



## Report of the Synod Nominating Committee

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

- 1) Congregational Membership
- 2) Current Occupation
- 3) Educational Background
- 4) What are your hopes for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA?
- 5) How is God calling you to build the body of Christ?
- 6) Leadership positions in your congregation and/or community

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES Southwestern Minnesota Synod Nominees - 2010

1. **SYNOD COUNCIL – at Large – 3 year term, clergy female** (vote for one)

(a) **ANDERSON, REV JULIE** – 301 Valley Street, Lake Benton, MN 56149

- 1) Winds of the Prairie Ministry
- 2) Associate Pastor
- 3) North Dakota State, Luther Seminary
- 4) Our church body has reached a point of maturity at which it has developed a reputation and past that will shape its future. I'm fond of telling people that the ELCA is the younger brother of the Lutheran denomination that enjoys bringing others together to participate fully in the game of life. If that means getting a little dirty and having some heated conversations we always come out stronger and deeper in our faith. I would hope that we would continue to foster conversations that build faith and understanding both in the SW MN Synod, nationally and globally. Southwestern Minnesota is particularly able to model this due to its diversity of congregations, economies, leadership, nationalities and geography. My hope is that our sharing shows us how dependent we are on each other as the body of Christ and trust Christ is leading us always.
- 5) My sense of call is to continue to grow in the depth and breadth of my own faith, setting the example of the faithful servant. My gifts lie in seeing a goal clearly from the parts that are presented and helping others to see their part in the process of reaching the goal. I see failure as a lesson learned and another adventure to strengthen my faith in a God who uses us to model the kingdom as part of the Church, the body of Christ. I am comfortable in leadership and enjoy helping others to learn and grow in their gifts by giving them what guidance they need and letting them create. Proclaiming and sharing the Good News with others in a way that makes it real and enriching is how I feel called to the building of the body of Christ.
- 6) 1) Christian Education Coordinator for Winds of the Prairie Ministry 2) Board member of Shetek Lutheran Ministries 3) Synod Representative to the Luther House of Study at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD.

(b) **HOVLAND, REV MARY** – PO Box 216, Maynard, MN 56260

- 1) Maynard, Wang
- 2) Pastor
- 3) Master of Divinity – Luther Seminary
- 4) My hopes for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are; that each member uses every opportunity to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and invites others to “come & see”; that love be our highest goal in all that we do; that we creatively share all of the gifts God has given us; and that each member grows deeper in their faith.

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- 5) God is calling me to build the body of Christ by; praying for God's children; encouraging one another in the Christian faith; by bearing one another's burdens; by holding God's people in my heart; by telling of what Jesus does daily in my life; by living a life of gratitude by sharing the blessings I have been given; and finally, as a pastor, by faithfully preaching God's Word and administering the sacraments.
- 6) 1) Dean of Lac qui Parle Conference 2) SW MN Synod Candidacy Committee 3) Granite Falls Area Hospice Chaplain

**2. SYNOD COUNCIL – At-Large – 3 year term, lay female (vote for one)**

**a) HENRIKSEN, KRISTY – 907 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Pipestone, MN 56164**

- 1) First, Pipestone
- 2) Stay-at-home mom, volunteer
- 3) BA Luther College Decorah, IA - Elementary Education
- 4) My hope is that both entities do what they have historically done best; inspirational worship, comprehensive Christian Education for all ages, and an awareness of our duty to reach out to those in need wherever that may be - are some of the best examples.
- 5) God has called me to use my gifts to improve and promote Christian education. I was a recipient of a synod grant to attend a workshop given by the Vibrant Faith Ministries, formerly called the *Youth and Family Institute*. I have used this experience to help plan many Child in Our Hands workshops for our synod while on the Board for Congregational Life and after. I am the congregational coordinator for the Vibrant Faith Ministry in my congregation. I believe in this initiative and have found it an excellent way to share my faith with my children and extended family. I have a passion for this and love to share it with others. Every congregation needs to hear this message.
- 6) 1) Women of the ELCA: Unit President, Shetek conference Mission: Community, Synod nominating committee twice 2). Pipestone Girl Scout Service Unit Manager for 10 years and Cookie Chair for several years 3) Shetek Lutheran Ministries: chairperson of the Shetek Quilt Auction Committee and former Board Member

**b) IVERSON, JOAN – 23308 County Road 54, Lamberton, MN 56152**

- 1) Old Westbrook Lutheran
- 2) Farm wife
- 3) Granite Falls Vocational - Clerical
- 4) My hope for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the ELCA is that all people be reminded that all we have is a gift from God; that we worship God in gratitude and serve one another to God's glory.
- 5) God is calling me to build the body of Christ by carrying the waters of my baptism with me daily and letting those waters be sprinkled upon those that come into my life.
- 6) 1) Deacon 2) Women of the ELCA unit president 3) 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee of Old Westbrook.

**3. SYNOD COUNCIL – Great River Conference - 3 year term, lay female (vote for one)**

**a) FALKSEN, LOIS - Good Shepherd & Glendorado, Princeton**

**4. SYNOD COUNCIL – Minnesota Valley Conference - 3 year term, clergy female (vote for one)**

**a) KNOX, REV KELLY – Augustana, Gibbon**

**5. SYNOD COUNCIL – Shetek Conference - 3 year term, clergy male (vote for one)**

**a) STANGELAND, REV MICHAEL – Old Westbrook & Highwater, Westbrook**

6. **ENGAGING LEADERS BOARD – Minnesota Valley Conf– 3 yr term, lay male (vote for one)**

a) **KRUMWIEDE, KENT** – Peace, Winthrop

7. **CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – At-Large - 6 year term, lay male (vote for one)**

a) **SWANSON, JAMES** – 1020 Lakeside Drive, Gaylord, MN 55334

- 1) American, Gaylord
- 2) Retired Teacher/High School Principal, Currently a Sibley County Commissioner
- 3) Masters Degree, Sixth Year Degree from Minnesota State University-Mankato
- 4) I am concerned that the synod follows the desires of its member congregations in practicing the teachings and scripture in the Bible. I hope that I can be of help in assisting the synod and its congregations in dealing with current and future issues that come forward so that the mainstream church that we were founded on maintains its ideals.
- 5) God has called me to serve, I believe, by trying to bring others closer to Him. I have been involved with the Alpha program and the Via De Cristo programs that help Christians renew or become more committed to Christ. I also believe that in my leadership positions, I have been an example for others in not being afraid to show my Christian beliefs and practice them.
- 6) 1) I have served on church council for two different congregations and also for the past 10 years I have served as a member of our Praise Team leading worship services on Sunday mornings 2) I have served as a high school principal for 19 years at Sibley East, as well as being president of our regional principals association, and I served on the State Board of Directors for Minnesota Association of Secondary Principals 3) I am currently a Sibley County Commissioner serving on numerous committees, one of which is Sibley County Faith in Action

b) no nominee at time of printing

8. **CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – At-Large - 6 year term, clergy female (vote for one)**

a) **KNOX, REV KELLY** – PO Box 116, Gibbon, MN 55335

- 1) Augustana, Gibbon
- 2) Pastor
- 3) BA (Chadron State College), BS – Medical Technology (Creighton University) Master of Divinity (Luther Seminary)
- 4) I pray that we can repair our relationships with one another and return our focus on sharing Christ's light to the world. We have allowed our differences over the Sexuality study and rostering guidelines to turn our focus away from Christ's work. I believe that we should strengthen relationships with fellow Christian denominations by engaging in more ecumenical conversations. We should continue to strengthen our mission to partnership synods and diocese around the world. We should strengthen our ecumenical ties with our Jewish and Muslim brothers and sisters.
- 5) I believe God is calling me to enable congregational members to discover ways to minister to others not only in worship but also in their daily lives. This encompasses all members-children, youth and adults. I also encourage people to grow in their faith by studying the Bible. God is also calling me to help people explore other cultures so that we can better understand our brothers and sisters in Christ from other countries and communities. I am still discerning and discovering all of the ways that God is calling me to build the body of Christ. I do know that God is calling me to share Christ with the world – to those that I have relationships with and those who I find hard to be in relationship with.
- 6) 1) Pastor 2) Ecumenical Relations 3) Faith Builders Team

