

**Report of Committee on Agenda and Program
(PROPOSED ASSEMBLY AGENDA)
2022 SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD – ELCA ASSEMBLY
June 12-14, 2022**

I Love to Tell the STORY

South Carolina Synod Assembly 2022

Our theme: Joel 1:3

I love to tell the story...

Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children to another generation

...of Jesus and His love.

We would love to tell you a story...

A story of the life changing work going on in our synod.

A story of some of the amazing work being done through our synodical institutions and synodical partners.

A story of leaders from congregations across South Carolina who have said yes and are willing to serve and allow their gifts benefit various ministries across the state.

A story of new rostered leaders who have joined us in ministry here in South Carolina over the past year.

A story of leaders who have faithfully served this church for 50+ years.

A story of how the ministry in YOUR congregation is vital to the lives of all who call that place their church home.

A story of how your life, your experiences, your passions and gifts are all part of a much greater story.

A story, my friends, of Jesus and his love!

For the past year, our work focused on creating a meaningful, story filled Assembly. Along with the general business of the synod, we will also hear from our keynote speaker Deacon Mitzie Schafer who is called by the South Carolina Synod as a full-time consultant with GSB Fundraising helping nonprofits and churches tell their story in ways that increase engagement. She will be joined by Pastor Mary Canniff-Kuhn, a retired ELCA pastor who served 25 years as Program Director of Lutheridge Camp and Conference Center. Pastor Mary is a gifted storyteller and will serve as our Assembly Storyteller. The focus of the 2022 Synod Assembly will be telling our stories of faith and community with an emphasis on fellowship.

We will be worshiping together, participating in fellowship together, telling stories together and listening to impactful stories from ministries from across the synod.

Join us June 12-14 in Charleston for our annual South Carolina Synod Assembly. Join us for story time. Join us as we tell the story we love to tell, the story of Jesus and His love!

THE COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND PROGRAM RECOMMENDS:

1. THAT NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR OF CANDIDATES FOR ANY ELECTIONS HELD AT THIS 2022 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 **Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 5:30 PM;**
3. THAT THE BAR OF THE SYNOD BE DESIGNATED AS THE REGISTERED VOTING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THIS 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 THE PROPOSED AGENDA BE A GUIDE FOR THE 2022 ASSEMBLY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Davidson

2022 SC Synod Assembly Committees & Volunteers

Agenda and Program Committee

Wendy Davidson, Assembly Manager
Deacon Sarah Bowers, Creative Assistant

Registration

Wendy Davidson, Assembly Manager
Deacon Sarah Bowers, Creative Assistant
Neal Fischer, Director of Communications
Gail Sims
Katherine Davidson
Kelley Mintz

Worship & Music Leadership Team

The Rev. Andrea Rice, Co-Chaplain
The Rev. Nathan Rice, Co-Chaplain
Mr. Justin Wham, Music Director, Musician
The Rev. David Coffman, Necrologist
The Rev. Martin Lopez Vega, Spanish Language Translator

Communications & A/V Technology

Neal Fischer, Director of Communications	The Rev. Rebecca Wicker, Social Media
Kelley Mintz, Bulletin of Reports	The Rev. Kris Litman Koon, Social Media
Celie Addy, Editor	Mary Alex Kopp, Social Media
Raymond Morris, Writer	Erin Titus, Social Media
The Rev. Michele Fischer, Writer	The Rev. Joanna Gragg, Social Media
The Rev. Lisa Isenhower, Writer	The Rev. Steven Gallego, Social Media
The Rev. Matthew Titus, Writer	Deacon Katie Justice, Social Media
The Rev. Christopher Girardeau, Writer	Ellen Girardeau, Social Media
The Rev. Shannon Mullen, Writer	Lumi Global
George Cartledge, Photographer	SCAV

South Carolina Synod Council

Bishop Ginny Aebischer	Cheryl Smith
Deacon Lexanne Graves	Cindy Davis
The Rev. Ozzie Herlong	Kayla Audette
Mr. Raymond Hendrix	John L. Kinard
Larry Rathe	Daniel Crofts
The Rev. Rachel Hoffman	The Rev. Michael Sherman
Kathy Riggan	Becky Koch
The Rev. Joanna Gragg	The Rev. Bobby Morris
Jeffrey Stringer	Tex Davis
Deacon Deborah Poole	Virginia Herlong
LaTynia Taylor	Ben Bernstein
Robert Epting	Deacon Katie Justice
LaVone Griffin	Gracie Bellah

Nominating Committee

The Rev. Eric Fink, Chair
Deacon Katie Justice
Bob Williams
Norma Mackey

Deacon Shelley Allen
The Rev. Lisa Isenhower
Ashley Shealy
The Rev. Jason Lee

Ken Heckel
Kevin Wicker
Lauren Rawls
Von Metts

Conduct of Elections Committee

The Rev. Rachel Hoffman, Co-Chair
Mr. Raymond Morris, Co-Chair
The Rev. Mike Watson, Advisory
The Rev. Rebecca Wicker
Mr. Chuck Long
The Rev. Patti Sue Burton-Pye
Mrs. Diane Wicker
Mr. Kevin Wicker

Ms. Elsa Hope
Ms. Cynthia Mays
The Rev. Stephen Mims
Ms. Jenny McCulloch
Ms. Brandy Taylor
Mrs. Jenny Spearen
Mrs. Charlene Fink

Committee of Reference and Counsel

The Rev. Joanna Gragg, Chair
The Rev. Hank Moody, Parliamentarian
Dr. Cheryl Ingram-Smith
Deacon Ashlyn Cox
The Rev. Christina Johnson

Mrs. Linda Shealy
The Rev. Gregg Hoffman
Mr. Robert Epting
The Rev. Michael Price

We deeply appreciate everyone's assistance to make this Assembly possible. Please forgive us for any names that were inadvertently left off this list.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

2022 South Carolina Synod Assembly Elections

2022 South Carolina Synod Assembly Nominating Committee

2021-2022 Terms

Deacon Shelley Allen
Rev. Eric Fink, Chair
Rev. Lisa Isenhower
Deacon Katie Justice
Mrs. Norma Mackey
Mr. Bob Williams

2022-2023 Terms

Ken Heckel
Rev. Jason Lee
Von Metts
Lauren Rawls
Ashley Shealy
Kevin Wicker

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. If you are uncertain as to areas, please click [HERE](#) for a list of areas, conferences and congregations.

Three-year terms, terms ending 2025

- Lay Woman - Central Area
- Lay Man - Eastern Area
- Lay Man - At Large
- Lay Woman - At Large
- Man - Person of Color /Language other than English
- Young Adult - age 18-30
- Rostered Minister - Northern Area
- Rostered Minister - At Large

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.

Three-year term, term ending 2025

- Rostered Minister

Committee on Discipline

The Committee on Discipline of this synod shall consist of 12 persons of whom six shall be ministers of Word and Sacrament and six shall be laypersons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection.

The functions of the Committee on Discipline of this synod are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in

America. The Synod Council shall fill vacancies on the Committee of Discipline for any unexpired term.

Term ending 2028

- Rostered Minister - Man
- Rostered Minister - Woman
- Lay Woman
- Lay Man

Consultation Committee

The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of at least six persons and not more than 12 persons, of whom half shall be ministers of Word and Sacrament and half shall be lay persons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection. The functions of the Consultation Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and in Chapter 17 of this constitution. The size of the Consultation Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod's bylaws. The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of 12 persons.

Term ending 2028

- Rostered Minister - Man
- Rostered Minister -Woman
- Lay Man
- 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.

*Deacon Dallas Shealy, Executive Director, South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers, Inc. will also submit names for consideration by the Nominating Committee to be placed on the ballot.

