

Report of Committee on Agenda and Program
 (PROPOSED VIRTUAL/ONLINE ASSEMBLY AGENDA)
2020 SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD – ELCA ASSEMBLY
July 25, 2020

Listen, God is Calling!

“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.” (Matthew 7:7)

2020 is the Thirty-Third Assembly of the South Carolina Synod – ELCA and the 195th meeting of the Lutheran Church in South Carolina. The 2020 Assembly will include several items of business for our consideration, including the election of a Bishop using the Ecclesiastical Ballot and the presentation of Nominations for other various offices and committees. We also plan to share together in Worship, Bible Conversations, and a Keynote Presentation.

2020 has been a year like no other in our lifetime! This is a year when each new day engages us in learning adaptation, resilience and faithfulness. In the midst of the incredible changes to our routines and lives which the Covid-19 pandemic has brought, we have the amazing opportunity to listen even more closely for God’s voice and direction in the way we do ministry together.

Plans for the 2020 SC Synod Assembly have required *deep* listening to God and to one another as well as a willingness to adapt and make changes to every way that we have ever done assembly before. This assembly has been planned and re-planned several times, including agenda plans for the original May Assembly, plans for a one-day July Assembly Agenda, plans for a Multi-Site Assembly Agenda and now, plans for a Virtual/Online Assembly Agenda. This whole “season” has been filled with learning, adapting and searching for the best possible solution for the people of the SC Synod. It has been our intention from the beginning to listen closely; and our deepest desire, if it was at all possible, to bring forth an assembly that kept everyone in the Synod safe, has integrity, and is faithful to Christ.

We are deeply appreciative to the Pastors and Staff members of St. Stephens, Lexington; Zion, Lexington and Pilgrim, Lexington, who offered to open their doors to the Synod and worked with us to consider and create a Multi-Site Assembly plan. Had the Covid-19 cases decreased in SC this could have been an excellent option. We are also appreciative for your patience with us throughout this entire season as we sorted through the details and sought to learn more about what the best options were for the SC Synod.

The SC Synod will be working with Lumi Global, a tech company, to conduct a Virtual Assembly since we cannot fully come together in person safely at this time. Lumi has provided voting technology at several churchwide assemblies throughout the years. In addition, Lumi has been used on over 800 virtual meetings including IBM, Coca-Cola and the American Medical Association over these past 3 months. This technology will be used to manage the voting which allows us to follow the Ecclesiastical Balloting process as well as all our voting needs.

Voting members will be using Zoom in conjunction with the Lumi online voting platform. If you would like to watch the Assembly proceedings as a guest, there will be a webcast on our SC Synod website. We have researched our options and this option has proven to be effective in other Association meetings where important elections and business has successfully taken place. We realize that this virtual Assembly will be very different than what we are accustomed to, but we are confident that we can get the business of the Assembly accomplished in accordance to our bylaws and procedures.

A detailed email will be sent to each registered voting member to share the secure links and information needed to participate. In advance of this assembly we will also host an orientation session for every voting member to assist everyone in getting comfortable with this platform. Voting Members will need to be registered no later than July 13 at 5:00 pm to receive your credentials to attend this Assembly and to vote. Our staff will be in contact with each congregation to assist in getting Voting members registered correctly.

We look forward to this new and unique way of gathering to listen for the Spirit of God and to do the work of ministry together as the SC Synod.

The deadline for Registration is July 13 at 5:00 pm. Our staff will be in contact with anyone who has previously registered for the July 25th Assembly first and will then begin assisting with new registrations.

Saturday, July 25, 2020

Session 1 – 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Order for Opening of Synod Assembly
Organization of Assembly
Reference & Counsel Introduction of Special Guests
Report of Synod Council (Part 1) Procedural matters affecting this Assembly
Preparation for Ecclesiastical Ballot for Bishop
Report of Registration
Discernment & Prayer
Ecclesiastical/1st Ballot for Bishop (*3/4 votes needed to elect*)
***Report: Nominating Committee**

**Nominations from the floor of this Assembly must include a completed biographical information form. This form is available on the Synod webpage and we ask that anyone bringing a nomination from the floor complete this form in advance of the Assembly and be prepared to send it by email to Jenny@scsynod.com immediately following the Nominating Committee Report. Jenny will need to receive this completed form by no later than 10:22 am.*

Bible Conversation 1
Introduction of New Leaders of the SC Synod
SC Synod Campus Ministry
10:30am – 10:40 am BREAK (Videos from SC Synod supported Institutions & Auxiliaries)

Session 2 – 10:40 am – 12:10 pm

Report of Registration
General Elections: Ballot 1 (*Majority needed to elect*)
Report of Synod Council (Part 2) Proposed Budget & Treasurer's Report
***Results of the Ecclesiastical Ballot**

**Those nominated will need to complete and submit either a Biographical Form or a Withdrawal Form by email to Jenny@scsynod.com immediately following this report of results. These forms are available on the Synod webpage. Jenny will need to receive one of these completed forms no later than 11:40 am.*

Keynote Presentation
Reference & Counsel 1
Report of Synod Council (Part 3) Recommendations on Compensation Guidelines & Constitutional Matters
Report from Conduct of Elections: Nominees who are on 2nd Ballot for Bishop
Report of Registration
2nd Ballot for Bishop (*3/4 votes needed to elect; determines top 7+ ties*)
General Elections: Ballot 2 (*as needed*) (*Majority needed to elect*)
12:10 –12:40 pm LUNCH BREAK (Videos from SC Synod supported Institutions & Auxiliaries)

Session 3 – 12:40 pm – 2:10 pm

Bible Conversations 2
Results of 2nd Ballot for Bishop
Report: Bishop Yoos
Introductions: 7+ Candidates for Bishop
Reference & Counsel 2 (*as needed*)
Report of Registration
3rd Ballot for Bishop (*2/3 votes needed to elect; determines top 3+ ties*)
Celebration of 6 SC Pastors 50th Anniversary of Ordination
Report: Secretary
Report: Vice President
Results of 3rd Ballot for Bishop
2:10 pm –2:20 pm BREAK (Videos from SC Synod supported Institutions & Auxiliaries)

Session 4 – 2:20 pm – 3:50 pm

Celebration Worship**Q & A with 3+ Candidates for Bishop****Report of Registration****4th Ballot for Bishop** (60% votes needed to elect; determines top 2)**General Elections: Ballot 3** (as needed) (Majority needed to elect)**Bible Conversations 3****Report: ELCA Representative****Results of 4th Ballot for Bishop****3:50 pm – 4:00 pm BREAK** (Videos from SC Synod supported Institutions & Auxiliaries)

Session 5 – 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm

Report of Registration**5th Ballot for Bishop** (Majority votes needed to elect; determines Bishop)**Report of Synod Council** (Part 4) Votes: Compensation Guidelines & Budget**Reference & Counsel 3** (as needed)**Results of 5th Ballot for Bishop****Unfinished Business****Reference & Counsel** (Final Resolution)**Closing of Assembly & Installation of Synod Council****Please note:**

Registered Voting members will need to have internet connection to access Zoom and Lumi, a computer or hand-held device to participate and vote at Assembly.

Each Voting member will be registered by their preferred email address and will have their own Credential number for voting and will need to agree in their Registration to attend a Virtual/Online meeting.

S7.14 One half of the voting members registered for the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum.

All Assembly Committees will meet prior to Assembly using Zoom. Should Reference & Counsel need to meet during Assembly we have a separate Zoom session set up.

During Breaks we will share videos that we have received from our Institutions and Auxiliaries in the following order: Youth Gathering Coordinator, South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Center, South Carolina Lutheran Church Youth, South Carolina Women of the ELCA, Novus Way, South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission, Newberry College, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Lutheran Homes, Lutheran Services Carolina, "Called to Common Good"

Conduct of Election will be working between Ballots for Bishop to support the election process and verify votes as they normally do for Assembly. Please be patient as they seek to serve the Assembly faithfully before the results are announced.

