



BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSES and STATEMENTS of NOMINEES

2023

WE PREACH!
CHRIST CRUCIFIED

68TH REGULAR CONVENTION
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
July 29–Aug. 3, 2023 | Milwaukee, Wis.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SYNOPSES AND STATEMENTS OF NOMINEES

68TH REGULAR SYNOD CONVENTION | MILWAUKEE, WIS. | JULY 29–AUG. 3, 2023

Preface

This report provides the results of the two nomination processes conducted in preparation for the 2023 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod: (a) the numerical, congregational ballot process for selection of President and First and Regional Vice-President candidates; and (b) the work of the Committee for Convention Nominations to provide candidates for Secretary and all convention-elected board and commission positions in the Synod, based on nominations submitted before the bylaw deadline, nine months prior to the convention, by agencies and officers, congregational and individual members of the Synod, as well as by lay members of Synod’s congregations. These processes have culminated in the presented slates of candidates presented in this addendum to the **2023 Workbook**.

The report contains nominations for various regional positions in the Synod. On Nov. 21, 2019, as required, the Board of Directors and Council of Presidents, having received a report from the Office of the Secretary on the circuit, congregation, and congregational membership make-up of the regions, designated the five geographic regions of the Synod (Bylaw 3.12.1) as remaining unchanged from the previous triennia, last adjusted in preparation for the 2013 convention. Regional membership of congregations (including those in non-geographic districts) and individuals is determined by geographical location (residence, in the case of individuals) relative to the determined boundaries. Canadian congregations and their members are considered a part of the East-Southeast Region. A map of the regions of the Synod, indicating constituent geographical districts, may be obtained at [lcms.org/convention/districts-map](https://www.lcms.org/convention/districts-map). Regional vice-presidents and board members must reside within the designated region (Bylaw 3.12.1 [b]).

Only those nominations processed by the Committee for Convention Nominations, as listed in Section XIV of this book, are considered “within the pool” for purposes of floor nomination (see Bylaw 3.12.3.7 [c]).

A. Report of Nominations by Ballot

1. PRESIDENT OF THE SYNOD

Bylaws 3.12.2–3.12.2.1 provide the procedure for receiving nominations and determining the slate of five candidates for the office of President. The slate was increased from three to five by 2019 Res. 9-07. For the first time, this nomination balloting was accomplished electronically, by YesElections (formerly Election-America), the election firm used by the Synod in each of its pre-convention presidential elections, instead of with the customary mailing and counting of

paper ballots. The Secretary obtained the assistance of this firm because of a number of factors, one of them being the expansion of the slate to five and the resulting reduction of time to turn around the slates, due to an increased possible number of runoffs. The contractor exclusively handled voting credentials and sent reminder emails to congregational leadership as needed. The nomination period was Oct. 29, 2022, to Feb. 28, 2023. Instructions and credentials were physically mailed to each voting congregation to arrive just before the opening of the period. The web interface allowed each congregation to select, from the eligible ordained roster of the Synod, up to two distinct names for President, two for First Vice-President, and two for the regional vice-president position corresponding to the congregation’s region.

Results were tabulated by YesElections and delivered to the Office of the Secretary on March 1, 2023, along with a list of congregations that had voted. A report of the results of the balloting process and biographical and other information for each of the five candidates on the slate for the office of President is printed beginning on page 9 of this publication.

The election of the President will take place six weeks prior to the 2023 Synod convention. The candidates for this election will be the five nominees who received the most nominating votes and consented to serve if elected. The voters for this election will be those registered by the congregations and parishes of the Synod, one pastoral and one lay voter per each, as directed by Bylaw 3.12.2.3. Also for the first time, voter registration is being performed electronically, using a site similar to that used for the 2021 convention deferral vote. Voters must be registered by March 19, 2023, with changes to registered voters possible until June 9, 2023. Election results will be made public by the Office of the Secretary at least two weeks before the Synod convention.

2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SYNOD

Bylaws 3.12.2–3.12.2.1 describe the procedure for receiving nominations and determining the required list of 20 nominees for the office of First Vice-President. Balloting was handled in the same process as used for the President, as described above.

Because the presidential election will have taken place prior to the 2023 convention, the election of the First Vice-President will be the first election to take place at the convention. The slate of candidates will be the five nominees selected by the President-elect from the list of 20 nominees who received the most nominating votes and consented to serve if elected, with this list of five candidates to be made public prior to the opening of the convention. There will be no opportunity for nominations from the floor. A report of the results of the balloting process and biographical information for the 20 possible candidates for the office of First Vice-President is printed beginning on page 13 of this publication.

3. REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

Bylaw 3.12.2.7 (a–d) provides the procedure for receiving nominations and determining the slate of five candidates for each regional vice-presidency. Despite certain deficiencies in the bylaw language, which did not fully reflect the intended possibility of an electronic “secure and verifiable method” (CCM Op. 20-2930), balloting was handled in the same process as used for the President, as described above.

As in the case of the slates of candidates for the offices of President and First Vice-President, the slates of candidates for regional vice-president positions (the five ordained ministers from each region who received the most nominating votes and who consented to serve if elected) cannot be altered by nominations from the floor at the convention. A report containing the results of the balloting process and biographical and other information for the five candidates for each regional vice-president position is printed beginning on page 24 of this publication.

B. Report of Committee for Convention Nominations

The Committee for Convention Nominations herewith submits its report to the 2023 convention, expressing its appreciation to all who placed names in nomination and to all nominees who have allowed their names to be considered for selection as candidates. Nominations were solicited, per Bylaw 3.12.3.4, “from agencies and officers of the Synod and the congregational and individual members of the Synod, along with lay persons of the congregations of the Synod.” These were received from Jan. 31, 2021, to Oct. 29, 2022, an unusually long span due to the affirmative vote, in January 2021, to defer the convention from 2022 to 2023. All eligible incumbents were, per Bylaw 3.12.3.4 (d), included as nominees.

The committee has processed all nominations submitted for all positions other than President, First Vice-President, and regional vice-presidents. The Office of the Secretary handled the preliminary work for the committee by soliciting names and collecting biographical and evaluative information for use by the committee as it carried out its responsibility to provide slates of candidates. A total of 461 individuals (a significant increase over 347 submitted last triennium) were nominated for at least one position, including 47 incumbents. This provided the pool from which the committee made its selections. Of the 461 nominated, 345 agreed to their nomination to at least one position. The committee placed 145 individuals on the ballots for the 62 positions up for election, in each instance providing at least the two required candidates for each position to be filled.

The committee met Jan. 26–28 in St. Louis, with the meeting called by the Secretary of the Synod. Members of the Standing Committee on Nominations (“Bylaw 3.2.5 Committee”) elected by and from the membership of the committee, subsequently conducted remaining business via Internet communications, as necessitated by candidates’ declinations, to elevate alternates to candidacy, as allowed for in Bylaw 3.12.3.6 (f). A detailed report of the slate of candi-

dates identified for each elective position and accompanying biographical and other information regarding each candidate is printed beginning on page 40 of this publication.

1. INDEX OF ALL NAMES FOUND IN THIS PUBLICATION

A list of all names of nominees that appear in this publication is provided beginning on page 87, followed by one or more page numbers to facilitate locating them.

2. NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR OF THE CONVENTION

In the case of positions other than President, First Vice-President, regional vice-president, and regional board positions, slates of candidates developed by the Committee for Convention Nominations may be altered by nominations from the floor of the convention. Such nominations must be brought before the convention for approval before being added to a slate of candidates. Such nominations also must not preclude (because of bylaw limitations for the position to be filled) the election of a nominee already on a slate of candidates without disclosure of such potential effect to the convention (Bylaw 3.12.3.7).

Ordinarily, floor nominations may be made only from the list of names previously submitted via the regular (not ballot) nominations process to the Committee for Convention Nominations prior to the Oct. 29, 2022, deadline (Bylaw 3.12.3.7 [b]). A complete list of these names is provided on page 80 of this publication. If nominees have not already provided required biographical information and indicated their consent to serve if elected, these documents must accompany nominations from the floor of the convention. If a floor nomination is for a Concordia University System board position, such nominees must also have provided the information requested on the second page of the Floor Nomination Form so that their qualifications for such board service could be reviewed as required by Bylaws 3.6.6.3 and 3.10.6.2 (8). Nominees who have already satisfied this review requirement are identified by a ✓ following their names. (The Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer of the Synod and the president of Concordia University System reached a common determination again this triennium of which nominees are qualified *both* for the CUS board of directors and for a CUS college or university board of regents.) Other nominees from the floor will be submitted to this review requirement and will need to be found qualified before their names will be placed on Concordia University System board slates for election.

By a simple majority vote, the convention may broaden eligibility for nominations from the floor beyond the pool of names previously submitted to the Committee for Convention Nominations. Required biographical (Bylaw 3.12.3.6 [c]) and consent-to-serve documentation for such nominees will need to be provided at the time that approval of the nomination is granted by the convention. As in the above paragraph, if a floor nomination is for a Concordia University System board position, such nominees must also have provided the information requested on the second page

of the Floor Nomination Form so that their qualifications for such board service may be reviewed as required by Bylaws 3.6.6.3 and 3.10.6.2 (8).

C. Abbreviations

(Past and Present Service to the Church)

The following are abbreviations used in the paragraphs next to candidates' pictures throughout this publication describing their past and present service in their congregations=C, the Synod=S, districts=D, and others=O (community, etc.). The number following "LCMS" in the paragraph indicates number of years the candidate has been a member (baptized or confirmed) of an LCMS congregation; other numbers following listed positions refer to years of service in those positions. Where appropriate, a plus sign (+) immediately following a last name designates that the candidate is an incumbent to the position.

Example:

Jane Smith is a candidate for a position on the Board for National Mission.

Jane Smith+, Milwaukee, WI; Our Savior, Elton, WI (SWD); LCMS 30; Attorney; **S:** BNM 6; Conv. Deleg. 2; **D:** SWD Bd. for Miss. 3; **C:** Treasurer 7; **O:** WZ3X Partners BOD 12.

Jane Smith lives in Milwaukee, Wis., and is a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Elton, Wis., which is in the South Wisconsin District. She has been a member of an LCMS congregation for 30 years. She currently works as an attorney. She is an incumbent to a position on the Board for National Mission, serving as such for six years, and has served twice as a Synod convention delegate. She has served for three years on the South Wisconsin District board for mission and in her congregation as treasurer for seven years. She has also served in her community on the Board of Directors of WZ3X Partners for 12 years.

Key to Abbreviations

C = in the Congregation

S = in the Synod

D = in the District

O = in other positions

+ Incumbent | number following "LCMS" indicates number of years as a member of an LCMS congregation | numbers following listed positions refer to years of service

Admin.—administration, administrative, administrator	CSL—Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Prin.—principal
Adv.—advisor, advisory	CUAA—Concordia University Ann Arbor	Prof.—professor
Assn.—association	CUC—Concordia University Chicago	Prog.—program
Asst.—assistant	CUI—Concordia University, Irvine	Proj.—project
Assoc.—associate	CUNE—Concordia University, Nebraska	Pub.—public
Atty.—attorney	CUP—Concordia University, Portland	Rep.—representative
BBMS—Board for Black Ministry Services	CUS—Concordia University System	Ret.—retired
BCCS—Board for Communication Services	CUW—Concordia University Wisconsin	Rev.—revision
Bd./Bds.—board/boards	CV—Circuit visitor	Secy.—secretary
BDCS—Board for District and Congregational Services	DCE—director of Christian education	Sem.—seminary
BFCSS—Board for Congregational Services	Dcs.—deaconess	Serv.—services
BES—Board for Evangelism Services	Deleg.—delegate	SMP—Specific Ministry Pastor
BFMS—Board for Mission Services	Dept.—department	Soc.—social, society
BHCM—Board for Human Care Ministries	Devel.—developer, development	Spkr.—speaker
BHE—Board for Higher Education	Dir.—director	SS—Sunday school
BIM—Board for International Mission	Dist.—district	Stewp.—stewardship
Bldg.—building	Div.—division	Supt.—superintendent
BNM—Board for National Mission	DR—doctrinal review	Tchr.—teacher
BOD—Board of Directors	Ed.—education; editor	Tech.—technology
BOG—Board of Governors	Em.—emeritus	TF—task force
BOR—Board of Regents	Evang.—evangelism	Theol.—theology
BOT—Board of Trustees	Exec.—executive	Treas.—treasurer
BRTFSSG—Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance	Fac.—facilitator	Univ.—university
BYS—Board for Youth Services	Fin.—finance, financial	VP—vice-president
CAO—chief administrative officer	Fl. Com.—floor committee	VBS—vacation Bible school
CCM—Commission on Constitutional Matters	Fnd.—foundation	Vol.—volunteer
CCN—Committee for Convention Nominations	GCC—Great Commission Convocation	WBP—Worker Benefit Plans
CCNY—Concordia College—New York	Grp.—group	Districts of the Synod
CEF—Church Extension Fund	HS—high school	AT—Atlantic
CEO—chief executive officer	ILL—International Lutheran Laymen's League	CNH—California-Nevada-Hawaii
CFO—chief financial officer	Info.—information	CI—Central Illinois
Chapl.—chaplain	Inst.—institute, institution	EA—Eastern
CHI—Concordia Historical Institute	Int'l.—international	EN—English
Chm.—Chairman	LBT—Lutheran Bible Translators	FG—Florida-Georgia
CHP—Concordia Health Plans	LCC—Lutheran Church—Canada	IN—Indiana
Cir.—Circuit	Ldr.—leader / Ldrshp.—Leadership	IE—Iowa East
CIS—Concordia International School	LFCS—Lutheran Family and Children Services	IW—Iowa West
CMO—chief mission officer	LFL—Lutherans For Life	KS—Kansas
COH—Commission on Handbook	LHM—Lutheran Hour Ministries	MI—Michigan
Com.—commission, committee, community	LIRS—Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	MDS—Mid-South
Conc.—Concordia	LMI—Lutheran Malaria Initiative	MNN—Minnesota North
Conf.—conference	LSF—Lutheran Student Fellowship	MNS—Minnesota South
Cong.—congregation	Luth.—Lutheran	MO—Missouri
Cons.—consultant	LWML—Lutheran Women's Missionary League	MT—Montana
Const.—constitution	LWR—Lutheran World Relief	NE—New England
Conv.—convention	LYF—Lutheran Youth Fellowship	NEB—Nebraska
Convoc.—convocation	Mem.—member	ND—North Dakota
COO—chief operating officer	Mgr.—manager	NJ—New Jersey
Coord.—coordinator	Min.—minister, ministry, ministerial	NW—North Wisconsin
COP—Council of Presidents	Miss.—missions, missionary	NI—Northern Illinois
COS—Commission on Structure	Nat'l.—national	NOW—Northwest
Coun.—council	NLSA—National Lutheran Schools Association	OH—Ohio
Couns.—counsel, counselor	Nom.—nomination	OK—Oklahoma
CPE—Continuing Professional Education	NT—New Testament	PSW—Pacific-Southwest
CPH—Concordia Publishing House	OIM—Office of International Mission	RM—Rocky Mountain
CPS—Concordia Plan Services	ONM—Office of National Mission	SELC—SELC
CSP—Concordia University, St. Paul	Org.—Organization, organizing	SD—South Dakota
CTCR—Commission on Theology and Church Relations	OT—Old Testament	SW—South Wisconsin
	PALS—Post-seminary Applied Learning and Support	SE—Southeastern
	Plng.—planning	SO—Southern
	PLI—Pastoral Leadership Institute	SI—Southern Illinois
	PR—public relations	TX—Texas
	Pres.—president	WY—Wyoming
CTX—Concordia University Texas		

I. Report on Nominations/Candidates for President of the Synod

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)

Nomination Process: A total of 2,526 nominating votes were cast by 1,826 congregations of the Synod (compared to 2,114 congregations in 2019; 1,338 in 2016; 1,479 in 2013; 2,007 in 2010; 2,075 in 2007; and 2,581 in 2004). As required by Bylaw 3.12.2 (d), here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

Matthew C. Harrison.....	1193
Patrick T. Ferry.....	511
Richard L. Snow	228
Peter K. Lange.....	119
Benjamin T. Ball.....	113
Lawrence R. Rast Jr.....	75
Christopher S. Esget	29
Timothy P. Ahlman	26
David P.E. Maier	25
Michael W. Newman	20
Timothy M. Klinkenberg	15
Scott R. Murray	13
Robert L. (Lee) Hagan.....	12
Jamison J. Hardy	11
Eric T. Lange	8
Dale A. Meyer.....	8
John C. Wohlrabe Jr.	8
Lucas V. Woodford.....	7
John E. Hill.....	6

4 votes:

Michael E. (Mike) Gibson; C. Bryan Wolfmueller

3 votes:

Allan R. Buss; Paul A. Linnemann; Nabil S. Nour; John A. Nunes; William C. Weedon

2 votes:

Robert D. Beinke; Bart Day; Roosevelt Gray Jr.; Robert R. Lessing; Scott A. Snow

1 vote:

Donald E. Anthony; Victor J. Belton; Craig L. Bickel; Christopher R. Bodley; Phillip L. Brandt; Jon M. Braunersreuther; Joel A. Brondos; Richard L. Browning; John C. (Jack) Davidson; John R. Denninger; Jonathan M. Dinger; John C. Eggert; Alfonso O. Espinosa; Charles D. Ferry; Brady L. Finern; Jonathan M. Fisk; David C. Fleming; Terry R. Forke; Brian L. Friedrich; Daniel S. Golden; Byrene K. (Keith) Haney; William A. Harmon; Todd E. Harrison; John M.M. Holyer; Eric Johnson; David A. Kahle; Theodore M.R. Krey; Michael L. Kumm; Michael R. Lange; Peter A. Lange; Joel D. Lehenbauer; Dwayne M. Lueck; Paul L. Maier; Walter A. Maier III; Seth A. Mierow; Dean W. Nadasdy; Ryan R. Peterson; Clint K. Poppe; Jeffrey H. Pulse; James H. Rockey; Dean F. Rothchild; Timothy E. Saleska; Leopoldo A. Sanchez; Brian S. Saunders; Richard V. Schauer; Thomas L. Schroeder; Gregory Schulz; Gregory P. Seltz; John W. Sias; Gregory J. Snow; Russell L. Sommerfeld; Keith A. Speaks; Donald E. Stock; Don R. Stuckwisch Jr.; Deric A. Taylor; Dien A. Taylor; Norbert D. Tegtmeier; William H. Tucker; Steven D. Turner; Martin A. Tyce; Waldemar R. Vinovskis; Gregory S. Walton; Ryan S. Willis Sr.; Kevin A. Wilson; Mark C. Wood; Robert M. Zagore

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.1 (a), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval in writing for the inclusion of their names on the ballot. Because there were no declinations and because the Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate, the ballot for the election of the President of the Synod (six weeks prior to the 2023 convention) is expected to contain the names of the following top five candidates in alphabetical order:

- Benjamin T. Ball
- Patrick T. Ferry
- Matthew C. Harrison
- Peter K. Lange
- Richard L. Snow

Duties: The President serves in a full-time executive position. He is the chief ecclesiastical officer of the Synod, he supervises the doctrine taught and practiced in the Synod (Bylaw 3.3.1.1), and he has ecclesiastical supervision of all officers and agencies of the Synod, its districts, and their presidents (Bylaw 3.3.1.1.1). As chief ecumenical officer, he represents the Synod in contacts with partner churches and other church bodies (Bylaw 3.3.1.1.2). He exercises administrative oversight to see that officers, executives, and agencies act in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod (Bylaw 3.3.1.2) and performs other ecclesiastical and administrative responsibilities and duties related to the conventions, districts, district presidents, commissions, boards, agencies, entities, offices, and officers of the Synod as specified in Bylaw 3.3.1.3. The President serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors of the Synod.

Qualifications: A nominee for President must be a minister of religion—ordained, not a specific ministry pastor, on the roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and a member of a voting congregation of the Synod.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Name Benjamin T. (Ben) Ball
Address.....6969 W. Frontage Road, Worden, IL
Birth Date March 30, 1972
BirthplaceMadison Heights, MI
Wife's Maiden Name....Serena Prongua
Number of Children.....5

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1995)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1999)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 51
Rostered Member of Synod 24
Year of Ordination1999
Pastorates

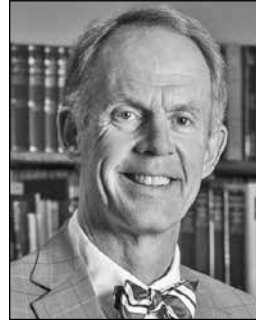
Congregation	Years
St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Dedham, MA	1994-2004

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Brookfield, IL	2004–2012
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel, IL.....	2012–present
Other Synod Offices	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Years</u>
Convention Delegate	2007, 2016, 2019
Participant, LCMS Model Theological Conference	2010
Doctrinal Reviewer.....	2013–2019
Assistant Chaplain, LCMS Convention.....	2013
Planning Committee Member and Presenter, LCMS Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music.....	2014, 2017
Member, Convention Floor Committees: Seminary Education, Structure and Administration	2016, 2019
Chairman, Committee for Convention Nominations.....	2019–2023
Chairman, Convention Floor Committee: Schools, Family, Young Adults and Youth	2023
Sixth Vice-President, Central Region	2019–present
Other District Offices	
<u>Position</u>	<u>Years</u>
Member, Convention Floor Committees.....	2000, 2015
Member, New England District Worship Commission	2001–2004
Circuit Counselor, Northern Illinois District.....	2006–2009
Member, Northern Illinois District East Region Pastoral Conference Committee	2006–2010
Secretary, Northern Illinois District Nominations Committee	2009
Circuit Visitor, Southern Illinois District	2015–2018
Chairman, Southern Illinois District Commission on Convention Nominations and Elections.....	2017–2018
Vice-Chairman, Southern Illinois District Pastoral Conference.....	2017–2018
Second Vice-President, Southern Illinois District	2018–2019
Other Significant Service or Experience	
<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Years</u>
Pastor-in-Residence, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	2002
Supervisor of Deaconess Field Workers, Concordia University Chicago	2005–2012
Book Reviewer, <i>Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly</i>	2016
Member, Board of Directors, Metro-East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville, IL.....	2017–2019
Contributor, <i>The Lutheran Witness</i>	2020
Contributor, <i>The Emigration of the Saxon Lutherans in the Year 1838 and Their Settlement in Perry County, Missouri</i> , Concordia Publishing House	2022
Supervisor of Field Workers, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....	2015–present
Vicarage Supervisor, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.....	2021–present
Head Boys Basketball Coach, St. Paul Lutheran Squires, Hamel, IL.....	2022–present

Personal Statement

“This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God” (1 Cor. 4:1). Our Lord is gracious to me, calling me to be His servant and steward of His mysteries. It is an honor to be nominated for Synod President, as it is an honor to serve as Vice-President. I believe that at this time, serving as a Vice-President is better suited to my callings as husband, father, and pastor. However I might serve our Synod, I seek to aid our congregations heed what Dr. Walther wrote: A Synod’s “primary duty is to be faithful to the Confessions in word and deed.”

Also nominated for First Vice-President, Central Region Vice-President



Name Patrick T. (Pat) Ferry
Address..... 2733 Painted Sky Bend, Leander, TX 78641
Birth Date June 25, 1959
Birthplace Denver, CO
Wife’s Maiden Name.... Tamara Saleska
Number of Children..... 5

College..... St. John’s College, Winfield, KS (1981)

Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1987)

Other Degrees..... PhD, University of Colorado-Boulder; DDiv (Honorary), Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2022)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 45

Rostered Member of Synod 35

Year of Ordination 1988

Pastorates

<u>Congregation</u>	<u>Years</u>
Wheat Ridge Lutheran, Wheat Ridge, CO.....	1987–1989
St. Andrew’s Lutheran, Laramie, WY	1989–1991

Other Full-Time Positions

<u>Position</u>	<u>Employer</u>	<u>Years</u>
Faculty, Concordia University Wisconsin		1991–1997
President, Concordia University Wisconsin.....		1997–2001
President, Concordia University Ann Arbor		2013–2021

Other Significant Service or Experience

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Years</u>
Chair, Lutheran Education Conference of North America	2004–2006, 2020–2021
Secretary, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.....	2009–2013
Board Member, Fundacion Educacional Concordia (FEC), Montevideo, Uruguay	2017–present

Personal Statement

Hope, not fear! The LCMS is poised to share an enduring and eternal hope with a world flailing in fears. Ours is a hope built on Jesus Christ alone. Hope compels us to revitalize evangelism emphases to reach deeply into a harvest field as plentiful as ever. Hope stirs us to champion Lutheran education to bless and keep our children and grandchildren and to extend Christ’s love to others led by

the Lord to our schools. Hope moves us to support and encourage, to love and trust one another as we serve the Church in different ways and in different places.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



NameMatthew C. Harrison
Address..... St. Louis, MO
Birth Date1962
BirthplaceSioux City, IA
Wife's Maiden Name.....Kathy Schimm
Number of Children.....2

College..... Morningside College, Sioux City, IA (1984)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1989)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; LLD, Concordia University, Ann Arbor; DD, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; Graduate Studies, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne
Member of Synod Congregations..... 61
Rostered Member of Synod 32
Year of Ordination1991

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Westgate, IA	1991-1995
Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, IN.....	1995-2001
Village Lutheran Church, Ladue, MO	2010-present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Missionary to Native Canadians, Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots.....		1983-1984
Vicar, St. Mark Lutheran, Conroe, TX.....		1987-1988
Graduate Assistant, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.....		1990-1991
Executive Director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.....		2001-2010
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod		2010-present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
LCMS Board for Mission Services	1998-2001
Synod Nominations Committee	1994-1995
Founding Board Chair, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty	2015-present
International Lutheran Society of Wittenberg Board	2017-present
Chair	2019-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
District Task Force on Rural Ministry	1993-1995

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Cofounder, St. Peter's/Zion Project for Neighborhood Renewal.....	1995-2001
Project Renew (Neighborworks Housing Corporation).....	1995-2001
Fort Wayne Urban League Building Committee.....	1999
Catholic/Lutheran Dialogue; LCMS President's Church Relations Cabinet	1996-2001; 2001-2010
Lutheran Services in America Board; Lutheran World Relief Board	2001-2010
Author/Translator/Editor of numerous publications, most recently <i>Walther, Church and Office; Second Thoughts on Living Together; Gerhard, Meditations on Divine Mercy; Sasse, Lonely Way, Letters to Lutheran Pastors; At Home in the House of My Fathers; Christ Have Mercy; A Little Book on Joy; Luther, A Simple Way to Pray; Chemnitz Church Order; Letters from a Pastor's Heart; Women Pastors?; Closed Communion?; One Lord: Two Hands?; Lutheran Preaching?; Why I Am Joyfully Lutheran; An LCMS Statement on Mission for the 21st Century; Take Courage</i>	2001-present
Managed the Synod's national responses to Haiti earthquake, Asian tsunami, Katrina, etc.	2001-2010
Board, Lutheran Services in America; Lutheran World Relief, Baltimore	2001-2010
Board, International Lutheran Council	2010-present
Concordia Historical Institute Distinguished Service Award.....	2022
Pro-Life Speaker/Activist, St. Louis March on the Arch, Chicago March for Life, D.C. Rose Dinner <i>inter alia</i> ..	2010-present

Personal Statement

The office is not a right, but a trust, ever bestowed upon sinners (1 Tim. 1:15). Christ's blood-bought forgiveness is for all (John 3:16). The Scriptures are crystal clear (John 20:31). Christ's forgiveness and compassion for the lost/hurting are ours to deliver (Luke 6:36; 19:10). Crosses work for good (Rom. 8:28) and drive us to Christ (2 Cor. 12:10). Culture will only darken (Luke 21:28). But the Gospel light shines the brighter from tiniest to largest congregation (via pastors, workers, laity, families!). Finances are solid. Sems are strong. Opportunities abound. Schools! Church plants! Mercy! Mission! Hope brings action (1 Peter 1:13).



Name Peter K. Lange
Address..... 1333 S. Kirkwood, Kirkwood, MO 63122
Birth Date1962
Birthplace Houston, TX
Wife's Maiden Name.....Marcia Boening
Number of Children.....4



Name Richard L. Snow
Address.....614 Chestnut Circle, Seward, NE 68434
Birth Date January 2, 1961
BirthplaceSioux Falls, SD
Wife's Maiden Name..... Valorie Krueger
Number of Children.....3

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1984)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1988)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1998)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 61
Rostered Member of Synod 33
Year of Ordination1990

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Paul's Lutheran, Concordia, MO (associate pastor)	1990–1999
St. John's Lutheran, Topeka, KS (senior pastor).....	1999–2015

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
LCMS First Vice-President.....	2019–present
LCMS Board of Directors.....	2019–present
Commission on Theology and Church Relations	2019–present
Chairman, Colloquy Committee for the Pastoral Ministry.....	2019–present
Chairman, Colloquy Committee for Commissioned Ministry.....	2019–present
Board of Regents, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	2019–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Board of Caring Ministry, Kansas District	2012–2015
First Vice-President, Kansas District.....	2012–2015
President, Kansas District.....	2015–2019

Personal Statement
 “Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them” (Rom. 12:6). It’s an honor to have received sufficient nominations to be placed on the ballot for President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The vote of confidence is humbling, and if this is where the Lord leads, I’m willing to serve. That said, I’ve enjoyed serving as LCMS First Vice-President and would very much welcome an opportunity to continue in that role, building on the work of the last triennium and supporting the able and faithful leadership of our current Synod President.

Also nominated for First Vice-President

College.....Moorhead State Univ., MN (1983)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1987)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 62
Rostered Member of Synod 37
Year of Ordination1987

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran, Auburn, NE	1987–2000
St. John Lutheran, Battle Creek, NE.....	2000–2015

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
President, Nebraska District.....	2015–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Visitor	1991–2000
Vice-President, Nebraska District.....	2006–2015

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
LLL Pastoral Advisor, Nebraska District	2008–2012
Board of Regents, Concordia University, Nebraska.....	2015–present

Personal Statement
 We are people of hope. We are confident in Jesus and His promises. Unfortunately, we too often mirror our fractured society, labeling and discarding those who disagree with us. We need to commit to one another in gathering around God’s uniting Word. I encourage congregations to grow in God’s Word, mercy, and outreach. In our district, we are fostering worker relational health, encouraging Sabbath rest and time for family. We are working to build stronger relationships between congregations and our fellow workers in circuit and district, living out purity of doctrine and the priority of mission in the local congregation.

Also nominated for First Vice-President

II. Report on Nominations/ Candidates for First Vice-President of the Synod

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)

Nomination Process: A total of 2,187 nominating votes were cast by 1,826 congregations of the Synod (compared to 3,192 votes in 2019; 2,001 in 2016; 1,565 in 2013; 2,692 in 2010; 3,216 in 2007; and 4,206 in 2004). As required by Bylaw 3.12.2 (d), here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

Peter K. Lange.....	958
Lucas V. Woodford.....	160
Richard L. Snow	137
Scott C. Sailer.....	98
Jon M. Braunersreuther	95
Benjamin T. Ball.....	87
Patrick T. Ferry.....	72
Scott R. Murray	50
Christopher S. Esget	42
Waldemar R. Vinovskis	35
John C. Wohlrabe Jr.	31
Timothy M. Klinkenberg.....	30
David P.E. Maier	25
Nabil S. Nour.....	24
Lawrence R. Rast Jr.....	24
Allan R. Buss	22
Robert L. (Lee) Hagan.....	22
Michael W. Newman	16
Matthew C. Harrison.....	15
Timothy P. Ahlman	14
Peter A. Lange	9
John R. Denninger.....	8
John A. Nunes	8
Victor J. Belton	7
Jeffrey J. Kloha	7
Yohannes A. Mengsteab	7
Jamison J. Hardy	6
David P. Ramirez.....	6
C. Bryan Wolfmueller.....	6
Jason M. Braaten.....	5
Terry R. Forke	5
Glen D. Thomas	5
Michael E. Gibson.....	4
Paul A. Linnemann	4
Brian S. Saunders.....	4
Deric A. Taylor	4
Luke T. Zimmerman.....	4

3 votes:

Adam C. Koontz; Eric T. Lange; Scott A. Snow; Russell L. Sommerfeld; Gregory S. Walton; John C. Wille

2 votes:

Wally M. Arp; James A. Baneck; Peter Bender; Joel D. Biermann; Bart Day; Carl C. Fickenscher II; David A. Floyd; Brian L. Friedrich; Byrene K. (Keith) Haney; Raymond L. Hartwig; John E. Hill; Robert E. Kasper; Robert R. Lessing; Elstner C. Lewis Jr.; Nathan

M. Meador; Dale A. Meyer; Dean W. Nadasdy; Roger C. Paavola; James H. Rockey; Gregory Schulz; Dien A. Taylor; William H. Tucker; S.T. Williams Jr.

1 vote:

Charles W. Adams; Kevin K. Ader; David R. Appold; Larry L. Beane II; Robert D. Beinke; John M. Berg; Craig L. Bickel; Jason J. Bredeson; Peter J. Brock; David D. Brockhoff; Kenneth J. Davidson; David A. Davis; Samuel Y. Deressa; Jon T. Diefenthaler; Jonathan M. Dinger; James A. Douthwaite; Timothy J. Droegemueller; Alfonso O. Espinosa; Brady L. Finner; William A. Harmon; Michael E. Harnack; Benjamin D. Haupt; Mark R. Hoehner; Josemon T. (Joe) Hoem; Eric Johnson; David L. Kluth; William B. Knippa; Mark A. Koschmann; Larry G. Krueger; Jonathan G. Lange; Thomas M. Lange; Kevin R. Loughran; Daniel P. Mackey; Paul L. Maier; Walter A. Maier III; William R. Marler; Richard Marrs; Ulmer Marshall; Peter E. Mueller; Robert D. Newton; John W. Oberdeck; Joel P. Okamoto; Justin A. Panzer; John F. Perling; David J. Peter; Thomas J. Pfothenhauer; Daniel Preus; Mark A. Preus; Mc Nair Ramsey Jr.; Francis S. B. Rigobert; Joseph E. Robb; Matthew W. Rueger; Timothy J. Rynearson; Peter J. Scaer; Ken R. Schurb; Marc N. Schwichtenberg; David A. Shadday; John W. Sias; David P. Stechholz; Donald E. Stock; Steven D. Turner; Martin A. Tyce; Jonathan H. Vollrath; William C. Weedon; Joshua J. Willadsen; Kevin A. Wilson; Billy R. Woolsey

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.1 (a), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval for inclusion of their names on the list of 20 nominees from which the President-elect will select five candidates to form the slate for the election of the First Vice-President (see Bylaw 3.12.2.6; two of the five candidates must rank among the top five nominees). The Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this list or slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate. These are the names of the 20 nominees who received the highest numbers of votes (with ties completely included) and have consented to serve if elected, in alphabetical order:

Timothy P. Ahlman
Victor J. Belton
Jason M. Braaten
Jon M. Braunersreuther
Allan R. Buss
Christopher S. Esget
Patrick T. (Pat) Ferry
Jamison J. Hardy
Jeffrey J. Kloha
Peter K. Lange
Paul A. Linnemann
Yohannes A. Mengsteab
Scott R. Murray
Nabil S. Nour
John A. Nunes
Scott C. Sailer
Richard L. Snow
Deric A. Taylor
Waldemar R. Vinovskis
John C. Wohlrabe Jr.

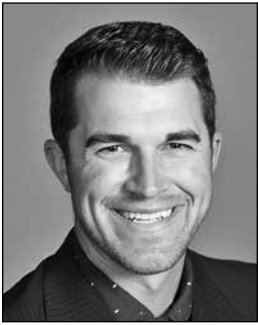
Duties: The First Vice-President serves in a full-time executive position. He is an elected advisor and assistant to the President, assists the President in discharging his responsibilities, and represents him. He assumes the presidency if the office is vacated and performs the President's duties in a time of temporary incapacity. He also chairs

colloquy committees for pastoral and commissioned ministry and performs other duties as assigned. The First Vice-President serves as a non-voting, advisory member of the Board of Directors of the Synod.

Qualifications: A nominee for First Vice-President must be a minister of religion—ordained, not a specific ministry pastor, on the roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and a member of a voting congregation of the Synod.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Name Timothy P. (Tim) Ahlman
Address 4097 E. Palo Verde St., Gilbert, AZ 85296
Birth Date August 11, 1981
Birthplace Fairbury, NE
Wife's Maiden Name Alexa Koczman
Number of Children 3

College Concordia University, Nebraska (2004)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2008)
Other Degrees DMin, Denver Seminary (2020)
Member of Synod Congregations 41
Rostered Member of Synod 14
Year of Ordination 2008

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO	2008–2013
Christ Greenfield Lutheran, Gilbert, AZ	2013–present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Security/Field Guard,	Colorado Rockies (MLB)	1996–2006 summer job
Grounds,	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	2005–2006 summer job

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Leader of the Unite Leadership Collective	2018–present

Personal Statement

I am honored to be nominated to serve the Synod as First Vice-President. I am solely committed to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions and to doing whatever it takes to share the Gospel with the world. In this role, I would support the President in executing a vision to care for the congregations of Synod and raise up more workers to reach the world with the Gospel of the crucified and risen Jesus Christ.



Name Victor J. Belton
Address 3777 Peachtree Road, Apt. 522, Atlanta, GA 30319
Birth Date November 6, 1953
Birthplace Washington, DC
Wife's Maiden Name Clark
Number of Children 0

College Concordia College—New York (1982)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1986)
Other Degrees Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa
Member of Synod Congregations 58
Rostered Member of Synod 37
Year of Ordination 1986

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
L.U.T.H.E.R. Plan Cluster Ministry, Missouri District Missionary-at-Large	1986–1990
Peace Lutheran, Decatur, GA	1990–2017

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Campus Pastor,	Concordia College—New York	2017–2019

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Board for District and Congregational Services	1995–2001
LCMS Board of Directors	2004–2016

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Florida-Georgia District Region 1 Circuit 3 Visitor	2001–2003
Florida-Georgia District Board of Directors	2002
Florida-Georgia District First Vice-President	2022–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
LWML Proclaimer (three times)	2009, 2012, 2015
Mission Facilitator, Florida-Georgia District	2019–present
Manager REV7:9 Initiative (Mission Nation Publishing)	2022–2023

Personal Statement

Thank you for the nomination to serve our Lord and His people. I have served the LCMS in a variety of Synod and district offices. The vision of Jesus in Revelation 7:9 is of the heavenly multitude that cannot be numbered from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Jesus will fulfill His vision as we are faithful to our Lord Christ, the inspired Word of God, the Lutheran Confessions, and our liturgical tradition, while embracing the distinctiveness of our times. I desire to assist our Synod leaders, congregations, and members to courageously navigate this course in our challenging culture.

Also nominated for East-Southeast Region Vice-President



Name Jason M. Braaten
Address. 706 E. Northline Road, Tuscola, IL 61953
Birth Date August 28, 1977
Birthplace Naperville, IL
Wife's Maiden Name..... Dorr
Number of Children..... 5

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1999)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (2006)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 45
Rostered Member of Synod 15
Year of Ordination 2007

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Immanuel Lutheran, Tuscola, IL	2010–present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Admission Office, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.....		2007–2009
Advancement Office, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.....		2009–2010

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board of Directors	2019–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Conference Committee, Central Illinois District	2012–2015
Board of Directors, Central Illinois District	2018–2019

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Tuscola Rotary Club President	2016–2017

Personal Statement

I love being Lutheran. I love the church body into which I was baptized, in which I was raised, and which I now serve as a pastor. I know that the LCMS has challenges ahead, and with those challenges, opportunities. While some of these challenges are not our fault, they are our responsibility to face with the clarity that the Word of God and our Lutheran Confessions bring. I will gladly serve to bring that clarity to invigorate a church I love to make that confession to a world that is dying.

Also nominated for Central Region Vice-President, Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board of Directors



Name Jon M. Braunersreuther
Address 23334 E Pine Ivy Lane, Tomball, TX 77375
Birth Date April 26, 1963
Birthplace Clearwater, NE
Wife's Maiden Name... Rachel Hartman
Number of Children..... 2

College..... Concordia University, Nebraska (1985)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1989)
Other Degrees DMin, Regent University, VA
Member of Synod Congregations..... 60
Rostered Member of Synod 34
Year of Ordination 1989

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Zion Lutheran, Brighton, CO (associate pastor)	1989–1992
Prince of Peace, Amarillo, TX	1992–1996

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Mission and Ministry Facilitator, Texas District		1996–2001
Senior Assistant to the LCMS President		2001–2010
Director of Districtwide Strategy, Texas District		2010–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Assistant Secretary, Rocky Mountain District.....	1991–1992
Circuit Counselor, Texas District	1995–1996

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Developing Leaders for Ministry Facilitator.....	1993–2001
Staff—Synod Convention Floor Committees.....	2004–2010
Staff—District Convention Floor Committees	2012–2021

Personal Statement

The Church's pure confession of the Gospel cannot help but move her to engage in God's mission; God's mission cannot help but move the Church to purity in confession. Thus, the first two objectives of the Synod enumerated in its Constitution are to "Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith" and to "Strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness." As First Vice-President of the Synod, my responsibility would be to assist the President of the Synod as he serves congregations in carrying out the objectives in Article III of the Synod's Constitution, particularly these two.