Three-year term, term ending 2025

- Lay Man

NovusWay Ministries

This position is ratified at Assembly, not elected

SC Synod Nominating Process

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 Woman – Central Area

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Mimi Brown

Sheila Caughman

Position Nominated For: Synod Council – Lay Woman – Central Area **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Mimi Wortham-Brown

Email Address: mimiwb@gmail.com

Phone: 803-319-5007

Mailing Address: 1913 Glenwood Road

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29204

Congregation: Ebenezer Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Columbia, SC

Employment/Profession: Digital Content Editor, South Carolina ETV

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 X over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Growing in God’s Mission Team. Ebenezer Lutheran Church - formed to research and write our church mission statement with Dave Daubert serving as team leader (2010-2014)
2. Council representative, Ebenezer Lutheran Church (2011-2014)
3. Outreach Team Leader, Ebenezer Lutheran Church – co-chair with my husband, W. Christopher Brown (2014-present)
4. GraceWorks Leadership Team – serving with pastors, youth leaders and outreach leaders to plan and implement the annual week of service for youth, held in July each year. Youth and adult volunteers from about 12 churches participate and we are hoping to add more churches. (2014 – present)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

Assisting with the formation of GraceWorks—a youth service week initiated in 2014 by volunteers from about 12 churches in the Midlands—has been extremely meaningful and rewarding to both my husband, Chris Brown (who co-chairs Outreach with me at Ebenezer), and to me. Service to those in need in various agencies in the Midlands is so meaningful to

me personally, but even more so when young people participate in its planning and development through an event such as this. Providing them an opportunity to exercise their creativity and put their faith into action is a remarkable experience, during both the planning phase and the event itself. Guiding them in planning for the event provides a wonderful opportunity to help them to grow spiritually and in other ways, as they develop organizational skills and discover their own gifts and talents, including their innate generosity and their desire to serve others. It is amazing to watch these kids as the Spirit moves them to serve in ways they never imagined they could!

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

My mother, Jean Wortham, had deep roots at Ebenezer, since childhood. From my earliest remembrances, the church was an important part of her life. She had grown up there, attended Newberry College, graduated from USC, and went to Duke University for graduate school. While there, she met my father, who was finishing his residency. My father's home had been Little Rock, Arkansas, and he wanted to return there to practice medicine. He died very unexpectedly in 1960, and my mother had three children under the age of 10 to raise alone. She returned to Columbia because her parents lived here, and to Ebenezer.

As children, we understood how much her history as part of Ebenezer's church family meant to her and came to mean to us. She began her service leading the Altar Guild, and I remember going with her to prepare Communion—washing the glasses, polishing the patens, and placing the poinsettias and lilies in the chancel year after year. All through her life, she taught me such important lessons about faith and service, commitment, dedication to high standards, and the importance of serving God. Above all, it was always demonstrated to me how much compassion she had for those in need. Upon her death, I saw it all coming full circle, as people who had known her for years reached out to support us. Over the years since then, I have realized that it was her dedication to serving God—and reaching out to those in need—that now lives on in me.

Position Nominated For: Synod Council – Lay Woman – Central Area **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Sheila Beth Caughman

Email Address: sheila58@sc.rr.com

Phone: 803-530-1792

Mailing Address: 521 Cedar Grove Road

City, State, Zip Code: Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29070

Congregation: Cedar Grove

Congregation City: Leesville

Employment/Profession: Adm Assistant, Vernon McElveen CPA

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Church Council @ Cedar Grove 2019-2021
2. Financial Secretary @ Cedar Grove 1995-2012
3. Board of Directors B-L Chamber of Commerce 2008-2010, 2021-Present
4. Audit Committee to Board at Lutheran Retreat Center 2016-2017
5. Member of WELCA @ Cedar Grove

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

Joyous Occasions – Participating in many areas of church my entire life (i.e., youth/adult choir, VBS teacher, SS teacher, pageants at Christmas, Easter celebrations and our annual homecoming service.

My church family was there for me when my 26 year-old son died in an auto accident Christmas week 2010. The outpouring of love shown to me was and still is overwhelming.

Synod Council – Lay Man – Eastern Area

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Daniel Crofts

Steve Reed

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Lay Man Eastern Area

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: Daniel Paul Crofts

Email Address: Crofts755@gmail.com

Phone: 864-908-4335

Mailing Address: 1612 Woodcrest Ave

City, State, Zip Code: Charleston SC 29407

Congregation: St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Charleston

Employment/Profession: Director of Youth and Family Ministries at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

Age Range: 30-45

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Short Term Recruiter for Global Mission at the ELCA Church Wide office with an emphasis on Young Adults in Global Mission

2. Director of Youth and Family Ministries at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Charleston: December 2017- Present

3. Synod Council Representative- Term ending 2022

4. Counselor and Area Director at Lutheridge in Arden, NC Summers 2012-2015

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
 - My faith communities have been an integral part of my life for as long as I can remember. Therefore, it is hard to select just one memory. As the list of memories is long, I will share a couple here. My home church, Messiah Lutheran Mauldin, has watched me grow over the years supporting me in every adventure or endeavor that came my way. My involvement in Lutheridge shaped a deep love for ministry and being a part of staff has been a blessing

throughout the years. I remember finding out about YAGM while up at a staff reunion and following the presentation all of my friends came up urging me to apply. They were among the first to find out about my acceptance. Working at St. Matthew's has been one of the biggest blessing of my career. In the past year, one of my favorite memories was watching the congregation rally behind the youth for the Youth Gathering. The youth hosted a fancy dinner and silent auction. It was a huge success and the atmosphere was infectious with joy and fellowship.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**
 - After a period of discernment I felt called to further my education and seek rostered leadership within the ELCA. I begin to navigate how I would continue my education and remain in my current position at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. I ended up enrolling at Union Presbyterian Seminary as they offered weekend classes and the double major I was looking for. Once accepted into the program I informed the congregation on a Sunday about this new journey I would be taking. From the moment they found out my community at St. Matthew's has rallied behind me in support for both my work at the church and my continued education. The people of my community have shown me grace beyond measure as the work and school load can get tricky from time to time. They continually ask me about my studies and have stepped up to aid programming when I have to be away for a class or trip. I do not know that I could have continued in my educational journey without all of their support. It is something I will never forget as this community has and will be integral into how my ministry will be shaped in the future.

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Lay Man Eastern Area **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Steven Reed

Email Address: screed3103@aol.com

Phone: 803.608.1942

Mailing Address: 301 Cabo Loop

City, State, Zip Code: Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

Congregation: Shepherd of the Sea

Congregation City: Garden City

Employment/Profession: Retired / Part-time Parish Administrator at SOS

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. I served of the LCY Steering Committee 1990s, helping with many of the winter retreats, LCY conventions, Bridge Building Camp, and other activities.
2. I led a group of 5 youth who participated in the Youth Servant Corp at the National Youth Gathering in 1994 in Atlanta.
3. I served of the Elections Committee at Synod Assembly in 2015.
4. I have attended many Synod Assembly meetings.
5. Participated in the Synod sponsored Tanzania Mission Trips in 2014, 2016, 2018.
6. Served on the SC Synod nomination committee 2019-2020.

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

My faith journey has often taken the road into the wilderness, rebelling against fundamentalist ideas, and being curious and disappointed that the church doesn't always welcome those who are different. Because of a move just before confirmation, I wasn't confirmed until I was an adult. That didn't really bother me because I had doubts about church teachings. However, the Holy Spirit wasn't letting me off that easily. While worshipping at Trinity Lutheran, Elloree, Pastor Luther Ballentine reminded me of the story of St. Thomas

the Doubter and suggested that I pray his prayer..." Lord, Help me in my unbelief." Pastor Ballentine confirmed me as an adult.

Later, joining Christus Victor, Columbia, I was soon asked more like cajoled to help lead their youth group. In doing so, I was able to have many insightful conversations, usually at night after the kids were in their rooms, with Pastors Barry Antley, Dick Webber, and John Stoudemeyer whose love and knowledge of the Gospel and the church they willingly shared. I began to realize that our God is so loving that he wants everyone to be reconciled to him. Everyone! At Shepherd of the Sea, we are proud to state every Sunday that we "turn away from God's table, all who Jesus would turn away." To which the congregation responds loudly "No one!" Then we partake in the feast given to us by Jesus. Everyone! But the greatest joy in my faith journey happens at the beach at SOS's Easter Sunrise service where we communion over 1000 people. Looking into their eyes knowing that this may be the first time in years that some have communed is so rewarding. The words, "The body and blood of Jesus broken and shed for you," resound with such grace and mercy that tears of joy well up in my eyes.

When my parents passed away, it was the church that surrounded me in love, lifted me up, and reminded me that God is with me, that God is with US! In the community that we call the church we find relationships that strengthen us. Yet, we find God in many a strange place. In 1994, while leading youth at the National Youth Gathering in Atlanta, Jesus showed up as a young gay black waiter who served me when I was hungry and alone. And in an immigrant taxi driver to took me to the restaurant to eat and who waited in the parking lot for me to finish eating to take me back to the hotel. Jesus shows up when you least expect it, in unlikely places, and in the most unlikely people.

