Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee for the 2020 Synod Assembly was elected at the 2018 Synod Assembly. It was charged with finding nominees for the open positions on the Synod Discipline and Consultation Committees, the Synod Council and the Synod Vice-President, as well as nominations for the Synod Nominating Committee for the 2021-2022 biennium. The work of the committee was complicated by the on-going pandemic. The committee is grateful for those who considered being nominated, those who made recommendations for nominations, and especially those who were willing to have their names placed on the ballot.

Special thanks is given to Val Harlynn, Associate for Communications, for receiving the biographical nomination forms in preparation for the pre-assembly report; and to Pastor Paul Ostrem, synod staff advisor.

Members of the committee:

- Pastor Nate Liedtke, Chair
- John Grunwald
- Pastor Judy Heinrich
- Linda Kortemeyer
- Kristi Swanson
- Doug Turley
2020 Elections List

Vice President (4-year term)

1. Sara Hegg-Dunne

Synod Council and Nominating Committee (elect one for each position)

Area Subdivision #1

SC - Lay Male (4-year term)

1. Deric Bracy
2. Rodney Kern

Nominating Committee (Rostered Minister)

1. Mark Holmes
2. Erik Klimpel

Area Subdivision #2

Nominating Committee (lay male)

1. Tim Jacobsen
2. Chris Larsen

Area Subdivision #3

Nominating Committee (Lay Female)

1. Laura Curran
2. Amanda Stevenson-Cosgrove

Area Subdivision #4

SC - Lay Female (4-year term)

1. Jenny Schulz
2. Marta Bauer

Nominating Committee (Rostered Minister)

1. Chad Whaley
2. Donald Dovre
Area Subdivision #5

**Nominating Committee (lay female)**

1. Lynda Miller

Area Subdivision #6

**SC – Rostered Minister**

1. Rodney Bluml
2. Neil Harrison

**Nominating Committee (lay male)**

1. John Bonte

At-Large

**Synod Council - Rostered Minister (4-year term)**

1. Barb Hayden
2. Jodi Hinrichs

**Synod Council - Lay Female (4-year term) (person of color)**

1. Kalakla Yat

**Synod Council - Lay Youth Male (2-year term)**

1. Austin Lee
2. Logan Dales

**Synod Council - Lay Youth Female (2-year term)**

1. Lauren Koehler

**Synod Discipline Committee**

**Rostered Ministers – elect two (6-Year term)**

1. Pastor Gloria Dovre
2. Pastor John Grebner

**Lay – elect two - one male and one female (6-year term)**

1. Heather Miller
2. Logan Lee
Synod Consultation Committee

Rostered Minister – elect one (6-year term)
1. Deacon Joel Moore

Lay – elect one (6-year term)
1. Chad Henderson
Synod Vice President

First and Last Name: Sara Hegg Dunne

Congregation/Town: St. John’s Lutheran Church, Grinnell

Position Sought: Synod Vice President

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Retired Administrator, Grinnell Schools

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
President, St. John’s Church Council
President, Grinnell League of Women Voters
Substitute Teacher
Synod Council, Lay Male, Area #1

First and Last Name: Deric Bracy

Congregation/Town: St. Paul Lutheran Church, State Center, IA

Position Sought: Synod Council, Lay, Area #1

Present - Previous Employment (or School): I am currently a Quality Engineer for Emerson Flow Controls

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I am currently in my third year as the Council President for St. Paul Lutheran Church and I am also a member of our communications committee. I have previously served as a Sunday School teacher, as the President of St. Paul Lutheran Church’s Lutheran Youth Organization, as a vacation bible school teacher, and I have also served on my church’s Call Committee.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I have volunteered and served in many positions within my own congregation, from Sunday School teacher to Council President. Problem solving, brainstorming and communication are qualities I have been able to fine tune during my career as an engineer. I take great pride and joy in my involvement in my church and am always looking for the next opportunity to serve.