NameAllan R. Buss
Address.....1025 9th Ave., Belvedere, IL 61008
Birth Date July 25, 1964
Birthplace Watertown, WI
Wife's Maiden Name.....Peterson
Number of Children.....2

College.....Concordia University Wisconsin (1986)

Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1990)

Other Degrees DMin, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Honorary DD Concordia University Wisconsin/Ann Arbor

Member of Synod Congregations..... 58

Rostered Member of Synod 33

Year of Ordination1990

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Peter Lutheran, Gilbert, IL	1999–2000
Immanuel Lutheran, Belvidere, IL (senior pastor)	2000–2018

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
District President, Northern Illinois District		2018–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Synod Convention Delegate	1992, 1998, 2010, 2016
Synod Convention Floor Committee	1998, 2010, 2016
Doctrinal Review	1998–2001
Synod Convention Morning Worship Preacher	2016
Synod Convention Floor Committee Chair “Life Together”	2019
Council of Presidents Placement Committee	2018–2022
Council of Presidents Program Committee	2022–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Various Floor Committees	1997–2000
Mission Board	2001–2004
Chairman General Pastoral Conference	2000–2015
Board of Directors	2006–2015
First Vice-President	2006–2015
District President	2018–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Medical Mission Trips to Kenya	2006, 2008
Mission Trip to Belize	2016
United Way of Dundee Township	1993–1997
Elgin Breakfast Rotary	1996–1998
Rutland/Dundee Township Fire Chaplain	1994–2000

Belvidere Chamber of Commerce.....2001–2018

Belvidere Fire Chaplain 2010–present

Personal Statement

“Make the most of every opportunity, for the days are evil” (Eph. 5:16). Mission opportunities abound inside and outside of the Church. We glorify God as we hold to the inerrant Word and our Lutheran Confessions. Our focus is the proclamation of Law and Gospel, rejoicing in the riches given by our risen Lord Jesus. I am privileged to serve wherever my Lord and the Church ask me to serve. Let’s pray and work to bring the best to each other and out of each other. Together, we give thanks for congregations, schools, church workers, and lay leaders! We are stronger together!



NameChristopher S. Esget
Address.....1801 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22301
Birth Date October 19, 1970
Birthplace Edina, MN
Wife's Maiden Name.....Adams
Number of Children.....1

College.....Berklee College of Music (1993)

Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1997)

Other DegreesSTM, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (2005)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 49

Rostered Member of Synod 25

Year of Ordination1998

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Bethel Lutheran, DuQuoin, IL	1998–2001
Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran, Alexandria, VA	2001–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Vice-President, East-Southeast Region	2015–present
Board of Regents, Concordia College—New York	2017–present
Chairman, Created Male and Female Task Force	2022–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Southeastern District Delegate to LCMS Theological Convocation, District Committee Member	2002–2003
Southeastern District Life Coordinator	2014–2019

Other Significant Service or Experience

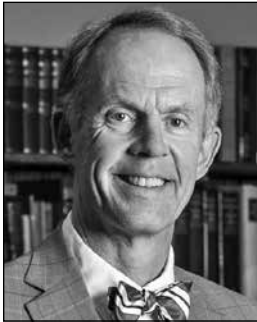
Type of Service	Years
Vicarage/Pastoral Fieldwork Supervisor	2009–2012, 2014–2015
Instructor, Liturgical Theology and Church Music, EECMY (Ethiopia)	2015
Deaconess Intern Supervisor	2019–2020

Personal Statement

Our nation is in a spiritual crisis. The causes are many, but there is only one solution: providing the gifts our Lord gives us.

The Church lives by confessing. The Church leads by serving—our children, our neighbors, and especially the most vulnerable. My priorities for the Synod follow: (1) Giving local congregations the tools they need to thrive; (2) Strengthening Lutheran schools and homeschooling families; (3) Offering practical, timely resources to families challenged by a hostile culture; and (4) Forming—with rigor and theological substance—the next generation of pastors, teachers, and church musicians.

Also nominated for East-Southeast Region Vice-President



Name Patrick T. (Pat) Ferry
Address.....2733 Painted Sky Bend,
 Leander, TX 78641
Birth DateJune 25, 1959
Birthplace Denver, CO
Wife's Maiden Name.... Tamara Saleska
Number of Children.....5

College.....St. John's College, Winfield, KS (1981)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1987)
Other Degrees PhD, University of Colorado-Boulder;
 DDiv (Honorary), Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2022)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 45
Rostered Member of Synod 35
Year of Ordination1988

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Wheat Ridge Lutheran, Wheat Ridge, CO	1987-1989
St. Andrew's Lutheran, Laramie, WY	1989-1991

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Faculty,	Concordia University Wisconsin	1991-1997
President,	Concordia University Wisconsin	1997-2001
President,	Concordia University Ann Arbor	2013-2021

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Chair, Luth. Ed. Conf. of North America	2004-2006, 2020-2021
Secretary, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities	2009-2013
Board Member, Fundacion Educacional Concordia (FEC), Montevideo, Uruguay	2017-present

Personal Statement

Hope, not fear! The LCMS is poised to share an enduring and eternal hope with a world flailing in fears. Ours is a hope built on Jesus Christ alone. Hope compels us to revitalize evangelism emphases to reach deeply into a harvest field as plentiful as ever. Hope stirs us to champion Lutheran education to bless and keep our children and grandchildren and to extend Christ's love to others led by the Lord to our schools. Hope moves us to support and encourage, to love and trust one another as we serve the Church in different ways and in different places.

Also nominated for President



NameJamison J. Hardy
Address.....7596 Fisher Road, Howell, MI
 48855
Birth Date October 1, 1973
Birthplace Bay City, MI
Wife's Maiden Name.....Wendy Klemm
Number of Children.....3

College.....Concordia University Wisconsin (1996)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (2000)
Other DegreesMPA, DBA, Walden University
Member of Synod Congregations..... 49
Rostered Member of Synod 23
Year of Ordination2000

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Our Savior Lutheran, Mt. Lebanon, PA	2000-2008
Peace Lutheran, McMurray, PA	2008-2020
Our Savior Lutheran, Hartland, MI	2020-present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Vice-Chair Convention Committee #11 (Structure)	2016
12-03 Task Force of Future Pastoral Education	2016-2018
Board of Regents—Advisory, Concordia University Wisconsin/Ann Arbor	2016-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Visitor	2009-2015
Vice-President of District Board of Directors	2009-2015
Bishop/President, English District	2015-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Board of Directors, Concordia Lutheran Ministries	2003-2015
Pennsylvania State Senate Nonprofit Caucus	2009-2012
Board of Directors, Lutheran Federal Credit Union	2018-present

Personal Statement

I have personally believed, as well as taught, that we should always be prepared and open to what God might ask of us. This is clearly seen in 1 Samuel 3:10: "Speak, for your servant hears." I daily ask our Lord to call on me, and I daily listen for His command to go and present the Gospel to all people. To love thy neighbor as thyself. This has been one of the great pleasures in my life in the English District. I am prepared to employ that same philosophy in service to the Synod President as he carries out his office and duties.



Name Jeffrey J. Kloha
Address 3409 Wilson Blvd #807,
 Arlington, VA 22201
Birth Date April 3, 1966
Birthplace Chicago, IL
Wife's Maiden Name Susan Hempel
Number of Children 2

College Concordia College, Ann Arbor (1988)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1992)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Seminary;
 PhD, University of Leeds (UK)
Member of Synod Congregations 56
Rostered Member of Synod 29
Year of Ordination 1993

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Gethsemane Lutheran, Lakewood, OH	1993–1999

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Professor,	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	1999–2017
Provost,	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	2013–2017
Chief Curatorial Officer, Museum of the Bible,	Washington, D.C.	2017–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Contributor to <i>The Lutheran Study Bible</i>	2009
Dean of Theological Research and Publications, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	2011–2013
Contributor to <i>Confessing the Gospel: A Lutheran Approach to Systematic Theology</i>	2017

Personal Statement

The Synod exists to serve and support congregations and church workers as well as to foster efforts to share the Gospel near and far. Ministry in the east and southeast can seem very remote and separated from the heartland. This role will succeed if it helps to bring the successes and needs of its congregations to the rest of Synod and supports the work of the Gospel in each locale, while also working to nurture the unity that we already have in Christ through God's grace. Confidence in the power of God's Word alone is essential to this work.

Also nominated for East-Southeast Region Vice-President



Name Peter K. Lange
Address 1333 S. Kirkwood, Kirkwood,
 MO 63122
Birth Date 1962
Birthplace Houston, TX
Wife's Maiden Name Boeing
Number of Children 4

College Concordia University Chicago (1984)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1988)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne
 (1998)
Member of Synod Congregations 61
Rostered Member of Synod 33
Year of Ordination 1990

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Paul Lutheran, Concordia, MO (associate pastor)	1990–1999
St. John Lutheran, Topeka, KS (senior pastor)	1999–2015

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
LCMS First Vice-President	2019–present
LCMS Board of Directors	2019–present
Commission on Theology and Church Relations	2019–present
Chairman, Colloquy Committee for the Pastoral Ministry	2019–present
Chairman, Colloquy Committee for Commissioned Ministry	2019–present
Board of Regents, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	2019–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Board of Caring Ministry, Kansas District	2012–2015
First Vice-President, Kansas District	2012–2015
President, Kansas District	2015–2019

Personal Statement

“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them” (Rom. 12:6). It's an honor to have received sufficient nominations to be placed, once again, on the ballot for First Vice-President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The vote of confidence is humbling. I've enjoyed serving as First Vice-President for the past four years and would very much welcome an opportunity to continue in that role, building on the work of the last triennium and supporting the able and faithful leadership of our current Synod President.

Also nominated for President



Name Paul A. Linnemann
Address..... 1700 NE Knott St, Portland, OR 97212
Birth Date August 23, 1958
Birthplace Elgin, IL
Wife's Maiden Name..... Lail
Number of Children..... 3

College..... Concordia College, Portland (1980)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1994)
Other Degrees MA, Lewis & Clark College Portland;
 LLD, Concordia University, Portland
Member of Synod Congregations..... 64
Rostered Member of Synod 40
Year of Ordination 1995

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Our Redeemer Lutheran, Tigard, OR	1995–2001

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Teacher,	Concordia Lutheran School Seattle, WA	1981–1985

Associate Professor, Director of Student Development,
 Concordia College, Portland 1987–1992

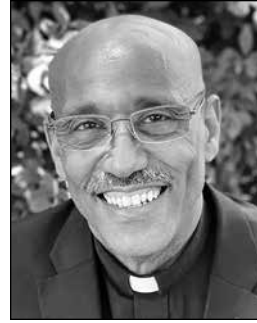
District President, Northwest District 2009–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Secretary, Northwest District	2005–2009

Personal Statement

“Lutheran Identity” has been a topic of conversation within the Synod, especially in connection with our universities. Our identity as Lutheran Christians is found in the Word of God. It tells us that we are broken people who have been made whole through the gracious action of our God in Jesus Christ. Reducing our identity to our positions on the social issues of the day is a dangerous mistake. It threatens a most important value that permeates Scripture—God loves people in spite of who they are. I would seek to help our ministries engage in a clear witness while drawing near to the people around us, just as our Lord Jesus did when He took on our frame and lived among us and now continues to draw near to us and the world He loves.



Name Yohannes A. Mengsteab
Address..... 5012 Glen Springs Trail, Fort Worth, TX 76137
Birth Date March 13, 1957
Birthplace Deki-Worasi, Eritrea
Wife's Maiden Name..... Alemash
Number of Children..... 3

College..... Concordia College, Bronxville (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1996)
Other Degrees PhD, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne;
 MBA, Ball State University
Member of Synod Congregations..... 40
Rostered Member of Synod 33
Year of Ordination 33

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Zion Lutheran, Holland, MI	1991–1995
Southeastern District, Missionary-at-Large, Washington, D.C.	1995–2001

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Mission Counselor, LCMS World Mission—North American Mission		2001–2004
New Mission Development Director, LCMS World Mission—North American Mission		2004–2010

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Mission and Ministry Facilitator, Texas District	2015–2022

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Director of EILT	2001–2004
Board Member of LIRS	2008–2016

Personal Statement

I am thankful for the unity we have in the LCMS; we are not arguing over the doctrine of the Scriptures or our Confessions. We have very strong institutions: colleges and universities, seminaries, LCEF, Concordia Plans, etc. The challenge we have is that we seem to be polarized over matters that we should resolve in the board rooms. I will join those who are intent on keeping the LCMS tent as large as our founders intended it. Anchored on the Scriptures and our Lutheran Confession, all my conversations will be evangelical, always keeping the focus on Christ and His mission.

Also nominated for West-Southwest Region Vice-President



Name Scott R. Murray
Address.....5800 Westheimer Rd.,
Houston, TX 77057
Birth DateMay 24, 1958
BirthplaceKitchener, Ontario
Wife's Maiden Name.....Maryann Sovis
Number of Children.....2

College..... Concordia College, Ann Arbor (1980)

Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1983)

Other Degrees MA, Loyola University, New Orleans, LA;
PhD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA

Member of Synod Congregations..... 65

Rostered Member of Synod 40

Year of Ordination1983

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
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St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cobourg, Ontario..... 1983-1985

Salem Lutheran Church and School, Gretna, LA..... 1985-1996

Memorial Lutheran Church and School, Houston, TX..... 1996-present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
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Commission on Theology and Church Relations,
Vice Chair..... 1996-2001

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Board of Regents
(Chair since 2022)..... 2010-present

Vice President of Synod 2010-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
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Editorial Associate, *LOGIA Journal* 1992-present

Lutheran Education Association of Houston BOD 2001-2007

Luther Academy Board of Directors (Chairman) 2007-2015

Personal Statement

Our Lord Jesus builds His Church with the Gospel and Sacraments. God is the one who creates, builds, and sanctifies His Holy Church. We serve Jesus by preaching the Word and administering these gifts to His Bride (Eph. 5). In that work, I have been privileged to serve three congregations as a full-time parish pastor (1 Peter 5:2). It is an honor to work for Synod as a Vice-President representing the President, domestically and internationally. I would be honored to serve with him again. I would serve as God gives me strength, applying insights from parish ministry.

Also nominated for West-Southwest Region Vice-President



Name Nabil S. Nour
Address.....7701 Tuscan Club Circle,
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Birth Date October 29, 1955
BirthplaceNazareth, Israel
Wife's Maiden Name.....Miedema
Number of Children.....3

College..... Huron College, Huron, SD (1979)

Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1994)

Other Degrees DMin, Concordia Seminary (in progress)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 42

Rostered Member of Synod 25

Year of Ordination1994

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
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Redeemer Lutheran, Armour, SD 1994-2015

Trinity Lutheran, Hartford, SD 2016-present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
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House Painter, Self-Employed..... 1972-1982

House Painter, Moses Painting..... 1982-1989

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
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Conflict Resolution Officer 2008-present

Great Plains Region Vice-President, Fifth Vice-President 2013-2016

Great Plains Region Vice-President, Third Vice-President 2016-2019

Great Plains Region Vice-President, Fourth Vice-President... 2019-2023

Other District Offices

Position	Years
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Circuit Visitor 1998-2006

Second Vice-President, South Dakota District 2006-2012

First Vice-President, South Dakota District..... 2012-2013

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
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Frequent Preacher at Various Events 1994-present

Guest Teacher/Lecturer at Districts/Congregations..... 1994-present

Ministry of Taking Tours to the Holy Land 1994-present

Personal Statement

Pastor Nour travels, preaches, and lectures often on how to live the Christian life in a postmodern time and how to witness to Muslims the true meaning of love, evangelism outreach, sharing the Good News of our salvation, and other topics. Being an evangelist isn't a program but a daily life—passing the baton. Nour has also had, since October of 1994, a ministry called Dial a Prayer 605-724-2444. He is also working on two different books that he hopes to publish. With great anticipation, he is looking forward to continuing to serve the Lord and His Church together.

Also nominated for Great Plains Region Vice-President



Name John A. Nunes
Address..... 1423 Euclid St #7, Santa Monica, CA
Birth Date January 14, 1963
Birthplace Montego Bay, Jamaica
Wife's Maiden Name..... Monique Odom
Number of Children.....6

College..... Concordia University, Ann Arbor (1985)

SeminaryConcordia, St Catharine's, Ontario (1991)

Other Degrees ThM, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago; PhD, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Member of Synod Congregations..... 53

Rostered Member of Synod 32

Year of Ordination1991

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Vicar and Pastor, Our Savior Lutheran, Buffalo, NY	1988-1993
Mission Director, Lutheran City Ministries, Detroit, MI	1993-1997
St. Paul Lutheran, Dallas, TX	1999-2004
Pilgrim Lutheran, Santa Monica, CA	2022-present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Director Church Resources,	Concordia Publishing House	1997-1999
President and CEO,	Lutheran World Relief	2007-2013
President,	Concordia College—New York	2016-2022

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Chair, Urban Ministry Task Force—North American Missions	1994-1998
Member, Commission on Theology and Church Relations	2001-2004
Lutheran Service Book, Committee Member, Commission on Worship	2004-2005

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Chair, Theology and Church Relations Floor Committee, Texas District Convention	2002-2003
Chair, Race and Reconciliation Task Force, Pacific Southwest District	2022-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Wheat Ridge Ministries, Board of Directors	1996-2004
Lutherans For Life, National Advisory Board	2004-2007
Senior Fellow, Center for Religion, Culture, and Democracy	2022-present

Personal Statement

The LCMS is a gift of God's love for the life of the world. Called by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments, we order our lives together to care for one another and to bear witness to

Jesus Christ in word and deed. Advising and assisting the President of Synod, the First Vice-President embraces these responsibilities, which include "other duties as assigned." Serving his sisters and brothers in the Church, he listens carefully, communicates clearly, problem-solves efficiently, and deals collegially with all so that the treasure of the Gospel might be preserved and advanced.



Name Scott C. Sailer
Address... 2105 S. Lincoln Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57105
Birth Date March 24, 1959
BirthplaceRenton, WA
Wife's Maiden Name..... Sarah Meyer
Number of Children.....3

College..... Concordia University, St. Paul (1981)

Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1985)

Other DegreesDr of Letters, Concordia University, St. Paul (2023)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 63

Rostered Member of Synod 38

Year of Ordination1985

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. John Lutheran, Howard, SD	1985-1989
Bethesda Lutheran, Hot Springs, SD	1989-1994
Faith Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD	1999-2015

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Admission Officer, Director,	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	1994-1998

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Synod Nominating Committee	1992

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Secretary	2006-2012
Second Vice-President	2012-2013
First Vice-President	2013-2015
President	2015-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Circuit Visitor	1987-1989; 2000-2005
Member, Concordia Seminary Alumni Council	2004-2010
District Church Worker Education Debt Assistance Committee	2004-present

Personal Statement

We people of God in the LCMS get to join Jesus in His mission of seeking and saving the lost. We do so guided by His Word and Spirit, standing on the firm foundation of God's Word, with the Lutheran Confessions serving as our guide in our witness and life together. Focusing the various entities of my district on the

joyful task of winning souls for Christ is my primary responsibility as a leader now, and it would continue to be my goal if elected First Vice-President.



NameRichard L. Snow
Address 614 Chestnut Circle, Seward, NE 68434
Birth Date January 2, 1961
BirthplaceSioux Falls, SD
Wife's Maiden Name..... Valorie Krueger
Number of Children.....3

College.....Moorhead State Univ., MN (1983)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1987)
Member of Synod Congregations 62
Rostered Member of Synod 37
Year of Ordination1987

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran, Auburn, NE	1987-2000
St. John Lutheran, Battle Creek, NE	2000-2015

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
President, Nebraska District	2015-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Visitor	1991-2000
Vice-President, Nebraska District	2006-2015

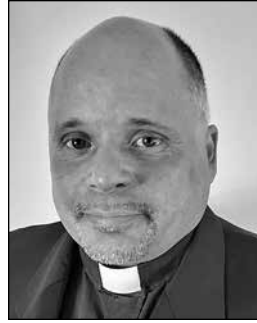
Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
LLL Pastoral Advisor, Nebraska District	2008-2012
Board of Regents, Concordia University, Nebraska	2015-present

Personal Statement

We are people of hope. We are confident in Jesus and His promises. Unfortunately, we too often mirror our fractured society, labeling and discarding those who disagree with us. We need to commit to one another in gathering around God's uniting Word. I encourage congregations to grow in God's Word, mercy, and outreach. In our district, we are fostering worker relational health, encouraging Sabbath rest and time for family. We are working to build stronger relationships between congregations and our fellow workers in circuit and district, living out purity of doctrine and the priority of mission in the local congregation.

Also nominated for President



Name Deric A. Taylor
Address 31-06 Morlot Ave, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
Birth DateDecember 30, 1964
Birthplace Queens, NY
Wife's Maiden Name...Julie Ann Fromm
Number of Children.....1

College..... Concordia College—New York (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1992)
Member of Synod Congregations 48
Rostered Member of Synod 30
Year of Ordination1992

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Peter Lutheran, Brooklyn, NY	1992-1997
Village Lutheran, Bronxville, NY	2006-2010
Our Savior Lutheran, Fair Lawn, NJ	2010-present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Campus Chaplain	Concordia College—New York	1998-2002
Pastoral Assistant to the District President,	Atlantic District	2002-2006

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Black Clergy Caucus	1992-present
Cross Cultural Gathering Planning Team	1995-1998
Synod Reconciler	2006-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Vice-President, Atlantic District	1995-2002, 2008-2010
Vice-President, New Jersey District	2012-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
East Brooklyn Congregations Association	1992-1997
FLEOA Foundation Chaplain	2014-present
Fair Lawn Police Chaplain	2021-present

Personal Statement

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Heb. 13:8). Hebrews 13 proclaims how our Lord gives us hope and confidence in a changing world. As the Church, we live this truth for the sake of others. In this truth, we have the gifts of God—the Gospel and the Sacraments—and the privilege of proclaiming Christ. In this truth, we have assurance of His promise to be with us. May it be done as we, His humble servants, meet the changes with the assurance that our God remains the same and is with us always.

Also nominated for East-Southeast Region Vice-President



Name Waldemar R. Vinovskis
Address 68 Willow Street,
 Macungie, PA 18062
Birth Date November 8, 1963
Birthplace Omaha, NE
Wife's Maiden Name Ristvedt
Number of Children 4

College University of Nebraska, Lincoln (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1992)
Member of Synod Congregations 40
Rostered Member of Synod 31
Year of Ordination 1992

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Grace Lutheran, Lancaster, CA	1992-1998
Zion Lutheran, Piedmont, CA	1998-2001
Concordia Lutheran, Macungie, PA	2001-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
LWML Counselor, SELC District	2004-2008
Board of Directors, SELC District	2012-2015
President, SELC District	2018-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Lutheran Haven Board of Trustees, Oviedo, FL	2003-present
LCMS Synod Nominations Committee, Secretary	2009-2013

Personal Statement

Through Word and Sacrament, God's Holy Spirit calls and gathers His fallen children back into fellowship with Him (Matt. 28). It is through the preaching of the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins that God ushers in His kingdom, restoring fallen and broken people to a new life here in time and an eternity with Him in eternal glory. The Synod must not be distracted from its mission by "fightings within and fears without." The leadership of the LCMS must "keep the main thing, the main thing," that is, the Gospel.



Name John C. Wohlrabe Jr.
Address 3832 S. Lake Dr.,
 St. Francis, WI 53235
Birth Date September 2, 1953
Birthplace Mankato, MN
Wife's Maiden Name Julie Ann Schulz
Number of Children 3

College Concordia College, Ann Arbor (1978)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1981)
Other Degrees ThD Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1987);
 DD Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (2021)
Member of Synod Congregations 66
Rostered Member of Synod 41
Year of Ordination 1982

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Mount Calvary Lutheran, Fort Lupton, CO	1982-1984
Concordia Lutheran, Geneseo, IL	2009-2012
Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran, Whitefish Bay, WI	2017-present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Vicar	Zion Lutheran, Anchorage, AK	1979-1980
Assistant Director	Concordia Historical Institute	1986-1987
Chaplain	United States Navy	1987-2009

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Vice President of the Synod	2007-present
Board of Governors, Concordia Historical Institute	2007-present
President, Board of Governors	
Concordia Historical Institute	2016-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Guest Instructor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	1982-1984
Editor-in-Chief, <i>Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly</i>	2013-present
Adjunct Professor, Concordia University Wisconsin	2013-present

Personal Statement

It has been a joyful privilege to serve as a Vice-President of the LCMS since 2007. If it is God's will and the desire of the 2023 synodical convention, I would be honored to continue in support of the Synod President, the members of the Council of Presidents, and the congregations and church workers of the Synod as we walk together proclaiming salvation through Jesus Christ alone to a lost and fallen world and upholding one another in our common confession of faith according to the infallible Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions as a true exposition of Scripture.

Also nominated for Great Lakes Region Vice-President

III. Report on Nominations/ Candidates for Regional Vice-President

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Central Region), 1 minister of religion—ordained (East-Southeast Region), 1 minister of religion—ordained (Great Lakes Region), 1 minister of religion—ordained (Great Plains Region), 1 minister of religion—ordained (West-Southwest Region) (3-year term)

Duties: The five regional vice-presidents fulfill duties as assigned on a part-time basis and stand, as ordered by the convention, in line of succession to the First Vice-Presidency and Presidency of the Synod.

Qualifications: A nominee for regional vice-president must be a minister of religion—ordained, not a specific ministry pastor, on the roster of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and a member of a voting congregation of the Synod. He must maintain residence in his designated region throughout his term.

Nomination Process: A total of 2,036 nominating votes were cast by 1,826 congregations of the Synod (compared to 2,806 votes in 2019; 1,481 in 2016; 1,511 in 2013; 1,561 in 2010; 1,679 in 2007; and 2,114 in 2004). The results of the nominating ballots for each region, followed by the five ordained ministers receiving the most votes (with ties completely included) and consenting to serve if elected, are as follows:

a. Nominations and Candidates for Central Region Regional Vice-President

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Central Region) (3-year term)

Nominations Received: A total of 430 nominating votes were cast by 394 congregations of the region. Here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

Benjamin T. (Ben) Ball.....	239
Jason M. Braaten.....	54
Randy K. Asburry.....	8
Lawrence R. Rast Jr.....	6
Robert L. (Lee) Hagan.....	5
William R. Marler.....	5
William W. Schumacher.....	5

4 votes:

Gerhard H. Bode Jr.; Heath R. Curtis; Glen D. Thomas

3 votes:

Jeffrey J. Kloha; Dale A. Meyer; Joshua J. Willadsen

2 votes:

Ralph Blumenberg; Hans W. Fiene; Kevin S. Golden; Charles M. Henrickson; Peter K. Lange; Theodore D. (David) McMinn III; Kristopher M. Morris; David R. Mueller; Mark R. Muenchow; Scott R. Murray; Charles J. Neugebauer; Nabil S. Nour; Craig D. Otto; Roger C. Paavola; Gregory R. Truwe; William C. Weedon; John C. Wohlrahe Jr.

1 vote:

David R. Appold; Tyler C. Arnold; Alan H. Bachert; Douglas D. Bauman; Michael R. Bingenheimer; David R. Boisclair; Gerard I. Bolling; Daniel J. Brege; Peter J. Brock; Luther C. Brunette; David J. Bueltmann; Matthew J. Clark; Kirk M. Clayton; Jeffrey P. Cloeter; Anthony A. Cook; Theodore E. Cook Sr.; Mark R. Eddy; Mark D. Femmel; Carl C. Fickenscher II; Andrew T. Fields; William E. Foy; Scott W. Giger; Frank N. Greene III; Nicholas L. Hagerman; Paul E. Hass; Benjamin D. Haupt; Jeffrey B. Hemmer;

Mark R. Hoehner; Scott Holder; Jonathan P. Jennings; Francis M. Lieb; Daniel P. May; David L. Meggers; Mark A. Miller; Michael W. Mohr; Mark A. Nebel; Justin A. Panzer; Larry A. Peters; David H. Preuss; Donald F. Pritchard; Timothy L. Roth; Timothy E. Saleska; Peter J. Scaer; Dwayne J. Schroeder; Michael P. Schuermann; John W. Sharp; Timothy A. Sims; Richard L. Snow; Donaldo Sonntag; Erik J. Sorenson; Donald E. Stock; James W. Voelz; Arthur H. Wehrmeister

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.7 (c), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval in writing for the inclusion of their names on the ballot. Because the Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate, the ballot for the election of the Central Region Vice-President is expected to contain the names of the following top six consenting candidates in alphabetical order:

- Randy K. Asburry
- Benjamin T. Ball
- Jason M. Braaten
- William R. Marler
- Lawrence R. Rast Jr.
- William W. Schumacher

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Central Region) (3-year term)



NameRandy K. Asburry
Address...5234 Neosho Street, St. Louis, MO 63109
Birth DateMay 13, 1964
BirthplaceSalem, OR
Wife's Maiden Name.....Bergmann
Number of Children.....2

College.....Concordia College, Portland (1986)

Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1990)

Other Degrees MA, Washington University, St. Louis; STM, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Member of Synod Congregations..... 42

Rostered Member of Synod 33

Year of Ordination1990

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Hope Lutheran, St. Louis, MO (associate pastor).....	1990-1994
Immanuel Lutheran, Boonville, MO.....	1994-1998
Faith Lutheran, Gillette, WY and Hope Lutheran, Wright, WY (dual parish)	1999-2001
Hope Lutheran, St. Louis, MO (senior pastor).....	2001-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Visitor, St. Louis South Circuit	2003-2006

Council on Mission and Ministry, Missouri District 2018–2022

Board of Directors, Missouri District..... 2022–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service Years

On-Air Host, KFUD Radio 2012–2013

Interim Dean of Chapel, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis2021

Personal Statement

This broken world desperately needs Jesus and His rescue from sin and death for all. It also needs the Church to be united, faithful, and bold in confessing her Savior as well as gentle and patient in caring for souls. My service to our Lord and His Church will seek to “Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life” (Phil. 2:14–16).



Name Benjamin T. (Ben) Ball

Address.....6969 W. Frontage Road, Worden, IL

Birth DateMarch 30, 1972

BirthplaceMadison Heights, MI

Wife’s Maiden Name....Serena Prongua

Number of Children.....5

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1995)

Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1999)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 51

Rostered Member of Synod 24

Year of Ordination1999

Pastorates

Congregation Years

St. Luke Lutheran, Dedham, MA 1994–2004

St. Paul Lutheran, Brookfield, IL..... 2004–2012

St. Paul Lutheran, Hamel, IL..... 2012–present

Other Synod Offices

Position Years

Convention Delegate2007, 2016, 2019

Participant, LCMS Model Theological Conference2010

Doctrinal Reviewer2013–2019

Assistant Chaplain, LCMS Convention.....2013

Planning Committee Member and Presenter, LCMS Institute on Liturgy, Preaching and Church Music..... 2014, 2017

Member, Convention Floor Committees: Seminary Education, Structure and Administration..... 2016, 2019

Chairman, Committee for Convention Nominations..... 2019–2023

Chairman, Convention Floor Committee: Schools, Family, Young Adults and Youth2023

Sixth Vice-President, Central Region 2019–present

Other District Offices

Position Years

Member, Convention Floor Committees..... 2000, 2015

Member, New England District Worship Commission 2001–2004

Circuit Counselor, Northern Illinois District 2006–2009

Member, Northern Illinois District, East Region Pastoral Conference Committee 2006–2010

Secretary, Northern Illinois District Nominations Committee2009

Circuit Visitor, Southern Illinois District 2015–2018

Chairman, Southern Illinois District, Commission on Convention Nominations and Elections..... 2017–2018

Vice-Chairman, Southern Illinois District Pastoral Conference..... 2017–2018

Second Vice-President, Southern Illinois District 2018–2019

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service Years

Pastor-in-Residence, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis2002

Supervisor of Deaconess Field Workers, Concordia University Chicago 2005–2012

Book Reviewer, *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly*2016

Member, Board of Directors,

Metro-East Lutheran High School, Edwardsville, IL..... 2017–2019

Contributor, *The Lutheran Witness*.....2020

Contributor, *The Emigration of the Saxon Lutherans in the Year 1838 and Their Settlement in Perry County, Missouri*, Concordia Publishing House2022

Supervisor of Field Workers, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis..... 2015–present

Vicarage Supervisor, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne..... 2021–present

Head Boys Basketball Coach, St. Paul Lutheran Squires, Hamel, IL 2022–present

Personal Statement

“This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God” (1 Cor. 4:1). Our Lord is gracious to me, calling me to be His servant and steward of His mysteries. It is an honor to be nominated for Synod President, as it is an honor to serve as Vice-President. I believe that at this time, serving as a Vice-President is better suited to my callings as husband, father, and pastor. However I might serve our Synod, I seek to aid our congregations heed what Dr. Walther wrote: A Synod’s “primary duty is to be faithful to the Confessions in word and deed.”

Also nominated for President, First Vice-President



NameJason M. Braaten
Address..... 706 E. Northline Road,
 Tuscola, IL 61953
Birth DateAugust 28, 1977
Birthplace Naperville, IL
Wife's Maiden Name.....Dorr
Number of Children.....5

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1999)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (2006)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 45
Rostered Member of Synod 15
Year of Ordination2007

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Immanuel Lutheran, Tuscola, IL	2010-present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Admission Office, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.....		2007-2009
Advancement Office, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.....		2009-2010

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board of Directors	2019-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Conference Committee, Central Illinois District	2012-2015
Board of Directors, Central Illinois District	2018-2019

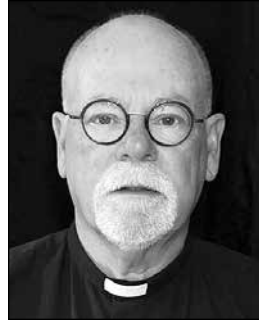
Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Tuscola Rotary Club President	2016-2017

Personal Statement

I love being Lutheran. I love the church body into which I was baptized, in which I was raised, and which I now serve as a pastor. I know that the LCMS has challenges ahead and, with those challenges, opportunities. While some of these challenges are not our fault, they are our responsibility to face with the clarity that the Word of God and our Lutheran Confessions bring. I will gladly serve to bring that clarity to invigorate a church I love to make that confession to a world that is dying.

Also nominated for First Vice-President, Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board of Directors



NameWilliam R. Marler
Address..... 3642 West Greenwood,
 Springfield, MO, 65807
Birth Date November 3, 1954
Birthplace St. Louis, MO
Wife's Maiden Name..... Koontz
Number of Children.....3

College..... Missouri State University (1977)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1983)
Other Degrees Postgraduate work at Missouri State University;
 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Member of Synod Congregations..... 64
Rostered Member of Synod 41
Year of Ordination1985

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Trinity Lutheran and Luth. Student Ctr., Springfield, MO.....	1986-1998
Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield, MO.....	1998-2020

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Lutheran High School South—St. Louis.....		1983-1986

Other District Offices

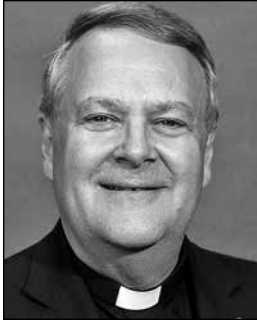
Position	Years
Fourth/Third Vice-President, Missouri District.....	2009-2012
First Vice-President, Missouri District	2015-current

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Instructor, Dept. of Rel. Studies, Missouri State University ...	1990-2016
Concordia Historical Institute, Concordia Seminary Nat'l. Alumni Council, Lutheran Student Fellowship founding committee, Concordia University, Nebraska, instructor in teacher colloquy	

Personal Statement

It is an honor, as a called and ordained minister, to be nominated to any circuit, district, or Synod level of service by one's fellow pastors and especially by lay leaders of our church body. The privilege of serving as a vice-president to two district presidents only strengthened and encouraged my faith in the headship and continuing presence and active work of our Lord and Savior and of the Holy Spirit as He uses us "clay vessels" to carry out His will to save sinners. May He continue to bless us with faithfulness to the Word.



NameLawrence R. Rast Jr.
Address..1 Coverdale Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46825
Birth Date September 13, 1962
BirthplaceChicago, IL
Wife's Maiden Name...Amy Engelbrecht
Number of Children.....3

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1986)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1990)
Other Degrees PhD, Vanderbilt University; DLitt, Concordia University Chicago
Member of Synod Congregations..... 60
Rostered Member of Synod 31
Year of Ordination1992

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Ascension Lutheran, Madison, TN	1992–1996

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Professor, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne		1996–present
Academic Dean, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne		2006–2011
President, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne		2011–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Commission on Theology and Church Relations	2006–present
Chairman, Commission on Theology and Church Relations	2010–present
Board Member, Concordia Historical Institute	1995–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Archivist, Mid-South District	1992–1996

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Board of Directors, <i>Lutheran Quarterly</i>	2003–present
Board, International Lutheran Society of Wittenberg	2014–present
President, <i>Lutheran Quarterly</i>	2018–present

Personal Statement

I have served the LCMS since 1992 in a wide variety of capacities, including chairing our Commission on Theology and Church Relations since 2010 and as President of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, since 2011. I am unconditionally committed to the Scriptures as the written Word of God and to the Lutheran Confessions because they are a faithful exposition of the Scriptures. As Vice-President, I would support our Synod President in sharing God's Word with a disrupted world so that all may come to know of the salvation won for them by Christ's life, suffering, death, and resurrection.