When in Tanzania on a mission trip, I walked 2 miles to Itamba School, a young man on a motorcycle stopped one day and asked where I was going. When I told him, he motioned for me to get on and he took me the remaining mile and a half to school. I immediately texted Pastor Bellah, "I just met Jesus. He is a young black guy who rides a motorcycle. I didn't know that Jesus likes motorcycles." I pray that I too can be the hands and feet of Jesus serving His people. The Holy Spirit isn't done with me yet nor is She done with you.

Synod Council – Lay Man At Large

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

David Bouknight

William Newmyer

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Lay Man at Large

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: David Willard Bouknight, Jr.

Email Address: dbouknight51@gmail.com

Phone: 803-309-9646

Mailing Address: 224 Turbeville Circle

City, State, Zip Code: Leesville, SC 29070

Congregation: Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Batesburg

Employment/Profession: Bouknight Pumps (Owner)/Pump and Water Treatment

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Served as a Synod Delegate – Four times (Pastors were Rev. John Stoudemayer, Rev. Mitch Evans, Rev. Marion Clark, and Rev. Lisa Isenhower)
2. Served on Church Council – Many times
Congregation Vice-President – At least five times, including current term
3. Served on a Synod committee while Rev. Herman Yoos was Bishop
4. Active member of Lutheran Men for 30+ years
5. Coached Dixie Youth Baseball, President of local league for five years, District Director for Dixie Girls Softball
6. Currently serve on the South Carolina Poultry Festival Information Committee since it started in the 1980s
7. Currently serve on the Planning Commission for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville since 2018

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

My most joyous memories are many. Our wedding, baptism of our children, and marriages of our children are some of the most memorable events. Today, now that I am semi-retired, I enjoy cooking at functions at our church and community, visiting with shut-ins and taking them food, and participating in our church's Fall Festival, which is open to our entire community.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

Over the years, our church has been there for us on many different occasions. The one that is most significant to me was in 2012 when we suffered the loss of our youngest son in a tragic accident on a cruise ship. Even though we were out of the country with this, our Pastor and church family checked on us daily providing us the support we truly needed during a very tough time in our lives. They continued with the love and support after we finally returned home with him for the burial. The congregation at Faith still gives that love and caring to us daily.

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Lay Man at Large

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: William Newmyer

Email Address: wnewmyer@gmail.com

Phone: 803.386.9117

Mailing Address: 315 West Passage

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29212

Congregation: Redeemer Columbia

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession: Nuclear Safety Engineer

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 **46-60** over 60

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Redeemer member, council member, choir member, youth group advisor from November 1997 - present
2. Synod youth ministry (positions including youth ministry cabinet member, Camp HUGG director 2006 – present, chair of youth ministry cabinet from 2015-2018) from 2000 – present
3. Synod Youth Ministry Interim Coordinator – August 2019 - June 2021

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

In 2006, I asked the Synod Youth Ministry Coordinator, Stephanie Stoudemayer, what Camp HUGG was all about and if she could use help with the camp. Little did I know that 16 years later I'd be leading the camp and continuing to experience all the joy it brings to my life and the life of our staff and campers. This ministry, which conducts day camp for special needs teenagers led by our synod youth, is truly the most joy I continue to experience with my faith community. Both the campers and staff bring a unique perspective to doing ministry together and I'm so grateful to our synod for sponsoring such a wonderful event each summer!

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

It's difficult to highlight a single time when my church was there for me since it's always there! From worship on Sunday mornings, to choir practice on Wednesday night or play practice to prepare for our 525 Players group musicals. When asked to describe what it

means to be a member at Redeemer Columbia most of us would use the word “family”. It truly feels like a family when we worship together and walk alongside each other doing ministry. I know they are always there for me, regardless of what we are doing together!

Synod Council – Lay Woman – At Large

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Norma Price

Kathy Riffin

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Lay Woman At Large **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Norma L Price

Email Address: nslprice@bellsouth.net

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip Code: Newberry, SC 29108

Congregation: Summer Memorial

Congregation City: Newberry

Employment/Profession: Retired Teacher. Currently teaching remedial reading at Boundary Elementary School

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** ******---over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Presently Summer Memorial Council President
2. Handbell Choir, Lector, Communion Assistant, Children's Sermons
3. SS Teacher, VBS Teacher
4. Various Committees - Worship and Music, Bereavement, Shut in Visitation
5. Retreat Leader
6. President of Newberry County Reading Council
7. Taught Early Childhood Classes at Newberry College
8. Mentor Teacher for Student Teachers at Newberry College
9. First Steps Board Member
10. Volunteer Reading in Local Schools
11. USTA Member and Player
12. Voting Member to SC Assembly for 3 years
13. Member of Newberry College Athlete Club and President's Club

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Lay Woman at Large **Term Ending:** 2025
Full Name: Kathleen I. Rigginkathy

Email Address: rigginkathy@yahoo.com **Phone:** 803-603-3866

Mailing Address: 2023 Main St. **City, State, Zip Code:** Newberry, SC 29108

Congregation: Lutheran Church Of Redeemer **Congregation City:** Newberry

Employment/Profession: MUSC Columbia---Nurse Practitioner

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** ******---over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Synod Council -----2019-2022
2. Redeemer Church Council ---past x 3; at present 2022 - 2025
3. Presently Music and Worship and Property Committees; multiple committees in past
4. Foster for 2 animal rescue groups over past 3 years

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

Being a member of my faith community is simply about family. My church and the people in it are family and will be there whenever I need them. I have been there since I was 5 years old, and I cannot begin to explain how comforting my church is to me. I know everyone has my back and I have theirs. When times are tough and faith falters, someone brings me back to center. One of my most joyous memory is when just recently I brought my very elderly father to church. He had been away from the town for decades. He had been a member but had not had any connection there again. The members of Redeemer greeted him beautifully and as if he had never been away. They welcomed him whole heartedly into the fold. Their grace was amazing and so appreciated.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

I feel my church is always there for me. Years ago when my mother was dying, everyone was supportive, loving, and caring. Their bereavement meal ministry was so special. My aunt and uncle were so touched by this ministry that it prompted them to join a church where they lived and to become active, participating members. They had

not gone to church or been members of a church in years and years. How is that for spreading the love of Christ?! My church was there for me---and there for my aunt and uncle who needed to make church and God an important part of their lives.

Synod Council – Man At Large – POC/LOE

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Walter LaVone Griffin

Pastor Martin Lopez

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Man at Large POC/LOE **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Walter LaVone Griffin

Email Address: lavone.griffin62@gmail.com

Phone:

Mailing Address: 1015 Bakersfield Road

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Congregation: The Journey Performing Arts Ministry

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession: Minister

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60 - 76**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Graceworks, Summer Youth Program (yearly) 5yrs
2. South Carolina Lutheran Church Youth 5yrs
3. South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission
4. South Carolina Synod Council 3yrs

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

The impact we've had on the communities we have come in contact with

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

First my church has always been there for me and my ministry thru the arts and I thank God and the church for that

Synod Council – Young Adult
Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)
Elizabeth Cote
Mary Katherine King

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Young Adult

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: Elizabeth Compton Cote'

Email Address: cotee2@mailbox.winthrop.edu

Phone: (803)331-7822

Mailing Address: 6405 N. Trenholm Rd.

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29206

Congregation: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession: Tutor

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Graceworks- 2014 to present
2. Lutheridge- summer of 2017 and summer of 2018
3. Church council nominating committee- September 2021 to January 2022
4. Still Hopes Chaplain Volunteer- March 2022 to present

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

My most joyous memory of being part of a faith community was at Lutheridge as my first summer being a counselor. It was the last week of camp and my favorite week- Christmas week. It had been a summer full of new friends, learning experiences and growth. It had also been a difficult summer. Being a counselor was not easy and my first cabin was rough on me. After I had my first cabin, my summer changed. The directors wanted me to have more experience and put me in other positions other than being a cabin counselor. I received other awesome opportunities while I waited to get a cabin again. After all summer of waiting to have another cabin, I finally got one! This cabin was a gift. We had a great week with few

problems and I loved these girls. They brought so much joy to me and were so fun! They would also ask questions and would engage in faith-filled conversations.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

After going to public school for a year in high school, I decided to do online school. I enjoyed online schooling but would get a little lonely. Church would help me feel like I belong and that I was loved. I was a part of many different activities but my favorite activity was choir. I loved the choir, especially the people. At the same time all of this was happening, I also had three members of the church that I was close to pass away including one that was a child. Not only the choir but my church family was supportive and there for me. I cried a lot and I had a few members who would just sit with me and pat my back. This is just one example where my church family has been there for me.