Offerings can be turned in electronically during Assembly, or checks sent in advance to the SC Synod office. Please add "Assembly Offering" in the memo line of checks.

Proposed amendments to the budget may be submitted online no later than Saturday, July 25, 2020, at 10:15 am. For details, please see Budget Procedure notes from Synod Council at the end of this agenda.

Any additional Resolutions may be submitted online for the Committee of Reference and Counsel for consideration no later than Saturday, July 25, 2020, 10:15 am. For details, please see the notes from Synod Council at the end of this agenda.

The results of the Ecclesiastical/1st Ballot for Bishop will be announced and posted as soon as it is available. Our goal is 11:00 am. Each Pastor who is nominated is asked to complete either a Biographical Form or a Withdrawal Form and email it to Jenny@scsynod.com no Later than 11:40 am, Saturday, July 25, 2020. The forms are available on our website and we will put a link in the chat feature during the Results Report.

The deadline for submitting resolutions to Committee of Reference and Counsel is *Saturday, July 25, 2020, at 10:15 am.*

The deadline for submitting proposed amendments to the budget to the secretary is *Saturday, July 25, 2020, at 10:15 am.*

THE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND PROGRAM RECOMMENDS:

1. THAT NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR OF CANDIDATES FOR ANY ELECTIONS HELD AT THIS 2020 ASSEMBLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUESTED BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON THE OFFICIAL FORM PROVIDED FOR THAT PURPOSE;
2. THAT THE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AND COUNSEL RECEIVE NO MOTIONS OR RESOLUTIONS AFTER ***Saturday, July 25, 2020, 10:15 am***
3. THAT THE BAR OF THE SYNOD BE DESIGNATED AS THE REGISTERED VOTING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THIS VIRTUAL/ONLINE ASSEMBLY
4. THAT THE BISHOP, AS PRESIDING OFFICER, BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO CALL FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA IN THE ORDER DEEMED APPROPRIATE, PRIMARILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF TIME MANAGEMENT, AND SPECIFICALLY WITH REGARD TO BALLOTING, RESOLUTIONS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS DURING THE ASSEMBLY;
5. THAT PERSONS ON THE THIRD BALLOT FOR BISHOP BE GIVEN TWO MINUTES EACH FOR INTRODUCTIONS (cf. Synod Council's recommended "Rules of Procedure");
6. THAT PERSONS ON THE FOURTH BALLOT FOR BISHOP BE GIVEN FIVE MINUTES EACH TO RESPOND TO TWO PREDETERMINED QUESTIONS. (cf. Synod Council's recommended "Rules of Procedure");
7. THAT THE PROPOSED AGENDA BE A GUIDE FOR THE 2020 ASSEMBLY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Virginia S. Aebischer

THE SYNOD COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING AS "RULES OF PROCEDURE" FOR THE 2020 SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD ASSEMBLY:

RECOMMENDATION FOR ASSEMBLY ACTION:

Recommends the adoption of the following "Budget Procedures" to guide the adoption of the 2021-2022 budget by the 2020 South Carolina Synod Assembly.

Budget Procedures

1. Proposed amendments to the budget must be submitted online no later than ***Saturday, July 25, 2020, at 10:15 am.*** Each amendment or resolution to amend must be supported in writing by ten (10) signatures of voting members in this assembly. The secretary shall refer such proposed amendments to the Treasurer and the Finance Committee. During the consideration of the budget by the assembly, the Treasurer or Finance Committee shall report on the implication of each proposed amendment.
2. Any amendment to the budget that increases a current program proposal expense, or adds a current program proposal to the budget, must include a corresponding decrease in some other current program proposal of the same amount; or an increase in revenues to offset the proposed expense.

**Regarding Votes to Appropriate Funds not Approved by Synod Council:
Chapter S10.04.**

Any proposal to appropriate funds, whether by amendment to the budget or otherwise, which is presented to a meeting of the Synod Assembly without the approval of the Synod Council shall require a two-thirds vote for adoption.

Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions, South Carolina Synod

Constitutional Provisions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions to Guide Procedures and Elections

Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions
South Carolina Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
2020 South Carolina Synod Assembly

Bold = Constitutional Provisions

Lightface type = Bylaws

Italics = Continuing Resolutions

Chapter 7. SYNOD ASSEMBLY

- S7.01.A11. Resolutions which could not have reasonably been submitted before the 15-day deadline may be submitted to the Committee of Reference and Counsel after the opening of the assembly. A signer of the resolution, preferably its primary author, shall meet with the Committee of Reference and Counsel at the time appointed in the Rules of Procedure adopted for that assembly. Regardless of the recommendation of the Committee of Reference and Counsel, the consideration of such resolutions by the assembly shall require the approval by a two-thirds vote of voting members to place the resolution before the Synod Assembly. If a resolution is received after the deadline of 15 days prior to the formal opening of the assembly, the resolution shall be processed according to the provisions of this continuing resolution.*
- S7.14. one-half of the voting members registered for the Synod Assembly shall constitute a quorum.**
- †S7.31. Proxy and absentee voting shall not be permitted in the transaction of any business of this synod.**
- S7.32. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of the Synod Assembly, unless otherwise ordered by the assembly.**
- S7.32.A14. The following rules of procedure shall be in force at meetings of the Synod Assembly:*
- a. Unless otherwise determined by vote of the assembly, all speeches in general discussion shall be limited to two minutes and no member shall be permitted to speak the second time on the same subject when others desire to speak.*
 - b. A resolution of a general character which is not germane to the pending question or report shall be given by the proposer to a Committee of Reference and Counsel.*
 - c. All reports published in the Bulletin of Reports shall be received as information by the assembly by virtue of that fact without vote.*
 - d. All other reports shall be in writing and in such form as the assembly or the Synod Council may determine.*
 - e. The minutes of each assembly shall be submitted to the Synod Council for approval.*
 - f. The bishop and secretary shall, after making any necessary corrections therein, certify two copies of the printed minutes of each assembly as the official protocol of said assembly, and shall submit the same to the next regular assembly for approval and deposit in the archives.*
 - g. Holy Communion shall be administered at each assembly.*

Chapter 8. OFFICERS

- †S8.01. The officers of this synod shall be a bishop, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer.**
- S8.10. Bishop**
- †S8.11. The bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly. The bishop shall be a minister of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**
- †S8.12. As this synod's pastor, the bishop shall:**
- a. Preach, teach, and administer the sacraments in accord with the Confession of Faith of this church.**
 - b. Have primary responsibility for the ministry of Word and Sacrament in this synod and its congregations, providing pastoral care and leadership for this synod, its congregations, its ministers of Word and Sacrament and its ministers of Word and Service.**
 - c. Exercise solely this church's power to ordain (or provide for the ordination by another synod bishop of) approved candidates who have received and accepted a properly issued, duly attested letter of call for the office of ministry of Word and Sacrament (and as provided in the bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America).**
 - d. Ordain (or provide for the ordination of) approved candidates who have received and accepted a properly issued, duly attested letter of call for service as deaconesses and consecrate (or provide for the consecration of) approved candidates who have received and accepted a properly issued, duly attested letter of call for service as ministers of Word and Service.**
 - e. Attest letters of call for persons called to serve congregations in the synod, letters of call for persons called by the Synod**