Name William W. Schumacher
Address.....2929 Collier Ave., Brentwood, MO 63144
Birth Date May 8, 1957
Birthplace Vandalia, IL
Wife's Maiden Name.....Tamara Schaff
Number of Children.....3

College.....Wartburg College (1980)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1985)
Other DegreesSTM, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; PhD, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Member of Synod Congregations..... 46
Rostered Member of Synod 38
Year of Ordination1985

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Missionary, LCMS World Mission (Botswana).....		1985–1996
Professor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....		1998–2023

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Commission on Doctrinal Review	2005–2010
Commission on Theology and Church Relations	2019–2023

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Board of Directors, Lutheran Bible Translators	1996–2005

Personal Statement

As a missionary in Africa, I worked to see the Gospel take root and bear fruit in a culture very different from my own. As a seminary professor, I have encouraged a vigorous life of the mind in service to that same Gospel. As a baptized and forgiven child of God, my Lord gives me a place in the mission—His own mission—to seek and save the lost. That mission of seeking and saving is what doctrine is for, the goal of all our careful attention to confessing the Gospel faithfully.

b. Nominations and Candidates for East-Southeast Region Regional Vice-President

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (East-Southeast Region) (3-year term)

Nominations Received: A total of 314 nominating votes were cast by 300 congregations of the region. Here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

Christopher S. Esget	121
John R. Denninger.....	31
Jeffrey J. Kloha	27
Luke T. Zimmerman.....	20
Victor J. Belton	13
Deric A. Taylor	12
Gregory S. Walton	11
Jon T. Diefenthaler	7
Johnson E. Rethinasamy.....	6

4 votes:

Wally M. Arp; Waldemar R. Vinovskis

3 votes:

James A. Douthwaite; William A. Harmon

2 votes:

Eric Johnson; Frank C. Ruffatto; Jeffrey E. Skopak; Douglas H. Spittel; Dien A. Taylor; Gregory J. Wismar

1 vote:

John M. Bussman; Stephen P. Carretto; John C. (Jack) Davidson; Timothy J. Drogemueller; Randal G. Ehrichs; Patrick T. (Pat) Ferry; Lloyd D. Gaines Sr.; Albert L. Garcia; Peter F. Gregory; James R. (Jim) Guelzow; Daniel A. Hahn Jr.; Yared H. Halche; James A. (Jim) Haugen Jr.; Matthew R. Hilpert; Mark A. Hricko; Kevin A. Karner; Robert J. Kieselowsky Jr.; Mark A. Kloha; Peter K. Lange; Keith A. Lingsch; Derek Mathers; Jonathan C. McCall; Yohannes A. Mengsteab; Wayne J. Miller; Robert H. (Rob) Morris II; Thomas L. Olson; John M. (Mike) Ramey; Mc Nair Ramsey Jr.; James H. Rockey; Kent R. Schaaf; Reed T. Shoaff; Richard L. Snow; Matthew O. Staneck; Jeffrey B. Stephens; Martin A. Tyce; David G. Wackenhuth; Stephen A. Wiggins Sr.; Kevin A. Wilson; Eric A. Wismar; Jon H.G. Zehnder

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.7 (c), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval in writing for the inclusion of their names on the ballot. Because the Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate, the ballot for the election of the East-Southeast Region Vice-President is expected to contain the names of the following top five consenting candidates in alphabetical order:

- Victor J. Belton
- Christopher S. Esget
- Jeffrey J. Kloha
- Deric A. Taylor
- Luke T. Zimmerman

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (East-Southeast Region) (3-year term)



Name Victor J. Belton
Address.....3777 Peachtree Road, Apt. 522, Atlanta, GA 30319
Birth Date November 6, 1953
BirthplaceWashington, DC
Wife's Maiden Name..... Clark
Number of Children.....0

College..... Concordia College—New York (1982)
Seminary..... Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1986)
Other Degrees Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa
Member of Synod Congregations..... 58
Rostered Member of Synod 37
Year of Ordination1986

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
L.U.T.H.E.R. Plan Cluster Ministry, Missouri District Missionary-at-Large	1986-1990
Peace Lutheran, Decatur, GA.....	1990-2017

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Campus Pastor, Concordia College—New York.....		2017-2019

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Board for District and Congregational Services.....	1995-2001
LCMS Board of Directors.....	2004-2016

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Florida-Georgia District Region 1 Circuit 3 Visitor	2001-2003
Florida-Georgia District Board of Directors.....	2002
Florida-Georgia District First Vice-President.....	2022-present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
LWML Proclaimer (three times).....	2009, 2012, 2015
Mission Facilitator, Florida-Georgia District	2019-present
Manager REV7:9 Initiative (Mission Nation Publishing)	2022-2023

Personal Statement

Thank you for the nomination to serve our Lord and His people. I have served the LCMS in a variety of Synod and district offices. The vision of Jesus in Revelation 7:9 is of the heavenly multitude that cannot be numbered from every nation, tribe, people, and language. Jesus will fulfill His vision as we are faithful to our Lord Christ, the inspired Word of God, the Lutheran Confessions, and our liturgical tradition, while embracing the distinctives of our times. I desire to assist our Synod leaders, congregations, and members to courageously navigate this course in our challenging culture.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



NameChristopher S. Esget
Address.....1801 Russell Road,
 Alexandria, VA 22301
Birth Date October 19, 1970
Birthplace Edina, MN
Wife's Maiden Name.....Adams
Number of Children.....1

College.....Berklee College of Music (1993)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1997)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne
 (2005)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 49
Rostered Member of Synod 25
Year of Ordination1998

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Bethel Lutheran, DuQuoin, IL.....	1998–2001
Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran, Alexandria, VA	2001–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Vice-President, East-Southeast Region	2015–present
Board of Regents, Concordia College—New York	2017–present
Chairman, Created Male and Female Task Force.....	2022–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Southeastern District Delegate to LCMS Theological Convocation, District Committee Member.....	2002–2003
Southeastern District Life Coordinator.....	2014–2019

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Vicarage/Pastoral Fieldwork Supervisor.....	2009–2012, 2014–2015
Instructor, Liturgical Theology and Church Music, EECMY (Ethiopia)	2015
Deaconess Intern Supervisor	2019–2020

Personal Statement

Our nation is in a spiritual crisis. The causes are many, but there is only one solution: providing the gifts our Lord gives us. The Church lives by confessing. The Church leads by serving—our children, our neighbors, and especially the most vulnerable. My priorities for the Synod are: (1) Giving local congregations the tools they need to thrive; (2) Strengthening Lutheran schools and homeschooling families; (3) Offering practical, timely resources to families challenged by a hostile culture; and (4) Forming—with rigor and theological substance—the next generation of pastors, teachers, and church musicians.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



NameJeffrey J. Kloha
Address.....3409 Wilson Blvd #807,
 Arlington, VA 22201
Birth Date April 3, 1966
Birthplace Chicago, IL
Wife's Maiden Name.....Susan Hempel
Number of Children.....2

College..... Concordia College, Ann Arbor (1988)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1992)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Seminary;
 PhD, University of Leeds (UK)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 56
Rostered Member of Synod 29
Year of Ordination1993

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Gethsemane Lutheran, Lakewood, OH.....	1993–1999

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Professor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....		1999–2017
Provost, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....		2013–2017
Chief Curatorial Officer, Museum of the Bible, Washington, D.C.		2017–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Contributor to <i>The Lutheran Study Bible</i>	2009
Dean of Theological Research and Publications, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....	2011–2013
Contributor to <i>Confessing the Gospel: A Lutheran Approach to Systematic Theology</i>	2017

Personal Statement

The Synod exists to serve and support congregations and church workers as well as to foster efforts to share the Gospel near and far. Ministry in the east and southeast can seem very remote and separated from the heartland. This role will succeed if it helps to bring the successes and needs of its congregations to the rest of Synod and supports the work of the Gospel in each locale, while also working to nurture the unity that we already have in Christ through God's grace. Confidence in the power of God's Word alone is essential to this work.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



Name Deric A. Taylor
Address 31-06 Morlot Ave, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
Birth DateDecember 30, 1964
Birthplace Queens, NY
Wife's Maiden Name...Julie Ann Fromm
Number of Children.....1



Name Luke T. Zimmerman
Address..... 6386 Galleon Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
Birth DateSeptember 1, 1977
BirthplaceMilwaukee, WI

College..... Concordia College—New York (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1992)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 48
Rostered Member of Synod 30
Year of Ordination1992

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Peter Lutheran, Brooklyn, NY.....	1992–1997
Village Lutheran, Bronxville, NY.....	2006–2010
Our Savior Lutheran, Fair Lawn, NJ.....	2010–present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Campus Chaplain, Concordia College—New York.....		1998–2002
Pastoral Assistant to the District President, Atlantic District.....		2002–2006

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Black Clergy Caucus.....	1992–present
Cross Cultural Gathering Planning Team.....	1995–1998
Synod Reconciler.....	2006–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Vice-President, Atlantic District.....	1995–2002, 2008–2010
Vice-President, New Jersey District.....	2012–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
East Brooklyn Congregations Association.....	1992–1997
FLEOA Foundation Chaplain.....	2014–present
Fair Lawn Police Chaplain.....	2021–present

Personal Statement

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Heb. 13:8). Hebrews 13 proclaims how our Lord gives us hope and confidence in a changing world. As the Church, we live this truth for the sake of others. In this truth, we have the gifts of God—the Gospel and the Sacraments—and the privilege of proclaiming Christ. In this truth, we have assurance of His promise to be with us. May it be done as we, His humble servants, meet the changes with the assurance that our God remains the same and is with us always.

Also nominated for First Vice-President

College..... Central Michigan University (1999)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (2003)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 45
Rostered Member of Synod 19
Year of Ordination2004

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. John Lutheran, Casey, IA and Zion, Dexter, IA.....	2004–2008
Calvary, Mechanicsburg, PA.....	2008–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
2016 Res. 11-10 LCMS Task Force.....	2017–2018

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Committee on Constitutions and Membership, English District.....	2009–2015
Philadelphia Circuit Visitor, English District.....	2014–2015
Secretary, English District.....	2015–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
LWML Pastoral Counselor, Adair Zone (Iowa District West).....	2006–2008
Board of Directors, Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries (LCMS RSO).....	2014–2017

Personal Statement

My pastoral vocation has been primarily conducted in a region where LCMS congregations aren't plentiful, a historic Lutheran heartland where many Lutheran teachings now seem forgotten. Proclaiming our confession within that setting is a challenge and opportunity. I would encourage focusing our Synod toward meeting that challenge, especially as individuals following Christ become less prevalent in this region and our entire nation. We have Christ's words of eternal life for our neighbors to hear. I've been honored to be entrusted with roles serving my district's congregations and members. If elected, I would strive similarly to serve our Synod's congregations and members.

c. Nominations and Candidates for Great Lakes Region Regional Vice-President

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Great Lakes Region) (3-year term)

Nominations Received: A total of 407 nominating votes were cast by 395 congregations of the region. Here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

John C. Wohlrabe Jr.	196
David P.E. Maier	64
David P. Ramirez	39
Steven G. (Steve) Kline	10
Peter Bender.....	5

4 votes:

Benjamin T. (Ben) Ball; Randolph H. (Randy) Raasch; Brian S. Saunders

3 votes:

Todd A. Biermann; Dean M. Davenport; Preston A. Paul

2 votes:

Darryl L. Andrzejewski; Robert B. Appold; David A. Davis; David C. Fleming; Robert E. (Rob) Kasper; Dwayne M. Lueck; William M. (Max) Mons; Lance A. O'Donnell; Ryan R. Peterson; Matthew W. Rueger; John C. Wille

1 vote:

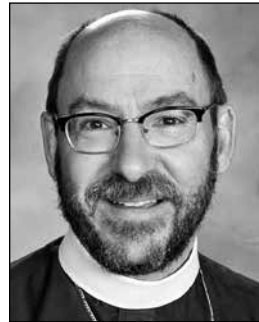
Steven J. Anderson; Jonathon J. Bakker; John M. Berg; Mark C. Bestul; Craig L. Bickel; Christopher R. Bodley; Robert W. Bolling; Allan R. Buss; Paul M. Crolius; Paul J. Cutler; Patrick T. Ferry; Charles Y. (Chad) Foster; Jacob A. (Jack) Gilbert; Micah D. Greiner; Joshua T. Haller; Byrene K. (Keith) Haney; Jamison J. Hardy; Bradley B. Hubbard; Erwin M. Hutter; Guillermo Jerez; Robert G. (Gabe) Kasper; Chad D. Kendall; Michael R. Knox; Jason D. Lane; Peter K. Lange; Michael C. Larson; Elstner C. Lewis Jr.; Glenn A. Lucas; Timothy H. Maschke; Nathan M. Meador; Timothy J. Mech; Scott R. Murray; Donald O. (Don) Neuendorf; Robert D. Newton; Nabil S. Nour; Chad M. Ott; Leonard R. Payton; Stephen K. Preus; Michael J. Roth; Caleb J. Schauer; Mark C. Schulz; Marc N. Schwichtenberg; Eric C. Skovgaard; Keith A. Speaks; David P. Stechholz; August T. Sutton; Richard A. Townes Jr.; Ronald W. Weidler; William P. Yonker; Jason W. Zobel

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.7 (c), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval in writing for the inclusion of their names on the ballot. Because the Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate, the ballot for the election of the Great Lakes Region Vice-President is expected to contain the names of the following top five consenting candidates in alphabetical order:

- Peter Bender
- Steven G. (Steve) Kline
- David P.E. Maier
- David P. Ramirez
- John C. Wohlrabe Jr.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Great Lakes Region) (3-year term)



Name Peter Bender
Address.....4200 Elmwood Rd., Colgate, WI 53107
Birth Date April 5, 1961
Birthplace Elmhurst, IL
Wife's Maiden Name.....Elizabeth Finke
Number of Children.....4

College.....B Music Ed. (1983)

Seminary MDiv (1987)

Member of Synod Congregations 61

Rostered Member of Synod 35

Year of Ordination1987

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Paul and Trinity Lutheran, Boone and Dayton, IA.....	1987-1991
Peace Lutheran, Sussex, WI.....	1991-present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Board for National Mission	2016-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Chairman, Worship Committee, Iowa West District	1987-1991
Constitution Committee South Wisconsin District	1992-1994

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Commission on Worship, LSB Agenda Committee.....	1998-2006
Adjunct Faculty/Visiting Instructor in Catechesis, CTSFW, Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria Seminaries.....	2012-2019
Concordia Catechetical Academy, Founder and Director.....	1994-present

Personal Statement

Jesus said, "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you" (John 15:18). Jesus faced the hatred of the world with love—a love that moved Him to speak the truth, call to repentance, and ultimately lay down His life for the salvation of those who hated Him. His words encourage each of us to live joyfully in our confession of faith, knowing that when we suffer for Christ's sake, we belong to Him and bear witness to His love to a world in desperate need of His salvation.



NameSteven G. Kline
Address..... N2240 Cornhusk Drive,
 Greenville, WI 54942
Birth DateAugust 19, 1966
BirthplaceBuffalo, NY
Wife's Maiden Name.....Brabender
Number of Children.....2

College.....Concordia University Wisconsin (1988)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1992)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 56
Rostered Member of Synod 31
Year of Ordination1992

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. John Lutheran, Pulaski, WI.....	1992–2001
Hales Corners Lutheran, Hales Corners, WI	2001–2002
Zion Lutheran, Wayside, WI	2002–2014
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, Greenville, WI	2014–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Counselor, Green Bay Circuit, North Wisconsin District	2005–2010

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Adjunct Instructor, Theology, Concordia University Wisconsin	2019–present

Personal Statement

I'm just a pastor. I do not aspire to a "higher office," as there is no higher office in Christ's Church. I am driven neither by power nor notoriety, but by the call the Lord has given to me to find the lost and feed the found. If He invites me to assist our extended community of believers in their ministry of the Gospel, perhaps offering some insight gained in 31 years of parish ministry, then I will praise Him for every sin forgiven and every soul saved by His grace. That's my mission in life. After all, I'm just a pastor.



Name David P.E. Maier
Address..... 2282 Summit Dr.,
 Frankfort, MI 49635
Birth Date May 8, 1956
BirthplaceLevittown, PA
Wife's Maiden Name..... Patricia A.
 Kemmerling
Number of Children.....4

College..... Concordia College, Ann Arbor, MI (1978)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1982)

Other DegreesHonorary Doctorate, St. Peter Confessional Lutheran Church of South Africa (2007); Alumnus Award, Concordia University, Ann Arbor (2010); Honorary Doctor of Laws, Concordia University Ann Arbor (2012); Honorary Doctor of Letters, Concordia University Wisconsin (2012)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 67
Rostered Member of Synod 41
Year of Ordination1982

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Our Savior Lutheran, Marlette, MI	1982–1985
St. Peter Lutheran Church and School, Arlington Heights, IL	1985–1989
Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, Lansing, MI	1989–2009

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Executive Director Mission Partners Platform (MPP)		2023–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
President, Michigan District.....	2009–2022
Chairman, Council of Presidents.....	2018–2022

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Counselor, Michigan District	1991–1997
Chairman, Circuit Counselors, Michigan District	1997–2000
Vice-President, Michigan District.....	2000–2009

Other Significant Service or Experience
 Advisory Board of Regents, Concordia University Ann Arbor 2009–2012
 Advisory Board of Regents,
 Concordia University Wisconsin, Ann Arbor..... 2012–2022
 Board of Regents,
 Concordia University Wisconsin, Ann Arbor..... 2022–present
 Wellspring Lutheran Services, Board of Trustees 2008–2011

Personal Statement

It would be an honor to serve the many congregations and professional church workers—committed as we are to a common confession and mission—in the Great Lakes Region as regional vice-president. God has allowed me a vast and rich experience during my pastoral ministry as a mission pastor, youth pastor, associate pastor, senior pastor, circuit visitor, district vice-president, district president, chairman of Council of Presidents, and a regent for Concordia University Wisconsin/Ann Arbor. This experience and present relationships with church workers prepare me to be a regional vice-president and help and serve the Synod President.

Also nominated for Concordia University Wisconsin (Mequon, WI) Board of Regents



Name David P. Ramirez
Address 1618 Main St.,
 Union Grove, WI 53182
Birth Date July 20, 1981
Birthplace Chicago, IL
Wife's Maiden Name Albury
Number of Children 8

College Valparaiso University (2003)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (2008)
Other Degrees STM, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne
 (2020)
Member of Synod Congregations 18
Rostered Member of Synod 14
Year of Ordination 2009

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Zion Lutheran, Lincoln, IL	2009–2015
St. Paul Lutheran, Union Grove, WI	2015–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Delegate to Synod Convention	2016
Doctrinal Reviewer	2014–present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Central Illinois Dist. Pastors' Conference Planning Committee	2011–2013
South Wisconsin District Floor Committee Member	2015, 2022
Circuit Visitor	2021–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Graduate Assistant for Historical Theology at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne	2008–2009
Organizer of Semi-Annual Regional Jr. and Sr. High Youth Conferences	2010–2015
Church Softball	2009–2014, 2019–present
Bugenhagen Conference Planning Committee	2017–present
Vicarage Supervisor	2022–present

Personal Statement

American culture has undergone a great shift—especially in regard to Christianity. The Church and her leaders must both preserve the treasures God has given us and effectively engage the particular opportunities of the day. Psalm 118 declares, “The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.” We must look to the Scriptures as our guiding light to faithfully pass on the inheritance we have received. God’s Word will give us wisdom to develop strategies to handle challenges and work as a team to further our common confession and mission.

Also nominated for Concordia University Chicago (River Forest, Ill.) Board of Regents



Name John C. Wohlrabe Jr.
Address 3832 S. Lake Dr.,
 St. Francis, WI 53235
Birth Date September 2, 1953
Birthplace Mankato, MN
Wife's Maiden Name Julie Ann Schulz
Number of Children 3

College Concordia College, Ann Arbor (1978)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1981)
Other Degrees ThD, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis;
 DD, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Member of Synod Congregations 66
Rostered Member of Synod 41
Year of Ordination 1982

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Mount Calvary Lutheran, Fort Lupton, CO	1982–1984
Concordia Lutheran, Geneseo, IL	2009–2012
Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran, Whitefish Bay, WI	2017–present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Vicar	Zion Lutheran, Anchorage, AK	1979–1980
Assistant Director	Concordia Historical Institute	1986–1987
Chaplain	United States Navy	1987–2009

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Vice-President of the Synod	2007–present
Board of Governors, Concordia Historical Institute	2007–present
President, Board of Governors Concordia Historical Institute	2016–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years	
Guest Instructor	Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	1982–1984
Editor-in-Chief	Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly	2013–present
Adjunct Professor	Concordia University Wisconsin	2013–present

Personal Statement

It has been a joyful privilege to serve as a Vice-President of the LCMS since 2007. If it is God’s will and the desire of the 2023 Synod convention, I would be honored to continue in support of the Synod President, the members of the Council of Presidents, and the congregations and church workers of the Synod as we walk together proclaiming salvation through Jesus Christ alone to a lost and fallen world and upholding one another in our common confession of faith according to the infallible Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions as a true exposition of Scripture.

Also nominated for First Vice-President

d. Nominations and Candidates for Great Plains Region Regional Vice-President

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Great Plains Region) (3-year term)

Nominations Received: A total of 429 nominating votes were cast by 370 congregations of the region. Here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

Nabil S. Nour.....	245
David C. Mumme	58
Robert R. Lessing	15
Byrene K. (Keith) Haney.....	11
Russell L. Sommerfeld	11
James H. DeLoach	7
Richard L. Snow	7
Lucas V. Woodford.....	6

4 votes:

Dean W. Nadasdy; Steven D. Turner

3 votes:

Raymond L. Hartwig; David P. Ramirez; Randy R. Sturzenbecher; Zachary A. Zehnder

2 votes:

Paul J. Cain Jr.; Terry R. Forke; Larry S. Harvala; Adam S. Moline; Clint K. Poppe; Scott T. Porath; Scott C. Sailer

1 vote:

Benjamin T. Ball; Kent A. Borglum; Jason M. Braaten; Paul W. Dare; Samuel Y. Deressa; Paul D. Egger; Thomas L. Evans; Brady L. Finnern; Donald J. Fondow; Robert J. Gehrke; Eugene V. Gierke; Yared H. Halche; Kenneth N. Hessel; John E. Hill; Brent W. Kuhlman; Robert T. Kuhn; Michael L. Kumm; Scott R. Murray; Michael P. Neidow; Matthew E. Nelson; Craig K. Niemeier; Jon C. Olson; Max A. Phillips; Christian A. Preus; Mark A. Preus; Arlo W. Pullmann; Timothy J. Rynearson; Joshua V. Scheer; Luke R. Schnake; Brent D. Smith; Gregory J. Snow; Daniel C. Voth; Karl A. Weber; Ryan D. Wendt; John C. Wohlrabe Jr.

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.7 (c), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval in writing for the inclusion of their names on the ballot. Because the Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate, the ballot for the election of the Great Plains Region Vice-President is expected to contain the names of the following top five consenting candidates in alphabetical order:

- Byrene K. (Keith) Haney
- Robert R. Lessing
- David C. Mumme
- Nabil S. Nour
- Russell L. Sommerfeld

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (Great Plains Region) (3-year term)



NameByrene K. (Keith) Haney
Address..... 1318 17th Ave. N, Fort Dodge, IA 50501
Birth DateJanuary 24, 1965
BirthplaceBaton Rouge, LA
Wife's Maiden Name.....Bickel
Number of Children.....6

College.....Southern University (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1993)
Other Degrees EdD, Concordia University, Irvine
Member of Synod Congregations..... 56
Rostered Member of Synod 30
Year of Ordination1993

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Berea Lutheran, Detroit, MI	1993–1996
Missionary at Large, Missouri District Serving L.U.T.H.E.R. Plan	1996–1999
Gospel Lutheran, Milwaukee, WI.....	1999–2007

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Mission Executive, Northern Illinois District		2017–2019
Asst. President for Missions, Human Care, Iowa West Dist		2019–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Circuit Visitor, South Wisconsin District	2005–2007
Chairman of North American Mission Executives	2013–2015

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Evangelism and Stewardship Chm., South Wisconsin Dist. ..	2005–2007
Board of Directors, Lutherans For Life, Vice-Pres. (2022) .	2021–present
Vice-President Board of Mission Nation.....	2021–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
President of Transitional Housing Milwaukee Country	2005–2007

Personal Statement

If it is the Lord's will that I am chosen to be the Great Plains Regional Vice-President, I accept that chance with the hope and anticipation that it also comes with your constant prayers and patience as God grows us together. The Church is in danger from a variety of threats: secularism, boycotts, false teachings, and just plain old sin. And this can tempt us to pull back, withdraw, and wait for the tempestuous winds to pass. First Corinthians 16:13–14 says, "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." God still sits on the throne.



Name Robert R. Lessing
Address..... 1737 Jefferson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105
Birth Date March 11, 1959
Birthplace Denver, CO
Number of Children..... 3

College..... St. John's, Winfield, KS (1981)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1985)
Other Degrees STM, PhD Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
Member of Synod Congregations..... 45
Rostered Member of Synod 37
Year of Ordination 1986

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Christ the Servant Lutheran, West Monroe, LA	1986-1990
Trinity Lutheran, Broken Arrow, OK	1999-1999
St. Michael Lutheran, Fort Wayne, IN	2013-2020

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Professor, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis		1999-2013
Professor, Concordia University, St. Paul		2020-present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Commission on Worship	2001-2004

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Secretary, Oklahoma District	1991-1994
Circuit Visitor, Oklahoma District	1994-1997
Second Vice-President, Oklahoma District	1997-1999

Personal Statement

I trust Christ Jesus for my salvation, wholeheartedly believe in the inerrant and infallible Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and joyfully subscribe to the Lutheran Confessions as they are contained in the 1580 Book of Concord. I have served as a pastor in small, medium, and large congregations; was on a seminary faculty for 14 years; and currently serve as a theology professor at Concordia University in St. Paul, Minn. I have authored or coauthored 10 books on the Old Testament; two more are in progress. My approach to ministry is thoroughly biblical, confessional, joyful, and pastoral.



Name David C. Mumme
Address..... 415 Lake St W, Waterville, MN 56096
Birth Date July 17, 1971
Birthplace Fairmont, MN
Wife's Maiden Name..... Schurman
Number of Children..... 5

College..... Concordia University Chicago (1993)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1997)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 51
Rostered Member of Synod 25
Year of Ordination 1997

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Trinity Lutheran, Marseilles, IL	1997-2003
Trinity Lutheran, Waterville, MN	2003-present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Synod Convention Floor Committee Member	2016

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Minnesota South District, Third Vice-President	2015-2018
Minnesota South District, First Vice-President	2018-present

Personal Statement

I am the sole pastor of an average-size congregation in small-town Minnesota. As such, I have firsthand knowledge of both the blessings and the challenges that the great majority of our LCMS pastors and congregations face. I have also had the privilege for the past eight years of serving the broader church as a district vice-president. That has given me a great appreciation for the vital role that both district and Synod play in our life together. If elected, I would serve the Synod, her congregations, and her church workers to the best of my abilities.



Name Nabil S. Nour
Address..... 7701 Tuscan Club Circle, Sioux Falls, SD 57108
Birth Date October 29, 1955
Birthplace Nazareth, Israel
Wife's Maiden Name..... Miedema
Number of Children..... 3

College..... Huron College, Huron, SD (1979)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1994)
Other Degrees DMin, Concordia Seminary (in progress)
Member of Synod Congregations..... 42
Rostered Member of Synod 25

Year of Ordination1994

Pastorates

Congregation **Years**
Redeemer Lutheran, Armour, SD 1994–2015
Trinity Lutheran, Hartford, SD 2016–present

Other Full-Time Positions

Position **Employer** **Years**
House Painter, Self-Employed..... 1972–1982
House Painter, Moses Painting..... 1982–1989

Other Synod Offices

Position **Years**
Conflict Resolution Officer 2008–present
Great Plains Region Vice-President, Fifth Vice-President 2013–2016
Great Plains Region Vice-President, Third Vice-President 2016–2019
Great Plains Region Vice-President, Fourth Vice-President... 2019–2023

Other District Offices

Position **Years**
Circuit Visitor 1998–2006
Second Vice-President, South Dakota District 2006–2012
First Vice-President, South Dakota District..... 2012–2013

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service **Years**
Frequent Preacher at Various Events 1994–present
Guest Teacher/Lecturer at Districts/Congregations..... 1994–present
Ministry of Taking Tours to the Holy Land 1994–present

Personal Statement

Pastor Nour travels, preaches, and lectures often on how to live the Christian life in a postmodern time, how to witness to Muslims the true meaning of love, evangelism outreach, sharing the Good News of our salvation and other topics. Being an evangelist isn't a program but a daily life—passing the baton. Nour has also had, since October of 1994, a ministry called Dial a Prayer 605-724-2444. He is also working on two different books that he hopes to publish. With great anticipation, he is looking forward to continuing to serve the Lord and His Church together.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



NameRussell L. (Russ) Sommerfeld
Address..... 535 South Evergreen Drive, Seward, NE 68434-2245
Birth Date September 13, 1952
BirthplaceNorfolk, NE
Wife's Maiden Name.... Donna Cargnino
Number of Children.....3

CollegeConcordia Senior College, Fort Wayne (1974)

Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1980)

Other Degrees Concordia University, St. Paul (2010)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 70

Rostered Member of Synod 42

Year of Ordination1980

Pastorates

Congregation **Years**
Immanuel and St. John Lutheran, Canton and Moundridge, KS..... 1980–1986

Trinity Lutheran, Arapahoe, NE 1986–1995

Holy Cross Lutheran, Kearney, NE 1995–2003

Other Full-Time Positions

Position **Employer** **Years**
District President, Nebraska District 2003–2015

Assistant Professor of Theology, Concordia University, Nebraska..... 2016–2021

Assistant to President Church Engagement and Assist.Professor of Theology, Concordia University, Nebraska 2003–2015

Other Synod Offices

Position **Years**
Synod Convention Elections Committee2007
Synod Convention Elections Committee Chairman2010
Synod Nominations Committee 2016–2019

Other District Offices

Position **Years**
Circuit Counselor, Kansas District 1982–1985
Circuit Counselor, Nebraska District 1988–1991
Vice-President, Nebraska District..... 1991–2003

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service **Years**
Licensed Lay Deacon Task Force for LCMS Convention..... 2014–2016
Interim President, Concordia University, Nebraska..... 2020–2021

Personal Statement

Confusion, frustration, and division dominate our American culture. LCMS congregations, pastors, leaders, teachers, administrators, and commissioned servants need their Synod's partnership in the Gospel amid such spiritual and cultural challenges. At the same time, this is a tremendous moment for reaching into the lives of our neighbors with the compassion of Jesus and sound biblical convictions as confessing Lutherans. It has been an undeserved God-given privilege to serve His people as a pastor, circuit visitor, and district vice-president. Serving with LCMS higher education staff, faculty, administration, and regents has provided a perspective for preparing people to live for Christ in church work and various vocations. Relating with God's people in rural and small-town congregations, mission churches, large churches, Lutheran schools, and on the university campus are all dear to my heart for the mission and ministry in the Great Plains Region of the LCMS.

e. Nominations and Candidates for West-Southwest Region Regional Vice-President

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (West-Southwest Region) (3-year term)

Nominations Received: A total of 456 nominating votes were cast by 367 congregations of the region. Here following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who received nominating votes:

Scott R. Murray	134
Timothy M. Klinkenberg	80
Yohannes A. Mengsteab	48
Alfonso O. Espinosa.....	36
Jeffery T. Schrank.....	36
Timothy P. Ahlman	26
Timothy D. Runtsch	13
Michael E. Gibson	9
Michael W. Newman	6

5 votes:

Eric T. Lange; C. Bryan Wolfmueller

3 votes:

Jason J. Bredeson; Jonathan M. Dinger; James B. Maxwell

2 votes:

Mark D. Barz; Jon M. Braunersreuther; Terrence C. Chan; Michael R. Lange; Shiu M. Lau; Jared K. Melius; Dustin T. Parker; Michael T. Von Behren

1 vote:

Neal R. Blanke; Robin J. Dugall; Christopher S. Esget; Alfonso J. (AJ) Espinosa; Patrick T. Ferry; Roger P. Frick; Stephen E. Heimer; Kenneth M. Hennings; Ralph W. Hobratschk; Jeremy M. Jacoby; Timothy A. Jenks; Edward J. Killian; Larry G. Krueger; David J. Langewisch; Paul A. Linnemann; Bradley M. Malone; Richard A. Mittweide; Steven P. Mueller; Martin R. Noland; John M. Palka; Timothy J. Pauls; Walter A. Pohland; David P. Ramirez; Michael J. Redeker; Joseph E. Robb; Carl D. Roth; Joel M. Scheiwe; Daniel W. Schepmann; Jon D. Scicluna; Adrian N. Sherrill; John C. Wohlrahe Jr.; Thomas J. Zelt; Luke T. Zimmerman

As required by Bylaw 3.12.2.7 (c), the nominees who received the highest number of votes were notified to obtain their approval in writing for the inclusion of their names on the ballot. Because the Bylaws of the Synod provide no opportunity for adding names to this slate, other than due to the death, declination, or unavailability of a candidate, the ballot for the election of the West-Southwest Region Vice-President is expected to contain the names of the following top five consenting candidates in alphabetical order:

Alfonso O. Espinosa
 Timothy M. Klinkenberg
 Yohannes A. Mengsteab
 Scott R. Murray
 Jeffery T. Schrank

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (West-Southwest Region) (3-year term)



NameAlfonso O. Espinosa
Address.....21986 Mae Circle,
 Lake Forest, CA 92630
Birth DateJuly 8, 1965
Birthplace Delano, CA
Wife's Maiden Name Traci Dawn Martin
Number of Children.....8

College..... Concordia University, Irvine (1987)

Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1991)

Other DegreesMA, Biola University;
 PhD, University of Birmingham (UK)

Member of Synod Congregations..... 40

Rostered Member of Synod 32

Year of Ordination1991

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Paul Lutheran, Irvine, CA.....	2011–present
Living Word Lutheran, The Woodlands, TX.....	2002–2010
St. Paul Lutheran, Laguna Beach, CA.....	1996–2002
St. John, Covina, CA	1991–1996

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Member, Board for National Mission, Serving Joint Mission Assessment Committee.....	2019–present
Member, Board for National Mission, Vice-Chair, Advocating Family Ministry.....	2016–2019
Member, Board for National Mission, Advocating Family Ministry	2014–2016

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Adjunct Professor of Theology, Concordia University, Irvine.....	1996–2002, 2009–2021
Adjunct Instructor of Theology, Concordia Lutheran, Tomball, TX	2002–2009
Member, District Recruitment Committee, Theological Convocation Committee.....	1991–1994, 1997–1999

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Author, CPH, Three Books on Equipping the Church on Faith and Culture	2018, 2021, 2023
Preacher, LCMS National Life Conferences	2015, 2017, 2019
Higher Things Breakaway Presenter.....	2012–2020

Personal Statement

To the glory of Christ and in service to His Church, I desire to strengthen our ability to constructively face the challenges in our culture: radical individualism, relativism, and skepticism. These often result in the perceived irrelevance of the Gospel and the Church. In addition, we must invest in strengthening the Christian family, which has been terribly undermined. We don't have to be defensive but rejoice in the rich gifts Christ has given through both the secular and spiritual aspects of the three estates. Finally, more can be done to continue investing in the relationship between our districts and our Synod leadership and resources. The powerful and comforting Word of the Lord and the foundation of our Book of Concord combined with faithful and loving hearts means a strong Synod in years to come.



Name Timothy M. Klinkenberg
Address..... 154 South Shaffer Street, Orange, CA 92866
Birth Date March 17, 1964
Birthplace Springfield, IL
Wife's Maiden Name..... Pasche
Number of Children..... 2

College Concordia College, St. Paul (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1991)
Other Degrees DMin, Fuller Seminary
Member of Synod Congregations..... 58
Rostered Member of Synod 32
Year of Ordination 1991

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Faith Lutheran, Chippewa Falls, WI (associate pastor)	1991-1993
St. John's Lutheran, Orange, CA	
Associate pastor, youth ministry	1993-1999
Senior administrative pastor	1999-present

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Pacific Southwest District, Vice-President	2016-2019
Pacific Southwest District, Board Member	2013-2016
Pacific Southwest District, Circuit Visitor	2010-2013

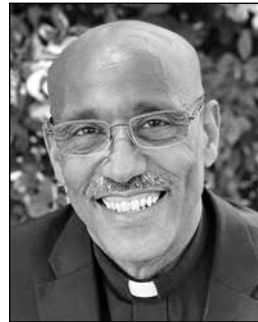
Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Advisory Committee Family Promise Orange County Homeless Ministry	2020-current
National Speaker Lutheran Education Association Convocation/ District Speaker/Best Practices for Ministry Plenary Speaker	

Personal Statement

The life of the LCMS is in the congregations. I serve as a parish pastor. My rhythm of ministry is from Sunday to Sunday. Caring for the hurting and the grieving has formed my pastoral heart. Working in and with our school is a blessing to our congregation and the hundreds of families we serve. Our leaders should think first of congregations. As a leader in the denomination, I would lead the discussion toward congregational vitality and the unity of the

Spirit. I'd like to see pulpits filled with joyful preachers, classrooms filled with kind and loving teachers, and the LCMS renewed in hope.



Name Yohannes A. Mengsteab
Address..... 5012 Glen Springs Trail, Fort Worth, TX 76137
Birth Date March 13, 1957
Birthplace Deki-Worasi, Eritrea
Wife's Maiden Name..... Alemash
Number of Children..... 3

College Concordia College, Bronxville (1987)
Seminary Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1996)
Other Degrees PhD, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne; MBA, Ball State University
Member of Synod Congregations..... 40
Rostered Member of Synod 33
Year of Ordination 33

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Zion Lutheran, Holland, MI	1991-1995
Southeastern District, Missionary-at-Large, Washington, D.C.	1995-2001

Other Full-Time Positions

Position	Employer	Years
Mission Counselor, LCMS World Mission—North American Mission		2001-2004
New Mission Development Director, LCMS World Mission—North American Mission		2004-2010

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Mission and Ministry Facilitator, Texas District	2015-2022

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Director of EIIT	2001-2004
Board Member of LIRS	2008-2016

Personal Statement

I am thankful for the unity we have in the LCMS: we are not arguing over the doctrine of the Scriptures or our Confessions. We have very strong institutions: colleges and universities, seminaries, LCEF, Concordia Plans, etc. The challenge we have is that we seem to be polarized over matters that we should resolve in the boardrooms. I will join those who are intent on keeping the LCMS tent as large as our founders intended it. Anchored in the Scriptures and our Lutheran Confession, all my conversations will be evangelical, always keeping the focus on Christ and His mission.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



Name Scott R. Murray
Address.....5800 Westheimer Rd.,
Houston, TX 77057
Birth DateMay 24, 1958
BirthplaceKitchener, Ontario
Wife’s Maiden Name.....Maryann Sovis
Number of Children.....2

College..... Concordia College, Ann Arbor (1980)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1983)
Other Degrees MA, Loyola University;
PhD, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA
Member of Synod Congregations..... 65
Rostered Member of Synod 40
Year of Ordination1983

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Cobourg, Ontario.....	1983–1985
Salem Lutheran Church and School, Gretna, LA.....	1985–1996
Memorial Lutheran Church and School, Houston, TX.....	1996–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
Commission on Theology and Church Relations, Vice Chair.....	1996–2001
Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Board of Regents (Chair since 2022)	2010–present
Vice-President of Synod	2010–present

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Editorial Associate, <i>LOGIA Journal</i>	1992–present
Lutheran Education Association of Houston BOD	2001–2007
Luther Academy Board of Directors (Chairman)	2007–2015

Personal Statement

Our Lord Jesus builds His Church with the Gospel and Sacraments. God is the one who creates, builds, and sanctifies His Holy Church. We serve Jesus by preaching the Word and administering these gifts to His Bride (Eph. 5). In that work I have been privileged to serve three congregations as a full-time parish pastor (1 Peter. 5:2). It is an honor to work for Synod as a Vice-President representing the President, domestically and internationally. I would be honored to serve with him again. I would serve as God gives me strength, applying insights from parish ministry.

Also nominated for First Vice-President



Name Jeffery T. Schrank
Address..... 4302 E. Blanche Dr.,
Phoenix, AZ 85032
Birth DateMay 28, 1962
Birthplace Milwaukee
Wife’s Maiden Name..... MacDougall
Number of Children.....3

College..... Concordia University, Chicago (1984)
Seminary Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (1988)
Other Degrees DMin, Westminster Theological Seminary
Member of Synod Congregations..... 60
Rostered Member of Synod 35
Year of Ordination1988

Pastorates

Congregation	Years
Holy Trinity Lutheran, Lawrenceville, NJ	1988–1995
Trinity Lutheran, Nashville, IL.....	1995–2000
Christ Church, Phoenix, AZ.....	2000–present

Other Synod Offices

Position	Years
LCMS Board of Directors	2008–2010
Blue Ribbon Task Force on Syn. Structure and Governance	2005–2010
Generations Campaign Concordia Seminary	

Other District Offices

Position	Years
Growth Plan Task Force, New Jersey District.....	1989–1994

Other Significant Service or Experience

Type of Service	Years
Prison and Jail Chaplain, New Jersey, Illinois, and Arizona....	1989–2004
Best Practices for Ministry Conference in Phoenix Organizer.....	2012–present

Personal Statement

This dying world needs the Church more than ever. Having grown up in the city of Milwaukee, I was educated in River Forest and Fort Wayne, and have served on the East Coast in New Jersey, the Midwest in Illinois, and now in Phoenix. I am in my 35th year of being a pastor. I would want to help the Synod support the local churches and our schools. We have come through an unprecedented time, but the message of Jesus is all the more needed in this culture and world. If elected, I would give my energy to supporting the ministries of the LCMS. But support starts with the many individual leaders who need to know that, as they serve the Lord with their lives, they are not alone.

IV. Report on Candidates for Secretary of the Synod

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)

Duties: A full-time position, the Secretary is an officer of the Synod and serves as secretary of the LCMS Board of Directors and the Commission on Constitutional Matters; he supervises the maintenance of rosters, administers the Synod's dispute resolution and expulsion processes, edits *The Lutheran Annual*, and has extensive convention responsibilities. (2019 Handbook, pp. 15, 114–15; convention duties, 17, 20, 34, 102, 103, 105, 107, 114–15)

Qualifications: The Secretary must be an ordained minister with the skills necessary to perform the customary duties of a corporate secretary; to carry out the required responsibilities relating to conventions of the Synod; to perform such other work as pertains to his office by bylaw or by assignment by conventions, the President, or the Board of Directors; and to provide counsel from the Constitution, Bylaws, and resolutions of the Synod to the members of the Synod on a daily basis. Administrative responsibilities include administration of the Synod's dispute resolution and expulsion processes and supervision of the official rosters of the Synod. Membership on numerous boards, commissions, and committees includes service as secretary of the Commission on Constitutional Matters and of the Board of Directors. A high degree of integrity is essential, and a range of prior experience in the Synod will be helpful.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Derek Klemm, Las Vegas, NV; Mountain View (PSW); LCMS 37; Senior Pastor. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2019, 2023), CV 9. **D:** Mem. Conv. Com. Worship Planning Chm. and Celebrant (2022), Mem. Nom. and Elections Com. (2018), Mem. TF Church Worker Recruitment and Retention 6, Mem. Seminarian Interview Com. 5, Couns. LWML Zone 3, Mem. Pastor Conf. Planning Com. 2, Circuit Rep. "Fan into Flame" 1, On Ballot for Dist. VP/

Secy. Positions (2022). **C:** Pastor 16. **O:** Rep. Boy Scout Charter Org. 3.

There is great value in upholding organizational polity in a collaborative manner, which the Synod Secretary is tasked to do. This occurs well when these responsibilities are discharged in such a manner as to always keep Christ in the center of what we do; remembering that the left-hand functions in the Church serve the right-hand Gospel proclamation. I have enjoyed this responsibility as a senior pastor operating in a policy-based governance structure, and I would find it a welcome challenge and a deep honor to serve the congregations and agencies of our beloved Synod in a similar capacity.

