REPORT of the SYNOD **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The following biographical data, with names listed alphabetically, is provided for all synod-related positions for which there are elections at the Synod Assembly. The code related to the various descriptors is:

1. Congregational Membership
2. Current Occupation
3. Educational Background
4. The ministry of every congregation has an impact on the mission of our synod. With this in mind, into what kind of ministry would you like to see your congregation focus its energy in the next 3 years?
5. What gifts do you have to contribute to this type of ministry?
6. List your 3 most significant leadership positions.

2018 Southwestern Minnesota Synod Nominees

(In alphabetical order)

1. SYNOD COUNCIL – AT LARGE – 3-year term, lay female (vote for one)

a. BODEKER, SHANNON

1. Glenwood, Glenwood
2. Custodian
3. Graduated from Brainerd AVTI
4. Mercy, graciousness, generosity, and love to all! Help people to understand that everyone is fighting a battle and that we all can show compassion to each other. Our church should be a safe haven for all hurting and that we can come together to praise and worship the Lord and enjoy time with each other. I would so love for people to understand that coming to church is not a chore to check off the weekly to do list.
5. I believe that I can be a good listener and take in all aspects of an issue and be able to have good judgement in deciding on any issue. I also have a zest for learning about many aspects of life. I get very involved in any position or area I believe in. I was very honored that my pastor recommended me for this. In such a large congregation, she sees me as a "doer" and someone who believes in being involved and helping in ways I can.
6. 1) Serving on Church Council as well as many other boards, 2) Treasurer, Glenwood and Beyond, a nonprofit civic organization, for many years, 3) My husband and I raising our son to be a good, hard-working man.

b. NELSON, CHRISTINA

1. Tripolis, Kandiyohi
2. Web and Communications Consultant
3. Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
4. I would like my congregation to focus on authentic community and relationship, first within our own walls and then to our communities at large. With the division and fear emboldened in our area in the past year, we need to be a strong voice that can speak unity and love. That begins by having a deep understanding of who we are as a church. Then we must understand that our world view is going to look different than our neighbor.

5. This is a journey that I have personally experienced in the past year, and a path I continue to walk. I traveled to South Africa in 2017 and experienced first-hand the grace that abounds when an outsider is welcomed and understood. I attended leadership training that has a focus on developing one on one relationships and seeking to understand a person first before lifting them into leadership. I believe that God is steadily equipping me for this.
6. 1) SW MN Women of the ELCA Board member, 2) Worship and Music Committee member of Tripolis Lutheran Church, 3) ISAIAH MN Core Leadership Team in Kandiyohi County.

2. SYNOD COUNCIL – AT LARGE – 3-year term, clergy female (vote for one)

a. GRINDE, REV SUE

1. Jasper ELC, Jasper
2. Pastor
3. M.Div.
4. Jasper ELC is located in a small town and we have to come to realize that we are not going to gain many new members. With that being said, we want to focus on maintaining what we have. Also to pay attention and work with the youth that we do have participating.
5. I have been an ordained pastor for almost 13 years. The gifts I bring is an ability to listen and understand where the people in the congregations are coming from and what is important to them. I am able to reach out to people of all ages.
6. 1) Pastor – 13 years, 2) SD Candidacy Committee – 10 years (2006-2016), 3) Wife and mother.

b. ISDER, REV KRIS

1. Kviteseid, Milan
2. Pastor
3. B.S. in accounting, University of Minnesota; M.Div., Luther Seminary
4. Working together with area congregations on ministry and service events. Together we can do more than we can as just one congregation.
5. Last year Kviteseid partnered with three other area churches for three joint lakeside worship services on the holiday weekends. We will do it again this year. The last four years Kviteseid has been part of a round robin for Lenten services, working together with seven other churches.
6. 1) Pastor at Kviteseid, Milan, 2) Chairperson of Appleton Area/Milan Ministerium, 3) SNAP – Education Milan Pilot Action Team member.