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Young Adult

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: Mary Katherine King

Email Address: mkking@g.clemson.edu

Phone: 803-917-6123

Mailing Address: 2104 Holland St

City, State, Zip Code: West Columbia SC, 29169

Congregation: Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church

Congregation City: West Columbia

Employment/Profession: Hospitality Coordinator & Registrar at the South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Counselor/OAP Counselor/Photographer & Marketing Intern at Lutheridge summers of 2016, 2017, 2018, & 2019
2. Leadership Team Fellowship Chair at Clemson Lutheran Campus Ministry spring semester 2016-fall semester 2017
3. Star-Squad weekly coffee fellowship and devotion leader at Clemson Lutheran Campus Ministry 2018-2020
4. Singer Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church ALIVE! service

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

One of the most joyous memories from being a part of my faith community, more specifically the community of Lutheran Campus Ministry at Clemson while I was in school there, was the spring break trip I went on in 2018 to Germany. This trip is one LCM plans for every 3 years over the university's spring break. This was my first (and so far only) international trip. For literal years I planned with my friends in LCM to go. We saved up money and earned hours volunteering for setup and cleanup of Wednesday night dinners, working the tailgate lot during football games, and other odd jobs to fund our trip. I remember the excitement as the weeks wound down, of getting my passport, of packing our bags, of boarding the plane, of landing in Germany, and arriving in the first town, our first destination of the trip, of getting off the bus in Wittenberg.

I could go on for several pages and still not cover all or do justice to the memories of that trip. So if you'll please let me share one moment with you. While in Wittenberg, on a Sunday morning, after spending the day before touring the town, the churches and once home of Martin Luther, we went to worship in the town church. It was beautiful and surreal to be in that building. To worship in that church was unlike anything I have ever experienced, and I may never again. To worship in a language most all of us really didn't know, only a few phrases or words here and there, to follow along with the service as best we could, recognizing the flow because we knew the liturgy, to join in the Lord's Prayer in our own language at the same time, the right time as the rest of the congregation, to understand the emotion of the sermon, even when we couldn't understand the words, and then gather around the one adult in our group who was fluent in the language to translate for us and share with us what was said, what the readings were, what the pastor's sermon was about.

There was immense joy in sharing it with one another, in being affirmed that we followed along with what was happening around us. There was joy in hearing the word, in having it shared with and among us. It was profound and special to realize that hundreds of years ago, the folks of this town were doing the same thing, before the Bible was translated into their language of everyday conversation. We could only imagine the joy they felt then, and how what we were experiencing was a fraction of that.

It was powerful and joyful and special to share those moments together. It was one of many moments of joy on that trip. I believe that it was so because of the people that surrounded and accompanied me in it, the people who were a part of that community with me. It is one memory of many I have and hold dear because of the communities of faith I have been brought up in and had the opportunity and pleasure to be a part of. I look forward to the many more memories to be made and moments to have ahead of me in the communities I am in and the ones I am yet to even be aware of.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

I really didn't plan on returning to my home after graduation. Being back in West Columbia was not entirely my choice, but rather the circumstance I found myself in, in part by powers beyond my control. And I can't say I was thrilled at the reality I found myself in. But in this transition I did find myself texting Pastor Wade. Pastor Wade had been one of a handful of folks I had come to have several conversations with about my life after graduation leading up to and in my final semester of school. Much of those conversations included where I was feeling called in my career, what I saw myself doing for work. I love camp and outdoor ministry. I knew this was where I wanted to be, where I felt I needed to be. I also knew there was not a camp in West Columbia that would fill that. And so, I found myself sitting in Pastor Wade's office one afternoon, sharing the frustrations of my current situation, and the things I desired to have, to do, to change. By the end of the conversation I had accepted the invitation to help out with the Wednesday afternoon Sing and Celebrate program for the elementary school kids. I think what he heard, that I had not realized at the time I was emphasizing in that conversation, was a desire to be around people again and working with children again in a faith environment. I had spent the previous several months in a 'wilderness' of sorts. Because of that invitation, because a space was made for me in this, my circle has somehow simultaneously gotten much larger and much closer. A series of

events has unfolded that I couldn't have imagined happening months ago. I have had the chance to reconnect with old friends, to make new ones, to find myself in a job that is fulfilling and makes me happy and calls me to serve and share with others. In that rough patch of life (one of many), of transition, of feeling lost, of feeling uncertain, my church was there with open arms and ears and hearts to welcome me in, remind me I'm not alone or have to have the answers or figure it all out on my own, to remind me and make me aware that there is a place for me. And it continues to do so, to call and welcome in, to lift up the way we are connected, are united and to be there for each other.

Synod Council – Rostered Leader – Northern Area

Term Ending 2025(Elect 1)

Pastor Beth Costlow

Pastor Josh Kestner

Position Nominated For: Synod Council, Rostered Leader Northern Area

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: Rev. Beth J. Costlow

Email Address: pastorcx2@yahoo.com

Phone: 717.715.2890

Mailing Address: Home: 18 Double Branch Trl.; Mauldin SC 29662

Work: Lutheran Church of Our Saviour; 2600 Wade Hampton Blvd;
Greenville, SC 29615

City, State, Zip Code: See above.

Congregation: Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Congregation City: Greenville, SC

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: Under 30

30-45

46-60

over 60

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Pastor, 2003-Present
2. Synod Council, Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod 2004-2009
3. Board of Directors, Lutheran Home at Kane (Pennsylvania) 2011-2013
4. Churchwide Assembly, voting member 2009 and 2011
5. Elementary School Tutor 2010-2016
6. Scouts-BSA, 2011-Present

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

I don't have a single, most joyous memory from my current faith community. I have an abundance of experiences that point to God's love at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, even with only two-and-a-half years here. My family arrived in Greenville in November

2019; my husband and I began serving as co-pastors in early December. The entire world shut down just about three months after our ministry began, but the Church kept going! With the loving support of some very gifted people in our community, we began producing worship services and making them available online.

I've witnessed God's people caring for one another by calling, sending notes and, as it's been safe to do so, visiting one another. The congregation rejoiced with us when my husband and I purchased our first home. I've experienced God's care for my family as I've been given permission to stay home from worship when either my son or I have been sick. (We did not have Covid, thankfully, but our community still encouraged us to practice healthy self-care.) People celebrated with my family when my son got his driver's license.

My joy in Church life doesn't come from a single, sacred memory. It is fed and nourished by countless day-to-day experiences surrounded by the people of God.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

Perhaps my most vivid memory of such a time happened on a Saturday afternoon in the fall of 2006. My then-fifteen-month-old son had a grand mal seizure when my husband and I had left him with his Nana and Papa. (Nana and Papa were not related to us in any way, other than the fact that they were members of the church.) They, of course, called us immediately after calling 9-1-1 and, since we were already on our way, we met the ambulance as it arrived at our home.

Papa and Nana asked us, "Who can we call for you?" as the ambulance left with me in it, and my husband following it. We named a pastor from a neighboring community, with whom we'd become friends, and they called him. That pastor met us at the hospital and remained with us for the duration of the evening, only leaving us after my son and I were settled into a room in the Pediatric Unit. During that time, the pastor also managed to arrange for another pastor to cover his churches' worship services, so that he could be at mine the following day.

After Sunday worship, the pastor brought Communion to me at the hospital. He also brought greetings and the good news that my entire congregation was holding my family in prayer. The Church was there for me in countless ways that weekend. There was gift of my son having "church grandparents" who loved him as deeply as if he was their own, and who willingly sacrificed their time as they cared for him. There was a pastor giving up an evening with his own family to be there for us. There were congregation members forgiving their pastor's absence and holding me in prayer as I cared for my son. The Church is a gift!

Throughout my Christian life, the Church has cared for me in both celebrations and crises and I'm thankful for it!