Also nominated for LCMS Board of Directors



John Wollenburg Sias+, St. Louis, MO; Good Shepherd, Arnold (MO); LCMS 46; Secy. of Synod. **S:** Secy. of Synod 7 (entails services on BOD and COH and to COP), Mem. CCM 10, Vice-Chm. CCN (2013), Synod Conv. Deleg. (2013). **D:** Parliamentarian for Ten Dist. Conv. in last two cycles, 2nd VP MT Dist. 1, CV MT Dist. Eastern Circuit 1, Secy./Admin./Special Fl. Com. (2012), Secy. Pastors' Conf. 6. **C:** Pastor 7, Vacancy Pastor 2. **O:** Jefferson County Mo. Sheriff's Alumni Vol. Echelon (Auxiliary Org.) 1, Author Synod/*The Lutheran Witness*, Author *Five Things You Can Do to Witness Christ* (CPH), Guest KFUE, Writer *CPR 13*, Founding Dir./Tech. Adv./Editor Lutheran Legacy Publishing (501[c][3]) 17, Center for Reliable and High-Performance Computing Univ. of Illinois 9.

Seven years in, serving as Secretary—striving for order, transparency, and clarity and to hold before everyone the common commitments and aims adopted under our univocal, unequivocal, and joyful confession of God's Word and the Lutheran Confessions—remains a humbling honor and challenge. Blessed with a certain confession and hope, the office is nonetheless challenged by changes to virtually all else, to help keep everything the congregations have built together in the Synod functioning all the more effectively, efficiently, harmoniously, under their governance, truly for them and on their behalf (Bylaw 1.1.1), that, ultimately, Christ crucified be preached and believed.

V. Report on Candidates for the LCMS Board of Directors

Elect 2 ministers of religion—ordained (at-large), 1 layperson (East-Southeast Region), 1 layperson (Great Lakes Region), 1 layperson (Great Plains Region), 1 layperson (at-large) (6-year term)

Duties: Meetings of two or more days at least four times a year. The Board serves as the legal representative of the Synod, is custodian of the Synod's properties, and is responsible for the management and supervision of all business affairs of the Synod. (2019 Handbook, pp. 15, 17, 115–19, 204)

Qualifications: The Board of Directors is responsible for the legal, property, and financial affairs of the Synod, as outlined in Bylaws 3.3.4.2–3.3.4.10. The Board is responsible for the plans and operating budgets as well as the human resources, financial, and other policies of corporate national Synod, and has certain oversight responsibilities regarding the other synodwide corporations and agencies. Board members should be able to see the “big picture,” both nationally and internationally. Experience on district or national boards is desirable, particularly for the ordained and commissioned members. Experience in large organization management, leadership, and oversight is always helpful. Representation by laypersons who are active in the parish with a record of service in the Synod is valuable as well. Must be available for quarterly meetings of two to four days each.

Restrictions: With the exception of the President and the Secretary of the Synod, no more than one voting member from any category (lay, ordained, commissioned) and no more than two voting members total may be elected from any one district (Bylaw 3.3.4.1). Those elected to regional positions must maintain residence within the respective region throughout their terms of service.

a. At-Large Ordained Candidates for the Board of Directors

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 2 ministers of religion—ordained (6-year term)



Phillip L. Brandt, Portland, OR; St. Michael (NOW); LCMS 56; Pastor. **S:** Site Coordinator CUNE PELT Program Salt Lake Valley 5, Del. Synod Conv. (2004), Prof. Theol. CUP 15, Synod/CPH DR 5, Short-Term Instructor LCMS World Mission in Kyrgyzstan (2006), Presenter LCMS World Mission Pastoral Conf. IELC (2008). **D:** Mem. Fl. Com. RM Dist. and NOW Dist. Conv. (1997, 2003, 2022), Ldr. NOW Dist. Conv. Bible Study (2006), Convener of

Sunday Sermon at *Sunday-Sermon.com*, Presenter NOW Dist. Miss. Conf., Presenter for Multiple RMD and NOW Dist. Pastoral Conf. **C:** Pastor 12. **O:** Facility Coord. for Portland Chamber Orchestra.

I am honored to have been nominated to serve my Synod and welcome this opportunity. The Church faces difficulties both in terms of temporal and spiritual realities. Strong forces are arrayed against the proclamation of the Gospel. I am confident and look forward to witnessing what our Lord Jesus will do in the coming years and decades. I place myself at the disposal of the Synod, holding extensive experience in parish ministry, theological education, and service within district and the Synod. I pray that I may continue to serve His kingdom's goals.



John M. Bussman, Cullman, AL; St. Paul (SO); LCMS 36; Senior Pastor. **D:** CV SO Dist. Circ. 8 Triennium 1. **O:** Mem. BOD Cullman Chamber of Commerce 5, Tchr. Religion Classes Wallace State Community College.

I'm honored to have been nominated for the Board. With the many challenges the Church faces today, it's important that we stand firm on our biblical and confessional standards and not waver on them under any circumstances. With these challenges also comes the opportunity to be a light shining in a dark place that, even through trial, the Gospel might be proclaimed in truth. We need men serving who will take the pains to make difficult decisions for the sake of the Gospel. If elected to the Synod's Board of Directors, I will serve faithfully with the help of God.



Roger B. Gallup, River Grove, IL; Bethlehem (NI); LCMS 65; Pastor. **S:** Mem. and Vice-Chm. BOR CUC 10, Mem. TF Res. 8-07 1, Mem. Com. on Ministerial Growth and Support 9 and Chm. 3, Chm. PALS 7, Mem. Devel. Com. **D:** Mem. Dist. Const. Comm. 9, Chm. Dist. Conv. Fl. Com. 1, Mem. Special TF on Commissioned Min. Franchise 1, Chm. East Region Pastors' Conf. 8, 2nd VP of NI Dist. (East Region) 3, Presenter at NI Dist. Theol. Convocation 1, NI Dist. Fin. Com. 4, Chm. NI Dist. Bd. of Christian Ed. 4. **C:** Pastor 37, Prin. 6, Exec. Dir. Project Hope 12, Tchr. 3. **O:** Adv. River Grove Library Planning 1, Chapl. American Legion Branch 7.

We face a world in which our young are being taught a religion that worships the creation rather than the Creator and that they are evil members of groups and polluters of the planet instead of individuals created and then saved by a loving God. The result has been a turning away from God toward a culture of death and despair. The LCMS must continue to faithfully proclaim the Word of Life in light of the attack instead of giving in to the temptation to accommodate the culture. We should focus on supporting congregations as they fight this battle.



Josemon T. Hoem+, Fort Wayne, IN; St. Paul (IN); LCMS 44; Pastor. **S:** Alternate Del. Synod Conv. (2013), Del. Synod Conv. (2016), Mem. LCMS BOD 5, Presenter Synod Conv. (2019). **D:** Mem. Dist. BOD 3, Mem. Bd. for Church Relations. **C:** Cong. Pres., VP Mem. School Bd., Disaster Relief, LERT Trained and Certified. **O:** Fin. Mgr., Coach (Soccer, Football, Track), Chapl. Police, Volunteer at Camp Wartburg, Shepherds Hand Community Outreach.

During my time on the Synod BOD, I have helped fill several key board vacancies and brought on excellent new staff to the International Center. Synod has become more fiscally responsible and financially secure. We have dealt kindly but firmly with the challenges that our Synod faces (universities, etc.). I also continue to encourage our boards to be proactive in sharing the Gospel by

planting new churches and expanding our international mission efforts. My interpersonal skills combined with my business background and pastoral heart make me an ideal candidate for this position and I would be humbled to continue serving.



Derek Klemm, Las Vegas, NV; Mountain View (PSW); LCMS 37; Senior Pastor. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2019, 2023), CV 9. **D:** Mem. Conv. Com. Worship Planning Chm. and Celebrant (2022), Mem. Nom. and Elections Com. (2018), Mem. TF Church Worker Recruitment and Retention 6, Mem. Seminarian Interview Com. 5, Couns. LWML Zone 3, Mem. Pastor Conf. Planning Com. 2, Circuit Rep. "Fan into Flame" 1, On Ballot for Dist. VP/ Secy. Positions (2022). **C:** Pastor 16. **O:** Rep. Boy Scout Charter Org. 3.

We are blessed beyond measure with the many organizations and resources that our forebearers have established to further the spread of the Gospel. As a Synod Board of Directors member, I would work hard to maintain our laser-intensity on promoting both the short-term opportunities before us to share God's love with the world and the long-term health and solvency of our existing institutions, specifically through championing strategic planning, as well as support for the people in our institutions to carry out their roles in fearless, creative, and permission-giving ways for the good of the mission of God.

Also nominated for Secretary



Brent D. Smith, Omaha, NE; Divine Shepherd (NEB); LCMS 51; Senior Pastor. **S:** Field Miss. Kazakhstan 3, Field Miss. Russia 5, Regional Dir. Eurasia 7, Miss. Advancement 4, RSO LBT 1. **D:** Exec. Dir. Miss. Devel. SE Dist. 3, Pres. Univ. Luth. Chapel 2. **C:** Pastor 42. **O:** Online Adjunct Prof. in Min. Ethics for Grand Canyon Univ., Interim Theo. Tchr. Concordia Luth. (2021).

Rev. Dr. Brent Smith is senior pastor of Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church and School in Omaha, Nebraska. Pastor Smith served with the LCMS since 1995, when he was sent as a business manager in Central Asia, an evangelistic missionary in Russia, and as regional director for Eurasia based in Germany (1995–2013). He served in the LCMS Southeastern District as executive director for mission development (2013–2016) and was called by the LCMS Board of Directors to serve in Mission Advancement (2016–2021). For fun, Brent enjoys playing hockey and flying an experimental airplane, N456RV.

b. East-Southeast Region Lay Candidates for the Board of Directors

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (East-Southeast Region) (6-year term)



Jon David Allen, Penfield, NY; Faith, Rochester, (EA); LCMS 65; Ret., U.S. Coast Guard and Xerox Corp. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2023), Mem. EA Dist. BOD and Provided Information related to the Synod's Priorities, Issues, and Direction 5. **D:** Lay Dir. Section Three, EA Dist. 3, Dir. Camp Pioneer 4 and Mem. Special TF Camp Pioneer 4, Advocated and developed presentation and reference guide for EA Dist. Pastoral Conf. on sabbaticals and presented

to Pastoral Conf. and used by EA Dist. staff to inform dist. church lay ldrshp. 1, Restructured, updated, and led approval effort for EA Dist. Policy Manual to improve clarity, readability, and alignment with Policy-Based Governance Model 3, Nominated by Faith to serve again as Lay Director for the EA Dist. (2022). **C:** Usher, Soloist, Youth Group Pres., Choir, Conf. Instr., Bible Study Leader 2, Music and Worship Com. 7, Admin. Board of Elders Chair 2, Church Council 2, Advisor to Pastor 6. **O:** Ret. Commander, U.S. Coast Guard, Project Man. for the \$1.5 Billion CG National Distress System Modernization Proj. (Rescue 21), Coast Guard Liaison Officer (CGLO), Joint TF 160 (Guantanamo Bay, Cuba), Proj. Man. and Technical Evaluation Team Man. for \$70 Million Hardware and Software Operations and Maintenance Proj., Technical Proj. Man. for the CG Flight Pay Audit, Intelligence Officer and Staff Duty Officer, Coast Guard Caribbean Squadron, Command Center Duty Officer for the Commandant of Coast Guard and the Secy. of Transportation, Senior Coast Guard White House Military Social Aide, Technical Proj. Man. for \$200 Million Workstation Contract, Contracting Officer's Technical Rep. in Contract Negotiations with Unisys Corp., Commanding Officer, Coast Guard LORAN Station Iwo Jima (Japan), Navigator and Deck Watch Officer, USCGC COURAGEOUS.

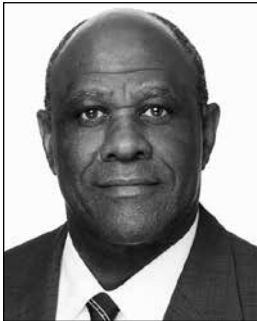
As a lifelong member of LCMS congregations, I have been blessed to serve in leadership at the congregation and district levels in addition to serving in leadership and volunteering in other non-profit organizations. These experiences, coupled with my careers as a senior Coast Guard officer with command experience and senior project manager at Xerox, provide a framework where I learned to help organizations discern and integrate multiple points of view in solving critical challenges and exploring new opportunities. I fully leverage my professional certifications as a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt and project management professional in helping organizations succeed. My ministry has always been to use my gifts to the glory of God, and I believe that God is now leading me to share these gifts as a member of the Board of Directors.



Michael Floyd Killian, Southington, CT; Immanuel, Bristol (NE); LCMS 69; Ret. Pres. and CEO, Mill Neck. Org. **S:** Mem. 150th Anniversary Com. **D:** Mem. Bd. NE Dist. Miss., Mem. Bd. NE Dist. Church Planting. **O:** Dir. Ephphatha Luth. Miss. Society, Chm. Mill Neck Investment Com (Responsible for multi-million dollar investment portfolio), Senior VP and COO Record-Journal Publishing Company, VP/Dir. of Advertising, Marketing, and Business Devel.,

Chm. Luth. Friends of the Deaf.

I am blessed to be nominated, honored to serve. My goal is to take as many people with me to heaven as I can.



Leo S. MacKay Jr., Alexandria, VA; Immanuel (EN); LCMS 20; Senior VP, Ethics and Enterprise Assurance. **S:** Chm. Luth. Housing Support Corporation, Vice Chm. BOD CTSFW 3. **C:** Pres. Immanuel 10, Chm. Elders 2. **O:** Bd. Dir. Cognizant (NYSE: CTS) 12+, Bd. Dir. Ameren Inc. (NASDAQ: AEE) 3, Bd. Dir. USAA Federal Savings Bank 6.

I am a candidate for the LCMS BOD. I bring to this position a good deal of experience both in church affairs (multiple years on the Housing Support Board; 13 years on regents of CTSFW, now as vice-chairman; 10 of the last 14 years as congregational president at Immanuel ELC, Alexandria, VA) and commercial company boards (Cognizant [NASDAQ: CTS], 10+ years; USAA Federal Savings Bank, six years; Ameren, Inc [NYSE: AEE], three+ years). I want to serve the Synod in its myriad business and oversight needs as it serves the congregations of the Synod in the provision of Word and Sacrament to the Church and outreach to the lost.

c. Great Lakes Region Lay Candidates for the Board of Directors

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (Great Lakes Region) (6-year term)



John William Kidwell (Jack), Bay City, MI; Faith (MI); LCMS 65; Senior VP, Dir. of Philanthropic Solutions Grp., Tri-Star Trust Bank. **S:** Mem. LCMS Fnd. Gift Planning Couns. in MI 5, Mem. Bd. of Governors LLL/LHM 5, Pres. LLL Int'l. 4, Trustee LHM Fnd. 12 and Bd. Chm. 4, LLL Rep. BFMS 4. **D:** Gift Planning Couns. MI Dist. LCMS Fnd. 5, Vice-Chm. Dist. Campaign "Here We Stand" Campaign 4, Chm. Campaign Steering Comm. "The Future Is Now Campaign" 3. **C:** Elder/Chm. of Elders 5; Mem. Endowment Fund Com. 5, Tchr. SS 4, Ldr. Bible Study 3, Cong. VP 2. **O:** Trust Officer in Banking 32, Director of Philanthropic Solutions Group in Tri-Star Trust Bank 9, Advising nonprofits and endowments on investments, governance, and planned giving, Mem. Bd. State Theatre 14, Chm. Fund Deve. Com. 7, Founding Mem./Bd. Mem./Pres. Bd. Mid-Michigan Planned Giving Coun. 8.

As a lifelong Lutheran, I believe that the Lord places us where we are needed to serve His kingdom. After prayerful consideration, I humbly accept the nomination to be a candidate to serve on the LCMS Board of Directors. Matthew 28 is a guiding light for me within this world and for congregational life. I look forward to continuing to faithfully serve our Lord in this capacity.



Rick H. Stathakis, Shelby Township, MI; St. Peter (MI); LCMS 60; Supervisor of Shelby Township, Charter Township of Shelby. **S:** Mem. BOD (2019), Attended a Luth. School, Encourages Wife as Lutheran Tchr. and Prin., Entrusted children to Luth. schools, Supported daughter in church educ. at CUC and Master's Degree at CUW and Dir. of Children's Min. at Hales Corners. **D:** Mem. BOD MI Dist., Mem. MI Dist. Finance Com. **C:**

Guardian 5, Elder (4 terms), Mem. Fin. Com. 5, Mem. Bd. of Ed. (4 terms), Chm. Bd. of Ed. (1 term). **O:** Supervisor of Shelby Township (4th Elected 4-Year Term, Serving 80,000 Residents), Chm. Bd. of Township Trustees (Responsible for \$75 million budget), Responsible for nine dept. heads (Including fire and police chiefs), 300+ Employees, Voted USA PepsiCo Franchise Mgr. of the Year (Managed national sales in AR, MS, TN).

My hope is to again serve on the Synod BOD to help continue our focus on sound fiscal policies. Of our three-member audit committee, my two partners are termed out at the close of this election cycle; in appreciation of them, I would be eager for the opportunity to carry the work forward. I would also like to be part of the continuance of work toward strengthening our mission projects (especially those engaging and equipping our young), our Concordia Universities, and Lutheran education, all crucial parts of LCMS ministry. In addition, I see much opportunity to improve district communication.

d. Great Plains Region Lay Candidates for the Board of Directors

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (Great Plains Region) (6-year term)



Larry W. Harrington+, Casper, WY; Mount Hope (WY); LCMS 47; Ret. Atty., Harrington Law Firm PC. **S:** Mem. LCMS BOD 7. **D:** Atty. WY Dist. 40, Mem. Dist. TF for Org. Luth. High School 8. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Ed. 11 and Chm. 7, Cong. VP 2, Bd. of Elders 1992, Supt. SS 10. **O:** Volunteer Nat'l. Red Cross, Mem. Casper Lions Club, Coach Casper Youth Soccer League, Mem. BOR Luther Classical College.

After being blessed with the benefits of being a part of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and being able to raise children in our church with my wife, I would be honored, with the help of God, to continue service on the Board of Directors. Secular challenges to our faith, congregations, and Synod institutions are greater than ever. As a member of the Board of Directors, I will do my best to carry out its responsibilities to support the Synod's congregations and institutions through supervision of our property, legal, and business affairs.



Glenn E. Van Velson, North Platte, NE; Beautiful Savior (NEB); Senior Atty., Van Velson Law Office, PC., L.L.O. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (1989, 2007, 2010, 2019), Mem. Fl. Com. 8 (2010). **D:** Mem. NEB Dist. BOD 12, Pres. NEB Dist. BOD 9, Mem. Concordia Foundation NEB BOD 5, Secy. Concordia Fnd. NEB BOD, Mem. Nom. Com. 5, Chm. Nom. Com. 3. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Elders, Mem. Bd. of Outreach Min., Pres. Voter's Assembly, Tchr. SS, Leader

Bible Study, Sponsor to Youth Group for NYG (1986), Leader Worship Music, Dir. Adult Choir, Dir. Handbell Choir. **O:** VP Young Lawyers Section of the Nebraska State Bar Assoc. 1, Pres. BOD North Platte Opportunity Center for Disabled Adults 22, Mem. and Treas. Great Plains Health Care Fnd. BOD 8, Mem. and Pres. Mid-Nebraska Community Fnd. BOD 20, Mem. BOD Nebraska Fnd. for Public Television and Radio 12, Mem. BOD North Platte Salvation Army BOD.

The Lord has assigned me to serve on various boards as part of His plan for me. I am interested in serving at the Synod level to help congregations and ministries to be a blessing to His people if He calls me to serve there. The LCMS is faced with difficult challenges in today's world and her called workers and congregations need support and guidance as we live and work as servants in His kingdom. I prayerfully ask for God's will to be revealed in our policies and positions as the LCMS.

Also nominated for Commission on Theology and Church Relations

e. At-Large Lay Candidates for the Board of Directors

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (6-year term)



Jason Burk, Parker, TX; Faith, Plano (TX); LCMS 45; VP Actuary and Analytics, VillageMD. **C:** Chm. Stewp. 2, Chm. Youth Ed. 2, Mem. Bd. Christian Ed. 1, Treas. 2.

I'm a lifelong Lutheran and product of LCMS schools from first to undergrad. My career as an actuary has led me to live in several parts of the country, and part of every job consideration was finding a confessional LCMS church to attend. I would be honored to use my skills and experience that I have gained from being an executive leader at several different companies and from my MBA from the University of Michigan. It is important to me to hand down a strong, stable, and confessional LCMS to my children and, with God's blessing, future grandchildren.

Also nominated for Concordia University, Nebraska (Seward, Neb.) Board of Regents



Ryan P. Ermeling, Gilbert, AZ; Christ Greenfield (PSW); LCMS 47; Business Owner, ParentPulse. **D:** Vice-Chm. BOR CUI 5. **C:** Pres. 2, Head Elder 1. **O:** Founder and Pres. Seven Marches (strategic consulting for faith-based orgs.) and ParentPulse (parent feedback software platform designed for Christian schools).

The future livelihood and trajectory of our church body rests heavily on our collective capacity and willingness to innovate in creative ways. If I'm privileged to serve on the Synod Board of Directors, I look forward to utilizing lessons learned from my entrepreneurial experiences and from my service on the Concordia University, Irvine, Board of Regents. How are we working to understand and adapt to the changing needs of our congregations and schools as they seek to bring the unchanging Good News of Jesus to their unique communities? We must address this question from a localized context.



Paul Techau, Catonsville, MD; Our Savior, Baltimore (SE); LCMS 59; System Architect, Northrop Grunman Corporation, Miss. Systems Sector. **D:** Del. SE Dist. Conv. (2003, 2006, 2009), Mem. Elections Com. SE Dist. Conv. (2003). **C:** Cong. Pres. 8, Church Property Dir. 2, Elder 12, Chm. Bd. of Elders 5, Trustee 5, Chm. Const. Com. 1, Chm. Organ Com. 3. **O:** Mem. BOD Philadelphia Luth. Min. 7, Columbia Pro Cantare 3, Johns Hopkins Choral Society 1,

Northern Virginia Chorale 3.

Increasingly, churches have poor attendance even on major festivals and society as a whole has no recognition of a need for reconciliation with God. This makes support of pastors difficult and thus complicates ministering to the faithful with the Means of Grace. Reaching out to the community at large with the Gospel also poses a challenge. This includes rural and urban settings. A primary objective of the BOD should be to manage the temporal affairs of Synod to enable the COP and the respective commissions to promote, by God's grace, integrity in doctrine and practice while addressing these difficulties.



K. Allan Voss, Sheboygan, WI; Trinity (SW); LCMS 65; Lawyer (Partner), Rohde Dales LLP **S:** Mem. BIM 9, Secy. BIM 7, Mem. BDCS 9, Vice-Chm. BDCS 3, Secy. BDCS 3, Mem. Foundation Bd. of Trustees 5. **C:** Pres. (multiple terms), Chm. Bd. of Elders (multiple terms), Chm. Bd. of Christian Day School. **O:** Dir. and Chm. Bethesda Luth. Foundation 5, Dir. and Secy. Bethesda Luth. Homes and Services, Inc., 12, Dir. and Secy. The Deland Fnd. 11,

Mem. Bd. Luth. High School Assoc. of the Greater Sheboygan Area 6 and Secy. 3, Mem. Bd. and Pres. Sheboygan County YMCA.

The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel through faithful preaching and the administration of the Sacraments. It is critical that the LCMS remain faithful to the Holy Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions as we address the financial issues and societal pressures facing us. I have been blessed to serve our church in many capacities and have seen how the Holy Spirit uses the unique talents and abilities of His people to build His kingdom. I would be honored and humbled to use my experience and skills in service to our Synod on the Board of Directors.

VI. Report on Candidates for the Board for National Mission

Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (East-Southeast Region), 1 ordained or commissioned minister (Great Plains Region), 1 layperson (Central Region), 1 layperson (Great Lakes Region), 1 layperson (West-Southwest Region) (6-year term)

Duties: Two-day meetings three times a year in St. Louis. The board is charged with developing and determining policies for the coordination of and in support of district ministries that support congregations and schools, assisting in identification of specific goals for the Office of National Mission (ONM), and exercising oversight of the ONM's implementation of the board's policies. In its work, the board embraces and applies the mission and ministry emphases adopted by the Synod national convention. It serves as the calling agency for institutional and agency chaplains and other non-foreign specialized ministers after consultation with the appropriate district president. (2019 Handbook, pp. 23, 102, 120, 136–38)

Qualifications: Nominees for election to the Board for National Mission should possess familiarity with and express strong leadership and support for LCMS mission and ministry activities, particularly in contexts within the United States. Experience and expertise in one or more of the following areas is especially desirable: ministry and theology; extended church work on or interaction with one or more domestic mission fields or focused ministry areas; prior service on national or district boards of the Synod; policy writing; administration of complex organizations; business, law, finance, or human resources; donor relations; witness and outreach; human care; education; or stewardship. Board members are expected to work collaboratively under individual and committee assignments, actively speak and listen to one another in board and staff interactions, faithfully review and evaluate board-related working materials offered by other board members and Synod staff, provide constructive comments, honor confidentiality, and maintain a spirit of mutual encouragement.

Restrictions: Board members occupy regional positions and must maintain residence within the respective region throughout their terms of service.

a. East-Southeast Region Ordained/ Commissioned Candidates for the Board for National Mission

ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (East-Southeast Region) (6-year term)



Adolfo Borges, Orlando, FL; Prince of Peace (FG); LCMS 25; Assoc. Pastor. **S:** Assoc. Prof. CSL New Testament Exegetical Studies 10, Adjunct Prof. New Testament Exegetical Studies Center for Hispanic Studies. **D:** Mem. Several Dist. Conf. Com., Pres. VI Nat'l. Hispanic Conv. 3. **C:** Pastor in Guatemala 11, Assoc. Pastor 18. **O:** Mem. BOD Luth. Counseling Serv. 2.

I have been serving in the LCMS for more than 30 years, beginning in Costa Rica and Guatemala, as pastor and as a professor of exegetical studies. Currently I'm writing my PhD dissertation for Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

One of my colleagues asked me if I wanted to be nominated for this position, and I was not really interested in it, but he argued that more voices from the Latino community needed to be present in those positions to reflect the reality of our nation, and after some consideration, I thought it was a good point. I've never served in any Synod position, but I think I can bring a different perspective to the Board.



Timothy J. Droegemueller+, Cumming, GA; Living Faith (FG); LCMS 49; Pastor. **S:** Mem. BNM.

By the undeserved grace of Jesus Christ alone, I am a baptized and redeemed child of God. We are seeing some more challenging days in our Lord's mission, and many are crippled with fear or doubling down on distractions. We must remember that we are still riding the eternal wave of God's mercy for sinners through the objective means of His Word and Sacraments. It is time to throw down a rightly divided Word, baptize all nations, disciple the faithful, champion life, celebrate marriage, plant churches, persist in repentance, and rejoice in Christ's forgiveness till He returns in glory.

b. Great Plains Region Ordained/ Commissioned Candidates for the Board for National Mission

ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (Great Plains Region) (6-year term)



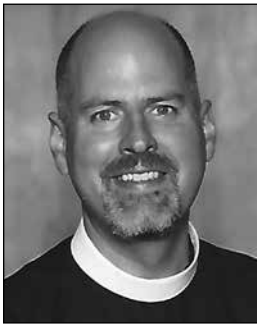
Richard Boring, Lincoln, NE; The Rock, Seward (NEB); LCMS 40; Ret. Pastor. **S:** North American Mission Endeavors (NAME) 19, Bd. Luth. Campus Miss. Assoc. (LCMA) 6, Mem. Cabinet for Ctr. for U.S. Miss. 4. **D:** Miss. Support Com. 4, Mem. Dist. Conv. Fl. Comms., CV 4, Miss. Exec. NEB Dist. Office 19. **C:** Pastor 9, Partnered to develop Hispanic Ministry 7. **O:** Served School Crisis Team 8.

The Lord has blessed us as a church body to be the light of Christ in a time that our country moves further away from God. As a Synod, we need to encourage the local churches and mission agencies in their personal relationship with Jesus through Word and Sacraments. We also need to equip them with the tools to plant and water the seed of faith in the hearts of people, knowing that it is only God that makes it grow.



Mark Evan Moss, Burnsville, MN; Mt. Calvary, Richfield (MNS); LCMS; Miss. Engagement Assoc. **S:** Miss./Theol. E. for OIM, LCMS U.S. Army Chapl. 20. **D:** Intentional Interim Pastor/MNS Dist. 1, Part-Time Pastor/Miss. at Large for MNN Dist. Ontario, Canada. **C:** Parish/Vacancy Pastor. **O:** Mem. BOD Luth. Heritage Fnd., Supervised Limba Translation Project for LBT, Sierra Leone, West Africa.

We have an opportunity to reach all nations for Christ right here in our ethnically diverse country. We must be proactive and not miss these opportunities God has laid before us to reach others with the Gospel. Our pastors, chaplains, and missionaries, equipped with the Word of God and the best training and leadership we can provide, are our greatest resources. We can listen and learn from them as they gain insight into the challenges of Gospel outreach. God will work through Word and Sacrament, and use the LCMS and our confession of the Gospel, to win others for Christ.



Craig K. Niemeier, St. Libory, NE; Zion (NEB); LCMS 51; Pastor. **S:** Deleg. Synod Conv. (2010). **D:** First VP NEB Dist. BOD 4, Mem. NEB Dist. Fin. Com. 4, Third VP NEB Dist. BOD 3, Mem. NEB Dist. Investments Com. 3, Secy. WY Dist. BOD 3, LWML Junior Couns. WY Dist. 2, LWML Sen. Couns. WY Dist. 2. **C:** Heartland Luth. High School BOD 2, Active involvement Zion Luth. School 11 and Trinity Luth. School 5, Catechist (2010, 2014, 2016),

Mission Trip to implement DR Prog. for Pastors of Lutheran Church of Nigeria (2011). **O:** Treas. Morrill County Min. Assoc. 5, Reconcile and DOXOLOGY Training.

For nearly 25 years, I have served the Lord's Church in a variety of congregational, educational, district, and mission settings. I have done none of it alone. At every point, I have benefited from the gifts and experiences of those around me. What I have received, I hope to share. I see service on the Board for National Mission as an opportunity to collaborate in common work with those who share a common confession. Though 21st century challenges abound, Jesus' grace given in Word and Sacrament remains sufficient! Blessed are those who engage in His work together.

c. Central Region Lay Candidates for the Board for National Mission

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (Central Region) (6-year term)



Seth Hinz, Wildwood, MO; Pathfinder, Ellisville (MO); LCMS 39; Marketing Dir., Pathfinder Church and St. John School, Messaging Consult. as Freelancer to LCMS RSOs, Nonprofits, etc. **S:** Mgr. Social Media NYG (2013, 2016, 2019, 2022), Planner NYG Media Team 11, Presenter StoryBrand, Digital Communication, and Marketing, Various Synod Events and Conf. 13. **D:** Del. MO Dist. Conv. (2022), Dir. Web/Media MI Dist. 8, Presenter on

Communication for MI Dist. All Pastors Conf. **C:** Direc. Marketing and Communications for LCMS Congregation and School 5 **O:** Communication Specialist and Media Relations Mgr. CUA 3, Founder and Admin. of Lutheran Communicators, a network of over 3,000 LCMS workers and volunteers dedicated to marketing and communication, Marketing Cons. and Certified StoryBrand Guide serving LCMS RSOs and Depts. 4, Adv. Bod. Mem. Design Thinking at Missouri State Univ.

Jesus calls us to go and make disciples. In the same way that, while we were still sinners, Jesus came to us, we should also meet people where they are. Today, that includes online. I see the potential for the Synod to expand its reach and impact by embracing digital spaces as a means of communication, outreach, and community building. I am committed to serving in a way that aligns with the Synod's mission and values, and to working collaboratively with my fellow board members to address the challenges and exciting opportunities that lie ahead.



Shirley Ann Jackson, St. Louis, MO; Transfiguration (MO); LCMS 63+; Ret. **D:** Shine Outreach, Leaders Summit, Gospel Seeds, Mem. LWML. **C:** Coun. Secy. 2, Chm. Evang. 4, Chr. Bd. Properties 6.

I am married to Donnell approaching 52 years. Our lovely daughter, Dee, complements this blessed family. Together we share a combined membership of 153 years at Transfiguration. The Board for National Mission Central Region layperson seat enables me to share skills and abilities to usher Christ to everyone. The enthusiasm and commitment I bring to the team reflects a real and relevant Christ mindset. My participation in leading robust and creative approaches will exceed ministry expectations. Just as God chose Esther "for such a time as this" (4:14), I'm confident He's sending me to serve.



Stephen Weller, McPherson, KS; (KS). **O:** Community Engagement Initiatives, HOA Trustee, Mem. Luth. Fnd. BOD.

The Board for National Mission is at the front lines of today's culture wars, especially in dealing with education, stewardship, evangelism, and church planting and revitalization. Congregations can use all the help they can get from the Synod in developing and supporting these efforts. This work

faces increasing attacks from Satan and the world, but we know that the gates of hell shall not prevail against Christ's Church. As a baptized, forgiven sinner, I will gladly use my financial, management, and problem-solving experience in service to the Synod if elected to this board.

Also nominated for Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors

d. Great Lakes Region Lay Candidates for the Board for National Mission

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (Great Lakes Region) (6-year term)



David Richard Meissner, Brookfield, WI; Our Savior, Whitefish Bay (SW); LCMS 52; Ret. **D:** Liason SW Dist. Inner City Food Pantry during COVID-19. **C:** Bd. Mem./Deacon Social Ministry 12, Usher. **O:** Ret. General Electric 32, Fin. Mgr./Senior Fin. Analyst in General Electric businesses 7, Advocate and Sidewalk Couns. Pro-Life Movement, Ldr. 2022 LifeWalk Event, Coord. Inner City Church Food Bank.

As a Deacon of Social Ministry, Lutheran school alumnus, and pro-life advocate, I have a heart that strives to further what my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has called me to do. I am excited by the opportunity to leverage my past and current education and hands-on ministries by applying them on a broader scale if chosen as a lay member, Great Lakes Region, for the Board for National Mission. I strive to make God's Word in the Bible my number one sounding board for all my decisions.



Crysten Sanchez+, Lisbon, IA; St. Paul, Mt. Vernon (IE); LCMS 36; Events Executive, Higher Things, Inc. **S:** Mem. BNM 7, Subject Matter Expert "Set Apart to Serve" 2. **D:** Coordinator Flood Relief 1. **C:** Coordinator Youth 8, Various Co. **O:** Higher Things, Inc. 13.

I have served on the BNM for seven years, and as secretary for four. It is a joy to take part in sharing the saving work of Jesus Christ with sinners both

inside and outside of the church. Continuing my work within the Synod and employed by Higher Things, I am not only excited but equipped to serve the Church and her mission in this capacity.

e. West-Southwest Region Lay Candidates for the Board for National Mission

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (West-Southwest Region) (6-year term)



Carol A. Hack-Broome+, San Jose, CA; Luth. Church of Our Savior, Cupertino (CNH); LCMS 64; Fin. Adv. Thrivent Fin. **S:** Mem. BNM 7, Mem. Bd. of Trustees LCMS Fnd. 5, Mem. Synod Conv. Fl. Com. (2013). **D:** Mem. CNH Dist. Nom. Com. 7. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Ed. 17, Mem. Bd. of Stewp. 4, Mem. Church Coun. 10. **O:** Hardware Engineer/Prog. Mgr. IBM 20, Mem. Bd. Community Outreach Min. 12.

Being greatly blessed with pure, Gospel-centered doctrine, the best seminaries in the world, a superb publishing house, worldwide mission opportunities, a tremendously well-educated clergy focused on Word and Sacrament ministry, and biblical, distinctively Lutheran theologies of evangelism, education, human care, worship, and vocation, may we faithfully embrace, value, steward, and share these blessings given to us for the nourishment, refreshment, and growth of Christ's Holy Church. Our challenges are many, but we need not fear, for God is with us. If entrusted with reelection to the BNM, I pledge to serve faithfully and diligently, by the grace of God.



Noreen L. Linke, Fort Collins, CO; Peace with Christ (RM); LCMS 40; Homemaker. **S:** BOR CTX 9, Co-Chm. CTX Governance Comm., Mem. CTX Nominations Com. **C:** Church Musician 39, Substitute Organist 13, Chm. Ladies Retreat 14, Theological Proofreader 14, Mem. Evang. Com. 10, Asst. to Miss. 8, Mem. LWML 8, Liturgical Arts Com., Campaign Com., Mission Team (3 trips), Bldg. Com., Chm. Nom. Com., Secy. Parish Planning, Youth Dir., Dir. and Tchr. VBS, Founder 2 Adult Fellowship Groups, Tchr. SS, Ldr. Bible Study, DCE, Member National Ldrshp. Team Univ. Luth. Chapel. **O:** Admin. Asst. Radiology Group 7, Owner Rental Property 7, Nursing Home/Hospital Visitation, Treas. Community Bible Study, Ldr. Prayer Group, Meals on Wheels 3, Vol. Orphan Grain Train 1, Vol. Braille Bible 1, Vol. Thanksgiving for Homeless 2, Political Activist and Lobbyist, State and Nat'l. Radio Guest, Poll Worker, Mem. BOD IN Chapter CWA, Fund-raiser.

Lutheran doctrine contains the fullest and purest expression of the Gospel, which is a precious treasure that we have to share with the world around us. Our vocations plant us in specific places, and we share this treasure with the people we find among us. This is my personal focus wherever I find myself, whether it is serving the Church in the varying places I am appointed to serve or in my day-to-day life out in the world. I welcome the opportunity to bring my wide experience, talents, and networking skills in service to the Board for National Mission.

VII. Report on Candidates for the Board for International Mission

Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (Central Region), 1 ordained or commissioned minister (Great Lakes Region), 1 ordained or commissioned minister (West-Southwest Region), 1 layperson (East-Southeast Region), 1 layperson (Great Plains Region) (6-year term)

Duties: Two-day meetings three times a year in St. Louis. The board is charged with developing and determining policies in support of mission and ministry in foreign countries and assists in identifying specific goals for the Office of International Mission. In its work, the board embraces and applies the mission and ministry emphases adopted by the Synod national convention. It serves as the only sending agency through which workers and funds are sent to the foreign mission areas of the Synod, including the calling, appointing, assigning, withdrawing, and releasing of missionaries and other workers for ministries in foreign areas. (2019 Handbook, pp. 23, 102–3, 120, 138–39)

Qualifications: Nominees for election to the Board for International Mission should possess familiarity with and express strong leadership and support for LCMS mission and ministry activities, particularly in contexts outside the United States. Experience and expertise in one or more of the following areas is especially desirable: ministry and theology; extended church work on or interaction with one or more foreign mission fields; mercy work and human care; international relations; business, law, or finance; prior service on national or district boards of the Synod; policy writing; administration of complex organizations; education; stewardship and donor relations; or human resources. Board members are expected to work collaboratively under individual and committee assignments, actively speak and listen to one another in board and staff interactions, faithfully review and evaluate board-related working materials offered by other board members and Synod staff, provide constructive comments, honor confidentiality, and maintain a spirit of mutual encouragement.

Restrictions: Board members occupy regional positions and must maintain residence within the respective region throughout their terms of service.

a. Central Region Ordained/Commissioned Candidates for the Board for International Mission

ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (Central Region) (6-year term)



Peter James Brock, Decatur, IN; St. John (IN); LCMS 38; Senior Pastor. **S:** Occasional Instructor CTSFW 9, Visiting Instructor Evangelical Luth. Church in Tanzania 9, Kenya 1, Ghana 1. **D:** VP IN Dist. Northeast Region 5, Secy. IN Dist. 3. **C:** Pastor 13, Pastoral Adv. Wyneken Memorial Luth. 13.

“Even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matt.

20:28), so then are we implored “to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which [we] have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager

to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph. 4:1b–3). In this next triennium, I pray the LCMS, humbly submitting to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, will conserve and promote this unity of the true faith at home and abroad, seek to strengthen congregations and their members in faith toward God and love toward their neighbors, support and encourage pastors and other church workers, and walk together in opportunities for outreach and human care to the ends of the earth.



James D. Gier Jr., Fort Wayne, IN; Ascension (IN); LCMS 34; Senior Pastor. **S:** Preacher/Celebrant CTSFW 3, Del. Synod Conv. (2013). **D:** Presenter WY Dist. Father/Son Conf. 1, Couns. NKC and FW E. Zone 3, Chm. LWML MO Dist. Pastor’s Conf. 1, Mem. MO Dist. Com. Theo. Study 1, Mem. Com. 4 Structure and Admin. MO Dist. Conv. 1, CV NKC 3. **C:** Pastor, Elder. **O:** Contributor Faith & Family Newspaper 16, Mem. Chamber of Commerce, Ldr. City Council Prayers, Ldr. Community Bible Studies, VP Assoc. Student and Pres. CTSFW 5, Class Pres. CTSFW, Graduate Asst. Pastoral Ministry and Missions, Architect 12.