3. SYNOD COUNCIL – AT LARGE – Youth (vote for one)

a. EISENBACHER, MIA

1. Immanuel, Atwater
2. Student
3. Junior at ACGC High School
4. My church is an awesome place for youth & families! There are many activities & events that make Immanuel a welcoming place that is comfortable & safe. However, I think our church can do a better job at expanding our high school and young adult ministry. I think it would be great to see young adults having more opportunities for fellowship, service, and faith growth so that they become greater, more active role models and leaders at Immanuel.
5. I love Jesus, singing, and breaking boards! I have a passion for sharing Jesus with youth through teaching and getting involved in youth activities. I want to use my love for singing & music to help offer different worship styles & maybe get a youth-led, contemporary worship group started. Achieving my Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do has given me confidence & determination to try new things. I can break through challenges just like breaking boards!
6. 1) Sunday school teacher/youth leader at Immanuel, 2) Singer in the YFC Music Ministry group, “On Call’ and I serve as a worship song leader, 3) I am a Tae Kwon Do Black Belt and Jr. Instructor.

b. HARASYN, JEN

1. Calvary, Willmar
2. Student/Lifeguard
3. High School
4. I think my congregation could benefit from having improved teen outreach programs. Many high school students don't come to church after confirmation and during college. I think if we created a few college and post-confirmation youth events, it could bring in more people and create new relationships within the church as well.
5. I could use my gift of meeting new people to make them feel welcome and encourage them to join and give a sense of calmness. I also have a gift of music and being a good listener which can be used to connect to people on a closer level.
6. 1) Small group leader – 2018 Senior High Youth Gathering, 2) Director of three Solo Ensemble groups for choir/band, 3) Assist/Lead summer softball try-outs.

4. CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – 6-year term, lay female (vote for one)

a. BLAIR, TINA

1. Glenwood, Glenwood
2. RN, Homecare & Hospice Manager
3. Nursing
4. I believe by supporting our youth not only through confirmation but through early adulthood can be of great benefit. These can be very difficult times for many people and allows for another outlet of support that they may not otherwise have. I also feel that the opportunities through the church to volunteer are very significant life lessons and important for our young adults.
5. I am a mother of teenagers so I am watching first-hand how this impacts their lives. In my work I also employ young adults and know the importance of having a strong foundation of values at a young age.
6. 1) Manager, Homecare & Hospice agency, 2) Chair, Hospice Motorcycle Ride Committee, 3) I am on a customer experience team for the hospital.

b. ***No nominee at time of printing.***

5. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – 6-year term, clergy male (vote for one)

a. **WALLAGER, REV JEFFREY**

1. St Cloud Hospital, St Cloud
2. Chaplain
3. M.Div.
4. There is a high need for grief support in our region. I am currently working on a collaborative project to create a central setting for grief support which will include counseling, written resources and group offerings. Faith communities will continue to serve as important partners in establishing and maintaining a solid network of grief and bereavement support for the people of this area.
5. In my work as a hospital chaplain I provide spiritual support to a variety of people with equally varied needs. I am a good listener who maintains a strong level of self-awareness. My leadership style focuses on what I can do to give individuals the support needed to do their best in a way that matches individual gifts, talents and interests.
6. 1) Lead Chaplain, 2) Schwartz Center Rounds Facilitator, 3) Grief and Bereavement Committee Member.

b. **GUENINGSMAN, REV JOEL**

1. Immanuel, Clara City
2. Pastor

3. B.A. Theology, M.Div.
4. I would like to see a focus on faith formation that would equip all the baptized of Immanuel to live out the gospel in their communities and everyday lives. So often I think there is a feeling that ministry is to be done by the "professionals" or a few trained lay members. I also think another key area is growing community and reaching beyond our doors and not waiting for people to come to us. We are a church that is sent into the world.
5. I feel I have the ability to draw people in and to recognize their gifts and talents and help them discern what and where God maybe calling them to join God's mission. Also in my previous call I was part of a committee that focused on our outreach and community building.
6. 1) Western Iowa Synod Discipline Committee, 2) Western Iowa Synod Candidacy Committee.

6. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – 6-year term, clergy male (vote for one)

a. LUNDHOLM, REV PETER

1. Salem, St Cloud
2. Retired Pastor/Chaplain
3. Augustana College (Rock Island) Northwestern Lutheran Theological Seminary, St John's
4. Becoming partners with our neighbors as we seek to minister with and among them.
5. Ecumenical involvement, liturgical awareness and training, pastoral care and practice and training.
6. 1) Staff Chaplain St Cloud, 2) Co-Chair of hospital ethics committee, 3) Pastoral care practice and training.

b. NELSON, REV HARVEY

1. Ebenezer, Kandiyohi
2. Retired Pastor
3. BA University of Wyoming, M.Div. Luther Seminary, PHD Drew University
4. I think it is important for us to welcoming to the Latino and Somali people in our area. We need to go beyond our comfort zone to welcome and assist all people in our communities.
5. Marie and I have lived in Africa for 10 years and have served an English-Spanish congregation in Willmar.
6. 1) Conference Dean Crow River Conference for 6 years, 2) Member of the ELCA Board of Global Missions for 6 years, 3) Rector of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Umphumulo South Africa for 1 ½ years.

7. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – 6-year term, clergy female (vote for one)

a. LEE, REV KRISTA

1. Glenwood, Glenwood
2. Pastor
3. Graduate Degree
4. I would like to see Glenwood Lutheran Church focuses on hospitality using their gifts to welcome new comers and to reach out to each other.
5. Attitude of hospitality; Curiosity of people's stories; Assurance in the Gospel and its proclamation.
6. 1) Within the community; member of the curriculum committee at the local high school, 2) Member of the development committee for Love, Inc. in Pope County, 3) Pastor at Glenwood Lutheran Church.

b. THOMAS, REV REBECCA

1. First, Sauk Centre
2. Ordained Minister
3. Master of Divinity

4. Every congregation is important to the synod. We all need to be involved. Our congregation will continue to financially support the work of the SWMN Synod. We will be involved in teaching and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments. We will be serving ... reaching out to those in our community and around the world. We will often be involved in the projects that the SWMN Synod promotes. Focus on worship, growing and serving!
5. Gifts: I am a good listener. Listening in a way that is non-judgmental to understand the situation and ask questions. I am able to keep conversations confidential. When doing the Strength Finders survey I scored high in empathy.
6. 1) Pastor of First Lutheran in Sauk Centre, 2) Served on SW MN Synod Consultation Committee, 3) Served on the Worship (Synod Assembly & Theological Conference) Planning Committee.

8. LUTHERAN ADVOCACY - MINNESOTA – 3-year term (vote for one)

a. GABRIELSON, REV JOHN

1. Atonement, St Cloud
2. Pastor
3. BA, M.Div.
4. Evangelism and Discipleship
5. I've served as a volunteer and board member of Lutheran Advocacy for a number of years and care deeply about faithful engagement in the political process. I am also currently serving as chair of this board and think it would be beneficial for me to remain on the board for at least the length of that term. I would be willing and interested in serving on this board indefinitely.
6. 1) Congregational Pastor, 2) Member and Chairperson of the LA-MN board, 3) Luther Seminary Student Council.

9. LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN– 3-year term (vote for one)

a. PEDERSEN, REV DEE

1. Bethlehem, St Cloud
2. Pastor
3. B.A. & B.S. Luther College, M.Div. & D. Min. Luther Seminary
4. I hope that, when a congregation thinks of social service, they will see LSS as their go-to agency partner. The mission of LSS is to express “the love of Christ for all people through service that inspires hope, changes lives, and builds community.” Congregations share this vision. By providing a vast array of support services, LSS helps our congregations & synod accomplish what we could not do alone, so all people know full and abundant lives.
5. LSS became part of my life after college when, as a Parish Worker, I had the joy of working with a refugee family from SE Asia. LSS was our "midwife" as our family was formed through the blessing of international adoption. In ministry, LSS has been a significant partner in resettling refugees, and providing educational resources for congregations. Currently serving on the Board of Directors of LSS, I am an eager & enthusiastic LSS ambassador.
6. 1) Past chair, Synod Long-Range Planning Committee. 2009-2011, 2) Chair, ELCA Task Force, "Living into the Future Together: Renewing the Ecology of the ELCA" 1999-2005 – 3) ELCA Church Council.

10. LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN– 3-year term (vote for one)

a. **CARRUTHERS, ANDREA**

1. Bethel, Willmar
2. Retired Nurse

3. BA in Nursing
4. Bethel has gone through a strategic planning process over the past year to set priorities in our future ministry. So I hope to see fulfillment in areas of worship as central to our church life with emphasis on youth, Community Outreach and family life. We have a motto at Bethel- GIFT- Generations in Faith Together. It is exciting to participate in inter-generational activities as we share life with one another.
5. I spent the last 6 years on our Church Council, two of them as Council President. Seeing our community outreach grow into a vibrant team effort has been my passion as their team coordinator. I also enjoy singing in our choir and participating in group study and travel opportunities.
6. 1) Church Council President, 2) Community Outreach Team Coordinator, 3) LSSMN Ambassador, Bethel Lutheran Church.