Position Nominated For: Synod Council, Rostered Leader, Northern Area **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Joshua Kestner

Email Address: jkestne@g.clemson.edu

Phone: 919-744-1590

Mailing Address: 111 Sloan Street

City, State, Zip Code: Clemson, SC 29631

Congregation: University Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Clemson, SC

Employment/Profession: Campus Pastor

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. St. Paul Lutheran Church - Davenport, IA (August 2017-July 2019)
2. University Lutheran Church/Lutheran Campus Ministry Clemson - Clemson, SC (August 2019 - now)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?

My favorite memories as a campus pastor have come from trips or retreats away from school and church. There is something about a change of scenery that lends to meaningful conversations and deeper relationships. One of my most recent moments of joy is from a beach trip a few weeks ago. We spent time at a local wildlife area identifying birds, trees, and alligators - something that is a sort of passion for many of our current students. I love spending time learning from students and doing things that they love. It's moments like these that help to build the foundation I need to be able to care for students when they need it the most.

Tell about a time your church was there for you.

I don't open up too much right away. It takes me a bit of time to warm up to new environments. But I am overjoyed that it seems as though my church knows me. The church shows up for me with small actions here and there: a phone call, a plate of cookies, asking about my family, checking in when they notice that my mood has changed, etc. It is such a

blessing to feel as though I am not only someone's pastor who preaches to them on Sundays or offers a meal on Wednesday nights. Instead, I am a real part of the community itself. What a privilege it is to care for people as a pastor, and to have them care for me as well.

Synod Council – Rostered Leader – At Large

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Pastor Joanna Gragg

Pastor Emily Wilhide

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Rostered Minister at Large **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Joanna Carol Colley Gragg

Email Address: jccgragg@gmail.com
pastorjoanna@mthoreb.net

Phone: 864 992 1246

Mailing Address: 260 Saxons Ferry Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Lexington SC 29072

Congregation: Mount Horeb Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Chapin

Employment/Profession: Minister of Word and Sacrament

Age Range: Under 30 **30-45** 46-60 over 60

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Synod Council 2018-2022
2. Minister of Word and Sacrament (ordained in 2018)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

It is difficult to choose just one memory from the various places I have been in a faith community. To narrow it down, I'll choose one from recent days. I am one of the rostered ministers of Word and Sacrament at Mount Horeb Lutheran Church in Chapin, South Carolina. Somewhat recently we have started inviting the children up to the front again, for face-to-face children's sermons. The joy that it is just to see each other and to share in a simple moment of learning more about Jesus and our walk together has been powerful. The excitement of seeing the children, of reconnecting and having them happy to see you too, this is more than enough joy for a lifetime! As we are a people of God recovering from pandemic induced isolation, every day includes a reminder that we are created for community and we find joy in the memories made together!

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

When I was 14 I was in a life threatening car accident. My church took care of my family at my bedside in such immediate and loving ways. I wasn't aware of it at the time, but my faith family really helped my family of five through a tough time. When I was recovering, months later, I also was invited to participate in a small group that helped me work through the pain and grief of having been in an accident as a passenger who was the only one injured. My faith community did the tough thing of not backing down, even when we were dealing with pain, anger, and uncertainty. Years later, with a clearer view of the big picture, I see how the faith community became a village who just knew how to love us through their presence and support.

Position Nominated For: Synod Council Rostered Leader at Large **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Emily Willhide

Email Address: pastoremily@incarnationlutheran.com

Phone: 803-256-2381

Mailing Address: 3005 Devine St

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29205

Congregation: Lutheran Church of the Incarnation

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 over 60

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.

Please include

dates served.

1. Senior Pastor - Incarnation Lutheran, Columbia, SC 7/2020-current
2. Associate Pastor of Faith Formation - Mt Tabor, West Columbia, SC 11/2015-05/2020
3. Interim Senior Pastor - Reformation Lutheran, Las Vegas, NV 2012-2014
4. Associate Pastor of Faith Formation - Incarnation Lutheran, Columbia, SC 2009-2011

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc.

We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?

It's hard to pick just one joyous memory, but a more recent one was celebrating Easter together in person for the first time after the pandemic. After spending all of that time apart, it was such a blessing to worship together again. I don't think any of us will ever take that for granted again.

Tell about a time your church was there for you.

I don't think I can pick just one time that the church has been there for me and my family. As a military family, we moved often. And when I say "often", I mean twelve moves in twenty years of marriage. But each time, we were welcomed into a church, made part of the ministry there, and folded into the fabric of church life. The church has helped to raise my children, tended and nurtured friendships, and laid the pattern of worship and service in both my life and in my family's.

Mission Endowment Fund – Grant Committee – Rostered Leader

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Pastor Hobby Outten

Pastor Jason Schafer

Position Nominated For: Mission Endowment Fund Grant Committee Rostered Leader

Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: Thomas Hobson (Hobby) Outten

Email Address: hobbyoutten@gmail.com

Phone: 704-974-0809

Mailing Address: 196 Colonel Hampton Court

City, State, Zip Code: Rutherfordton, NC 28139

Congregation: Springs of Grace

Congregation City: Inman, SC

Employment/Profession:

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Dean: Gaston Area NC 2009-2012
2. Dean: Upstate Conference SC 2014-2019
3. Rosecrest Lutheran Home Advisory Board 2017
4. Spiritual Director 2004-present

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

The most joyous moment (other than baptisms) was the Ground Breaking ceremony when we began to build our new church. There were people from many other churches supporting the effort and celebrating with us.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

Since at Springs of Grace I had a painful divorce and lost both of my parents. I couldn't dream up a more grace filled group of people than are at Springs of Grace.

They showed me the faces of the grace of God through those hard times. There really are no words to express my gratitude for the LIVING faith of the folks at SoG.

Position Nominated For: Mission Endowment Fund Grant Committee Rostered Leader
Term Ending: 2025

Full Name: Jason Andrew Schafer

Email Address: PastorJason.Schafer@gmail.com

Phone: 803 543-9761

Mailing Address: 3990 Saint Lukes Church Road

City, State, Zip Code: Prosperity, SC, 29127

Congregation: Saint Luke's Lutheran

Congregation City: Prosperity

Employment/Profession: Pastor

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 over 60

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers 2017 - present
2. Mid Carolina Ministerium Baccalaureate coordinator 2012 - present
3. South Carolina Synod Convocation Committee 2015 - present
4. South Carolina Synod Reference and council chair 2017-2020

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

My most joyous memory from my faith community was this past Christmas eve. At our 11:00 service none of our young children were present. When it was time for the children's sermon all of our highschool children came up. It was wonderful to see these kids that have been shaped by the church come up and joyfully engage in the life of the congregation.

This year my daughter graduated from highschool. Every year Saint Luke's hosts a grads brunch. As the Pastor, this was the first time I was able to take part as a parent. It was wonderful to see the congregation celebrate with my child and the other graduates.

Committee on Discipline – Rostered Leader - Man

Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)

Pastor Craig Boehlke

Pastor Ralph Hill

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline Rostered Leader Man

Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: Re. Dr. Craig A. Boehlke

Email Address: prcraig@aol.com

Phone: 843-288-1500

Mailing Address: 67 Thomas Bee Dr

City, State, Zip Code: Bluffton, SC 29909

Congregation: Lord of Life

Congregation City: Bluffton

Employment/Profession: Semi-retired Clergy

Age Range: Under 30

30-45

46-60

over 60 and then some!

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. SC Synod Candidacy Committee 2020-present
2. ELCA Regional Coordinator for Ministry Leadership 1995-2010
3. Saint Paul Synod Council and Dean 1982-1995
4. Interim Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran, Walterboro, SC 2019-present

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

Two of my three parish calls were to congregations following pastoral misconduct. It has been a tremendous privilege and great joy to work with communities of faith that had been deeply hurt and walk with them toward a new day. Congregation members tend to blame themselves for whatever problems happened in their community. Helping people discover the profound depth of forgiveness in a personal way leads to a deeper and renewed faith. Being pastor in these circumstances is humbling and a great honor.

My church has been there for my wife and I as we raised two very challenging adopted children. With our parents far away, the church became our extended family and community in caring for us and encouraging us. They taught us wonderful acceptance and were supportive in difficult times. We have several lifelong friends from those years.

