

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. BRUCE KUENZEL

Synod Council
Light of Christ, Delano
Lives in Delano, MN
505-412-3013
bruce.kuenzel@locdelano.com

TERM: 2nd

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament
Male
Caucasian
Age at the time of re-election: 66

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Pastor, Light of Christ Lutheran Church

Activities and leadership in the church

Conference Dean, Board Chair @ Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, Long Range Planning Task Force, all Southwestern Minnesota Synod; Conference Dean, Board Chair @ Lutheran Campus Ministry, University of New Mexico, Bishop Election Design Team, all Rocky Mountain Synod.

Community activities and leadership

Singer and Board Chair, Sangre de Cristo Chorale, Santa Fe, MN; Singer, Exultate, Minneapolis; ELCA Malaria Campaign, Ragnar Relay Fundraiser, Rocky Mountain Synod; Synod Council and Executive Committee, Minneapolis Area Synod; various school and community activities over the years.

What else should people know?

I've served as a pastor for thirty-seven years in four synods and four congregations. I believe I can continue to bring a wealth of experience to the Synod Council, which I believe will be helpful in shaping the direction and strategic thinking of the Synod.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MS. FELECIA BOONE

Synod Council, Synod Vice President
Calvary Evangelical Lutheran, Minneapolis
Lives in Minneapolis, MN
612-501-8430
felecia.boone@gmail.com

TERM: 2nd

DEMOGRAPHICS

Lay
Female
Black
Age at the time of re-election: 53

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Senior Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant at Hennepin County.

Activities and leadership in the church

Member, Calvary Lutheran Race Equity Committee.

Community activities and leadership

Currently, I serve as the chair of The Crossroads Community Organization, a 501c3 started by Calvary and whose mission is to enhance the quality of life for children and adults in the heart of South Minneapolis by undertaking endeavors that empower individuals, families and communities.

Community activities and leadership

I joined the Wartburg College Board of Regents in June of 2020 and serve on the Student Life and Learning committee. I also partner with various community organizations and coalitions committed to advancing equity in our region.

What else should people know?

I am committed to this church and the people in it. As a youth, I did not see service to the church as something that I would be interested in and I am glad that others saw leadership value in me and invited me to see it in myself.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MR. BARRET LANE

Synod Council
Faith Lilac Way, Robbinsdale
Lives in Minneapolis, MN
612-929-2487
bwslane@barretlane.com

TERM: 2nd

DEMOGRAPHICS

Lay
Male
White
Age at time of re-election: Unknown

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Director, Office of Emergency Management, City of Minneapolis.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. NANCY CARLSON

Synod Council Representative for Chaplains

TERM: 1st

St. Philip the Deacon, Plymouth, MN

Lives in Maple Grove, MN

763-244-0180

njcarlson@comcast.net

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament

Female

White

Age at the of election: 59

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Retired

Activities and leadership in the church

I was on staff at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Maple Grove for 14 years and also volunteered in a variety of capacities. I currently sing in the church choir at St. Philip the Deacon and am active in worship and at other activities.

Community activities and leadership

I organized a training seminar for chaplains who desired to become board certified and led that for 2 years. I served as a police and fire chaplain for the city of St. Louis Park for 8 years.

What else should people know?

I recently retired as Vice President of Spiritual Life for Cassia. I'm a Board Certified Chaplain and have served as chaplain within Cassia. Prior to that, I served as pastor at Westwood Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MS. ALEJANDRA FERNANDES Synod Council **TERM: 1st**
St. Paul Lutheran Church -- Iglesia San Pablo, Minneapolis
Lives in Crystal, Minnesota
(651) 231 2457
gladys.a.fernandes13@gmail.com

DEMOGRAPHICS

Lay
Mujer
Hispanic
Age at the time of election: 66

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Minneapolis Lake Street Pain Relief Center (Office Manager). I also have my own business, I do Civil Marriages in our community helping people how to do it and get what they want and need.

Activities and leadership in the church

Vice president, St Paul Lutheran Church Iglesia San Pablo

Community activities and leadership

Since 1997 I have belonged to the Lutheran Church and participating in different community areas as well as a lay pastor for 8 years as weekly workshops such as Mosaic for the community of Phillips and Bible Studies workshops, now with our new pastor I'm participating in the offering and also in the communion, it is a pleasure for me.

What else should people know?