- b) SKOGLUND, REV KATHRYN** – 1211 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Montevideo, MN 56265
- 1) Trinity, Montevideo
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) BA, U of M, Master of Divinity. Luther Seminary
  - 4) My hope is that the SW MN Synod and the ELCA continue to find ways to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ even in the midst of upheaval and conflict. As Jesus' disciples we are called to carry on his mission of preaching and teaching the grace and forgiveness of God through Jesus' death and resurrection. That message remains constant despite disagreements and divisions among us, and I hope and pray that we can stay focused on that message for the sake of all of God's people.
  - 5) As I sit down to answer this question there is a flyer with a picture of a young girl from Guatemala in front of me. Perhaps I met her when I was there recently, perhaps not. But it reminds me that she is one of the members of the body of Christ. God is calling me to see each and every person I meet as a member of that body, to reach out in love to them, to be the embodiment of God's grace to them, and to encourage others to do the same. We cannot truly love God if we don't love our neighbors and it is in these relationships; sharing and learning from each other, suffering and rejoicing with each other that God's presence is most clearly shown.
  - 6) 1) A member of the SW MN Anti-Racism Team (SMART) 2) Chaplain for the Montevideo hospice program 3) A board member of the Montevideo Area Boys and Girls Club

**9. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – At-Large - 6 year term, lay female (vote for one)**

- a) BEITO, SANDRA** – 900 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
- 1) Trinity, Sleepy Eye
  - 2)
  - 3) BA, Augsburg College
  - 4) My hope for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the ELCA is that it continues its witness to the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - 5) God is calling me to minister to those in need, and to minister to others through the gift of music. He is calling me to teach about the love of Jesus to young children in our church.
  - 6) 1) Church Council of Trinity 2) Call Committee of Trinity 3) Personnel Committee in local congregation
- b) WURTZBERGER, BARBARA** – 17675 220<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
- 1) **no bio information at time of printing**

**10. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – At-Large – 6 year term, lay female (vote for one)**

- a) CHINDWALL, MARILYN** – 637 Jefferson Avenue, Ortonville, MN 56278
- 1) First English, Ortonville
  - 2) 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher
  - 3) BA in Elementary Ed. at Augsburg College in Minneapolis
  - 4) My hope is that we will hold our lights high in this area, this country, and the world, sharing God's love and grace, bringing hope and the promise of salvation through Jesus Christ to all people. My hope is that we stay united toward that mission.
  - 5) God has given me a heart for young people and many opportunities to share the Gospel and witness through Sunday school, VBS, musicals, being a mentor, being a mom and grandmother.
  - 6) 1) President of the congregation 2) VBS director, Sunday school teacher, Jr. Praise Band leader 3) Board member, Bonanza Environmental Education Center

- b) PAULSON, MARY** – 15045 185<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Hanska, MN 56041
- 1) Zion, Hanska
  - 2) Retired Teacher
  - 3) BS in Education
  - 4) My hopes for the Southwestern Minnesota synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are to continue and to expand our missions in the US and around the world, reaching out to people and helping them with their needs; finding ways to get our younger families involved.
  - 5) God is calling me to build the body of Christ by being on the councils and other communities has been a learning and challenging time. Working with our pastors and members of our church has broadened my outlook and understanding of the makeup of the church and its importance to me.
  - 6) 1) Prairie Land Lutheran Parish President 2) Zion Congregational Council President 3) Call Committee Chair

**11. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – At-Large – 6 year term, clergy female (vote for one)**

- a) BELL, REV BOBBI** – 560 Washburn Avenue, Belgrade, MN 56312
- 1) Big Grove & Crow River, Belgrade
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) SCSU BS in Special Ed/Elementary Ed/LD/Coaching '80, Luther Seminary MDiv '07
  - 4) My hope for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA is that we will live out the reality and value of the diversity of the people and their varied gifts as the body of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. I hope that through scripture, prayer, worship and service we will be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in God's mission, always acknowledging Christ's mercy and grace as beyond our vision.
  - 5) I believe that God is calling me to dwell in the Word and to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I believe God is calling me to facilitate the identification and encouragement of spiritual gifts. I believe I am called to facilitate healing, forgiveness and reconciliation among God's people. I believe that I am called to teach stewardship of all resources (materials, people, money & time).
  - 6) 1) Pastor 2) Lutheran Campus Ministry Board member 3) Present science programs at the public library
- b) CAPP, REV JOYCE** - 1400 South State Street, New Ulm, MN 56073
- 1) Our Savior's, New Ulm
  - 2) Associate Pastor
  - 3) B.S. Special Education St. Cloud State, 1976, Master of Divinity Luther Seminary, 1991
  - 4) My hope is that our Synod will live into and experience the blessings that God has already given to us. To quote our Synod Mission Statement, "By God's grace together we have what we need." I do believe that statement and my hope is that together we uncover the variety of gifts and talents in our midst to help us live out the Mission Statement. We live in the midst of uncertain times and with conflict and my hope is that the ELCA continues to focus on building ministries and outreach and celebrate who we are and not look at what divides us.
  - 5) The body of Christ is built up as we pray for one another and our ministry together. Prayer is foundational to growth in my life and the life of the church. To build the body of Christ I believe we need to call, equip and challenge congregations and individuals to be in daily prayer for one another and with one another. In the Synod I will seek out opportunities to use the gifts of listening, encouragement, and teaching in a variety of settings in working with congregations and individuals. Within the congregation I am called build the body of Christ by implementing the Stephen Ministry Program, equipping lay leaders to serve and educating the congregation about the life of the Synod and the mission of the ELCA.
  - 6) 1) Spiritual Care Coordinator New Ulm Hospice Program (2003-2006) 2) Volunteers of Senior of Brown County – served on the Board for 4 years and chairperson 2 years 3) Co-Coordinator Pastor-to-Pastor Program

**12. DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE – at large – 6 year term, clergy male**

**a) MINER, REV ROBERT – 413 W 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Winthrop, MN 55396**

- 1) Peace, Winthrop
- 2) Pastor
- 3) B.S. (Agricultural Bus. Admin), Master of Divinity
- 4) I think the large majority of church members are loyal to their denominational heritage and trust their called/elected leaders' commitment to the Gospel. We come to the Bible with varied presuppositions. We trust that the Holy Spirit will guide our dialogue on contentious matters. By grace we will continue our efforts to have our Mission and Vision Statements (pp. 4-5 Synod Handbook) become true for our lives and ministries.
- 5) A great gift is having people trust you with their soul care. I ask God to help and guide me to do this also at the synod level, and participate in companion & partner synod ministries too. Together we proclaim the Gospel and serve our neighbors. May the Holy Spirit bless these efforts in building the Church.
- 6) 1) Community Ministerial Association Treasurer 2) School district activities "Booster Club" board member 3) Community Care Center Faith/Spiritual Care board member