- Council, and letters of call for persons on the rosters of this synod called by the Church Council.**
- f. **Install (or provide for the installation of) rostered ministers whose calls the bishop has attested.**
 - g. **Exercise leadership in the mission of this church and in so doing:**
 - 1) **Interpret and advocate the mission and theology of the whole church;**
 - 2) **Lead in fostering support for and commitment to the mission of this church within this synod;**
 - 3) **Coordinate the use of the resources available to this synod as it seeks to promote the health of this church's life and witness in the areas served by this synod;**
 - 4) **Submit a report to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly concerning this synod's life and work; and**
 - 5) **Advise and counsel this synod's related institutions and organizations.**
 - h. **Practice leadership in strengthening the unity of the Church and in so doing:**
 - 1) **Exercise oversight of the preaching, teaching, and administration of the sacraments within this synod in accord with the Confession of Faith of this church;**
 - 2) **Be responsible for administering the constitutionally established processes for the resolution of controversies and for the discipline of rostered ministers, and congregations of this synod;**
 - 3) **Be the chief ecumenical officer of this synod;**
 - 4) **Be a member of the Conference of Bishops and consult regularly with other synod bishops;**
 - 5) **Foster awareness of other churches throughout the Lutheran world communion and, where appropriate, engage in contact with leaders of those churches;**
 - 6) **Cultivate communion in faith and mission with appropriate Christian judicatory leaders functioning within the territory of this synod; and**
 - 7) **Be ex officio a member of the Churchwide Assembly.**
 - i. **Oversee and administer the work of this synod and in so doing:**
 - 1) **Serve as the president of the synod corporation and be the chief executive and administrative officer of this synod, who is authorized and empowered, in the name of this synod, to sign deeds or other instruments and to affix the seal of this synod;**
 - 2) **Preside at all meetings of the Synod Assembly and provide for the preparation of the agenda for the Synod Assembly, Synod Council, and the council's Executive Committee;**
 - 3) **Ensure that the constitution and bylaws of this synod and of the churchwide organization are duly observed within this synod, and that the actions of this synod in conformity therewith are carried into effect;**
 - 4) **Exercise supervision over the work of the other officers;**
 - 5) **Coordinate the work of all synod staff members;**
 - 6) **Appoint all committees for which provision is not otherwise made;**
 - 7) **Be a member of all committees and any other organizational units of this synod, except as otherwise provided in this constitution;**
 - 8) **Provide for preparation and maintenance of synod rosters containing the names and addresses of all rostered ministers of this synod and a record of the calls under which they are serving or the date on which their retired or disability status took effect;**
 - 9) **Annually bring to the attention of the Synod Council the names of all rostered ministers on leave from call or engaged in approved graduate study in conformity with the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of this church and pursuant to prior action of this synod through the Synod Council;**
 - 10) **Provide for prompt reporting to the secretary of this church of:**
 - a) **additions to and subtractions from the rosters of this synod;**
 - b) **the issuance of a certificate of transfer for rostered ministers in good standing who have received and accepted a properly issued, duly attested, regular letter of call under the jurisdiction of another synod; and**
 - c) **the entrance of the names of such persons for whom proper certificates of transfer have been received;**
 - 11) **Provide for preparation and maintenance of a roster of the congregations of this synod and the names of the laypersons who have been elected to represent them; and**
 - 12) **Appoint a statistician of this synod, who shall secure the parochial reports of the congregations and make the reports available to the secretary of this church for collation, analysis, and distribution of the statistical summaries to this synod and the other synods of this church.**

S8.12.01. The bishop shall approve the nature of; and personnel appointed for general religious services or public meetings sponsored by this synod.

S8.12.A87. *The bishop shall submit a written report, printed in the Bulletin of Reports, to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly. In addition to this report concerning this synod's life and work, the bishop shall make an oral report to the Synod Assembly presenting a vision of the mission and ministry of this synod.*

†S8.13. **The synod bishop may appoint an attorney, admitted to the bar within the territory of the synod or the state where the synod is located, to be Synod Attorney. The appointment must be approved by the Synod Council and reported to the Synod Assembly and to the secretary of this church. The appointment continues until resignation or until a successor is appointed. The Synod Attorney provides legal advice and counsel to the synod officers and the Synod Council. The Synod Attorney is expected to be familiar with the governing documents and policies of the synod and, as necessary, to attend meetings of the Synod Council. The Synod Attorney serves without salary but may be retained and compensated for specific legal services requested by the synod.**

S8.14. **The bishop may have such assistants as this synod shall from time to time authorize.**

S8.14.01. There shall be two assistants to the bishop elected by the Synod Council on nomination by the bishop. The assistants may be recalled or dismissed on proper notice by action of the Synod Council. It shall set the term of office and responsibilities.

†S8.15. **The presiding bishop of this church, or the appointee of the presiding bishop, shall install into office, in accord with the policy and approved rite of this church, each newly elected synod bishop.**

S8.50. **General Provisions**

†S8.51. **The terms of office of the officers of this synod shall be:**

- a. **The bishop of this synod shall be elected to a term of six years and may be reelected.**
- b. **The vice president and secretary of this synod shall be elected to a term of six years and may be reelected.**
- c. **The treasurer of this synod shall be elected to a six-year term and may be reelected.**

S8.51.01. The terms of office of the bishop and the vice president shall be arranged so that the terms are staggered and do not expire in the same year.

S8.52. **The terms of the officers shall begin on the first day of the third month following election or, in special circumstances, at a time designated by the Synod Council.**

†S8.53. **Each officer shall be a voting member of a congregation of this synod, except that the bishop need not be a member of a congregation of this synod at the time of election.**

Chapter 9.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

†S9.01. **The Synod Assembly shall elect such officers of this synod and such other persons as the constitution and bylaws may require, according to procedures set forth in the bylaws. The Synod Assembly shall elect members of the Churchwide Assembly in accordance with bylaw 12.41.11. of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

S9.01.A08. *The Synod Council Executive Committee shall provide for background checks for persons nominated for synodical office prior to the Synod Assembly at which the election will take place or as soon as possible after the Synod Assembly for newly elected officers nominated from the floor who were not identified as nominees prior to the assembly. The process shall be as follows:*

- a. *Prior to the Synod Assembly appropriate notice of the background check requirement and protocol will be provided to voting members, potential nominees, and others as directed by the Synod Council.*
- b. *Nominees and newly elected officers are required to provide written consent to a background check and all information necessary to complete a background check, which should be completed prior to the Synod Assembly with respect to nominees and prior to installation for newly elected officers, if possible.*
- c. *The Synod Council's Executive Committee shall designate one Executive Committee or Synod Council member to obtain the background checks.*
- d. *All background checks for nominees and newly elected officers will entail a criminal background check. A financial background check will be completed for nominees for treasurer. The Executive Committee shall decide whether additional types of background checks are appropriate for each officer position.*
- e. *The background check results shall be provided to that nominee or elected officer and to the Synod Council's Executive Committee. Further disclosure of the results may be determined by the Executive Committee.*
- f. *The Executive Committee may adopt other procedures or protocols as are necessary to provide for background checks for nominees and newly elected synodical officers and shall report such actions to the Synod Council.*

S9.02. **In all elections by the Synod Assembly, other than for the bishop, a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.**

S9.04. **The bishop shall be elected by the Synod Assembly by ecclesiastical ballot. Three-fourths of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election on the first ballot. If no one is elected, the first ballot shall be considered the nominating ballot. Three-fourths of the legal votes cast on the second ballot shall be necessary for election. The third ballot shall be limited to the seven persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the second ballot, and two-thirds of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. The fourth ballot shall be limited to the three persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the third ballot, and 60 percent of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. On subsequent ballots a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election. These ballots shall be limited to the two persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of legal votes on the previous ballot.**

S9.04.A94. *An "ecclesiastical ballot" is an election process:*

- a. *In which on the first ballot the name of any eligible individual may be submitted for nomination by a voting member of the assembly;*
- b. *Through which the possibility of election to office exists on any ballot by achievement of the required number of votes cast by voting members of the assembly applicable to a particular ballot;*
- c. *That precludes spoken floor nominations;*
- d. *In which the first ballot is the nominating ballot if no election occurs on the first ballot;*
- e. *In which the first ballot defines the total slate of nominees for possible election on a subsequent ballot, with no additional nominations permitted;*

- f. That does not preclude, after the reporting of the first ballot, the right of persons nominated to withdraw their names prior to the casting of the second ballot;*
- g. In which any name appearing on the second ballot may not be subsequently withdrawn;*
- h. That does not preclude an assembly's adoption of rules that permit, at a defined point in the election process and for a defined period of time, speeches to the assembly by nominees or their representatives and/or a question-and-answer forum in which the nominees or their representatives participate; and*
- i. In which the number of names that appear on any ballot subsequent to the second ballot shall be determined in accordance with provisions of the governing documents (or, if the governing documents are silent, in accordance with rules adopted by the assembly).*

S9.08. All elections shall be by ballot. In all elections, other than for the bishop, vice president and the secretary, the names of the persons receiving the highest number of legal votes, but not elected by a majority of the legal votes cast on a preceding ballot, shall be entered on the next ballot to the number of two for each vacancy unfilled. On any ballot when only two names appear, a majority of the legal votes cast shall be necessary for election.