I still have the energy to participate in a workshop. Create new ministries. I would like to have a title or some recognition as a layman.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MS. KATHERINE HUBBARD

Discipline Committee
Grace Lutheran Church Minneapolis
Lives in Minneapolis, MN
612-810-0728
dkag4@aol.com

TERM: 1st

DEMOGRAPHICS

Lay
Female
White
Age at the time of election: 56

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Law Firm Administrator

Activities and leadership in the church

Member Church Board and Church Board Treasurer.

Community activities and leadership

Member Association of Legal Administrators (Minnesota) Treasurer and Board Member Our Friends Place Alano Past President Association of Legal Administrators (Minnesota) Former Girl Scout Leader.

What else should people know?

I am a strong believer in living my faith by works. I love using my God-given gifts to the betterment of others.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. MIRIAM SAMUELSON ROBERTS Discipline Committee **TERM: 1st**
Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis
Lives in Minneapolis, MN
612-865-8688
msamuelson-roberts@christchurchluth.org

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament
Female
White
Age at the time of election: 36

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

I've been the lead pastor of Christ Church Lutheran since December 2020.

What else should people know?

I live in the Longfellow neighborhood of Minneapolis with my husband and two young children, and am slowly but surely getting the hang of pandemic pastoring, parenting, and neighboring.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. ERIC HOFFER

Discipline Committee

TERM: 1st

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Minneapolis

Lives in Minneapolis, MN

952-240-9861

hoffer.e@gmail.com

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament

Male

White

Age at the time of election: 36

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Pastor at Salem Lutheran (North Minneapolis)

Activities and leadership in the church

Minneapolis Area Synod Council. EcoFaith Organizing Team. Part of MAS Faith Practices and Leadership Practices Cohort. Intern and Luther Seminary CPL student supervisor.

Community activities and leadership

Webber-Camden Neighborhood Organization Board Secretary. Involved in local organizing initiatives and politics. I love cooking, backpacking/hiking, and cycling--both in community and in solitude.

What else should people know?

I believe in the local church, and am also grateful when the synodical and churchwide expressions of church are able to provide support, accountability, and communal vision. I bring a balance of humor and intention to whatever team I'm on or work I do.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MR. JAMES STROMMEN

Discipline Committee
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Excelsior
Lives in Court Victoria, MN
612-581-3271
jstrommen@kennedy-graven.com

TERM: 1st

DEMOGRAPHICS

Lay
Male
White
Age at the time of election: 69

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Lawyer. Kennedy and Graven, Chartered, Minneapolis

Activities and leadership in the church

Served two terms on Synod Nominating Committee. Former church council member at previous church, Westwood Lutheran, St. Louis Park. Active in youth programs and confirmation in younger years. Lector and participant in Mt. Calvary's Theatre 301 performances. Presently serve on Mt. Calvary's Reconciliation Advocacy Committee for Equity (RACE).

Community activities and leadership:

Former President of Kennedy and Graven law firm; Served on Minneapolis Children's Hospital Ethics Committee; Served as President of the Music Association of Minnetonka Board; Served for 18 years on Mt. Olivet Rolling Acres Board of Directors (a nonprofit branch of Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church caring for disabled adults); Coached girls' basketball in Minnetonka School District for six years.

What else should people know?

I am planning to retire at the end of 2022, which will free more time for me to do volunteer work. As an attorney, I am generally familiar with the sensitive issues, privacy concerns and need for due process when complaints are made in a work setting or in a congregation involving parishioner and staff.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. IAN McCONNELL

Nominating Committee
Normandale Lutheran, Edina
Lives in St. Louis Park, MN
612-875-4062
imccconnell@normluth.org

TERM: 1st

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament
Male
White
Age at the time of election: 36

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Pastor to Emerging Generations at Normandale Lutheran Church.

Activities and leadership in the church

Outside of leadership at the congregation where I am called, I serve on the Mass Gathering Team for the ELCA Youth Gathering, and am a member of the ELCA Youth Ministry Network.

Community activities and leadership

I'm a member of my neighborhood association, and have been involved in programs through our city's watershed district.

What else should people know?

I studied communication and film production at the University of MN, graduated from Augsburg College, and earned a Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary in 2018 with emphasis in youth ministry, justice, and reconciliation. Of the various "hats" I wear, being Rachel's spouse and being dad to Rollie and Sigrid are the most important ones, and any time I can be with them is time better spent. Outside of church life, I love music, dreaming about/being in the garden, Timberwolves basketball (finally worth it!), and connecting with people.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. REGGIE KLINDWORTH	Nominating Committee Crown of Glory Lutheran Church Lives in Chaska, MN 9528269587 pastorreggie@crownofglory.org	TERM: 2nd
DEMOGRAPHICS	Minister of Word & Sacrament Male White Age at the time of election: 46	
ABOUT	<u><i>Current vocation and/or place of employment</i></u> Member of Chaska Crown of Glory Lutheran Church, <u><i>Activities and leadership in the church</i></u> Senior Pastor Senior Pastor Stuff. <u><i>Community activities and leadership</i></u> Dad of three boys; Noah (15), Jonah (13), and Micah (10)...invested in Hockey and Football! Very busy active life! <u><i>What else should people know?</i></u> Enjoy serving and sharing gifts with others! Love being a pastor in a thriving community! Inspired by the church and it's leaders!	