**b) STELTER, REV KENDALL – 1277 Chestnut Street, Dawson, MN 56232**

- 1) Grace Lutheran Church
- 2) Pastor
- 3) Master of Divinity – Luther Seminary, BA Psychology & Education, St. Olaf College
- 4) As I think about all the anxiety of our faithful people in conflict in our synod and ELCA, I am hopeful that Christ is the head of the Church. God will bring all matters to resolution in God's time not ours. I am hopeful that we will focus on God's direction and not our anxieties, fears and conflicts.
- 5) God builds the body of Christ. We do our best to follow Christ through Word and Sacrament. Christ's life, death and resurrection manifests God's saving love for all. The church is built in this mystery as we die and rise anew in Christ.
- 6) 1) Pastor – 13 years 2) Director, Treasurer – Dawson-Boyd School District #378 – 11 years 3) Lac qui Parle Conference Dean – 2 terms

**13. ECUMEN – 3 year term (vote for one)**

**a) JOHNSON, REV. DEAN - (incumbent) - 3009 Eagle Ridge Dr W, Willmar, MN 56201**

- 1) no bio at time of printing

**14. ECUMEN – 3 year term (vote for one)**

**a) ZEEB, KRISTI (incumbent) – 59354 250<sup>th</sup> Street, Litchfield, MN 55355**

- 1) no bio at time of printing

**15. LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES – 3 year term (vote for one)**

**a) MATTSON, REV TODD – 200 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Morris, MN 56267**

- 1) no bio at time of printing

**b) WARD, REV ANN – 706 South Saratoga, Marshall, MN 56258**

- 1) Member of First Lutheran, Marshall; interim pastor, Salem Lutheran, Montevideo
- 2) Pastor
- 3) B.S. St Cloud State; M. Div, Luther Seminary, St Paul
- 4) I would like to see all of us partner together to seek God's will and kingdom, to grow faith in ourselves, our congregations, and our communities. I would like to see our congregations value the opportunities to work together in mission and ministry. The mood of the times has people so suspicious of each other and the economic constraints of recent years have us

cutting the very ministries which grow faith for the future and provide shared ministries. The whole faith community God gives us is such a gift and resource – if we can appreciate, treasure and make faithful use of that gift.

- 5) I am constantly looking for ways to grow our connection to God's Word in whatever ways are possible. The congregation I serve was disappointed when Book of Faith devotional notes were not available so I started trying to provide that for them and sharing it with others who are interested in having that kind of resource to help them into the Word. My involvement with *Lutheran Campus Ministry* began when I was a student, continued through a short term as lay staff, and has been renewed through involvement in campus ministry boards in several synods. Most congregations struggle with young adult ministry and this is one of the places it is happening. I'm curious to work with others in seeking how to use the faith and wisdom of the past to seek the Spirit's guidance in growing living faith in new times and generations.
- 6) 1) Campus Religious Center board, Marshall, Minnesota 2) SW Minnesota Synod Candidacy Committee 3) Mentor, TEEM program (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries)

**16. LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES – 3 year term (vote for one)**

**a) ANFINSON, DAVID – 1205 10<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Willmar, MN 56201**

- 1) Vinje Lutheran, Willmar
- 2) CPA
- 3) University of Minnesota
- 4) My hope for my synod and my national church body is that we, as a church, may continue to live our life in community as called, redeemed and sent members of the boy of Christ. I hope that we continue to use our rich Lutheran heritage as the backdrop for answering God's call to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the entire world. God's work. Our hands.
- 5) I feel God is calling me to live a life of faithful service to Him and to His Kingdom. I see God, on a daily basis, calling me to step out of my boat and follow Him. God's call has taken me to serve my church, my synod, my community and my world in ways that have grown my faith and my love of Christ.
- 6) 1) Synod Treasurer & Executive Committee 2) Vice-Chair Rice Memorial Hospital Board of Directors 3) Chair – Women's Shelter, Willmar, MN

**b) RUUD, KRISTIN – 14 Keeley Island Drive, Slayton, MN 56172**

- 1) St. Stephen, Marshall
- 2) Program Director, Shetek Lutheran Ministries
- 3) Bachelor of Arts, Concordia College, Moorhead
- 4) I hope the church will continue to focus on the Good News of God's great love for us, this love that claims us and calls us to be in relationship with and care for one another. I hope the church seeks to engage, listen to, and learn from youth and young adults so that they feel like a viable part of the faith community. I pray the ELCA and SW MN Synod will be willing to meet people where they are at so they are better able to see Christ in their midst.
- 5) God continues calling me to walk alongside children and young adults in journeys of faith. Young adults have so much to offer the church and the communities in which they are planted. Within outdoor ministry and beyond, God has given me opportunities to affirm and encourage young adults in their gifts. I also have the opportunity to listen to young adults and children discern their place in the world and join in the discovery that they are claimed and chosen by God.
- 6) 1) Program Director, Shetek Lutheran Ministries 2) Southwestern Minnesota Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Board Member

**7. LUTHERAN COALITION FOR PUBLIC POLICY IN MN (LCPPM) - 3 year term (vote for one)**

**a) SUOMALA FOLKERDS, REV MARY- 113 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, LaSalle, MN 56056**

- 1) Prairie Land Lutheran Parish
- 2) Pastor
- 3) BA – Russian Studies and Economics, Master of Divinity
- 4) My hope is that we can engage deeply in the study of Scripture so that we can have a good foundation for discussing important issues facing the church. I hope that we can work together for the sake of the Gospel, even in the midst of disagreements. I hope that our church will meet people where they are at and reach out in new ways to let people know of God’s love, grace and mercy!
- 5) God has called me to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Within that calling, I am passionate about evangelism and reaching out to people in our community who do not know the love of God. I am passionate about caring for individuals and families as they go through the joys and trials of life. I am passionate about memorizing Scripture and engaging people in the study of the Bible. I am passionate about the faith of our youth and helping them see that there is a God who loves them.
- 6) 1) Co-pastor 2) Co-chair of the local chapter of Sons of Norway 3) Member of Synod Long Range Planning Committee

**18. LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE – 3 year term (vote for one)**

- 1) no nominee at time of printing



## 2011 CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

For the 2011 Churchwide Assembly (CWA) the Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly will elect 27 voting members in addition to the Bishop, who is an ex officio member of the Churchwide Assembly. 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 clergy voting member and first and second alternates; the other five conferences shall nominate clergy voting members in the succeeding biennium. For the 2011 CWA those conferences nominating clergy voting members are: Glacial Ridge, Lac qui Parle, Minnesota Valley, Scenic Valley and Watonwan River. 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 below in alphabetical order.