S9.09. The result of each ballot in every election shall be announced in detail to the assembly.

†S9.12. Background checks and screening shall be required and completed for persons nominated as synodical officers prior to their election, if possible, or as soon as practical after their election. The specific procedures and timing of background checks and screening shall be determined by the Synod Council.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

2020 South Carolina Synod Assembly Elections

2020 South Carolina Synod Assembly Nominating Committee

2019-2020 Terms

Rev. Angela Jennings, Chair
Rev. Rebecca J. Lord-Philips
Rev. Leroy Cannon
Deacon Sarah Katherine Delap Bowers
Mr. Paul Peterson
Rev. Emily Edenfield

2020-2021 Terms

Ms. Kim Cooke
Mr. Daniel Crofts
Mr. Steve Reed
Rev. Rusty Kehl
Mrs. Elsa Hope
Mr. Tex Davis, Jr.

Positions open for election with description summaries of responsibilities:

SYNOD COUNCIL

Terms begin after Synod Assembly. Meetings are generally scheduled in June, September, December, February and April. Synod Council members have voice and vote at assemblies and are expected to attend. The synod council operates with internal committees. Most committees meet prior to the regular council meetings, but some may also meet at other times.

1. **Synod Council Lay Man** (Northern Area which includes Upstate, Foothills, & Heartland Conferences)
2. **Synod Council Rostered Minister** (At Large)
3. **Synod Council Rostered Minister** (Central Area which includes the Midlands, Saxe Gotha & Western Conferences)
4. **Synod Council Lay Woman** (Person of color or primary language other than English)
5. **Synod Council Lay Man** (At Large)
6. **Synod Council Lay Woman** (At Large)
7. **Synod Council Lay Woman** (Eastern Area which includes Epiphany, Amelia & Coastal Conferences)
8. **Synod Council Lay Man** (Person of color or primary language other than English)

COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINE (six-year term without consecutive reelection)

The functions of the synod's discipline committee are set forth in the ELCA constitution and are more extensive than can be covered in this space. This committee, though rarely used, is available to the bishop when charges are brought against an ordained minister or lay rostered minister. Such charges may be "preaching and teaching in conflict with the faith confessed by this church; conduct incompatible with the character of the ministerial office; willfully disregarding or violating the functions and standards established by this church for the office of Word and Sacrament; willfully disregarding the provisions of the constitution...." Etc. (ELCA constitution 20.21.01.)

1. **Committee on Discipline - Rostered Minister**
2. **Committee on Discipline - Lay Man**
3. **Committee on Discipline - Rostered Minister**
4. **Committee on Discipline - Lay Woman**

CONSULTATION COMMITTEE (six-year term without consecutive reelection)

The synod's constitution provides the bishop a means to assist in resolving disputes that may arise in congregations when such disputes fail to be resolved internally or otherwise. In such a case, "the Consultation Committee of this synod shall consider the matter. If the Consultation Committee of this synod shall fail to resolve the issue(s), the matter shall be referred to the Synod Council, whose decision shall be final." (S17.11.)

1. **Consultation Committee – Rostered Minister**
2. **Consultation Committee – Lay Man**
3. **Consultation Committee – Rostered Minister**
4. **Consultation Committee – Lay Woman**

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND GRANT COMMITTEE

An Endowment Grant Committee for the South Carolina Synod Mission Endowment Fund shall consist of the bishop of the South Carolina Synod or his or her appointee, the treasurer of this synod, and five members elected by the Synod Assembly. Two of the elected members shall be lay women, two shall be lay men and one shall be an ordained minister on the roster of this synod. The term of office for the five persons elected by the Synod Assembly to membership on this committee shall be three years; individuals so chosen may not serve more than two consecutive full terms. (a.) The members of the Endowment Grant Committee shall not receive compensation for their duties. (b.) The Endowment Grant Committee shall be responsible to the South Carolina Synod through the Synod Council and shall provide annually a report of disbursements to the Synod Assembly. (c.) The Endowment Grant Committee shall meet at least annually and provide the means, dates, and deadlines for grant requests, review such requests, and make recommendations for disbursements to the Synod Council through the synod's Finance Committee.

- 1. Mission Endowment Fund Grant Committee – Lay Man**
- 2. Mission Endowment Fund Grant Committee – Lay Woman**

***SOUTH CAROLINA LUTHERAN RETREAT CENTERS, INC.**

Members of the Board of Trustees elected by the synod assembly (9) and by the board (6) may serve two consecutive three-year terms. The board generally meets four times a year with one meeting being an overnight meeting. Members of the board benefit the work of the ministry by being active members of committees. The board promotes and coordinates the ministries at Kinard Conference Center and Coastal Retreat Center. It establishes goals and objectives; oversees policies; is accountable for fiscal affairs; and employs and supervises the Executive Director. Board members are to be active congregational members, skilled in interpersonal relationships, visionary, able to work cooperatively, and advocates for and financial supporters of this ministry.

- 1. South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers, Inc. - Lay Woman**

The Synod Council recommends and invites people from across the Synod to serve on the Nominating Committee. Representation is gender and clergy/lay person balanced. Committee members serve for two years. Half the committee rotates off each year. The Synod Council names the committee in September. The Nominating Committee meeting is set for early November.

The Committee members are asked to bring names of potential nominees for the specific open positions. They are encouraged to call the church leaders in their area to solicit names for nominees.

The positions open for nominations are announced in the Synod E-news (and in some cases in the SC Lutheran), which allows us to receive nominations from the general population of our Synod.

At the November meeting, all names that have been received are listed for the various positions which are up for election. The constitution is followed on how many nominees are presented for each election.

The committee considers gifts and any potential conflicts which might be present for each potential nominee. Example: sometimes one person is brought for two different positions and the committee has to decide which position to nominate them for; we check that a person is not nominated for a position that their spouse or immediate relative is already serving in; we make sure we are not putting two people up against each other from the same congregation or nominating someone from a congregation who is already represented on that council, board or committee etc. This conversation and discernment is surrounded in prayer.

The committee prioritizes the nominees into the order they wish to have them contacted.

The Committee members divide the list and call persons who have been nominated. All calls are made within 2 weeks of the meeting date.

Nominees are sent biographical information forms with a deadline to return the completed form. The Synod office tracks and follows up on the nominees with the help of the committee and prepares the slate of nominees for publication in our registration materials.

The entire slate for nomination is emailed to the nominating committee for review and approval.

Biographical information is published with registration materials for voting members of Assembly.

The Nominating Committee Chair makes the report of the ballots at Assembly and we accept additional nominations from the floor.