It has been an honor to be appointed to the Board for International Mission in service to our Lord’s Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. The BIM’s role with the Office of International Mission provides a critical service in determining and assuring that all BIM policies in support of our Synod’s international missionaries, families, and mission objectives reflect the wisdom of our Lord to build such ministries firmly upon His sure Word, that when challenged, so also endure and prosper “because it had been founded on the rock” (Matt. 7:25). I would again be honored to continue in this service.



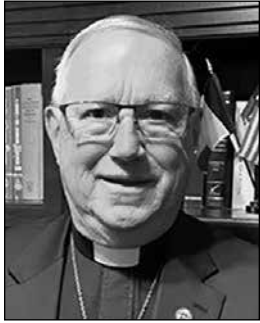
Wilfred Loren Karsten, Moline, IL; Holy Cross (CI); Pastor. **S:** Rep. Com. on Religion in Appalachia 2, Washington Adv. Group 1, Del. Synod Conv. (1992, 2010), Mem. Fl. Com. Conv. (2010), Short-Term Miss. Sri Lanka 26, Mem. Alumni Coun. CSL 6, Vicarage Supervisor 17. **D:** Mem. Social Ministry Com. 2, CV 2, Couns. LWML 7, Mem. Worship Com. 3, Chm. Conv. Res. Com. (2018). **O:** Mem. BOD Bethesda Luth. Homes 12, Mem. Bethesda Exec. Com. 2, Mem. Assn. Theol. Ed. Accreditation Team Visitor 3.

Having been a volunteer short-term international missionary for over twenty years, it would be an honor to now serve on the Board for International Mission and be involved in its policy-making responsibilities. I have been impressed with the Word and Sacrament emphasis in our mission endeavors, and the theological education opportunities extended to our partner churches. I see the recruitment of new missionaries and the retention of current missionaries as constant challenges and opportunities. As a Board member, I would consider it a joyous privilege to continue to implement the mission emphases and priorities established by the Synod.

**b. Great Lakes Region Ordained/
Commissioned Candidates
for the Board for International Mission**

ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

**Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (Great Lakes Region)
(6-year term)**



David P. Stechholz+, Livonia, MI; Zion, Detroit (EN); LCMS 74; Ret. Em. Pastor Serving as Archdeacon, Zion. **S:** Bishop/Pres. EN Dist. 9, Mem. COP 9, Mem. CUAU Advancement Com. 4. **D:** Author *The English District Saga* (2021), At-Large/VP/Secy. EN Dist. BOD 18, CV 4. **C:** Archdeacon 5, Parish Pastor 19. **O:** Mem./Pres. Rotary 45, Secy. BOD Glen Eden Luth. Memorial Park.

It would be an honor to continue serving on the Board for International Mission. In addition to having been a parish pastor in three English District congregations and nine years as the bishop/district president, I've led the English District in becoming a managing partner of the Dominican Republic Lutheran Mission, served on several short-term international mission trips, and served as chaplain for our OIM leadership's meetings in Mexico City. In retirement, I serve on the BIM and various sub-committees, do mission trips, pray for and support our missionaries, and serve in other church capacities, to the glory of God.



Scott Yakimow, Brighton, MI; St. Paul, Hamburg (MI); Prof. of Theol., CUW/CUAU. **S:** Miss. to East Africa Field (Vicar and Area Facilitator) 3, Miss. to Morocco (Studying Arabic) 1, **D:** Presenter on Islam in NOW Dist., Presenter Miss. to MI Dist. **C:** Presenter on Islam in multiple cong. in Virginia, Washington, Oregon, Michigan. **O:** Tchr. World Religions at CUP 5 and CUAU 3; Tchr. Islam and Christianity at CUP, Trainer Scriptural Reasoning at Univ. of Virginia

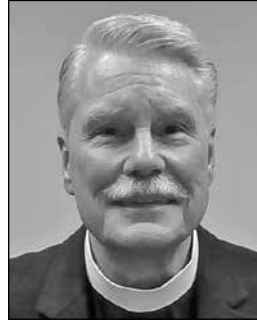
(Engaged Muslims and Jews Over Scripture) 5, Tchr. World Mission at CUAU, Org. Panel on Islam at CUP

God's Word must be preached to the nations so that they might believe in their hearts and confess with their lips that Jesus Christ is Lord. The way this regularly occurs is through the sending of faithful preachers and teachers to proclaim the Gospel, instruct the faithful, and foster the creation of strong national church bodies where such do not exist while empowering and working in partnership with those that are already present. Currently, we should strive to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ in other nations to accomplish the calling that God has placed upon them and us.

**c. West-Southwest Region Ordained/
Commissioned Candidates for the Board
for International Mission**

ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

**Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (West-Southwest
Region) (6-year term)**



James Douglas Bauer, Lakewood, CO; Trinity, Denver (RM); LCMS 72; Pastor. **S:** Del. and Adv. Del. Synod Conv. 6, Speaker "Forward in Remembrance," Mem. Com. Creation of LCMS Nat'l. Campus Min. Org., Mem. Bd. of Governors CHI 12. **D:** Mem. Bd. Youth Min. NEB Dist., Speaker RM Dist. Pastors' Conf. **C:** Pastor. **O:** Tchr. Theol. Seminary Pretoria, South Africa 3 Months, Lectured Twice to Pastors in Uganda, Visited partner

cong. in Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Uganda, and South Africa, Presented theo. papers before a variety of orgs. around the U.S., Vol. in community through cong. and school.

I am thankful to be a candidate for the Board for International Mission. It has been my privilege to be involved in various missions and partner churches around the globe. I taught theology for three months at the seminary in Pretoria, South Africa; lectured twice to pastors in Uganda; and visited partner congregations in Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Uganda, and South Africa. In addition, I have a strong relationship with pastors in Sudan and Liberia. I have a good idea of what help and advice should be offered to the work of international mission.



Terrence Chan, San Ramon, CA; Christ for All Nations, San Francisco (CNH); LCMS 46; Pastor. **S:** Founder LCMS Multi-Asian Gathering in conjunction with the Multiethnic Symposium CSL (2022), Mem. Bd. LCMS World Miss. 3, Field Couns. Chinese Min. BFMS 10, Mem. Mission 21st Century TF 2, Founder LCMS Chinese Ministry Conf. (CLIMB-Chinese Lutherans in Mission Building) (1991). **D:** CV CNH Dist. 14, CV EN Dist. 6, Miss. and

Church Planter EN Dist. 7, Founder Peninsula Asian Miss. Society CNH Dist. (2003). **C:** Senior Pastor supervising multiple pastors, DCE, and staff in a multiethnic cong., Sole Pastor multiethnic and multilingual Chinese/English cong., Miss., Church Planter. **O:** Licensed Fin. Adv. 3, Chr. Bd. Miss. Nation Publishing 1, Mem. Bd. Portola Neighborhood Assoc. 4, Adv. San Francisco/Marin Food Bank 2, Host Food Pantry 19.

The world has changed since I served on the LCMS World Mission Board and as BFMS Field Counselor for Chinese ministry. What hasn't changed is God's Word, unconditional love, amazing grace, and the *missio Dei*. These five Gs inform our purpose and priorities for missions: God's heart and desire (1 Tim. 2:3-6); Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20); Great Commandment (Mark 12:28-31); Great multitude from every nation (Rev. 7:9-10); and Greatest Commission (Gal. 4:4-5). My family arrived in America in 1869, but I was born in Hong Kong, so I bring a unique perspective as both a first-generation Asian immigrant and a fifth-generation American.



Glen Fluegge, Lake Forest, CA; Abiding Savior (CNH); LCMS 40; Prof. of Theol., CUI. **S:** Miss. Togo, Africa 11, Dir. Luth. Center for Theol. Studies, Lecturer Luth. Theol. Seminary South Africa 3, Founding Mem. Union of Confessional Luth. Churches in Africa for Theol. Ed. 8, Regularly Recruit Potential Miss. for OIM, Ed. Bd. Luth. Miss. Matters 3. **D:** Mem. BOD Crean Luth. 6, Founding Mem. Multicultural Min. Network for PSW Dist. 3, Regularly

Lead Circuit/Cong. Retreats on Topics Related to Miss. (Miss. Theol., Cultural Intelligence, Miss. Skills). **C:** Preach, lead services, and teach Bible studies regularly at home and area congs. **O:** Fluent in French from Miss. Service in French-Speaking Africa, Regularly teach courses on Miss. Theol. and Practice CUI (Undergraduate and Graduate), Dir. Cross-cultural Min. Center CUI 11, Supervise Vicars CMC 11, Author Miss. Topics published in peer-reviewed journals (LMM, CJ, Wabash).

He is risen! And our risen Lord continues His mission to proclaim forgiveness in His name to all nations (Luke 24:47). How deeply privileged we are in the LCMS to be a part of this mission! In today's increasingly global world, this especially involves walking together in faithfulness and humility with partner Lutheran churches throughout the world in order to expand and broaden our reach, keeping in mind that we have much to learn, just as we have much to offer. Since our Lord is the One at work, we rest assured of the final outcome (Rev. 7:9)!

d. East-Southeast Region Lay Candidates for the Board for International Mission

LAYPERSONS

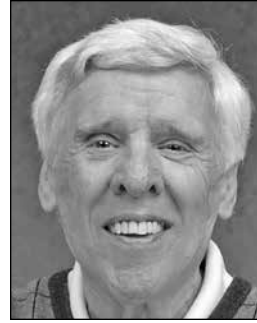
Elect 1 layperson (East-Southeast Region) (6-year term)



Michael P. Wind (Mike), Miramar Beach, FL; Grace, Destin (SO). Exec. Dir., Grace. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2019). **D:** Del. **C:** Staff responsibility for local and global missions, traveling overseas since 2006 primarily in Eastern and Central Europe (Estonia, Latvia, Ukraine, Austria, Slovenia, Slovakia, Russia; developed strong relationships within the Luth. Church in each of those countries; hosted Conf. and led Seminars and Workshops for

laity and pastors from those countries. **O:** Mem. various Boards within Grace as well as on Nonprofit Boards for several org. that work in Int'l. Missions, Experience in Devel. Roles in Nonprofit Org.

I have been involved in international missions for the past 17 years and have come to understand and appreciate the value of a strong infrastructure to support mission and ministries overseas, as well as a resource to assist and empower partner churches and international schools. I believe that there is both a challenge and opportunity in bringing the work and mission of this board to domestic congregations and to create a greater awareness of how the OIM operates and the richness that our overseas missions can bring to their ministry, as well as the LCMS as a whole. I would very much welcome an opportunity to contribute to this process of supporting a common confession and mission and to assist congregations in carrying out their mission.



James Stuart Wolf (Jim)+, Presto, PA; Peace, McMurray (EN); LCMS 60+; Vice-Chm., The Americas, Standard Charter Bank, EVP Corporate and Int'l. Banking, Mellon Fin. Corp. **S:** Mem. BIM (2016), Bd. Vice-Chm., Bd. Exec. Comm.; Mem. Joint BIM/BOD Int'l. Schools Com., Conv. Del. and Mem. of Int'l. Witness Fl. Com. **D:** Synod Conv. Del. Dist.-at-Large (2019), Leader and Mem. of Many Dist. Mission and Humanitarian Teams, Del. Dist.

Conv. (2019). **C:** Various Leadership Roles at Current and Past Cong., Leader and Mem. of Many Youth and Adult Cong., Sponsored Mission and Humanitarian Teams (U.S. and Int'l.). **O:** Exec. Int'l. Banking, Ldrshp./Bd. Chm. Roles at many Pittsburgh and national 501(c)(3) organizations, Founding Investor/Advisor/CFO of a Canadian MEMS Start Up, Bd. Mem. Concordia Lutheran Ministries and Founding Member of Exec. Com. and Fin. Audit Com.

Current BIM Vice Chair and Executive Committee member; a layman, but from a long family line of LCMS pastors. A full commitment to serving God and His Church personally is paramount to my faith. Seven years' active engagement on the BIM has given me the opportunity to exercise that faith while using my financial, business, and management skills to their fullest extent to help the LCMS spread the Gospel, plant churches, and show mercy to God's people throughout the world. I strongly support the LCMS' mission strategies and the missionaries and their families who carry them out in very challenging conditions.

e. Great Plains Region Lay Candidates for the Board for International Mission

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (Great Plains Region) (6-year term)



Jan Bruick, Seward, NE; St. John (NEB); LCMS 59; Servant Event Coordinator, Alaska Mission for Christ. **C:** Led Several Miss. Teams to AK. **O:** Servant Event Coordinator, Alaska Mission for Christ, 6th Year of Full-Time Work and Miss. Service in Alaska.

My passion for Gospel proclamation goes beyond my work in Alaska. Through the workings of this board, it is essential to encourage, support,

and equip the men and women serving in foreign mission fields and those serving in military chaplaincy work. They serve on the front lines in sharing the hope of Jesus Christ and the gift of His redeeming love throughout the world. This board also reflects the Light of Christ through ongoing discussions and church relations with international Lutheran churches and schools. It would be an honor to use my God-given gifts to serve the Church-at-large through this board.



John W. Edson+, Plymouth, MN; First English, Spring Valley (MNS); LCMS 42; Prin., Smith Schafer & Associates, LTD, CPA. **S:** Mem.-at-Large LCEF 4, Mem. Bd. Luth. World Relief and Human Care 6, Mem. and Pres. Rep. BIM 11, Great Plains Lay Person 3, Chr. TF Dist. Operations (2016). **D:** Circuit Del. Conv. (2001, 2004). **C:** Elder, Treas., Mem. Council, Chm. **O:** CPA 44, Chm. Bd. MN Society of CPAs, Chr. Local Chamber of Commerce, Chm. Bd.

AMPLIO Economic Development (SBA CDC).

Our faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior is inspired in us by the Holy Spirit. It is through this faith that we carry out the Lord's mission to expand His kingdom in foreign mission fields. Through my current service on the Board for International Mission, I have gained insight and understanding of the opportunities and challenges of working internationally. It is important to work cooperatively with our international church partners, districts, and congregations with the goal of spreading the Gospel, planting Lutheran churches, and showing mercy.

VIII. Report on Candidates for the Commission on Theology and Church Relations

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (parish pastor), 1 minister of religion—commissioned (parish teacher), 1 layperson (6-year term)

Duties: Three-day meetings four times a year in St. Louis. The commission assists the President in his constitutional responsibilities; provides guidance to the Synod in matters of theology and church relations; and serves as a clearinghouse for materials relating to membership in societies, lodges, cults, or any organizations of an unchristian or anti-Christian character (2019 Handbook, pp. 144–49).

Qualifications: The Commission on Theology and Church Relations “exists to assist congregations in achieving the objectives of Article III 1 and 6 of the Constitution of the Synod and to assist the President of the Synod in matters of church relationships” (By-law 3.9.5). Article III 1 speaks of conserving and promoting “the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3–6; 1 Cor. 1:10)” and Article III 6 speaks of “providing a variety of resources and opportunities” to congregations “for recognizing, promoting, expressing, conserving, and defending their confessional unity in the true faith.” Nominees for election to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations should therefore be well grounded in their knowledge of and commitment to the Holy Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions and the doctrinal position of the Synod. They should have a good understanding of the internal workings of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Above all, they should have a Christ-centered concern for the pure teaching of the Gospel, the right administration of the Sacraments, and God-pleasing relationships with all members of the Body of Christ. Must be available for quarterly meetings of three days each.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED (PARISH PASTORS)

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (parish pastor) (6-year term)



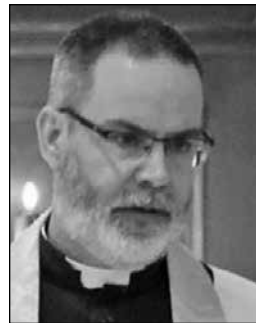
Kevin Austin, Chandler, AZ; Risen Savior (PSW); LCMS 41; Pastor of Discipleship. **D:** VP PSW Dist. 1, CV PSD Dist. 6, CV CNH Dist. 3, Mem. Com. Pastors’ Conf. PSD Dist. 2, Spkr. Region 3 Educators Conf. **C:** Pastor 16. **O:** Youth Sports Coach, Various Orgs. 12.

The world today presents great questions that prior generations were not forced to grapple with. Many struggle to see how the church fits in with life today in an ever-changing society. This is a time for the church to shine. I see the CTCR as a group that works together to take seriously the questions that we face and equip the church to give a winsome witness that brings clarity and truth for God’s people, flowing out of the unchanging Word of God and our Lutheran Confessions. This is an exciting time to be the Church and proclaim God’s truth.



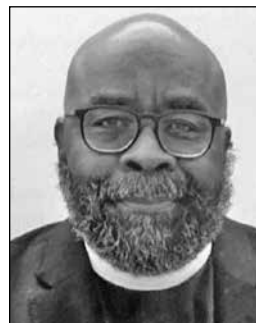
Jacob Bobby, Bloomfield, NE; First Trinity (NEB). **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2019), Guest Instructor CSL in SMP and Homiletics 6. **D:** Chr. Fl. Com. Dist. Conv. 1, Pastoral Adv. LWML 1, Pastoral Adv. LLL. **C:** Vacancy Pastor (3 Times). **O:** Treas. of Bloomfield Ministerial 6., Bd. Mem. Teammates 6.

While the Scriptures and our confession of them do not change, the circumstances of and challenges to church and ministry do. I have found the work of the CTCR to be a valuable resource in my own pursuit of providing biblically and confessionally sound teaching and pastoral care. For this reason, it would be a privilege to assist the commission in its ongoing work.



David H. Petersen, Fort Wayne, IN; Redeemer (EN); Pastor. **S:** Church Worker Recruitment Initiative, Del. Synod Conv. **D:** Conv. Del. **C:** Sole Pastor, Senior Pastor, Cong. without a School, Cong. with a School. **O:** Founding Chm. Akron-Fairgrove Min. Assoc., Founding Chm. Bach Collegium-Fort Wayne.

I would be honored to serve on the CTCR. I believe the committee has done and continues to provide a vital service to our Synod. Engaging current topics and challenges from a deliberately Lutheran perspective, defined by the Scriptures and the Book of Concord, is my highest interest.



Timothy Seals, Alta Loma, CA; St. Luke, Claremont (PSW); Pastor. **S:** TF Campus Min. 2, Mem. Lectionary Comm. for LSB Hymnal Proj. 2, Mem. FL. Com. BHE Synod Convention (1996). **D:** 3rd VP PSW Dist. 3, 4th VP PSW Dist. 3, CV Circuit 6 2, Couns. LWML Zone #4 5. **C:** Pastor 38.

Given my experience, gifts, and passion, the CTCR is the best entity of the LCMS wherein I can serve our Synod. I am the product of a lifetime of LCMS inculcation and culture; its vitality, accordingly, is important to me, as it has exposed me to a diversity of people and experiences over my lifetime. The challenge of theology is to preserve structure amid change and change amid structure. This is a difficult balance to achieve, yet it is the challenge with which the CTCR is tasked as it tries to articulate our Synod’s cherished and foundational teachings in an ever-protean world.

MINISTER OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED (PARISH TEACHERS)

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (parish teacher) (6-year term)



Joseph John Gerth (Joe), Worden, IL; St. Paul, Hamel (SI); Prin., Tchr. **S:** Previously Nominated for Synod Positions. **D:** Attended SI Dist. Conv. (2018, 2022). **C:** Active Mem., Tchr. SS 1, Tchr. Adult Bible Class. **O:** Luth. Tchr. 10, Prin. 1.

Born anew through the waters of Holy Baptism, I am a lifelong Lutheran. I have served in Lutheran congregations my entire career, where my primary work is in education. I now serve as principal at St. Paul Lutheran School in Hamel, Ill., a classical Lutheran school. The LCMS is my church because she is the best church, and I intend to keep her that way. I will use my talents and knowledge to ensure that she always follows Christ and His Word.



Timothy Leech, Grand Island, FI; Faith, Eustis (FG); Com. Min. **D:** FG Hearts for Jesus Com. 2. **C:** Elder, Church Coun. Mem., Miss. and Vision Com., Capital Campaign Com., Personal and Compensation Com., Constitutional Com. Adv. **O:** Tchr., Coach, Asst. Prin., Prin., Exec. Dir., Fundraising, Admissions, Tchr., Admin., Community Disaster Relief Team for COVID-19, Public and Private Admin. Coun.

As the principal of a growing Lutheran school, I see the challenges the world presents to those living out their faith in the truth of Holy Scripture and therefore the opportunity to serve on the Theology and Church Relations Board as a commissioned member is a great honor. I am excited to be nominated and would love the opportunity to serve the Synod and the faith I have been baptized into, raised in, and now living out through professional church work in this way.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 1 layperson (6-year term)



Jack D. Kilcrease III+, Grand Rapids, MI; Our Savior (MI); LCMS 15; Assoc. Prof. of Historical and Systematic Theology, Christ School of Theol. **S:** Lay Rep. CTCR 7. **C:** Elder 5. **O:** Adj. Prof. Theol./Phil. Marquette University 1 and Aquinas College 14 and Institution of Luth. Theol./Christ School of Theol. 5 and Assoc. Prof. 6.

I have been proud to have served the CTCR for the last seven years.

During this time, I have had the pleasure of contributing to numerous documents on important theological issues facing the Synod. In my subcommittee, I have also been delighted to help build bridges with up-and-coming Lutheran denominations in the developing

world and post-Christian Europe, which I believe are two of the places where the impact of the Gospel of Christ can be most felt in our contemporary world. I am eager to help our Synod continue its important work in that mission arena. I have cherished the opportunities that I have received to serve the Synod and the wider Lutheran world. In the next term, I hope to continue my work with the CTCR in service to Christ, our Synod, and the universal church.



Brian L. Peterson, Mukwonago, WI; Trinity Evang., Milwaukee (SW); LCMS 10; Ret. Medical Examiner. **D:** Lay Deleg. SW Dist. (2022). **C:** Speaker Men's Group, Mem. Trinity Music Team, Mem. Steering Com., Mem. Church Coun., Cong. VP **O:** Pres. Milwaukee County Medical Society, Nat'l. Association of Medical Examiners, Mem./Chrm. Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center.

I believe that a lay member on this important commission can best bring a spirit of cooperation, a willingness to learn, and useful experience. I trust that the first two items are evident from my background. Experience: a violinist for more than 50 years, a physician practicing forensic pathology for more than 40 years, a committed Christian with past experience in Presbyterianism and Anglicanism, and now a very happy Lutheran, recently elected president of our congregation. If elected to this commission I promise diligence, enthusiasm, and hard work, all delivered with a sense of humor.



Glenn E. Van Velson, North Platte, NE; Beautiful Savior (NEB); Senior Atty., Van Velson Law Office, PC., L.L.O. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (1989, 2007, 2010, 2019), Mem. Fl. Com. 8 (2010). **D:** Mem. NEB Dist. BOD 12, Pres. NEB Dist. BOD 9, Mem. Concordia Fnd. NEB BOD 5, Secy. Concordia Fnd. NEB BOD, Mem. Nom. Com. 5, Chm. Nom. Com. 3. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Elders, Mem. Bd. of Outreach Min., Pres. Voter's Assembly, Tchr. SS, Ldr. Bible Study,

Sponsor to Youth Group for NYG (1986), Ldr. Worship Music, Dir. Adult Choir, Dir. Handbell Choir. **O:** VP Young Lawyers Section of the Nebraska State Bar Assoc. 1, Pres. BOD North Platte Opportunity Center for Disabled Adults 22, Mem. and Treas. Great Plains Health Care Fnd. BOD 8, Mem. and Pres. Mid-Nebraska Community Fnd. BOD 20, Mem. BOD Nebraska Fnd. for Public Television and Radio 12, Mem. BOD North Platte Salvation Army BOD.

The Lord has assigned me to serve on various boards as part of His plan for me. I am interested in serving at the Synod level to help congregations and ministries to be a blessing to His people if He calls me to serve there. The LCMS is faced with difficult challenges in today's world and her called workers and congregations need support and guidance as we live and work as servants in His kingdom. I prayerfully ask for God's will to be revealed in our policies and positions as the LCMS.

Also nominated for LCMS Board of Directors

IX. Report on Candidates for the Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 3 laypersons (6-year term)

Duties: One- to two-day meetings, four times a year in St. Louis. The board conducts the business affairs of Concordia Publishing House (2019 Handbook, pp. 126–27).

Qualifications: Concordia Publishing House is the publishing arm of the Synod; it conducts market research to determine what is to be published, arranges for the writing and editing of materials, manages publication, and sells the product directly to users or to distribution outlets. CPH annual sales are approximately \$35 million. The members of its Board of Directors must be committed to producing resources faithful to God’s Word and the Lutheran Confessions; committed to bringing the distinct witness of the Lutheran church to all whom the publishing house serves; and committed to what the LCMS believes, teaches, confesses, and practices. Board members should understand business management, as CPH is a self-sustaining corporation. Senior management experience in a corporation of significant size, with experience in publishing, e-delivery, law, finance, human resources, or marketing, would be helpful. Must exhibit openness to purchasing and using CPH materials and a commitment and willingness to influence others to use CPH materials. Must be available for quarterly meetings of up to two days each.

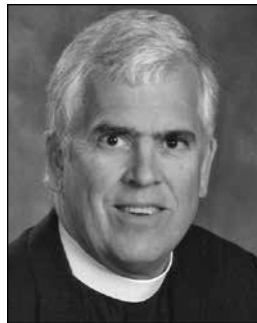
MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (6-year term)



Mark Birkholz, Plainfield, IL; Zion, Naperville (NI); LCMS 44; Pastor. **S:** Research Asst. CHI 2, DR 6, Del. Synod Conv. (2019). **D:** BOD 6, Conv. Fl. Com. 1, General and Regional Pastors’ Conf. Com. **C:** Pastoral Intern 4, Vicar 1, Pastor 15. **O:** Adjunct Prof. CUC 7, Founding Bd. Mem. Faith Hope and Peace Ministries.

CPH is a treasure for our Synod and the Church throughout the world. With roots reaching back to the founding of the LCMS, CPH provides a wealth of resources that are faithful to the biblical witness and our Lutheran Confessions. As our world becomes more digital, CPH will need to continue to seek innovative ways to create and distribute content that is useful, affordable, and accessible to our families, congregations, and schools, including our growing home-school community. As faithful stewards of Christ’s gifts, we will bring “out of [this] treasure what is new and what is old” (Matt. 13:52).



Karl F. Fabrizius, Greendale, WI; Our Father’s (SW); LCMS 66; Em. Pastor. **D:** CV 7. **C:** Pastor 38. **O:** Tchr. Evang. Luth. Church of Ghana Seminary 7.

I firmly support the commitment of Concordia Publishing House to publish orthodox Lutheran materials for use by our pastors, congregations, teachers, and laity. With our rapidly declining culture, it is essential that Synod provide solid, confessional materials that support and encourage our members and leaders by soundly grounding them in biblical, historical Lutheranism. My 38 years serving at a congregation and parochial school, along with a doctorate in church history and published works, offer a fitting background for this position. It would be an honor to serve on this board and assist in guiding the publishing arm of our Synod.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (6-year term)



Jennifer Lynn Knox, New Berlin, WI; Our Father’s, Greenfield (SW); LCMS 37; Tchr./Ed. Tech. Coord., Martin Luther High School, Luth. High School Assoc. of Greater Milwaukee. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2010). **C:** Church Coun. 2, Ldr. Youth 2. **O:** Coord. Higher Things Summer Conf. Housing 3, Assisted with Higher Things Curriculum Develop. 1, Tchr. Luth. High School 8, Coord. Educ. Tech. 4.

From family devotions to Sunday School to college courses, as well as personally and professionally as a Lutheran educator, I have benefited from many Concordia Publishing House materials. As a lifelong Lutheran, I watched both my parents and grandfather serve in various roles in the Synod, instilling in me the importance of serving the church in more ways than just my daily vocation. If I am elected, I look forward to the opportunity to continue the tradition of helping CPH provide doctrinally sound material.

Also nominated for Concordia University Wisconsin (Mequon, Wis.) Board of Regents



Pamela J. Nielsen, Ballwin, MO; Hope, St. Louis (MO); LCMS 61; Dir. of Stewp. of Coalition Life, Dcs. **S:** Dept. Assoc. Exec. Dir. LCMS Communications 10, Senior Ed. CPH 9, Dir. Community Services CTSFW 4. **C:** Tchr./Supt. SS, Mem. Building Com. **O:** Dcs. With Master’s Degree in Theol., Work for Pro-Life Nonprofit in St. Louis.

CPH is a treasure countless LCMS church workers, families, and individuals have relied on for generations. Its service to the wider confessing Lutheran community has never been stronger. The challenges it faces in a world hostile to the Gospel, a volatile economy, demographic decline, and more are significant. Yet the opportunities to further spread God’s Word in this era with all that it offers in technology, scholarship, and so much more are countless. The need

to carefully balance the needs of the church with the business of publishing requires a dedicated and able board. It would be a privilege to use what I've learned over nine years as a CPH senior editor within 37 years as an LCMS rostered church worker to serve as a board member and advocate for CPH.



Jonathan Wessler, Rockland, MA; First Luth. Church of Boston (NE); LCMS 38; Kantor. **D:** Provide Liturgical Music for Divine Services at Several Cir. Winkels 6 and One NE Dist. Pastors' Conference (2022). **C:** FLC Kantor 7 with substantial research in Theol. and Liturgical History with respect to Liturgical Planning. **O:** Mem. Bd. Ludecus Press, the Publisher of *The Lutheran Missal* and Producers of modern editions of Liturgical Music from the 16th and 17th Centuries, Presented research on the Propers at the latest Cantorology Conference.

As a church musician, I have long appreciated CPH's commitment to beautifully produced and edited resources for the Church's use. It is vital that CPH's publications reflect orthodox Lutheran teaching and practice, unapologetically confessing the crucified, risen, and ascended Christ, who fills all things in a world that is hostile to His Word. As a member of the board, I would advocate for the production of works of the very highest quality and doctrinal clarity, for the creation and implementation of policies that support such production, and for the hiring of personnel committed to those policies throughout the organization.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 3 laypersons (6-year term)



Kurt Alan Battles, Alexandria, MN; St. John, Garfield (MNN); Chief Financial Officer, Voyager Industries. **S:** Mem. LCMS Fnd. 9. **C:** Tchr. SS, Supt. SS, Trustee, Elder, Treas., Mem. Two Call Com. **O:** CFO of a Regional Manufacturing Company with Four Manufacturing Plants and ~200 Employees and Responsible for All HR, IT, Corp. Devel. and Admin. Matters.

C.F.W. Walther wrote that among the duties of a Synod was to "take an enthusiastic and, as much as possible, active part in all God-pleasing organizations dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom in the world." The publication of materials by Concordia Publishing House (CPH) used for teaching, education, and worship supports directly or indirectly the seven mission priorities of the LCMS. As an elder, Sunday school teacher, and parent, I have for many years relied on CPH publications. I would be honored to use my business, finance, and marketing experience as a layperson on the board of CPH to support our LCMS mission priorities.



Scott D.W. Gercken, Brookfield, IL; St. Paul (NI); LCMS 38; Kantor. **S:** Parish Musician CI Dist. 24, Frequent Participant in Institutes for Liturgy, Preaching, and Church Music, Presenter at Consortium for Classical Luth. Ed. Conf. 2. **D:** Graduate Asst. CUC Center for the Advancement of Luth. Liberal Arts. **C:** Parish Musician, Tchr. School Music, Tchr., Mem. and Secy. Bd. Christian Ed., Mem. Nominating Comm. **O:** Former Music Dir. for Luth. Public Radio, Conf. Photographer Luth. Public Radio/*Issues, Etc.*, Dir. Public School Band, Dir. Choir, Ed. Music, Engraver.

Our publications have long-lasting effects on the kind of Synod we are and will be in the future. As "heirs of an astonishingly rich tradition," CPH must not only pass that tradition forward with integrity but encourage new authors and composers of our Synod to share a clear and faithful confession in word and song, both to the church and the world. As a father, church musician, and parish teacher, I need CPH for trusted, high-quality, boldly Lutheran material for the home, church, and classroom. If elected, I will labor to help CPH continue to earn and deepen that trust.



Elaine Graff, Las Cruces, NM; Grace (RM); LCMS 65; Video Producer and Dir., EMG Productions. **S:** Mem. CPH BOD 21, Chm. CPH BOD 3, Mem. Com. LWML Caring Min. 1, Mem. TF LCMS Resolution 8-07 1. **C:** Dir. Children's Choir, Ldr. Women's Bible Study, Mem. Grace Luth. Choir, Ldr. VBS, Vol. Grace Luth. Church Mothers' Day Out and Pre-School. **O:** Video Producer/Dir., Mem. New Mexico Serve Commission 11 and Chm. 2, Mem. Governor's Appointee Judicial Nomination Commission 1.

I've had much joy in serving on the CPH Board, and I appreciate the service CPH is able to give to our congregations and pastors as we all rejoice in proclaiming the justification of the sinner by faith in Jesus Christ. I would be honored to serve another term if elected by the 2023 convention. My work in production and business allows me to help fulfill the CPH mission to strengthen and aid LCMS congregations in the proclamation of the Gospel, and I would look forward to CPH's future opportunities to publish faithful materials for our congregations, pastors, and families.



Jill Johnson, Seward, NE; St. John (NEB); LCMS 53; Pres., Class Intercom. **S:** CUNE BOR 9 (3 as Secy. and 6 as Vice-Chm.), CUNE Governance Com. 6, CUNE Strategic Plng. Com. 4, CUNE Provost Search Com. 1, CUNE Fnd. 6, CUNE Recruitment Com. Vice-Chm. 5. **C:** Cap. Stewp. Campaign Dir., Master Plng. Com., Mundt Fnd. Grant Writer, Nat'l. Youth Gath. Sponsor, School Bd. 8, Godparent Ldr. 4, Guatemala Miss. Team. **O:** Doc. Degr., Ed.

Leadership; Spec. Deg., Ed. Admin.; MS in Ed. Admin.; MS in Instr. Tech.; BS in Lang. Arts Ed.; Asst. Prin., Seward Public Schools 6.

The candidate declined to provide a personal statement.



Kent M. Warneke, Norfolk, NE; Grace (NEB); LCMS 50; Em. Ed., Norfolk Daily News. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2007, 2010, 2019), Del. NE Dist. BOD at Synod Conv. (2016), Mem. Fl. Com. Synod Conv. (2007, 2010), Author *The Lutheran Witness*. **D:** Mem. NE Dist. BOD 12, Chm. NE Dist. BOD 3, Vice-Chm. NE Dist. BOD 3, Mem. NE Dist. Nominating Com. (2 Terms). **C:** Cong. Chm. and Secy., Chm. and Coun. Mem. Youth Board, Led a Capital Campaign for

an addition to Christ Luth. School, Mem. Choir, Coord. Publications. **O:** Ed. Norfolk Daily News 32 and Em. Ed., Inducted into the Nebraska Journalism Hall of Fame (2012), Chm. Bd. Faith Regional Health Services, Chm. Bd. Nebraska Press Association, Chm. Bd. Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, Mem. Humanities Nebraska Fnd. 6, Mem. Bd. Nebraska Community Fnd.

My hope and prayer is that my many years in the publishing world (primarily as a newspaper editor) could be put to good use in service to Concordia Publishing House. I would strive to use my expertise in communication, public relations, and board governance to benefit CPH's important ministry. For decades, CPH has provided materials that bolster the faith of LCMS members, add to their understanding of God's Word, and serve as an outreach tool for those unfamiliar with God's saving grace. I would consider it a privilege to be able to serve on the CPH Board of Directors.



Stephen Weller, McPherson, KS; Grace (KS); LCMS 14; Engineer, Williams Companies. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2013, 2023). **D:** Del. KS Dist. Conv. (2015), Mem. KS Dist. Conv. Nom. Com. (2015), Del. Cir. Forum (3 Terms). **C:** Treas. 5, Pres. 1. **O:** Mem. Bd. County Library Governing Board 3, Volunteer Big Brothers Big Sisters 20, Pres. and Treas. Kiwanis 6.

Concordia Publishing House performs important roles for the Synod, congregations, and individual Christians, including sharing true doctrine and exhorting Christians to a sanctified life. Today more than ever, CPH must be a beacon of light in an increasingly pagan world. But in spite of the challenges, we know the gates of hell shall never prevail against Christ's Church. God has blessed me with financial, management, and problem-solving acumen which I endeavor to use effectively in the world and congregation. As a baptized, forgiven sinner, I will gladly use those gifts in service to the Synod if elected.

Also nominated for Board for National Mission

X. Report on Candidates for The Lutheran Church Extension Fund—Missouri Synod Board of Directors

Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

Duties: Two-day meetings four times a year. The board oversees the use of LCEF's assets to provide financial resources and services for ministry, witness, and outreach to the LCMS and to offer demographic, planning, and architectural services. All directors must have an understanding of the church extension program and/or demonstrate an expertise in fields or areas closely related to church extension activities, such as knowledge of real estate, management, and financial planning (2019 Handbook, pp. 127–28).

Qualifications: Board members should have a broad range of experience in one or more of the following: financial services, investments, loans and real estate, legal, banking, administration, and marketing. Prior experience on other LCMS boards is also desirable. Board members are expected to do the following:

(1) Attend meetings regularly, not missing two consecutive meetings: The board meets on a quarterly basis, and these meetings are held throughout the United States. Committee meetings are held via video conference prior to the start of the regular meeting. Board meetings are usually a day and a half in length, with the exception of the first meeting of the calendar year, for which an incremental planning day is required. Board members attend the Annual Meeting typically held each November, the weekend prior to Thanksgiving, at different locations throughout the United States.

(2) Submit to FBI criminal background checks (required for mortgage lender licenses in certain states). Certain states require that board members of licensed lenders do not have any conviction as a result of a criminal matter involving dishonesty or breach of trust or fraud.

ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

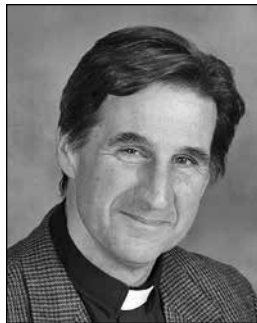
Elect 1 ordained or commissioned minister (3-year term)



Jason M. Braaten+, Tuscola, IL; Immanuel (CI); Pastor. **S:** Mem. Bd. LCEF 4, Writer Stewp. 5. **D:** Mem. Conf. Com. 3, Mem. BOD 1, Mem. Stewp. Com. 1. **O:** Secy. Rotary Club 2 and VP 1 and Pres. 1, Mem. Bd. Library 12.

I love being Lutheran. I love the church body into which I was baptized, in which I was raised and, which I now serve as a pastor. I know that the LCMS has challenges ahead and, with those challenges, opportunities. While some of these challenges are not our fault, they are our responsibility to face with the clarity that the Word of God and our Lutheran Confessions bring. I will gladly serve to bring that clarity to invigorate a church I love to make that confession to a world that is dying.

Also nominated for First Vice-President, Central Region Vice-President



Blaise C. Sedney, Bel Air, MD; St. Matthew (SE); LCMS 47; Pastor. **C:** Pastor 19, Pres. Cong. 4, Treas. Cong. 6. **O:** COO Spectera, Inc. 19, Chm. Bd. Harco Credit Union, Treas. John Carroll School 4, Christian Fin. Couns. 38.

I believe that the LCMS Church Extension Fund is one of the treasures that God has blessed the LCMS with to provide for the future of mission and ministry for congregations, schools, and other partners of the LCMS. Many LCMS congregants have trusted the LCMS with their money and expect to fund ministries well, while receiving a good return on their investment. God has blessed me in my calling as a pastor and as a CPA with a master's degree in finance. I have used these gifts to help churches and other institutions in the LCMS.

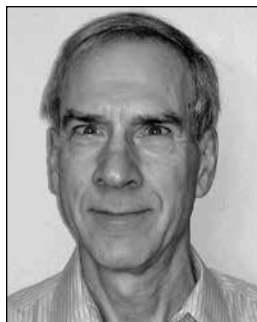
LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Julie Johnson, Edwardsville, IL; St. Paul, Hamel (SI); LCMS 60; Accountant. **D:** Mem. BOD SI Dist., Treas. Fin. Comm. and Fund Advisory Com., Treas. Unity Luth. Christian Elementary School. **C:** Cong. Treas., Mem. Bd. of Christian Ed. **O:** Ret. CPA KPMG, Auditor/Mgr. Maritz Corporation, Accountant Self-Owned Businesses, Accountant Luth. Public Radio, Chm. Bd. of Trustees Lewis and Clark Community College.

I appreciate the opportunity to be nominated. I feel I am qualified for this position because of my background in accounting, banking, and church finance work for the last 35 years. I have been an LCMS member my entire life. I have used my accounting skills and financial management knowledge to help various organizations in my congregations and in the Southern Illinois District. I have seen the value of the Church Extension Fund at all levels. I want to make sure that it continues long into the future, helping our Synod carry out its ministry within the LCMS.



