—a time of significant transformation. Serving on the Church Council would be a welcomed opportunity to participate in discerning the path to which God seems to be calling the ELCA at this time as we move towards deepening our commitment to being a missional church.

5. Church Council: Clergy (Restricted to Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D))

A. The Rev. Stephen R. Herr

Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)

1) Congregational membership

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (ID: 01063) - Gettysburg, Pa.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

ELCA Nominating Committee
Synod Council-Lower Susquehanna Synod and (SWPA 1997-1999)
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg Board of Directors

3) Education

Gettysburg College, Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Master Of Divinity
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Master Of Sacred Theology

4) Employment

Pastor, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

5) Year of birth

1966

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

With the help of the Holy Spirit I would bring my faith in the Triune God and my experiences of serving on several synod councils and boards to the ministry of the Church Council. I gained a deeper appreciation for the interplay of governance, oversight, and institutional leadership as a member of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod councils and as a member of the board of directors for the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg and the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic. The Church Council is entrusted with governance responsibilities, interim legislative authority and oversight for the many ministries of the ELCA. The Church Council is called to exercise these constitutional responsibilities with humble service following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ. I would offer my talents in communication and governance matters as well as my appreciation of the ELCA's history in service to the Church Council as it carries out its mission.

B. The Rev. Robert L. Hoover Jr.

Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)

1) Congregational membership

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church (ID: 01478) - York, Pa.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Global Mission Committee of Lower Susquehanna Synod
Spiritual Direction with Seminary Students
Churchwide Assembly Voting Member and/or Volunteer-10 assemblies, 3 Synods-Central Pa., Allegheny, LSS

3) Education

Shippensburg University, Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Divinity
San Francisco Theological Seminary, Diploma Only - No Degree

4) Employment

Intentional Interim Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church

5) Year of birth

1945

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

God's call was initiated April 19, 1946, at baptism and continues through confirmation (1959), ordination (1971), and daily affirmation. I live with the assurance that I am "free in Christ to serve" as a leader in the Church. In the parish I recruited persons to serve as decision makers on councils. I hope that I can now heed God's call to give leadership on Church Council. My premier gift to this work is time; complimented by energy, vision, and prayer. The ministry of the Council will be my first priority, allowing me to respond to leadership tasks as assigned. I am a high-energy person with a vision for God's Church in a global context. I practice prayer and discernment daily. I have experience in parish ministry, social services, theological education, advocacy, youth and outdoor ministry, global mission. I am eager to lead churchwide stewardship and experience the global dynamics of God's church. I am prepared to fulfill the duties of our council with the guidance of God's Spirit.

6. Church Council: Lay Female (*Restricted to Southern Ohio Synod (6F)*)

A. Ms. Marjorie B. Ellis

Southern Ohio Synod (6F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
All Saints Lutheran Church (ID: 04535) - Worthington, Ohio
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Congregation Council Member, elected President 2011
Various Synod groups, currently serving the Discipline Committee
Lutheran Social Services, Board Member and Secretary
- 3) *Education*
Life Office Management Association, Inc. - FLMI Designation, Certificate
Health Insurance Association of America - HIA Designation, Certificate
- 4) *Employment*
Regulatory Compliance and Training Chief, Ohio Department of Insurance
- 5) *Year of birth*
1956
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe service to others is the most important part of our lives as Christians. Service to others can fulfill your needs as well as introduce those you serve to the joys of being a Christian. I have dedicated my life to being God's servant, through both hands-on action and the use of my gifts as an administrator.

As a Black woman I have witnessed some of the best and worst things this world has to offer. My experiences have fueled my compassion for others and strengthened my belief in God and Jesus Christ. I believe I am called to help all who are less fortunate and protect their interest.

In addition to my church leadership positions, I have served as Executive Director of the Ohio Health Reinsurance Program and Vice President of an Ohio insurance company. I hope to bring my leadership abilities and compassion for others to the council.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve the ELCA. Thank you.

B. Ms. Danette C. Miller

Southern Ohio Synod (6F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (ID: 04689) - Loveland, Ohio
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Listening Post - Southern Ohio Synod
Call Committee, Chairperson
Congregational Council- Chairperson of Global and Local Ministries
- 3) *Education*
Ohio University, Bachelor Of Business Admin
- 4) *Employment*
Manager, Core Account Team, eLynx
- 5) *Year of birth*
1963
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

After much prayer and thought, I am both honored and humbled to be considered for a position on the ELCA council. I have been a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran, Loveland, Ohio since 1991. My experience in both leadership as well as individual contributor positions, in the church and corporations, has provided me with experience and insight to how a community can work together toward a common goal. I feel that I am being called to use my spiritual gifting to work with others and help provide the guidelines and infrastructure that helps our church provide a discipling culture; one that models Jesus and his relationship to God, his relationships in the community, and his relationship to others outside of the community. My career experience includes mentoring and managing people to use their gifts to reach their personal and professional goals. Planning, organizing, and providing direction are skills that I can bring to the team to help facilitate God's work for the ELCA.

7. Church Council: Lay Female (*Restricted to Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)*)

A. Ms. Christine P. Connell

Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 10487) - Staten Island, N.Y.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Metropolitan New York Synod Council
ELCA National Youth Gathering Planning Team - Hotel Life
Metropolitan New York Synod Council
- 3) *Education*
University of Maryland, Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Master Of Arts
In Ministerial Studies
- 4) *Employment*
Executive Director for Agency Advancement, Lutheran Social
Services of New York
- 5) *Year of birth*
1963
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a life-long Lutheran and an individual who has been in service ministry both as a volunteer and as a rostered Diaconal Minister, I have always tried to be open to the journey that God desires me to be traveling. In many ways, the church is on a similar journey, and for both of us, the end is not yet clear.

We as a church are addressing issues that 20 to 30 years ago church leaders would never have even considered. Our world is struggling with a new vocabulary of grace, one that includes inclusiveness and acceptance for individuals that have historically been marginalized; one that still tries to lift up our neighbor in the face of adversity and hatred on their part; and one that sees our church members at odds with each other.

I feel that my ability to look at the big picture, to be clear in identifying the "elephants" in the room, and my compassion for the needed care of those who are "the least of these" makes me a good choice for the position on the Church Council.

B. Ms. Nicole E. George

Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church (ID: 03978) - East
Elmhurst, N.Y.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Parish Deacon
Congregation Council
Assisting Minister
- 3) *Education*
College of New Rochelle, No Degree Earned
North Bronx Career Counseling and Outreach Center,
Certificate
Aquinas High School, Diploma Only - No Degree
- 4) *Employment*
Correctional Officer, Metropolitan Detention Center
- 5) *Year of birth*
1975
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My strongest spiritual gifts are service and giving. I feel called to serve on the Church Council to utilize these gifts.

I am a member of Augustana Lutheran Church, East Elmhurst, N.Y. Currently, I am a Parish Deacon, Lay Assistant and Lector.

My communication skills, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint experience, the ability to work well with others and willing to support the community with my vote and voice would make me an asset to the Church Council.

8. Church Council: Lay Female (*Restricted to West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod (8H)*)

A. Ms. Pamela E. Pritt

West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod (8H)

1) *Congregational membership*

New Hope Lutheran Church (ID: 10419) - Minnehaha Springs, W.Va.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Mountain Lutheran Parish Council, president
LIFT

3) *Education*

Davis and Elkins College, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Editor/Secretary-Treasurer of corporation, The Pocahontas Times, Inc.

5) *Year of birth*

1960

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I attend what might be the smallest church in the country, about 20 people a Sunday until last fall. Then a new family came because of the 2009 churchwide vote on homosexual pastors. Since then, we've had three new families come regularly, we've begun Sunday school, we're planning an Easter cantata, and we have fellowship every Sunday so that our old faces can become familiar with the new. Our average attendance so far this year is 34.

I've never been shy about inviting people to church, but it is God's grace that has allowed this growth and his grace alone that has sustained us when attendance was only 12.

New Hope was begun by my great-great-grandfather after the Civil War. In the beginning, it was a small family church.

Although still small, we are now a church family, dependent upon our Savior and each other, offering our service to God and our neighbors.

In gratitude for prayers answered, I humbly ask to serve.

B. Ms. Robin Snyder

West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod (8H)

1) *Congregational membership*

St. Paul Lutheran Church (ID: 10321) - Charleston, W.Va.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Congregation Council
Mutual Ministry
Outreach Coordinator

3) *Education*

Marshall University, Bachelor Of Arts In Ed.
Marshall University, Masters In Education

4) *Employment*

Latin/French teacher, Charleston Catholic High School

5) *Year of birth*

1951

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

"What you do for the least of these, you do for me." Matthew 25:40 is probably my favorite scripture and the one I try to live by. I have been blessed with so many good things in my life that I feel called to share with others what I have, including not only my treasure, but my time and talents. I try to be ever conscious of the face of God in all whom I serve. God calls me to reach out to those who have not been as fortunate as I.

As an educator for the last 38 years, I have developed patience, perspective, and persistence. I set goals and work toward a product. I am a "doer" and I like to be involved in hands-on experiences. That being said, I also like to study and think about both sides of an issue before coming to a conclusion.

In my own church I have chaired numerous committees and moderated numerous study groups. I have initiated many social outreach projects and currently serve as president of the Charleston Interfaith Council on Social Concerns.

9. Church Council: Lay Male (*Restricted to Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)*)

A. Mr. Gary D. Gabrielson

Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)

1) *Congregational membership*

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (ID: 05508) - Colorado Springs, Colo.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Church in Society Board, Rocky Mountain Synod
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry Policy Committee: Colorado
Global Mission volunteer Lebanon

3) *Education*

Kansas State University, Bachelor Of Science
Kansas State University, Master Of Science

4) *Employment*

Senior System Engineer II, Raytheon

5) *Year of birth*

1940

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

1) From my experience in the Middle East and Africa I have knowledge of the Oriental Churches. Because of the current situation these experiences provide me with special gifts that I can bring to Council.

2) I have worked as a volunteer in a range of activities in my local congregation. Therefore with my background in teaching I can bring experiences that will address the educational goals of the Church.

3) My experience at the Synod level in advocacy and church and society allow me to bring knowledge and experience to address these topics of the Church.

B. Mr. Theo H. Mees Jr.

Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)

1) *Congregational membership*

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ID: 05463) - Arvada, Colo.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Financial Secretary - St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Arvada, Colo.
Treasurer - Bethany Lutheran Church, Centennial, Colo.

3) *Education*

University of Denver, Master Of Business Administration
Metropolitan State College of Denver, Bachelor Of Science

4) *Employment*

CFO, Global Collision

5) *Year of birth*

1944

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

All of my adult life, I have dedicated myself to the support of my family and the entity of which I was employed. I have now reached an age that I can be comfortable, within reason, and I now wish to give back to those who have supported me (the Church) and those that need help. Just before I retired, I saw that our church, which is very small, could possibly use help in a number of ways. My thoughts were to fill in for anything needed by St. Andrew. Our pastor, Stephanie Kopsch, asked me if I would be interested in this activity on the national church level. I am!

I have over 40 years of financial problem-solving with relatively smaller firms, ranging from 15 to 300 million dollars in sales per year. I have helped potentially failing entities succeed in a large way by setting up and managing financial as well as management procedural systems.

10. Church Council: Lay Male (*Restricted to Eastern North Dakota Synod (3B)*)

A. Mr. Joel T. Kangas

Eastern North Dakota Synod (3B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. John Lutheran Church (ID: 05279) - Fargo, N.D.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
EaND Synod Council
EaND Candidacy Committee (current chair)
Voting Member at Churchwide Assembly, Chicago
- 3) *Education*
Concordia College Moorhead, Minn., Bachelor Of Arts
Univ. of Nebraska at Lincoln Dental School, Doctor Of Dental Surgery
- 4) *Employment*
Dentist, Self Employed
- 5) *Year of birth*
1956
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

It is an honor to be asked to serve the ELCA and all God's people by being nominated for a position on the Church Council. As a longtime member of the EaND Candidacy Committee, I've been blessed to hear the stories of many who have heard the call to rostered leadership in the ELCA. While not hearing that specific call, I do hear the "call" to serve at the churchwide level as a lay member.

I am self-employed, have nine employees and successfully manage all aspects of my dental practice. My wife, Nancy, and I have two children who are now old enough to make us "empty nesters". The gift of "extra time" allows me the freedom to enthusiastically offer to serve on the Church Council.

I enjoyed being a member of the EaND synod bishop election and transition team. From the joy of being a mentor to confirmation youth and leading music at Lenten services to managing the occasional difficulties that occur in candidacy, life is good. I am an unabashed, enthusiastic member of the ELCA.

B. Mr. John M. Pederson

Eastern North Dakota Synod (3B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Mayville Lutheran Church (ID: 12443) - Mayville, N.D.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Eastern North Dakota Synod Council
Memorials Committee for the 2009 Churchwide Assembly
Mayville Lutheran Congregation Council
- 3) *Education*
University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Doctor Of Philosophy
University of North Dakota, Master Of Arts
Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Professor of Humanities and Social Sciences, Mayville State University
- 5) *Year of birth*
1969
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have had multiple experiences serving on boards and committees. While president of my church council, I chaired a strategic planning task force. On the synod council I have engaged in many strategic planning exercises. I participated in the strategic planning process for my university as president of its Faculty Association. Representing my university seven years at the statewide level, I served as the Vice President and President of the North Dakota University System's Council of College Faculties, and for two years was the Faculty Advisor to the State Board of Higher Education.

From Bible camp, as an undergraduate at an ELCA college, and as a graduate student attending ELCA campus ministries, the ELCA's ministry has benefited me.

Whether God is calling me to serve on the Church Council, I am uncertain, as I know and admire Dr. Joel Kangas, the other nominee for this position. If I am elected, however, I would be humbled, honored, and eager to serve.

11. Church Council: Lay Male (Restricted to Southeast Michigan Synod (6A))

A. Mr. Paul G. Archer

Southeast Michigan Synod (6A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Hope Lutheran Church (ID: 02788) - Dearborn, Mich.

- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Congregation Council President
Synod Discipline Committee
Churchwide Assembly Voting Member

- 3) *Education*
Oakwood Hospital School of Radiologic Technology,
Certificate
Henry Ford Hospital School of Radiation Therapy
Technology, Certificate
Southeast Michigan Synod Licensed Ministry Academy, Lay
Ministry

- 4) *Employment*
Certified Medical Dosimetrist, University of Michigan Health
Systems

- 5) *Year of birth*
1959

- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

- 7) *Primary Language*
English

- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that
you would bring to this work?*

A lifetime of participation in the ministries of my home congregation has given me a sense of responding to Christ's call to discipleship. Expanding my service in church ministries in the past 7 years to Synod-level committees and ministries has only deepened my appreciation for the love that can be shared and the ministry that can be accomplished when we work together, and has now opened me to the possibility of serving on the Church Council. Many years of service on committees and councils in different expressions of the church has taught me the value of the planning that can happen in a well-run meeting and also the importance of getting out of the meeting and putting the plans into action. I feel that the greatest gifts I have to contribute to this position are my love for this church and the transforming presence it can be in the lives of our brothers and sisters and my ability to focus my attention and my work on the real task at hand: sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

B. Mr. Alex Murray

Southeast Michigan Synod (6A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church (ID: 11276) - Grand Blanc, Mich.

- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Congregational President
Congregational President
Council Vice President

- 3) *Education*
Flint Central High School

- 4) *Employment*
City letter carrier, United States Postal Service

- 5) *Year of birth*
1954

- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

- 7) *Primary Language*
English

- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that
you would bring to this work?*

I am hoping to use my leadership skills and my willingness to serve on a churchwide scale. I am not afraid to speak on issues and to bring those issues to congregations in my Synod. I was a union officer for 25 years and I am accustomed to debates and negotiations. I have spent most of my adult life fighting for the rights of those who do not have a voice. Whatever talents I may think that I have were granted to me by God for I lack any additional education other than High School. I am a hard worker and am able to travel. Admittedly I know little of what the churchwide council responsibilities will be, but I am ready to do my best. The ELCA has added so much to my life. The instruction and guidance from ELCA pastors and the general over all willingness to accept those who others may reject. This has added joy to my life a calling to serve God when and where I can. I belong to a wonderful congregation, Holy Spirit of Grand Blanc, Michigan.

12. Program Committee for the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit: Lay Female (Y/YA)

A. Ms. Anna McCracken

Southwestern Washington Synod (1C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Spanaway Lutheran Church (ID: 13002) - Spanaway, Wash.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Board of the Lutheran Youth Organization
Southwestern Washington Lutheran Youth Organization
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Student Assistant, Office of the President and Prospective
Student Tour Guide and Host, Pacific Lutheran University
- 5) *Year of birth*
1992
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Through many years of working with the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO), I have developed a deep understanding and appreciation for the church and its ministries. Working with the LYO and being a part of the Lutheran camp ministry has taught me so much about what it means to go from practicing your faith to truly making it your own. Through my work with the LYO I have experienced many frustrations with the church, but at the same time many joys. This work has inspired me to continue discovering what my faith means to me and helping others to do the same. I truly believe that the ELCA can make a huge difference in this world; it already has. I want to be a part of helping people discover what it is that they can do to make a difference, both inside and outside the church. I am a good listener, hard-worker, and an encouraging teammate. I value the work that the ELCA is doing and I want to be a part of its continued work and ministry for years to come!

B. Ms. Laura L. Ramsey

Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Stephen Lutheran Church (ID: 01017) - New Kingstown, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
St. John's Lutheran Church- Littlestown, Pa., Choir Director
Susquehanna University- Deacon of Worship
Lutheran Youth Organization- Lower Susquehanna Synod
Secretary
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Master Of Arts
In Ministerial Studies
Susquehanna University, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
- 5) *Year of birth*
1987
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I will be graduating in May from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg with a Master of Arts In Ministerial Studies degree. I will be completing a year-long CPE residency at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Ill., beginning in September. I am also a candidate for Diaconal Ministry. After I complete the residency, I will be eligible to find my first call. I feel called to both chaplaincy and music and hope that my call will be able to incorporate both aspects.

As a future Diaconal Minister, I also understand my call and passion to be rooted in the church and yet serving the world. I therefore think that I would be well suited for the Congregational and Synodical Mission committee, which seeks to do just that. I was encouraged to put my name forward for this position and I hope that you will consider me for election.

13. Program Committee for the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit: Lay Female

A. Ms. Tempie D. Beaman

Southwest California Synod (2B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Ascension Lutheran Church (ID: 13865) - Los Angeles, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Southwest California Synod Council
LDR Advisory Committee
Southwest California Synod African Descent Strategy team
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, TEEM Program
Brooklyn College, City University of New York, Master Of Science In Education
- 4) *Employment*
LDR Coordinator, Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My sense of God's call is to use the gifts He has given me to build bridges between the church and the world; to integrate the life of the church into the world in a way that makes a difference in people's lives.

I have several years of experience as a leader in my congregation, having served as school principal, congregation president and treasurer, elder, and Sunday school teacher. I serve the synod as a second term council member, member of the Mission Table for Evangelism, and African Descent Strategy team.

I have experience serving on boards and committees both within and outside of the church such as the local Girl Scouts and YWCA, junior chamber of commerce and New City Parish, chairing committees dealing with youth, human resources and partnership development.

My disaster preparedness and response work for an LDR affiliate resulted in improved relationships with congregations and synods. My work helped to develop more prepared congregations and coordinated response.

B. Ms. Janet G. Peters

New Jersey Synod (7A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Living Waters Lutheran Church (ID: 30283) - Ringoes, N.J.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission - ELCA
Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry in N.J. Policy Board
President Church Council
- 3) *Education*
Valparaiso University
Northwestern University, Bachelor Of Science
University of Indianapolis, Master Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
Pediatric Physical Therapist, Self-employed - Kids on the Move
- 5) *Year of birth*
1948
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God has called, guided, and sent me into various aspects of ministry throughout my lifetime. I have been a member of Lutheran congregations in the Missouri Synod, AELC, ALC, LCA, and ELCA in areas of the USA including the Midwest, West Coast, East Coast, and Southeast. I have experienced, understand and value differences in geographical and theological orientation to the Lutheran faith. I have served in congregational ministries in the areas of worship, music, education, evangelism, and service and have served in leadership capacities in many congregations. I truly believe in the concept of Mutual Ministry and the calling of all to ministry through baptism.