First and Last Name: Rodney Kern

Congregation/Town: Bethesda Ames

Position Sought: Synod Council, Lay, Area #1

Present - Previous Employment (or School): I've been employed with Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health as a Environmental Health and Safety Manager for 21 years. Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health produces animal vaccines and pharmaceuticals. I've worked at the Ames, Iowa R&D facility for almost 3 years, prior to that I was at a production facility in Fort Dodge, IA. I also have responsibilities in St Joseph, MO, Sioux Center, IA and I am a lead corporate auditor, which requires domestic and international travel.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
While a member at Grace Lutheran church in Fort Dodge, I completed three years of Lay Ministry Classes at the Western Iowa Synod and was leader of the Lutheran Men in Mission at Grace. Since joining Bethesda Lutheran church in Ames, I am a member of the Saturday evening praise band, the adult choir and attend the weekly men’s bible study. I was the leader of the library remodel task force and have volunteered to assist with security and safety assessments for the church.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I am an engineer who is an extrovert. I think analytically and logically. I also enjoy being with and talking with people. God has blessed me with leadership skills such as: organization, vision, optimism, adaptability, communication, confidence and decisiveness. I will bring these gifts to this position.
First and Last Name: Mark Holmes

Congregation/Town: First, Newton (Interim Pastor)

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #1

Present - Previous Employment (or School): First, Newton - interim
Trinity, Russellville, MO - interim
Palestine, Huxley - interim
Mt. Olivet, Perry; St. Peter, Grimes; St. Paul, State Center; Augustana, Boone

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
Interim Pastor: preaching, visitation, short and long-range planning.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I have over 30 years of experience as a parish pastor, serving in a variety of conferences, and acquainted with many of the rostered and lay leaders across the synod.

First and Last Name: Pastor Eric Klimpel

Congregation/Town: Palestine Lutheran Church, Huxley

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #1

Present - Previous Employment (or School): I've served in ordained ministry for 24 years between three congregations. I served for over a decade at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Bay City, Texas, six years at Spirit of Joy! Lutheran Church in The Woodlands, Texas, and at Palestine Lutheran Church in Huxley for 7 years. I served as a U.S. Army reserve chaplain for 4 years in South Carolina and Texas.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I have served as a Hurricane Recovery Coordinator for Matagorda County, Texas for several years and facilitated several Critical Incident Stress Management teams while in Texas. I have served on a hospital ethics board for 5 years in the Matagorda County Hospital District. I serve as the synod conference 1 chaplain and spent the last 5 years as the coordinator of the Ballard Ministerial Association in Huxley, Iowa.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I appreciate the opportunity to serve the Lord in helping in this capacity. I have never served in this type of role before but I understand the importance of identifying and recruiting committed and qualified leaders for every expression of the ELCA. I look forward to working with the nominating committee and the community of faith toward this end.
Synod Nominating Committee, Lay Male, Area #2

First and Last Name: Tim Jacobsen

Congregation/Town: St. Mark, West Des Moines

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #2

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Interim Pastor at St. Mark, M.Div Student at Wartburg Seminary

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
There are many ways that we partner with our neighbors, I've lead projects with West Des Moines Human Services. The project that I'm most excited about now that I'm working on building a partnership with an ELCA congregation in Puerto Rico for us to serve, serve their community, and build relationships between our congregations. We are in the early stages but excited to see where the spirit leads.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I've been in ministry in this synod for 6 years and have connections to congregations and staff to help get positions filled. I'm also outgoing and very ok with reaching out to potential members of committees by phone or email.

First and Last Name: Chris Larsen

Congregation/Town: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Indianola

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #2

Present - Previous Employment (or School): I graduated from the University of Iowa with a degree in Industrial Engineering in 2006. Since then I have worked for SACMI USA in Urbandale, IA, serving in various positions. I am currently the operations manager and oversee all of our day to day operations.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
At Redeemer, I have served on various committees and ministry teams. I have served on our Church Council, I spent four years serving as the chair of our Stewardship and Gifts Ministry Team, and most recently in 2019 I served as the chair for our Call Committee when our congregation was searching for a new lead pastor.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
My career forces me to be organized and able to juggle many projects simultaneously. I spend much of my time problem-solving and tackling issues that are complex in nature. I am able to bring people together and lead teams that are productive and efficient.
Synod Nominating Committee, Lay Female, Area #3