Position Nominated For Committee on Discipline Rostered Leader Man
Term Ending: 2028 (six years)

Full Name: Ralph Gullord Hill

Email Address: pastorhill@mthoreb.net **Phone:** 803-345-2000

Mailing Address: 101 E. Boundary Street
City, State, Zip Code: Chapin, SC 29036

Congregation: Mt. Horeb **Congregation City:** Chapin

Employment/Profession: Senior Pastor/Lutheran Minister

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** 46-60 **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. 2002-present: Senior Pastor. Mt. Horeb Lutheran - Chapin, SC.
2. 2017-2020: Leadership for Faithful Innovation (Synod LC and Pastoral Contact person).
3. 2012-2018: NovusWay Planning and Review Committee.
4. 2014-2019: Tanzania Advisory Task Force, Congregational Partnership. Trip to TZ.
5. 2012-2015: Chair, SC Synod Implementation Team (Leadership Summit, Synod restructure around Three Tables, Organizational Chart, Leadership Podcast/'Tablecast').
6. 2011-2013: SC Synod Council. Served on Ministry Team for Outreach.

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

Worship. Knowing each time we gather around Word and Sacrament, we re-member as a Body of Christ to experience God's presence and share stories which celebrate God's agency, past and present. It is during this central aspect of our faith journey that we experience forgiveness, renewal, and purpose through loving service. During the initial weeks of the pandemic, the Spirit-led innovative efforts to create outdoor Worship was especially joyful. We gathered in cars and lawn chairs as a community.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

They offered much support through prayer, food, cards, and acts of kindness during several particular illnesses. A special time was when my congregation celebrated my 25th Ordination Anniversary with a special service, cake, and gifts, including two beautiful stoles and

additional weeks of vacation - which I was able to utilize in a special month-long trip visiting National Parks with my spouse.

Committee on Discipline – Rostered Leader - Woman

Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)

Pastor Mary Anderson

Pastor Jackie Utley

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline Rostered Leader Woman

Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: Rev. Dr. Mary W. Anderson

Email Address: mwanderson140@gmail.com

Phone: 803.210.5757

Mailing Address: 140 Shuler Rd.

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29212

Congregation: St. Michael's

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession: Pastor/Intentional Interim

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 over 60 X

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Pastor for 39 years in rural, urban, and small-town congregations in SC and Metro Chicago Synods (1983-present)
2. Served on ELCA churchwide staff (1988-1990) and as faculty at LTSS (2017-2019)
3. Podcaster, Blogger, Teacher/Mentor in Preaching, Church Administration and Leadership (2005-present)
4. Community work with our homeless neighbors (1990-present), work with children's literacy (2011-present)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

As one of the pioneer women pastors in the LCA and the ELCA, the church has been a place of both pain and possibilities for me. There have been wonderful opportunities to serve and develop my gifts. I'm so grateful! The church has been a broken place for me where I've been hurt and rejected. But the church is also the one that preaches Christ and not herself.

Being centered in the gift of the gospel, I have always had my joy restored even after difficult times. While serving at the ELCA in Chicago, my family and I were members of Christ the King in the Loop. During those years in 1989-90, my brother-in-law who was gay, who had long ago rejected the church, and who came to live with us during the last months of his life with AIDS; was embraced by our congregation and had his hope and faith restored in Christ and in humanity. They also supported us in those years when families with AIDS were shunned from fear. Our little family felt like lepers touched by Christ. Unforgettable!

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline Rostered Leader Woman

Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: Jacqueline Utley

Email Address: Jackie.utley@gmail.com

Phone: 843-260-7396

Mailing Address: 827 Wildwood Ave

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29203

Congregation: Ascension Lutheran

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession: Pastor/Clergy

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 **over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

6. Pastor since 2013
7. Inclusiveness Network, Member since 2012, Chair since 2016
8. Candidacy Committee Member 2016-2022
9. Pastoral Advisor of SCLMM 2016-2018
10. Rotary Club of Eau Claire/North Columbia President 2018-2019

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

My most joyful memory of being a part of my faith community was being voted for, by the congregation I serve, as the first female and the first African American to be called to pastor at an all-white congregation. I will never forget the warm embrace of this faith community.

The church (Ascension) is a small congregation striving to stay afloat financially. It has not grown since my time serving as pastor, but we are being sustained financially. A few years ago there was talk of the church needing to call a part time pastor on the condition that I would have to leave to pursue another full time call. Several members expressed that they would rather take their chance keeping me as pastor full time and pray that our finances will continue.

Committee on Discipline – Lay Woman
Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)
Diane Ablett
Jerilyn Isaacson

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline – Lay Woman **Term Ending:** 2028

Full Name: Diane Ablett

Email Address: diane307@att.net

Phone: 864-578-2679

Mailing Address: 307 Red Fox Lane

City, State, Zip Code: Chesnee, SC 29323

Congregation: Springs of Grace

Congregation City: Inman

Employment/Profession: retired Hospice Nurse

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

I have served in many capacities in my local congregations-church council, worship and music especially altar guild chair for many years, youth and education including V.B.S., outreach and fellowship, all roles in our Women's fellowship group.

I was a part of growing two mission congregations-one in Michigan and Springs of Grace in S.C. I was the chairperson for furnishing and finishing of our permanent S.O.G. church building 2015-2016.

I participated in several mission trips in S.C. to repair homes after hurricanes/flooding before COVID sidetracked us.

I have served the communities I have lived in by being a member of and doing fund raising for many service organizations, have been a regular blood/platelet donor, a part of our local congregational nursing group/S.O.G. congregational nurse.

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

One of my most joyous memories of being a part of my faith community goes back to childhood. Even as a little child, I always loved being in the church. Not sure of my exact age when I learned the olden Rule in S.S. class, but it played a huge part part in my church life

and my career choice of being a registered nurse, from which I never wavered. As a 10 year old, I was cleaning the church in some way most every week. I was happy growing up in my small church in northern Illinois.

A time my church was there for me-I have lived away from my family in Illinois all my adult life so my various church families became our support systems. When my father was dying unexpectedly and my husband was out of town at an LSSM meeting for his job, my minister drove me and my sons to where the meeting was in Michigan so we would not waste time having him drive home to get us. Several years ago my husband went through 15 surgeries in 2 years time and continues with major health issues and more serious surgeries. Church members are my love family and a gift from God just like my blood family.

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline – Lay Woman **Term Ending:** 2028

Full Name: Jerilyn D. Isaacson

Email Address: edgewater_goatgirl@yahoo.com

Phone: 843-813-6244

Mailing Address: 1476 South Edgewater Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Charleston, SC 29407-7619

Congregation: Holy Spirit Evangelical Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Charleston

Employment/Profession: Self-Employed Bookkeeper

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. I just joined Holy Spirit this past year, am serving a Chair of Finance Committee, serving on Ad Hoc Stewardship committee, help with acolytes and crucifers
2. Served at Redeemer Lutheran in Charleston for over 25 years on Council, and many committees, Synod delegate

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

ELCA Youth Gathering in San Antonio, TX in 2006. Best time ever!

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

May 16, 1998, I had to have emergency heart bypass surgery. I will always remember going into the operating room holding Bishop (then Pastor) Ginny Aebischer's hand on one side and Pastor Paul Aebischer's hand on the other. They prayed with me all the way into the OR until they were asked to leave. When I woke up 2 days later, it was Pastor Paul that I saw first. The congregation had prayed me through, and they were there for my family many, many times in the weeks ahead while I recovered. I don't think I would have made it without any of them.

Committee on Discipline – Lay Man
Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)
Brent Lybrand
Col. Jerome E. Goodrich

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline – Lay Man **Term Ending:** 2028

Full Name: Brent B. Lybrand

Email Address: BrentLybrand@gmail.com **Phone:** 864-576-8217 (H)

Mailing Address: 242 Donegal Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Moore, SC 29369

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

Employment/Profession: Senior Design Engineer

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. SCSELCA Synod Council 2011 – 2016 (Est.)
2. SCSELCA Synod Consultation Committee 2002 – 2008 (Est.)
3. Spartanburg Union Area Thrivent Board 2007 – 2013 (Est.)
4. St. John's Congregation Council President 2001, 2010, 2011; St. John's Financial Secretary mid-1990s; St. John's LMM President 2020-Present; St. John's Senior Choir 1986-Present; many other activities and committees.