It has recently been my privilege to serve on the NJ Synod Mission on the Move team, seeking to change the understanding of mission at the synodical, congregational, and personal levels.

There is important work to be accomplished in the kingdom of God as we seek to be the face of Christ to a hurting world.

14. Program Committee for the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit: Lay Male (Restricted to Northern Great Lakes (5G))

A. Mr. David M. Blomquist

Northern Great Lakes Synod (5G)

1) Congregational membership

Bethlehem Lutheran Church (ID: 06856) - Florence, Wis.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

ELCA Vocation and Education Unit
Board of Directors, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
Northern Great Lakes Prison Ministry Committee

3) Education

Michigan State University, Doctor Of Philosophy
Northern Michigan University, Master Of Counseling
Northern Michigan College, Bachelor Of Education

4) Employment

Professor of Educational Administration, Northern Michigan University

5) Year of birth

1939

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I have been interested in, and involved in the mission outreach of the ELCA for several years. My wife and I have volunteered at Tumiani University in Iringa, Tanzania, as professors, Kisarawe Secondary School as consultants, California Lutheran University as professors and Senior Mentors, and served on our synod's Companion Congregation committee. I was elected to serve on the Vocation and Education unit of the ELCA, which was eliminated as a result of circumstances of the ELCA. We, my wife and I, have volunteered to serve where needed in worldwide missions of the ELCA and are awaiting a match of our skills and the church's needs. We seek God's perfect will for our lives and trust that God will use us as needed.

I have been involved in many areas of Christian service at the congregational and synodical level. My vocation included school superintendent and professor.

I am a lifelong Christian seeking to serve the Lord in whatever way He calls me.

B. Mr. Ralph B. K. Peterson

Northern Great Lakes Synod (5G)

1) Congregational membership

Bethany Lutheran Church (ID: 06908) - Escanaba, Mich.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Congregation President
Synod Vice President
Synod Stewardship committee chairman

3) Education

Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., Associate Bachelor Of Arts
Northwestern University Law School, Doctor Of Jurisprudence

4) Employment

Partner, Peterson Degrand Reardon and Hall

5) Year of birth

1939

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I have been a lifelong member of the ELCA. I served on boards and committees at Ebenezer Lutheran while living in Chicago. I served on the synod board and executive committee for Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for the former Lutheran Church in America.

I was instrumental in creating the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the ELCA. I served as Vice President of said synod for eight years. Presently I serve the synod as chairperson of the Synod Stewardship Committee.

I have always been active in my congregation. My training as an attorney has served me well in analyzing and problem solving. Whatever gifts I have are a gift from my God. I try to remember each day that not my will but Thine be done.

15. Program Committee for the Congregational and Synodical Mission unit: Lay Male

A. Mr. David M. Hix

South Carolina Synod (9C)

1) Congregational membership

Incarnation Lutheran Church (ID: 05601) - Columbia, S.C.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Chair, Discipleship Team
President, Incarnation Development Foundation
Adult Sunday School Teacher

3) Education

Columbia University, Masters In Education
Lenoir-Rhyne University, Bachelor Of Arts

4) Employment

Associate Director - Career Center, University of South Carolina

5) Year of birth

1954

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

My call to service in the ELCA is a response to the many ways that the church has blessed me by providing faith mentors, educating me, re-energizing my faith as a Lutheridge staff member, and nurturing me as a member of five congregations.

I have chaired ministry teams, taught classes, sung in choirs, volunteered in soup kitchens, and even moved into new challenging ministries such as congregational financial planning and facilities planning. Two accomplishments of note include leading a process to replace a traditional ineffective committee structure and co-chairing a congregational visioning process.

As I consider my gifts, the following skills come to mind-- oral and written communication, organization and planning, counseling, and creative problem solving.

B. Mr. Carl A. Teinert

Southwestern Texas Synod (4E)

1) Congregational membership

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church (ID: 07488) - Austin, Texas

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

SWT Synod Commission for Mission Chair
SWT Synod Council
SWT Synod VP

3) Education

University of Texas at Austin, Master Of Science
University of Texas At Austin, Bachelor Of Science

4) Employment

Associate/Senior Project Manager, Rosengarten, Smith and Associates, Inc.

5) Year of birth

1950

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I am humbled to have been asked to consider serving on this committee. I see this opportunity as a call from the Holy Spirit.

As an ELCA member in Austin, Texas, I am thankful that our congregation supports the Indonesian Christian Fellowship that meets in our building, a church within a church. Our congregation is a partner with one of our Laredo missions. As a former Commission for Mission chair of the Southwestern Texas Synod, I have experience with mission development and the different groups where we have started missions. As our synod Vice President, I participated in the effort to establish an Evangelical Mission Endowment Fund, which will support mission development and non-self-sustainable ministries. I also proposed that our synod initiate an effort to prepare an Evangelical Mission Plan and have supported Bishop Tiemann's effort to draft the plan and to present it to our 2011 Synod Assembly. That plan will place emphasis on having vital congregations involved in mission.

16. Program Committee for the Global Mission unit: Clergy

A. The Rev. Abraham C. Lu

Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Grace Chinese Lutheran Church (ID: 30240) - Elmhurst, NY
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Board member, Mission Investment Fund, Chicago
Interim Pastor, Bethany Lutheran Church, Elmhurst
Council member, Metropolitan New York Synod, NYC
- 3) *Education*
Fu-Jen Catholic University, Bachelor Of Arts
Taiwan Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Lutheran Theo. Sem. at Philadelphia, Doctor Of Ministry
- 4) *Employment*
Senior Pastor, Grace Chinese Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1957
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Asia/Pacific Islander
- 7) *Primary Language*
Not English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Teaching various courses [12 Books of Israel History, Minor Prophets, Epistle to the Romans, Western and Oriental Church Histories, History of Christian Spirituality, Homiletics, Church Administration and Management, etc.] in Asian theological seminary, Bible college, and European Chinese churches on a regular basis [short term mission, and twice a year] since 2005 has helped me relearn and better prepare to be an evangelist, Bible teacher, and dynamic preacher in local congregations and the churches or educational institutes I am helping with. Pursuing the advanced degree in historical theology in S.T.M. program will also better qualify and sharpen myself to be a missionary with a wider world-view, and a deepened understanding of American Lutheranism in mission. All of these have prepared me for the readiness of serving.

B. The Rev. Gary E. Mills

Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 03852) - New York, NY
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
New York Faith and Public Policy Roundtable
Friends of Mwangaza Partnership for Education
Synod Multicultural Commission
- 3) *Education*
Luther Northwestern Theological, Master Of Divinity
Wittenberg University, Bachelor Of Music
Pontifica Catolica Universidad del Peru, Associates Degree In The Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Assistant to the Bishop for Global and Multicultural Mission, Metropolitan New York Synod
- 5) *Year of birth*
1954
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe that God has called me to this position of privilege as one who is able, through language and cultural understanding, to reach out to our neighbors with the Good News of Jesus Christ, starting in the Jerusalem of my own neighborhood and extending across oceans and continents. I served as pastor to three multicultural and language-specific congregations in the ELCA and its predecessor bodies prior to beginning service on the synod staff. I currently work with our two companion synod partners in Tanzania and Romania, as well as with multiple ELCA and LWF-related partners who assist us with the many language and cultural ministries that serve our metropolitan New York communities. I have worked with immigration services, ESL programs, and congregational development, both in the US and around the world. I have studied and lived in Latin America, Europe and Asia, and bring a sensitivity to cultural differences.

17. Program Committee for the Global Mission unit: Clergy

A. The Rev. Walter (Chip) C. Bouzard

Northeastern Iowa Synod (5F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Paul Lutheran Church (ID: 11204) - Waverly, Iowa
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Chair Ed Board, Church Council member
Synod Candidacy Committee
Synod First Call Theological Education
- 3) *Education*
Princeton Theological Seminary, Doctor Of Philosophy
Luther Theological Seminary, Master Of Theology
Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Professor, Wartburg College
- 5) *Year of birth*
1954
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am persuaded that my background as a pastor of a suburban congregation, a pastor serving as a mission (re)developer, and my training and experience as a biblical scholar and teacher of this church has prepared me to contribute positively to the mission of the Program Committee for GM. As a pastor and professor, I have been privileged to travel widely. In the course of those travels, I have nurtured a passion for developing ways in which the gospel can be shared across cultures. For example, I have led numerous student groups to Israel/Palestine where students have engaged in deep conversations with Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Conversations with our Lutheran partners prompted my students to become advocates for justice and peace for Palestinians, and that in the name of Jesus. Also, an election to this position would dovetail perfectly with my role as co-director of Wartburg College's international studies program where I am routinely in contact with persons serving in GM.

B. The Rev. Charles R. Leonard

Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod (7F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Mark Lutheran Church (ID: 00727) - Philadelphia, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ELCA Mission Development - Behavioral Interviewer
Synod Council
- 3) *Education*
Penn State Univ, Bachelor Of Science In Education
Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia, Master Of Theology
Columbia University, Doctor Of Education
- 4) *Employment*
Associate Professor of Integrative Theology, Dir. of Contextual Education, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia
- 5) *Year of birth*
1949
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have always had an affection for overseas ministry. I like learning about other cultures and meeting those who are different from myself, especially those from the third world. I have been a missionary in the Dutch Republic of Suriname, South America. I had the opportunity to represent that church at the General Assembly of the German Lutheran Church. I have visited South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Namibia, Brazil, India, Argentina, Bratislava, Hong Kong, France, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Guyana, and other places. This exposure has given me a great love for people and their differences. I am a great supporter of what it means to "accompany the other." What I bring to the Program Committee is my experience as a missionary and love for the people of God. At the seminary I teach a course on Multicultural Society/Monocultural Church. As I work with the students I am just amazed by their insights and prospects for the future of this church. Understanding how to use diversity is key.

18. Program Committee for the Global Mission unit: Clergy [Two-year term]

A. The Rev. Joel M. Flugstad

Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (4C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Our Lord Lutheran Church (ID: 01666) - Oklahoma City, Okla.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Missionary, Brazil
Conference Dean
Synod Leadership Coordinator
- 3) *Education*
Wartburg College, Bachelor Of Arts
Wartburg Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Luther Seminary, Doctor Of Ministry
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Our Lord's Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I grew up in a home where missionaries were prayed for every day. It was probably unavoidable that I would spend 12 years as a missionary myself, in Brazil.

I believe we should take seriously the mandate of Jesus to make disciples of all nations. Faith comes from hearing, and amid all the cacophony of various Christian voices I believe we Lutherans have a unique witness to our faith in Jesus Christ, informed by the Creeds (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), the Lutheran Confessions (broadly understood as law and gospel), and of course Holy Scripture.

I also believe that throughout the world, mission work of past generations has borne fruit and there are mature Christian voices that North American Christians can listen to and learn from. I would welcome God's call to serve on the Global Mission Program Committee to participate in this work of dialogue and partnership.

B. The Rev. William L. Hurst Jr.

Southwest California Synod (2B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
First Lutheran Church (ID: 14017) - Torrance, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, White Plains - Pastor
Metropolitan New York Synod -- Assistant to the Bishop
Southwest California Synod -- Conference Dean
- 3) *Education*
Queens College (City Univ of New York), Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran Theo Seminary at Philadelphia, Master Of Divinity
Lutheran Theo Seminary at Philadelphia, Doctor Of Ministry
- 4) *Employment*
Senior Pastor, First Lutheran Church and School
- 5) *Year of birth*
1957
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

In 25 years of service within the ELCA and predecessor bodies, my credo has been the call to make Christ known, as a parish pastor and mission redeveloper, synodical staff person and churchwide ministry and mission partner.

Synodical service has included concentrations in communication and mission interpretation, diaconal and baptismal formation, ecumenical and multifaith relationships, and evangelical mission outreach. These experiences convince me that our church must be more public, more diaconal, more ecumenical, and ever more explicit in terms of embracing our local and global neighborhoods.

I've served three highly diverse congregations, with a global perspective sustained through international partnerships in Central America (Iglesia Luterana Salvadorena), Asia (Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church), and Europe (Wittenberg Center).

I believe that our church's distinctive voice must be raised in today's public square, and I look forward to helping raise that voice.

19. Program Committee for the Global Mission unit: Lay Female

A. Ms. Meredith Harber

Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod (8A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 06366) - Indiana, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Young Adult in Global Mission
Youthfest Committee
Vision for the Future Task Force
- 3) *Education*
Seton Hall University, Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
- 5) *Year of birth*
1986
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a former Young Adult in Global Mission, I am incredibly passionate about the Global Mission of the ELCA.

I have seen, firsthand, the benefit of a relationship with brothers and sisters from a country other than my own. The church, as an entity, is a powerhouse for making changes in political, economic, and social justice in the world. I have applied my knowledge of the accompaniment model through Global Mission in almost every other area of my life.

I come to the table as a former and future missionary. I spent my year as a YAGM, but it has only excited me for future endeavors with the church. I am excited and passionate about where the church is going in today's world. I also come with a growing network of ecumenical connections, especially with young adults. I am energetic, passionate, vocal and creative. My heart sings for global relationships.

B. Ms. Jane Rinehart

Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. John Lutheran Church (ID: 11882) - Northfield, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
SE MN Synod Global Mission/Companion Synod Committee
Mission Partner Team, St. John Lutheran, Northfield
Benevolence and Social Concerns Board, St. John Lutheran
- 3) *Education*
St. Olaf College, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Minnesota, Doctorate In Psychology
- 4) *Employment*
Staff Psychologist, VA Medical Center
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

"Put out into deep water and let down your nets for a catch." These words have grabbed my heart. I believe God calls each of us to service. In recent years, I've been led to work with ELCA Global Mission.

Since 2005 I've served on my synod's Global Mission Committee, with four of those years as chairperson. I've learned that accompaniment is how missions are done today, and have met deeply committed Christians in the Lutheran churches in Tanzania and Colombia. This has meant trips to see the work of these churches, and to hosting visits of their leaders to my synod. It has led me to work with other Lutheran organizations, including collaboration with Global Health Ministries in Minneapolis, visits to projects of the LWF in Colombia, and helping bring the Colombian/LWR "Remember Me" art exhibit to St. Olaf College. I've learned to be a voice for mission, to tell the stories, to advocate, and help raise funds. I don't know what is next, but I'm open to letting down my nets.

20. Program Committee for the Global Mission unit: Lay Female

A. Ms. Stacy D. Kitahata

Northwest Washington Synod (1B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Immanuel Lutheran Church (ID: 12980) - Seattle, Wash.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Global Mission Gathering consultant and presenter, accompaniment and congregations
Region 1 Coordinator for Evangelical Outreach
Lutheran Public Policy Office, Washington State, Advisory Council
- 3) *Education*
McCormick Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Bachelor Of Arts
University of California Los Angeles, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Program Director, The Krista Foundation for Global Citizenship
- 5) *Year of birth*
1961
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Asia/Pacific Islander
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Congregational life not only brought me to the font as a teen to claim the Lutheran expression of the Christian faith as my own, but also to claim me for God's mission in the world. My life and service since have been an unfolding journey of discovering and practicing that calling. As a woman of color in the USA and the ELCA, I bring distinct perspectives and experience. Having served with the Global Mission unit for the first 9 years of the ELCA, I participated in shaping foundational principles, and have lived the challenges and opportunities confronting the church in the 21st century. Currently I serve with an ecumenical organization accompanying young adults into lives of service. The Krista Foundation's approach to accompaniment offers counterpoint and openness to test and extend reflection on the model. Invitation to serve on the program committee means offering all these aspects of my background to the task of God's mission through the ELCA.

B. Ms. Deborah Peters

Montana Synod (1F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
King of Glory Lutheran Church (ID: 16293) - Billings, Mont.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Program Coord. Montana Global Mission Event
Church Musician (Member, Engaging Worship Team)
Missionary, Thailand and Indonesia
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Arts
St. Louis University School of Medicine
University of Washington, Master Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
Dir. Health Administration Program and Assoc. Dir. Grants and Sponsored Prog., Montana State University, Billings
- 5) *Year of birth*
1952
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe God is calling me to something new in global mission. Most of my teenage years were spent in Johannesburg, South Africa, where my father was a missionary with LWF. My husband and I served as LCA missionaries in Thailand and Indonesia. I have also served as a consultant for Montana State University in Cairo, Egypt, and travelled extensively. Last year I accompanied Bishop Jessica Crist and others to South Africa to strengthen ties with the Cape Orange Diocese.

My professional life reflects my passion for learning and doing new things. I have served as a nutritionist, music teacher, online education coordinator, developer/director of university academic programs, assoc. dir. of university grants and sponsored programs, and director of a medical research institute.

I believe God is calling us to something new—partnership, accompaniment, and service in new ways. The world is networked, connected, and changing as never before. We are called to God's new work in this new world.

21. Program Committee for the Global Mission unit: Lay Male (PC/L)

A. Mr. Robert C. Hsu

Southwest California Synod (2B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 07212) - Monterey Park, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Legal and business counsel for Faith Lutheran Church
- 3) *Education*
Southwestern University School of Law, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
University of California Irvine
- 4) *Employment*
Attorney, Managing Partner, Law Office of Robert C. Hsu
- 5) *Year of birth*
1973
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Asia/Pacific Islander
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have felt blessed throughout my teenage years and through all of my endeavors, elementary age to now; God has been with me in all that I have done. This is an opportunity that I can contribute the training that the Lord has give me to his church's mission.

B. Mr. Rakesh Peter Dass

New England Synod (7B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 03545) - Cambridge, Mass.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Vice-President (Faith Lutheran)
Council Member (Faith Lutheran; Health Survey, Mission Fund, Counter)
Education Committee (Bethesda Lutheran Church, Conn.)
- 3) *Education*
Harvard University, Doctor Of Theology
Yale University, Master Of Divinity
University of London (Diploma in Theology), Diploma Only - No Degree
- 4) *Employment*
- 5) *Year of birth*
1978
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Asia/Pacific Islander
- 7) *Primary Language*
Not English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God's call to serve has shaped my life in three related areas: local church service, ecumenical ministry, and the theology academies of Asia and Euro-America. I have been a Lutheran in three countries (India, Hong Kong, USA) and will bring to the Global Mission committee an international and multicultural take on Lutheran life. I have served churches in India, Hong Kong, New Haven, Conn., and Cambridge, Mass., as youth leader, choir director, program manager, treasurer, church secretary, vice president, Bible study and adult ed. leader, and preacher. I worked for the National Council of Churches in India and the Christian Conference of Asia, including projects with WCC and LWF in Asia. I have engaged Asian, ecumenical, interfaith, liberation, Lutheran, and Western theologies through church service, lectures, sermons, and the academy. The belief that the life in Christ of a church is the source and goal of ministry, theology, and ecumenics grounds my witness to Christ.

22. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Clergy

A. The Rev. Ronald G. Beckman

Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church (ID: 30245) - Broomfield, Colo.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
National Church Council of the ALC
Assisting Minister and teaching Ed Classes, Cross of Christ congregation
Pulpit Supply, Rocky Mountain Synod congregations
- 3) *Education*
Wartburg College, Bachelor Of Science
Wartburg Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Iliff School of Theology, Doctor Of Ministry
- 4) *Employment*
Gift and Trust Counselor, The Good Shepherd Fund
- 5) *Year of birth*
1938
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have been blessed in so many ways during my years as a member and pastor of the ELCA. I believe that God has called me to serve in a variety of capacities in this church. After twenty-three years of parish ministry and over thirty years of specialized ministry in the field of resource development, I feel a calling to give back to my church that has blessed me with rewarding growth opportunities in skill building and faith development. I believe that God has been preparing me through these experiences and continuing service to my church. I bring maturity of faith and real life experiences to this calling. I am a Certified Gift Planning Executive (CFRE). I served as Chief Operating Officer of the Martin Luther Home Foundation before its merger to become Mosaic ministry to and with persons with disabilities. I am presently a Gift and Trust Planning Officer with the Good Shepherd Fund. I will bring to this position a seasoned perspective for mission advancement.