Synod Council - Lay Man - Northern Area
Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)
Jimmy Reynolds
Jeffrey Stringer

Full Name: **James (Jimmy) Bernard Reynolds Jr**
 Resides in: Simpsonville, SC
 Congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church Congregation City: Greenville
 Email Address: jbreynoldsjr@gmail.com
 Employment/Profession: Validation Engineer
 Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

None

Service in local congregation

Congregation Council (December 2009 -December 2012) (December 2016 - December 2019)
 Youth Advisor (January 2003 - May 2013)
 Lay Communion Assistant (January 2013 - present)
 Offering Teller (December 2002 to present)
 Communion Clean Up (September 2000 to present)
 Worship Committee Chair (2010 - 2012)
 Parish Life Committee Chair (2018 to present)
 Choir Member (August 2005 to present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

None

Full Name: **Jeffrey Stringer**
 Resides in: Greenville, SC
 Congregation: Redeemer Congregation City: Greer
 Email Address: stringerjd@msn.com
 Employment/Profession: Stringer Resource Group / Pension Plan Consultant
 Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Congregational Representative – SC Synod Assembly – (2009-present)
 Conduct of Elections Committee – SC Synod Assembly – (2019)
 Candidate – SC Synod Vice-President – (2019)

Service in local congregation

Co-Chair – Finance Committee (2019-present)
 Athletics Ministry Coordinator (2018-present)
 Adult Leader – National Youth Gathering – (2012)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Chairman – Fund the Mission – March of Dimes (2013-2014)
 March of Dimes Ambassador Family (2012)
 March of Dimes - Chef's Auction Committee (2104-2015)
 Coordinator – Parker Neff Memorial Golf Outing (2019-present)
 Candidate – SC Senate District 6 (2019)
 Rules Committee – Greenville County Republican Party (2019-present)

Synod Council – Rostered Minister – At Large
Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)
Rev. Rachel Hoffman
Rev. Erin Morris

Full Name: **Rachel Lyn Harriz Hoffman**

Resides in: Rock Hill, SC

Congregation: Grace Lutheran Church Congregation City: Rock Hill

Email Address: pastorrachel@gracerockhill.com

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Region 9 Women in Ministry Gathering Leadership Team (January 2020-Present)

Member of NC Synod Stewardship for All Seasons Cohort (May 2017-November 2018)

SC Synod Congregation Cluster Fellowship (January – May 2016)

Service in local congregation

Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, Rock Hill, SC (December 2018 to present)

(Areas of Emphasis: Children, Youth, Christian Education, Outreach, Stewardship, Endowment)

Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Nativity, Arden, NC (June 2016 – November 2018)

(Areas of Emphasis: Youth, Family, Christian Education, Outreach, Stewardship, Preschool)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Former Chair, current member of Winthrop Episcopal Lutheran Campus Ministry Advisory Board (Dec 2018-present)

In capacity as pastor, coordinator for Nativity's community Medical Equipment Loan Closet (April 2017 – May 2018)

Full Name: **Erin Christine Morris**

Resides in: Spartanburg, SC

Congregation: St. John's Lutheran Congregation City: Spartanburg

Email Address: pastorerinmorris@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

ELCA National Convention Rep (2016)

ELCA National Youth Gathering Synod Coordinator (2012)

ELCA National Youth Gathering Exhibitor Coordinator (2009)

Service in local congregation

Currently Serving St. John's Lutheran (July 2019)

Previously served at St. Andrew's Lutheran in Mahtomedi, MN (2008-2019)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Volunteer at Spartanburg Humane Society (August 2019 to present)

Synod Council – Rostered Minister – Central Area
Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)
Rev. Timothy Bupp
Deacon Deborah Poole

Full Name: **Timothy L. Bupp**

Resides in: Columbia, SC

Congregation: Reformation

Congregation City: Columbia

Email Address: ptbupp@yahoo.com

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Southwestern PA Synod's Evangelism Taskforce (2000-2008)

Southwestern PA Synod's Sexuality Statement Conversation (1999-2003)

Butler PA's CommUnity Social Justice Group (2001-2009)

Service in local congregation

Zion Lutheran Church (2009-2013)

Reformation Lutheran Church (2013-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

The Mustard Seed Project (2009-2013)

Poor People's Campaign (2018-Present)

Harriet Hancock Center (2014-2019)

Full Name: **Deborah Poole**

Resides in: Lexington, SC

Congregation: Pisgah Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Lexington

Email Address: deborah@pisgahlutheran.org

Employment/Profession: Deacon

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

ELCA Churchwide Voting Member (2019)

SC Synod Nominating Committee (2018-2019; Chairperson, 2019)

SC Synod Mission Endowment Fund (2018-2019; Chairperson, 2019)

Lifelong Faith Formation Network (Convener, 2014-2019)

Saxe-Gotha Conference Dean (2012-2016)

SC Synod Youth Steering Committee (Varied Years)

Service in local congregation

Associate in Ministry, Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church (1993-2005)

Deacon, Pisgah Lutheran Church (2005-Present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Pleasant Hill Elementary School Counseling Advisory Council (2014-2016)

Volunteer, Pleasant Hill Elementary School (2012-2018)

Synod Council – Lay Woman – Person of Color / Language Other Than English**Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)****Alexandra Lautenschlaeger****LaTynia Taylor**Full Name: **Alexandra Lautenschlaeger**

Resides in: Spartanburg, SC

Congregation: St. John's Lutheran

Congregation City: Spartanburg, SC

Email Address: lautena@yahoo.com

Employment/Profession: Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist; Licensed Dietitian

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

None

Service in local congregation

Church Council, Executive Council Secretary, Council Liaison Communication & Technology Committee (2019-present)

WELCA Secretary (2014-2018)

St. John's WELCA Circle 4 Secretary (2013)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Hub City Farmer's Market Board of Directors (2015-2018); Secretary (2016-2018)

Academy Nutrition and Dietetic Clinical Nutrition Practice Group Board of Directors (2014-2016)

German School of the Upstate Board of Directors (2012-2016)

South Carolina Academy of Nutrition Dietetics President (President Elect, President, Past President) (2011-2013)

Piedmont Dietetic Association President (2009-2010)

South Carolina Young Dietitian of the Year (2009)

American Diabetes Association Camp Independence Nutrition Director (2008-2010)

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetic Internship Preceptor (21 interns) (2007-2018)

German American Club of the Carolinas Board of Directors (2007-2009)

Union County Meals on Wheels Board of Directors (2003-2006)

Volunteer speaker at various church, support groups, professional CEU's in Upstate SC and Western North Carolina (2003-current)

Full Name: **LaTynia M. Taylor**

Resides in: Blythewood, SC

Congregation: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Columbia, SC

Email Address: tyniamtaylor@gmail.com or latyniamtaylor@yahoo.com

Employment/Profession:

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

SC Synod Council/Finance Committee (May 2017 to Present)

Service in local congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Hurricane Relief committee, Children's Christmas Committee, etc. (April 2017-Present)

St. Paul's Players, dinner theatre musical production of Christmas with Holmes and Watson based on

"The Adventure of the Copper Beeches" by Arthur Conan Doyle; (December 17, 2017)

Christ Mission, Health Ministry, Children's Ministry (August 2015-2017)

Cornerstone Baptist Church, Children's Church Director (December 2007-2013)

New Life International Christian Church Europe, Children's Church Director (June- 2006- November 2007)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Muller Road Middle School Leadership Academy Volunteer

Lake Carolina Elementary Lower Campus PTO 2011-2015

Disabled Veterans Caregivers Program 2015 to Present

Synod Council – Lay Man – At Large
Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)
Tex Davis
Robert Epting

Full Name: **C. Tex Davis, Jr.**

Resides In: West Columbia, SC

Congregation: Mt. Tabor

Congregation City: West Columbia

Email Address: gamecockpoppa@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Attorney, South Carolina Judicial Branch - Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Age Range: 46-60

Service in Synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

SC Synod Nominating Committee (2019-2021)