First and Last Name: Laura Curran

Congregation/Town: First Lutheran Church Fairfield, Iowa

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #3

Present -Previous Employment (or School): I've been a community pharmacist for the last 38 years working in Mt. Pleasant and Fairfield, Iowa for Fitzpatrick Pharmacy and Hy-Vee Pharmacy.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I have taught Sunday school, been on church council, serve on Christian Ed, Altar and Fellowship committees at the church. I am an active member of The National TTT Society getting ready to serve as President of the Iowa State Chapter.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I am willing to serve faithfully in whatever the responsibilities assigned as a member of the nominating committee. I take my responsibilities seriously and will work diligently to fill a slate of officers.

First and Last Name: Amanda Stevenson-Cosgrove

Congregation/Town: Trinity and Faith Lutheran Churches - Burlington, IA

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #3

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Dr. Mary Schilling McManis, DDS - Office Manger

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I serve in multiple facets at church: Sunday school, confirmation, youth group/trips, lead worship, book groups, in general wherever is needed. In the community I volunteer at the local animal shelter and supporting our local LGBTQ+ organizations.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I'm a good listener and problem solver. I like to look at the whole picture and take time before coming to conclusions. As a lay person with some leadership within the church (and married to a pastor) gives me a unique perspective that could be beneficial in this role.
Synod Council, Lay Female, Area #4

First and Last Name: Jenny Schulz

Congregation/Town: First Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids

Position Sought: Synod Council, Lay, Area #4

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Executive Director/Founder - Kids First Law Center, a nonprofit with a mission to give children a voice in divorce, custody, and other conflicts. Previously served as a staff attorney at Iowa Legal Aid in Cedar Rapids and at Bread for the City in Washington, DC. JD from University of Iowa College of Law; BA in English from Wartburg College.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
First Lutheran Church: Council chair/member (past), Group Spiritual Direction, bell choir, Saturday Evening Meal Program, Confirmation mentor, building committee
Community: pick up litter in low-income neighborhood; Safe, Equitable & Thriving (SET) Task Force member; Hall-Perrine Foundation board member

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I’m not afraid to speak up and ask questions. I am comfortable having conversations on regarding difficult issues. My legal training has given me problem-solving skills. I have a strong sense of justice.

First and Last Name: Marta Bauer

Congregation/Town: Bethlehem Vinton

Position Sought: Synod Council, Lay, Area #4

Present - Previous Employment (or School): For the last 10 years, I have been working for Ryan, LLC, a financial services company. I am a Product Manager for a compliance software. I write the rules for the software, make sure they are developed correctly and manage the project to ensure we meet our timeline for our quarterly releases with the resources that we have. I am the liaison between the software users and the development team. I co-ordinate various teams that are working on a shared project from different software applications to ensure that the end product is cohesive and works as intended for all the different applications.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I am currently the Financial Secretary, entering in donations received from the congregation. I am a member of Team Life, which helps organize events within the life of the congregation such as Fellowship time, meetings for seniors, ELCA Good Gifts giving, etc. I am a Communion Server, belong to the book club, facilitate the women’s bible study, help with computer issues, and help organize God’s Work, Our Hands events. I am also on the call committee. In the past, I have been on the altar guild, the audit committee and produced the church’s monthly newsletter and maintained the website. I was on the Church Council for three years and the Council President for two years. I was a delegate at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly. I organized, Vinton Feeds the World, a yearly food packaging event where we packaged a total of 142,000+ meals over 4 years.
What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I am organized, hard working and detail oriented. I am also committed and responsible. I can see the big picture but also drill down to the details. I am not afraid to ask the difficult questions. I am good at working with people. I am a good listener and interested in hearing other people’s views. I work with compliance information on a daily basis and find documents like constitutions and bylaws extremely interesting. I am passionate about the future of the church, the Synod and the congregations within the Synod. I believe in the mission of the ELCA, being open to all people and lifting up those in need. I strive every day to live my faith and be a good example of what God wants us to do.
Synod Nominating Committee, Rostered Minister, Area #4