B. The Rev. Kristi K. Beebe

Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Nativity Lutheran Church (ID: 05471) - Commerce City, Colo.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Rocky Mountain Synod Council (including Executive Council for a term)
Mission Support Associate for Wartburg Seminary (until program ended)
ELCA Youth Gathering Synod Coordinator
- 3) *Education*
Wartburg Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Business Admin
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Nativity Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1961
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Acts 1:8 ("...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit's come upon you; you will be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth") and Mt. 28:19 ("Go...make disciples of all nations...") shape my life and remind us of the necessity and ability we have to go out and spread the Gospel with a people and world desperately in need of hearing it. We can only do this as the ELCA and in our parishes if we have the financial resources in order to do so. Our message of grace needs to be shared! As a people of faith we can best do so via the ELCA. My business degree, people skills, experience as Mission Developer Pastor, Synod Council member, Mission Support Associate for Wartburg Sem., Director for Luther Academy of the Rockies, Conference Dean, ELCA Youth Gathering Coordinator, spouse and mom of two girls adopted from China, and misc. church service gives me a very broad spectrum of the whole church, a necessity when using my God-given gifts to increase resources/revenue while serving in ELCA Mission Advancement.

23. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Clergy [Four-year term]

A. The Rev. Julie R. Malone

Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 11892) - Owatonna, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Synod Council SEMN Synod
Planning Committee Fall Theological Conference
Book of Faith Initiative (Congregation and Synod level)

3) *Education*

Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity

4) *Employment*

Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1958

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Prior to ordained ministry I was in marketing for a major insurance company (LifeUSA). As Asst. VP of Marketing I travelled around the country leading training and recruiting seminars, promoting our company and teaching agents how to sell our products. As part of corporate management I also worked on development of our products and the workshops that I and other marketers would use in the field. In the '80s LifeUSA was a new and innovative insurance company of which I was asked to be a part from the early stages of its development. We experienced amazing growth and became a publicly traded company in the stock market. My skills of communication, visioning, creativity, intuition, and flexibility, as well as a good sense of humor were valuable then and continue to be valuable in the ministry as well as my role on Synod Council and its various sub-committees on which I have served and continue to serve. I now serve a very large church as one of three FT pastors + intern and a staff of 25.

B. The Rev. Gerry L. Rafferty

Saint Paul Area Synod (3H)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (ID: 03078) - Mahtomedi, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Various Montana Synod positions - council/adjunct staff, etc
ELCA Foundation staff

3) *Education*

Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Luther Seminary, Master Of Sacred Theology
Graduate Theological Foundation, Doctor Of Ministry

4) *Employment*

Senior Philanthropic Adviser, Luther Seminary

5) *Year of birth*

1945

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I care deeply about the future of the church and am deeply committed to the life and mission of the ELCA, which is reflected in my 40 years of service in the church. I have served 27 years as a parish pastor, including four as a mission developer. I presently have 14 years of experience in the development field (three with the ELCA Foundation and 11 with the staff of Luther Seminary). I have my CFRE endorsement (Certified Fund Raising Executive) since 2005. I presently am the senior member of the philanthropic team at Luther Seminary with primary responsibility for the largest donors prospects across the US. I have helped develop (and taught) the present stewardship curriculum of Luther Seminary. I have been a member of St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, Minn., for the last ten years and presently am serving in my second term on the congregation council and the foundation board.

24. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Clergy [*Four-year term*]

A. The Rev. W. Paul Brinkman

East-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5I)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Mount Morris Holden Lutheran Church (ID: 14588) -
Wautoma, Wis.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ECSW Leadership Support Team
Stewardship Committee
Wisconsin Council of Churches
- 3) *Education*
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity
University of Arizona, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Arizona - Graduate School
- 4) *Employment*
President, LSS Foundation; Executive VP Advancement - CAO,
Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan
- 5) *Year of birth*
1946
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Through ten years of parish ministry experience and twenty years of development experience in specialized ministry with Lutheran organizations I believe God has granted me experiences that equip me for service on the Program Committee for Mission Advancement. My experience includes marketing and communications, resource development, church and community relations, advocacy, visioning, strategic planning, stewardship, fiscal and portfolio management and personnel and volunteer supervision.

B. The Rev. N. Keith Fry

Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Christ the Lord Lutheran Church (ID: 02175) - Elgin, Ill.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
New Worshiping Communities Table, Metropolitan Chicago Synod
Editor for Official Documentation, Office of the Secretary,
churchwide organization
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Divinity
Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., Master Of Arts
Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Christ the Lord Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Helping God's people issue the gospel invitation "Come and see!" to one another and to their neighbors has become central to my role as pastor. "Come and see what Christ has done and is doing! Come and see what God's future looks like!" Before becoming a pastor, I was an editorial director for Prentice Hall Publishers. In 25 years in that vocation, I learned to present ideas in unique ways, using media from print to video to Web. This church must find new, Spirit-inspired ways of communicating with our world--and with one another--that will speak the invitation effectively.

Part of inviting one another into God's future is inviting one another to give. My business experience equips me with skills for building toward the future, and my role as pastor has increased my sense of the importance of joyful giving. I believe that my first vocation and my current one come together to prepare me to serve this church on this program committee, and I would be honored to serve.

25. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Clergy [Two-year term]

A. The Rev. William S. Maxon

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod (7E)

1) *Congregational membership*

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (ID: 00351) - Allentown, Pa.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Church and Society Program Committee
Chair Synodical Witness and Service Committee
Chair Lutheran Congregational Services Board

3) *Education*

Drew University, Doctor Of Philosophy
Washington University, Master Of Social Work
Christ Seminary Seminex, Master Of Divinity

4) *Employment*

Senior Pastor, Christ Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1952

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

After doing interims in two city congregations, coming to Christ Church afforded me the opportunity to serve an urban parish that was making a real difference in the city. Keeping members while expanding mission into the neighborhood is a real challenge. By communicating the successful mission outreach of our congregation to our members, everyone stays connected to why we are in the city and why we remain excited about the difference we make, especially with the children. I live out what I preach by working in my parish and community. I served as President of my Lions Club, Board Chair of Via, which serves people with disabilities, Committee Chair of the Synodical Witness and Service Team and churchwide voting member in 2005 and again in 2011. I regularly attend meetings with the Mayor and School Board. I offer consultation for congregations, councils, and individuals as they explore developing mission in their place.

B. The Rev. Erik T. R. Samuelson

Northwest Washington Synod (1B)

1) *Congregational membership*

Advent Lutheran Church (ID: 07587) - Mill Creek, Wash.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

EOCM Program Committee (2009-2010)
ELCA Youth Gathering Dome Creative Team
First Call Theological Education

3) *Education*

Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Arts
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Graduate Theological Union, Master Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Campus Pastor/Director of Spiritual and Vocational Formation, Trinity Lutheran College

5) *Year of birth*

1978

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I grew up in a mission congregation and have had a missional and interconnected sense of church ever since. My studies at PLTS led me to draw deeper into mission development work, I served as a redeveloper in my first call, and have been approved as a mission developer. In the past few years, I've discerned a call to outreach to those outside of the institutional church--particularly young adults--and I long for the ELCA to get deeper into this work as well. My work with the Youth Gathering has shown me the power of this church in collaborative outreach, and I long to see more cooperative efforts to share the Gospel across our church. It is the stories of God in mission that I think drive our shared work in the ELCA, and communicating those stories is key to our mission together. Through my work with redevelopment it has become clear to me that we need to be creative and find new ways to use (and repurpose) the gifts God has given us to be about this work.

26. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Clergy [Two-year term]

A. The Rev. Janice M. E. Lowden

Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)

1) Congregational membership

Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 01169) - Landisville, Pa.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

ELCA Regional Representative to Tanzania (and Rwanda)
DE-MD Synod Mission Through Partnerships Team
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Millersville, MD

3) Education

James Madison University, Bachelor Of Science In Education
Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, Master Of
Divinity
College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Master Of Arts In
Ministerial Studies

4) Employment

Pastor, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

5) Year of birth

1956

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

It is because of a past bequest of a member to my home congregation that I and several other members of the congregation were enabled to attend seminary in preparation for ministry within the church. This was my introduction to the importance of providing endowments for future ministries of the church through bequests and deferred giving.

Throughout my ministry, I have been involved on boards and committees for ministries that have benefitted from these gifts. These included boards for social ministry organizations, the Alumni Council of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (4 yrs.), and Lutheran Campus Ministry in Baltimore, Md.

B. The Rev. Kristina L. Waters

Southwestern Minnesota Synod (3F)

1) Congregational membership

Union State Line Lutheran Church (ID: 11008) - Jackson, Minn.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Pastor

3) Education

Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity
University of North Dakota, Bachelor Of Business Admin

4) Employment

Pastor, Union State Line and Immanuel Lutheran Churches

5) Year of birth

1982

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

Mission Advancement is what I believe to be focus of the whole church. By serving on the Program Committee for Mission Advancement, I will help the people of the ELCA to best use our resources to reach out to those who are hungry to hear the good news. I have gained some basic experience working in stewardship in the small congregations I serve, and also have a background in business and marketing with my undergraduate degree. Coming from a younger generation that so many find missing in their congregations, I feel I can relate well to a group of people who may be part of our greatest opportunity for mission.

27. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Female

A. Ms. Sarah Gioe

Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)

1) Congregational membership

Advent Lutheran Church (ID: 03825) - New York, N.Y.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Advent Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund
Advent Lutheran Church Equipo El Salvador
Metropolitan New York Synod Environmental Stewardship Com.

3) Education

St. Olaf College, Bachelor Of Arts

4) Employment

Director of Communication and Interpretation, Metropolitan
New York Synod

5) Year of birth

1977

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

Working as a graphic designer at the churchwide offices for four years deepened my appreciation for the scope of ELCA ministries. At another job, I was inspired by those who equip the saints at LSTC. After a move, another Lutheran job landed in my lap, and I learned the mission stories of the Metropolitan New York Synod. I have served as the Director of Communication and Interpretation for five years. I enjoy designing, editing, writing, and organizing, but what I do most is try to translate the work of the wider church in ways in which the ordinary person in the pew—or out in the world—can understand and relate.

I am a lifelong Lutheran. Through experiences participating in my high school youth group, serving as a counselor to the same youth group, my travels to global companion synods, my volunteer work and my employment with the Lutheran church, my sense of call stems from taking advantage of the opportunities the church has offered me. I would be honored to work on this program committee.

B. Ms. Elizabeth A. Norris

North Carolina Synod (9B)

1) Congregational membership

St. Stephen Lutheran Church (ID: 04163) - Lenoir, N.C.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Served as Youth Representative for North Carolina Synod

3) Education

4) Employment

5) Year of birth

1990

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

From the time I was young, I have understood that God has a calling for each one of us, but yet many times it is not clear to us what it is. I was an active youth for six years and seek chances for young adults. I had the opportunity to get experience at the churchwide level through the Youth Convo. After attending the National Youth Gathering 2009 in New Orleans, I then got to be a delegate for the National LYO Convention. I am very active in my home church, St. Stephen, Lenoir, N.C. While not knowing where my path is going, I am taking every chance that I get. The week after my high school graduation, I joined with three churches and 60 people, including other graduates, and went to New Orleans for a mission trip! Some worked on houses, and some cleaned the church. In the evening I was part of the team that did Bible school for the church. It was a magical experience that all should have, and it takes place through mission work.

28. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Female [Four-year term]

A. Ms. Kathleen B. Lemmerbrock

Northwestern Ohio Synod (6D)

1) Congregational membership

St. Mark Lutheran Church (ID: 04741) - Bowling Green, Ohio

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Synodical Review Task Force - NW Ohio Synod
NW Ohio Synod Staff - Synod Administrator

3) Education

Bowling Green State University, Master Of Arts
Bowling Green State University, Master Of Public
Administration
Bowling Green State University, Master Of Arts

4) Employment

Executive Director LHS Foundation, Lutheran Homes Society

5) Year of birth

1952

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

With each day, new challenges are being given to society and to each of us as individuals. The church must be in the forefront of response to our social challenges with a clear integration of Christ in the world. The church has an opportunity to remind all that this journey encompasses both the spiritual and the secular, and to truly be the voice of Christ, our hands must be dirtied by the stuff of life that we often times want to push aside for a "cleaner" faith. This reflects my faith journey as I have served in both the secular and the spiritual and for me my faith journey keeps pushing to ensure that both are reflected in my daily walk with God. We cannot live our faith without integrating all we are into who and whose we are. That is true for the church as well. We must be ready to stand with those for whom the face of Christ is often obstructed and cannot be seen. Often times, we are the only face they see. This a perfect time to be the church in and with the world.

B. Ms. Katherine S. Sawyer

Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)

1) Congregational membership

Lutheran Church of the Atonement (ID: 10575) - Barrington, Ill.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Music Ministry - continuing service as praise and worship singer, choir member, cantor
Youth Ministry - in three 4-year periods for two congregations

3) Education

George Mason University, Master Of Business Administration
West Virginia University, Bachelor Of Business Admin

4) Employment

Associate Executive Director, Harper College Educational Foundation

5) Year of birth

1965

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

Raised in a faith-filled Lutheran home, service and outreach are central life skills adopted from models set forth by my parents, pastors, and mentors. I have been called to lifelong service as a lay leader in a variety of congregational homes, allowing me to experience the breadth of the church's ministry in congregations of different sizes and synods throughout the country (Virginia, California, and Illinois). As an executive in non-profit and for-profit industries, I have professional expertise in strategic planning and fundraising (annual, major, and planned giving). I am experienced in bridging diverse, cross-functional teams to reach common goals. My marketing, P.R., and advocacy background have been valuable tools in my career to communicate mission through a philanthropic case for support. I have a collaborative style combined with top strength areas: Strategic, Achiever, Arranger, Activator, and Futuristic. It would be my honor to lend my passion, skills and gifts to the churchwide office.

29. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Female [Four-year term]

A. Ms. Cecelia J. Travick-Jackson

Southwest California Synod (2B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Ascension Lutheran Church (ID: 14014) - Thousand Oaks, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Southwest California Synod
Rocky Mountain Synod
Prince of Peace / Trinity Long Island, New York
- 3) *Education*
University of New Mexico, Doctor Of Philosophy
University of Hartford, Master Of Arts In Education
Hampton University, Bachelor Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
Associate Professor, California Lutheran University
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am an organizer and a methodical thinker who is capable of seeing a "bigger picture." My gifts manifest themselves through the art of teaching research. I am currently an associate professor at California Lutheran University's Graduate School of Education. My previous occupations include high school language arts teacher, director in community theaters, and assistant manager of branch banking, all of which include communication, marketing, data management and funding, skills crucial to Mission Advancement.

My service to the church began with the formation of the ELCA, and has continued as a member of the Candidacy Committee, the Multicultural Advisory Committee, representative to one of our companion synods in Madagascar, and participant on a Lutheran Heritage Tour to Germany. I am the current chair of the Committee on Reference and Counsel. I bring a broad and diverse perspective, experience, and a willingness to serve.

B. Ms. Leslie A. Whited

Rocky Mountain Synod (2E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Mount Tabor Lutheran Church (ID: 13958) - Salt Lake City, Utah
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Aging Ministries - ELCA Churchwide via Rocky Mountain Synod
Anti-Racism - Women of the ELCA Churchwide
Assistant Minister - Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Doctor Of Ministry
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Arts In Ministerial Studies
Loyola University of Chicago, Bachelor Of Business Admin
- 4) *Employment*
Diaconal Minister/President, Lutheran Social Service of Utah
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Other Heritage
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I've served on the ALDE (Assn. of Lutheran Development Executives) Finance and Membership Board during the last decade. They encouraged us to nominate ourselves if we had a passion for this work.

My Doctor of Ministry is in Mission and Leadership (2008). My thesis is on "Wisdom's Footsteps: Accompaniment in Native American Context." Much of the compiled work includes global art; a personal journal in the Chippewa-Cree context, prose, etc. I've felt called to serve in Mission and Advancement areas in my early 50s, so maybe I'm old enough now. I would bring 30 years experience in social ministry and advancement contexts from Boston/Jamaica Plain, Mass., Lehigh Valley, Pa., Mankato, Minn., Chicago, Ill., and Salt Lake City, Utah. I enjoy working in collective ways. I'm open to tradition and new ideas and feel I'm an integrationist.

The context of Utah provides me with an ever open eye toward building relevant, fiscally solid, ministry. Yet, my home church is traditional--Immanuel Lutheran, Chicago.

30. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Female [Two-year term]

A. Ms. Theresa J. Endres

Minneapolis Area Synod (3G)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church (ID: 02996) - Excelsior, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
National Diaconal Ministry Leadership Team
Interlutheran Coordinating Committee on Ministerial Health and Wellness
Macedonia Project Leadership Team
- 3) *Education*
Univ. of St. Thomas, School of Business Excellence, Certificate
Luther Seminary, Master Of Arts
Marquette University, Bachelor Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
Director of Stewardship and Development, Minneapolis Area Synod
- 5) *Year of birth*
1962
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a diaconal minister of the ELCA, I am called to be at the interface between church and world, and equip the baptized to live out our call to diaconia - to serve. I live out God's call by creatively sharing the story of the mission and work of the ELCA in order to instill passionate financial support for this work. In addition I work with lay volunteers to develop new ways to tell the story to a broader and wider audience. Another way I live out God's call to the church is by exploring business models that may be helpful to our ministry. After seminary I have taken non-profit entrepreneurial leadership development training at the University of St. Thomas School of Business Excellence. The Minneapolis Area Synod has benefitted from this specialized training as we work to develop new models for partnering congregations that grow vital and sustainable ministry. I would look forward to the opportunity to learn from others in this work.

B. Ms. Janet E. Thompson

Saint Paul Area Synod (3H)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church (ID: 11727) - Eagan, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Saint Paul Area Synod Vice President
ELCA Church Council, Executive Committee; chair
Planning and Evaluation Committee
Board of Trustees, Augsburg Fortress Publishing
- 3) *Education*
St. Olaf College, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Southern California, Master Of Science In Education
- 4) *Employment*
Associate VP for Advancement and College Relations, St. Olaf College
- 5) *Year of birth*
1948
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My sense of call to this committee is one of surprise. Just when I think I have been used completely, God's word is that there is one more thing to do. And, in that moment I realize that this brings together previous experiences and interests in my life. The ELCA needs to strengthen relationships with congregations and members, and needs to build strong financial resources to live out the mission to which God is calling this whole church. That is the charge for this unit.

The work of this committee makes use of both my knowledge of the church and church governance, and my work experience in advancement and public relations in higher education.

31. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Female [Two-year term]

A. Ms. Sheila Radford-Hill

Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)

1) Congregational membership

Bethel Lutheran Church (ID: 01854) - Chicago, Ill.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Board Member--Lutheran Services in America

3) Education

Columbia Commonwealth, Doctor Of Humanities
University of Pennsylvania, Master Of Arts
De Paul, Bachelor Of Arts In Ed.

4) Employment

Executive Director, Diversity Center, Luther College

5) Year of birth

1949

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

At this point in my career, I am interested in working globally and thinking locally. I want to see how human service organizations and initiatives are making a difference in the world, and I want to meet and work with people who share my passion for making the world a better place. God's work, our hands.

I am interested in the on-going work of the Lutheran Foundation and I want to learn more about Lutheran philanthropy more broadly.

The gifts that I bring are as follows: I am professionally qualified, know the value of clear communications, and have the ability to understand budgets and their implications. I care about people and work well with others.

B. Ms. Doris M. Underwood

Southeastern Synod (9D)

1) Congregational membership

Messiah Lutheran Church (ID: 07732) - Montgomery, Ala.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Congregational President
Candidacy Committee of Southeastern Synod
Vice President of Southeastern Synod

3) Education

Auburn University Montgomery, Bachelor Of Liberal Studies

4) Employment

Manager, Baptist Health

5) Year of birth

1946

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I have felt the call to serve God through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America since 1999 when I served on the Call Committee of my local congregation, and as my service has expanded, so has the "call to serve" expanded.