**19. CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY (CWA) VOTING MEMBER (vote for one)**  
**Synod Vice-president**

- a) **ARNESON, GWEN** - 4926 160<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Cottonwood, MN 56229
- 1) Christ, Cottonwood
  - 2) Lay Pastoral Assistant; Independent Piano Teacher
  - 3) B.A. from Augustana College, Sioux Falls
  - 4) To exhibit a strong faith witness to the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ to the communities in which we find ourselves and to the world; to be vibrant witnesses of Christian servant-hood to others; to grow in being responsible witnesses in the area of stewardship of all the resources God has given to us; to be creative and faith-filled witnesses in finding ways to reach out to our neighbors and build up the body of Christ; and to be inquisitive and learning individual witnesses as we grow deeper as disciples through Bible study, worship and other faith growth opportunities. I want people to look at our church in all its expressions congregations, synods, and national body of the ELCA, and be blessed by our presence in the world.
  - 5) My passion and sense of calling is to work in the church. Whether quietly devoting time to behind the scenes tasks, or being in a position of leadership, I have a strong desire to be involved in this ministry we share as members of the body of Christ. My nature is to be a thinker and an encourager. I enjoy working with others to achieve shared goals and visions. In my tasks at Christ Lutheran in Cottonwood, I am blessed to be able to use the gifts God has given me as I assist with planning and visioning, showing compassion, encouraging people from all generations, mentoring youth in worship participation and music, and sharing the good news in a variety of ways. In my leadership position in the synod, I am blessed to collaborate and cooperate with so many people from around this synod and the entire ELCA, as we share with, learn from, and celebrate with each other about how God is at work in the world.
  - 6) 1) Lay Pastoral Assistant at Christ Lutheran; 2) Organist/Choir Director at Christ Lutheran; 3) Vice-President of SW MN Synod of the ELCA

**20. CWA ALTERNATE VOTING MEMBER – Synod Council lay female (vote for one)**

**a) LABAT, BARB – 604 West Marshall Street, Marshall, MN 56258**

- 1) St. Stephen Lutheran Church
- 2) Retired
- 3) Marshall High School & Mankato Beauty School
- 4) I hope we can continue the good work of the synod along with working together with the ELCA to arrive at a position to strengthen, not divide, our faithful members.
- 5) As a leader and as an individual, difficult times require a person to use their ability to listen with their heart, respect and understand other points of view and together resolve their differences.
- 6) 1) Congregational Secretary and President 2). Stephen Ministry Leader 3) Many years of various community involvement in the United Way – 10 years as Secretary and Vice President, Senior Center Commission Chair and multiple leadership roles in arts, business, and women’s organizations.

**b) WOLLE, JANE – 75996 Hammond Hwy, St James, MN 56081**

- 1) First Lutheran, St. James
- 2) School Nurse
- 3) Valparaiso University Grad/ BSN
- 4) My hope for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA is to continue the “Lutheran presence” in Southern Minnesota, the country & the globe: social ministry, world hunger, etc. (an English major I am not!)
- 5) 18 years as school nurse in a district with 50% capacity has given me insight into the multi-faceted issues of poverty...perhaps I am being called to take my experience to another level.
- 6) 1) Served 9 years on local hospital board 2) Served 6 years on First Lutheran’s Board of Education – 3 years as chair & therefore, on council 3). Currently serving as chair of Board of Outreach for First Lutheran

**21. CWA VOTING MEMBER – lay female (vote for one)**

**a) ETTER, CAROL – 217 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE, Madelia, MN 56062**

- 1) Trinity Lutheran
- 2) Housewife/EMT for the city of Madelia
- 3) High School
- 4) My hope for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the ELCA is to remain steadfast and strong; helping congregations to do the same.
- 5) God is calling me to build up the body of Christ by serving others before self; accepting-forgiving even though we may have different opinions; being thankful that I have an opportunity to be a part of God’s plan; and by using music and humor to show faith and love.
- 6) 1) President of church council/congregation 2) Chair of Music and Worship Committee at Trinity/leading worship and preaching on Sundays when Pastor is on vacation or attending meetings 3) Being an EMT/Captain of the Madelia Community Rescue Squad

**b) HOLMES, ANITA – 25444 130<sup>th</sup> Street, Fulda, MN 56131**

- 1) Immanuel Lutheran, Fulda
- 2) Business Manager, Daily Globe Newspaper
- 3) Alexandria Technical School, completed Faith Builders Courses
- 4) My hopes for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America centers around God's love and grace given freely to all people. God loved us so much that he gave his Son to die on the cross for our sin. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus we are saved people of God. We are all sinners but by God's grace and his love for us we can all be called children of God. We need to center ourselves in Christ and grow our relationship with God. We need to prayerfully look to the future and see where God is leading us. God is the one in charge, we are not. We, the people of the ELCA, have been a mission-driven organization and I pray that continues but with that goal in mind, funds are necessary.

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Withholding monies to the ELCA only hurts the very core values that I have seen accomplished by the ELCA in the past. As people within the greater church, we need to strive to do God's will throughout the synod, nation and world. We need to make a difference by showing God's love and grace to all people. We are God's hands doing God's work.

- 5) I struggle prayerfully with this question every day. What does God want me to do and where is He leading me? God is calling me every day of my life to show and tell of his love and grace to everyone that I may come in contact with. If we allow God and his Holy Spirit to guide our lives, people will see God in and through us. In August of 2009, God called me to be a messenger of his love and grace when I was given the opportunity to travel to South Africa to visit our brothers and sisters in Christ there. This was an agricultural mission trip to work on projects within the Ondini circuit. Working there was a life changing experience that I wish all could experience. They truly know the love of God and willingly share what little they have and praise God from the bottom of their hearts. God also calls me to be a lay leader within the church. I have completed the Faith Builders courses, was a Synodically Authorized Minister for seven months in 2004, and I continue to fill in as pulpit supply when needed. As I open my heart and mind and listen to God speaking, I know I will be amazed at where it will lead me and with the Holy Spirit I look forward to what God has in store for me as well as the whole body of Christ.
- 6) 1) Immanuel Lutheran Church Council - currently serving and in the past have been Chairperson, Elder, Financial Treasurer and Secretary 2) Lay worship leader through pulpit supply in area churches. 3) Former board member of the Southwestern Minnesota Women of the ELCA

**c) PEARSON, MARLYS – 722 Alldon Park Drive, Paynesville, MN 56362**

- 1) Nordland, rural Paynesville  
2) Lay Minister/Chaplain  
3) High School, Faith Builders Program (Synod Authorized Minister)  
4) My hopes for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are that we will always confidently support the called and elected leadership as they server our needs because, as members in congregations, we are the synod and the ELCA. We are this Lutheran family. We need their encouragement to concentrate and understand more fully what it means to be an ELCA Lutheran and their help in continuing to learn the meaning of scripture through the Book of Faith; that even though our lives and the world change, the Gospel never changes. We are the voice, the hands and feet of Christ.
- 5) God is calling me to build the body of Christ through; in-depth Bible study; group study with discussion; more research and prayer; listening for direction from God each day in preparation for planning worship services; home and hospital visits; scripture sharing and prayer with congregation members and residents of the care center; and also sharing encouraging family members and others in their faith journey.
- 6) 1) Lay Minister part time at two rural churches – Zion Irving/Harrison Presbyterian (5 years)  
2) Chaplain – Glen Oaks Senior Campus, New London (assisted living, independent living and nursing home (4 years) 3) Hospice volunteer, spiritual care, end of live, bereavement – all areas of the program.

**22. CWA VOTING MEMBER – lay male (vote for one)**

**a) DOSDALL, THORE – 1500 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057**

- 1) **no bio at time of printing**

**b) MITCHELL, JARED – 27956 130<sup>th</sup> Street, Fulda, MN 56131**

- 1) Immanuel Lutheran, Fulda  
2) Student – college freshman – Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD  
3) Graduate – Fulda High School  
4) I hope that the Southwestern Synod can come together and form a stronger bond of religious unity. I have watched congregations disappear and members walk out on church because of

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the choices that the church has made recently about homosexuals, and I truly want to see the ELCA continue to move forward with its policies.