Jonathan H. Kramer+, Nixa, MO; Hope, Republic (MO); LCMS 68; Ret. **S:** Mem. LCEF BOD 4. **D:** SO CEF BOD and Treas. 4. **C:** Treas. Hope Lutheran 4, Chm./Treas./Elder Stewp. 46. **O:** Vol. at Least of These Food Pantry 1.

I am thankful that God gave me the opportunity to serve on the LCEF Board of Directors and the LCEF Audit Committee the past four years. I would welcome the chance to continue to use my financial background in this way. LCEF has an important role to play in supporting the LCMS in its mission and ministry. It is vital for LCEF to remain financially sound so it can continue to be a benefit to districts, local congregations, schools, universities, RCWs, RSOs, and the other organizations of the LCMS while providing a benefit to its investors.



Jason A. Paradis, Oakes, ND; St. John's (ND); LCMS 41; Attorney. **S:** Nom. Vacancy Atty. Position CCM. **D:** Mem. ND Dist. BOD 11. **C:** Elder 9, Chm./Pres. 8. **O:** Lawyer with Corporate Fin./Estate Planning/Property Law Experience 25, Pres. Park Board, Secy. Oaks Lions Club.

As a member of LCMS congregations for over 40 years and in various congregational and district leadership roles, I have seen firsthand the support that LCEF has given the church over the years. I would like to bring my own financial and legal skills and experience to assist in growing LCEF's support to new and expanding programs to benefit LCMS congregations, RSOs and rostered church workers.



Jaime Peters, Chesterfield, MO; St. Paul's, Des Peres (MO); LCMS 16; Asst. Dean of Accounting, Economics, and Fin., Maryville Univ. **C:** Mem./Secy./Chm. 7. **O:** Chartered Fin. Analyst, Passed CPA Exam, Former Equity Analyst Morningstar Inc. 6 and State Farm Insurance 3, Fac. Rep. Illinois Wesleyan Endowment Fund 6.

As a financial professional, I am excited about the potential to serve on the LCMS Church Extension Fund. During this time of high inflation, raising interest rates, and reduced economic output, the Church Extension Fund will need to navigate the markets to ensure protection of the principal, but not miss out on the wealth creation that will allow for the support needed to spread the Gospel. This challenge will require prudent and carefully weighed decisions regarding asset allocations. I believe my background as a CFA, an active market participant, and educator will help prepare me to serve in this manner.

XI. Report on Candidates for the Concordia University System Board of Directors

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (6-year term)

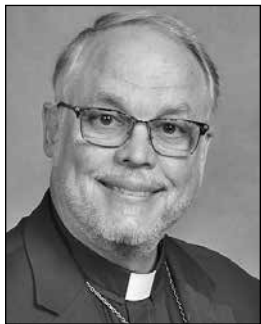
Duties: Two-day meetings at least three times a year. The board promotes, improves, supervises, and directs education for the preparation of ministers of religion—commissioned and others, promoting cooperation between the Synod's colleges and universities (2019 Handbook, pp. 130–33). Should the 2023 Convention replace this board with a new Commission for University Education, as may be proposed by the Board of Directors' proposal for revision of Concordia College and University Governance (2019 Res. 7-03), incumbents and candidates for this board would be considered to be incumbents and candidates for the new commission.

Qualifications: The Concordia University System Board of Directors is responsible for establishing educational and administrative standards, policies, and procedures for the coordination of the Synod's nine colleges and universities. Board members should have a demonstrated familiarity and support of the institutions, and shall support the doctrinal positions of the Synod, and shall possess two or more of the following qualifications: theological acumen, an advanced degree, experience in higher education administration, administration of complex organizations, finance, law, investments, technology, human resources, facilities management, or fund development. Board members should have a background and experience in education or administration or finance. They should be acquainted with current trends in education and should have a heart and passion for Christian, Lutheran education that includes preparation for a variety of professions, especially leadership roles that serve parish life in local communities; that offers opportunities for an increasing number of the church's youth to select a Concordia as a preferred place for higher education experiences; and that promotes the educational system as a mission outreach of the LCMS as a significant feature. Must be available for three meetings per year of two days each.

Restrictions: No more than two (2) voting members elected by the Synod can be from the same district and no executive, faculty member, or staff member from a Lutheran institution of higher education may serve on the board as a voting member. The Chief Administrative Officer of the Synod (or a designee) and the Secretary of the Synod (or a designee) shall review and verify that nominees are qualified to serve as stated in Bylaw 3.6.6.3.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (6-year term)



Mark Patrick Braden+, Dearborn, MI; Zion, Detroit (EN); LCMS 31; Pastor. **S:** Adjunct Faculty CTSFW 17, Mem. BOD CUS 2, Guest Prof. CUA 2. **D:** Chm. EN Dist. Fl. Com. 1 Church and Theo. (2018, 2022), Mem. EN Dist. Conv. Nom. Com. (2018, 2022), Mem. NW Dist. Scholarship Com. 3. **C:** Cong. Chm., Elder. **O:** Dept. Ed. *Gottesdienst* 10, Int'l. Fellow Luther Academy 4, Theo. Educator visiting Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Spain, and Argentina 12.

The success of our Concordia Universities is critical to the work of bringing Christ to an unbelieving world, to the Christian

training of our young adults, to the continued supply of qualified workers and pastors to the church, and to the well-being of our Synod. As an alumnus of Concordia University Ann Arbor, I believe that my lifelong passion for teaching and learning; my experience teaching in college, university and seminary settings; and my professional experience in the administration of university auxiliaries and facilities, make me uniquely suited for this opportunity to continue my service to the Concordia University System Board of Directors. As it pleases Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church, I would be honored to continue to serve if elected.



Timothy D. Runtsch (Tim), Fort Collins, CO; Redeemer (RM); LCMS 59; Pastor. **S:** Mem. Nat'l. Youth Gathering Planning Team 9. **D:** Mem. RM Dist. Campus Min. Com. 6, Mem. RM Dist. Evang. Com. 2. **C:** Senior Pastor 33. **O:** Mem./Chm. BOD Luth. Family Services of the Rockies 12, Mem. BOD LWR 11, Chm. LCMS Large Church Network 10, Tch./Mentor Advanced Leadership Training for Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus 12.

As followers of Christ, it is our calling to spread the message of Christ's love and forgiveness to the world. Guided by the teachings of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, we can unite and contribute to Christ's mission. Our LCMS campuses offer a unique opportunity to reach college students with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a member of the CUS Board, I will be committed to ensuring our Concordias provide high-quality education with a strong focus on the Gospel. Ultimately, the aim is to prepare students for a life of service both within and outside of the church.



Luke R. Schnake, Lincoln, NE; Christ (NEB); LCMS 70; Pastor. **S:** Participant MegaChurch Conf. 21, Author *The Lutheran Witness* (2014), Pastor-in-Residence for CSL 1, Guest Prof. for CSL in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (2006, 2009), Participant/Guest/Host Black Clergy Caucus (2001), Mentor SMP Student 5, Book Reviewer CPH/CTSPW/CUNE, Contributor/Presenter for CSL/CUW's Seminar on Leadership (2021). **D:** CV NI and NE

Dist., Chm. Regional Pastors Conf. NI Dist., Chm. Bd. for Stewardship NI Dist., Introduced *Lutheran Worship* to NI Dist. Cong. (1982), Mem. TF for Discussion with ELCA for NI Dist. (1980), Mem. Const. Review Com. SW Dist., Chm. Com. on Prayer SW Dist., Mem. All Church Workers Conf. Com. SW Dist., Participant/Mem. PLI, Participant/Presenter Grace Place Wellness, CHI Award Winner on Behalf of Cong. (1987), Plenary Spkr. SW Principals' Conf. (1993), Plenary Spkr. Houston Luth. Schools Assoc. (1997). **C:** Pastor 45. **O:** Dir. Vietnamese Resettlement Program (LIRS) for CI and SI Dists. 2, Co-Contributor to *Pulpit Helps* (1977), Cofounder/Contributor to Dugout Retreat (Pastors' Conf.) 9, Mem. TF for Establishment of Grace Point Relational Health and Wellness Inst. (2012), Volunteer/Preacher Prison Ministry SW Dist. 9, Ldr. Opening Prayers for various Events, Chap. Chamber of Commerce Falls Rock, IL 5, Mem. Bosnian Resettlement Com. Sheboygan, WI 1, Author Concordia Tract Ministry, Coleader various Marriage Retreats.

It is clear to me that our Concordia Universities find themselves in a crucial position to impact local congregations, their communities, nation, and world by preparing faith-filled leaders in all vocations. I believe that there is no better higher education option in which to prepare men and women of faith in this generation and those to come and to offer quality education by which God's kingdom is impacted greatly. To assist our Concordia leaders and individual boards in finding the very best ways of accomplishing such goals is not a small thing and would call upon me and others to be prayerful, gracious, discerning, and decisive in Christ's name.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (6-year term)



Steven Buuck (Steve), Las Vegas, NV; Faith Community (PSW); CEO, Faith Luth. Middle and High Schools. **S:** Mem. Assn. of Luth. Secondary Schools 7, Mem. Blue Ribbon TF 1. **D:** Mem. BOD PSW Dist. 3, Mem. BOR CUI 10. **C:** Deacon 10.

I did not seek this position; it has sought me. I would be honored to serve our wonderful Concordia universities, which prepare both church workers and others for critical vocations in

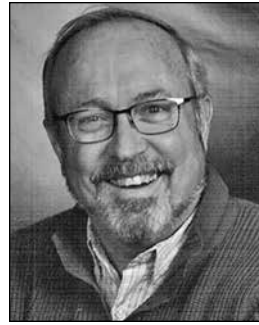
society. God is sending more and more unchurched students to our universities, which gives us a perfect chance to use the Gospel on our campuses to depopulate hell. American liberal arts universities are facing unprecedented challenges, from the “enrollment cliff” to unsustainable financial models to geographic nuances among our Concordia universities; leadership moving forward will need to be nimble, courageous, and entrepreneurial.



Jonathon Giordano+, Glen Carbon, IL; St. Paul, Wood River (SI); LCMS 49; Theo. Instructor and Dept. Chm. Metro-East Luth. **S:** Mem. BOD CUS 7, Secy. BOD CUS 4, Mem. Conv. Planning Com. 1, Mem. Model Theol. Conf. 1. **D:** Mem. SI Dist. BOD 7, Chm. SI Dist. Bd. of Congregational Support 7, Mem. SI Dist. Conv. Planning Com. 17, Mem. Fl. Com. SI Dist. Conv. Theol. 2, National Luth. School Accreditation Visit Teams 17. **C:** Mem. Bd. Elder

St. Paul 25, Worship Asst. and Musician 28, Chm. Com. Constitution Review 1, Interim Instructor Confirmation 1, Asst. Youth Group 23, Tchr. SS and Bible Class. **O:** Instructor Theol. Metro-East 28, Chm. Theol. Dept. 18, Planner/Presenter MELHS Capital Campaign Promotions 2, Chapel Coord. 10, Coach Varsity Volleyball 23, Adv. Career/College 3.

Now, more than ever, the Concordia system is vital to the work of “teaching, reproof, correction and training in righteousness.” By the grace of God, the CUS equips students to live out their various callings in a world that grows increasingly hostile to the one true faith. My hope and prayer for the CUS board is to support and equip the universities, assisting and encouraging them to navigate through the challenges with which they are presented. My personal Concordia experience altered my life and my vocations, and I am honored and humbled to help our schools remain faithful, secure, and vibrant.



Phillip L. Johnson, Lonsdale, MN; Immanuel, Prior Lake (MNS); LCMS 62; Asst. to the Pres., Miss. Formation, MNS Dist. **S:** Extended Staff Ldrshp. Training. **D:** Mem. BOD RM Dist. 2, Mem. Bd. NE Dist. Outreach 9. **C:** Commissioned Staff Member for Outreach and Teaching. **O:** Dir. of Christian Outreach 20, Fac. CSP 12, Staff Member MNS Dist. 10, Mem. BOD Int'l. LLL/LHM 12.

The Concordia University System (CUS) is a true gift to the LCMS and everyone served on our campuses. To continue to meet future opportunities and challenges as a system of Lutheran higher education will require increased cooperation and collaboration. To continue to grow in the future, we must discover opportunities to be the best stewards possible of the gifts and resources each institution has been given so that the entire CUS is strengthened.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (6-year term)



Jonathan Busarow, Fort Wayne, IN; Redeemer (EN); Exec. Artistic Dir., Fort Wayne Children's Choir, Purdue Univ. Fort Wayne. **C:** Mem. Fin. Committee 7, Elder and Mem. School Bd. 4. **O:** Music Career and Arts Admin. of a Nonprofit Org. 11, Mem. BOD Fort Wayne Rotary.

Our Concordias have been a hallmark of the LCMS effort to educate our young people in the Lutheran faith and heritage and to evangelize others. I

am committed to making sure these institutions are strengthened in their growth while remaining faithful to their founding. Our church body must ensure our Concordias can operate under a governance model that allows the LCMS to continue to form confessional Lutherans and raise up the next generation of church workers. I am committed to seeing our CUS through this uncertain time so we can ensure their future for generations to come.



Ellen R. Lange+, Anaheim, CA; Immanuel, Orange (PSW); LCMS 60; School Couns. **S:** Mem. CCA BOR 3, Mem. Governance Com. CUS BOD 7. **D:** Presenter PSW Luth. Educators Conf. 2. **C:** Chm. Immanuel Luth. School Bd. of Ed. 2. **O:** School Couns. 18, Admissions Adv. Bd. 13.

I believe LCMS higher education serves an ever more vital cornerstone for mission and ministry. For our universities to maximize viability, we must

be attuned to competing systems and trends in providing a high caliber of education and vocational preparation for our students. At the same time, we must prioritize stewardship to maintain financial solvency, and we must commit to the teaching of the Lutheran Confessions. I believe that our Lutheran identity should permeate our governance at both the Synod and district levels in order for us to be a beacon to an ever-changing world.



James Jeffrey Munden, Columbia, IL; Holy Cross, East Carondelet (SI); Academic Dean, St. Louis Community College. **C:** VP Congregation, Pres. Cemetery Assoc., Organist. **O:** Admin. Experience 11, HLC Peer Reviewer Higher Ed. Accreditation.

The seven campuses of our Synod serve an important role in preparing individuals for Christ-centered vocations. The mission and the values of the church's colleges and universities are

both continually and increasingly under assault. It is therefore of the highest importance that these institutions continue to uphold the teachings of Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions as they prepare students for their lives of service. I would support the university system's mission to the best of my abilities. Let us all pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.



Gary R. Thompson, Wautoma, WI; Trinity (SW); LCMS 52; Ret. Lieutenant Colonel, United States Army, Art Instructor, Doxa Academy (2022). **D:** Del. SW Dist. Conv. (2022), Mem. Comm. 2 Admin. and Const. Matters (2022), Nominee CUW/CUAA BOR (2022). **C:** Elder 9, Pres. 3. **O:** U.S. Army Officer with Leadership Roles as Chapl. Recruiter; Admin. Officer, Wisconsin Military Academy; Prof. of Military Science, Univ. of Wisconsin-Stevens Point; Dir. of Communications, Wisconsin National Guard.

I hope to bring my 30 years of military leadership experience to my vocation as a lay leader in the Concordia University System. We must ensure that the CUS remains an educational refuge in this time of cultural decay. We must put on the full armor of God against those who view our humanity as purely material and transitory. We must ensure that our Lutheran heritage is transmitted to our future leaders through the CUS. We do this by boldly proclaiming Christ crucified, by holding fast to our confessional Lutheran identity, and by relentlessly pursuing educational excellence.

XII. Report on Candidates for Seminary Boards of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 2 laypersons (6-year term)

Duties: Two-day meetings four times a year. The board's duties include the defining and fulfilling of the mission of the seminary, operating and managing it as an agent of the Synod, serving as its governing body, establishing and reviewing policies, promoting public relations, approving budgets, and in every way promoting the well-being of the seminary. (2019 Handbook, pp. 152–65)

Qualifications: A seminary board of regents is responsible for the spiritual, academic, and financial health of the institution. It makes decisions regarding the resources and strategic vision that are needed to provide Christian pastors (and deaconesses) for the church and the world. It oversees the work of the president and creates appropriate policies to guide administrative activities. A board of regents is responsible for the educational program of its institution. Its members must assure themselves that the work of the institution is carried on effectively and managed in a business-like manner within an annually established budget. They are also responsible for the general welfare of faculty, staff, and students. Board members should be acquainted with current trends in education and should have a strong commitment to Christian education at all levels, with special interest in the objectives of preparing church workers. It is desirable to have had experience on a governing board of an elementary or secondary school, or on the board of regents or faculty of a college or university. Experience in finance, personnel, general corporate administration, corporate planning, or facility management is always helpful. The time requirements for meetings vary with the institution. Committee work and other commitments may be requested between meetings. Regents may expect to be asked to support the institution financially as part of their personal stewardship commitments.

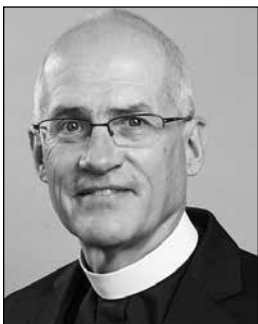
Restrictions: No more than two elective members of a college, university, or seminary board of regents may be members of the same congregation (Bylaw 3.10.5.2 [1]).

a. Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne, Ind.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 2 laypersons (6-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (6-year term)



Steven C. Briel, Maple Grove, MN; St. John, Corcoran (MNS); LCMS 72; Ret. Pastor (Em.). **S:** Mem. BHE 12, Mem. BOR CCNY 3, Mem. Bd. for Pastoral Min. 2, Mem. BNM 13.

Having lived through the theological crisis which led to Seminex, having served for three years on the former Board for Pastoral Education, and having more recently served on the Prior Approval Committee for seminary faculty in my capacity as

Chairman of the Board for National Mission, I have a deep interest in our seminaries and a commitment to solid, orthodox theological instruction that is faithful to our Lord's inspired Word and our Lutheran Confessions. The prophet Hosea writes, "Like people like priest." The same could be said for our church body—"Like congrega-

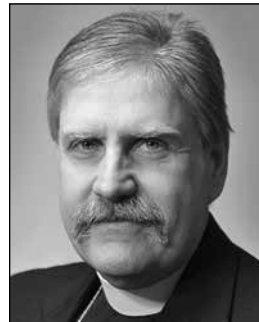
tion like pastors." God, give us a pious and theologically sound ministerium as Dr. Walther once prayed!



Joshua C. Miller (Josh), St. Paul, MN; Jehovah (MNS); LCMS 15; Pastor. **S:** Lay Deleg. Synod Conv. (2019), Mem. Fl. Com. CTCR (2019). **D:** Lay Deleg. MNS Dist. Conv. (2015, 2018), Mem. Fl. Com. CTCR MNS Dist. Conv. (2015), Deleg. MNS Dist. Conv. (2022), Mem. Fl. Com. Miss. MNS Dist. Conv. (2022), Prison Ministry MNS Dist. 1. **C:** Tchr. SS, VBS, Communion Asst., Vicar, Pastor. **O:** Adjunct Prof. of Religion at Augsburg Univ.

Author *Hanging by a Promise: The Hidden God in the Theology of Oswald Bayer*, Coauthor *Promising Faith for a Ruptured Age: An English-Speaking Appreciation of Oswald Bayer*, Author of Various Theol. Articles.

So that sinners may receive the gift of faith in Him, Christ has instituted the pastoral office. I give thanks to God for the ongoing work and witness of Concordia Theological Seminary, which faithfully prepares men for this office. Today, it is as imperative as ever that our seminaries provide robust training in the infallible Scriptures, in doctrinal and historical theology, and in application of God's Law and Gospel through preaching, pastoral care, and catechesis. As a confessional LCMS pastor, systematic theologian, and educator, it would be an honor to serve on the CTSFW Board of Regents.



Matthew W. Rueger+, Hubbard, IA; St. John (IE); LCMS 54; Pastor. **S:** Author, CPH, Large Catechism Project (2021), DR 11, Mem. Fl. Com. on Mercy Synod Con. (2013), Supervisor Vicarage Prog. 4, Dist. Reconciler 6. **D:** 2nd VP IE Dist. 8, 1st VP IE Dist. 13, Chm. IE BOD 11, Chm. IE Office Com. 10, Vice-Chm. IE Office Com. 10, 2nd VP IE Dist. 2, Secy. IE Dist. 3, Chm. IE Com. Bylaws and Procedures 3. **C:** Pastor 33. **O:** Volunteer Ambulance Driver 4, Lecturer Christian Sexual Ethics Iowa State Univ. 1, Author CPH in *Sex Education: The Great Cover-Up* (2017), Author CPH *Sexual Morality in a Christless World* (2016)

Serving as a regent at Concordia Theological Seminary has been a humbling experience. I see this service as an opportunity to promote and encourage world-class theological education for future pastors (and deaconesses). Financial oversight of the institution is certainly an important component of this service, but the theological integrity of the education offered is of greatest importance. Such integrity should be readily expressed in the pastoral approach of our graduates who show Christ's mercy and love to those in need and who are ready with a clear confession of biblical truth in the midst of a confused world.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (6-year term)



Kaibo Feng, Cambridge, MA; First Luth. Church of Boston (NE); LCMS 9; Postdoctoral Assoc., Massachusetts Institute of Technology. **S:** Attendee Synod Conv. (2019). **D:** Coord. CI Dist. Miss. Com. to Establish Protocols, Conduct Interviews, and Carry Out Call Process for New Pastor for Univ. Luth. Church 1., Coord. CI Dist. Substitute Pastors Fill in During Univ. Luth. Vacancy. **C:** Mem. Altar Guild 3, Cong. Pres. Univ. Luth.

Church 3, Presided over Call Process 1, Lay-Led Daily Prayer Offices 1, Council Clerk 2. **O:** Advocacy for Life of Unborn through Campus Pro-Life Groups: weDignify UIUC 4, MIT ProLife 2, Vol. Dial-a-Carol (Sings Christmas Carols to Worldwide Callers) 4, Annual Caroling for local Nursing Home Residents with Univ. Luth. Members 6, Mentor Junior Graduate Students 4, Tchr. Asst. Organic Chemistry Laboratory 2.

“Preach you the Word and plant it home To men who like or like it not, The Word that shall endure and stand When flow’rs and men shall be forgot” (LSB 586:1). As gloomy clouds of confusion hover over today’s society, the Lutheran Church stands as our Lord’s beacon of light through the faithful teaching of the Word and the right administration of the Sacraments. To this end, there is no institution more crucial than our seminaries. Safeguarding the confessional integrity of CTSFW to ensure continued formation of well-trained, faithful pastors should be at the center of the board’s mission.



Michael David Lange, Anaheim Hills, CA; Immanuel, Orange (EN); LCMS 61; Pastor. **D:** Mem. PSW BOD 9. **C:** Elder 14, Asst. Treas. 3, Head Elder 3, SS Supt. 5, Cong. Pres. 4, Cong. VP 9. **O:** Semiconductor R&D/Production 37, Presenter Bible Class.

The preparation of pastors for LCMS congregations is an essential function of our Synod. I am grateful to God for providing CTSFW for that

purpose and would be honored to support the seminary’s work through service on its board of regents. The faculty and staff of CTSFW walk together in their faithfulness to Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. Therefore, support by its board of regents serves the mission of the Synod as being “committed to a common confession and mission ... to work in support of and on behalf of congregations, to assist them in carrying out their ministries” (Bylaw 1.1.1).



Troy Nicholas Prehar, Dripping Springs, TX; St. Paul Evang., Austin (TX); LCMS 25+; People Leader of Sales/Marketing/Enablement/Ldrshp./Training for Philips, NA. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2010). **D:** TX Dist. Alternate Cir. Del. (2023), Org. Multiple Cir.-Level Workshops and Events. **C:** Chm. Bd. of Elders, Elder, Pres. Cong., Chm. Strategic Planning Com., Chm./Co-Chm./Mem. of Four Pastoral or Called Staff Search Com., Various Leadership Roles on

Cong./Coun./Com. **O:** Healthcare Industry, Leading Sales, Marketing, Training, Enablement, Healthcare Economics Team, Multiple roles on Nonprofit Com. and Veteran Advocacy Bds., Youth Sports Coach to His Five Children, Married to Lori 20.

My name is Troy Prehar and I’m honored to be considered for lay member on the board of regents at Fort Wayne. My interest is to assist the seminary in addressing the incredible challenge we face in effectively equipping enough pastors for the near future. My wife and I are blessed with five children, and I have served in multiple lay leadership positions including lay Synod and district delegate, congregation president, head elder, chairman for strategic planning, pastoral call committees, and more. Professionally, I teach and train organizational effectiveness, among other subjects, in the private sector.



Beverly K. Yahnke+, Brookfield, WI; Elm Grove (SW); LCMS 60+; Exec. Co-Dir., DOXOLOGY: The Lutheran Center for Spiritual Care. **S:** Dir. BHE 6, Mem. Disability TF 2, Developed RSO DOXOLOGY 16. **D:** Mem. SW Dist. Ministerial Health Com 2. **C:** Secy. Cong. Recording Secy. 3, Tchr. SS, Tchr. VBS. **O:** Clinical Psychologist, Formerly Prof. and Chm. of Psychology at CUW, Psychology Consultation and Advisement to DPs, Psychology Consultation and

Advisement to Principals, Presenter at Conferences throughout the Synod.

LCMS seminaries have flourished, by the grace of God. Yet, new challenges invite seminaries to examine the future carefully. Forming faithful pastors and deaconesses remains vital. God’s Holy Word and Sacraments must remain ever present for His people, the community of faith must be taught, and outreach for the lost must continue. There are difficult conversations ahead and competing overtures regarding future seminary education. After serving six years as a CTS regent, I’d be honored to participate in those conversations, with a keen desire to determine how best to continue providing faithful men for our pulpits and parishes.

b. Concordia Seminary (St. Louis, Mo.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 2 laypersons (6-year term)

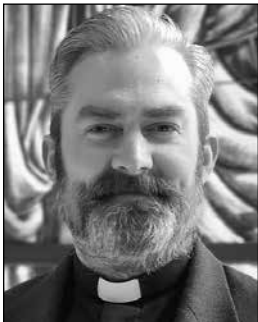
MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (6-year term)



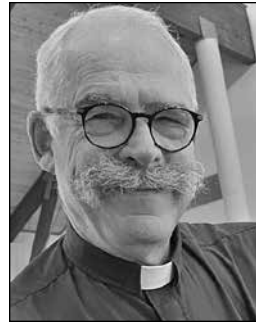
Tyler C. Arnold+, St. Louis, MO; Village, Ladue (MO); Pastor. **S:** Mem. CSL BOR 4, Mem. DOXOLOGY Collegium 9. **D:** Chm. Structure and Admin. Comm. MO Dist. 1, Mem. Structure and Admin. TF MO Dist. 2, Mem. Com. Dist. Conf. 2, CV 9, Mem. SI Dist. Comm. Congregational Support 2, Mem. SI Dist. Conv. Comm. On Congregation Support 1. **C:** Pastor 24. **O:** Mem. Exec. Coun. Martin Luther Academy 5, Mem. Exec. Bd. Unity Luth. School 1.

It has been my privilege to serve on the board of regents at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, since 2019. I have served as the board's vice-chairman since 2021. If elected, I will continue to serve faithfully as God gives me His strength and direction. I'm very supportive of the administration at Concordia Seminary, specifically the leadership of President Tom Egger. Concordia Seminary is blessed with a tremendous and faithful faculty that is called to train up the next generation of pastors. It is truly a blessing to serve an institution of the LCMS that has put so much into my pastoral formation.



Jon Carl Furgeson, St. Louis, MO; Peace (MO); LCMS 47; Senior Pastor, Guest Instructor, CSL. **D:** Chm. Fl. Com. Theol., Church, and Culture, MO Dist. Conv. 1 and Secy. 1, Chm. Dist. Pre-Seminary Interview Com. MO Dist. 2 and Co-Chm. 4. **C:** Senior Pastor 3, Assoc. Pastor 14. **O:** Guest Instructor "Pastor as Leader and Theol." SMP Program CSL 3, Guest Lecturer CSL 9, Mem. Green Park Luth. 3, Clergy Advisor LWML St. Louis South County Zone 4, CV St. Louis Affton Circuit 3.

Concordia Seminary needs its regents, in part, to keep a broad vision of faithfully training our pastors. We continue to face a declining culture, placing increased demands on pastors to lead their congregations with confessional and scriptural integrity. This requires our seminaries to train our men to be theologically astute and have a servant's heart for the congregation and community in which they serve and also to foster a positive network of pastoral brothers for their mutual benefit and encouragement. With a teaching background and love for my alma mater, the regent position is an important and exciting challenge!



Warren W. Graff, Albuquerque, NM; Grace (RM); Pastor. **S:** Del. Synod Conv., DR, Vicarage Supervisor. **D:** Chm. Com. MI Dist. North Region Pastors' Conf., Chm. Com. RM Dist. Pastors' Conf. (2 Terms), Chm. RM Nom. Com. (2 Terms). **C:** Tchr. SS, Mem. Church Coun. **O:** Volunteer Hospice Chapl., Jail Min., College Campus Min., LWML Pastoral Couns., Mem. Comm. Establishment Miss. Church, Author Theol. Papers Delivered at Various Dist. Pastoral Confs. (RM, MI, MDS Dist.).

That the word of justification go forth in our dark world, the Lord instituted the Office of the Gospel and Sacraments (AC IV, V). In our current generation of cultural wasteland, Concordia Seminary has a joyful task of teaching our Lord's doctrine to men who will serve as pastors, and to deaconesses. To teach these students of our Lord's Word to discern society's pathologies and, more importantly, to hear sinners confess their sins, all in order to speak the Lord's forgiving, justifying Word, is the great trust given the Seminary. If chosen in convention, I would be honored to serve.



Adam Clinton Koontz, Lakewood, CO; Trinity, Denver (RM); LCMS 15; Pastor. **S:** Conv. Deleg. (2019), Fl. Com. CTR (2019), Prof. CTSFW 4, Coord. Church Planter Dev. ONM 1. **D:** Evang. Council. EN 3, CV Philadelphia Cir. EN 1. **C:** Church Planter 4. **O:** Essayist/Presenter Dist. Pastors' Conf. in MDS, SD, MT 4, Essayist Mid-Atlantic Region, Society for Biblical Literature (2018).

Our seminaries exist to provide pastors for Christ's Church. It is enough for pastors that they be found faithful, teaching the faith once delivered to the saints and proclaiming the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15). I want to ensure that Concordia Seminary is found faithful to the inerrant Word of God in its teaching and its practice.



Jeffrey Eric Skopak, Atlantic Beach, FL; Grace, Jacksonville (FG); LCMS 56; Senior Pastor. **S:** Guest Instructor CTSFW, LLDLP Program (Strategic Planning and Task Management), Fac. for LCEF Consecrated Stewards, Exec. Ldr.: Friends of the Fort Support and Care Event. **D:** CV AT Dist. 3, CV SELC Dist. 5, CV PSW Dist. 3, Sem. Bd. for FG Dist., Devel. Fac. Natural Church, Chapl. Ed. Conf. FG Dist. **C:** Lead variety of Congregations (Small, Ret. Community, Urban, Suburban with School), Lead cong. through Strategic Plans, Initiated and completed several Building Proj. **O:** Author *Christ, Culture, and Cinema* (CPH), Weekly Podcast "Christ, Culture, and Cinema" and Partner with Grace Hill Media (a Hollywood Agency).

Article III of the Constitution of the LCMS states: "Recruit and train pastors, teachers, and other professional church workers and provide opportunities for their continuing growth." The seminaries of the LCMS serve at the intersection of this important

objective of Synod, training both pastors and deaconesses, providing continuing education both on and off campus, and offering advanced degrees and study programs for the servants of the Church. The seminaries need to be nimble in addressing the needs of the Church while remaining faithful to the Scriptures and Confessions. Education is changing and the seminaries need to be ready to meet these changes.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (6-year term)



Paul P. Edmon+, Medford, MA; First Luth. Church of Boston (NE); LCMS 40; ITC Senior Research Computing Specialist, Harvard Univ. **S:** Mem. BOR CSL 7, Del. Synod Conv. (2019), Mem. Fl. Com. 6 (Seminaries). **D:** Del. NE Dist. Conv. (2018, 2022). **C:** Pres. Cong. 6, Chr. Call Comm. 1, Pres. Luth. Student Fellowship.

It has been an honor to serve for the last seven years on the board of regents. If reelected I will continue to strive to ensure that our pastors are faithful to the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions, able to rightly divide the Word of Truth, apt to teach, and eager to share the Gospel with their parish and community. Recruitment of students will continue to be a main focus, as well as developing a pipeline to train and recruit future faculty.



Henry Hardt, Storm Lake, IA; St. John (IW); LCMS 65; Em. Prof., Buena Vista Univ., Part-Time Atty. **D:** Mem. LCEF IW Dist. Loan Review Com. **C:** Head Elder, Chm. Stewp., Treas. SS, Exec. Dir./Chm. 13. **O:** Prof. Em. Business Law, Prof. Em. Fin., Pres. Local Bar Assoc., Head Coach College Golf, Judicial Law Clerk, Ambassador for Cornea Transplants.

The shortage of LCMS pastors is well-known and vexing. Indeed, many congregations and members are concerned and frustrated with pastoral vacancies. As a board member, I will use my God-given skills to provide encouragement, resources, and counsel to accomplish the seminary's noble and imperative task of educating the next generation of pastors and other workers to bring the Gospel to the nations.



Matthew Ryan Kenitzer, Dike, IA; Our Redeemer, Cedar Falls (IE); LCMS 13; Project Mgr., John Deere. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2013). **C:** Mem. Bd. of Elders 10, Head Elder 3. **O:** People and Project Ldrshp. 15.

Concordia Seminary has a long history of confessional Lutheran theological leadership and service to the church through pastoral education and preparation. The foundation our seminaries provide has served the LCMS well through many previous generations and guided the

church with a faithful exposition of biblical truth as contained in the Lutheran Confessions. If elected, I intend to ensure this rich tradition continues for the next generation of pastors, steadfastly and permanently rooted in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, and that Concordia Seminary remains a worldwide beacon for excellence in biblical, confessional Lutheran scholarship, teaching, and practice.



Jeffrey J. Reuer, Longmont, CO; Eternal Savior, Lafayette (RM); LCMS 29; Prof. Guggenheim Endowed Chair, Univ. of Colorado. **C:** Cong. Elder, VP Pres. **O:** Business School Prof. 25, Service and Ldrshp. Positions in Academic Org. and Professional Societies, Consulting and Exec. Training on Strategic Planning.

As a business school professor working in a public university setting, I understand the challenges facing higher education in society. I also appreciate the inestimable value of theological education and scholarship in sharing the Gospel, supporting member congregations, and engaging the world. Some of my professional experiences that are potentially relevant to the board's work include strategic planning, management consulting and executive training, and various service and leadership roles in academia (details at jeffreyreuer.com). On a personal level, I would be excited to serve on the board as it presents a tremendous opportunity for learning and service to the Church.

XIII. Report on Candidates for College/University Boards of Regents

Duties: Meetings four times a year at the respective school. The board's duties include the defining and fulfilling of the mission of the school within the broad assignment of the Synod, operating and managing it as an agent of the Synod, serving as its governing body, establishing and reviewing policies, promoting public relations, approving budgets, and in every way promoting the well-being of the school. (2019 Handbook, pp. 165–69)

Qualifications: A board of regents of a college or university of the Synod is responsible for the spiritual, academic, and financial health of the institution. It makes decisions regarding the resources and strategic vision that are needed to provide Christian workers and leaders for the church and the world. It oversees the work of the president and creates appropriate policies to guide administrative activities. A board of regents is responsible for the educational program of its institution. Its members must assure themselves that the work of the institution is carried on effectively and managed in a business-like manner within an annually established budget. The board is also responsible for the general welfare of faculty, staff, and students. Its members should be acquainted with current trends in education and should have a strong commitment to Christian education at all levels, with special interest in the preparation of church workers. Committee work and other commitments may be requested between meetings. Regents may expect to be asked to support the institution financially as part of their personal stewardship commitments.

Persons elected or appointed to a board of regents should be knowledgeable regarding the region in which the institution is located and shall demonstrate familiarity and support for the doctrinal positions of the Synod. They shall possess two or more of the following qualifications: theological acumen, an advanced academic degree, experience in higher education administration, administration of complex organizations, finance, law, investments, technology, human resources, facilities management, or fund development. [The required qualifications must be clearly specified on the biographical form submitted by nominees, as it provides the basis for their verification.] Demonstrated familiarity and support of the institution is a desired quality.

Restrictions: No more than two elective members of a college, university, or seminary board of regents may be members of the same congregation (Bylaw 3.10.6.2 [7]). Qualifications shall be reviewed and verified by the Secretary of the Synod (or designee) and the President of the CUS (or designee) (Bylaw 3.10.6.2 [8]).

a. Concordia University Chicago (River Forest, Ill.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Eric R. Andrae+, Pittsburgh, PA; Pastor. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2023), Mem. BOR CUC (2), Chap. “Liberty” LCMS Campus Min. Conf. (2017), Del. Synod Conv. (2016), Asst. Chapl. “Taboo” LCMS Campus Min. Conf. (2015), National Stewp. Conf. (2014), Del. Synod Conv. (2013), Mem. “Witness” Fl. Com. 1 (2013), Mem. Com. Christ on Campus Higher Things Campus Min. 4, Volunteer Coord. for “Amen: A Higher Things Youth Conference” (2007–2008), Host and Chap. for “Christ on Campus IV” Annual Campus Min. Staff Conf. (2006), Founder and Chm. Giertz Centennial Com. of America 9, Founder Bonhoeffer Centennial Comm. of America 5, PALS Participant 3, Lutheran Hour Living for Tomorrow Regional Outreach Campaign Com. (2000), DR. **D:** Mem. Univ. of Pittsburgh Assoc. of Chapl. 22 and Chm. 3, Mem. Chatham Univ. Interfaith [Multifaith] Coun./Chatham Worldview Network 19 and Convener 1, Mem. Carnegie Mellon Univ. Interfaith Coun. (Council of Religious Advisors) 22 and Secy. 1, Mem. Miss. Summit Planning Com. EA Dist. 1, Mem. Standing Com. on Stewp. EA Dist. 2, Mem. Planning Com. EA Dist. Pastors’ Conference 1. **O:** Head Coach Redeemer Elementary Girls Basketball 2, Mem. Scandinavian Soc. of Southwestern Pennsylvania 9, Mem. Beatrice Inst./PGH Christian Studies Advisory Coun. 9, Cofounder and Co-Chap. First Trinity Homeless Ministry, Cofounder and Co-Chap. 15, Fac. and Chap. Pre-Medicine Hospice Volunteer Prog. Univ. of Pittsburgh 8, Participant Christian-Jewish Dialogue 8, Mem. Steering Com. Nationality Rooms Cabaret Ball Univ. of Pittsburgh 1, Mem. Steering Com. Global Focus for Year of Scandinavia Chatham Univ. 1, Participant Pittsburgh Interfaith Initiative 1, Mem. Planning Com. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration Univ. of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon Univ., Chatham Univ. 1, Mem. BOD Pittsburgh Pregnancy Care Centers (Women’s Choice Network) 3, Founder and Moderator Pittsburgh Luth. in Confessional Study 6, Participant Oakland Ministerium 1, Millvale Ministerium 3.

College is crucial for the long-term formation of young adults and thus for the whole Synod, and my insights as a campus pastor for more than two decades have been valuable these past one-and-a-half years as a regent. Some of the key challenges/opportunities that our current cultural moment presents are being addressed by CUC’s Unity and Civility Committee, of which I am a member. As an immigrant coming from a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual family, while also serving at secular universities, I provide a unique perspective that will benefit not only CUC but also the broader Synod in various community and congregational contexts.



Paul Dare, Alexandria, MN; Zion (MNN); Senior Pastor. **S:** Participant ONM “Everyone His Witness” Series on Giving a Christian Witness to Critical Theory, Author Bible Study, “Christians in a Woke World: A Call to Courage, Confession and Love,” Ldr. Confs. on Christian Response of Truth and Love to the “Woke” Culture 3. **D:** Mem. Com. Dist. Parish Life and Nurture That Oversees College Min., School Min., and Christian Home 6. **C:** Ldr.

Campus Bible Studies Outside of the CUS, Ldr. Bible Studies with CUS Students. **O:** Commissioned to write Book for the Lexham Min. Guides on Church Discipline.

It’s an honor to be nominated to serve on the Board of Regents for my alma mater. If elected, I would strive to be a voice for faithfulness to God’s Word and our Confessions. As well as being a parish pastor for the last 23 years, I closely study trends in woke ideology and its impact on young hearts and minds. I see Lutheran education as both a treasure and resource to reach out to our world and shape the future of the church.