My love of the church, my ten years of experience as a local lay leader, including six years on the Candidacy Committee of the Southeastern Synod (two of them as chair), my service on the Synod Council and now as Vice President as well as my skills as a manager in developing service programs and my interpersonal skills equip me for service on this Committee.

32. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Male

A. Mr. Ronald C. Gubrud

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod (4D)

1) *Congregational membership*

First United Lutheran Church (ID: 05927) - Dallas, Texas

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Synod Council NTNL Synod
Congregation President First United Lutheran Church
Metropolitan Chicago Synod Education Committee

3) *Education*

Northeastern Illinois University, Bachelor Of Arts
Texas Women's University, Master Of Business
Administration

4) *Employment*

Office Supervisor, Children's Medical Center Dallas

5) *Year of birth*

1961

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God has gifted me with the desire to serve, the ability to work hard, learn quickly, and the commitment to see a job completed. I am an introvert by nature and shy away from the spotlight; however, I am compelled to serve God in capacities that stretch my comfort level. My spiritual journey mirrors that of many Lutherans of my generation; born and raised in Chicago, I attended church services on a weekly basis through confirmation. After graduating college, seeking renewed spiritual growth, I again began to attend church services regularly. Since returning to the fold, I have felt called to serve, on congregational committees, as congregational president, as conference planning committee chair, Prince of Peace Lutheran School board member, and on synod committees, in synods or conferences associated with congregations to which I belonged. I also served on the NTNL synod council. I served on the consolidation committee and council of United in Faith in Chicago, before moving to Dallas.

B. Mr. Larry P. Johnson

Northwest Washington Synod (1B)

1) *Congregational membership*

Lord of Life Lutheran Church (ID: 16007) - Renton, Wash.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Synod Vice President
Synod Council
Congregational President

3) *Education*

University of Washington, Masters In Education
Central Washington University, Bachelor Of Education

4) *Employment*

Northwest Mission Advancement, Lutheran World Relief

5) *Year of birth*

1947

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have been blessed to work for 26 years in fundraising for agencies of the ELCA. This has given me a clear view of the importance of the need to fund the work of the mission and ministry of this church. It is a calling that has allowed me to work, as a lay person, in the direct ministry of this church and to gain the deep understanding of the quality and ethics of how funds are used to serve so many.

Through leadership at the synod level, I have clearly experienced the value of the three expressions of the ELCA-- congregations, synods and the churchwide structure. I have been a strong advocate for congregations and our synod to work toward providing the appropriate and necessary support toward the mission advancement of the ELCA. It is money very well used.

Serving on the committee of this unit will be another way to continue to use the training and expertise I have developed over my many years of professional and volunteer experience.

33. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Male

A. Mr. C. Bjorn Peterson

Northwest Washington Synod (1B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Edmonds Lutheran Church (ID: 30665) - Edmonds, Wash.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Church Council Nativity Lutheran Church, Bend, Ore.
Consultant for Global Mission Gatherings
Workshop presenter for Global Mission Gatherings
- 3) *Education*
Oregon State University, Bachelor Of Liberal Studies
Seattle University, Master Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Communications Manager, Edmonds Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1981
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My BS is in Communication and Group Identity and I am pursuing a MA in Transformational Leadership at Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry. I am employed as the Minister of Communication at Edmonds Lutheran Church and am a cofounder of The 99 Collective, a young adult-led movement of the church struggling for Radical Hospitality. I have lived in many areas of the country and have a strong understanding of the many contexts in which ministry is done in the ELCA. My passion is working with intergenerational communities to transform the way church and society intersect. My passion for justice, inclusive community, and the social statements of the ELCA guide my understanding of where the church has been and is going. I believe it's a very exciting time to be in the ELCA as we've been pruned but are ready for new shoots. I am honored to be considered to represent not only young adults, but also the marginalized and oppressed communities that we stand in solidarity with.

B. Mr. Eric M. Peterson

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5K)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Bethel Lutheran Church (ID: 14713) - Madison, Wis.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Synod Council and Executive Committee - South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Synod Assembly Resolutions Committee, Chair - South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Building Program Chair - Balsam Lutheran, Amery, Wis.
- 3) *Education*
UW-River Falls, No Degree Earned
Amery High School, Diploma Only - No Degree
- 4) *Employment*
Chief of Staff, Wisconsin State Senate
- 5) *Year of birth*
1979
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As I have grown up in this church, I have been amazed at the freedom we have to tell the story of Jesus and the work of the Spirit in this world. The ELCA shows leadership in our mission by building new avenues of telling and supporting the story, through areas like the Macedonia Project. "Mission advancement" is rooted in the church of the first century that was willing to give all, to tell all, for the sake of the world.

As we go forward into a future for the church that is uncertain and unknown at times, I would like to put my leadership skills, abilities, and thoughts to use to help grow the church. To me, leaders in mission advancement are good stewards who place personal mission support first in giving, work with an outstanding staff to tell the story better, and grow relationships with the laity to build the infrastructure needed to expand the telling of the story. I hope that we can build on bigger visions for advancing the work of this church in the days to come.

34. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Male

A. Mr. Frederick H. Heintz

Northwestern Ohio Synod (6D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Olivet Lutheran Church (ID: 04719) - Sylvania, Ohio
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Congregation Council - President
NW Ohio Synod - Funding Task Force - Annual Appeal Chair
Voting Member, Churchwide Assembly
- 3) *Education*
Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, Master Of Arts
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, Master Of Divinity
The American College-Chartered Financial Consultant
- 4) *Employment*
Executive Director, LSS Foundation, Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio
- 5) *Year of birth*
1953
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Career - 12 years as parish pastor in rural, suburban, downtown/urban settings. 15 years as financial advisor; five years as executive director of LSS Foundation, overseeing agency's endowment funds, nurturing relationships with congregations and supporters, and serving as major and estate giving officer.

I have come to understand that God has been leading me in the direction of my career path. I certainly do not possess all answers, but I believe I have gained a skill in asking thoughtful and incisive questions of myself and others. I remain open to alternative perceptions, new opportunities, and different solutions than I might have envisioned.

B. Mr. Philip C. Meuser

Northwestern Ohio Synod (6D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Hope Lutheran Church (ID: 04731) - Ottawa Hills, Ohio
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Director of Mission Outreach, Hope Lutheran
Chair, Call Committee, Hope Lutheran
President, Church Council, St. James Lutheran, Toledo, Ohio
- 3) *Education*
Drury University, Springfield, Mo., Bachelor Of Arts
American University, Washington, D.C., Master Of Business Administration
- 4) *Employment*
Vice President, Sales, Giant Industries
- 5) *Year of birth*
1940
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

The Lord has presented me with an opportunity to possibly serve, if elected, in the arena of expanding the mission field for God's work. I have learned over the years that when God calls, I will answer, listen, seek, and follow his direction.

My experience over 44 years in industrial sales, marketing, and general management has prepared me to work with and lead teams to achieve stated goals. In the process, there have been situations when the goals were not met. In times like this, I have learned that through prayer, discernment, and trust in God, we must, at times, reevaluate and perhaps redevelop our goals. Then, we start the process again, following more closely the direction in which he is leading.

Over the years, I have learned to manage by consensus and discernment. It has not always been the easiest way and can at times be the most challenging; but I have found it to be the most rewarding and fulfilling.

35. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Male [Four-year term]

A. Mr. Joseph P. Lindell

Minneapolis Area Synod (3G)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Edina Community Lutheran Church (ID: 11827) - Edina, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Young Adults Convocation
Young Adults Consultation
Voting Member, Minneapolis Area Synod
- 3) *Education*
Concordia College, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Director of Annual Giving, Augsburg College
- 5) *Year of birth*
1973
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

At a young age, I learned about stewardship from my parents' faithful and generous giving to their congregations, first Grace Lutheran Church in Oakes, N.D., and then Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo, N.D. As a student at Concordia, I worked in the Office of Development, where I met and connected with both the college development staff and many major donors, folks like Ron Offutt and Norman Lorentzen.

My grandparents, Milton and Leona Lindell, are generous donors, and I have had many conversations with them about their giving and giving in general. They are my philanthropic mentors, and my wife and I have tried to follow their example of generous giving. We aim to tithe each year to a variety of organizations, with the largest gift going to our congregations.

Inspired by my experience at Concordia, my entire working career has been focused on philanthropy: at Lincoln Park Zoo, during a year of service in Lutheran Volunteer Corps, at Youth Encounter, and Macalester and Augsburg Colleges.

B. Mr. Gerald J. Vagts

Minneapolis Area Synod (3G)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Grace University Lutheran Church (ID: 03137) - Minneapolis, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Zion Lutheran Church - Stewartville, Minn.
Holden Village - Chelan, Wash.
Pilgrim Lutheran Church - Saint Paul, Minn.
- 3) *Education*
Winona State University, Bachelor Of Education
Winona Sate University, Master Of Arts In Education
Winona State University, Educational Specialist
- 4) *Employment*
Community Organizer, Lutherans Concerned/North America
- 5) *Year of birth*
1945
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

The sense of church and community, which was demonstrated to me by my parents, has always been a vital part of my life. As I have grown older, I have felt a strong degree of responsibility that we as a worldwide community can care for those less fortunate. It has been said it takes a village to raise a child. I also feel it takes a tribe to care for its people. Life is easy to become consuming. Opportunities to be involved with organizations can give us opportunities to reach and grow beyond ourselves. My life experiences as a parent, an educator, an administrator, and a community organizer for a minority group seeking inclusion in our church give me insight, skills, and background that I feel would be helpful to me in this position at the churchwide level to work for and with others. I am honored to be nominated and if selected will do my best to serve.

36. Program Committee for the Mission Advancement unit: Lay Male (Y/YA) (PC/L) [Two-year term]

A. Mr. Eric D. Johnson

Southwest California Synod (2B)

1) Congregational membership

St. Mark Lutheran Church (ID: 05024) - Los Angeles, Calif.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Mission trip to Africa with Bishop Dean Nelson
Youth Director at St. Mark's Lutheran Church

3) Education

West Los Angeles College, Associates Degree In The Arts

4) Employment

Teacher of Developmentally Delayed Students, Spirit Child
Development Center

5) Year of birth

1984

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I've worked with the youth of our church for several years. We performed for an event where Bishop Nelson witnessed the closeness of our multi-cultural group. I am assuming that prompted his invitation for me to accompany him on the mission trip to Ethiopia. It was awe-inspiring. To worship with those that have literally nothing but the love of God and his promise to sustain them was humbling and enlightening.

Working extensively with developmentally delayed children and watching them progress has given me patience and understanding. I enjoy assisting those I can, and learn from the experiences of others.

My plan is to complete my education, earn a teaching credential, and with God's help, continue to work with developmentally delayed children.

B. Mr. Louis Y. Moehlman

Pacifica Synod (2C)

1) Congregational membership

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (ID: 05102) - Garden Grove, Calif.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Church Council
Pacifica Synod LYO board member

3) Education

4) Employment

5) Year of birth

1992

6) Ethnicity

Asia/Pacific Islander

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

Ever since I was a child, I have felt joy being at the church I attended. We have a strong youth presence on a regular basis, and I felt that was a warming sense. I became active in the youth group when I started junior high and have continued to be active. I have always had a sense of calling to go into the ministry. My uncle, an ordained ELCA pastor, has always mentioned that I have a heart to go into the ministry, and it was not until we had an intern from PLTS that I became fully aware of my calling to go into the ministry.

Outside of my home congregation, I have felt that I should expand my knowledge of the youth groups within my synod. I was nominated to the Pacifica Synod's LYO board and have actively served for one year. I also look to be a camp counselor this summer at El Camino Pines, a camp with LRCC. I feel that my youth and insight to the church of tomorrow will help to make advances that will better the future of the Lutheran church.

37. ELCA Board of Pensions Board of Trustees: Female Plan Participant

A. Ms. Raye Nae D. Nylander

South Dakota Synod (3C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
East Nidaros Lutheran Church (ID: 13503) – Baltic, S.D.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Served at Sioux Falls Homeless Shelter-Banquet
Participated in Alzheimers Association events
Contributed to local United Way
- 3) *Education*
Appleton High School, Appleton, Minn., Diploma Only - No Degree
National College of Business, Rapid City, S.D., Bachelor Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
Chief Financial Office, Executive Vice President, Treasurer of multiple entities, Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society
- 5) *Year of birth*
1951
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

In my role serving in a faith-based non-profit service organization, since 2002 I have been responsible for overseeing a \$1.5B balance sheet, assuring financial health and financial transparency of the largest senior care provider in the country. I am responsible for the Society's financing, investments, treasury, risk insurance, purchasing, and transactional accounting functions. My role at the Society provides me an opportunity to experience and team with external partners that help me learn and understand how other concepts and ideas can impact our organization. I currently lead a strategic team with an objective to influence and redesign reimbursement streams resulting from our organization's redefinition of new resident-centered models of care as a result of Health Care Reform changes. The Society has 24,000 employees receiving benefits. This experience helps me to understand the complexities in overseeing benefit programs of the size found at the Board of Pensions.

B. The Rev. Marty E. Stevens

Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. James Lutheran Church (ID: 01064) - Gettysburg, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Financial supporter of local charities
- 3) *Education*
University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Bachelor Of Science
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Union Seminary of Richmond, Doctor Of Philosophy
- 4) *Employment*
CFO, Registrar, and Associate Professor of Biblical Studies and Stewardship, Lutheran Theological Seminary
- 5) *Year of birth*
1953
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am both a CPA and a biblical scholar in service to this church. This Board is an ideal place for those interests to join together. As a Board member, I would be attentive, organized, prepared, and engaged. Serving in an institution of this church (Gettysburg Seminary) has allowed me to be at intersections of many facets of this church's life: churchwide organization, synods, congregations, and leaders.

I believe that I bring an unusual perspective as both a CPA and a biblical scholar. I understand and appreciate the intersections of church and finance, and can navigate the situations when they seem to be in conflict.

38. ELCA Board of Pensions Board of Trustees: Lay Female

A. Ms. Pamela F. Olson

Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod (8G)

1) *Congregational membership*

Resurrection Lutheran Church (ID: 06025) - Arlington, Va.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Executive Board, Parent Teachers Association
Arlington Forest Community Association Board of Directors
Music at Resurrection Board Chair

3) *Education*

University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Minnesota Law School
University of Minnesota Graduate School, Master Of Business Administration

4) *Employment*

Tax Practice Leader, Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom, LLP

5) *Year of birth*

1954

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Some of my relevant pension experience is outlined above. In particular, I have experience with a pension plan board, having served for three years on the ABA Retirement Funds Board of Trustees, an organization comparable to the ELCA Board of Pensions. I also have advised clients on employee plan administration for a number of years, helped the IRS redesign its program that allows employers to correct employee plan errors voluntarily, designed a defined benefit plan acquisition program, and served as Assistant Treasury Secretary for Tax Policy, where I had responsibility for legislative proposals, regulations, and rulings related to employee plan qualification and operation. While serving as Assistant Treasury Secretary, I led a team of lawyers, economists, and actuaries in the development of a budget proposal that would have streamlined and simplified employee plan qualification and administration. I also taught risk management and insurance at the University of Minnesota.

B. Ms. Brenda K. Wilcox

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5K)

1) *Congregational membership*

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ID: 06775) - Madison, Wis.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Treasurer of Tempo, Woman's Leadership Organization
Support of local food pantry
Very Special Arts volunteer

3) *Education*

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Bachelor Of Business Admin
Stanford University, Master Of Business Administration

4) *Employment*

Corporate Vice President - Business Process/Finance, Thermo Fisher Scientific

5) *Year of birth*

1958

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a lifelong Christian, I would find it extremely rewarding to work with the ELCA Board of Pensions to enhance the well-being of our church leaders. I'm a strong team player and would be very committed to serve the Board in any way that I could. My educational training in accounting, combined with my career experiences in both public accounting and within a publicly-traded U.S. corporation provides a strong foundation to support the activities of the Board. My nine-plus years of general management experience have allowed me many opportunities to make decisions to support the well-being of my various teams.

For over six years, I had general management responsibilities for a multi-national business. Leading a multi-cultural, multi-functional team enabled me to develop the skills necessary to lead a team with very diverse views and experiences. For the past three years, I've been responsible for the development of new programs for some of my company's largest customers.

39. ELCA Board of Pensions Board of Trustees: Lay Female

A. Ms. Janette E. Drew

Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)

1) *Congregational membership*

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church (ID: 05062) - Walnut Creek, Calif.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Volunteer work at Love-A-Child, shelter for women/children
Feeding hungry/homeless at Loaves and Fishes
Preparing backpacks for needy children/students for Pack to the Future

3) *Education*

Pepperdine University, Master Of Business Administration
Stanislaus, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Vice President, BASEL II Business Analyst, Senior, Bank of the West

5) *Year of birth*

1956

6) *Ethnicity*

American Indian/Alaska Native

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God has gifted me with a heart of service and has equipped me via my education, training, and experience in financial matters to bring my own unique perspective to this board. I am extremely comfortable and confident in a leadership role and am valued for my logical thinking and team attitude.

My experience in working with large (secular) public companies (Citibank, CIT, Merrill Lynch) the variety of roles I have assumed, combined with the experience of building programs and serving on two congregation councils provide a strong background and framework to contribute substantially to this board. I am excited about this opportunity and look forward to employing all my background and experience into serving on the board. Thank you for your consideration.

B. Ms. Dianne Witte

New England Synod (7B)

1) *Congregational membership*

Bethesda Lutheran Church (ID: 03464) - New Haven, Conn.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Former chair, Bethesda Music Series, 4-6 benefit concerts raising approx. \$12,000 annually
Former member and officer (secretary, vice president), Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund
Chair statewide committee, National Organization for Women in Illinois

3) *Education*

Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill., Bachelor Of Arts
Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Conn., Master Of Divinity

4) *Employment*

Assistant Director, Principal Gifts, Office of Development, Yale University

5) *Year of birth*

1956

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am a life-long Lutheran with a desirable combination of education, experience, ELCA knowledge, and character. As student body president at Augustana College, I had a front row seat to the school's governance. Fundraising for Augustana exposed me to its institutional goals. I had the self confidence to move to Washington, D.C., where I gained perspectives on Capital Hill and at a national non-profit. At Augustana, D.C., I served on the council and was a synod convention delegate. I chose to explore my sense of call to ordained ministry at the challenging Yale Divinity School. At Bethesda, New Haven, I serve in nearly every capacity and was a synod convention delegate. I have been employed at Yale for 18 years dealing with issues at the highest administrative level, including those related to endowment investment and most important alumni. I am not afraid to make difficult decisions and have a strong sense of responsibility, a sense of humor, good judgment, and maturity.

40. ELCA Board of Pensions Board of Trustees: Lay Male

A. Mr. William J. Falk

Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)

1) *Congregational membership*

Our Saviour Lutheran Church (ID: 01850) - Arlington Heights, Ill.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

PADS volunteer

3) *Education*

Michigan State University, Bachelor Of Science

4) *Employment*

Principial (retired), Towers Watson

5) *Year of birth*

1949

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have considerable experience as both a pension actuary and health actuary. I have also served on three elected boards of professional organizations (Society of Actuaries, American Academy of Actuaries, and Conference of Consulting Actuaries). Thus, I have both applicable expertise and board experience. In addition, my time on the OSLC Personnel Committee has provided perspective on the effect on a local congregation.

I would contribute tax actuarial skills and training along with my experience working with employers on their pension and health care benefits.

B. Mr. Daniel E. Meylink Sr.

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5K)

1) *Congregational membership*

Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 14706) - Lake Mills, Wis.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Led School District bond issue campaign
Financial education for underprivileged middle school children
Little League coach

3) *Education*

University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska
University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, Bachelor Of Science
Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa, No Degree Earned

4) *Employment*

Retired Chief Officer, Lending Products and Services, CUNA Mutual Group

5) *Year of birth*

1951

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have a great deal of experience in the financial industry. I have specific training and experience in the pension business and the investment industry. I have served on various boards in the past and have enjoyed being part of a group committed to making things better.

I am by nature fairly conservative in most areas of finance, both corporate and personal.