- 5) I believe that God is calling me to this event because I have not been that involved with the church since I arrived at college. I have just started my religion class here at school and I feel that God is asking me to this event to reconnect with my faith and my fellow Lutherans.
- 6) 1) I have been a leader/chaperon on mission trips throughout our parish 2) I lead Sunday school for two years in my home church. 3) I have helped lead youth services at my home church by giving the sermon, taking offering, and singing.

**c) no nominee at time of printing**

**23. CWA VOTING MEMBER – lay male - youth**

**(vote for one)**

**a) ANDERSON, QUINN – 421 S. Litchfield Avenue, Litchfield, MN 55355**

- 1) Zion, Litchfield
- 2) Student
- 3) Sophomore in High School
- 4) I hope for mainly three things. One being that churches throughout the Synod will be able to function without debt and fear of position cuts. Another would be that youth of all ages would be even more involved in church and Synod alike. The third thing I hope for is that all of the divisions and separations caused by the decision on homosexuality will be resolved somehow.
- 5) God has called me in many ways. He has called me to be a leader and example in the church and school. He called me on the Sunday after Christmas to give a sermon at both services. He called me to be on the youth board, and to run for the LYO board later this month. He has called me to be a small group leader at our high school youth gathering, and I pray he will continue to call me to do his work.
- 6) 1) Youth board at church, including planning events, singing, leading worship, reading at worship 2) Drum Major of the marching band. 3) Student council president.

**b) BORCHARDT, SKYLAR - 71002 US HWY 12, Dassel, MN 55325**

- 1) Zion, Litchfield
- 2) Student
- 3) Current 9<sup>th</sup> grade student at Litchfield High School GPA: 3.98
- 4) I hope that the ELCA will continue to spread the word of the Gospel throughout the world in missions as it currently does. I want to see every nation in the world be educated in the word of the lord. Also our synod has great youth leadership opportunities; I hope that these will continue on. The activities such as the Middle School and High School Youth Gatherings, or the LYO, these opportunities have a great impact on the youth, who are the future of our church. One other hope for the ELCA as a whole is that through adversity, it will stay united and opportunities will arise.
- 5) In my home congregation I currently participate on the Youth Board, and I am chairperson of the worship committee. I also participate in leading worship services by music. I play on the worship team about twice a month. In church I have also helped by serving communion and by giving a faith statement during a service. I also have read several lessons during services. Our church has several community outreach opportunities such as “Share-A-Meal”, and “Naps and Mac” I have helped both of these. I believe God has called me to do all of these and I still look to do more.
- 6) 1) Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Region 5 President  
2) Zion Youth Board Member/Chairperson of Worship Committee 3) 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Vice-President

- c) **EVJEN, DAVID** – 27643 770<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Madelia, MN 56062
- 1) Lake Hanska, Hanska
  - 2) Student
  - 3) 10<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - 4) My hope for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America would be to have them keep serving all communities and learn more about faith, and how we can use it to help others.
  - 5) God calls all of us in his world to build the body of Christ in different ways. I believe that he blessed me with this opportunity to help with this association so that I can learn more about faith and how to use it to help other people.
  - 6) 1) A youth frontier leader 2) STLF participant 3) Youth council member of PLLP

**24. CWA VOTING MEMBER – lay female – person of color (vote for one)**

- a) **NELSON, MARIE** – 504 N. Gilman Avenue, Litchfield, MN 55355
- 1) Zion, Litchfield
  - 2) Music Teacher
  - 3) B. A., Music Ed. St. Olaf College
  - 4) Hope in troubled times is found in the Lord. Our synod and the ELCA are founded in scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. There the Lord speaks to us. My hope for the ELCA and the SW MN synod is that our church bodies remain in their ministry to proclaim God’s words of forgiveness and mercy and to serve all those in need. As we reach out to others, we all grow in faith.
  - 5) My life has been filled with many gifts, not the least of which is having served our church in Nigeria and South Africa. Since returning to Minnesota I have tried to retain my global view of God’s presence in the world. I’ve tried to live my life sharing God’s good news with 9<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school students, participants in synod global mission work as well as women in my congregation and my music students. I pray God will continue to guide me in using my gifts as God wills.
  - 6) 1) Chair of Synod Companion Synod Committee; Former chair of Global Mission Board 2) I’ve served my congregation’s Evangelism board, Christian Education Board, Board of Social Concerns and am a circle member, Choir member, past program chair of WELCA and Sunday School teacher 3) Board member & musician with the Willmar Area Symphonic Orchestra; Board member & associate director of the Crow River Area Youth Orchestra; member of Prairie Lakes String Quartet.

b) no nominee at time of printing

c) no nominee at time of printing

**25. CWA VOTING MEMBER – lay male – person of color (vote for one)**

- a) **THOMPSON, NATHAN** – 1042 Davis Avenue, Gibbon, MN 55335
- 1) Peace, Winthrop
  - 2) Teacher
  - 3) MA Education, MN Principal Licensure
  - 4) My hopes for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA are that we can learn, as a church; to everyday portray Christ to those around us, that we can share God’s love with all. I hope that we can learn to be compassionate outside of ourselves and our immediate church body. I hope that we can provide rich and sustained leadership for the members of the church that in turn they may grow to know God more.
  - 5) Right now God has been calling me to build the body of Christ through helping at our contemporary worship service. In this roll, I help the team minister with the service each Sunday, as well as draw youth into our team so they can experience using their talents for God. God has also called me to work with the youth of the church and to that end, I have

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helped to coordinate the hiring of a “tentmaker” youth worker, helped that youth worker as needed, and met with the church youth for bible study.

- 6) 1) Praise Team Ministry 2) Youth Group Leadership at church 3) Soccer Coach- Community

**b) WOODBERRY, FERMAN – 206 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Madison, MN 56256**

- 1) Garfield, Madison
- 2) Cook/Dietary Aid
- 3) BA in Art from Gustavus Adolphus College
- 4) My hope for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA is that we as the body of Christ use our hands to do God’s work and to do so with compassion and discernment; that we agree to disagree and not let issues divide us; that we make a concerted effort to welcome and involve people of color in our congregations and worship. That we stand united as God’s Children to bring about peace and justice to our world.
- 5) I believe that I am being called to work on the issue of racism, I have worked on this issue in Higher Education most of my career and feel that it has prepared me to do this work in the church. I have been a Lutheran since 1981 and went to my first assembly in 1985, as a person of color I find it disheartening to see that there is still less than 10 people of color at Synod Assembly. I believe that I am being called work on the issue of inclusivity within the church; we need to make a sincere effort to include people of color and the gifts they bring into all aspects of worship and service within our congregations and the ELCA.
- 6) 1) Pastor’s spouse (that I am there to love, support, critique and encourage her) 2) Member of the SW MN Anti-Racism team 3) Webmaster for Garfield Lutheran Church

**c) no nominee at time of printing**

**26. CWA VOTING MEMBER– clergy or lay, male or female (person of color or primary lang other than English)  
(vote for one)**