First and Last Name: Pastor Chad Whaley

Congregation/Town: Bethany Lutheran Church, West Branch

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #4

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Following completion of seminary I was called to the people of God at Bethany in West Branch, Iowa where I just completed my ninth year as pastor of this wonderful community of faith.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church? I am involved in many ways within the West Branch community. Just a few things include coaching youth basketball, helping organize and implement an annual golf tournament to raise monetary gifts to sustain supplemental food programs within our schools, serving on the West Branch Area Religious Council in which I have been president and treasurer, leading worship at the local nursing home and volunteering weekly at the elementary school.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position? I have served on the discipline committee of the Southeastern Iowa Synod and currently am a member of the outside council of Free Indeed in which I am presently secretary and was also part of the nominating committee this past year.

First and Last Name: Pastor Donald Keiser Dovre

Congregation/Town: First Lutheran Church, Conroy

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #4

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Pastor: First, Conroy; Previous - Pastor: Palestine, Huxley; Peace, Ryan; St John, Morgan MN; Director for Annual Giving, Wartburg Seminary; Interim Director, SWMN Synod Resource Center

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church? I am currently the treasurer of the Iowa County Ministerial Alliance. I am the President of the Iowa/Jefferson/Keokuk County Early Childhood Iowa Board. I volunteer for Williamsburg School music boosters and athletic boosters.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position? I know and like people, have a 20 history in this synod, and am willing to help the ministry of the Church and the SEIA Synod.
Synod Nominating Committee, Lay Female, Area #5

First and Last Name: Lynda Miller

Congregation/Town: Faith Lutheran Church, Eldridge

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #5

Present -Previous Employment (or School): I am retired, I worked for an electrical contractor for 15 years as their office manager.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I just finished my term as President of the Eldridge Lions, I have been in many positions for the Southeastern Iowa Women's Synodical Board, presently treasurer. I am involved with my church women's groups, and our local library.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I have been in this area, Southeastern Iowa for over 40 years, and feel I can be a help to the Nominating Committee to find qualified candidates.
First and Last Name: Pastor Rodney Bluml

Congregation/Town: St. Paul, Anamosa

Position Sought: Synod Council, Rostered Minister, Area #6

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Three years pastor of St. Paul Lutheran in Anamosa. Prior to ordination in 2017, served four years as a Spiritual Director and Program Coordinator at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center, Hiawatha, IA. Served on staff at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Marion for 17 years.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
Assist with Anamosa Lunches for Youth. Served meals in downtown Cedar Rapids. Serve as secretary/treasurer for the Anamosa Ministerial Association. Was Board Member of Linn County Inter-religious Council. Served three years as Mayor’s appointee on the Marion Tree Board. Financially support a family’s education in Guatemala. Have been a trained national bikeride coach for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Parent two college age children with my wife of 24 years, Bonnie.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
30 + years of Christian ministry in various capacities and organizations including: retreat director, camp leader, youth catechesis, confirmation, highschool theology teacher, adult formation, Bible Study leader, author, marriage preparation, divorce counseling, mission trip leader, pilgrimage leader, pulpit supply. Master Degrees in Sacramental Theology/Liturgy and Divinity. Inter-religious and ecumenical sensitivities and interests. Practicing spiritual director/listener/companion. Integrity and Competence. Desire to assist the Church in lifting up thoughtful, servant-hearted leaders. Passion for Scripture and proclaiming God's Word.