11. SYNOD COUNCIL – Glacial Ridge Conference – 3-year term – Clergy male (vote for one)

a. **NELSON, REV MICHAEL** – St John's & Kongsvinger, Donnelly

12. SYNOD COUNCIL – Lakeland Conference – 3-year term – clergy male (vote for one)

a. **ASK, REV JUSTIN –** Vinje, Willmar

13. SYNOD COUNCIL – Minnesota Valley Conference – 3-year term – lay female (vote for one)

a. **no nominee at time of printing.**

14. SYNOD COUNCIL – Scenic Valley Conference – 3-year term – lay male (vote for one)

a. **DELONG, DAVID –** Hawk Creek, Sacred Heart

15. SYNOD COUNCIL – Watonwan River Conference – 3-year term – lay female (vote for one)

a. **BRANSTAD, PAT –** First, St James

2019 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY
Milwaukee, WI
August 5-10, 2019

For the 2019 Churchwide Assembly (CWA) the Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly will elect 26 voting members in addition to the Bishop, who is an ex officio member of the CWA. The Synod Council adopted a policy for nomination and election of voting members and alternates. Each of the ten conferences shall nominate a lay voting member and first and second alternates. Each biennium five of the ten conferences shall nominate a lay voting member and first and second alternates; the other five conferences shall nominate clergy voting members in the succeeding biennium. For the 2019 CWA those conferences nominating clergy voting members are: Glacial Ridge, Great River, Lac qui Parle, Minnesota Valley and Scenic Valley. The remaining voting members and alternates shall be nominated by the Synod Assembly Nominating Committee on an "at-large" basis. The Synod Vice-President shall be nominated for one of the remaining voting member positions, and two Synod Council members of the same gender shall be nominated as alternates for that position. Although CWA voting members and alternates are *nominated* in a variety of ways, all are *elected* by the Synod Assembly.

The nominees are listed in alphabetical order.

1. <u>CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY (CWA) VOTING MEMBER</u> - Synod Vice-President (vote for one)

a. **ARNESON, GWEN**
1. Christ, Cottonwood
2. Lay Pastoral Assistant, Independent Piano Teacher
3. BA – Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD
4. I believe God is persistently calling God's church, not ours, to: FOLLOW Jesus; LOVE God and neighbors with all we have; SEE all generations together as the church of today; MODEL "see how they love one another" to the world; ASK with honesty and intentionality why we are church together; INVITE people into experiences where it is safe to bring our faith questions and doubts, listening for God's voice in the midst of our human frailty and uncertainty; GO, to make disciples, not members.
5. I'm a learner and a listener. With gratitude I think of opportunities I've had to listen to voices across the larger church speaking of what it means to be church; what good things stand in the way of us doing even better things; how we could imagine new ways of looking at things; how we might be nimbler at sharing the hope and good news of Jesus. These experiences inform my participation at the tables where I have the privilege to sit, and the conversations in which I am a participant.
6. 1) As a mother to three children, 2) As a teacher spending time one-on-one learning and getting to know students more deeply, 3) As a musician leading from the organ or piano bench – the congregation, choir or individuals.

2. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – lay female (vote for one)

a. ANDERSON, KRISTA
1. United, Lake Lillian
2. Optometric Assistant
3. Some college
4. I would like to see our church get involved at a state or national level we are very helpful with our town and county with how small of an area it is, but I would like to see the same fire about supporting our state as a whole.
5. I have a leadership capability and passion with our youth so I would like to take them on some small in-state mission trips - volunteering at soup kitchens in the cities or making blankets for homeless shelters in the Twin Cities area where the need is great.
6. 1) VBS Coordinator-I feel that this is the most significant because I have the most passion about this so I am the most confident about our Youth, 2) Sunday School Teacher, 3) Church Council Member.

b. BRANSTAD, PATRICIA

1. First, St James
2. German instructor at Gustavus Adolphus College (soon to be retired!)
3. BA German, BA Sociology - Luther College; M.Education - College of St. Scholastica; MA German Language and Literature, Portland State University
4. I would like to see our congregation become more intentional in creating and fostering learning about the racial and social justice issues that affect our neighbors - locally, regionally and globally – and then apply what we learn in concerted efforts to become agents of change and advocates for those who don't have a voice.
5. I have experience in diversity and equity learning and training sessions, and am currently participating in the Region 9 Rural Equity Learning Community initiative. These experiences have opened my eyes with new learning, and provided me with opportunities to practice group facilitation and learn strategies to have difficult conversations in a respectful manner. I am compassionate and empathetic, and believe we are called to advocate for others.
6. 1) Local congregation president, 2) Local congregation call committee chairperson, 3) State and national president of women's community service organization (Women of Today)

c. STENBERG, DOROTHY

1. Zion, Litchfield
2. Deacon, Zion Litchfield
3.
4. We are called to be shepherds to the people God places in our midst. I would like to see my congregation focus on a more intentional ministry to the vulnerable, those who are lonely, and those who are on the fringes of our society.
5. God has given me the gift of being a listener. I also am blessed with a home that allows me to be hospitable to people God places in my life to whom I can be helpful.
6. 1) Congregational President, 2) SW MN Synod Council, 3) Chairman – Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Board.

3. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – lay female (vote for one)

a. JOHNSON, SUSAN

1. First English, Tyler
2. Church Secretary
3. Graduate, Willmar High; AAS degree in Health Information
4. More mission work; programs to unite the youth & older people in the congregation.
5. Prayer & secretarial skills.
6. 1) Former SW MN Synod Council member, 2) Church Secretary

b. KLAWITTER, CARLA

1. First, Hector
2. Support Staff/Financial, SW MN Synod
3. 2-year accounting, technical school; lifetime experiences
4. It is my hope that we can see and focus on whatever is in front of us and find new ways to be God's witnesses.
5. I am an includer, have the gift of winning others over, possess strong communication skills, have faith and belief that it matters to myself and to those around me, and I feel a strong sense of responsibility for the tasks I undertake.
6. 1) Wife, mother, grandmother, and daughter – all rolled in one, 2) SW MN Synod support staff for 17 years, 3) Former council member and mayor of Morgan.

4. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – lay female **(vote for one)**

a. NELSON, CHRISTINA

1. Tripolis, Kandiyohi
2. Web and Communications Consultant
3. Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
4. I would like my congregation to focus on authentic community and relationship, first within our own walls and then to our communities at large. With the division and fear emboldened in our area in the past year, we need to be a strong voice that can speak unity and love. That begins by having a deep understanding of who we are as a church. Then we must understand that our world view is going to look different than our neighbor.
5. This is a journey that I have personally experienced in the past year, and a path I continue to walk. I traveled to South Africa in 2017 and experienced first-hand the grace that abounds when an outsider is welcomed and understood. I attended leadership training that has a focus on developing one on one relationships and seeking to understand a person first before lifting them into leadership. I believe that God is steadily equipping me for this.
6. 1) Southwestern Minnesota Women of the ELCA Board member, 2) Worship and Music Committee member of Tripolis Lutheran Church, 3) ISAIAH MN Core Leadership Team in Kandiyohi County.

b. RATH, JULIE

1. Gloria Dei, Redwood Falls
2. Economic Development Specialist
3.
4. Community outreach -- getting to know others in our own church better and inviting others to visit and consider joining our congregation.
   Stewardship Awareness -- encouraging all to engage their time and talents -- everyone's contribution makes a difference
5. Encouragement, Networking, Sharing and inviting others
6. 1) Serving on the SW MN Synod Council, 2) Serving as Treasurer at my former church for 4 years, 3) Serving as the Economic Development Specialist for 17 years at the Redwood Area Development Corporation.

c. ***No nominee at time of printing.***

5. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – lay male **(vote for one)**

a. EKERN, JEWEL

1. United, Lake Lillian
2. Retired
3. B.S. UW- La Crosse
4. Mission; broadening the scope of the congregation's mission outreach
5. Global Mission Advocate; Traveled to S Africa in relationship building trip with our sister congregation and then hosting and being the driver for members of our sister congregation when they came to visit in WI. Host dad for several foreign exchange students; Senior Companion; Stephen Minister and member of the vision/outreach committee at United plus currently being on synod council.
6. 1) Synod Council, 2) Global Mission Advocate, 3) Graduate Lay School Theology.

b. GHYLIN, MR CURTIS

1. Bethlehem, St Cloud
2. Retired IT
3. BS ED., Valley City University, MBA, SCSU
4. Our congregation should continue to reach out to the less fortunate in our community. It is also important that we "welcome the stranger among us" by promoting a better understanding of the immigrant and refugee communities.