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
 - Numerous large-scale choir performances, with other Spartanburg area church choirs and for St. John's alone
 - Being a part of the congregation leadership and building committee during the planning and construction of our parish life center
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

- My congregation is like family for me, providing social connections, Christian education, and outlets for my gifts and talents. Fortunately, we have not found ourselves in a situation where we have “needed” the church to be there for us.

Position Nominated For: Committee on Discipline, Lay Man **Term Ending:** 2028

Full Name: Col. Jerome E. Goodrich, USMC Retired

Email Address: N/A

Phone: 434-409-3950

Mailing Address: 159 Brookwood Creek Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Landrum, SC 29356

Congregation: Springs of Grace

Congregation City: Inman, SC

Employment/Profession: USMC Retired, Line Officer & Judge Advocate

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60 - X**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. Youth & Education Chairperson, Springs of Grace
2. USMC –Judge Advocate 20 years; Line Officer 10 years
3. Participation in various Protestant Base congregations during military service

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
As a youngster... participating in a Christmas pageant where I was asked to be a wise man. I had assumed I would be a shepherd, never thinking of myself as a wise man. It was the first time someone invited me to play a bigger role than I assumed for myself, and it really built self-confidence in a small 8/9-year-old boy. I have never forgotten that moment - including in all the leadership roles I was later asked to fulfill in serving my country.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**
When I served in Vietnam, our chaplain met with us before going out on patrols to share Holy Communion and pray with us: that we would go out with the right attitude, protect each other, bring any fallen home, and remind us that being fed with the Lord's body & blood, we existed in a state of grace as we departed. These pre-patrol services were our "church" because through the chaplain's ministry, prayer & Holy Communion, we were re-connected with God & our faith (the only way we knew Sunday was a Sunday because it was the day we were given our orange malaria pills). After I retired, the church was there for me when Chaplain Jeremiah at the VA answered my request for prayer prior to surgery. His prayer quieted my mind, and later, he even went over the Sunday readings

with one-on-one discussion prior to my emergency surgery. We have continued our relationship, with constant reminders of the Lord's presence in my life.

Consultation Committee – Rostered Leader - Man

Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)

Pastor Andrew Isenhower

Pastor Wayne Kannaday

Position Nominated For: Consultation Committee Rostered Leader Man

Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: The Reverend Andrew W. Isenhower

Email Address: pastor@gslc.com

Phone: 803-409-8270

Mailing Address: 2500 Stratford Road

City, State, Zip Code: Columbia, SC 29204

Congregation: Good Shepherd

Congregation City: Columbia

Employment/Profession:

Age Range: Under 30 **30-45** 46-60 over 60

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Synod Executive Committee Member (2018-2020)
2. Synod Council Member (2017-2020)
3. Synod Constitution Committee Member (2017-2020)
4. Treasurer and board member for Lutheran Campus Ministry at USC (2012-2019)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

My most joyous memory in my current faith community was a weekend congregational retreat this past February. It was one of the first opportunities I've had to be with many of my members in a less formal setting since the pandemic began. The sharing of laughter, stories, grief, hopes and dreams was like a healing salve in the midst of the trauma of the pandemic era. In particular, the gift of seeing the young children of the congregation playing and learning together filled my heart with joy.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

In March of 2020 my father died. This happened 5 months after I began my call and the very same week the whole world started locking down due to the Covid-19 pandemic. My council leadership and congregation not only stepped up to support me and my family during our time of loss and grief, but they also met to handle the difficult business of church closing and restrictions. At that time, I didn't have the physical or emotional energy to process all of the difficult changes we were going through, but the community of faith rallied to provide meals, cards, encouragement, pastoral coverage, and Covid logistics planning. As a pastor, sometimes it is the hardest thing to allow others to care for you, but my loving and lovely congregation members and leaders didn't take no for an answer! They were there for me even when I couldn't see or admit my own great need.

Consultation Committee – Rostered Leader - Woman

Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)

Pastor Patti Sue Burton-Pye

Pastor Elise Stringer

Position Nominated For: Consultation Committee Rostered Leader Woman
Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: Patti Sue Burton-Pye

Email Address: psbpye@yahoo.com

Phone: (803) 403-7755

Mailing Address: 337 Spruce Glen Road

City, State, Zip Code: Lexington, SC 29072

Congregation: Providence Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Lexington

Employment/Profession: pastor

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. Providence Lutheran Church, pastor (2008 – Present)
2. LaVie Pregnancy Care Center (2017 – Present)
3. Congregational Vitality Network (2015 – Present)
4. Midway Elementary Counselor Advisory Board (2021 – Present)
5. Village at Southlake monthly bible study (2008 – Present)
6. SC Via de Cristo Spiritual Director (2011 – 2014, 2017, 2019 – Present)
7. Audit Committee (2021)
8. SC Christian Action Council (2019 – 2021)
9. Synod Council (2019 – 2021)
10. Morningside Assisted Living monthly worship w/Holy Communion (2008- 2020)
11. Mission Lexington (2011 – 2019)
12. Lexington Middle School Advisor Board (2010 – 2018)
13. Lexington Evening of Prayer, coordinator (2017)
14. Synod Assembly Conduct of Elections (2012, 2013, 2014)
15. A New Road chaplain (2012, 2014)
16. Synod Assembly Necrologist (2016)
17. American Missions / Planting & Sustaining Congregations (2010 – 2015)
18. Consultation Committee (2012 – 2015)
19. Commission on Communications (2012 – 2013)
20. Conduct of Elections (2012 – 2013)
21. Operation Inasmuch Committee (2012 – 2020)

22. Revisioning / Restructure / Implementation Committee (2009 – 2015)

23. Audit Committee (2009 – 2015)

24. Girl Scouts of America co-leader (2004 – 2006)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

My most joyous memory at Providence is when a member, who did not believe in an afterlife and even questioned Jesus as the son of God came to know and love the Lord. The member had cancer and understood that time was limited. After ministering with the member for two years he thanked me for persevering and helping him to know God and the peace of Christ. He fully embraced the faith into which he had been baptized and told me that he knew without a doubt that he would one day be with Jesus and all of his family and friends. What a privilege and joy to walk that precious journey.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

When my mother was dying, Providence members ministered to our family by praying, sending cards, preparing meals, visiting, texting, and calling to check on us. It was a very difficult time and our church family truly rallied behind us and supported us and for months to come following her death.

Consultation Committee – Lay Woman
Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)
Lisa Parker
Diane Wicker

Position Nominated For: Consultation Committee Lay Woman **Term Ending:** 2028

Full Name: Diane D. Wicker

Email Address: thewickers@lowcountry.com

Phone: (843)538-5618- home
(843)562-6818- cell

Mailing Address: 977 Quail Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Walterboro, SC 29488

Congregation: Good Shepherd

Congregation City: Walterboro, SC

Employment/Profession: church organist

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 **over 60**

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

1. synod council from 2014-2020
2. Global Mission/Companion Synod Network, 2010 to present
3. various positions with SC Women of the ELCA since 1995; currently serving as the Amelia Conference Women’s coordinator
4. Lutheroad Day Camp coordinator at Good Shepherd, 2016 to present

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

There have been many joyous memories from the various faith communities that I have been a part of over the years. One memory that stands out for me, though, was the opportunity to travel to Japan in 2009, representing the SC Women of the ELCA at the JELC Women’s Convention and celebrating with them the 80th anniversary of their women’s organization as well as celebrating the connections between our two organizations.

Our church family at Good Shepherd is truly a family- we are all there for one another in all times. One recent time that stands out for me is how the whole congregation came together for our daughter's ordination. Everyone worked together for weeks to make it a very special, Spirit-filled day.

Consultation Committee – Lay Man

Term Ending 2028 (Elect 1)

Larry Rathe

Von Metts

Position Nominated For: Consultation Committee Lay Man

Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: Larry Rathe

Email Address: larryfrathe@aol.com

Phone: 843-333-4692

Mailing Address: 3615 Sun Fish St

City, State, Zip Code: Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Congregation: Shepherd of the Sea

Congregation City: Garden City

Employment/Profession: Retired Sales

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 **over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

11. Synod Nominating Committee – 2 terms
12. Synod Council – 2 terms
13. Church Council President – 2 terms
14. Board Member Lutheran Men in Mission 1994-Present, President 2004

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

November 14, 2020 I had a stroke and the 2 days in the hospital, better than 150 prayers were sent up on my behalf. The Bishop and both Assistants to the Bishop came to my house and prayed for me. Total recovery! The power of prayer!