First and Last Name: Pastor Neil Harrison

Congregation/Town: First Lutheran Church, Maquoketa

Position Sought: Synod Council, Rostered Minister, Area #6


What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
President, Maquoketa Ministerial Association and Maquoketa Community Cupboard (2019-Present); Congregation Council and Stewardship Committee, Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Elk Grove Village, IL (2017-2018); Chair, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-Colorado, 2002-2007; Council on Human Investment, State of Iowa, 1995-1997; Restorative Justice Coalition, State of Iowa, 1995-1997; Advisory Committee, U.S. Civil Rights Commission, 1995-1997; Scott County Extension Council, Iowa State

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
Ministry passions including evangelism, discipleship, and justice; primary gifts are administration, leadership, ministry coaching; broad-based experience in the church and community in Iowa and around the country in public policy; advocacy/justice ministry; social ministry, congregational renewal/vitality, and ecumenical ministry; commitment to the many expressions of the wider church in its multiple expressions; impassioned advocate for mission support; financial acumen; extensive board membership/leadership experience; strategic planning, assessment/evaluation; communication, sense of humor, patience, flexibility, adaptability, and compassion.
First and Last Name: John Bonte

Congregation/Town: First Lutheran, Cedar Rapids

Position Sought: Synod Nominating Committee, Area #6

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Eastern Iowa Community College

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
Congregational President at Zion, Clinton, 2x, Served on Church Council Zion, Clinton, Served a Secretary for the Conference. Served on Martin Luther King Celebration Committee in Clinton, Served as Chair of the Caucus, 2016. Have been a voting member of the SE Iowa Synod Assembly several times. Was a voting member of Churchwide Assembly once.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I think my main qualification is a willingness to serve my church. I hope to be a good listener and to contribute my experience to be able to recruit good candidates for the various positions in the synod.
First and Last Name: Pastor Barbara Hayden

Congregation/Town: Calvary Sabula

Position Sought: Synod Council, Rostered Minister, At-Large

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Was previously on synod council.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
Pastor at Calvary

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
Pastor in the South Eastern Iowa Synod.

First and Last Name: Pastor Jodi Hinrichs

Congregation/Town: Peace Lutheran, Earlham/Adel

Position Sought: Synod Council, Rostered Minister, At-Large

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Peace Lutheran Church, Earlham/Adel, Pastor -- 2016-present
Winterset Community School District, Special Needs Associate, -- 2015-present
Shepherd of the Cross Lutheran Church, Muscatine, Pastor -- 2010-2015
Faith Lutheran Church, Eldridge, Associate Pastor, 2003-2010

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I support local and global efforts to feed hungry people by helping organizations such as local food pantries and ELCA World Hunger. Caring for children and their families through our congregation’s annual Christmas effort as well as my partnerships through my school job is another area of service.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I am passionate about the relationship between congregations, synod, and churchwide. I was a Churchwide Assembly voting member in 2007 and attended the 2019 Churchwide Assembly as a visitor. I love this church. I am organized and detail-oriented while also desiring to see the big picture. I am able to communicate well with all types of people.
Synod Council, Lay Female, At-Large

First and Last Name: Kalakla Yat

Congregation/Town: Capitol Hill Lutheran Church, Des Moines

Position Sought: Synod Council, Lay, At-Large

Present -Previous Employment (or School):
- Wesley Acres, CNA, 2018 - present
- DeeZee, Production Line, 2018 - 2019
- Day Care Provider, In Home, 2017 - 2018

While working in Juba, South Sudan, I managed a women’s welfare agency that provided assistance to women and families. This included coordinating services to have water wells dug to ensure clean drinking water, providing nutritional education and assistance to Sudanese women and families, organizing the construction of Health Clinics throughout South Sudan focusing on rural areas, and educating women on advocacy/empowerment, prevention of the spread of diseases, birth control and family planning.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I am currently a CNA serving a vulnerable community at Wesley Acres working toward a nursing degree. I assist with important daily activities, coordinate companionship, providing emotional support, and obtaining vital records.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I am a very active member of Capitol Hill Lutheran Church assisting with worship and activities. I am passionate about the gospel of Jesus Christ and serving God’s people. I have the gifts of creativity, innovation, resourcefulness, and understanding. These gifts have helped me overcome many obstacles in life including becoming a refugee and seeking asylum in the United States.
First and Last Name: Austin Lee