5. As much as possible, I participate in volunteer activities related to serving the homeless, helping in ESL activities, delivering meals to shut ins, working at food shelfs, and visiting veterans at the local VAHCS.
6. 1) Past member SW MN Synod Council & Executive Committee, 2) Past Congregational President & Treasurer, 3) Served on several other congregational boards & committees

c. GRAUE, IAN

1. St John's, Raymond
2. After school program coordinator
3. Agricultural Science degrees; Post graduate degrees in Education and also Environmental Studies
4. I dream of the day when congregations (including where I worship) are Christian communities that welcome everyone and where members exude true hospitality. I would also like all congregations to become 'care of creation' ministry centers that practice best practice environmental stewardship and help their members to be creation stewards every day.
5. I pride myself in being a good listener. I enjoy weighing alternative viewpoints as I make decisions. I am an avid reader who regularly reads material that challenges my assumptions. 15 years in cross-cultural ministry has prepared me to practice hospitality. As environmental stewardship has been one of my passions for at least 30 yrs., I have had ample opportunities to develop and practice creation stewardship.
6. 1) School Department Head, 2) ELCA Global Missionary for 15 years in Papau, New Guinea and the Central African Republic, 3) Local

6. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – lay male (vote for one)

a. BRANSTAD, JIM

1. First, St James
2. Financial Advisor
3. B S degree Minnesota State Mankato
4. First Lutheran is in a transitional period due to the loss of our two pastors. Our current goal is to find two Pastors to help us move forward in doing God's work. When this takes place I would like to see us focus on issues of social justice. We have to remember that we all came to this country due to immigration. Fair immigration reform is a must.
5. The gifts that I would bring to this ministry would be the ability to speak up and to create dialog that would turn into action. My occupation and board work often times focus on problem solving so I feel that I have a strength in this area. This means that you have to listen to others and enter into discussions that are beneficial and not attacking.
6. 1) St. James Public School Board chair, 2) Chair of the Board Mayo Health System St. James, MN., 3) President First Lutheran Church St. James.

b. GILBERTSON, THOMAS

1. Calvary, Willmar
2. Self Employed
3. BA Business Administration - Entrepreneurship
4. I do not think a 3-year outlook is enough for an institution like ours. We should be looking in terms of centuries not years. I feel our congregation should focus its energy on two areas. The first is instilling what it means to be Lutheran, Christian and religious in our family, community and around the world. The second is reaching out to those, especially youth/families, within our church walls, those in our community and around world.
5. The gifts God has given me that I would like to contribute are being inspired by the future and what can be; as well as inspiring others. I also bring a very positive and enthusiastic attitude. Lastly I want to include and accept others to both be their best as well as be part of the activity, solution, and/or process. I have served on countless boards and taken on many leadership roles and am ready to jump in where God is calling.

6. 1) Bethesda Nursing Home Foundation Board Sec, 2018-2020, 2) Willmar Rotary Club Pres./Rockin' Robbins Rounders Committee 2014-2016, 3) Calvary Lutheran Church Executive Committee Sec & Council 2016-2017.

c. ***No nominee at time of printing.***

7. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – lay male (vote for one)

a. NELSON, BERGEN

1. Evangelical Lutheran, Cokato
2. Youth Ministry Coordinator
3. B. A. in English and Philosophy from St. Olaf College
4. With its gifts my congregation could develop local opportunities for accompaniment ministry, so that mutual support and learning may guide congregants to grow their faith through daily service, challenge unjust systems, and express discipleship to the community. And adding an internal focus on intergenerational ministry could generate flourishing faith through the service-driven collaboration between the gifts and experiences of youth and adults.
5. My nature as an energetic learner allows me to root ministries in Christ's compassion through conversation and research, while skills in creativity enable me to design intentional plans for accompaniment and establish empowering intergenerational activity. Crucially, my experience as a relationship builder would help me cultivate connections of vulnerability and support that could link people's faith and gifts to equip them for daily service.
6. 1) Youth Ministry Coordinator, 2) Trail Shack Coordinator, Luther Crest Bible Camp (Summer 2017), 3) Devotional Coordinator, The Concordia College Chapel Choir.

b. SCHENK, DANIEL

1. Gethsemane, Dassel
2. Student/Lifeguard
3. High School
4. As a youth myself I have seen a decrease of interest when It comes to God in the young adults, this is why I believe we need to update the church and change the ways we expand the church. I would like to see more congregations begin to offer things like youth bands, study groups, and open conversation when it comes to the doubts or troubles we face. I believe this would make the church more welcoming allowing for more growth in the congregation.
5. I have the gifts of leadership, determination, and compassion which allow me to take charge when needed or lead in-depth discussions about God. Along with these three gifts, I am also very accepting of all people and will support anyone in need through the trials that life presents - giving them all the advice and guidance I can offer. The last gift I have is growth and potential. I am still discovering my gifts and finding ways to use them for God.
6. 1) SW MN LYO Board, 2) Church Youth Committee, 3) Former Voting Member to the SW MN Synod Assembly.

c. WOLTJER, COLE

1. Vinje, Willmar
2. Student
3. College Student
4. I would love to see my congregation focus time, energy and resources towards ministry with young adults. Our area is teeming with young adults who are searching for a place to express their faith. It is our duty to help this generation learn how to be successful, and usher them in their faith along the way. These young adults are the future of the church and a lot of them aren't sure where they fit in with the grand scheme of things.
5. I'm a very driven and passionate person. I love working in group as well as individually to accomplish goals and spread our ministry. I bring a unique perspective having seen and participated in many forms of worship.