Merger Committee for Mt. Tabor/Faith (2019-present)

Service in Local Congregation:

Served on Mt. Tabor Church Council (2014-2017); President (2017)

Served on a variety of Mt. Tabor Committees: Education, Youth, Endowment, Fellowship (2014-present)

Member of Building Fund Committee (2016-present)

Prepare a monthly breakfast for congregation to support Youth Projects (2013-present)

Service in Community:

South Carolina Bar Association (1998-present)

Greater West Columbia/Cayce Chamber of Commerce (2017-present)

Lexington School District #2 Superintendents' Parent Advisory Council (2018-present)

Full Name: **Robert E Epting**

Resides In: Batesburg, SC

Congregation: Wittenberg Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Leesville, SC 29070

Email Address: Robert.epting@applegreenstores.com

Employment/Profession: VP gas operations, Petrogas Group SC llc

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

President SCLMM (Feb/2019-Feb/2020)

Various positions SCLMM Executive Committee (2014-2020)

President Western Conference SCLMM (2014-2016)

Service in local congregation

Church Council at various times at Wittenberg Lutheran and Pisgah Lutheran Churches

Sunday School Teacher (1990-present)

Worship Assistant (1990-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Lexington School District 3 board member (1994-2002)

USSSA umpire (2005-2009)

Synod Council – Lay Woman – At Large**Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)****Linda Griffith****Cheryl Smith**Full Name: **Linda Griffith**

Resides in: West Columbia, SC

Congregation: Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Congregation City: West Columbia, SC

Email Address: lindagriffith2@aol.com

Employment/Profession: Retired Administrative Assistant

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

SC Synod Communicator/SC Lutheran (2019-present)

Delegate to two Synod Conventions & 4 WELCA Triennial Conventions

SCWELCA Board member

Service in local congregation

Our Saviour Lutheran Church (1970-present)

Served in various positions over the years – part-time church secretary; congregational council secretary-3 times, vice president; Sunday School Teacher; VBS Teacher and Coordinator; Altar Guild leader and member; Handbell Choir; Senior Group/Elderberries Coordinator currently; Memorial and Gifts Committee as chair and secretary; Finance Committee Secretary; WELCA Pres-VP-Sec; Circle leader

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Graduate of Lexington High School and the University of South Carolina

Retired from University of South Carolina (*Employee of the Year*, Adm Employee Club Pres, Retirees Pres)

Lexington County Voter Registration and Election Commissioner (2011- 14)

Retired from Lexington County Legislative Delegation Office (2014-19)

Lexington County Poll Manager (est. 35 years)

Lexington County Library Board

Beta Sigma Phi International Women's Sorority (1972-present)

American Legion Auxiliary (2002 to present)

Full Name: **Cheryl Smith**

Resides in: Seneca, SC

Congregation: University Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Clemson

Email Address: cheryli@clemson.edu

Employment/Profession: Associate Professor of Genetics and Biochemistry, Clemson University

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

SC Synod Communicator (beginning October, 2019)

Service in local congregation

Adult Sunday School teacher (since ~2016)

Church Council (December, 2017 until December, 2020)

Assisting minister (since ~2016)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Two-by-Two mentoring group through University Lutheran Church (since 2014)

Marching band parent - (I help with the parent pit crew at each of the high school marching band competitions that Daniel High School has competed in since 2017)

I don't have other official services to describe here, but I do my best to help out when I can wherever I can. I also try my best to show my students (in my lab or in my classes) that I care about them as people and to help them as they navigate through college and the issues they encounter (failing a class, having problems with a professor/TA, deciding to change majors, mental health issues, family problems, deaths, etc.). I have students facing some pretty tough problems who simply need to know that their professors care.

Synod Council – Lay Woman – Eastern Area
Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)
Cindy Davis
Jean Siewicki

Full Name: **Cynthia “Cindy” M. Davis**

Resides in: Charleston, SC

Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Congregation City: Charleston

Email Address: cindy@cmdaviscpa.com

Employment/Profession: Principal of Cynthia M. Davis, CPA, LLC/Certified Public Accountant

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

SC Synod Finance Committee member, (June 2017 – Present)

Executive Board Member (Treasurer) of Lutheran Social Services (Charleston) dba Tricounty Family Ministries, (2002-2005)

Presenter at Pre-Assembly Workshop for 2017 SC Synod Assembly “Treasurer Workshop on Compensation for Leaders”

Service in local congregation

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer- Congregational Treasurer (1993- 2018. In this position, I was a member of the Executive Committee of the Congregational Council during most of these years.)

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer- Confirmation Sunday School Teacher (2007-2019)

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer: Currently an active member of Skip Tapp Circle, Handbell choir, & Youth Committee

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer: Formerly Sunday School teacher for grades 1-2, Vacation Bible School leader, & Church Nursery Coordinator.

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

My Sister’s House, Charleston (Lowcountry Domestic Violence Shelter & Victim Service Provider):

Member of Board of Directors (Treasurer) 2008-2015

Member of Finance Committee 2015- Present

Mason Preparatory School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO):

President, June 2005- June 2006

Treasurer, June 2002- June 2004

Active Volunteer, September 1999- June 2002

Girl Scouts of Eastern Carolina

Co-Leader of Brownie, Junior, & Cadette Troop #85, August 2003- July 2009

Full Name: **Jean A. Siewicki**

Resides in: Awendaw, SC

Congregation: All Saints

Congregation City: Mt. Pleasant

Email Address: jeansiewicki@hotmail.com

Employment/Profession: Retired School Principal

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Candidacy committee (2011-2022)

East Cooper Christian Network – I Beam Mentoring Chair (2010-2014)

Presentation on I Beam mentor program to Synod Assembly 2013

Service in local congregation

Chair of Worship and Music (2012-2014 - St. Paul’s

Choir (2011-2014 St. Paul’s)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Back Pack Buddies for Title 1 elementary school (2011- present)

Reading Mentor for Elementary student (2011-2014)

SCASA – South Carolina Association for School Administrators (2000-2010)

Synod Council – Lay Man – Person of Color / Language Other Than English
Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)
LaVone Griffin
Jerry Strother

Full Name: **Walter LaVone Griffin**

Resides in: Columbia, SC

Congregation: The Journey of Performing Arts Ministry & Ascension Lutheran

Congregation City: Columbia, SC

Email Address: Lavone.griffin62@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Minister

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Currently Assistant Minister (Ascension Lutheran, Living Springs Lutheran, Christ Mission)

Partnerships with area churches

Service in local congregation

SCLCY (since 2016)

Grace Works (since 2016)

Journey (since 2015)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Union Baptist Church (since 2010)

Northeast Columbia Rotary Club (2019)

Community Services at large

Full Name: **Jerry Strother**

Resides in: Lexington, SC

Congregation: Christ Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Columbia

Email Address: jerry.strother56@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Retired

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Secretary, South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission (2017 – 2019)

Promotional Secretary, South Carolina Men in Mission (2019 – Present)

Service in local congregation

Church Security and Maintenance Supervisor (2015 – Present)

Transportation for Church and Youth Enrichment Programs (2016 – Present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Masonic Temple Member (1976 – Present)

Denny Terrance Community Association Member (2016 – Present)

Teamster and Machinist Union Member (1970 – Present)

Committee on Discipline – Rostered Minister
Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)
Deacon Katie Holland
The Rev. Ashley Twitchell

Full Name: **Katherine Trier Holland**

Resides in: Charleston, SC

Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Congregation City: Charleston

Email Address: k8ieholland@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Deacon, Music

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Churchwide Assembly Delegate in 2019

Service in local congregation

Rostered Deacon of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Charleston (2014-present)

Director of Music of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer (May 2010-2014)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Charleston American Guild of Organists, Board, Subdean (2019)

Charleston American Guild of Organists, Board, Committee at Large (2018)