Congregation/Town: Eldridge, IA

Position Sought: Synod Council, Youth, Male

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Currently a sophomore at North Scott High School. Have worked for Davenport Parks and Rec as a youth soccer referee for close to 5 years. Done a variety of work in home repair for my family’s rental house business. Also ran a shoveling business this most recent winter for a few of my local businesses.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I have gone to every church mission trip I have been eligible for up to date, which includes the Houston Youth Gathering and a mission trip to South Dakota to do some volunteer work on a Native American Reservation. I also got the opportunity with 1 other female youth member of my church to travel to North Caroline this most recent November. I attended the Leadership Youth Summit which brought together a variety of people from across the US and even some really nice children from a developing country in Africa. We spent that week talking about our faith and how we can better expand to our community through leadership skills. I also have taken great pride in our church’s summer lunch program. We have given out an enormous amount of food to our community and people who struggle paying for food when school benefits are unavailable.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I believe a key attribute about myself is my involvement in a variety of activities including Robotics, Varsity Soccer, and Cross Country. I know what it is like to be very busy and still set aside time for church. This has inspired me to try and include others in my community to do the same because I have seen the reoccurring problem of high school student stop attending church after confirmation. Most of the time because they believe they are too busy. I would like to share my opinions to the Synod in order to solve problem such as this.

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First and Last Name: Logan Dales

Congregation/Town: St. Paul, Anamosa

Position Sought: Synod Council, Youth, Male

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Junior, Anamosa High School

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I am involved with the ALY lunch program and Sleep in Heavenly Peace

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I have attended multiple churches and youth programs throughout my life, most of them Lutheran.
Synod Council, Youth, Female

First and Last Name: Lauren Koehler

Congregation/Town: SS Peter and Paul, Monticello

Position Sought: Synod Council, Youth, Female

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Monticello High School Student

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I spend a lot of time cleaning and organizing at the church. I have cleaned out and organized the entire kitchen as well as two different storage rooms at the church. I also help a lot with decorating for certain events and helping at those events. In the community I have done a lot of service projects with my 4H club, such as giving out valentines to seniors at the senior living center or giving presentations to them. I have also previously made around 20 pillowcases that I donated to The University of Iowa Children's Hospital.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I really like to organize things, and I am pretty skilled at doing so. I also am very crafty, so I am able to make things to give out to people. I also have an eye for design when I am making things to give to people. I have a lot of patience, so I am fine with doing a lot of repetitive work (like cleaning and organizing). I also love to help people in any way I can.
First and Last Name: Gloria Keiser Dovre

Congregation/Town: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ottumwa, IA

Position Sought: Synod Discipline Committee

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Director for Admissions, Wartburg Theological Seminary; Pastor- Salem Lutheran, Spragueville, Palestine Lutheran, Huxley, St. Paul Lutheran, Ottumwa; Interim Pastor-St. Peter, Dubuque, St. John Lutheran, Des Moines, St. Andrew Lutheran, Ames; Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop, Southeastern Iowa Synod

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
Williamsburg Music Association (president for two years), 4-H Leader (four years to present)

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
If called to serve in a difficult situation, I will bring compassion and nearly thirty years of experience.

First and Last Name: John Grebner

Congregation/Town: Interim - Gloria Dei, Durant and New Era, Muscatine

Position Sought: Synod Discipline Committee

Present -Previous Employment (or School): Most recently pastor at Grace Lutheran in Davenport followed by interims at Redeemer Lutheran, Bettendorf and the Gloria Dei-New Era Parish in Durant/Muscatine.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
Listening without judgement, compassion, seeing the larger picture.
Synod Discipline Committee, Lay

First and Last Name: Heather Miller

Congregation/Town: Faith Lutheran Church, Clive

Position Sought: Synod Discipline Committee

Present - Previous Employment (or School): 1999 - Present CEO Freedom Financial Bank, Chairperson of the Board of Directors
2012 - Present President & CEO Visionbankshares, Inc
2012 - Present, VisionBank, Chairperson of the Board of Directors