**a) HARRIS, JOE - 247 South Grant Street, Lake Benton, MN 56149**

- 1) Grace, Lake Benton
- 2) Forklift Operator
- 3) High School (Warren, Ohio), Vocational Program (welding)
- 4) My hopes are that the SW MN Synod and the ELCA would fully embrace diversity within our congregations by welcoming individuals of diverse ethnic backgrounds to participate in our worship and programs. In addition to ethnic diversity, we should also embrace all ages and backgrounds, including the youth, the elderly and families. We should strive to include all ages and ethnic backgrounds in our congregations, to promote communication, education and fellowship for all. The church should emphasize evangelism; reaching out to all members of our society who need the power and love of God in their lives. An important area is to reach out to the men of color, helping them to become leaders and role models for their families and households.
- 5) Personally, I am called to work with the youth, the elderly and the men’s mission groups within my congregation and community. I plan to start working with our congregational youth group as a mentor. In addition, I also visit the elderly within our community, encouraging communication and enjoyment. Currently, I am involved with creating a men’s mission group within our congregation, which includes coordinating a men’s bible study called “Letters From Dad”, which encourages men to write letters, leaving a written legacy for their family and loved ones.
- 6) 1) Church Council member – trustee 2) Men’s group coordinator and participant 3) MN West Community College Diversity Program member

**b) no nominee at time of printing**

**c) no nominee at time of printing**

**27. CWA VOTING MEMBER – clergy female young adult**

**(vote for one)**

**a) BOOMERSHINE, REV ALISON – 200 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Morris, MN 56267**

- 1) First Lutheran, Morris
- 2) Pastor
- 3) BA History & Religion (2001), Master of Divinity (2005)
- 4) My hope is that in the midst of all that happens, we can remain united on and be grounded in the central tenet of our faith—our belief in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and the good news we have to share with the rest of the world. I hope that as the body of Christ, we can reach out to our neighbors in need, share the good news and be an example to the world of what it means to live in unity not necessarily uniformity. It is my hope that we can continue to be an inviting church—a church that has open doors to all people—and to minister to all ages in an ever changing world. And that as we do all of that, I hope we remember the main thing—that we carry out our calling to hear and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed.
- 5) God is calling me to build up the body of Christ by sharing my faith through words and actions in a variety of endeavors associated with my work with young families, youth and the elderly. God is calling me to be a non-anxious presence in a very anxious time and to as faithful, loving and consistent as I can be as I serve with other members of the Body of Christ.
- 6) 1) Associate Pastor of First Lutheran Church 2) Board of Directors, Common Cup Coffeehouse 3) Volunteer chaplain at local hospital

**b) CHERWIEN, REV KAREN – PO Box 595, Fairfax, MN 55332**

- 1) Central & Our Savior's, Fairfax
- 2) Pastor
- 3) BA, religion; Gustavus Adolphus. Master of Divinity, Luther Seminary
- 4) I pray that the ELCA and the Southwestern Minnesota Synod will continue to be welcoming to all people. Because there are so many different voices and perspectives present in both this synod and the ELCA, I pray that we will take to heart the importance of truly listening to one another and genuinely loving one another, even when we passionately disagree. I believe there is great strength present in the fact that the ELCA includes such diversity within it, and pray that this diversity will continue to strengthen and build up not only the ELCA, but also Christ's church in the world. Particularly within this synod, I hope that we will continue to reach out to those among us who most need to hear the good news of Christ.
- 5) God continues to call me to a ministry of Word and Sacrament. God calls me to preach the gospel, not only on Sundays, but, I am discerning, particularly within the context of reaching out to young adults between the ages of 18-35. As a part of this age range, I share many concerns and priorities with this group of people, and hope to help those who have felt ostracized from the church, or that the church does not welcome them as it might, find that there is a place for them where space exists for their very real questions and doubts, as well as for developing and deepening faith.
- 6) 1) Planning and leading worship on a weekly basis, including bringing Word and Sacrament to the gathered community of faith 2) Equipping leaders within the congregations I serve to be God's hands and feet not only in the congregation, but also in the community and the world 3) Teaching and equipping youth and adults, especially in the context of leading them to ask questions pertaining to God and faith, and to search out answers together and independently. I continue to strive to engage people in studying God's Word, especially when many I encounter do not feel confident in doing so.

- c) SUOMALA FOLKERDS, REV MARY – 113 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, La Salle, MN 56056**
- 1) Prairie Land Lutheran Parish
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) B.A. in Russian Studies and Economics, Master of Divinity
  - 4) My hope is that we can engage deeply in the study of Scripture so that we can have a good foundation for discussing important issues facing the church. I hope that we can work together for the sake of the Gospel, even in the midst of disagreements. I hope that our church will meet people where they are at and reach out in new ways to let people know of God's love, grace and mercy!
  - 5) God has called me to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Within that calling, I am passionate about evangelism and reaching out to people in our community who do not know the love of God. I am passionate about caring for individuals and families as they go through the joys and trials of life. I am passionate about memorizing Scripture and engaging people in the study of the Bible. I am passionate about the faith of our youth and helping them see that there is a God who loves them.
  - 6) 1) Co-pastor 2) Co-chair of the local chapter of Sons of Norway 3) Member of Synod Long Range Planning Committee

**28. CWA VOTING MEMBER – clergy male young adult (vote for one)**

- a) KADEN, REV BRYANT– PO Box 116, Brooten, MN 56316**
- 1) Trinity & West Lake Johanna Parish
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) **no bio at time of printing**
- b) PETERSON, REV MATTHEW – 413 Medayto Drive, Spicer, MN 56288**
- 1) Faith, Spicer
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) Master of Divinity – Luther Seminary (2004), BA – English Writing/Advertising – Concordia College (2000)
  - 4) My ultimate hope for both the Southwestern Minnesota Synod and the ELCA is that the Gospel of Jesus Christ be proclaimed through these bodies; that we might be the body of Christ to one another, and to the world. My hope for the synod is that we, here in Southwestern Minnesota, might be an example for the whole world of forgiveness, unity in the Spirit, and proclamation of the promise of new life in Christ. My hope for the ELCA is a continued effort to be the body of Christ; boldly proclaiming God's promise, sending missionaries, discerning God's will and carrying our God's work with our hands in the world.
  - 5) God is calling me to build the body of Christ by fulfilling the responsibilities of the office of ordained ministry; preaching the Word, administering the Sacraments, teaching confirmation, leading Bible study, presiding at funerals, counseling parishioners, making hospital and nursing home visits, playing games and eating pizza with youth, leading wedding services, managing staff, serving in ecumenical ministerial associations, writing the pastor's column for the local newspaper, proofreading newsletters and bulletins, fixing the coffee machine and mopping the kitchen floor when necessary. MORE IMPORTANTLY, God is calling me to build the body of Christ by fulfilling the responsibilities of the offices of marriage, parenthood, and friendship. It is through personal relationships such as these that the body of Christ is truly built, and faith is grown and fostered.
  - 6) 1) Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Spicer 2) I represent the SW MN Synod on the Statewide Organizing Team of a Minnesota Without Poverty 3) Served on the board of Lutheran Campus Ministries for Ridgewater College in Willmar from 2006-09.
- c) SUOMALA FOLKERDS, REV AARON – 113 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, La Salle, MN 56056**
- 1) Prairie Land Lutheran Parish
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) B.A – Psychology (2000), Master of Divinity (2007), M.S – Counseling (in progress)
  - 4) My hope is that in the midst of difficult conversations, we still find ways of being church united

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around the Gospel of Jesus Christ. My hope is that the first question that we ask one another is, "How have you been spreading the Gospel in your community?"