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. CONNIE TIEDE

Nominating Committee
Zion Lutheran Church, Anoka
Lives in Edina, MN
763-486-0694
ctiede@zionanoka.org

TERM: 2nd

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament
Female
White
Age at the time of election: 51

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

I am Pastor for Welcome, Worship, and Mission.

Activities and leadership in the church

I have been involved in many mission trips, including trips to Nicaragua, I work with our serving ministries volunteering for Every Meal, ACBC food shelf, Habitat for Humanity and Family Promise. I also help lead our Equity Team and I am part of the Faith Practices, Neighboring Practices with the MPLS Synod.

Community activities and leadership

I am involved in PEO, a philanthropic organization that impacts educational opportunities of women worldwide.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

REV. SUSAN OLSON

Nominating Committee
Long Lake Lutheran Church, Isanti
Lives in Francis, MN
218-324-0196

TERM: 1st

DEMOGRAPHICS

Minister of Word & Sacrament
Female
White
Age at the time of election: 68

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Senior Pastor Long Lake Lutheran Church

Activities and leadership in the church

Worship, music, finance, congregational life, staff, stewardship, mission

Community activities and leadership

Cambridge-Isanti Ministerial PFLAG

What else should people know?

I am a late start ordained minister having taught school, run a restaurant, worked in retail and as a mental health practitioner. I believe God was preparing me for ministry so that when my husband died in 2014, I could finally answer God's call. I was ordained at age 65 and am happily serving God in a congregation that I just love.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MR. PETE ERICKSON

Nominating Committee

TERM: 1st

Transfiguration Lutheran Church, Bloomington

Lives in Hudson, WI

651-323-4733

DEMOGRAPHICS

Lay

Male

White

Age at time of election: 53

ABOUT

Current vocation and/or place of employment

Interserve Ministries (currently serving Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Bloomington, Glen Cary LC in Ham Lake)

Activities and leadership in the church

Served on Bishop's Election Committee, Cohort Leader in CPL Program at Luther Sem, Served as Synod Day worship leader (New Orleans), Twin Cities Interfaith Movement Chaplain.

Community activities and leadership

Head Tennis Coach - St. Croix Prep (Stillwater), Bloomington Racial Equity Initiative.

What else should people know?

Pete Erickson has served and consulted in non-profits and congregations since 1991. Pete has an undergraduate degree in Communication from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN and an MA in Organizational Leadership from Saint Mary's University in Minneapolis. Pete excels in relationship management, recruiting and equipping leaders, and non-profit development and leadership. He lives in Hudson, WI with his spouse, Selena and their dog Murphy.

2022 Biographies of Synod Assembly Nominees

MR. CHRISTOPHER HAUG	Augsburg Corporation Governing Board Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis Lives in Minneapolis, MN (612) 816-9649 christopher.jan.haug@gmail.com	TERM: 2nd
DEMOGRAPHICS	Lay Male White Age at the time of re-election: 65	
ABOUT	<p><u><i>Current vocation and/or place of employment</i></u></p> <p>National Night Out Planning Team Meeting Professionals International Minnesota Chapter VP of Membership 2016 – 2018</p> <p><u><i>Activities and leadership in the church</i></u></p> <p>Fine Arts Committee; Baptismal Font Design Team; Chair - 100th Anniversary Planning Committee; Seasonal Decor Team; Assisting Minister; Lector; Capital Campaign Special Events Co-lead 2016 & 2019</p> <p><u><i>What else should people know?</i></u></p> <p>My years at Augsburg University - 1975 - 1979 - were formative and helped to shape who I am as an artist, a Lutheran Christian, and a person in community. My husband and I have been together 29 years and live in the Standish neighborhood in South Minneapolis. I retired from Thrivent Financial in May 2019 after 25 years. We enjoy entertaining, art, cooking and baking, visiting family in the Nordic countries and spending time with family here in Minneapolis and St. Paul, our service to Central Lutheran Church, and our two energetic Coton de Tulear puppies.</p>	