41. ELCA Board of Pensions Board of Trustees: Lay Male

A. Mr. Gregory W. Heidrich

Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 01902) - Glen Ellyn, Ill.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
PADS volunteer - past and occasional
Boy Scout volunteer
- 3) *Education*
University of Chicago, Master Of Arts
University of Oklahoma, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Executive Director, Society of Actuaries
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have a strong commitment to, and understanding of, the importance of providing excellent employee benefits to staff who serve a mission-driven organization. I have worked in senior leadership positions and both as a member/delegate and as staff for a number of mission-driven boards. I understand very well how to work with others on a board to achieve good results in a collaborative and mutually cooperative way. I take my responsibilities seriously and complete assignments as promised. I would view this service as a spiritual ministry and carry it out accordingly.

Key perspectives I would contribute include:

1. Non-profit staff- I understand and can help articulate their point of view and perspective.
2. Employee/Management-I bring the perspective of designing and administering employee benefit programs.
3. Plan Administrator-served as plan administrator for a defined benefit pension plan and learned plan issues, regulations, investment standards, and operations.

B. Mr. Raymond F. McCaskey

Metropolitan Chicago Synod (5A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Christ Lutheran Church (ID: 10754) - Palatine, Ill.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
United Way - Board member/campaign chair
Chicago Shakespeare Theater - Board chair
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation-Board mbr.
- 3) *Education*
Wartburg College, Bachelor Of Arts
DePaul University, Master Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
CEO, Health Care Service Corp
- 5) *Year of birth*
1943
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have had extensive Board experience as a member of many non-profit boards over the past 20 years. I believe I understand how such boards and committees can work effectively.

My professional training and career experience directly addresses the technical challenges facing the Board of Pensions, especially as they relate to health care issues.

42. Board of Trustees of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA: Clergy (PC/L)

A. The Rev. Linda Boston

Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)

1) *Congregational membership*

Lutheran Church of Our Savior (ID: 13978) - San Francisco, Calif.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Trinity Lutheran Church, Jackson, Miss.
Lutheran Church of Our Savior, San Francisco, Calif.
Grace Lutheran Church, San Jose, Calif.

3) *Education*

United Theological Seminary, Doctor Of Ministry
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
San Francisco State University, No Degree Earned

4) *Employment*

5) *Year of birth* 1950

6) *Ethnicity*

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God has favored me with ministry positions in various geographic and economic sectors of the ELCA. I have experience working, living, and serving in ethnically diverse congregations in the inner city, urban, and urban/rural areas of the South East, Midwest, and Western regions of the USA. I have served in financially secure and financially destitute congregations. I am familiar with worship and religious trends in each area, the changing U.S. demographics, and real estate/rental market conditions.

I am certain that from my parish ministry and experience gained through working on synodical and churchwide boards such as the Division for Outreach Board, Synod Council and synodical outreach ministry, and candidacy committees I have obtained information and experience that will be of valuable should I be favored with a placement on the Mission Investment Fund Board.

B. The Rev. Viviane E. Thomas-Breitfeld

Greater Milwaukee Synod (5J)

1) *Congregational membership*

Gethsemane Lutheran Church (ID: 06695) - Brookfield, Wis.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Greater Milwaukee Synod Anti-Racism Team
Synod Diocese of Meru Partnership Committee
Board of Trustees- ELCA Board of Pensions

3) *Education*

Cornell University, Bachelor Of Science
McCormick Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
St. Luke's Medical Center CPE Residency Program, Certificate

4) *Employment*

Lead Pastor, Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth* 1952

6) *Ethnicity*

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe my calling is to share God's love with a hungry world. This seems consistent with the purpose of the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. By providing an investment tool for our members and congregations, funds become available to support new and redeveloping ministries in the ELCA. The congregations in which I have served are ones that needed to move toward ministry transformation to become more relevant to the community in which God placed them rather than stay mired in service only to those who have already been reached. My ministry has been characterized by redefinition to reach those who have not yet been reached by the love we share in Christ. Indeed every congregation needs to keep this mission at the forefront of their identity. Gethsemane called me, for they saw in me a pastor to coach them as they seek to live out their purpose: To spread God's life-changing message - keep God's Word, reflect God's love, preserve God's world, share God's bounty, do God's work...

43. Board of Trustees of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA: Lay Female (PC/L)

A. Ms. Miji Bell

North Carolina Synod (9B)

1) Congregational membership

Church of the Abiding Savior (ID: 10348) - Durham, N.C.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

North Carolina Synod Council
NC Synod Ecumenical Committee
ELCA National Youth Gathering/MYLE Planning Committee

3) Education

University of NC at Greensboro, Master Of Arts
Bennett College for Women, Bachelor Of Arts

4) Employment

Managing Partner, The Bell Group, Inc. /TBG Communications

5) Year of birth

1970

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I am inspired by the work of the Mission Investment Fund and its on-going efforts to make resources available to congregations and ELCA-related ministries for the purpose of advancing the kingdom of God.

Over the years, both in my service to the ELCA on the congregational, synodical, and national levels as well as in my professional career, my commitment and focus has been on helping individuals to maximize their gifts and talents to serve in broader capacities for positive impact. My current work assists non-profit organizations and the communities they serve by identifying resources, developing and marketing programs, fundraising, and board training.

My professional training in communications, marketing, and organizational development, experience in fund development, as well as prior board service on behalf of domestic and international non-profit organizations, would allow me to bring particular insight to the efforts of this board.

B. Ms. Diana G. Haywood

North Carolina Synod (9B)

1) Congregational membership

Church of the Abiding Savior (ID: 10348) - Durham, N.C.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Vice President, North Carolina Synod
Congregation President
North Carolina Synod's African Descent Strategy Team

3) Education

Hampton University

4) Employment

Director of Data Administration, University of North Carolina
General Administration

5) Year of birth

1948

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I feel my call is to reflect God's love, grace and my faith by serving, giving of myself, and caring for and loving others. A strong commitment to modeling love, hope, and service and the desire to devote time to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ are essential and fundamental in my life.

With a background in systems analysis, statistics and research, I am technical, analytical, and process-oriented. My work and service have provided a foundation in developing vision and strategy with attention to examining information, planning, implementing, and designing evaluation tools. Much of my experience has involved working with others on teams and committees.

I love God, have energy for ministry, and believe that the church can make a difference.

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45. Board of Trustees of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA: Lay Male

A. Mr. Mark E. Fiebrink

Virginia Synod (9A)

1) *Congregational membership*

St. John Lutheran Church (ID: 06044) - Abingdon, Va.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Church Council, St. John Lutheran Church, Abingdon, Va.
Chair of St. John Education Committee
Chair of St. John 2011 Stewardship Campaign

3) *Education*

University of Wisconsin - Whitewater, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Last position: President and COO Wausau Insurance Companies, Liberty Mutual Insurance Group

5) *Year of birth*

1951

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I would like to be of service to the ELCA by continuing to combine my organizational skills and my financial and business acumen with my Christian faith. It has been my privilege to do so with various Lutheran congregations, most recently at St. John Lutheran Church, after a 35-year career in the property and casualty insurance industry.

I have some valuable skills that I would bring to the MIF Board of Trustees. In addition to my executive management experience, as a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society and a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries, I would bring a risk management mindset to the position. I have had extensive experience in financial management as well as strategic and operational planning that have served me well on other Boards.

I am currently on the Board of Directors for Jewelers Mutual Insurance, headquartered in Neenah, Wis. I chair the Audit Committee and also serve on the Compensation and Governance Committees.

B. Mr. Roger E. Southward

Southern Ohio Synod (6F)

1) *Congregational membership*

Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 13131) - Columbus, Ohio

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Congregational Council Faith Lutheran Church
Long Range Strategic Planning Committee Faith Lutheran Church
Congregational Council - Treasurer All Saints Lutheran Church

3) *Education*

Wittenberg University, Bachelor Of Arts
Syracuse University - Maxwell School, Master Of Public Administration

4) *Employment*

Owner/President, Owner - Southward Financial Services LLC

5) *Year of birth*

1957

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe that I can serve God's mission for our church through membership on the Mission Investment Fund Board. My ten years of experience as Vice President for Business at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and 11 years as an investment manager for private individuals has given me a breadth and depth of experience in analyzing investments. At Trinity I saw the MIF as an investment for our funds, and at All Saints Lutheran Church worked with it as a borrower.

A strength I can bring to the MIF Board is being able to help other board members who may not have a financial background understand complex financial reports and recommendations, helping to educate them to make sound decisions.

From my experience at Trinity, I understand the relationship between professional staff and a volunteer board and what are appropriate questions and boundaries.

46. Board of Trustees of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA: Lay Male [Two-year term]

A. Mr. Thomas M. Fogt

Central States Synod (4B)

1) *Congregational membership*
Atonement Lutheran Church (ID: 10197) - Overland Park, Kan.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Board Member and Treasurer, Blessings Abound Thrift Store
Board Member and Treasurer, Atonement Lutheran Foundation
Member Finance Committee, Atonement Lutheran Church

3) *Education*
Wittenberg University, Bachelor Of Arts
Xavier University, Master Of Business Administration

4) *Employment*
Exec VP CFO, (now retired) AmerUs Annuity Group (now Aviva Life and Annuity)

5) *Year of birth*
1945

6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*
English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Recently I became active as a board member and treasurer of Blessings Abound, a thrift store whose mission is to receive donations of clothing and other items, sell the merchandise at reasonable prices, and donate the net proceeds to support Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries and Lutheran Urban Ministry Agency in the greater Kansas City area. God gave me some abilities in the financial area, which I used over my working career. Now I have time to devote my talents to God's service to others, with Blessings Abound being one of those areas.

The ELCA Mission Investment Fund is another area where my financial background might help me again praise God in thanksgiving for what was given to me.

B. Mr. Mark S. Helmke

Southwestern Texas Synod (4E)

1) *Congregational membership*
MacArthur Park Lutheran Church (ID: 05908) - San Antonio, Texas

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ELCA Church Council
ELCA Committee on Discipline
Synod Vice President--Southwestern Texas Synod

3) *Education*
University of Illinois, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Texas School of Law, Doctor Of Jurisprudence

4) *Employment*
Vice President and General Counsel, Tower Life Insurance Company

5) *Year of birth*
1954

6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*
English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am an enthusiastic supporter of the work and the ministry of the Mission Investment Fund, and would welcome the opportunity to be a part of it as a member of its Board of Trustees.

My time on the Church Council has given me a good working knowledge of the organization and operation of the Mission Investment Fund, and how it fits in the larger churchwide organization. Synodical and congregational involvement has made me aware of the MIF loan programs and lending practices. As a long-time investor, I am also familiar with the investment products that are offered through MIF.

I see this as an opportunity to continue my involvement in the work of the larger church, to utilize the experience I have accumulated over the past 20+ years, and to share some of the gifts with which God has blessed me.

47. Publishing House of the ELCA (Augsburg Fortress, Publishers) Board of Trustees: Clergy

A. The Rev. Jessica L. K. Duckworth

Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod (8G)

1) *Congregational membership*

Resurrection Lutheran Church (ID: 06025) - Arlington, Va.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Associate Pastor, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Doylestown, Pa.
Catechumenate Task Force (*ad hoc*)

3) *Education*

The George Washington University, Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Master Of Divinity
Princeton Theological Seminary, Doctor Of Philosophy

4) *Employment*

Assistant Professor of Christian Formation and Teaching,
Wesley Theological Seminary

5) *Year of birth*

1977

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Whether it is being invited to speak at Synod Assemblies in Montana and Faith Formation Clinics for Augsburg Fortress, or facilitating a weekly Bible Study in my home congregation, I sense a hopefulness among God's people. I understand that people coming to these all-day or weekend events are usually over-committed Christians. I also get that they are hungry to give of their lives and engage the world God loves.

My call to the ELCA is rooted in that hunger. I too am hungry. As an educator, I know not to over-feed this hunger. Overly fed, over-committed Christians are often paralyzed towards inaction. Rather, I seek to offer morsels that alleviate the pains of hunger, while simultaneously engendering a curiosity among the hungry to ask why we are hungry and on whom we can depend when we are hungry. My gift is to tend to hunger in this church and align the cause it engenders into a movement of God's people toward the world.

B. The Rev. Anne Edison-Albright

East-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5I)

1) *Congregational membership*

Redeemer Lutheran Church (ID: 30147) - Stevens Point, Wis.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Freelance writer/editor for Augsburg Fortress
Horizon International Intern, Bratislava International Church
Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin, policy board

3) *Education*

Michigan State University, Bachelor Of Arts
Yale Divinity School, Master Of Divinity
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Lutheran Year

4) *Employment*

Pastor, Redeemer Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1981

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I've been a freelance liturgical text writer for *Sundays and Seasons* since 2008 and last year I was a curriculum editor and writer for *Here We Stand 2.0*. As a contributor and a consumer, I'm very familiar with Augsburg Fortress products. I have the knowledge and the enthusiasm to productively critique and promote the brand. I'm the pastor of a small congregation (about 80 attending worship per week) with a dynamic, eclectic worship style that makes use of a mix of AF products and many other sources each week. I'm passionate about bringing AF's high quality liturgical and educational resources to congregations like my own: small-but-mighty centers for mission looking for tools to nourish, train, and send each member out as a loving servant to God and neighbor. God has given me gifts for writing, teaching, planning and problem solving: through these gifts and through the joy and honor I feel at being nominated, I sense God's call to ministry with the AF board.

48. Publishing House of the ELCA (Augsburg Fortress, Publishers) Board of Trustees: Clergy

A. The Rev. Clint A. Schnekloth

Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (4C)

1) *Congregational membership*

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ID: 07151) - Fayetteville, Ark.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Synod Coordinator, National Youth Gathering
LIRS Ambassador
ELCA Division for Global Mission

3) *Education*

Luther College, Bachelor Of Arts
Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Fuller Theological Seminary, Doctor Of Ministry

4) *Employment*

pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1972

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I participate in God's mission in the world through my work as pastor, father, husband, and author. I am proud that AF is one of the major publishers of my freelance work, including curricular materials for the recent *Washed and Welcomed* baptismal sourcebook, a forthcoming Book of Faith study, content in the *Spark Bible*, and material in *Sundays and Seasons*.

I am a visionary leader, innovator, and idea person. I enjoy working with a team to advance the mission of church organizations. I believe I can bring significant insight into how to publicize and publish material in a social networking culture. My research at Fuller Theological Seminary in faith formation in a post-print culture will be especially helpful.

Finally, I am a pastor who works at the crossroads of theology, mission, and youth culture. Since AF publishes deep scholarship in theology and curricular material for the church, my skills at interpreting in both contexts will be of enduring value.

B. The Rev. José R. Valenzuela

Grand Canyon Synod (2D)

1) *Congregational membership*

Alleluia Lutheran Church, ELCA (ID: 16323) - Phoenix, Ariz.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Multicultural commission Rocky Mountain Synod
Asst. to Bishop Grand Canyon Synod

3) *Education*

Lutheran Seminary of the Southwest, Basic Theo Ed For
Min-Alternate Route
Luther Seminary
University of Texas at El Paso, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Pastor, Alleluia Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1970

6) *Ethnicity*

Latino/Latina

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

During my years of service in the ELCA I have worked as a pastor, lay youth director, and synod staff person. I have always seen our publishing house as a tremendous asset to the larger mission of the church. We have a unique opportunity to spread the word and ideas of our theology through this highly accessible and respected venue.

With my experience of serving the church in various contexts ranging from the border region of El Paso, Texas, to an urban setting such as Brooklyn, N.Y. I feel I bring a unique perspective on the needs of the church. I have also served as an Assistant to the Bishop for mission and outreach, which has given me a broader perspective of church's needs. I currently serve in a small parish in an urban multicultural context (second-generation Latino), which would also benefit from the gift of our publishing resources.

49. Publishing House of the ELCA (Augsburg Fortress, Publishers) Board of Trustees: Lay Female

A. Ms. Mary C. Lohr

North Carolina Synod (9B)

1) *Congregational membership*

St. Paul Lutheran Church (ID: 04105) - Durham, N.C.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Congregation Council, St. Matthew, Jersey City, N.J.
Design team for Young Women Seeing Visions Convocation at Women of the ELCA National Convention
Design team for Young Adult Ministry Convocation at Churchwide Assembly

3) *Education*

University of Exeter, England, Doctor Of Philosophy
University of South Carolina, Master Of Arts In Religion
Appalachian State University, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Associate Dean for Religious Life, Duke University

5) *Year of birth*

1973

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

The mission of Augsburg Fortress is to enrich individual's and communities' understandings of the Christian tradition through publications that communicate the Gospel and enhance faith from a distinctively Lutheran perspective. It is the last phrase of this sentence that calls me to serve the ELCA through the AF Board. One of the gifts I would bring to this position is a firm commitment to standing within the Lutheran tradition and approaching ministry from that place. My work in the ecumenical and interfaith non-profit worlds has taught me the importance of locating oneself within a tradition and engaging diverse perspectives from the rootedness that comes from such a commitment. It is difficult for one to inhabit a tradition, however, if one is unclear about what that tradition represents. As an AF board member, I would look forward to helping provide quality products and services that could help to overcome such difficulties and create opportunities for faith formation.

B. Ms. Julie M. Stecker

Delaware-Maryland Synod (8F)

1) *Congregational membership*

St. Michael Lutheran Church (ID: 10459) - Baltimore, Md.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Community Life Volunteer at the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering
Young Adult Ministry Team Leader at St. Michael Lutheran Church
Delaware-Maryland Synod Road Trip Small Group Leader

3) *Education*

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Master Of Arts In Ministerial Studies
Messiah College, Bachelor Of Arts

4) *Employment*

Associate Director of Admissions, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg

5) *Year of birth*

1987

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I feel called to serve on the Board of Trustees for Augsburg Fortress because I believe it is incredibly important for the ELCA to continue to produce high-quality resources that aim to share God's Word, love, and grace through a variety of media. I am passionate about equipping others with resources like books, videos, music, and curricula that can help them communicate the Gospel in a faithful manner.

I believe that my time spent as a seminarian helps me to view Augsburg Fortress from an academic point of view, yet my education and experience in youth and young adult ministry allows me to see how resources are put into practice in a variety of ministry settings. I have a good grasp on the social media tools that are popular today, and am always seeking ways to integrate them into my ministry. I believe that I can bring something new to the table, being under the age of 25 and working primarily with youth and young adults, and would be honored to serve the ELCA in this way.

50. Publishing House of the ELCA (Augsburg Fortress, Publishers) Board of Trustees: Lay Female

A. Ms. Rozella Poston

Southeastern Synod (9D)

1) *Congregational membership*
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (ID: 05771) - Atlanta, Ga.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Voting Member, Churchwide Assembly
Young Adult Representative, Churchwide Assembly
ELCA Youth Gathering Service

3) *Education*
Texas Southern University, Bachelor Of Arts
The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Master
Of Arts In Religion
Wartburg Theological Seminary, Certificate

4) *Employment*
Minister for Youth and Families and Young Adults, Lutheran
Church of the Redeemer

5) *Year of birth*
1981

6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) *Primary Language*
English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe that Augsburg Fortress has a key role in helping individuals and communities learn the Gospel story in various forms so that the grace, compassion, love, and power of God may be revealed. My vocational discernment has led me to understand that my gifts and passions are best lived out when I am able to join in the centuries-old pastime of storytelling in order to help people uncover their God-given identity and live into their calling to love God and love neighbor. I am a gifted public speaker, visionary leader, critical thinker, and pastoral caregiver. I am articulate and endowed with the ability to cross borders and build bridges between individuals and communities. I have worked in the area of youth and family ministry for over 11 years, am passionate about women's issues, cross-cultural relationship building, and justice for all.

B. Ms. Susan G. Worst

New England Synod (7B)

1) *Congregational membership*
University Lutheran Church (ID: 03546) - Cambridge, Mass.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Financial Secretary, University Lutheran Church
Chair, Lutheran Ministry in the Fenway Directing Board
New England Synod Assembly Voting Member

3) *Education*
Washington University in St. Louis, Bachelor Of Arts
Radcliffe Publishing Procedures Course, Certificate
Northeastern University, Master Of Science

4) *Employment*
Assistant Director of Information Technology and Media
Services, Harvard Divinity School

5) *Year of birth*
1964

6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*
English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Having learned from Augsburg curricula in Sunday school, played through the LBW with my piano teacher in high school, and been inspired and informed by Augsburg Fortress books as an adult, I am excited about the possibility that God is calling me to serve on the Augsburg Fortress Board of Trustees.