- 5) God is calling me to build up the church by preaching the Gospel and administering the sacraments. God is calling me to build up the church by seeking out and recruiting people to positions of leadership within our church. God is calling me to build up the body of Christ through prayer.
- 6) 1) Co-pastor at Prairie Land Lutheran Parish in Hanska/La Salle, MN 2) Volunteer EMT for St. James Ambulance service 3) This past academic year I taught an undergraduate course at Minnesota State University-Mankato called Decision Making for Career and Life.

**29. CWA VOTING MEMBER – clergy male or female (vote for one)**

**a) BELGUM- BLAD, REV DANIEL – 301 Ramsey Avenue W, Atwater, MN 56209**

- 1) Immanuel, Atwater
- 2) Pastor
- 3) BSc University of Minnesota, Duluth (1982), BSc Iowa State Univ. 1986, Master of Divinity, Luther Seminary 1995
- 4) My hope is that we would be faithful in responding to God's grace, through lives of praise, service, outreach, worship and proclamation, peacemaking, and building community. In this time, I believe that we are called by God to work intentionally with Christians of other denominations to fulfill God's purposes in the world; including growing in unity as the church of Christ. We do this best by differentiating and claiming our own identity as Lutheran Christians, while recognizing the varying gifts and theologies, and the common bond we share in Christ with Christians of other denominations.
- 5) God is calling me to serve as a leader in the church as a pastor. I am called to build the body of Christ through prayer, partnership with others, leading, following, teaching, service and proclamation of the law and gospel. I also have a calling as a parent and spouse. God provides opportunities to serve and be faithful in my own faith community, our town, our synod, and beyond. I feel called to work with other Christians, from other churches, in my community, and beyond this community, to serve and build up the body of Christ. These are all avenues for building up the body.
- 6) 1) Pastor 2) Board member for Living At Home Block Nurse Program (LAHBNP), Atwater 3) Committee member for ACGC Area Kids Against Hunger committee

**b) PETERSEN, REV LINDA – 10806 S. Sunset Dr, Brownton, MN 55312**

- 1) Grace, Brownton
- 2) Pastor
- 3) Master of Divinity, Luther Seminary
- 4) My life has been richly blessed by the broad experience of being a part of a church that has the cross at its center and takes seriously its call to reach out to others with the message of Jesus Christ. I pray daily for the renewing focus of our synod and church body to be Christ centered and Bible focused. I am thankful for the generosity of our church in helping others and hope for this emphasis to continue. I am proud of our SW MN Synod and want to share our strengths with others in the ELCA.
- 5) I am passionate about many areas of God's callings for the Christian community. I have gifts for enthusiasm and a particular interest in ministry that enhances congregations. I am especially sensitive to ministry with youth and young adults and I am called to encourage their voice and participation. I am also drawn to the ministry we share with the global community, welcoming our new neighbors in our local communities plus, partnering with others throughout the world.
- 6) 1) Board for Equipping Congregations SW MN Synod 2) Companion Synod Committee with the Southeastern Diocese of South Africa 3) Lutheran Marriage Encounter as a clergy presenter with my husband

- c) WOODBERRY, REV EUNICE** – 206 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Madison, MN 56256
- 1) Garfield, Madison
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) Master of Divinity
  - 4) As a synod I hope that we can begin to see ourselves as multi-cultural based not just on our congregational make-up but also on the make-up of our communities. With this in mind, I hope that members and congregations can learn more about the issues surrounding racism so that we can be part of the solution. The ELCA seems like it will have some tough times yet. It is my prayer that those who remain will become stronger and even more committed to outreach and justice issues that plague our world.
  - 5) Personal experiences have opened my eyes to the systemic nature of racism in our country and so I am slowly learning how I can be part of the solution. My skills as a teacher are one of my greatest gifts and I am seeing how they can be used along with my knowledge about racism to teach others about this issue. I especially see God leading me in the direction of teaching our youth about diversity and racism.
  - 6) 1) Southwestern Minnesota Anti-Racism Team 2) Pastor of Garfield Lutheran Church, Madison, MN

**30. CWA VOTING MEMBER– clergy male or female (vote for one)**

- a) AINSLEY, REV KEITH** – 812 Second Avenue SW, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
- 1) Trinity, Sleepy Eye
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) Master of Divinity – Wartburg Seminary
  - 4) My hope is for the church to heal from disagreements that has caused division and pain. Neither this world nor the church is perfect as we are all sinners. Our hope is in Christ alone. The church, even in all of its imperfections and warts, continues to be called to carry out the mission Christ commanded. This is our mission, front and center, to all people and all nations. My hope is for the ELCA to rally together to carry out our Lord’s command despite disagreements and the diversity we share.
  - 5) As a pastor I am called to administer the gifts of Word and Sacrament in the public ministry of the church. As a baptized believer in Christ I am commanded to love the Lord our God with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength and to love my neighbor as I love myself as a child of God.
  - 6) 1) Pastor 2) Pastor-to-Pastor Group Facilitator 3) Sleepy Eye Lion’s Club member
- b) RHEINGANS, REV STEVE** – 408 8<sup>th</sup> Street North, Benson, MN 56215
- 1) Trinity, Benson
  - 2) Pastor
  - 3) BA Biblical Studies, Master of Divinity
  - 4) My hope for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA is that we would grow in grace and faithfully embrace God’s mission locally and globally; that we would be more effective in growing courageous leaders; that we would be more effective in reaching people who are not significantly connected to a congregation; that we would grow in our passion for global evangelism to unreached people.
  - 5) I have served as a pastor in rural SW Minnesota and in South Dakota (13 yrs). I served as a church planting missionary in rural Madagascar and as pastor of a large international ecumenical church in the Middle East. Wherever I am I seek to encourage others to grow in God’s grace and embrace the mission of God locally and globally.
  - 6) 1) Currently, president of local ministerial where I encourage respect and working together for the sake of our community between different denominations 2) I have helped organize CROP hunger walks and encouraged hospitality to recent immigrants 3) I served on South Dakota Board for World and American Mission. I am presently serving on SW MN Synod Consultation Committee.

- c) YACKEL JULEEN, REV MARGARET - 42194 County Road 3, Windom, MN 56101**
- 1) Prairie Star Ministries Area Parish
  - 2) Pastor, Educational Retreat Center Director
  - 3) Master of Divinity – Luther Seminary, May 2009
  - 4) My hopes for the SW MN Synod and the ELCA are that we can cling faithfully to the theology that is at the heart of what we believe as Lutherans; that we are saved by grace through faith. Life lived in light of this means that we are thus free of the need to judge others and ourselves and freed to live lives given over to the mission of God in this world. My hope is that as the SW MN Synod and as the ELCA we can be renewed in this most basic commitment, can lay differences over scriptural interpretation aside and can work together to bind up the broken, free the prisoners, and feed the hungry.
  - 5) God is calling me to build up the body of Christ by regularly reading and reflecting on the Word with others, listening empathetically to the concerns of others, preaching the Word, administering the sacraments and living my life as a baptized Child of God and disciple of Jesus Christ, being the church with others in mission for the sake of the world.
  - 6) 1) Pastor – currently 2) Associate Director of Shalom Hill Farm – currently 3) Adult Educator for Early Childhood Family Education 4) Coordinator for Faith Builders – Lay Theological Education program of the SW MN Synod, ELCA.