6. 1) 2015/16 LYO President, 2) Represented SW MN Synod at National Youth Leadership Summit, 3) Confirmation Mentor/Leader.

8. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – youth/young adult (vote for one)

a. HOLLAND, DELANEY

1. Cross of Calvary, Olivia
2. Student
3. Southwest State University
4. As a future educator, I understand both the power and importance that children of all ages play in building a better tomorrow. I would like to see my congregation approach ministry with this simple philosophy in mind. While we have many fantastic programs to guide young children in their faith journeys, I would like to see more emphasis placed in offering the same support to teenage and young adult members of the congregation.
5. Being a student myself, I know of the hardships that can test one's faith throughout high school, college, and beyond. I have experience in working with and counseling a variety of age groups and students having emerged from many different backgrounds. I am passionate about advocacy and teaching, both of which I carry into all aspects of my life.
6. 1) PreK Literacy Tutor at BOLD Little Warriors Preschool, 2) Member of the National Society of Student Leadership and Success, 3) General Member of the Student Activities Committee at SMSU.

b. KLEENE, KAYLEE

1. ACT Parish, Pennock
2. Student
3. Graduated High School
4. I would love if my congregation would start a youth program for the Youth involved in our parish. We have many kids but no program.
5. I have participated in the Lutheran Youth Organization board this past year. I am a responsible person and definitely a people person. I like to lead others and help when able.
6. 1) LYO Board Member, 2) Sophomore Class President, 3) Lead an anti-human trafficking fundraiser. Also helped lead many church events.

c. *No nominee at time of printing.*

9. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – AT LARGE</u> – Clergy male (vote for one)

a. AINSLEY, REV KEITH

1. Immanuel, New Auburn
2. Interim Pastor
3. M.Div. Wartburg Theological Seminary
4. Simply reaching out to the local community through listening, involvement, caring and invitation.
5. Listening and meeting people right where they are.
6. 1) Supervisor of 13 Seminary interns, 2) Dean of Watonwan River Conference, 3) Pastored a Recovering Congregation of Pastoral Imposition, 4) Chaplain @ Winnebago Adolescent Treatment Center.

b. ANDERSON, REV EUGENE

1. Faith, Becker
2. Interim Pastor
3. MS Chemistry NDSU, M.Div. Wartburg
4. I would like to see Faith Lutheran incorporate youth into the life of the congregation more. Youth are more than objects needing to be trained to be a part of the church community.
5. I seem to have a knack with teaching youth songs. Youth usually become very comfortable approaching me.
6. 1) Interim Pastor - First Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, 2) Interim Pastor - Tracy Lutheran Church, Tracy, MN, 3) Senior Chemist - Valspar Corp.

c. BERG, REV BRUCE

1. Grace, Lake Benton
2. Interim Pastor
3. 19 years
4. As Interim Minister at Grace Lutheran Church in Lake Benton. My primary focus is to work with the church in establishing a clear and concise vision of their future. This congregation recently left a parish to "go on their own." To date, I have not seen much emphasis on the future other than surviving. That said, I also would like to foster a congregation mission that involves work outside the walls of the church.
5. I need to speak directly to my reason for seeking a seat at the 2019 Church-wide Assy. I am a member of the Women and Justice Social Statement Task Force. The task force has completed most of our work on the statement and our goal is to have a draft statement available for consideration at the 2019 Assembly. As a Task Force member and a Synod delegate, I would have the privilege of speaking from the floor on any issues related to our work.
6. 1) Pastor, 2) Social Statement Task Force Member, ELCA, 3) Command Master Chief in the United States Navy.

10. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER</u> – clergy/lay, male (person of color or primary language other than English) (vote for one)

a. MILLER, REV JULIUS

1. Our Redeemer's, Hancock
2. Pastor
3. M.Div., Bachelor of Commerce
4. I would like to see our congregation become more engaged in family and youth ministry.
5. My two children are young adults. I learn a lot from them as well as give them my wisdom. I also always take time to reach out to the young people we have at church- to learn their needs and also receive lessons from them.
6. 1) Seminary – President of World Missions Committee, 2) Community Steering Committee Member, 3) SW MN Synod Council Member.

b. ***No nominee at time of printing.***

11. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Crow River Conference</u> (vote for one)
Lay Male

a) NELSON, MARK - St John's , Annandale

12. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Crow River Conference</u> (vote for one)
Lay Male

a) HOFFMAN, DONN – St John's, Annandale

13. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Crow River Conference</u> (vote for one)
Lay Male

a) URDAHL, CARLTON – Zion, Litchfield

14. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Crow River Conference</u> (vote for one)
Clergy Female

a) CZYCALLA, REV MINDY – First, Cosmos

15. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Crow River Conference</u> (vote for one)
Clergy Female

a) PRESTON, REV MEGAN – Trinity, Grove City

16. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Crow River Conference</u> (vote for one)
Clergy Female

a) AASE, REV LAURA – River of Hope, Hutchinson

17. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Glacial Ridge Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **LEE, REV KRISTA –** Glenwood, Glenwood

18. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Glacial Ridge Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **HARVESTINE, REV JACKIE –** East & West Zion, Hancock

19. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Glacial Ridge Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **LOMEN, REV BONNIE –** Barsness & Chippewa Falls, Glenwood

20. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Great River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **ASTRUP, REV MARK –** Peace, Cold Spring

21. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate –Great River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **OLSON, REV STEVE –** Our Savior's, Albany

22. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Great River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) ***no nominee at time of printing*.**

23. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Great River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Female
a) **ASTRUP, CHERYL –** Peace, Cold Spring

24. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Great River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Female
a) **LEHMAN, KRIS –** Atonement, St Cloud

25. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER - Second Alternate – Great River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Female
a) **GRAY, SIGNE –** Celebration, Sartell

26. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Lac qui Parle Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) **MARKFORT, QUENTIN –** Our Savior's, Montevideo

27. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Lac qui Parle Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) **BURMEISTER, TERRY –** Big Bend, Milan

28. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Lac qui Parle Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) ***no nominee at time of printing*.**

29. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Lakeland Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **RUNDQUIST, REV ERIK –** Svea, Svea

30. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate- Lakeland Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **NELSEN, REV TODD –** Faith, Spicer

31. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Lakeland Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) ***no nominee at time of printing*.**

32. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Lakeland Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Female
a) **GILBERTSON, ASHLEY –** Calvary, Willmar

33. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Lakeland Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Female
a) ***no nominee at time of printing*.**

34. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Lakeland Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Female
a) ***no nominee at time of printing.***

35. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Minnesota Valley Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **KARLSON, REV ERIK –** Augustana, Gibbon

36. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Minnesota Valley Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **LUONG, REV NATHAN –** Trinity, St Peter

37. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Minnesota Valley Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **RICHARDS, REV SCOTT** – Trinity & St Paul's, Gaylord

38. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Prairie Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **FOSSEN, REV DENISE** – Christ, Hendricks

39. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate- Prairie Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **KUESTER, REV JANEL** – Christ, Cottonwood

40. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Prairie Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) **MESHKE, REV LISA** – First English, Tyler

41. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Prairie Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) **WORNSON, BRUCE** – Our Saviour's, Canby

42. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Prairie Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) **NELSON, LOWELL (RUSTY)** – Christ, Hendricks

43. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Prairie Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) nominee at time of printing.

44. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Scenic Valley Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) WACHTER, REV SHANNON – Gloria Dei, Redwood Falls

45. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Scenic Valley Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) KROGSTAD, REV REBECCA – St Matthew, Evan

46. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Scenic Valley Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) PARKER, REV NITA – Redwood Central Parish, Wabasso area

47. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Shetek Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) BUSMAN, ANDY – Good Shepherd, Lake Wilson

48. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Shetek Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) WENDT, JOHN – Grace, Worthington

49. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Shetek Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Lay Male
a) HOLMES, DALE – Immanuel, Fulda

50. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Shetek Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) NICHOLS, REV RON

51. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Shetek Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) ***no nominee at time of printing.***

52. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Shetek Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) ***no nominee at time of printing.***

53. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Watonwan River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) TAYLOR, REV SARAH – Prairieland Parish, Hanska

54. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Watonwan River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) ULLAND – KLINKNER, REV KATHLEEN – AES Parish, St James

55. <u>CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Watonwan River Conference</u> **(vote for one)**
Clergy
a) STRUM, REV KRISTA – Faith, Madelia