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
2012 - 2020 Southeastern Iowa Synod Vice President
2015 - Present, Mission Investment Fund, trustee, currently serving as Vice Chair
2017 - Present, Vesterheim Museum, board of trustees
2011-2012 Faith Lutheran Church, Congregational President
2010-2011 Faith Lutheran Church, Congregational Vice President
Also served on Stewardship Committee and Sunday school teacher

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
Through a variety of experiences, I have witnessed a wide range of ministry expressions. This has provided a perspective that allows me to withhold judgement without knowing the facts and situational circumstances. Upholding the integrity of each individual's ministry, as well as the church body, is critical to our future endeavors. I would be honored to serve in this capacity to continue to support the true spirit of 'we are in this together.'

First and Last Name: Logan Lee

Congregation/Town: St. Johns - Grinnell

Position Sought: Synod Discipline Committee

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Logan is currently an assistant professor of economics at Grinnell College. In that role he teaches a variety of courses and studies the economics of crime and incarceration. He received a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Oregon in 2015.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I recently completed a two year term on the St. Johns Endowment Committee which included one year as chair of that committee. I also served on the Worship, Music and Arts committee at St. Johns. I attended the ELCA churchwide assembly as a delegate of the South East Iowa synod in August of 2019. Beyond church service, I am a member of the Institutional Review Board at Grinnell College. In this role, I evaluate proposed research projects to ensure they are ethical and pose no more than minimal risks to the subjects of the research. My wife Kari was ordained in February of 2019 and currently serves as the pastor for two congregations (St. Andrews in Sully and Holy Trinity in Newton). We also have two children under the age of four. As a result, I have an inside view of the challenges pastors, particularly new pastors and pastors with children, face.
What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
As a professor, I have experience dealing with disciplinary issues. In addition, given my primary research interests are the economics of crime and incarceration, I spend a lot of time thinking about optimal structures for punishment as well as inherent inequalities in the current criminal justice system. These academic ideas have also been made real to me though close collaboration with the Iowa Department of Corrections and during my experience as the foreman of the jury on an attempted murder trial.
Synod Consultation Committee, Rostered Minister

First and Last Name: Deacon Joel Moore

Congregation/Town: St. Paul Lutheran Church Davenport, Iowa

Position Sought: Synod Consultation Committee

Present - Previous Employment (or School): Joel is a Deacon and Registered Nurse. He is the Director of Care Coordination for Genesis Health System where he provides leadership and coordination of operations for the acute care components of a large health system. Previously, Joel was the Director of Faith Formation for St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport. Joel earned a BA in psychology from Clarke College in Dubuque, an Associate of Science in Nursing degree from Trinity College of Nursing, in Rock Island, and both a Bachelor’s and Master’s of Science in Nursing Leadership from Western Governors University. He completed courses at Luther Seminary to meet the Church requirements for Associate in Ministry.

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church? Joel's call as a Deacon and work as a health care executive, allows him to coordinate holistic care to those in the hospital. He is actively involved in grief ministry at St. Paul Lutheran Church and has participated in many mission trips through Appalachia Service Project. Joel recently completed his term on Gilda's Club QC Executive Board and currently services on the Scott County Regional Authority Board of Directors. Joel serves as a committee chair for the QC-Times Bix 7.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position? Joel has over 20 years of work experiences in education, nursing, hospice care and church ministry. With a diverse education, work experience and years in leadership, Joel has the background needed to be in circumstances that require solid listening skills, a steadiness of faith, and a willingness to be present.
Synod Consultation Committee, Lay

First and Last Name: Chad Henderson

Congregation/Town: SS Peter and Paul Monticello

Position Sought: Synod Consultation Committee

Present - Previous Employment (or School): I have been self employed as a farrier for the last 26 years

What kind of service do you currently do or have done in your community or at your church?
I have served on our church council in many roll. I have been a Sunday school teacher. I have served on the call committee. I donate all the farrier service to camp courageous horse program.

What qualifications or gifts do you bring to this particular position?
I try to be fair minded and look for the most peaceful and just solution to any problem.