**31. CWA VOTING MEMBER – lay female youth (vote for one)**

- a) BROCK, KIRSTEN – 24487 608<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Litchfield, MN 55355**
- 1) Zion, Litchfield
  - 2) Student
  - 3) 10<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - 4) One thing that I would like to see is youth being excited about coming to church. I would like kids to recognize church as more than just a place to spend Sunday mornings and realize that it is a place to celebrate God’s love for us and congregate with fellow Christians.
  - 5) I have been called to mentor and teach the younger kids in my church through Bible study, Sunday school, and painting a mural in the Sunday school wing. I do not know yet how God will continue to call me but I am eager to find out.
  - 6) 1) I serve on the youth board and help lead worship with the youth worship team at our church. 2) I teach Sunday school for preschoolers. 3) I helped start and lead a summer Bible study for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls
- b) EPPLE, JESSICA – 1689 340<sup>th</sup> Street, Canby, MN 56220**
- 1) Bethany Elim, Canby
  - 2) I work at Veires, which is a gas station in Ivanhoe
  - 3) Class of 2011 at Lincoln HI High School in Ivanhoe Minnesota
  - 4) My hopes are huge for both SWMN and the ELCA! I hope that we keep taking steps forward to be a more accepting church in this ever changing world. I also hope to continue to do our mission work and help out others in need. I hope that we continue to encourage youth to take an active position in their faith life. I hope we continue to look to God for the guidance we need. I hope that in every decision we make and everything we do, we think of God and showing others his light!
  - 5) I believe that God is calling me to take an active role to carve a path for others. In my community it’s unheard of for youth involvement after youth get confirmed. I hope to show that it’s not impossible. I want to help everyone in my community see the glory of God! I believe God is calling on me to take a stand and show what I believe in and to help others see the awesome and holy God! I believe that is my role in life. To help show people God’s amazing and saving grace!
  - 6) 1) I am the president of our church youth group 2) I am my churches representative at the synod level. I am also the SW MN LYO Secretary. 3) I am currently captain of my schools cheerleading squad, speech team and drama department. I am very active in band, choir and 4-H.

- c) **McCLURE, MEGAN** – 39838 Ulster Road, Rice, MN 56367
- 1) Celebration, Sartell
  - 2) Student
  - 3) St. John’s Preparatory School
  - 4) I hope that the church will continue to a strong foundation in which people can build their faith; that people will be able to put aside their differences to help build a better world.
  - 5) I do not yet know exactly what it is that God wants me to do. I try to take advantage of every opportunity that arises. This is one reason why I have chosen to become a nominee for the Synod. Whatever career I go into will be one dedicated to serving others.
  - 6) 1) Captain of the Track & Field team 2) Sunday school teacher for five years 3) Vacation Bible school leader for four years.

32. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Crow River Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)

- a) **CUMINGS, MICHAEL** - Beckville & First, Cosmos

33. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Crow River Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)

- a) no nominee at time of printing

34. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Crow River Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)

- a) no nominee at time of printing

35. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Glacial Ridge Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)

- a) **SMITH, REV JOHN** – Trinity, Cyrus

36. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Glacial Ridge Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)

- a) **TAYLOR, REV SARAH** – Crosswinds Parish, Starbuck

37. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Glacial Ridge Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)

- a) **GELINSKE, REV JUDY** – Kongsvinger/St John’s, Donnelly

38. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Glacial Ridge Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)

- a) **KITTELSON, JAN** – Our Redeemer’s, Benson

39. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Glacial Ridge Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)

- a) **HANSON, PEARL** – Shepherd of the Hills, Swift Falls

40. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Glacial Ridge Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)

- a) **STOTESBERY, BONNIE** – Trinity, Clinton

41. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Great River Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)

- a) **SWANSON, BRUCE** – University, St. Cloud

42. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Great River Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)

- a) **BIRKMAN, RYAN** – University, St. Cloud

43. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Great River Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)  
a) HAYNES, FRANK – Resurrection, St. Joseph
44. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Lac qui Parle Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)  
a) MCKEE, REV. DON – Our Savior’s, Montevideo
45. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Lac qui Parle Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)  
a) WOODBERRY, REV. EUNICE – Garfield, Madison
46. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Lac qui Parle Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)  
a) BRUNEAU, REV. BARBARA – Borgund & Minnesota Valley, Madison
47. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Lac qui Parle Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)  
a) MONAHAM, DEB - Montevideo
48. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate - Lac qui Parle Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)  
a) MOLDEN, CLAIRE – Clara City
49. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Lac qui Parle Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)  
a) FORMO, SHIRLEY - Maynard
50. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Lakeland Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)  
a) MEDINE, STEVE – Bethel, Willmar
51. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate – Lakeland Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)  
a) NORDIN, BILL – United. Lake Lillian
52. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate – Lakeland Conference**  
Lay male (vote for one)  
a) no nominee at time of printing
53. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- Minnesota Valley Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)  
a) NELSEN, REV WILLIAM – St. Paul’s & Trinity, Gaylord
54. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- First Alternate-Minnesota Valley Conference**  
Clergy (vote for one)  
a) BRAY, REV ALAN – First, St. Peter
55. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- Second Alternate- Minnesota Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) KNOX, REV KELLY – Augustana, Gibbon
56. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Minnesota Valley Conference**  
Lay female (vote for one)  
a) PETERSEN, JOANN – First, St. Peter

57. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate- Minnesota Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) FEDELER, JULIE – First, St. Peter
58. **CWA VOTING MEMBER-Second Alternate- Minnesota Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) DAVIS, CHRIS – Christ, Glencoe
59. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- Prairie Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay male  
a) KOSTER, DAVID – First English, Tyler
60. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- First Alternate- Prairie Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay male  
a) SWENSON, JASON – First English, Tyler
61. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- Second Alternate-Prairie Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay male  
a) WORNSON, BRUCE – First English, Tyler
62. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Scenic Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) JAKEL, REV. SCOTT – St. John, Morgan
63. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- First Alternate-Scenic Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) HAUSKEN, REV. MATT – Cross of Calvary, Olivia
64. **CWA VOTING MEMBER-Second Alternate-Scenic Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) BOWMAN, REV. DAN – Hawk Creek & Rock Valle, Sacred Heart
65. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Scenic Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) JOHNSON, CELLA – Opdal, Sacred Heart
66. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate- Scenic Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) HANSON, JILL - Cross of Calvary, Olivia
67. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – Second Alternate-Scenic Valley Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) EILERS, JAN – Grace, Belview
68. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- Shetek Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay male  
a) HOYME, JON – Christ, Slayton
69. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- First Alternate- Shetek Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay male  
a) OLSON, LINDEN – American, Worthington
70. **CWA VOTING MEMBER-Second Alternate-Shetek Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay male  
a) BROWN, ALBERT - Westbrook

71. **CWA VOTING MEMBER-Watonwan River Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) NELSEN, REV TODD – Our Savior’s, New Ulm
72. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- First Alternate-Watonwan River Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) AINSLEY, REV KEITH – Trinity, Sleepy Eye
73. **CWA VOTING MEMBER- Second Alternate- Watonwan River Conference** (vote for one)  
Clergy  
a) SULLIVAN, REV REBECCA – Bethany, Judson
74. **CWA VOTING MEMBER - Watonwan River Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) SANDBERG, LINDA - First, Trimont
75. **CWA VOTING MEMBER – First Alternate- Watonwan River Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) TORKELSON, CINDY – East Sveadahl, St James
76. **CWA VOTING MEMBER–Second Alternate- Watonwan River Conference** (vote for one)  
Lay female  
a) no nominee at time of printing