Full Name: **Ashley Twitchell**

Resides in: Greer, SC

Congregation: Pelham Road Baptist Church

Congregation City: Greenville

Email Address: ashley.twitchell@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

First Call Theological Education Committee (2015-2018)

SC Synod Revisioning Task Force (2011-2012)

Service in local congregation

Pelham Road Baptist Church – Development Pastor (2017 – present)

Joy Lutheran Church – Associate Pastor (2012-2016)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

When Faith Hurts Training by Julie Valentine Center (October 2019)

Pinnacle Leadership – Clergy Cohorts

Holy Experiments (September 2017-May 2018)

Soul Gainers and Soul Drainers Lead Pastors (September 2015-May 2016)

Inner & Outer Personal Skills Associate Pastors (September 2014-May 2015)

Faith5 Training (February 2015)

Committee on Discipline – Rostered Minister

Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)

Rev. Roy Butler

Rev. Fred Suhr

Full Name: **Roy Mathis Butler**

Resides in: Columbia, SC

Congregation: Saint Timothy's Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Camden

Email Address: Chapbutler@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Clergy

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Synod Council, 2015-2018,

Assisted with Disaster Relief, SC Synod, Hurricanes Joaquim (2015) and Matthew(2016)

SC Synod Liaison to South Carolina Christian Action Council

Service in local congregation

Pastor, Bethel Lutheran Church, White Rock

Staff Chaplain, Post Chaplain Office, Fort Jackson

Pastor, St. Luke Lutheran, Columbia

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Golden Club in Camden, SC (2019)

Joint Headquarters National Guard (Air and Army) Senior Chaplain, (June 2014-September 2018)

Coach Middle School Sporting Clays Team (2015-2017)

Full Name: **Karl F. (Fred) Suhr, Jr.**

Resides in: Little Mountain, SC

Congregation: Christus Victor Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Columbia, SC

Email Address: fandjsuhr@live.com

Employment/Profession: Pastor of Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Columbia, SC

Age Range: Over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

ELCA Federal Chaplain – Retired as Senior Joint Forces Chaplain for South Carolina National Guard

SC Synod Consultation Committee (Past)

SC Synod Ministry Team for Congregational Life (Past)

Service in local congregation

Pastor, Christus Victor Lutheran Church (2012 – Present)

Christus Victor Lutheran Men in Mission (Honorary Life Member)

Teaching Parish Supervising Pastor (LTSS) (2012-2018)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Board Member – Sharing God's Love (Community Outreach Ministry), Irmo, SC (2018 – 2019)

Member – The Citadel Alumni Association (1980 – Present)

Member – Reserve Officers Association

Committee on Discipline – Lay Woman
Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)
Janet Boatwright
Sebrena Matthews

Full Name: **Janet Boatwright**

Resides in: Irmo, SC

Congregation: Redeemer

Congregation City: Columbia

Email Address: jpytulsa@cox.net

Employment/Profession: Retired, hospital Speech Pathologist

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Love One Another, church council visitation committee (2018)

Love One Another, Redeemer chairperson (2019)

Service in local congregation

Member, Partners in Welcome Committee (2016-2019)

Active participant in Family Promise, and Lunch on Lawn (2015-present)

Local congregation Transportation Committee (2018-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

None

Full Name: **Sebrena L. Matthews**

Resides in: Prosperity, SC

Congregation: St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Leesville

Email Address: sblattimore@yahoo.com or smatthews@sled.sc.gov

Employment/Profession: State Government (SLED) Administrative Coordinator

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

WELCA Western Conference Coordinator (2014-present)

Service in local congregation

Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Columbia, SC (WELCA Leader approximately 2004-2006)

St. Mark's Lutheran Church (2006-present) WELCA Leader (2006-present), Church Council member (2015-

2017), Choir & Hand Bell member (2015-present), Congregational Fellowship Chairman (2018-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Columbia Chapter DAR former Regent and current member (beginning 2000-present)

MSA Hospice Volunteer (beginning 2002-present)

Young Life volunteer (2014-2017)

Consultation Committee – Rostered Minister
Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)
Jim Nichols
Greg Van Dyke

Full Name: **James (Jim) Nichols**

Resides in: Chapin, SC

Congregation: St. Thomas

Congregation City: Chapin

Email Address: Njmaryn@bellsouth.net

Employment/Profession: Lutheran Pastor--retired

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Pastor, Reformation Lutheran Church, Columbia (1981-88)

Interim pastor of 5 SC congregations

Chair, SC Synod Candidacy Committee

Service in local congregation

Supply Pastor

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Founding Executive Director Central SC Habitat for Humanity- (1988-1997)

Jimmy Carter Habitat International Work Projects

Order of the Palmetto

Full Name: **N. Gregory Van Dyke**

Resides in: Murrells Inlet, SC

Congregation: St. Peter's

Congregation City: Pawleys Island

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: 46-60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Finance Committee, SC Synod (2016 – Present)

Finance Committee, Allegheny Synod (2000 – 2016)

Synod Council, Allegheny Synod: 2 terms (1998 – 2004); 2 terms (2008 – 2014)

Service in local congregation

Pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, (2016 – Present)

Pastor of St. David's Lutheran Church, Davidsville, PA (2006 – 2016)

Pastor of Spring Mills Lutheran Parish, Spring Mills, PA (1996 – 2006)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Chaplain of Region III DMORT (Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team) (2011 – Present)

Habitat for Humanity Board, Georgetown County, (2016 – Present)

Amazing Journeys – Georgetown County Sheriff's Re-entry Program, (2019 – Present)

Consultation Committee – Lay Man

Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)

Mike Metzler

Mike Taylor

Full Name: **Michael A. (Mike) Metzler**

Resides in: Columbia, SC

Congregation: Christus Victor

Congregation City: Columbia

Email Address: MikeMetzler01@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Retired Air National Guard officer

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

None

Service in local congregation)

Church Council (2005-2008, 2011-2012, 2019-2020)

Lutheran Men in Mission (2000 – present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

National Guard Association of South Carolina, 1992 - present

Full Name: **Robert M. Taylor**

Resides in: Batesburg-Leesville, SC

Congregation: Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Batesburg-Leesville, SC

Email Address: rmtaylor67@yahoo.com

Employment/Profession:

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

None

Service in local congregation

I have been Vice- Chair of Council many times

I have served as treasurer several different times the last being from 2011-2020

I am now back on council for three years beginning 2020

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Past President and Chairman of B-L Chamber of Commerce and other organizations

Past President of South Carolina Automobile Dealers Association (1987-1988)

Past Board of Directors National Automobile Dealers Association (1988-2000)

Consultation Committee – Rostered Minister
Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)
Deacon Ashlyn Cox
Deacon Dot Jeffcoat

Full Name: **Ashlyn Cox**

Resides in: Isle of Palms, SC

Congregation: Grace Lutheran

Congregation City: Gilbert, SC

Email Address: ashlynscox@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Deacon, Christian Education and Fellowship Ministry

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

SCLCY board (2014-16)

LTSS alumni board (2018-19)

Service in local congregation

Coordinating WELCA, Youth/Family, Christian Ed programs; helping with Social Ministry & Evangelism Committees

Serving on Council in 2 different congregations

Holding a supporting role when dealing with congregational difficulties in the past (on synod level and court hearings)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc. (please include dates served)

Local Ecumenical Planning team for community events

Coordinating and planning meals for various groups (Salkehatchie, Family Shelter, GMS Football team) and hosting drives for several organizations (La Vie, Lutheran Services Carolinas, Lex 1 School District, Epworth Children's Home, Pets Inc., Lutheran World Relief)

Nominated For: **Dorothy L. Jeffcoat**

Resides in: Chapin, SC

Congregation: Reformation

Congregation City: Columbia

Email Address: dotjeffcoat@aol.com

Employment/Profession: Retired Deacon

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Chair of SC Synod History Matters Team 2009-present