I would bring ten years of professional experience in book publishing and more than ten in information technology to the work. During my years with MIT Press and then Beacon Press, I gained experience in publicity, subsidiary rights, administration, and editing. Since then, I have switched to developing databases, websites, and other software, first for a major financial services company and then for Harvard Divinity School.

I have put both sets of skills to work for my own congregation, overseeing our website since 1998 and editing the Inkspot, our annual alumni newsletter, since 2003. I would be delighted to use my knowledge and experience to support the publishing house of the ELCA.

51. Publishing House of the ELCA (Augsburg Fortress, Publishers) Board of Trustees: Lay Male

A. Mr. Randall S. Foster

Southwest California Synod (2B)

1) Congregational membership

First Lutheran Church (ID: 16123) - Carson, Calif.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

PLTS Board of Directors, Member, Chair (Operations), Board Chair
CLU Board of Regents, Member, Chair (Audit), Chair (Academic Affairs)
First Lutheran Church, Carson (Charter Member, Pres (1979), Building Project Mgr, Pres (2009)

3) Education

University of Southern California, Master Of Public Administration
California State University, Northridge, Calif., Bachelor Of Business Admin

4) Employment

CEO - Hospital Administrator, (retired) Dept. of Health Services

5) Year of birth

1953

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

As part of my Christian walk, I have come to appreciate the significance of Christ's direction to "become a servant to others." I have long since appreciated the interrelationship between what we profess on Sunday and its far-reaching implications during the weeks that follow, thus the commitments to God's work in and through higher education (e.g., PLTS and CLU) as well as my secular experiences in public and private health care delivery. Following my post-retirement years, I have committed myself to the added work of providing managerial aid to a non-profit agency that organizes and supports the development and operation of residential housing for those with little or no resources. Being where God's people are while helping to create programs and policies that enhance their existence and growth has been a blessing for which I recognize and have directed my life accordingly.

B. Mr. John M. Quitmeyer

Minneapolis Area Synod (3G)

1) Congregational membership

Normandale Lutheran Church (ID: 03005) - Edina, Minn.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Normandale Lutheran Church Senior Pastor Call Committee
Normandale Lutheran Church, Treasurer, Mission Bangladesh!!
American Lutheran Publicity Committee, Board President

3) Education

Oakland University, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Michigan Law School, Doctor Of Jurisprudence

4) Employment

General Counsel--Automation and Controls Solutions, Honeywell International Inc.

5) Year of birth

1950

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

Thank you for this first-time opportunity for ELCA-wide service. I believe God has given me gifts of leadership, listening, and intelligence, which I have tried to use in his service in five different ELCA congregations, as my family has moved around the country. I have been blessed to be a lawyer both in a large commercial practice and now in an international company setting, and that experience has given me judgment, the opportunity to lead teams, and advocacy skills, which I also have been able to use in congregational leadership roles. For many years, I was the president of the board of an independent Lutheran publisher, the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau. I saw firsthand how a much smaller, essentially hand-to-mouth, but nevertheless successful publisher attracted writers and fulfilled its mission of informing and stimulating a pan-Lutheran audience. I hope that experience could help shape my responsibilities at Augsburg Fortress—if the ELCA deems that appropriate.

52. Churchwide Committee on Appeals: Clergy (PC/L)

A. The Rev. Laura D. Ingersol

Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod (7F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Lutheran Church of God's Love (ID: 00887) - Newtown, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
All Saints Lutheran Church, Baltimore Md., Pastor
Resurrection Lutheran Church, Roxbury, Mass., Sr. Pastor and Pastor
Bethany Lutheran Church, Forestville, Md., Assoc. Pastor
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran Theological Seminary-Gettysburg, Master Of Divinity
Illinois State University, Master Of Science In Education
Illinois State University, Bachelor Of Arts In Ed.
- 4) *Employment*
Associate Pastor, The Lutheran Church of God's Love
- 5) *Year of birth*
1952
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

One of my gifts is that of being a good listener. I have counseled colleagues, seminary students, and parishioners in the past, and I believe those I've dealt with think of me as a fair person. I believe all people need an opportunity to be heard and to have a fair hearing. I don't automatically assume people are deserving or undeserving of disciplinary action (which is what one thinks of with Appeals) or procedures that would impact their calls, appointments, or positions.

The church as an institution must have structure and guidelines to which it holds members accountable. But the church is also a compassionate body, wanting its members to serve to the best of their creative and inspired abilities. I conduct my affairs with all people with an understanding of God's grace as well as the knowledge that actions have consequences. I am even-tempered, open to possibilities, and, after 25 years of ordained ministry, fairly knowledgeable about the workings of the church.

B. The Rev. Kimberly A. Vaughn

Northeastern Ohio Synod (6E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Stephen Martyr Lutheran Church (ID: 04478) - Canton, Ohio
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Co-Pastor, Genesis Lutheran Church, Detroit, Mich.
Director of Youth Ministry, Southeast Michigan Synod
Board of Division for Congregational Ministries, ELCA
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Divinity
Cleveland State University, Bachelor Of Arts
Kent State University
- 4) *Employment*
Associate Pastor, St. Stephen Martyr Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1968
- 6) *Ethnicity*
African American/Black Non-Hispanic
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

In 20+ years of service, I've learned that what keeps me in the ELCA when I'm discouraged is the Good News of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ through God's grace. I wish we were known for this, rather than ethnic allegiances or loss of congregations. We have a great message for a seeking world. What we've learned from the sexuality debates is that we need to listen to others with love.

I've served camps (Ohio) and congregations in Ohio, Illinois (seminary), Minn. (internship), and Mich. in settings from urban to rural. My experiences are just as varied - campus ministry student president, teacher, synod staff, congregation council, camp program director, nonprofit board member, etc. I've seen myriad ways in which congregations/leaders can be unhealthy, and have assisted in bringing healing in such places. Also, being part of a large, diverse family teaches me how to navigate conflict. I've learned to see others through God's loving eyes. This is what I would bring to this committee.

53. Churchwide Committee on Appeals: Clergy

A. The Rev. James R. Stuck

Indiana-Kentucky Synod (6C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
King of Glory Lutheran Church (ID: 02217) - Carmel, Ind.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Bishop - Indiana-Kentucky Synod
Congregational Pastor
Outdoor Ministries
- 3) *Education*
Capital University, Bachelor Of Arts
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Graduate Theological Foundation, Doctor Of Ministry
- 4) *Employment*
Retired
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have served in various capacities as a leader in the church through the years. Most recently I served as the Bishop of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod. In that capacity I served as chair of the Roster Committee for the Conference of Bishops. I also have served congregations and camps of the ELCA in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. As a leader in the ELCA I have been involved in making decisions in matters related to the mission of the church and its congregations, the rostering and oversight of leaders in the church, and the use of resources for the mission of the church.

My leadership style is open and collaborative. I have a listening heart and an open mind with the ability to put myself in another person's shoes. I depend on the leading of the Spirit to inform and guide my decision making. I would be honored to continue my service in the church in this way.

B. The Rev. Paul R. Swanson

Oregon Synod (1E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Prince of Life Lutheran Church (ID: 07542) - Oregon City, Ore.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Parish Pastor in Anaconda, Montana (1970–76) and Milwaukie, Oregon (1976–84)
Assistant to the Bishop (LCA) 1984–88; Bishop (ELCA) 1988–2007
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Arts
Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Retired
- 5) *Year of birth*
1943
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

A commitment to the gospel mission and ministry of the ELCA!

As a former Synod Bishop in the ELCA, I had responsibility to administer the consultation and discipline process of the ELCA within the Oregon Synod. Such experience has given me first-hand awareness and understanding of the ELCA consultation, discipline, and appeals processes and procedures.

In the decision-making process, I seek to understand the "whole picture." I am a person of honesty and integrity. Friends and colleagues would indicate that I am a person of balanced temperament, calm, fair, and judicious. In the midst of difficult and challenging situations, I bring a "non-anxious" presence to the respective setting.

Crucial to the mission and ministry of the ELCA is fairness and consistency in its corporate expressions. I believe the consultation and discipline process of the ELCA has been instrumental in providing a foundation and framework for faithful ministry and witness with integrity.

54. Churchwide Committee on Appeals: Lay Female (PC/L)

A. Ms. Robin B. Kaelin

Southern Ohio Synod (6F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 13203) - Hamilton, Ohio
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
President of the Cincinnati Conference of Women of the ELCA
Synod LYO Lay Advisor
Secretary of Synod Women of the ELCA
- 3) *Education*
University of Cincinnati
- 4) *Employment*
Administrative Assistant, Hamilton Safe Companies
- 5) *Year of birth*
1958
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Other Heritage
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

We have a God who forgives us and gives us grace. I am well grounded in scripture, yet I see it as the living Word of God, and as I have studied and prayed throughout my service, I have seen God blow a fresh breath of spirit in the ELCA. I believe my strength would be to look at Appeals with new eyes. I have worked in situations where confidentiality is a must, and my ability to not focus on the negative but to build up, as well as supportiveness, will be necessary for a position on this board. While I only have one year of college, I am well read and I have been an active volunteer, teaching, leading, congregation council as deacon and elder, and youth leadership for over 20 years. I have been in the same church for those years, so I am aware of the forbearance that can come to play in situations. In that time we have had four pastors and one interim pastor. I understand paradigm shifts. I believe I have the experience to serve God in this position.

B. Ms. Ivonne Moreno-Velazquez

Caribbean Synod (9F)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
San Pablo Lutheran Church (ID: 00018) - San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Candidacy Committee
Council President
Council Member
- 3) *Education*
University of Puerto Rico, Doctor Of Psychology
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Master Of Arts
In Psychology
University of the Sacred Heart, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Full Professor, University of Puerto Rico
- 5) *Year of birth*
1955
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Latino/Latina
- 7) *Primary Language*
Not English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I still remember when I started visiting my church. I was not Lutheran; I was raised Catholic and at that time I was looking for a church, and I accepted Rev. Mercado's invitation, and I have been there since. I loved the liturgy and the brotherhood of our community. Since that moment I have been committed to my church, and I have answered every call that I have received. When I was a child, I used to raise my hand for those tasks that nobody wants, now I feel that when I am asked, unless I cannot find an objective, tangible, clear obstacle, I receive it as God's calling for service and growth.

I like to work in an environment of camaraderie and inclusiveness and work actively to create these environments. I am visionary and like to think that there is always room for improvement and help the groups in which I work to achieve new and meaningful goals. I am enthusiastic, responsible, committed, and have good organizational and interpersonal skills.

55. Churchwide Committee on Appeals: Lay Male

A. Mr. Bradford E. Cook

New England Synod (7B)

1) *Congregational membership*
Gethsemane Lutheran Church (ID: 03528) - Manchester, N.H.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Counsel, New England Synod
Voting Member, Synod Assemblies (several)

3) *Education*
University of New Hampshire, Bachelor Of Arts
Cornell University Law School, Doctor Of Jurisprudence

4) *Employment*
Senior Partner and Past President, Sheehan Phinney Bass +
Green P.A.

5) *Year of birth*
1948

6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*
English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Serving Christ with the talents God has given us includes the opportunity to use our vocational talents in the service of the church. I have been honored to be able to do so as counsel to my synod and as a founding member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Attorneys Association. In doing these tasks and in being associated with the other attorneys who serve the church nationally, I have had the opportunity to learn the issues involved in church governance, as well as the sometimes sensitive issues that arise among clergy and laity alike. I believe this experience, as well as my experience representing other denominations and not-for-profit entities, would equip me well to serve on the Committee on Appeals, and to understand the issues which come before it. My service in the past as a mediator and arbitrator, as well as hearings officer, give me experience in serving on such an appellate body.

B. Mr. Robert W. Tuttle

Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod (8G)

1) *Congregational membership*
Christ Lutheran Church (ID: 20034) - Washington, D.C.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ELCA Criminal Justice Task Force, Member
ELCA Division for Church in Society, Board Member
Lutheran Services in America, Board Member (for ELCA)

3) *Education*
University of Virginia, Doctor Of Philosophy
George Washington University, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Arts In Religion

4) *Employment*
Berz Research Professor of Law and Religion, George
Washington University Law School

5) *Year of birth*
1963

6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*
English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I believe that the faithful witness of the church depends, in part, on mutual accountability. Through my decade as legal counsel to the Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod, and nearly two decades of academic writing and legal practice at the intersection of law and church polity, I have developed professional expertise in the substantive and procedural norms that govern our mutual accountability. I feel that expertise and experience could be of service to the important work of the Committee on Appeals.

56. Churchwide Nominating Committee: Clergy

A. The Rev. Cherlyne V. Beck

Southeast Michigan Synod (6A)

1) *Congregational membership*

Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church (ID: 30773) - Detroit, Mich.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Franklin SQ, N.Y.
Executive Assistant to the Bishop, Metropolitan New York Synod
Director for Candidacy, ELCA

3) *Education*

Christ Seminary-Seminex, Master Of Divinity
University of Michigan, Master Of Arts In Education
Concordia Teachers's College, Seward, Bachelor Of Science
In Education

4) *Employment*

Executive Assistant to the Bishop, Southeast Michigan Synod

5) *Year of birth*

1946

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have participated in almost all levels of church life. I was a lay leader, serving on congregational boards and councils. I served as a Lutheran School teacher in urban and suburban settings. I served as pastor of a congregation in Michigan and two in New York. In New York I served as a Dean and on the Synod Council. I also served on the Worship Committee and the Leadership Support Task Force. I have served on two different synod staffs as well as in Chicago on the churchwide staff as director for candidacy. All this has allowed me to meet and work with many leaders across the church. It has also allowed me to see the different ways the church is in mission as well as learning more about the needs of the church for future mission. I would bring all this information to the ELCA Churchwide Nominating Committee.

B. The Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe

East-Central Synod of Wisconsin (5I)

1) *Congregational membership*

Christ Lutheran Church (ID: 14505) - Oshkosh, Wis.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh Secretary of the Board of Directors

3) *Education*

Lakeland College, Master Of Counseling
Luther Northwestern Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Carroll College, Bachelor Of Science

4) *Employment*

Associate with the Bishop, East-Central Synod of Wisconsin

5) *Year of birth*

1967

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

While serving as a director for evangelical mission, and in the capacity as Bishop Jim Justman's associate in the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, for the past seven years I have worked in a variety of settings that have provided me both the training and the experience to help "spot" and call out the gifts of missional leaders--a skill necessary for the nominating committee of our church.

57. Churchwide Nominating Committee: Clergy

A. The Rev. Theodore W. Asta

New England Synod (7B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 03588) - Worcester, Mass.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
U.S. Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue
Region 7 First Call Institute Workshop Leader
Introduction of Evangelical Lutheran Worship in New England Synod
- 3) *Education*
LSTC, Doctor Of Philosophy
Yale Divinity School, Master Of Sacred Theology
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Associate to the Bishop, New England Synod, ELCA
- 5) *Year of birth*
1954
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am deeply committed to ministry in the ELCA in all three of its expressions. In my current position as associate to the bishop I seek out opportunities to teach members of our congregations, and remind our pastors, that we are a church in three expressions and part of a global network of churches. Knowing this, and living out of that understanding, helps the church to be more mission-focused and inclusive. As I finish nine years in this office, I have worked with pastors, congregations, and ecumenical partners in many areas of the church's life so that I have a good sense of the gifts and skills present in our synod that can be called forth in service for the churchwide expression.

B. The Rev. Jonathan W. Linman

Metropolitan New York Synod (7C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Peter Lutheran Church (ID: 03846) - New York, N.Y.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Lutheran-Methodist Coordinating Committee
ELCA Communal Discernment Task Force
ELCA Church Council
- 3) *Education*
Carleton College, Bachelor Of Arts
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Duquesne University, Doctor Of Philosophy
- 4) *Employment*
Assistant to the Bishop for Formation, Metropolitan New York Synod
- 5) *Year of birth*
1961
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Ordained in 1989, I have served the church as a congregational pastor, seminary professor, and academic administrator, and currently serve on the bishop's staff of the Metropolitan New York Synod. With this diversity in my vocational life, and having enjoyed a good deal of churchwide involvement, I have a rather wide view of our church's life together and would be in a good position to engage in the discernment processes on the Nominating Committee that lead to the nomination of individuals from across this church to serve in various capacities. I have a passion to promote and nurture the health and vitality of our church in its witness and mission, and would bring to the work of the Nominating Committee a special sensitivity for lifting up people for nomination who have rich and vibrant lives of faith, a key foundation to any faithful and effective service in the church.

58. Churchwide Nominating Committee: Lay Female

A. Ms. Susan M. Berg

Northwest Washington Synod (1B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
First Lutheran Church (ID: 12805) - Bothell, Wash.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Vice President
Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Council
Various synodical, camp, Thrivent and congregational positions
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Education
Seattle University, Master Of Counseling
- 4) *Employment*
Home Health/Personal Assistant, Self Employed
- 5) *Year of birth*
1966
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

During my years serving as Synod Vice President, I enjoyed the task of meeting with congregations and individuals. Assisting them in discerning individual and group assets was one of the best ways I have seen to respond to the mission needs in our synod. It is true that we are each uniquely gifted. Recognizing and calling forth those talents will build capacity in our church to further God's mission. My educational background, my various areas of experience, and my skill set would help the Nominating Committee identify and encourage individuals to serve in the wider church. I am a creative and reliable team member, eager to serve by shaping strong leadership for our church.

B. Ms. Lori J. Splinter

Southwest California Synod (2B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Stephen Lutheran Church (ID: 05074) - Palmdale, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Synod Vice President
Synod Evangelical Outreach Mission Team
Initial Interviewer of Seminary Candidates
- 3) *Education*
University of Nebraska - Lincoln
- 4) *Employment*
Office Administrator, St. Stephen of the Valley Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am a willing servant how ever God wants to use me. In my community--as a parent volunteer for science team, PTA/PTO, and marching band. In my congregation--as an employee but also as a volunteer high school Sunday school teacher and praise band singer. In my synod--as VP; board member Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences; and a variety of committees. In churchwide service as Churchwide Assembly voting member 2005, 2007, 2009, and Committee of Reference and Counsel for 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Those experiences have given me an understanding of organization, governance, constitutions, and parliamentary procedure but more importantly, a glimpse of God working in the ELCA and in the world.

In all that I do, I bring a strong faith. A strong faith that carried me through treatment for bilateral breast cancer in 2009. A strong faith that has given me a grateful, willing heart to serve however God and the church want to use me.

59. Churchwide Nominating Committee: Lay Female (Restricted to Region 4)

A. Ms. Stephanie S. Varnum

Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod (4D)

1) Congregational membership

Christ Lutheran Church (ID: 14105) - Dallas, Texas

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Vice President of Synod
Chair of Synodical Candidacy Committee
Candidacy Committee member

3) Education

University of Pittsburgh, Bachelor Of Science Nursing

4) Employment

Administrator for Candidacy and Call Process, Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod ELCA

5) Year of birth

1948

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

The church is the living body of Christ, people serving the Lord with their skills and gifts. It is important to bring the names of as many qualified people as possible forward for service in the church and the world, to tap these interests and passions for the good of the world and the glory of God. The Nominating Committee has the opportunity to identify and lift up members from around the ELCA to match people with interest and passion with the needs of the church for ministry in the world.

I have experience in coordinating and organizing volunteers, in a congregation, synod-wide, and in the wider community. I know and understand the need for positive recruitment steps. I am a long-time member of the ELCA and know many folks throughout the ELCA for consultation and referrals.

