



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Report of the Synod Council

May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023

2022 Synod Officers:

The Rev. Stacie Fidler, Bishop (2028)
Ms. Minette Scott, Vice President (2023)
The Rev. Luanne Cantrell, Secretary (2023)
Ms. Tammie Farley, Treasurer (2023)

Synod Council:

Ms. Monique Castillo (2023)
The Rev. Cathy Daharsh (2023)
Ms. Janice Forrest (2025)
The Rev. Brad Haugen (2024)
The Rev. Shellie Knight (2025)
The Rev. Frank Langholf (2025)
Ms. Nancy Lillevold (2024)
Mr. Ryan Mackey (2023)
Mr. George Sanchez (2025)
Mr. Luke Snyder (2023)
Mr. Jim Spring (2024)
Ms. Carol Swenson (2023)
The Rev. Andy Tyrrell (2024)
Ms. Taylor Ufkin (2023)

Executive Committee:

Bishop Stacie Fidler
The Rev. Julie Monnard, Ex-Officio
Ms. Minette Willard
The Rev. Lu Cantrell
Ms. Tammie Farley
Mr. George Sanchez
Ms. Nancy Lillevold

Finance Committee:

Bishop Stacie Fidler
The Rev. Pat Esker, Ex-Officio
The Rev. Julie Monnard, Ex-Officio
Ms. Minnette Willard, Vice President
Ms. Tammie Farley
The Rev. William Callister (2023)

Ms. Christina King (2025)
The Rev. Ryan Mackey (2025)
Ms. Carol Swenson (2023)
Rev. Andy Tyrrell (2024)
Ms. Lori Whalen (2025)

Meeting Dates and Locations:

5/14/2022 via Zoom
9/11/2022 via Zoom
1/14/2023 via Zoom
4/15/2023 via Zoom

A Summary of Administrative Actions:

1. Received the bishop's report at each meeting – including reports from the bishop's staff.
2. Received and approved Synod Council minutes at each meeting.
3. Approved NIS Credit Card Policy
4. Accepted the resignation of Rev. Julie Monnard as Synod Secretary
5. Appointed Rev. Lu Cantrell to the Office of the Secretary until the next Synod Assembly when an election will be held.
6. The Bishop's Installation Offering Designation was approved.
7. Received reports from the NIS WELCA.
8. Approved the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Taskforce be reactivated.
9. Received reports from representatives of the synod standing committees.
10. Approved appointments to NIS Standing Committees, Synod Council, Synod Council Committees, Task Forces, and Synod Assembly Committees.
11. Approval to change registered agent from Timothy J. Leake to Bishop Stacie Fidler was passed.
12. Authority was granted to Bishop Stacie Fidler to extend a call for Grace Place.
13. Approval of new Congregations' Constitutions and Bylaws
 1. Followers of Christ, Plainfield
 2. St. Barnabas, Cary
 3. St. John's, Sterling
 4. Prince of Peace, Freeport

A Summary of Budget and Finance Actions

1. Regularly received and reviewed the reports of the treasurer, subject to audit.
Received the audit report.
2. Approval was given for Bishop Stacie Fidler to enter into a contract with the new audit firm once one is found.
3. Approved the 2024 Proposed Budget.
4. The 2023 Synod Assembly Offering to the Innovations Fund was approved as well as the in-kind offering of personal care kits.

A Summary of Personnel Actions

1. Appointment/Specialized Ministry Committee-Executive Committee
 - A. On Leave from Call-Extend/ Status Renewal
 - The Rev. Kimberly Riebe (8/14/2017-8/13/2023)-Study Leave
 - The Rev. Tom Ekstrand 9/1/2020-8/31/2023
 - Deacon Marti Bein 9/1/2020-8/31/2023
 - The Rev. Karen Tews 1/1/2022-12/31/2025
 - The Rev. Joseph Chu 11/30/2012-11/29/2024
 - The Rev. Tom Rodgers 9/1/2022-8/31/2025
 - Deacon Karin Graddy 9/1/2022-8/31/2025
 - The Rev. Kenneth Gibson (1/15/2023-1/14/2026)
 - The Rev. Mark Juliot (4/30/2023-04/29/2026)
 - The Rev. David Turner (2/8/2020-2/7/2023) – Renewal
 - Rev. Paul Gebo (3/15/2021-3/14/2024)
 - B. Extend/Renew Interim/Term Call through Synod Council
 - The Rev. Mack Patrick, Grace Place Campus Ministry NIU-3 yr. term (5/22-5/25)
 - The Rev. Vince Marolla-Beacon of Hope Hospice (9/2019-9/2022)
 - C. Invitation to Extended Service - Renewal
 - The Rev. Carrie Carnes (rostered United Methodist)-Trinity, Galesburg
 - The Rev. Maureen O'Connor (rostered Episcopal)-Light of Christ, Algonquin
 - D. Calls of Assistants to the Bishop
 - The Rev. Mack Patrick, part time (Co-terminus)
 - The Rev. Pat Esker, part time (Co-terminus)
 - The Rev. Jennifer Beamsley (Co-terminus)
 - The Rev. Julie Monnard (Co-terminus)
1. Approve Retirement Status:
 - The Rev. Jeffrey Clements (September 1, 2022)
 - The Rev. Gary Erickson (September 1, 2022)
 - Deacon Cheryl Erdmann (September 1, 2022)
 - The Rev. David Hedlin (September 1, 2022)
 - The Rev. Marilyn Hanson (September 1, 2022)
 - The Rev. David Schweppe (May 1, 2023)
 - The Rev. Kurt Carlsen (May 31, 2023)