Member SC Synod Council, 2003-2008

Coordinator for Region 9 ELCA, 1988-2001

Service in local congregation

Several three year terms on Congregation Council including 2017-2019

Volunteer staff and Ministry Coordinator 2011- present

Chair of Congregational Constitution Review and Update Committee 2016-2017

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

None

Consultation Committee – Lay Woman
Term Ending 2026 (Elect 1)
Shirley Counts
Jan Redden

Full Name: **Shirley D. Counts**

Resides in: Little Mountain, SC

Congregation: St. John Evangelical Lutheran

Congregation City: Pomaria

Email Address: sdcoun10@gmail.com

Employment/Profession:

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

WELCA Member/ Treasurer of St. John Group

Heartland Conference Treasurer for one Term

Synod Assembly Delegate multiple years

Service in local congregation

Current General Fund Treasurer (2000 to present)

6 (four year terms) church council member

Served as Vice-president of Council one term

over numerous years been chair of the following committees – Finance, Christian Education, Mutual Ministry, Social Ministry, vacation Bible School Coordinator/ teacher, Sunday School teacher 20 + years, Sunday School Teacher of the year, member of call committee

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

WIN (Women In Nuclear) member

WLG (Women Leadership Group SCANA)

Full Name: **Jan B. Redden**

Resides in: Pomaria SC

Congregation: Pomaria Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Pomaria

Email Address: janredden@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Administrative Assistant

Elementary & Secondary Education Newberry County School District

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

None

Service in local congregation

Pomaria Lutheran Church, Church Council (2020-2022)

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Church Council (1998-2000, 2003-2005)

Pomaria WELCA, President (2016-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

President NCAEOP (2004-2006)

Founding member Newberry Chamber Orchestra (2014-present)

Pomaria Reunion Festival Committee member(ongoing)

Mission Endowment Fund – Grant Committee – Lay Man**Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)****Ron Kinsey
Ron Redd**Full Name: **Ronald M. Kinsey**

Resides in: Columbia, SC

Congregation: Christ Mission Church, ELCA Congregation City: Columbia, SC

Email Address: christmissionwinya@gmail.com

Employment/Profession:

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Evangelism team (2019-currently serving)

Lutheran Men in Mission (2019-currently serving)

Church Property Caretaker (Trustee – currently serving)

Service in local congregation

None

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Corinthian Lodge #11 – PHA (Junior Warden / 2 terms, Senior Warden / 1 term)

Danny Terrace Community Association Member (11 years)

Waverly Community Mass Choir President (2 years)

SC Statewide NAACP – King Day at the Dome Celebration Planning Committee (4 years)

Saint Augustine's University (Columbia, SC) Alumni Chapter (1 year)

Full Name: **Ronald Lee Redd (Ron)**

Resides in: Lexington, SC

Congregation: St. Stephen's

Congregation City: Lexington

Email Address: Rredd7848@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Retired Military and Civil Service

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Synod Council 2017-Present

President Saxe Gotha Conference, South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission 2014, 2016-present

Secretariat South Carolina Via De Cristo 2008-11 and 2014-2017

Service in local congregation

President, St. Stephen's Lutheran Men in Mission (2011- Present)

Vice President St. Stephen's Church Council (2006)

St. Stephen's Church council (2005-2008, 2011-2014, 2017- 2020)

Synod Communicator for St. Stephen's (2017-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

President Greenslake Homeowners Association (Goose Creek SC) (1995-2003)

President St. Timothy Lutheran Church Goose Creek Church Council (1998-2000)

Mission Endowment Fund – Grant Committee – Lay Woman**Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)****Leslie Connor****Diane Pitts**Full Name: **Leslie Connor**

Resides in: Spartanburg, SC

Congregation: St. John's Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Spartanburg

Email Address: lesliesconnor@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Tutor/ Educator

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

None

Service in local congregation

Social Outreach Ministry committee (2011- 2015)

Christian Education Ministry (2010-present)

Adult/ children's Sunday school teacher (2011-present)

Committee chair (2014-2018)

Adult education coordinator (2018- present)

Congregational Council (2014-2018)

VBS coordinator (2018-present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Founder/ volunteer director, Eastside Arts Co-op (volunteer-led homeschool cooperative for students birth- 12th grade, inclusive of learning challenges, neurodiversity, gender orientation, faith, and race; approximately 50 students) (2010-2019)

Certified private tutor, National Tutoring Association

Full Name: **Dianne Jorgensen Pitts**

Resides in: Chappells, SC

Congregation: Immanuel

Congregation City: Greenwood

Email Address: diannejpitts@gmail.com

Employment/Profession: Retired Educator

Age Range: Over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

WELCA (Unit President, First Time Guest Coordinator for SCWELCA Convention-past five years)

Service in local congregation

Co-Director of the ILC Soup Kitchen, Golden Harvest Agency, record-keeping, grant writer

Served on Church Council and Pastoral Search Committee (around 2014-2016)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Lions Clubs International – Past Council Chairperson for SC Lions, faculty for national and international institutes

Auxiliary member of the South Carolina National Federation of the Blind

Chairperson of the Lions Friends of the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind, fundraiser/grant writer

South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers (SCLRC) – Lay Woman**Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)****Norma Mackey****Beverly Smith**Full Name: **Norma Jean Corley Mackey**

Resides in: Columbia, SC

Congregation: Christ Mission

Congregation City: Columbia

Email Address: normamackey@bellsouth.net

Employment/Profession: Social worker, LBSW Retired

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Volunteer, Registration for Synod Assembly (2016, 2018)

Service in local congregation

Church Board Chair (2014 - Present)

Church Finance Committee (2014 – Present)

Camp Passion Coordinator (2015 – Present)

Choir President (2015 - Present)

Christian Education (2015 – Present)

Youth Director/Advisor (2016 – Present)

Camp Noah Coordinator 2016 (one-week program)

Church Council member (2017 – Present)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc 1(983 - Present)

National Association of Social workers (NASW) (1992 – Present)

Co-Chair Concerned Citizens United for Action (1992 – 1996)

SC Juvenile Justice Association (1978 – 2006)

More Justice (2017 – Present)

NAACP 2018 - Present

Poor People's Campaign 2018 - Present

North Montello Collation 2018 - Present

Full Name: **Beverly Jane Smith**

Resides in: Lexington, SC

Congregation: St. Matthews Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Lexington, SC

Email Address: Smithbeverly556@Yahoo.com

Employment/Profession: Lexington County Recreation Commission Director Pine Ridge/South Congaree Senior Center

Age Range: over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

Steering Committee for Saxa Gotha/ Western Conference (1985-1990)

Chairperson of Lutheran Church Youth (1990-1999)

Co-Chair of Lutheran Youth (1999-2016)

Service in local congregation

Sunday School Teacher (1968-1972)

Bible School Teacher (1968-1999)

Youth Leader (1969-2013)

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Work the Voting Polls (1999-2020)

Volunteer Firefighter (1974-2014)

CPR Instructor (2000-2020)

NovusWay Ministries – Board Elected/Synod Assembly Ratified

Term Ending 2023 (Elect 1)

Susan Crowell

Full Name: **Susan J. Crowell**

Congregation: Trinity Lutheran Church

Email Address: sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws

Profession: Pastor

Age Range: 46-60

Congregation City: Greenville

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, etc.

NovusWay Ministries Board of Trustees, 2017-Present

Lutheran Homes of SC Board of Trustees, 2014-2016

SC Synod Candidacy Committee, 2012-Present

ELCA Foundation Board of Trustees, 2011-2014

Service in local congregation

Senior Pastor, Trinity, Greenville, 2002-Present

Associate Pastor, Trinity, Greenville, 1995-2002

Service in community, civic groups, professional associations, etc.

Supervisor for Pastoral Interns through Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, 2012-Present