B. Ms. Vernetta I. Wilson

Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (4C)

1) Congregational membership

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (ID: 20240) - Tulsa, Okla.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

A/OK Synod - Church Council
A/OK Synod - Candidacy Committee
Congregational - Financial Secretary

3) Education

Langston University, Bachelor Of Science In Business Admin
Langston University, Associate Degree In The Sciences

4) Employment

Auditor/Accountant, ONEOK, Inc

5) Year of birth

1950

6) Ethnicity

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I am always amazed at those whom God calls into mission and service for the special gifts that they possess. It would be a great pleasure and opportunity for me to serve on the Nominating Committee. I have been privileged to meet so many Lutherans while serving on the Task Force for the Arkansas/Oklahoma Synod, then as charter member of the ELCA's Committee for Multicultural Ministries, also several committees within my synod, and area congregations in addition to my own church. I was also a voting member of the ninth and tenth Churchwide Assemblies where I met many people. If God is calling me to serve on this committee because I have come to know so many people within the ELCA, then it would be an honor and a great pleasure to be used in this capacity.

60. Churchwide Nominating Committee (*Restricted to Region 8*)

A. Ms. Linda M. Chinnia

Delaware-Maryland Synod (8F)

1) *Congregational membership*

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church (ID: 02697) - Baltimore, Md.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Churchwide Board- Women of the ELCA
Churchwide President- Women of the ELCA
Augsburg-Fortress Board of Directors

3) *Education*

Towson State College, Bachelor Of Science In Education
Towson State University, Master Of Science In Education

4) *Employment*

Assistant to the Bishop, Delaware-Maryland Synod

5) *Year of birth*

1948

6) *Ethnicity*

African American/Black Non-Hispanic

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My greatest sense of call from God was to teaching, which I did for 38 years in the Baltimore City Public School System. My gifts as a teacher—active listening, empathy, ability to see issues from varying perspectives, patience, love of people, and planning—led me into service and ministry within my congregation, my community, and the church at large. I have worked or volunteered at every level of organizational structure—from staff to management to administration.

I believe that through my experiences I bring an ability to discern gifts that others may have and then help to match these gifts with appropriate areas for service and ministry. I believe this expertise would be helpful for the Nominating Committee as it reviews candidates and works to present the best possible slate for the election process.

B. Ms. Jeannette Christensen

Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod (8B)

1) *Congregational membership*

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ID: 06575) - Monroeville, Pa.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Synod Council and Synod Council Executive Committee
Board of Directors, Lutheran Senior Life
Congregational Council Member and President (2001-2002)

3) *Education*

Minot State University

4) *Employment*

Senior Program Director, RJ Lee Group, Inc.

5) *Year of birth*

1950

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Led by the Spirit, I strive to respond to God's love by employing the gifts with which I have been blessed in service to neighbor and the church. I believe that as God grows me, he continues to call me to new service.

I have been an active member of the Lutheran church my entire life. Throughout my adult life I have served my congregation, the synod, and a number of social ministry organizations in a wide variety of capacities. In each of these servings, I bring my faith, a deep sense of dedication and commitment, and my gifts in administration and leadership.

61. Churchwide Nominating Committee: Lay Male (Restricted to Western North Dakota Synod (3A))

A. Mr. Baron Blanchard

Western North Dakota Synod (3A)

1) Congregational membership

Church of the Cross Lutheran Church (ID: 12575) - Bismarck, N.D.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

ELCA Church Council
2005 Churchwide Voting Member
Congregational Secretary, Lutheran Church of the Cross

3) Education

Valley City State University, Masters In Education
Northern State University, Bachelor Of Arts In Ed.

4) Employment

Teacher, Bismarck Public Schools

5) Year of birth

1981

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

God always gives opportunities to use the talents he gave us. I have a rapport with large and small groups, as well as dedication to Scripture and to the ELCA. Through my involvement with the ELCA Church Council, I have made contacts in remote areas of our synod, and met many people from across the ELCA.

Being a teacher in a 7th grade classroom, I know how to weigh quick decisions, and how to deliberate when needed. Taking everything to God in prayer, I enjoy the process of working out different "problems" so grace may be served to all.

B. Mr. Ronald C. Tvedt

Western North Dakota Synod (3A)

1) Congregational membership

Metigoshe Lutheran Church (ID: 12583) - Bottineau, N.D.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Local congregation council president
Synod Reference and Council
Synod Outreach Team, Convener last two years

3) Education

University of North Dakota, Bachelor Of Arts
Ohio State University, Master Of Arts

4) Employment

Retired

5) Year of birth

1941

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

I believe we are called to do more than just go to church on Sunday. Jesus' last instructions to his disciples were to go and make disciples of all nations. Jesus also told us that whatever we do to the least of these we have done to him. I feel that call personally.

I am a good listener, a problem solver, and I think that I have a good deal of common sense. I feel there are a lot of people in our church who would be willing to serve in the area they are gifted in if they could only figure out how to break through the entrenched old guard that so often keeps our churches from moving forward. I feel called to help them in that endeavor. I have successfully worked with people from teenagers to the elderly and like finding opportunities to get different generations working together. Churches function much more efficiently if people are given an opportunity to serve in an area they are interested in. That goes not only for the young, but applies to all ages.

62. Churchwide Nominating Committee: Lay Young Adult [Two-year term]

A. Mr. Joe Beasley

Virginia Synod (9A)

1) Congregational membership

Christ the King Lutheran Church (ID: 10489) - Richmond, Va.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Young Adults in Global Mission

3) Education

Roanoke College, Bachelor Of Fine Arts

4) Employment

5) Year of birth

1986

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

As a recent YAGM alumni, I believe I have some unique experiences to bring to this committee. It would be an awesome privilege to serve as a voice from my synod and be able to represent the young people of the ELCA. After coming back from my year of service, I really found myself wanting to be a part of the ELCA even more. I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to serve the ELCA to the best of my ability.

I come from a background of strong leadership, creativity, and hard work. The ELCA gave me the opportunity to use my skills to make a difference when I served as a YAGM in the past year. I think it would only be fair to return the favor and serve on this committee.

B. Ms. Emily Isensee

Southwestern Washington Synod (1C)

1) Congregational membership

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ID: 13039) - Vancouver, Wash.

2) Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities

Holden May Youth Weekend Planning Team
National Board of the Lutheran Youth Organization (BLYO)
PLU University Congregation Council Vice President

3) Education

Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Business Admin

4) Employment

Executive Associate to the President, Pacific Lutheran University

5) Year of birth

1987

6) Ethnicity

Caucasian

7) Primary Language

English

8) What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?

God has blessed me with many opportunities to serve on a variety of boards and committees at all levels of the church. Each time my term has been up for one of these positions, I've been sad to be done, but God has always presented me with another opportunity to work for the church doing something else I love. I see being nominated to the Nominating Committee as God's next calling for me.

Serving on the Nominating Committee would allow me to combine my leadership, organization, and interpersonal skills to empower others to respond to their calling and step up to leadership roles in the church. As a member of the BLYO, I had the opportunity to serve on the BLYO nominating committee and would be able to build off this experience in my new role as a member of this committee. As a young adult from the west coast, I could bring different demographic and unique perspective to this committee as well.

63. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy (Restricted to Northeastern Ohio Synod (6E))

A. The Rev. Robert R. Henderson

Northeastern Ohio Synod (6E)

1) *Congregational membership*

Lord of Life Lutheran Church (ID: 13095) - Chagrin Falls, Ohio

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Healthy Congregations Trainer and Consultant
Synod Council
Mission Start Team Streetsboro

3) *Education*

Miami University, Bachelor Of Business Admin
Emory University, Master Of Divinity
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity

4) *Employment*

Lead Pastor, Lord of Life Lutheran Church

5) *Year of birth*

1962

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Simul Justus et Peccator... Simultaneously saint and sinner...

The church is comprised of imperfect people, beloved in God's eyes. My calling and challenge is to love as God loves. I have studied congregational systems my entire ministry. I love working with congregations who have lost their way and wandered away from the mission of the church. I love to partner with congregations as they re-focus on God's call to mission.

My personal, congregational, and family mission is summarized in Matthew 28. When I engage the world and invite others into relationship with Jesus, I am excited, hopeful and engaged.

I am uplifted and humbled when I join others in mission.

Discovering "the face of God" in others is a joy beyond words.

I value our ongoing relationship with LWR and Domestic Disaster relief. Our congregation hosted 15 mission trips to the Mississippi Gulf Coast following Katrina. We discovered God's presence in every family and person we had the privilege of working with.

B. The Rev. Duane A. Jesse

Northeastern Ohio Synod (6E)

1) *Congregational membership*

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (ID: 16018) - Cortland, Ohio

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Synod Council for NEOS

3) *Education*

Elon College, Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Industrial Technology
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Sacred Theology

4) *Employment*

Pastor, Northern Trumbull County Lutheran Parish

5) *Year of birth*

1959

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

To love, honor, and obey God with holy living out of gratitude for what Jesus Christ has done for me and to live as an example for others.

64. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy

A. The Rev. Mark P. Dumke

Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 02940) - Winona, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Synod Sabbatical Committee
Synod Assembly Worship Planning Team
Synod Mutual Ministry Committee
- 3) *Education*
Gustavus Adolphus College, Bachelor Of Arts
Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Faith Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1955
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

The Committee on Discipline will require individuals who are careful listeners and prayerful discerners who have a mature understanding of healthy churches and healthy relationships. I also believe that the committee members will need to be able to make difficult decisions that seek justice and lead to the restoration of health for the church and the individuals involved. I am a careful listener with pastoral sensitivity who loves God's church and is able to make difficult decisions.

B. The Rev. David J. Klawiter

Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. John Lutheran Church (ID: 11891) - Owatonna, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Minnesota River Conference - SE MN Synod - Co-Dean
Bd for World and Amer. Mission - SD Synod - chair
Bd for Church in Society - SD Synod ALC
- 3) *Education*
California State College at Los Angeles, Bachelor Of Business Admin
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, St. John Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1954
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Having been a pastor for 28 years, I have a reputation for being of sound character, high moral and ethical standards, a passion for the Gospel, especially as understood in Luther's Theology of the Cross, and the care and nurture and encouragement of souls. As pastors, we are held to these high standards because we teach and lead, not only with words, but also with our actions. I would serve with compassion and justice, not jumping to conclusions, but willing to listen to all sides. Unfortunately, when pastors break boundaries, many other people are hurt, often including close family, church members, and members of the greater community. Although it would be an honor to serve, I would pray that my services would not be needed during the time of my tenure in office.

65. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy

A. The Rev. Betsy A. H. Dartt

Southeastern Minnesota Synod (3I)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Greenfield Lutheran Church (ID: 11770) - Harmony, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Indiana-Kentucky Synod Outreach Team (chair)
Luther Seminary Board of Directors (vice president)
Saint Paul Area Synod Parish Services Commission (chair)
- 3) *Education*
University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Minnesota, Bachelor Of Science In Ed.
Northwestern (Luther) Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Greenfield Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1950
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

The honor of the office of ministry and the health and wholeness of our organizations is vital to the strength we bring to fulfilling God's calling to the ELCA in the world. Through more than 30 years of experience as a long-term parish pastor in both large-staff urban and town/rural settings, I have come to rely on the power of prayer, conflict assessment skills, the gifts of repentance and reconciliation, justice, God's Word, and mutual discernment to bring new life in place of discord and conflict. I have been blessed with a vision of the church that is both responsible and faithful in upholding the integrity of our calling and is equipped to bring its best to witnessing to God's saving grace in the world.

B. The Rev. JoAnn A. Post

New England Synod (7B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Concordia Lutheran Church (ID: 03486) - Manchester, Conn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Voting Member, ELCA Churchwide Assembly
Past Chair, New England Synod Worship Committee
Dean, Greater Hartford Conference
- 3) *Education*
Wartburg College, Bachelor Of Arts
Wartburg Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Concordia Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have deep respect for the work of the church in each of its three expressions. It is an honor to serve as pastor of a congregation, to provide service to my synod, and to be considered for service to the larger church.

Because of the privileged position rostered leaders enjoy in the church, it is incumbent on such leaders to serve with integrity and courage. It is equally critical that congregations care and pray for their leaders, and conduct themselves in a manner befitting the body of Christ.

If elected to serve, I will do so with the humility required of all in positions of leadership, and with high standards for myself and those situations brought to the Committee.

66. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy (Y/YA)

A. The Rev. Amber R. Malone

Upstate New York Synod (7D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 06961) - Castleton-on-Hudson, N.Y.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Chair Conference Deacon Advisory Committee (2009-present)
Project Connect, Discernment Advocate (2008-present)
Synod Nominating Committee (2011-present)
- 3) *Education*
Eastern Washington University
University of Washington, Bachelor Of Arts
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Minister/Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1982
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am honored to be a nominee for a position of such intense trust in the important task of walking with individuals, congregations, and synods in times of difficulty, uncertainty, and conflict. Being a balanced, nurturing, and realistic listener and observer with a clear sense of self and church are important parts of my call as an ordained minister in the ELCA and are integral qualities for this nomination. I value church order as a device for understanding our mission and expression in the world and believe that the ELCA has set up a faithful system to maintain and evaluate the health of our life together. My qualifications include a strong sense of faith, appropriate and functional boundaries, a clear sense of confidentiality, an understanding of grace, and confidence in our constant need for confession and absolution as part of our gift of new life in Christ.

B. The Rev. Megan L. Torgerson

Saint Paul Area Synod (3H)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Augustana Lutheran Church (ID: 03083) - West St. Paul, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Churchwide Voting Member
- 3) *Education*
Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., Bachelor Of Arts
Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Associate Pastor, Augustana Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1979
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a young pastor, I am excited to be a part of a denomination that takes the fullness of its expressions very seriously. This church understands itself as a dynamic, integrated body attentive to the diversity of faith, life, and study throughout its membership. I have always appreciated this about the ELCA, and am looking forward to being more active in the life of the wider church as I continue my service in the church.

I am a strong communicator both personally and publicly. I take very seriously our theological convictions as a church, as well as the need for personal and cultural adaptation to various needs and situations. In my daily work as a parish pastor, I am regularly called on to make wise, helpful, and theologically appropriate decisions that nurture the entire congregation. I believe I would be able to do this on a churchwide committee as well, and would be honored to serve in such a way.

67. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy

A. The Rev. Jay E. Denne

Western Iowa Synod (5E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
First Lutheran Church (ID: 11146) - Sioux City, Iowa
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Church Council, First Lutheran Church, Sioux City, Iowa
Mission Endowment Committee, Western Iowa Synod
ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Member
- 3) *Education*
Iowa State University, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Iowa, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
Wartburg Seminary, TEEM Program
- 4) *Employment*
Interim Pastor, Soldier Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1970
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Currently, I am a bi-vocational pastor, called to serve the church through interim ministry in rural congregations in the Western Iowa Synod, while at the same time continuing to practice law. I have held various positions in County and State Bar Associations, and am a member of the Woodbury County Bar Association Grievance Committee. Therefore, the ELCA Committee on Discipline would be a natural fit for me, given my experience in both the church and in the law.

As a newly ordained pastor, I am looking forward to being a part of God's mission at the congregational, synodical, and churchwide level. In my various vocations, it has always been my goal to facilitate the resolution of disputes in a conciliatory fashion, and it would be a privilege to help resolve disputes within the church.

B. The Rev. John D. Kreidler

Central States Synod (4B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Hosanna Lutheran Church (ID: 30411) - Liberty, Mo.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Interim Pastorates
Parole and discipline hearing representative while serving as chaplain in correctional settings
- 3) *Education*
Concordia Junior College, Portland, Ore., Associates Degree In The Arts
California State University, Hayward, Calif., Bachelor Of Science
Christ Seminary - Seminex, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Bishop's Associate for Administration, Central States Synod, ELCA
- 5) *Year of birth*
1948
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My willingness to serve in this position comes first from my understanding that the movement of our church into God's preferred future requires that the people have confidence in the trustworthiness of the church's leaders and its communities of faith. Where this trust is violated, the people should be assured that the expressions of our church will act appropriately to ensure their well-being.

I am also willing to serve as a thankoffering for the vocational support the church has given me first through a churchwide call to correctional chaplaincy and then a synod call to serve on synod staff. These calls have provided me with opportunities to develop and implement governing documents, policy, and procedure. I have had opportunities to provide support and guidance during disciplinary procedures and to represent the accused. Prior to my call to synod staff, various interim ministries nurtured my compassion for the people of the church, especially when their trust has been violated.

68. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy (Restricted to Northeastern Minnesota Synod (3E))

A. The Rev. Stephen E. Olson

Northeastern Minnesota Synod (3E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 11564) - International Falls, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Chair - Northeastern Minnesota Synod Foundation
Northeastern Minnesota Synod Budget and Finance Com.
Southwestern Minnesota Synod Council and Exec Com.
- 3) *Education*
University of Minnesota - Inst of Tech, Bachelor Of Science
Engineering
University of Minnesota - Inst of Tech, Master Of Science
Luther Northwestern Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
Senior Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My primary call is to serve as a parish pastor in the ministry of Word and Sacrament. I believe the mission of the ELCA is to provide the resources and support for parish ministry and outreach. The committees and boards provide the means of accomplishing this mission.

Prior to being ordained, I served as an officer in the military and worked in corporate management. My responsibilities included financial analysis, production management, and labor relations. These experiences have been helpful in developing skills to help congregations in the visioning process as they grow into their particular ministries.

I believe that these skills, conditioned by parish ministry, would allow me serve productively on this committee.

B. The Rev. Vicki A. Taylor

Northeastern Minnesota Synod (3E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Bethany Lutheran Church (ID: 02948) - Deer River, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Conference Dean
First Call Colleague Group Leader
Parish Pastor
- 3) *Education*
Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity
North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D., Masters In
Education
Moorhead State University, Moorhead, Minn., Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Assistant to the Bishop, Northeastern MN Synod
- 5) *Year of birth*
1952
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

St. Paul writes, "But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak." (1 Cor. 8:9) Although we know that Paul is specifically referring to the eating of food offered to idols, his point is that what we do and say in a particular context can act as a catalyst to build up or destroy the faith of others. I see this as a profound responsibility for us as people of faith—individually and corporately; a responsibility to be those who proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in love so that life, healing, and the transformative Word is heard and hopefully experienced. That's my calling to this committee.

I have had the opportunity to be called to be part of a synodical disciplinary panel in which I was involved in two cases of discipline during my time as parish pastor. I have a master's degree with an emphasis in counseling, and as assistant to the bishop, I am involved with congregations in conflict and use a variety of skills to assist them.

69. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy [Four-year term]

A. The Rev. Susan M. Kintner
Oregon Synod (1E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ID: 04867) - Beaverton, Ore.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Division for Ministry Board
Bishop's Election Task Force, Oregon Synod
Churchwide Assembly Voting Member, Milwaukee, Wis.
- 3) *Education*
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Pacific Lutheran University, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Assistant to the Bishop, Oregon Synod, ELCA
- 5) *Year of birth*
1953
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

In the ELCA, when we receive reports of clergy misconduct, we comfort the victim, confront the clergy, and we tell the truth. The Discipline Committee is an important part of the truth-telling process. I am pleased to serve.

B. The Rev. Deanna M. Wildermuth
Northwest Washington Synod (1B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 04932) - Mercer Island, Wash.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Northwest Washington Synod Council
Luther Seminary Board of Directors
Eastern ND Synod Candidacy
- 3) *Education*
Western Washington University, Bachelor Of Arts
Luther Seminary, Master Of Divinity
- 4) *Employment*
pastor, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I think I have an ability to look at the broad picture of any given situation. I am not afraid of difficult situations or conversations. I work well with others and am responsible if working alone. I listen well and seek to provide opportunity for positive outcome, if possible. I trust and believe God is at work in all things, but being faithful does not release me from the obligation to do the work necessary in any given situation, especially when that work is difficult. I believe my call to serve this church is larger than my service to any individual congregation.

My experience as a pastor has been in small rural congregations, mid-size suburban and urban and very large congregations. I have served as solo, associate, and head of staff in a large congregation. I understand the different dynamics at work in different settings. I desire the ELCA in all its aspects to be strong and healthy, a place and a people where God's work is accomplished.

70. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy [*Four-year term*]

A. The Rev. Carla H. Knobler

Lower Susquehanna Synod (8D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Luke Lutheran Church (ID: 01198) - Schaefferstown, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ELCA Stewardship Pilot Program
Southeastern Synod Evangelism Team
Allegheny Synod Committee on Discipline
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran Theological Seminary Gettysburg, Master Of
Divinity
Agnes Scott College, Bachelor Of Arts
DeKalb Community College, Associates Degree In The Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Interim Minister completed 01/14/2011, Tabor United Church of
Christ
- 5) *Year of birth*
1950
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that
you would bring to this work?*

It was a blessing to discover, and subsequently experience, that God does not call the equipped; rather, God equips those who respond to God's call (e.g., Jeremiah 1:5).

I felt a call to counsel people experiencing loss where to find wholeness.

With spiritual gifts and education God, in turn, equipped me to respond to that call. Conveying God's means of grace through Word, sacrament, and spiritual counseling, my mission is to listen with my heart, and invite others to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance along a path of repentance to reconciliation.

I appreciated a previous opportunity to serve when elected to my synod's Committee on Discipline. Should this voting body elect me to this position; it will be an honor to serve the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in this capacity as well.

As this church's representative, prayerfully seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance, I will endeavor to prudently discern that which glorifies God and fosters healing and wholeness for those involved.

B. The Rev. Laurie A. Natwick

Northwestern Minnesota Synod (3D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 11594) - Moorhead, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Professional Leadership Board for Eastern ND Synod
Eastern ND Representative to Region 3 Council
National Lutheran Campus Ministry Advisory Board
- 3) *Education*
Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, Master Of
Divinity
University of North Dakota, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Assistant to the Bishop, Northwestern Minnesota Synod--ELCA
- 5) *Year of birth*
1954
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that
you would bring to this work?*

God calls me each day to further discern what it is to live the mission of Jesus Christ in and for the world; always this is in partnership with my brothers and sisters—saints and sinners all.

I believe I am being called to further the work of the Committee on Discipline through the use of my God-given gifts. Those gifts have been further recognized, cultivated, and honed in the past several years; I was appointed to serve (2004–2010) on the Disciplinary Board for the N.D. Supreme Court. I also served on the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee for the N.D. State Bar Association.

I bring the gifts of intentional, intuitive listening, an awareness of the multi-dimensional nature of interaction, attention to the varied layers of story, and an understanding of systems.

Serving on synod staff brings many occasions to work with conflict in congregations. It is a time for listening, praying, discerning, believing in the Spirit's presence. God is at work in and through the process!

71. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Clergy [Four-year term]

A. The Rev. Pamela I. Smith

Florida-Bahamas Synod (9E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Grace Lutheran Church (ID: 10327) - Clearwater, Fla.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Florida-Bahamas Synod Candidacy Committee
Pastor at Grace
Bd of Elders, Our Savior, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,
St. Petersburg, Fla., First Female Elder
- 3) *Education*
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Master Of Divinity
Stetson University College of Law, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
Indiana University-Purdue University, Master Of Social Work
- 4) *Employment*
Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1953
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

It is the whole church that has brought me to this call to ordained ministry at a later time in my professional life. One of the aspects of this call is to return service to the larger church and not only to the parish that I serve as pastor. My current work on the Florida-Bahamas Synod Candidacy Com. provides valuable experience in reviewing large amounts of information, meeting with candidates, and collaborating with other committee members as decisions that affect the larger church are reached.

Together with my current call, my previous professional experiences as an attorney, inter-disciplinary project team manager, and social worker have sharpened the skills that would be needed to serve on the Committee on Discipline -- an understanding of the role of rostered leaders, an appreciation of the nuances of personal behavior and decisions, and the need to work together as a group to reach a consensus.

B. The Rev. Rita G. Tweed

Florida-Bahamas Synod (9E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (ID: 16169) - Palm Harbor, Fla.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Critical Response Team, Florida-Bahamas Synod
Mobility, Transition, Conflict, Congregational Ministry,
Florida-Bahamas Synod
Coordinate Conference Youth Ministry Leaders,
Florida-Bahamas Synod
- 3) *Education*
Creighton University, Omaha, Neb., Bachelor Of Science
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Divinity
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Doctor Of Ministry
- 4) *Employment*
Assistant to the Bishop, Florida-Bahamas Synod
- 5) *Year of birth*
1960
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

When asked about a willingness to be nominated for the Committee on Discipline, and given my experiences, training and commitment to ministries like this, I prayerfully discerned to be open to a possibility of God's call to serve here. My work for nearly ten years as asst. to the bishop has provided multiple occasions to minister, guide, listen, and lead through conflict and listening panels, including responses to sexual misconduct. I am committed to the church being a safe and sacred place for all, for leaders to know and understand themselves and to practice healthy boundaries. Additionally, my passion for healing, renewal, and healthy relationships led me to become a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in the State of Florida, which has provided insights into many ministry contexts. The purpose and work of the Committee on Discipline, when called upon, serves an important role toward healing and renewing ministries. If elected, it would be a privilege to serve.

72. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Female

A. Sr. Sylvia S. Countess

Southeastern Synod (9D)

1) *Congregational membership*

St. John Lutheran Church (ID: 05853) - Knoxville, Tenn.

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Global Mission: Assistant to the Director of Education,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

3) *Education*

Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Master Of Arts
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Master Of Science In
Education
University of Tennessee Medical Center, Certificate

4) *Employment*

Director of Vocation and Education, Deaconess Community,
ELCA

5) *Year of birth*

1940

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

In the past two years at my present call working with deaconess candidates, synod candidacy committees, and seminaries, I have become increasingly aware of the need for clearly defined standards of accountability and responsibility linking and encompassing the church, those it prepares, and those it serves. If my previous years of experience working with students, teachers, evaluation committees in public schools, and undergraduate teacher preparation programs can now be used as well to serve the church, I would be willing to learn how to transfer and adapt those skills for such a purpose.

B. Ms. Kathy Patrick

Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod (4F)

1) *Congregational membership*

Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 14068) - Bellaire, Texas

2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*

Pro Bono Legal Counsel to Bishop of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
Pro Bono Legal Counsel to pastors and seminarians in church conflict issues
Synod Nominating Committee, Local Church Council, Worship Leader in Contemporary Worship Service

3) *Education*

University of Texas at El Paso, Bachelor Of Arts
Harvard Law School, Doctor Of Jurisprudence

4) *Employment*

Partner, Gibbs & Bruns LLP

5) *Year of birth*

1960

6) *Ethnicity*

Caucasian

7) *Primary Language*

English

8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

Luther's teaching on the priesthood of all believers is an important touchstone of my faith. I have a strong sense that God equipped me as a lawyer and a Christian to be a voice for justice in the church. Through my work as a lawyer counseling seminarians and pastors through church conflict, and as counsel to my local bishop in matters related to clergy misconduct and church conflict, I have learned the importance of telling unpleasant truths, with compassion and love, for the sake of transparency, accountability, and the health of the church and its people.

I am very familiar with the disciplinary procedures in the ELCA constitution and have implemented them in my work for our synod. I am a nationally recognized trial lawyer, listed in the Best Lawyers in America. I was recently nominated to the American Board of Trial Advocates. I think my legal skills, my experience as synod counsel, and my faith have equipped me well to serve on the Discipline Committee.

73. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Female

A. Ms. Rose Beeson

Grand Canyon Synod (2D)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Faith Lutheran Church (ID: 04992) - Phoenix, Ariz.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Vice President, Congregation Council
Chair, Congregation Evangelism Committee
voting member, multiple synod assemblies
- 3) *Education*
Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Associate Degree In
The Sciences
NorthCentral University, Bachelor Of Computer Science
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, No Degree Earned
- 4) *Employment*
Manager of Technology Development, University of San
Francisco
- 5) *Year of birth*
1986
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that
you would bring to this work?*

While glad to be part of a denomination that values grace, I also value the importance of rules and regulations to keep people, congregations, and organizations safe, and ensure things run smoothly. I am working on my Masters of Divinity and am affiliated with Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. Prior to ceasing working full time, I was employed at the University of San Francisco and before that at Phoenix Community College, in Phoenix, Arizona. In both organizations I had significant technology and project management responsibilities, which are skills that all committees and organizations need. In addition to being able to keep projects and people on task, I am able to think analytically and rationally to ensure all parties involved in a conflict or problem receive a fair hearing. In my home congregation, before moving to Berkeley, I was involved with the Finance Committee, Stewardship Committee, Evangelism Committee, Outreach Committee, and Congregation Council.

B. Ms. Anna K. Helgen

Saint Paul Area Synod (3H)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Christ the King Lutheran Church (ID: 11971) - White Bear
Lake, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Wilderness Canoe Base
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Minneapolis, Minn.
Christikon Lutheran Bible Camp
- 3) *Education*
St. Olaf College, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Youth and Education Program Director, Christ the King
Lutheran Church
- 5) *Year of birth*
1987
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that
you would bring to this work?*

As a young adult currently serving in an ELCA congregation with previous outdoor ministry experience and a congregational internship, I understand that churches are complex systems. Staff and congregation members form a web of relationships. This web is difficult to untangle in order to understand one particular relationship. I feel I am called to serve on the Committee on Discipline because I am able to listen to all voices before coming to a conclusion. As a math and religion major from St. Olaf, I have been taught to think analytically, and I have also learned in my work to never pass judgment or make assumptions. God calls us to love our neighbors, to forgive, and to serve with grace. However, clergy must be held accountable for their behavior. Without honest and strong leadership and in the absence of trust, a congregation can fall apart, resulting in broken and confused relationships among staff, members, and clergy.

74. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Female

A. Ms. Nancy M. Reed

Virginia Synod (9A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Mark Lutheran Church (ID: 05996) - Luray, Va.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ELCA Criminal Justice Task Force
Virginia Synod Early Childhood Task Force
St. Mark Lutheran Church, council and chair early childhood ministry committee
- 3) *Education*
College of William and Mary, Bachelor Of Arts
College of William and Mary, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
- 4) *Employment*
Attorney, Reed & Reed, P.C.
- 5) *Year of birth*
1959
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am very interested in serving on the ELCA Committee on Discipline. I believe that my professional and church experiences make me highly qualified to serve in this position. I have practiced law in the Commonwealth of Virginia for 27 years. I have a private civil practice and for the first seven years of my career I also did criminal defense work. For the past 20 years I have been a part time prosecutor in Page County, Virginia, while continuing my civil practice. I currently serve as Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney for Page County. In both my private practice and as Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney I am involved in all levels of litigation, including appeals, and spend several days a week in court.

As an active member of my congregation, I have served several terms on our congregation council, and have headed our early childhood ministry committee for a number of years, overseeing our preschool and daycare.

B. Ms. Cheryl G. Stuart

Florida-Bahamas Synod (9E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Stephen Lutheran Church (ID: 01724) - Tallahassee, Fla.L
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Vice President, Florida-Bahamas Synod Council
Lay Member, Florida-Bahamas Synod Council
Pres/VP/Stewardship, Congregational Council, St. Stephen, Tallahassee, Fla.
- 3) *Education*
Michigan State University, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Master Of Public Administration
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
- 4) *Employment*
Shareholder/Attorney, Hopping Green & Sams (1986-present)
- 5) *Year of birth*
1955
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a practicing attorney, my ability to sift the important from the trivial is exercised every day. As a supervisor, resolving disagreements and enforcing policy comes with the territory. Delivering difficult news, whether to a client or an employee, is also something I find myself needing to do; I am told I do it firmly, but thoughtfully. As I understand the responsibility of the Committee on Discipline, these skills may be useful in that work.

As to my sense of call for this work, I am a firm believer in "calling out" or "naming" gifts in others (and opportunities to use them), so I listen carefully when someone names something for me to do! My current work with the synod council is both challenging and fulfilling. It has tested my skills, while deepening my faith. I treasure the relationships that have developed as a result, and I look forward to forging new relationships through service at the churchwide level.

75. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Male

A. Mr. James R. Dyke

Sierra Pacific Synod (2A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Zion Lutheran Church (ID: 14008) - Stockton, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
President, Zion Lutheran, Stockton, Calif.
Synod Council, Sierra Pacific Synod
Synod Discipline committee; Zion Endowment committee
- 3) *Education*
University of Washington, Bachelor Of Arts
Willamette University, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
- 4) *Employment*
Attorney, Neumiller & Beardslee
- 5) *Year of birth*
1941
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I am a lifelong Lutheran; from Butte, Montana, Gold Hill Lutheran; Spokane, Wash. Central Lutheran; and Stockton, Calif., Zion Lutheran. I have served my congregation and the synod; I am currently general counsel to the Sierra Pacific Synod; have served on the synod discipline committee and attended numerous assemblies. I am an attorney in private practice and am certified by the state of California in tax and estate planning, probate, and trust. I am a member of the ELCA Attorney's Association.

I am willing to serve the greater church as needed.

B. Mr. Kevin K. Fitzgerald

Southwest California Synod (2B)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church (ID: 13922) - Pasadena, Calif.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Finance Deacon - Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church
Treasurer and Board Member - Solheim Lutheran Home
Attorney for the Southwest California Synod of the ELCA
- 3) *Education*
Allegheny College, Bachelor Of Arts
Duke University School of Law, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
- 4) *Employment*
Managing Partner, Jones Bell, Abbott, Fleming & Fitzgerald
- 5) *Year of birth*
1956
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

As a lifelong Lutheran, I have a good sense of the mission, values and purposes of the ELCA. Having practiced law for nearly 30 years, and more recently assisted my synod and many churches within my synod with legal issues with which they have been confronted, I have been able to use my talents and experience toward the betterment of those institutions. Membership on the Committee on Discipline would enable me to offer my talents and assistance on a volunteer basis at the churchwide level.

76. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Male

A. Mr. William L. Biggs

Nebraska Synod (4A)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Rejoice Lutheran Church (ID: 03294) - Omaha, Neb.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Synodical General Counsel
Rejoice Lutheran Church Council Chair, Educational Chair,
Choir Director
- 3) *Education*
University of Nebraska, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
University of Nebraska Graduate College, No Degree Earned
University of North Dakota, Bachelor Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Attorney/Shareholder, Gross & Welch, P.C., L.L.O.
- 5) *Year of birth*
1940
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have been blessed to serve the last several bishops as general counsel for the synod and have served in a variety of ways as directed by the bishops. My law degree, my experience as an arbitrator, and the skills that I have developed during my law practice to bring people together and to settle disputes would be of benefit in serving the church on this committee. I am also on the steering committee for the ELCA Attorneys Association, working with the General Counsel's office. I have been able to attend all of the gatherings of that group since its founding, which has been an extremely valuable experience. Prior to becoming a lawyer, during my law school experience I clerked for the District Court, where I assisted the Court by drafting opinions and listening to the arguments of counsel. That experience and my experience as an arbitrator will be valuable in serving on the Committee on Discipline.

B. Mr. Josh S. Tatum

Indiana-Kentucky Synod (6C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer (ID: 20080) - Indianapolis, Ind.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Our Redeemer Church Council
Christ Lutheran (Nashville, Tenn.) Church Council
Christ Lutheran (Nashville, Tenn.) Pastoral Intern
- 3) *Education*
Wabash College, Bachelor Of Arts
Vanderbilt Divinity School, Master Of Divinity
Vanderbilt University Law School, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
- 4) *Employment*
Associate, Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP
- 5) *Year of birth*
1980
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

God has called me to an active role in the church as a lay leader. I have had many opportunities to test the waters of ordained ministry, and I've taken those opportunities several times. For instance, I attended the first year of Summer Seminary Sampler at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 1999, and I earned a Master of Divinity. Those experiences have all led me away from ordination, however, and have made me more convinced that my calling is one of an attorney who takes my theological training and applies it as a lay leader. The Committee on Discipline appeals to me because I would utilize the skills I have gained in my legal training and experience as well as my practical theological education and years of congregational leadership in service of the greater church. Having worked with clergy and clergy candidates in both academic and congregational settings, I have grappled with the theological and practical implications of the types of issues this committee deals with.

77. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Male

A. Mr. William R. Lloyd Jr.

Allegheny Synod (8C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Trinity Lutheran Church (ID: 01370) - Somerset, Pa.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
ELCA Committee of Hearing Officers
ELCA Church Council
Allegheny Synod Council
- 3) *Education*
Franklin and Marshall College, Bachelor Of Arts
Harvard Law School, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
U. S. Naval Justice School, Certificate
- 4) *Employment*
Small Business Advocate, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 5) *Year of birth*
1947
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have devoted my career to public service. I believe that is God's calling for me. I have coupled my career with lifelong involvement in the church.

I previously served on the ELCA Church Council, the Council's Legal and Constitutional Review Committee, the synod council, and the congregation council. As a result, I have first-hand knowledge of the governing documents and procedures of the ELCA.

My training and experience as a lawyer have given me a good understanding of due process. I have litigated cases at state agency hearings and in the appellate courts and served as a Public Utility Commission judge. During my 18 years as a state legislator, I presided over legislative hearings and drafted numerous statutes governing the qualifications and expected conduct of licensed professionals as well as the rules for the disciplinary process. As the director of an independent state law office, I am responsible for employee evaluation and first-level discipline.

B. Mr. Steven M. Shermoen

Northeastern Minnesota Synod (3E)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
First Lutheran Church (ID: 02959) - International Falls, Minn.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
First Lutheran Church Council
- 3) *Education*
University of North Dakota, Doctor Of Jurisprudence
University of North Dakota, Bachelor Of Science
- 4) *Employment*
owner, Steven M. Shermoen Law Office
- 5) *Year of birth*
1949
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

I have often pondered how I could better serve the Lord and my church. Although I know very little about the Committee on Discipline, I was indirectly requested to place my name in nomination by Bishop Aitken, whom I knew for many years when he was the pastor of my congregation. I greatly respect his judgment and if he feels I might be of some service in this role, I welcome the opportunity.

I have been married to Nancy for 42 years and we have three children and three grandchildren. I have been a practicing attorney in Int'l Falls for 35 years and served on many boards and committees with involvement in a wide range of community activities. I was an Army officer, youth coach, and community college law instructor. My legal career included 30 years as a part time Public Defender and now I am City Attorney. My legal experience and work as a mediator exposed me to much conflict and how to work toward resolution. I am blessed with a love of God and a desire to be honest, fair, and hard-working.

78. Churchwide Committee on Discipline: Lay Male [Four-year term] (Restricted to Central/Southern Illinois Synod (5C))

A. Mr. Henry Harms

Central/Southern Illinois Synod (5C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
Atonement Lutheran Church (ID: 10796) - Springfield, Ill.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Member of Central/Southern Illinois Synod Personnel Committee
Past President, Vice President and Treasurer of Atonement Lutheran Church, Springfield, Illinois
Elected Churchwide Assembly voting member in 2003 and 2009
- 3) *Education*
Lincoln Land Community College, Associate Degree In The Sciences
- 4) *Employment*
Chief Fiscal Officer, State of Illinois House of Representatives
- 5) *Year of birth*
1966
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

My expertise in personnel matters as the Fiscal Officer for the Illinois House of Representatives and as a member of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Personnel Committee in dealing with employee discipline and employment matters would make me an ideal member of this committee.

B. Mr. Robert F. Mueller

Central/Southern Illinois Synod (5C)

- 1) *Congregational membership*
St. Timothy Lutheran Church (ID: 10584) - Wyoming, Ill.
- 2) *Congregation, Synodical, or Churchwide Service Activities*
Central/Southern Illinois Synod Council
Division of Congregational Ministry Board
Various local congregational offices including chairman
- 3) *Education*
Illinois State University, Bachelor Of Arts
University of Illinois Springfield, Master Of Arts
- 4) *Employment*
Stark County CUSD #100, retired
- 5) *Year of birth*
1945
- 6) *Ethnicity*
Caucasian
- 7) *Primary Language*
English
- 8) *What are the gifts, skills, experiences and areas of expertise that you would bring to this work?*

It might seem trite to say, but I feel that God has called me to be of service to him since I can remember. Beginning with Sunday school but more so as I began participation in youth groups, I have felt a calling to serve. Several times through my life a I went through a concerted thought process as to whether I should enter the ministry. I feel the Lord has led me to serve as a lay member rather than in a called capacity.

My background as a educator, both as a teacher and as an administrator, seem to open many doors for me to serve the church in various ways. I truly feel that God has continuously opened doors for me to serve him in a variety of ways.