David Paul Ramirez, Union Grove, WI; St. Paul (SW); LCMS 16; Pastor. **S:** DR 9, Conv. Del. (2016), Organizer Semi-Annual Regional Jr. and Sr. High Youth Conf. 5, Mem. Planning Com. Bugenhagen Conf. 6. **D:** Mem. CI Dist. Pastors’ Planning Conf. Com. 2 and Chm. (2013), Mem. Fl. Com. SW Dist. Conv. (2015 and 2022). **C:** Chm. NLSA Accreditation Com. 1, St. Paul’s Luth. School 8. **O:** Panelist for Monthly Local TV Prog. “Our Faith Today” 1, Mem. BOD

Luth. Catechetical Society 1, Church League Softball 9, Lived and Worked in Various Places and Cultural Contexts (Chicago, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Carolinas, Rural Midwest).

American culture has undergone a great shift—especially in regard to Christianity. The Church and her educational institutions must both preserve the treasures God has given us and effectively engage the particular opportunities of the day. Psalm 118 declares, “The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation” (v. 14). We must look to the Scriptures as our guiding light to faithfully pass on the inheritance we have received. God’s Word will give us wisdom to develop strategies to handle challenges and work as a team to further our common confession and mission.

Also nominated for Great Lakes Region Vice-President

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (3-year term)



Carol R. Johnson+, Fords, NJ; Redeemer, Westfield (NJ); LCMS 65; Ret., Substitute Tchr. **S:** Mem. BOR CUC 4. **D:** Volunteer at Dist. Office, Active in Dist. Youth Events. **C:** Head Miss. and Outreach Team 4, Tchr. SS, Mem. Choir, Min. Ldr. Family/ Youth Min., Supt. VBS. **O:** Ldr. GS, Softball Coach, 4-H Parent.

Serving on the CUC Board of Regents has been a blessing and a privilege over the past four years. It has been exciting to be part of the vision and mission of CUC as we strive to improve the faculty, curriculum, and physical buildings of the campus. I feel that I have contributed to this progress, and I hope to be able to continue in this service to our future pastors, teachers, and others for the next three years.



Jennifer Siukola (Jen), Carmel, IN; Advent, Zionsville (IN); LCMS 37; Dcs. **C:** Dcs. Internship 2. **O:** Tchr. Univ. 12.

With a background in college teaching, I unhappily witnessed firsthand how cultural ideologies are creeping into universities. I want to protect those places where God’s Word is faithfully taught and revered. 2 Timothy 3:16–17 explains, “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” With this in mind, I pray that I may always be guided by God’s Word, as understood in the Lutheran Confessions, and that the Lord will use me according to His will.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Jeffrey Elwin Elbert, Waterloo, IA; Faith (IE); Chemist. **D:** Del. Dist. Conv., Del. LCEF Annual Meeting. **C:** Pres., VP Secy. Fin., Treas. **O:** Pres., VP Mem. Bd. Valley Luth.

I am a lifelong Lutheran with more than 25 years of experience in higher education. As a faculty member, I have served in budgeting, curriculum and program review, and advisory committees at all levels in the university. I understand Concordia University Chicago is an organization in service to and accountable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. I am prepared to actively work to preserve Concordia University Chicago’s Lutheran identity by supporting the objectives of the Synod as found in Article III of the Constitution and support the delivery of rigorous academic and student programs leading students to develop Christ-centered values.



John Thaelke+, Houston, TX; Our Savior (TX); Dir. of Fin., Incarnate Word Academy. **S:** Mem. BOR CUC 1. **C:** Cong. Pres. 1, Treas. 2, Mem. Bd. of Fin. and Dir. 7, Asst. Treas. and Treas. 5. **O:** Dir. Fin. at DDRB of St. Charles County 2, Mem. St. Charles City and County Library Bd. and Fnd. 7, Mem. Luth. Brotherhood and Thrivent Bd.

I am a proud graduate (1992) of Concordia University Chicago. I have maintained an active interest in the church work programs the Concordia system provides as all the congregations I have attended were in constant need of qualified church workers. I remember being a student advisor to one of the regent committees and now have the privilege of serving as a regent in my alma mater.



Alison C. Witte+, Fairborn, OH; Bethlehem (OH); LCMS 39; Supplemental Instruction Coord., Univ. of Dayton. **S:** Mem. CUC BOR 4. **C:** Pres. PTO 3, Chr. Auction 5. **O:** Asst. Dean of Faculty and Instruction, Urbana Univ. 1, Faculty in English at Urbana Univ. 2, Faculty in English at Trine Univ. 5.

Having spent the past 15 years in higher education, in both faculty and administrative capacities, I see how college students struggle to navigate an increasingly unstable and unforgiving world. Continuing as a board member is important to me because I see how Concordia University Chicago provides education that centers on Christ as the source of true grace, stability, and peace. By emphasizing truth, freedom, and vocation, CUC positions students to learn to value their vocations, and equips them to put their learning into action, bringing the Gospel into the world around them. I am excited to continue to support and extend this work.



Mark Donald Wolfrum, Homer Glen, IL; St. Paul, Lockport (NI); LCMS 62; Medically Ret., Adjunct Instructor, Lewis Univ. **S:** Lifelong Member LCMS. **O:** Ret. Adjunct Instructor, Lewis Univ., Medically Ret. Commercial Pilot.

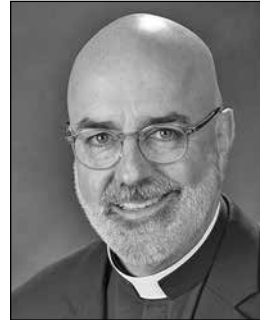
As a lifelong beneficiary of both the Lutheran and public school systems, I am honored to participate in this process of maintenance and growth of the Concordia University community. Our changing society is growingly hostile and combative to our faith. Secular society places pressure on our universities to conform to its whims rather than to God's Word. I foresee meeting those challenges not by merely encouraging "resistance" to societal pressures but also by maintaining a quality, Christ-centered educational environment—a welcoming environment that empowers its graduates to lead in their vocation with the integrity of God's Word and compassion.

b. Concordia University, Irvine (Calif.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Scott C. Klemsz+, Salinas, CA; Lutheran Church of Our Savior (CNH); LCMS 57; Pastor. **S:** Dir. Admission, PR, and Publications CTSFW 10. **D:** Participant Dist. and Circuit, Attendee Study Sessions with Other Pastors, Attendee Dist. Meetings. **C:** Tchr., Elder. **O:** Tchr. Church's Preschool, Involved in Public Schools and Various Com. Orgs.

It has been a privilege to serve Concordia University, Irvine. The university is in an excellent position to impact the lives of students with the Gospel in an engaging academic environment. I have been able to assist the Board of Regents with my background as a senior staff member in higher education, my call as a parish pastor, and experience in publishing. In addition, my daughter recently graduated from CUI, giving me a perspective as a parent. I would be honored to serve for another term.



Nathan Eugene Schaus, Buckeye, AZ; Summit Com. (PSW); LCMS 47; Pastor. **D:** Conv. Chapl. (2018), CV 1. **C:** Assoc. Pastor 7, Senior Pastor 16.

As a graduate of Concordia Irvine and former president of the student body, I would love to return to serve the university again on the Board of Regents. The national landscape and California in particular can be hostile to Christian higher education. I believe that strong leadership will continue to be needed in the years to come! Along with 23 years of pastoral ministry, I have leadership experience with land/building projects and a passion to help develop more church workers. If elected, it would be an honor to serve.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (3-year term)



Jeffrey S. Beavers+, Orange, CA; St. John (PSW); LCMS 35; Exec. Dir., Crean Luth. High School. **S:** Chr. Blue Ribbon TF 1, Nominee BNM (2014). **D:** Mem. PSW Dist. Admin. Cabinet and Cons. TF 14, Pres. PSW Dist. Luth. Educator Conf. 2, Vice-Pres. PSW Dist. Luth. Educator Conf. 3, Mem. Fl. Com. PSW Dist. Conv. 1. **C:** Elder 18, Mem. Youth Bd. 4. **O:** Luth. Secondary Admin. 25, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist 26, Probation Officer,

Denver Luth. Graduate (1985).

Mr. Jeffrey Beavers is currently executive director and CEO at Crean Lutheran High School (CLHS) in Irvine, Calif. By God's grace, CLHS is the LCMS' fastest growing Lutheran school in the Synod's history, now 16-years-old and serving 1,040 students. Jeffrey is a humble product of Lutheran education as a graduate of Denver Lutheran High School ('85) and Christ College (CUI), Irvine ('89). He is married to Lisa (nee McCann, CUI '88), and they have three children and worship at St. John's Lutheran Church in Orange, Calif. It has been a joy to serve as a member of the Board of Regents, and it is an honor to be nominated again as a regents candidate.



Kate Elizabeth Thielke, Houston, TX; Our Savior (TX); LCMS 47; Prin., Our Savior. **C:** Tchr./DPM 4, DPM 3, Coordinator of Music 6, Asst. Organist 6, Prin. 7. **O:** Mem. Bd. The Sparrow's Nest 3, Zion Women's Ministry 12.

I am very interested in serving the LCMS as a member of the Board of Regents to provide guidance and oversight for the university. As a graduate of a Concordia (BA and MA), a

Lutheran school principal, and a mother of a Concordia undergraduate student, the opportunity to be a part of the decision-making for the university, to ensure its continued Lutheran identity and serving the Church in producing strong candidates in service to the Church and our neighbor is an honor to provide. I am committed to a common confession and mission in the LCMS and to work in support of and on behalf of congregations to assist the LCMS and Concordia Irvine in carrying out their ministries.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Mark L. Biermann, Valparaiso, IN; Immanuel (IN); LCMS 60; Pres., Blackburn College. **C:** Lector, Mem. Choir, Tchr. SS, Mem. Various Com.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has blessed me with the opportunity to serve in higher education for more than 30 years. I now seek to support Concordia University Irvine by serving on its Board of Regents. The Concordia University System and Concordia, Irvine, are uniquely positioned to powerfully educate and nurture the next generations of church workers and lay members of the LCMS. I desire to support higher education grounded in the Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ as described in the Confessions of the LCMS. I am committed to the common confession and mission of the LCMS.



Laura G. Hemminger+, Bremerton, WA; Our Savior, Tacoma (NOW); LCMS 33; Homemaker. **S:** Mem. BOR CUI 4, Planner NYG 1, Spkr. NYG 2, Spkr. and Collaborator Life Ministry Conf. 2, Recipient LWML Mission Grant 1 and Spkr. 1, Spkr. LCMS U Conf. 2, Spkr. Higher Things, Spkr. Beautiful Feet Conf. **D:** Young Women's Rep. TX Dist. LWML Bluebonnet Zone 2, Recipient Dist. Grant (TX, MI, WA/AK, Carolinas) 2, Team Ldr. MO Dist. Youth Servant

Event 1, Speaker PSW Dist. Jr. High Gathering 1. **C:** Pres. LWML Society 3, Music Min. 23, Ldrshp. Team Youth Min. 3, Ldr. Miss. Trip 1, Volunteer VBS 4. **O:** Mem. BOD Lutherans For Life 1, Staff/Dir. Y4Life 7, Devel. Couns. 1, Sidewalk Couns. 6, Prog. Staff Lutherhaven Min. 1, and Volunteer 1, Intern Next Step Pregnancy Center 1 and Volunteer 2, Spkr. Nat'l. March for Life 1, Vita Institute 1.

Our Concordia Universities give us the opportunity to share Jesus in a uniquely Lutheran context to students, many of whom have never heard the Gospel. I mentored students from many of our universities through my work at Lutherans For Life and have seen the positive impact that an education with a strong Lutheran identity that affirms our Lutheran Confessions can have on students' faith development and future ministry. I've been honored to serve as a regent at Concordia University, Irvine, and I'd be privileged to continue to support the university's commitment to upholding the tradition of sound Lutheran, biblically based education.



Michael Curtis McThrow, Capitola, CA; Luth. Church of Our Savior, Cupertino (CNH); LCMS 8; Research Staff at Fujitsu Research of America. **C:** Org. Young Adult Gathering 1. **O:** Tchr., Programming Paradigms, San Jose State Univ. 2.

Michael McThrow is a member of Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Cupertino, Calif. He works at Fujitsu Research of America in Sunnyvale as an artificial intelligence researcher.

He has a bachelor's degree in computer science from California Polytechnic State University and a master's degree in computer science from the University of California, Santa Cruz. He has taught upper-division courses at San Jose State University. He is passionate about education. He will combine his Lutheran convictions with his knowledge of academia to help govern Concordia University, Irvine, in a manner that promotes the principles taught by Holy Scripture and our Confessions.



Linda Stoterau, Orange, CA; St. John (PSW); LCMS 75; Ret. Ed. **S:** Mem. Com. on Worship 9, Secy. Com. on Worship 3, Mem. BNM 6, Secy. BNM 3, Mem. CCN (2019). **D:** Rep. PSW Dist. (2018). **C:** Dir. of Music/Choir Dir./Organist 31, Substitute Organist 22. **O:** Prin. 1, Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction 13, Tchr. Math 18, Luth. Elem. Schools 3, Mem. BOD LIRS Baltimore 6, Vista Royale HOA 7, Middle Level Educator of the Year—Central

AZ (1998), Admin. of the Year—Curriculum and Instruction ASCA Region 17 (2010).

As a graduate of Concordia University, St. Paul, I am committed to our Concordia Universities! I am a resident of Orange County Calif. and know how respected Concordia University, Irvine, is in the county and in Southern California. As an administrator for Orange Unified Public Schools, I was happy and proud to see many of our teachers utilize CUI for their master's programs. I would be honored to serve on the Board of Regents and to work with the leadership to maintain this strong standing in our community.

c. Concordia University, Nebraska (Seward, Neb.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Brad E. Birtell+, Madison, NE; St. John, Columbus (NEB); Pastor. **S:** TF Rural Min., Guest Prof. CUNE in Old Testament. **D:** Presenter at New Pastor Orientation, VP Intersect Com., Devotional Ldr. NEB Dist. Conv., CV, VP Mission Central Found. **C:** Host Pastor CSL 1.

Concordia University, Nebraska, has been a large part of my life, the life of my family, and the life of the congregation I am called to serve. With that said, being a regent for another term would afford me the wonderful opportunity to continue to give back to a place I dearly love. As a member of the Board of Regents, it would be my hope that, together with the rest of the board, we might enable Concordia University in Nebraska to continue its mission to raise up servant leaders for the Church and the world.



Kenneth Mars, Cody, WY; Christ the King, Cody (WY); LCMS 23; Pastor. **S:** Synod Reconciler 10+. **D:** Secy. WY Dist. BOD 9, Fac. WY Dist. PALS 6, Chm. WY Dist. Homeschool Retreat Comm. 3. **C:** Tchr. Theol. Class for Laity and Clergy, Sierra Leone, West Africa. **O:** Pastor 17, Mem. BOD NE Panhandle Public Health Dist. 7, Mem. Various Local Boards.

Christ's Church needs men and women who are educated for godly service in the world and God's kingdom. Christ Jesus has raised up Concordia University, Nebraska, (CUNE) to fulfill this great need. At CUNE, students have the opportunity to grow in their biblical knowledge through study of Scripture, Church fathers, and Lutheran theologians. This eternal wisdom is coupled with the study of subjects and skills required for life in the 21st century. Supporting such a unique Lutheran education committed to exploring the truth in every area of human endeavor is the privilege afforded to all who serve on the Board of Regents.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (3-year term)



Craig A. Ernstmeyer+, St. Peters, MO; Zion, St. Charles (MO); LCMS 49; Head of School, Luth. High School of St. Charles County. **S:** Mem. BOR CUNE 4, Cons. School Min. 6, Cons. NLSA, Captain, Team Mem. 19. **D:** Vice-Chm. Bd. of Ed. Services 9, Mem. Governance Com. **C:** Communion Asst. 10, Spkr.: Ed. Series. **O:** Bd. Mem. ALSS 5, Mem. Luth. Elementary School Assoc. of St. Louis Adv. Coun. 5.

As a graduate of CUNE, I am excited about the potential of continuing to serve as a member of the Board of Regents! In the ever-changing world in which we live, the timeless truth of the Gospel the Concordia system provides needs to continue to be the top priority. The Lutheran education landscape is changing, and we need to provide our K–12 schools with teachers ready to equip future generations. This happens best through preparation at universities like CUNE. Our schools continue to grow with students who don't know Jesus; teachers need to be equipped to share Him with others!



Wendy L. McCarty, Grand Island, NE; Peace (NEB); LCMS 65; Prof., Univ. of Nebraska, Kearney. **S:** Com. Min., Luth. Teaching Diploma, Conc. Coll. Graduate. **D:** Founders Group, Heartland Luth. High School 8, Bd. Mem., Heartland Lutheran High School 4, Sect. and Chrm. Marketing Com., Tchr., Zion Luth. School 1. **C:** Leader, Bible Study 10, Tchr., VBS, SS, Mem., Choir, Church Organist, Secy., Church Council. **O:** Dir., Interfaith Inspiration Gospel

Singing 26, Secy., Treas., Cosmopolitan Club 12.

As a longtime Nebraska resident and Concordia alum, my desire to serve on the Board of Regents is based on my lifelong commitment to Christian education. I intend to utilize 20+ years of experience and expertise in post-secondary education to help Concordia effectively address a critical issue for families: the shortage of Christian teachers. Recruiting and retaining future Christian leaders in all career paths is vital to the health of the university as well as to the spiritual health of the congregations to which these graduates connect and support the primary mission of congregational ministry: growing the kingdom of God.



David J. Pratt, Las Vegas, NV; Mountain View (PSW); LCMS 23; Tchr. **D:** Dist. Co-Coord. NYG 1. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Elders 5, Cong. BOD 1, Ldr. Various Adult and Youth Bible Studies 9. **O:** Tchr. 9.

As a CUNE alumni, I am excited by the chance to give back to the institution that gave so much to me and my family. I'm a strong proponent of Lutheran education and am committed to doing what I can to make sure that future generations have the opportunity to attend strong, faithful, Lutheran universities. I consider the board an important part in giving students a place where they can continue to learn what they believe and why they believe it and to prepare them for service in the Church and any other vocations into which God calls them.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Jason Burk, Parker, TX; Faith, Plano (TX); LCMS 45; VP Actuary and Analytics, VillageMD. **C:** Chm. Stewp. 2, Chm. Youth Ed. 2, Mem. Bd. Christian Ed. 1, Treas. 2.

I'm a lifelong Lutheran and product of LCMS schools from first grade to undergrad. My career as an actuary has led me to live in several parts of the country, and part of every job consideration was finding a confessional LCMS church to attend. I would be honored to use my skills and experience that I have gained from being an executive leader at several different companies and from my MBA from the University of Michigan. It is important to me to hand down a strong, stable, and confessional LCMS to my children and, with God's blessing, future grandchildren.

Also nominated for LCMS Board of Directors



Joseph Lee Cook, Casper, WY; Mt. Hope (WY); LCMS 16; Ret. Tchr. **D:** Rep. Conv. NOW Dist. (2018). **C:** Cong. Pres. 3, Elder 3. **O:** Tchr. History, Theol., Apologetics, and Ethics at Santiam Christian 14.

Working in Christian educational institutions for most of my adult life, I have seen leadership lose sight of mission and cave to an increasingly anti-Christian culture to the detriment of students, staff, and ultimately to the mission of Christ's Church. If elected to the Board of Regents at Concordia University, Nebraska, I will do all I can to further the school's commitment to remain faithful to the teaching of Holy Scripture and the preservation of our distinctive Lutheran identity in order to prepare graduates for the fullness of Christian living in their families, their work, and in the Church.



Timothy Hu+, Cheyenne, WY; St. Andrew, Laramie (WY); LCMS 58; Pres., Gyan Technologies Corporation. **S:** Mem. BOR CUNE 7. **D:** Del. Conv. **C:** Mem. Church Coun., Cong. Pres., Head Deacon. **O:** Pres., VP Treas., Secy. Cheyenne Engineers Club, Founder Flying Club.

I pray for good future church workers to be trained according to Scripture and the sound pattern of words set forth in the Book of Concord.

This is one of the reasons for the Synod to exist, and continuing to help guide the Concordias would be an honor.



Douglas Tewes, Bennet, NE; Messiah, Lincoln (NEB); LCMS 55; Orthopedic Surgeon, Nebraska Orthopedic Center. **C:** Mem. Senior Pastor Call Com., Assoc. Pastor Com., Tchr. Bible Class Grades 6–8, Deleg. Lincoln Lutheran High School, Mem. Lincoln Lutheran Foundation BOD, Presenter of Lenten Presentation “Physical Death of Christ” to Multiple Congregations 30+. **O:** Pres. Nebraska Orthopedic Center, Mem. CUNE Fnd. BOD 17,

Co-Chm. CUNE “On A Mission” Campaign 6, Co-Chm. CUNE “Answering the Call” Campaign 5, Team Physician CUNE Athletics 10, Medical Dir./Physician Lincoln Saltdogs Baseball 22, Team Physician Lincoln Stars USHL Hockey Team Physician 27.

The university education of our young adults is critical to the ongoing work of the Church and faces fiscal, demographic, and cultural challenges. There are many capable leaders, but if called to serve, I will with God’s guidance use my experience as a physician, businessman, family man as well as my experience as cochair of two successful CUNE campaigns to assist the administration in guiding CUNE as it faces these challenges. I believe it is critical that we preserve the mission of “preparing servant leaders” and believe that we must maintain what sets CUNE apart from other schools in the region by “wearing Christ on its sleeves” every day.

d. Concordia University, St. Paul (Minn.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Jeffrey Paul Cloeter, St. Louis, MO; Christ Memorial (MO); LCMS 44; Senior Pastor. **S:** Mem. NYG Bible Study Planning Team 1. **D:** Mem. Bd. Dist. Miss. 3, Presenter MNS Dist. Ed. Conf. 1. **C:** Assoc. Pastor 9, Senior Pastor 9, Guest Instructor Pastoral Leadership Class CSL 5. **O:** Mem. BOD Luth. Fnd. of St. Louis 5, Mem. BOD Green Park Luth. School 9, Mem. BOD Momentum Academy Public Charter School 6, Supervisor CSL RFE 13, Mem. Steering Comm.

St. Louis Regional Miss. Network 8, Oikos Ecumenical Group (Archbishop of St. Louis) 3.

The Gospel of Jesus is of utmost importance in every generation. Our Concordia Universities are gems as they raise up the next generation for service to church and world. In recent decades, they have also become mission frontiers, engaging thousands of non-Christians with the Gospel. My pastoral ministry exists on this frontier, and I have pertinent experience to help steward the gift of CSP. My congregation engages a diverse population and has a campus ministry at St. Louis University. We also have an intern program for training and raising young people in our church. My contribution to the board would be theological, practical, and prayerful.



Donald J. Fondow, Park Rapids, MN; St. John (MNN); LCMS 69; Ret. Parish Pastor/Dist. Pres., MNN Dist., Dist. Miss. Fac. **S:** Mem. Miss. Partners Planning Comm., Mem. CUS Governance TF, Mem. COP 19, LCMS Rep. BOD Luth. Serv. in America 2. **D:** Pres. 19, Miss. Fac. 3, Mem. Ed. Com., Mem. Student-Aid Com., Mem. Pre-Seminary Interview Com., Mem. Structure Com. **C:** Pastor 21. **O:** Mem. Ambassador’s Coun. CSP, Mem.

Heritage Living Center Ethics Com., Fac. Fifth Step at Pine Manor Treatment Center and Bell-Hill Treatment Center.

LCMS universities should serve as bright lights shining on the Truth (Christ and His Word) in a world of darkness and lies. Pontius Pilate’s question is the center of the battle for the American mind today: “What is truth?” Society is well educated and sophisticated, but it has lost its moorings in biblical truth. Thus, we need LCMS schools with teachers who know the Truth, teach the Truth, and hold to the Truth. I am committed to assist Concordia University, St. Paul, in carrying out its promise to be a place where Christ is honored and where Lutheran convictions inform intellectual inquiry and academic pursuits.



Brent L. Parrish+, Prior Lake, MN; Immanuel (MNS); LCMS 33; Senior Pastor. **S:** Mem. CSP BOD. **D:** CV, Dist. VP, Mem. Bd. of Parish Services, Mem. Dist. Conv. Floor Com.

I firmly believe Concordia University, St. Paul, is a wonderful mission field. It is so extremely important that the Gospel is shared with every student who attends Concordia. I believe that CSP is one of our Synod's treasures and a great asset to our ministry here in the

Minnesota South District and throughout the Synod. In an increasingly challenging culture, it is more important than ever that we keep the focus of CSP on Jesus and His mission for the Church.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (3-year term)



John Chilman, Las Vegas, NV; Mountain View (PSW); LCMS 40; Dir. of High School Counsel., Faith Luth. Middle and High Schools. **D:** Mem. Com. MNS Dist. to Make LEC Conf. More Relevant and to Help Dist. Better Help K–12 Tchrs. **C:** Various Capacities of Ldrshp. from Youth to BOD, Elder 11, Head Elder 10. **O:** Tchr. and Coach Racine Luth. 3, Tchr., Coach, Dean of Students, Asst. Princ. Coach Concordia Academy 13, Couns., Coach, Head

Couns., Dir. of High School Counsel. Faith Lutheran 15, Finalist for Exec. Dir. NACCAP (North American Coalition for Christian Admissions Professionals) (2020).

I am excited to be nominated for this position. I love my alma mater and would love to serve CSP in this capacity. In my 30-plus years in Lutheran education, with the last 15 specifically helping students here at Faith Lutheran in Las Vegas, I feel my God-given talents could definitely benefit this area. While I have loved all of the Lutheran schools I have worked in, because of my time here as the Director of HS Counseling and in serving as head elder at our home church, Mountain View Lutheran, I would do well in this position.



Mark J. L'Heureux+, Lincoln, NE; Christ (NEB); Dir. of Schools, Elementary Prin. **S:** CSP BOR 7. **D:** IE Asst. to the Pres. 7, SW Dist. Ed. Exec. 5. **O:** Hope Luth. School 3, Central Luth. School 7, Immanuel Luth. School 3.

25 years in Lutheran education has given me a greater scope of where education has been and where it's going. My ministry began as a teacher in an urban setting, then a principal in a

rural setting, and now in a city setting. I've also served as education executive for Iowa East and South Wisconsin districts. I had the opportunity to work with Concordia University Wisconsin, where we focused on urban education training as there is a great need to prepare teachers for an urban setting. We also developed an early childhood certification program for teachers who did not have the opportunity to attend a Concordia University. I've represented our

Lutheran schools at the state level, as I feel they are underserved by our legislators. I've seen our Lutheran schools benefit from school choice and will continue to advocate for them.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Karl Joseph Abbott, Wake Forest, NC; Our Savior, Raleigh (SE); LCMS 41; Product Manager, Element Software. **S:** Nominated and Interviewed for CEO of CPH (2021). **D:** Mem. Congs. in SO and SE Dists. Field Worker Churches in IN and OH Dists. **C:** Tchr. 6th–8th Grade SS 17, Chm. Bd. of Ed. 3, Chm. Bd. of Elders 6, Mem. Bd. of Elders 4, Mem. Long Range Planning Com. 11. **O:** Eagle Scout (1999), Employee Red Hat 16 (Accomplishments

include: Developing Training on core product launch and delivering it worldwide, Serving as key Technical Point of Contact for largest Fin. Services customers on Fortune 50, Developing and Implementing Tooling to increase efficiency of Technical Account Managers).

I have been a lifelong member of the LCMS and have witnessed firsthand the importance of our educational institutions through my time as a student at the Fort Wayne seminary. The opportunity to serve on the Board of Regents at Concordia University, St. Paul, solidly puts me at the intersection of the modern educational system and the mission of the Synod to remain committed to our common confession. These are often in conflict with each other, and I look forward to many fruitful discussions on how we should apply the Scriptures to the challenges presented by our modern society.



Paul C. Hinz+, Bloomington, MN; Mt. Hope (MNS); Senior Proj. Mgr., State of Minnesota, 4th Judicial Dist. **C:** Cong. Pres., VP, Head Trustee, Led Strategic Planning for Congs., Ldr. Pastoral Transition Com. (Call Com.), Ldr. Bible Class. **O:** Worldwide Travel, Worked for a Fortune 50 Manufacturing Company, Career Focus on Performance and Process Improvement, Responsible for Large Bodies of Work and Programs with Sizable Investment and Significant Org. Impact.

It remains a joy to be a regent at CSP. We truly are a Christ-centered university, though we are in a very diverse community. That presents the greatest of opportunities to reflect Christ into our community. I believe it essential to achieve greater balance as the relationship between the universities and the Synod is being restructured. I believe that a university must be a healthy organization, be well managed, financially sound, and embark on efforts that truly prepare students for service in their chosen life paths in a manner that demonstrates a Christ-centered life and foundation.



Richard Liedtke, Wakarusa, KS; Faith, Topeka (KS); LCMS 30+; Exec. Dir. of Enrollment, Management, Washburn Univ. **S:** Mem. Luth. Admission Coun. of the Missouri Synod 10 and Pres. (2003). **C:** Elder 3, Chm. Call Comm. 1, Mem. Lay Ldrshp. Coun. 4 and Pres. 1, Nominee Lay Ldrshp. Coun. 1. **O:** Progressive Higher Ed. 30+, CUNE 4, CTX 6.

After a 31-year career in higher education, I am acutely aware of the challenges facing higher education. With society's waning confidence in the higher education experience and shrinking pools of students coupled with a demographic shift, it will be important to provide visionary leadership and strategic thought boldly claiming Christ in and through one's vocation. In service to my Synod and CSP's Board of Regents, I would seek to advance the vision of a Lutheran higher education recognized for engaging students through excellence in teaching and dedicated to providing a meaningful educational experience for every student while enriching lives through Christ-centered learning.



Robert Paul Wurl, Hankinson, ND; Immanuel (ND); Pres. and CEO, Lincoln State Bank. **D:** Treas. ND Dist. 12, Mem. ND Dist. BOD 3, Chm. ND Dist. 150th Anniversary of LCMS. **C:** Ldr. LYF, Mem. Bd. of Elders, Vice-Chm. Cong. **O:** Mem. BOD NDBA, Mem. Bd. Lake Agassiz Regional Corp. Dev., Mem. Bd. Southern Valley Econ. Dev. Authority, Mem. and Treas. Bd. Hankinson CDC.

Serving in this role would provide an opportunity to participate in shaping the educational future for students and their service to others and the church. My involvement with an international mission project has given me a better understanding of the global church.

e. Concordia University Texas (Austin, Texas) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



Michael P. Dorn, Houston, TX; Trinity (TX); LCMS 59; Senior Pastor. **S:** Mem. CTX BOR 9 and Secy. 7, Mem. BOD Lutheran Church—Canada 2, Chapl. LCC National Youth Gathering. **D:** CV 12, Mem. Com. Salary Review 10, Stewp. Com. 3. **C:** Senior Pastor 12. **O:** Mem. Houston Symphony Chorus 6, Governance/Exec. Training 2, Trained Reconciler Peacemaker Min., Ldr. Stephen Ministry 23.

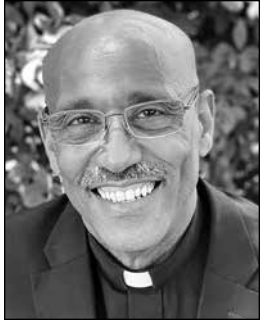
Concordia University Texas (CTX) is a recognized leader in education in our state. In addition to providing students with an excellent education and preparing workers for the church, CTX is attracting students who do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ—what an opportunity to share the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective with them! Having served as a regent of CTX in the past, it would be a privilege to serve in this way again as I have personally witnessed the amazing things that God is doing through His people at CTX. I believe our Lord has also prepared me with the gifts needed to assist Concordia in fulfilling its mission.



Nathaniel W. Hill, Winchester, TX; St. Michael (TX); LCMS 36; Pastor. **S:** Mem. BOR CTX 7, Mem. CTX BOR Governance Com. 7, Regular Guest KFYO's "Sharper Iron" Prog. 4. **D:** Mem. TX Dist. Theol. Convocation Planning Com. 8, Mem. BOD Luth. Outdoors Ministry of Texas 1. **C:** Pastor 11. **O:** Miss. Cong. Pastor 1, Chapl./Firefighter Winchester Area Volunteer Fire Dept. 11 and Training Officer 5, Adjunct Prof. CTX in Christian Ethics, Old Testament, New Testament, and American Christianity 3.

Testament, and American Christianity 3.

I have two terms of experience on the CTX BOR and understand the controversies at play. I resigned my board position on principle in protest of the board majority's improper action taken on November 8, 2022. If elected to serve again, I will do everything within my power to reestablish the relationship of CTX to the Synod. The relationship between CTX and the Synod must be forthright, cooperative, and respectful of the will of the Synod's congregations as expressed in the Synod *Handbook*. A strong relationship with the LCMS is necessary to keep the university distinctly Christian and avoid drift.



Yohannes A. Mengsteab, Fort Worth, TX; Peace, Hurst (TX); LCMS 39; Em. Miss. and Min. Fac. **S:** Dir. African Immigrant and Urban Miss., Dir. Specialty Min., Dir. New Miss. Fields, Devel. Dir. Ethnic Immigrant Inst. Theol. **D:** Church Planter African Immigrant Min. SE Dist., Fac. Miss. and Min. TX Dist. **C:** Assoc. Pastor Zion, Interim Pastor Evang. Luth. **O:** Soldier Eritrea, Interpreter and Evangelist Sudan Refugee Camp, Dir. Luth. Fnd. Min. Programs.

I am thankful for the unity we have in the LCMS: we are not arguing over the doctrine of the Scriptures or our Confessions. We have very strong institutions: colleges and universities, seminaries, LCEF, Concordia Plans, etc. The challenge we have is that we seem to be polarized over matters that we should resolve in the board-rooms. I will join those who are intent on keeping the LCMS tent as large as our founders intended it. Anchored in the Scriptures and our Lutheran Confession, all my conversations will be evangelical, always keeping the focus on Christ and his mission.

Also nominated for First Vice-President, West-Southwest Region Vice-President

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (3-year term)



Mary Beth Gaertner, Magnolia, TX; Salem, Tomball (TX); LCMS 41; Dir. Em. Ret. **S:** Mem. BOR CTX, Mentor SLED Prog., Presenter at LEA, Mem. Bd. LEA. **D:** Mem. Council Early Childhood, Chm. State Educ. Conf., School Accreditation Teams, Mentor for Principals, Cons. **C:** Founder Early Childhood Prog., Dir. ECE and K-8 School, School Com., Worship Greeter and Usher. **O:** Mem. Chamber of Commerce, Mem. Rotary Club, Author "Way to Go," Cons. for Schools.

I continue to be blessed to serve in the capacity of a board regent and welcome the opportunity to continue. The potential we have at the university level to empower our students as future community Christian leaders is overwhelming. Mentoring our young men and women in their future vocations is an extraordinarily important task. Helping them find God honoring and meaningful work is the blessing of a lifetime of service to our Lord and Savior. What a gift our Concordia University is! If elected, I will work in support of and on behalf of our local congregations to assist them in carrying out their ministries through the development of future Christian leaders at Concordia University Texas.



Miguel Andres Ruiz, Fort Worth, TX; Messiah, Keller (TX); LCMS 12; Dir. of Parish Music. **S:** Collaborated with Synod Miss., Hosted Sem. Choir Tours, Curated Hymn Recommendations for LCMS Worship, Attended Church Worker Conf. in Fort Wayne and Chicago, Presenter for Cantor Retreats. **D:** Led Choir to Participate in Regional Hymnal Festival with Organist Kevin Hildebrand, Direct Regional Festival Choirs

for Cir. and Other Events, Presented on Liturgy at Local Conf. **C:** Dir. Parish Music, Tchr. School Music, Tchr. Adult SS, Contributor to Parish Theol. Ed. **O:** Contributed Article to the Assn. for Luth. Church Musicians, Involved with Music Orgs. in Nearby Colleges, Homeschool Academy, and Organ Guild Events.

As an adult convert to Lutheranism, I have served congregations with schools in three states as a director of parish music and music teacher. I am committed to and passionate about the role of Lutheran education in faith formation and transmitting Lutheran identity. I am convinced that the vitality of Lutheran higher education is critical to the Synod's future. I believe that Lutheran colleges ought to function as a form of outreach, bringing Christ's message to the broader world and preparing Lutheran young adults to live out our confession as faithful laity and church workers.

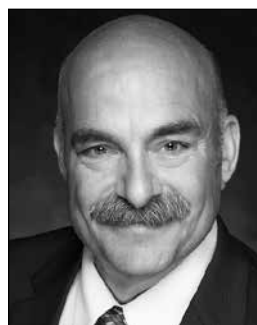
LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Michelle Horneber Abrego, Harlingen, TX; St. Paul (TX); Asst. Prof., Univ. of Texas Rio Grande Valley. **S:** Wisconsin Lutheran Synod Calls: Christ Lutheran 3, Holy Word 1, Martin Luther College 3 (Adjunct Prof.). **C:** Interim Prin. St. Paul Academy 1, Mem. BOD St. Paul 1, Great Beginnings Preschool 1. **O:** Higher Ed. Experience in the Univ. of Texas System (Ed. Admin.), Appointee Texas Assoc. of School Admin. Higher Ed. 3, Ambassador Community—Texas PTA and Harlingen Consolidated Independent School Dist.

I hold a doctorate in educational administration with more than 40 years of teaching and administrative experience in both Lutheran and public schools. Currently, I am a faculty member in the Organization and School Leadership Department at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. This role provides insight into the many challenges facing higher education today, including declining enrollments, technological innovations, student debt, accreditation, finances, etc. Lutheran colleges also face the critical challenge of staying firmly rooted in God's Word and creating a uniquely Christian environment. I look forward to navigating such issues with a dedicated team of service-minded board members.



William Brandt (Bill), Southlake, TX; Messiah, Keller (TX); LCMS 27; Atty., Justice of the Peace, Tarrant County, Colonel, Ret. USAF Captain, Ret. FedEx. **C:** Cong. Pres. (2 Terms), VP (2 Terms), Pres. School Bd. (3 Terms), Mem. School Board (2 Terms), Coun. Secy. (2 Terms), Chm. Stewp. (1 Partial Term), Led Teams in self-help Remodeling of bathrooms, flooring, finish-out of classrooms and library, Led first Accreditation Team for School, Mem. Accreditation Com. 2, Represent Messiah in all Legal Matters. **O:** Eagle Scout Mentor to Young Men, Mem. Rotary Club and Lions Club, Worked on local School Bd. Trustee Elections and City Council Elections, County Justice of the Peace, Ret. USAF Colonel and Ret. Captain FedEx, Pro Bono Work Atty. for Indigent Clients.

I am interested in serving on the Board of Regents for Concordia University Texas because, in the midst of the challenges of modern culture, we must preserve our Lutheran identity as we train the church workers of the future. I have the requisite education, experience, and temperament to work within the structures of the LCMS to contribute my portion of “the diversities of gifts ... for the common profit,” to humbly submit all things to the Word of God, and to bear witness.



Kristy Michelle Carr, Austin, TX; Mt. Olive (TX); Assoc. Commissioner, State Hospitals, Health and Human Services Comm. **S:** Mem. and Pres. Strategic Planning Com., Worked with Governance Bd. and Church Staff to Promote Synod Mission Priorities within Our Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals. **D:** Mem. and Pres. Call Com., Worked with Dist. to Ensure Obligations Were Met, Met with CV during the Call Process, Maintained Direct Communication during the Pandemic and Transition to New Preschool Dir. **C:** Mem. Call Com. 2, Mem. Strategic Planning Com. 4, Pres. Bd. 2, Usher 5, Mem. Bd. 1, Screen Production 4. Serve Congregation through various Mission-Driven Opportunities to Support Children, Youth, and Adults in Community and Congregation. **O:** State Government Service 25+, Senior Ldrshp. 20, Actively Involved in Community in various capacities 20+.

I am incredibly honored to be considered as a lay member for the Board of Regents for Concordia University Texas. I am passionate about upholding a Christ-centered environment for people to thrive in their personal, professional, and educational growth, whether students or staff. As a potential strategic member of the University’s team, there are opportunities to improve organizational performance and effectiveness to further support a shared vision between the University and Synod. Making informed and evidence-based decisions will help promote the continuous evolution of partnerships and programs to advance the experience of all students while keeping the institution relevant and competitive.



Bob Ssekyanzi+, Houston, TX; Memorial (TX); LCMS 30; Owner/Founder/Pres./Exec. Partner Brf Business Consultants and Traders. **C:** Assoc. Mem. Bd. of Elders 8, Assoc. Mem. Bd. of Fellowship 5.