Position Nominated For: Consultation Committee, Lay Man

Term Ending: 2028

Full Name: Von E. Metts

Email Address: vonmetts@yahoo.com

Phone: 803-944-0173

Mailing Address: 4671 SC Hwy 34-121

City, State, Zip Code: Newberry, SC 29108

Congregation: Summer Memorial Lutheran

Congregation City: Newberry

Employment/Profession: ISE America Inc: Newberry Feed Store/Feed Store Manager

Age Range: Under 30 30-45 46-60 **over 60 Yes**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. SC Lay Male Delegate for ELCA Churchwide Assembly, 2005 (Orlando, Fla.)
2. SCLMM Gift Fund Director (2010 - Present), SCLMM President (2008)
3. Congregation President (2011), Summer Memorial LMM President (current and past 20 years), Sunday school teacher (various years), evangelism team (various years), Operation InAs Much Co-coordinator (past), former youth advisor
4. Newberry County Cattlemen's Association member (Secretary 2012-Present)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**
- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

How very hard it is to pick one event as my most joyous! But as I reflect back over my life in my faith community, two different yet similar ceremonies are very dear to my heart. About the time our first daughter was baptized, the church was dipping into a change from the old red hymnal into the green one. There were some wording differences in the baptismal sections. My perception at that time was that the green book was more intentional to include the congregation, asking them to also promise and take a more active role to help rear the newly baptized in the Christian faith. We (my wife and I) knew early on that we, as parents, would need help in fulfilling our baptismal responsibility. As I have grown in years and faith, I have come to understand how very important it is to be surrounded by people of like faith who can encourage and support us in our time of weakness. And it is that same faith community that has been there supporting not only my children throughout their lives, but who now support my

grandsons as they grow in faith. Sunday school teachers, camp counselors , LMM, youth leaders, pastors, and fellow church pew sitters are all there, encouraging and supporting one another as each moves along in his/her faith journey. The other ceremony that brings much joy happens at our annual SCLMM convention. As SCLMM Mission Gift Fund Director, I have the pleasure of presenting gift monies to some of our mission churches. Like the new birth of baptisms is the development and growth of new churches. The joy and excitement of each recipient congregation is contagious! Throughout the years, their stories of reaching out to others to share God's work and love in action are always heart-felt. How great it is to play a small part in God's greater work, both in the lives of my own family and in the lives of others that I may only know as Children of God .

As a life-long Lutheran and regular church attendee, the church has always been a part of my life. Whether it has been the joys and sadness, the highs and lows of life, through marriages, births, deaths of loved ones, or the routine of everyday life, I know my church family is there praying and sharing words of comfort and hope. However, the fellowship and relationships grown through Lutheran Men in Mission are one aspect of my church that is very dear to my heart. And it is my hope, my desire, that in time my grandsons will come to appreciate all that Lutheran Men in Mission has to offer. To this goal, I started growing them in LMM activities/meetings when they were only 3 years old and younger. Even at such young ages, the other guys in the group would reach out and help me with them - whether it be to fix their plates, to sit and eat with them, or even to care for them while I led the group in other program activities. Now that my grandsons are ages 16 and 13, the older guys expect to see them at our meetings/activities and they take a personal interest in my grandsons' activities. The church and our men, especially, were there 13 years ago when I first started bringing my grandsons to our LMM meetings and they still stand beside us each step of the way as we move forward.

South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers (SCLRC) – Lay Man

Term Ending 2025 (Elect 1)

Justin Cegelis

Robert Freund

Position Nominated For: SCLRC Board Lay Man **Term Ending:** 2025

Full Name: Robert E. Freund (Bob)

Email Address: freund.robert365@gmail.com **Phone:** (864) 804-9549

Mailing Address: 208 Malibu Lane

City, State, Zip Code: Simpsonville, SC 29680

Congregation: Messiah Lutheran Church **Congregation City:** Mauldin, SC

Employment/Profession: Retired Retail Jewelry store owner/operator (R.E. Freund Jewelers & Fine Gifts, Placerville, CA) and former Jewelry Industry Manufacturer's Rep. (40+ years combined in Jewelry Industry.) Prior in the Paper, Packaging and Printing industries, sales then marketing and management.

Age Range: **Under 30** **30-45** **46-60** **over 60**

Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc. Please include dates served.

1. SCLRC Board; 2019 to present
2. Served in various capacities in my synodical associations. (ELC, ALC, AELC, Missouri and ELCA) 1959 to Present, including being part of the Organizing Convention of the ALC (Combining three synods into one), becoming the ALC's first Golden Gate Conference Luther League President.
3. Service to past and current congregations from 1959 to present include: Sunday School teacher, Luther League president, Youth Advisor, Various Deacon capacities, Church Council President, Chairman of the Board of Elders (MS).
4. Current Congregation service: Choir, Brass Chamber Ensemble (2013 to present), Stewardship Committee (2014 to present) Current Chairperson of ChurchLife Stewardship, Worship & Music Committee (2014 to present), Worship Assistant, Chairman of "EnVISION Messiah", Strategic Planning team (2016-2017.)
5. Service in Community includes: Various Civic and Industry associations in a myriad of capacities.

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

1. What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?

Most Joyous memory might be being a part of the Organizing Convention team of the ALC. However, meeting my wife at California Lutheran College in 1961 leading to marriage, children and grandchildren is hard to top. Of course, by the grace of God being able to be of service to others, hopefully contributing to their growth in faith always fills my heart.

2. Tell about a time your church was there for you.

My Pastor, Rev. Erwin Tweet during my high school senior year was instrumental in my decision to attend the inaugural year of California Lutheran College in 1961 and assisted me in acquiring a financial "Grant-in-Aid" from the synod. Thus starting me on my quest to serve others.

**ELCA Church Council Rostered Minister Nominee Person of Color/Language Other
Than English
Term Ending 2028**

Rev. Leroy Cannon () Yes () No

NovusWay Ministries – Board Elected/Synod Assembly Ratified

Kami Kinard

Position Nominated For: NovusWay Board Member **Term Ending:** June 2024

Full Name: Kay Marie Kinard (Kami)

Email Address: kamikinard@gmail.com **Phone:** 843 592 3443

Mailing Address: 2504 Hermitage Road

City, State, Zip Code: Beaufort, SC 29902

Congregation: St. John's Lutheran Church **Congregation City:** Beaufort SC

Employment/Profession: Author, Small Business Owner

Age Range: 46-60

**Service in synod, ELCA, interchurch agencies, local congregation, community, etc.
Please include dates served.**

- 1. Local Congregation:** Sunday School Leader, Circle Leader, Vacation Bible School Leader, organizer of various church related activities (2016-present)
- 2. Volunteer for Beaufort County** Schools in roles varying from tutor, to club sponsor, to teacher support, to Odyssey of the Mind coach, to grant writer, etc. (2006-2018). Volunteer of the Year Beaufort Middle School (2009)
- 3. Volunteer Tutor and Activity Leader for Love House Academy** – an after-school program primarily providing tutoring and meals for children from Title 1 Schools (2017-2019)
- 4. Volunteer for Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators** (2014-present)

In the past we asked for your resume in regard to your service to your church, community, etc. We place greater value on your faith story. Please take time to answer the following:

- **What is your most joyous memory from being a part of your faith community?**

In the summer of 1985 I was a first year counselor at Lutheridge. I had been a camper for years prior to that, and went on to serve as an area director, and senior staff, but that summer was the summer I learned what it truly felt like to be a member of a community who loved their faith, loved to serve, and loved each other. It was a summer filled with song and soaring spirits and I left feeling embraced by a community I continue to feel at home with. My life was forever changed that year by the joy of experiencing the unconditional love of the Holy Spirit through the camp community. Because of this, I continued to return to work at camp, met my husband there, and raised camp-loving children who have also served on staff as counselors and area directors.

- **Tell about a time your church was there for you.**

A few years ago one of my family members was in the hospital for an extended period of time. The days were the grimmest days of our lives and it was hard to see the light. Then the cards started trickling in. And helpful gifts. And people, mostly from our current congregation, but also from former congregations, reached out to help us in our darkest hours, and those cards, those helping hands... they were the light.