I am honored to be considered for reelection for the second term to serve on the Board of Regents. My 30 years of experience at Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston, Texas, have provided me with an opportunity to serve God in various ways: first, as a member of Memorial Lutheran Church Board of Fellowship, where I served for five years, and second, currently serving on the church’s board of elders. If reelected, my passion will be to unapologetically advocate for the Synod’s mission and making sure that Concordia University Texas (CTX) is governed according to the LCMS CUS bylaws as set. “Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will send out laborers into his harvest” (Matt. 9:38).

f. Concordia University Wisconsin (Mequon, Wis.) Board of Regents

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained, 1 minister of religion—commissioned, 2 laypersons (3-year term)

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—ORDAINED

Elect 1 minister of religion—ordained (3-year term)



David C. Fleming+, Grand Rapids, MI; Our Savior (MI); LCMS 62; Assoc. Pastor/Exec. Dir., Our Savior/DOXOLOGY. **S:** Mem. BOR CUW 8, Mem. TF Preach the Word 8. **D:** Chm. MI Dist. West Pastors’ Conf. 2, Mem. NI Dist. Church Worker Recruitment Com. 4, Bd. NI Dist. Youth 3. **C:** Pastor 36. **O:** Collegium Fellow and Exec. Dir. DOXOLOGY 9, Mem. Bd. of Dir. West MI Luth. 4 and Chm. 2, Pastoral Adv. Zone/Area LLL, Lutherans For Life,

LWML 18.

It has been an honor to serve on CUWAA’s Board of Regents. The board is wisely addressing the great challenges of these gray and latter days. Thanks be to God, through all the challenges of the last term, He has given us an outstanding new president. Now we need to be wise stewards of the gift of CUWAA so that we faithfully and joyfully confess Christ and faithful Lutheran teaching.



David P.E. Maier, Frankfort, MI; Historic Trinity, Detroit (MI); LCMS 67; Assoc. Pastor. **S:** Fl. Com. Synod Convention, BOD TF Concordia Selma, Chm. COP. **D:** MI Dist. Worship TF, CV MI Dist., Chm. MI Dist. CVs, VP and Pres. MI Dist. **C:** Pastor.

I am thankful for the opportunity to have served as district president in Michigan for the past 13 years. During this time, I also served as an advisory regent, helping with the merger acquisition of CUAA by CUW that they might become one university with two residential campuses. My love for CUAA began when I attended there 1974–1978 and became a member of the first class to graduate with a four-year degree. I am thankful to have been a part of the election of Dr. Erik Ankerberg as president and to have been involved on other special committees. I would look forward to serving our Lord in this capacity for the good of the university and the Church as she continues to equip students of all ages with fervor for the Gospel and biblical and confessional truth.

Also nominated for Great Lakes Region Vice-President



Mark Nuckols, Jackson, WI; Pilgrim, West Bend (SW); LCMS 40; Pastor. **S:** Pres. Rep. LCEF BOD 3, Conv. Del. (2001). **D:** Couns. LWML Kansas City North 3, Austin, Texas 5, Cir. Couns. Kansas City North 3, CV Austin, Texas, 2. **C:** Pastor 28, Army Chapl. 6. **O:** Vol. Chapl. Austin, Texas, Fire Dept. 6.

Serving at the Board of Regents level for one of our universities requires experience with large organizations in

order to support and encourage academic excellence, as well as the clear, confessional proclamation of Christ crucified and risen for the world. Facilitating the leadership of CUW to accomplish these concise goals is the task of the Board of Regents.

MINISTERS OF RELIGION—COMMISSIONED

Elect 1 minister of religion—commissioned (3-year term)



Jonathan David Eifert, Sebawaing, MI; St. Michael, Reese (MI); LCMS 56; Music Dir., St. Michael Luth. Church and School. **S:** Contributor New Compositions for “Hymn Prelude Library” and “Piano Prelude Series” 8, Organist for Workshops Sponsored by the Com. on Worship Introducing *Lutheran Service Book 1*, Music Instructor “Lutheran Musician Enrichment” Prog. 2, Ldr. Workshops on Service Playing Request of the Com. on Worship 1. **D:** Ldr. for

Various Workshops on Music and Liturgy (e.g., OK Dist. Workshop) 1, CTX Summer Church Music Institute 1, Liturgical Conf. 1. **C:** Guest Organist, Recitalist, and Clinician for numerous Organ Dedications, Played Hymn Festival Rededication, Ldr. Bible Class, Elder, Workshop Organizer. **O:** Organist Higher Things Conferences 8, Presenter on Worship and Hymnody to LWML Groups at Local, District, and National Level, Active in several chapters of the American Guild of Organists, Presenter on Service Playing.

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few” (Matt. 9:37). In my years of service to the church, I have been blessed to work with a great number of pastors, teachers, and others whose dedication to their people and their church has been a continual inspiration. The schools of our LCMS are one of our greatest strengths and greatest blessings. I applaud all of the efforts being made throughout our Synod to recruit and train the next generation, and as regent I will work to promote these efforts and ensure that future laborers receive the best preparation possible.



Jennifer Lynn Knox, New Berlin, WI; Our Father, Greenfield (SW); LCMS 37; Tchr./Ed. Tech. Coord., Martin Luther High School, Luth. High School Assoc. of Greater Milwaukee. **S:** Del. Synod Conv. (2010). **C:** Church Coun. 2, Ldr. Youth 2. **O:** Coord. Higher Things Summer Conf. Housing 3, Assisted with Higher Things Curriculum Devlop. 1, Tchr. Luth. High School 8, Coord. Educ. Tech. 4.

As a Concordia student, I had many faithful professors who challenged me to boldly confess Christ and serve others in all I do. As a Lutheran high school teacher, I now get to take what was instilled as a child, enriched at Concordia, and share that with another generation. If elected, I would gladly serve Concordia to ensure more generations of students receive the same opportunities and education I had. I would also work to keep a priority focus on church worker training, so they too can be challenged, as I was, to confess Christ and serve others for generations to come.

Also nominated for Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors



Gary W. Petersen, Mequon, WI; Beautiful Savior (SW); LCMS 24; Ret. Ed. **C:** Pres. Beautiful Savior (2 terms) and VP (4 terms) and Head of Elders (2 terms); Chm. Various Com. 24. **O:** Ed. in Various roles including Counselor Elementary, Middle, High School, Middle School Asst. Prin., Elementary Prin., Supt. of Schools in Two Districts, Dir. of Graduate Ed., Dir. of Graduate Couns.

As an experienced educator with over 44 years in various kindergarten through graduate level settings and roles, I am called to serve a Lutheran Christian university focused on the faith development of students. As a regent, I would collaborate with other regents, university leadership, faculty, and staff to support and develop the educational, fiscal, and faith resources pursuing our God-given mission to grow and develop educated, faith-filled students who, led by Christ, provide Christian servant leadership within their vocations, families, communities, and churches and spread the Good News of the saving grace of our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus.

LAYPERSONS

Elect 2 laypersons (3-year term)



Michael Bartel, Kewaunee, WI; St. John, Algoma (NW); LCMS 47; Shift Mgr., NextEra Energy—Point Beach. **C:** Cong. VP and Elder.

As a father of a child who is graduating from CUW and a lifelong baptized and confirmed member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, I am greatly interested in supporting our Synod through this calling and service. I would, therefore, offer my service using leadership skills I am still learning, and the gifts given to me by God to support the work and mission of CUW and its leadership. I see challenging times ahead maintaining a confessional Lutheran institution of higher learning in the ever more secular world. I look forward to meeting this challenge with God’s strength and blessing.



Leah Broman, Cincinnati, OH; St. Paul (OH); LCMS 51; Classical Education Cons. **C:** Mem. Nominations Com., Mem. Organist Selection, Mem. Stewp. Com., Mem. SS Com., Mem. Women's Ministries Activities, Mem. Choir. 34, Substitute Organist/Pianist 34, Tchr. SS 3, Dir. Hand Bell Choir 7, Ldr. Youth 7. **O:** Engineer, Strong Problem Solver and Creative Thinker, Founder Hybrid Classical School, Served Int'l. Homeschool Org., Ldr. In Communication, Sales, Training, and Customer Service, Tchr. Senior Class, Homeschooled 4 Children, Mentored 4 American Heritage Girls' Stars and Stripes Recipients.

Our Lutheran doctrine, heritage, and beliefs lead to ways of educating that are life-giving. A distinctly Lutheran higher education community is called to faithfulness to God's Word and our Confessions, emboldening our students toward truth, goodness, and beauty, found ultimately in Christ. This focus liberates students to live vocationally in serving God and neighbor. Strengthening our Lutheran identity strengthens our culture and mission. I believe my background in classical education, communication, marketing, and customer service can aid in addressing the nationwide student demographic cliff with confessional, missional, and financial integrity, to ensure its blessings will continue for many years.



Ronald Harmeyer, Brookfield, WI; Elm Grove (SW); LCMS 55; Atty./Owner, Ron Harmeyer Law Office LLC. **D:** Mem. Com. on Const. Matters 1. **C:** Elder 6, Cong. Pres., VP, Elder, Numerous Bds., Church Coun. **O:** Practiced Law 31, Owner Law Firm with six employees, Responsible for firm's Fin., Human Resources, Tech., Marketing.

If elected to the Board of Regents, I would defend and promote the values of a classical liberal education and the university's unique Lutheran identity. I believe the role of Concordia is to shape the character of its students, consistent with our Synod's values and beliefs, to prepare them for life after college. I reject attempts to conform Concordia, its values, teachings, and students, to our current culture's ideas. Enrollment growth should be achieved by offering a unique and better opportunity, not by imitating other institutions.



David Lambert, Troy, MI; Ascension of Christ, Beverly Hills (EN); LCMS 22; Bank Secrecy Act Officer. **S:** Circ. Deleg. **D:** Mem. EN Dist. Lifeline Comm., Deleg. EN Dist. Conv. 2. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Elders 7, Pres. Church Coun. 3. **O:** Luth. Federal Credit Union BOD 4, Adjunct Economics Prof. 4, Credit Union Legal and Regulatory Experience 30, Troy, Mich. Coun. Mem. 6, Troy, Mich. Chm. Planning Com. 1, Troy, Mich. Planning Com. Mem. 4.

If elected, it would be a blessing to serve our Lord's Church as a lay member of the Mequon (Wisconsin/Ann Arbor) board. As a church council president and elder at Ascension of Christ (Beverly Hills, Mich.), I'm committed to working with my board colleagues

and the new university president to promote and strengthen our Lutheran identity. My experience as a college economics instructor provides me with an understanding of the issues that face academia. Additionally, my experience in the financial services sector and as an elected/appointed official in local government highlights my policy-making and analytical skills.



Stephen Saunders, Oak Creek, WI; Our Father, Greenfield (SW); LCMS 40; Prof. of Psychology, Marquette Univ., Licensed Psychologist. **S:** Mem. TF on Domestic Violence and Child Abuse 2, Mem. TF on Mental Health. **D:** Mem. Ministerial Health Board. **C:** Mem. Bd. of Elders 7, Mem. Bd. of Christian Ed. 5, Tchr. SS, Pres. Cong. 3. **O:** Mem. BOD DOXOLOGY 1, Author *Christian Guide to Mental Illness*, Author Various Books for Pastors and Teachers to Help with and Recognize Mental Health Problems.

It is a challenging time for higher education. Scholarship and science itself are endangered as ideology usurps the pursuit of truth. Students are confused because teaching has become bewildering and fickle. The Concordia system should be a solid rock of uncompromising dedication both to educational and scientific integrity and to eternal, biblical truths about sin, salvation, and mercy. Boards must support the colleges in pursuit of excellence, integrity, and uncompromising dedication to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. I have more than 28 years of experience in higher ed and would contribute my experience to maintaining and improving the colleges.

XIV. Report on Nominees Submitted to the Committee for Convention Nominations (Available for Floor Nominations from the “Pool”)

Source for Floor Nominations: When permitted, the convention may amend slates of candidates by accepting, at the appropriate time, nominations from the floor of the convention (Bylaw 3.12.3.7 [a]). Such nominations may be made from the list of names submitted via the regular nominations process handled by the Committee for Convention Nominations (Bylaw 3.12.3.7 [c]). This source for nominations from the floor is often referred to as “the pool.” A complete list of those names is provided below.

Concordia University System Floor Nominations: All nominees listed below were provided opportunity to express interest in being considered for a Concordia University System (CUS) board position by returning biographical, consent to serve, and supplemental information documentation. Those individuals listed below whose names are identified with a ✓ did return the required documentation, and their information was successfully reviewed by the Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer of the Synod and the President of the CUS. These officers reached the decision jointly that those so indicated meet the minimum required qualifications for a position on either the CUS Board of Directors or a CUS college or university Board of Regents. These persons may be nominated from the floor for a CUS board position without further review.

Abbott, Karl Joseph ✓
Wake Forest, NC

Abrego, Michelle Horneber ✓
Harlingen, TX

Adams, Mark
Hermiston, OR

Ahlers, Erich
Holts Summit, MO

Ahlersmeyer, Thomas ✓
Fort Wayne, IN

Ahlman, Timothy Paul ✓
Gilbert, AZ

Allen, Jon David ✓
Penfield, NY

Anderson, Jimmy Wright ✓
Prior Lake, MN

Andrae, Eric R. ✓
Pittsburgh, PA

Armstrong, Clinton John
Rowland Heights, CA

Arnold, Tyler C. ✓
St. Louis, MO

Asbury, Christopher ✓
Norfolk, NE

Austin, Kevin ✓
Chandler, AZ

Bach, Gary D.
New York Mills, MN

Bahn, David L
Cypress, TX

Bareford, Wesley
Mission Viejo, CA

Bartel, Michael ✓
Kewaunee, WI

Bartelt, Rebecca Kristen
Lincoln, NE

Battles, Kurt Alan ✓
Alexandria, MN

Bauer, James Douglas ✓
Lakewood, CO

Bayer, Timothy R. ✓
Puyallup, WA

Beane, Larry L. ✓
Gretna, LA

Beavers, Jeffrey S. ✓
Orange, CA

Bender, Mark L.
Ballwin, MO

Bender, Peter C.
Colgate, WI

Benzow, Michael A.
Apple Valley, CA

Berg, Travis Lee
Cheyenne, WY

Biermann, Mark L. ✓
Valparaiso, IN

Birkholz, Mark ✓
Plainfield, IL

Birtell, Brad E. ✓
Madison, NE

Bobby, Jacob ✓
Bloomfield, NE

Bodley, Christopher
Chesterfield Twsp., MI

Bodley, Shikina
Chesterfield Twsp., MI

Boesdorfer, Dennis
Pleasant Plains, IL

Bollhagen, Karl C. ✓
Hampton, IA

Borges, Adolfo
Orlando, FL

Boring, Richard
Lincoln, NE

Borst, Steven
Riverside, CA

Bostic, Melodie
St. Louis, MO

Braaten, Jason M. ✓
Tuscola, IL

Braden, Mark Patrick ✓
Dearborn, MI

Brandt, John E.
Mount Clemens, MI

Brandt, Phillip L. ✓
Portland, OR

Brandt, William (Bill) ✓
Southlake, TX

Braun, Cole Matthew ✓
Oconomowoc, WI

Braun, Suzanne
Kirkwood, MO

Braunersreuther, Jon M
Tomball, TX

Bredow, Ryan
Gilbert, AZ

Brege, Daniel
Decatur, IN

Briel, Leif
Plymouth, MN

Briel, Steven C. ✓
Maple Grove, MN

Brink, Dennis
Lincoln, NE

Brock, Peter James
Decatur, IN

Bromen, Leah ✓
Cincinnati, OH

Brondos, Joel A.
Geneseo, IL

Bruick, Jan
Seward, NE

Brunette, Luther ✓
Carmel, IN

Brunkow, Bradley Dean
Manhattan, KS

Buchmueller, Barrett Ryan
Country Club, MO

Buchs, David Michael ✓
South Haven, MN

Buehring, Kenneth Eugene
Katy, TX

Buman, Daniel Edward ✓
Omaha, NE

Burcham, Ronald
Sun Lakes, AZ

Burfiend, Daniel ✓
Ossian, IN

Burgdorf, Barry
Austin, TX

Burk, Jason ✓
Parker, TX

Burma, Cory W. ✓
Columbus, NE

Burns, Jarred ✓
Indianapolis, IN

Busarow, Jonathan ✓
Fort Wayne, IN

Bussman, John M.
Cullman, AL

Buuck, Steven ✓
Las Vegas, NV

Byars, Andrew K
Peoria, AZ

Callahan, Sandra
Otsego, MN

Carr, Kristy Michelle ✓
Austin, TX

Casaday, Rande Trent
Canonsburg, PA

Chan, Terrence
San Ramon, CA

Chilman, John ✓
Las Vegas, NV

Christenson, Scott
Santa Ana, CA

Christopher, Steve ✓
Sonora, CA

Chryst, Thomas E. ✓
Fort Worth, TX

Clinger, Cassandra Joy (CJ)
Kokomo, IN

Cloeter, Jeffrey Paul ✓
St. Louis, MO

Coats, Roy Axel ✓
Baltimore, MD

Conner, Jonathan
Manning, IA

Cook, Anthony Allan
St. Louis, MO

Cook, Joseph Lee ✓
Casper, WY

Cook, Joshua ✓
Louisville, KY

Corzine, Jacob A. ✓
Riverside, IL

Cox, Frank III ✓
Gilbert, AZ

Daly, Thomas Robert
Fountain Hills, AZ

Dannemeyer, Bruce
Trabuco Canyon, CA

Dare, Paul ✓
Alexandria, MN

Davidson, Deborah J.
Pleasant Prairie, WI

Dehne, John Allen
Cape Girardeau, MO

Diekmann, Scott
Puyallup, WA

Dobbs, Michael J. ✓
St. John, IN

Dodgers, Anthony C. ✓
Charlotte, IA

Dorn, Michael P. ✓
Houston, TX

Droege, Philip ✓
Silver Spring, MD

Droegemueller, Timothy J.
Cumming, GA

Dunn, Steven Eric (Eric)
Edwardsville, IL
Ebel, William H.
Mount Clemens, MI
Eckardt, Burnell Fritz ✓
Kewanee, IL
Edmon, Paul P. ✓
Medford, MA
Edson, John W.
Plymouth, MN
Eifert, Jonathan David ✓
Sebawaing, MI
Einem, Randy ✓
League City, TX
Elbert, Jeffrey Elwin ✓
Waterloo, IA
Ellingworth, Jon Marvin ✓
Waverly, IA
Elsholz, Susan J.
Birmingham, MI
Endicott, Joel
Chandler, AZ
Ermeling, Ryan P. ✓
Gilbert, AZ
Ernstmeyer, Craig A. ✓
St. Peters, MO
Espinosa, Alfonso O.
Lake Forest, CA
Fabrizius, Karl F. ✓
Greendale, WI
Fahrenheit, David Paul
(D.P.) ✓
Wichita, KS
Fajardo Perez, Magdiel U.
Pacifica, CA
Feng, Kaibo ✓
Cambridge, MA
Fitzner, Timothy John
Bloomington, IL
Fleming, David C. ✓
Grand Rapids, MI
Fluegge, Glen ✓
Lake Forest, CA
Fondow, Donald J. ✓
Park Rapids, MN
Foor, Ryan ✓
Seward, NE
Fowler, Paul Raymond ✓
Olney, MD
Frank, Keith
Fort Wayne, IN
Frasch, Richard Duane ✓
Boise, ID
Fraser, John
Omaha, NE
Freeman, Todd
Mesa, AZ
Ferking, Bill Andrew ✓
Houston, TX
Frese, Michael N.
Fort Wayne, IN
Furgeson, Jon Carl ✓
St. Louis, MO
Gaertner, Mary Beth ✓
Magnolia, TX
Gaide, Peter ✓
Bennet, NE

Galler, Jayson S.
Kilgore, TX
Gallup, Roger B. ✓
River Grove, IL
Garcia, Albert Lazaro ✓
Decatur, GA
Garnett, Matthew
Fort Wayne, IN
Garwood, Ronald M.
Cody, WY
Gercken, Scott D.W. ✓
Brookfield, IL
Gerjerts, Greg Paul
Cedar Falls, IA
Gerth, Joseph John (Joe)
Worden, IL
Giddings, Michael Glenn
Fargo, ND
Gier, James D. Jr. ✓
Fort Wayne, IN
Gilbert, Jacob Arthur
Racine, WI
Gimbel, Andrew James
O'Fallon, MO
Giordano, Jonathon ✓
Glen Carbon, IL
Glover, Graham ✓
Gainesville, FL
Goetsch, Hal
Sudbury, MA
Gonzales, Lonnie
Houston, TX
Gouvea, Fernando Q. ✓
Waterville, ME
Grad, Roni
Tucson, AZ
Grafe, Stephen Daniel ✓
Rochester Hills, MI
Graff, Elaine
Las Cruces, NM
Graff, Warren W. ✓
Albuquerque, NM
Grams, Daniel ✓
Troy, MI
Greiner, Micah ✓
Buffalo Grove, IL
Hack-Broome, Carol A.
San Jose, CA
Hagerman, Nicholas Lee
Springfield, MO
Hahn, Daniel Anthony Jr. ✓
Verona, PA
Hahn, Nathanael Bernard
Casper, WY
Haney, Byrene Keith (Keith) ✓
Fort Dodge, IA
Hanke IV, Karl William
Rock Hill, MO
Hannemann, Justin
Seward, NE
Hanson, Michael Brian ✓
Green Bay, WI
Hardt, Henry ✓
Storm Lake, IA
Harmeyer, Ronald ✓
Brookfield, WI

Harrington, Larry W. ✓
Casper, WY
Hartley, William R. (Bill)
Spokane, WA
Hartwig, Raymond L.
Sioux Falls, SD
Heiden, Dennis Lee
Madison Lake, MN
Heidorn, Gregory Norman
Homer, AK
Heise, Matthew Walter
Macomb, MI
Hemminger, Laura G. ✓
Bremerton, WA
Henkell, James D. ✓
San Diego, CA
Henkell, Liane
Phoenix, AZ
Hennings, Luke Nathaniel
Mesa, AZ
Hercamp, Jacob Ryan ✓
LaGrange, MO
Hergenrader, Christina
(Tina)
Freindswood, TX
Hildebrand, Kevin
Fort Wayne, IN
Hill, Nathaniel W. ✓
Winchester, TX
Hiller, Robert
Valley Center, CA
Hinz, Paul C. ✓
Bloomington, MN
Hinz, Seth ✓
Wildwood, MO
Hoem, Josemon T. ✓
Fort Wayne, IN
Hook, David ✓
Vail, AZ
Hrehov, John
Fort Wayne, IN
Hrehov, Nancy
Fort Wayne, IN
Hu, Timothy ✓
Cheyenne, WY
Irey, Janet K
Upland, CA
Jackson, Meredith ✓
Valley Grande, AL
Jackson, Shirley Ann
St Louis, MO
Jahnke, Clark H. ✓
West Fargo, ND
Jansen, Aaron P.
Mount Airy, MD
Janssen, Matthew Carl
St. Louis, MO
Jenks, Timothy
Simi Valley, CA
Johnson, Andrew Martin ✓
Wixom, MI
Johnson, Carol R. ✓
Fords, NJ
Johnson, Jennifer Joy
Brookings, SD
Johnson, Jeremiah D.
Cocoran, MN

Johnson, Jill ✓
Seward, NE
Johnson, Julie ✓
Edwardsville, IL
Johnson, Kurt E.
Edwardsville, IL
Johnson, Mark D.
Yuma, AZ
Johnson, Phillip L. ✓
Lonsdale, MN
Jones, Keith R.
Goleta, CA
Kachelmeier, Brian Lee ✓
San Antonio, TX
Kalleberg, Jack T.
Mesa, AZ
Karsten, Wilfred Loren
Moline, IL
Kenitzer, Matthew Ryan ✓
Dike, IA
Kidwell, John William (Jack) ✓
Bay City, MI
Kilcrease, Jack D. III ✓
Grand Rapids, MI
Killian, Michael Floyd ✓
Southington, CT
Kirkman, James Jr.
Murrietta, CA
Klemm, Derek
Las Vegas, NV
Klemsz, Scott C. ✓
Salinas, CA
Klinkenberg, Timothy ✓
Orange, CA
Klotz, Joseph D.
Hodgkins, IL
Knoepfel, Kyle James
St. Charles, MO
Knorr, David E. ✓
Papillion, NE
Knowles, Alexander H.
Angola, NY
Knox, Jennifer Lynn ✓
New Berlin, WI
Koble, Brandon Wayne ✓
West Allis, WI
Koch, Timothy Dale
Cedar Falls, IA
Koehler, Elizabeth C.
Osseo, MN
Koenemann, Darin
Fort Wayne, IN
Koepp, Joel G. ✓
Grinnell, IA
Koontz, Adam Clinton
Lakewood, CO
Kramer, Jonathan H.
Nixa, MO
Krenz, Jonathon Thomas
Moscow, ID
Kritzer, Kevin
Long Beach, CA
Kroll, John R. ✓
Clarendon Hills, IL
Krueger, Jason ✓
Brookfield, WI
Krueger, Kenneth James
Fenton, MO

Kuhlman, Brent W. ✓
Murdock, NE

Kumm, Michael L.
Sioux City, IA

Kurtz, Linda
Las Vegas, NV

Kyler, Patrick R.
Columbia City, IN

LaFeve, Joshua
Leland, MI

Lambert, David ✓
Troy, MI

Lange, Ellen R. ✓
Anaheim, CA

Lange, Jonathan George ✓
Evanston, WY

Lange, Michael David ✓
Anaheim Hills, CA

Langefeld, David
Austin, TX

Langewisch, David John
Lakewood, CO

Larson, Deborah K.
Florissant, CO

Lau, Shiu Ming ✓
Millbrae, CA

Leborious, Joshua Michael
Corona, CA

Lee, Peter K.S.
Newbury Park, CA

Leech, Timothy ✓
Grand Island, FL

Lewis, Aaron ✓
Alexandria, VA

L'Heureux, Mark J. ✓
Lincoln, NE

Liedtke, Richard ✓
Wakarusa, KS

Lingsch, Keith Allan ✓
Naples, FL

Linke, Noreen L.
Fort Collins, CO

Loc, Felix ✓
Keller, TX

Loeber, Kenneth Norman ✓
Edmond, OK

Lohman, James H. ✓
Kirkwood, MO

MacKay, Leo S. Jr. ✓
Alexandria, VA

Maier, David P.E. ✓
Frankfort, MI

Malone, Bradley Matthew
Seattle, WA

Mar, Ken ✓
Omaha, NE

Marcis, Thomas R. Jr.
Bismarck, ND

Mars, Kenneth ✓
Cody, WY

Mast, Michael
Bradenton, FL

McCarty, Wendy L. ✓
Grand Island, NE

McDaniels, Janis G. ✓
Greensboro, NC

McIntosh, Zachary Daniel
San Antonio, TX

McThrow, Michael Curtis ✓
Capitola, CA

Mehl, John L. ✓
Seward, NE

Meisinger, David Eugene
McPherson, KS

Meissner, David Richard ✓
Brookfield, WI

Meissner, Duane Paul
Denver, CO

Mengsteab, Yohannes A. ✓
Fort Worth, TX

Meyer, Benjamin Christopher
Centerburg, OH

Meyer, Dale A.
Collinsville, IL

Michaelson, Craig Alan
Las Vegas, NV

Miller, Jennifer
Mableton, GA

Miller, Jordan Daniel
Norfolk, NE

Miller, Joshua C. ✓
St. Paul, MN

Miller, Mark ✓
Springfield, IL

Miller, Michael Andrew ✓
Lebanon, OR

Miller, William D.
Lincoln, NE

Molitoris, Craig L.
Rancho Palos Verde, CA

Moss, Mark Evan ✓
Burnsville, MN

Mueller, Charles S. Jr. (Chuck) ✓
Bloomington, IL

Mueller, David R.
Goodland, IN

Mueller, Steven P. (Steve) ✓
Irvine, CA

Muench, Paul ✓
Knoxville, TN

Munden, James Jeffrey ✓
Columbia, IL

Mundinger, Gerhard H. Jr. ✓
Michigan City, IN

Mussmann, Samuel David ✓
Pittsburgh, PA

Nare, Limakatso
Terrytown, LA

Naumann, Edward
Oakmont, PA

Naumann, Paul Robert ✓
Portage, MI

Neuendorf, Donald Owen ✓
Pinckney, MI

Neujahr, Troy
Shaker Heights, OH

Nielsen, Pamela J.
Ballwin, MO

Niemeier, Craig K.
St. Libory, NE

Nuckols, Mark ✓
Jackson, WI

Nunnink, Levi ✓
Maryville, TN

Nye, Ferry Leon Sr.
Pensacola, FL

Olson, Darren Roger
Sioux Falls, SD

Orr, Jonathan
North Las Vegas, NV

Paradis, Jason A.
Oakes, ND

Parrish, Brent L. ✓
Prior Lake, MN

Paulsen, Chris A.
Arvada, CO

Penhallegon, Philip Werth
St. Louis, MO

Peperkorn, Todd A.
Fort Wayne, IN

Peters, Jaime
Chesterfield, MO

Petersen, David H. ✓
Fort Wayne, IN

Petersen, Gary W. ✓
Mequon, WI

Peterson, Brian L. ✓
Mukwonago, WI

Phillips, Christopher Matthew
Seward, NE

Polzin, Megan
Plato, MN

Pond, Katherine
Mission Viejo, CA

Porath, Scott T.
Eagle, NE

Post, Alexander C.
Marshalltown, IA

Pratt, David J. ✓
Las Vegas, NV

Prehar, Troy Nicholas ✓
Dripping Springs, TX

Preus, Daniel
Grand Marais, MN

Pullmann, Arlo W.
Laurel, MT

Ramirez, David Paul ✓
Union Grove, WI

Rasmussen, John W.
Kearney, NE

Reck, Ronald David
Toano, VA

Redhage, Daniel Todd ✓
Lowden, IA

Reimnitz, Elroi ✓
Big Bear City, CA

Reineck, Marilyn Elaine ✓
Hugo, MN

Reistad, Dale E.
Lakeway, TX

Reuer, Jeffrey J. ✓
Longmont, CO

Rich Herczeg, Deborah ✓
San Antonio, TX

Ries, Jeffrey
Tacoma, WA

Riske, James M. Jr.
Windsor, ON

Robertson, Elliott M.
Baltimore, MD

Rochester, Nikki L.
Baltimore, MD

Rodriguez, Vera
Diamond Bar, CA

Roettger, Andrea Lynn
St. Louis, MO

Ross, Daniel
Yukon, OK

Rossow, Timothy
Ocean Shores, WA

Rothchild, Dean ✓
Cedar Rapids, IA

Rottmann, Erik
Versailles, MO

Rudowske, Richard Charles Jr.
Concordia, MO

Rueger, Matthew W
Hubbard, IA

Ruiz, Miguel Andres ✓
Fort Worth, TX

Runge, Alan Paul ✓
Roscoe, IL

Runtsch, Timothy D. ✓
Fort Collins, CO

Rusch, Linda
Gladstone, MO

Salzberg, Sarah L.
Los Angeles, CA

Sanchez, Crysten
Lisbon, IA

Sanchez, Daniel
Marion, IA

Saunders, Stephen ✓
Oak Creek, WI

Scamman, Evan
Greenwich, CT

Schaus, Nathan Eugene ✓
Buckeye, AZ

Scheck, Nathan D.
Seward, NE

Schedler, Steven
San Diego, CA

Scheer, Joshua Verlin
Cheyenne, WY

Schepmann, Daniel W.
Houston, TX

Schilf, Paul Raymond ✓
Brandon, SD

Schkade, Julie
Dallas, TX

Schmieding, Scott Alan
St. Charles, MO

Schnake, Luke R. ✓
Lincoln, NE

Scholl, Travis
University City, MO

Schramm, Conni
Laguna Hills, CA

Schultz, David M.A. ✓
Wood River, IL

Schumacher, Steven R.
Fort Wayne, IN

Schwarz, Jeff ✓
Edwardsville, IL

Schwarz, Xavria A. ✓
San Diego, CA

Scott, Mary ✓
Irvine, CA

Seals, Timothy ✓
Alta Loma, CA

Seaman, Daryl Alan ✓
Clive, IA

Sedney, Blaise C. ✓
Bel Air, MD

Seidler, Benjamin Dale
Merrill, WI

Seifert, Vanessa ✓
Lincoln, NE

Selle, Karol
Roshold, WI

Seter, Bernhard M.
Grafton, ND

Shadday, David A.
Indianapolis, IN

Sias, John W. ✓
St. Louis, MO

Sievert, Daniel M. ✓
Norfolk, NE

Silletto, Aaron John ✓
Louisville, KY

Simpson, Colleen D.
Wayne, NE

Siukola, Jennifer ✓
Carmel, IN

Skopak, Jarod Walter
New York City, NY

Skopak, Jeffrey Eric ✓
Atlantic Beach, FL

Skov, Neil Martin ✓
Ann Arbor, MI

Smith, Brent D. ✓
Omaha, NE

Smith, Gregg Wilbert ✓
Wildwood, MO

Smith, James B. III
Orange, CA

Smith, Jennie L.
Omaha, NE

Smith, Mark Joseph ✓
Albuquerque, NM

Sommerfeld, Scott G.
Whitmore Lake, MI

Speckhard, Peter
Munster, IN

Sperry, Mark
DeWitt, IA

Spittel, Douglas H. ✓
Pittsburgh, PA

Squire, Mark Remington ✓
St. Ansgar, IA

Ssekyanzi, Bob ✓
Houston, TX

Stathakis, Rick H.
Shelby Township, MI

Stearns, Bryan William ✓
St. Peters, MO

Stechholz, David P. ✓
Livonia, MI

Steinmann, Andrew Erwin ✓
Westlake, OH

Stennfeld, John Christian
Austin, TX

Stetson, Adam
Boulder City, NE

Stetson, Jessica
Boulder City, NE

Stiek, Jared ✓
Palatine, IL

Stigdon, Stanley Edwin ✓
Catonsville, MD

Stoever, Bethany Hope
Hepler, KS

Stoterau, Linda ✓
Orange, CA

Stromback, Judy Koch
Osseo, MN

Stroup, Darla Edna
Moline, IL

Strubbe, Todd Brian
Great Falls, VA

Sunderman, Preston
Norfolk, NE

Sundquist, Robert Paul
Las Vegas, NV

Swan, Marvin Allen
Grant, NE

Taylor, Dien Ashley
The Bronx, NY

Techau, Paul
Catonsville, MD

Tewes, Douglas ✓
Bennet, NE

Thoelke, John ✓
Houston, TX

Thoelke, Kate Elizabeth ✓
Houston, TX

Thomas, Glen D. ✓
Manchester, MO

Thomas, Ruth S.
Preston, MD

Thompson, Carolyn M. (Carol)
Columbia, MO

Thompson, Gary R. ✓
Wautoma, WI

Timm, Bruce A.
Sauk Rapids, MN

Trampe, Heath A.
Minto, ND

Van Velson, Glenn E.
North Platte, NE

Varnes, Linda Lois ✓
Nampa, ID

Varsogea, Charles ✓
Portsmouth, RI

Violette, James
Orange, CA

Voshage, Betty L.
Austin, TX

Voss, K. Allan
Sheboygan, WI

Wagner, Gordon
Cedaredge, CO

Warneke, Kent M.
Norfolk, NE

Warneke, Paul ✓
Nebraska City, NE

Wascher, Charridan Andrew
Frankenmuth, MI

Watson, Aubrey J. Jr.
New Orleans, LA

Watt, Jonathan Charles ✓
Grand Marais, MN

Weller, Stephen ✓
McPherson, KS

Wendt, Ryan ✓
Billings, MT

Wenthe, Amy S.
Rosemount, MN

Wenz, Paul George ✓
Santa Barbara, CA

Wessler, Jonathan ✓
Rockland, MA

Whirrett, Andrew Michael
Fort Wayne, IN

Williams, Jeffrey Baxter ✓
Slayton, MN

Williams, S T
Los Angeles, CA

Wind, Michael P. (Mike) ✓
Miramar Beach, FL

Wiseman, Samuel C. ✓
LaGrande, OR

Witte, Alison C. ✓
Fairborn, OH

Woelmer, James D. ✓
Allen, TX

Wolf, James Stuart (Jim)
Presto, PA

Wolfrum, Mark Donald ✓
Homer Glen, IL

Woolsey, Billy R.
Burnet, TX

Wright, Boyd A. ✓
Keystone, IA

Wu, Andy
Chino Hills, CA

Wuggazer, Heidi Lynn
Jacksonville, FL

Wurl, Robert Paul ✓
Hankinson, ND

Yahnke, Beverly K. ✓
Brookfield, WI

Yakimow, Scott ✓
Brighton, MI

Yamabe, Brian ✓
Campbell, CA

Yeager, Andrew
Decatur, IN

Zachman, Thomas J.
Lubbock, TX

Zeigler, Paul E.
Lakewood, WA

Zimmerman, John Michael
Scranton, PA

Zwick, William F.
Harrison, AR



FLOOR NOMINATIONS FORM

Bylaw 3.12.3.7 (2019 Handbook) provides opportunity for nominations from the floor prior to certain elections of the Synod. Such nominations will take place early in the convention after the chairman of the Committee for Convention Nominations has provided his report to the convention. Unless the convention decides to do otherwise by majority vote, only names submitted prior to the published deadline for submission of names (October 29, 2022) will be eligible for nomination from the floor. If there is question whether a particular name is in this “pool,” you may contact the Office of the Secretary of the Synod for that information.

This form is provided to facilitate the floor nominations process

and is available on the LCMS Web site at www.lcms.org/convention/downloads. To submit a nomination, this form must include the required nominee information as detailed in Bylaw 3.12.3.6 (c) of the 2019 Handbook and be accompanied by the **Consent Form for Floor Nominations**, which must include the signature of the person being nominated and indicate willingness to serve if elected. Persons making nominations from the floor must be prepared to submit this information at the time that the nominations are made. The Committee on Convention Nominations will check all floor nominations for validity and will report names and accompanying information in *Today’s Business* prior to elections.

Please provide all requested information regarding the person nominated.

1. Name of Position (Office, Board, or Commission): _____

2. Name of Person Nominated: _____

Residence Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Name and Location of Congregation: _____

Name of District: _____ Residing in Region: _____

Years as a member of LCMS congregation: _____

Occupation or Profession: Present Position: _____

Organization: _____ Other: _____

Educational/Training: High School _____ College/University _____ Advanced Academic Degree _____ Seminary _____

3. Synod Positions Held (past and present, listing most recent first)	Years
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. District Positions Held (past and present, listing most recent first)	Years
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Congregation Positions Held (past and present, listing most recent first)	Years
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

6. Other Positions Held (past and present, listing most recent first)	Years
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



TO BE CONSIDERED FOR CUS BOD/BOR POSITIONS:

7. Which two (2) or more of the following qualifications do you believe this individual possesses that would qualify him/her to serve on the CUS Board of Directors or a college or university board of regents (Bylaw 3.6.6.3)?

Check as many as you believe he/she possesses:

- Theological acumen An advanced academic degree

Experience in:

- Higher education administration Administration of complex organizations Finance
 Law Investments Technology
 Human resources Facilities management Fund development

8. How and to what extent has this individual demonstrated familiarity and support of the colleges and universities of the Concordia University System? With which institution(s) and region(s) is he/she most familiar?

9. How has he/she demonstrated familiarity with and support for the doctrinal positions of the Synod?

10. List separately two (2) or three (3) of the above qualifications marked (see #7 above), with supporting information for each:

Delegate Making Nomination: _____

Signature of Delegate Making Nomination: _____





CONSENT FORM FOR FLOOR NOMINATIONS

STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO SERVE

In addition to the commitment of the necessary time and energy required for service, officers and members of boards and commissions agree to serve in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, doctrinal statements and resolutions of the Synod.

When pastors, teachers and laypersons are requested to serve as board members or in similar part-time capacities, the Synod will assume the expense of travel, lodging, meals and other incidentals connected with such service. The Synod will not pay for the casual service rendered in a non-salaried position, nor pay for any substitutes engaged while away on duty. If financial outlay is required to perform the duties of the position involved, it is expected that congregations will assume this responsibility as needed.

Position to which you have been nominated: _____ I AM WILLING to serve for this position: ____ Yes ____ No

Status: ordained commissioned lay

BRIEF PERSONAL STATEMENT

The report on final nominees for Synod offices is to contain pertinent information concerning each candidate, such as occupation or profession; district affiliation; residence; specific experience; number of years as a member of an LCMS congregation; present position; offices previously held in a congregation, district or the Synod; qualifications for the office in question; and, “if the candidate so desires, also a brief personal statement” (Bylaw 3.12.3.6 [c]).

As a nominee you may make such a statement in the space provided below. You may wish to say something about your vision for the future of the Synod or about your interest in service in the position to which you have been nominated. **Your statement should not exceed 100 words.**

With your consent, this statement will be published in a convention issue of *Today’s Business* and made available to the voting delegates of the convention.

Release Approval: I agree to the release of this information for publication. ____Yes ____No

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This form is provided to facilitate the floor nominations process and is available on the LCMS Web site at lcms.org/convention/downloads



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