 - The Rev. Elizabeth Mascal (June 1, 2023)

 - The Rev. Barb Otten (June 30, 2023)

 - The Rev. Doug Liston (October 1, 2023)
2. Review of Retired Rostered Minister Status:
 - The Rev. Thomas F. Hanson
 - The Rev. Roger Hurlbut
 - The Rev. Randall Swanson
 - The Rev. Ralph M. Radloff

The Rev. Leo Patterson
The Rev. Alfred K. Beck
The Rev. Dennis L. Heaney
The Rev. Wendy Popp
The Rev. Lee H. Luebke
The Rev. Gerald M. Peterson
The Rev. Randall Willers
The Rev. Joseph N. Robb
The Rev. Christine Stienstra
The Rev. William S. Waxenberg
The Rev. Ronald Larson
The Rev. Gary Wollersheim
The Rev. Donald E. Lavelle
The Rev. Dell C. Olson
The Rev. Paul E. Johnson
The Rev. C. David Vidlar
Deacon Myrna Andersen
The Rev. Mark Cole
The Rev. Rodney A. Juell
The Rev. Robert C. Kinnear
The Rev. Frederick Larner
The Rev. David W. Lawson
The Rev. Frank E. Lay
The Rev. William J. Nelson
The Rev. Frances Reilly Olson
The Rev. Herbert D. Priester
The Rev. James A. Roberts
Deacon Jonathan Chell
The Rev. Dr. Alan H. Creighton
Deacon Shirley Harbeck
The Rev. Dr. Michael R. Lawyer
The Rev. Loren L. Nielsen
The Rev. Milton L. Whitney
The Rev. Bruce Johnston
The Rev. Arlyn Tolzmann

3. Approve Rostered Ministers and SAMs requesting to be excused from 2022 Synod Assembly

The Rev. Debbie Kelly
Mr. Kent Terry
The Rev. Carrie Carnes
The Rev. Mark Juliot
The Rev. Maureen O'Connor
The Rev. Elizabeth Mascal
The Rev. Joseph O'Donnell
The Rev. Jacob Gawlick

4. Approve Rostered Ministers and SAMs requesting to be excused from 2023 Synod Assembly

The Rev. Jeff Schlesinger
The Rev. John Cunningham
Deacon. K Graddy
The Rev. Dr. Peter Vethanayagamony
The Rev. Doug Liston
The Rev. Jana Howson
The Rev. Keith Johnson
The Rev. Melinda Pupillo
The Rev. Elizabeth Mascal
The Rev. Dan Wynard
The Rev. Jon Pedersen
Deacon Jennifer Fox

5. Approval of Synod Appointments

The Rev. Jamie Gallagher, Southwest Conference Dean
The Rev. Chrissy Salser, Candidacy Committee
Ms. Sue Bull Welch, Candidacy Committee
The Rev. Zach Baer, Northeast Conference Dean

6. Approval of Committee Nominations for Synod Assembly

a. Credentials Committee

The Rev. Jennifer Ohman-Rodriguez (chair)
The Rev. Chris Lee
Ms. Rhonda Copeland

The Rev. Julie Monnard - *Synod Staff Liaison*
Ms. Julie Lewis Synod - *Staff Liaison*

b. Election Committee

Ms. Nancy Lillevold (chair)
Ms. Marianne Barstow
The Rev. Andy Tyrrell

The Rev. Mack Patrick - *Synod Staff Liaison*

c. Minutes Review Committee

The Rev. Shellie Knight
The Rev. Nord Swanstrom
Mr. Brandon Graves

The Rev. Pat Esker - *Synod Staff Liaison*

d. Resolutions Committee

The Rev. Zach Baer (chair)
Mr. Jim Cantrell
Deacon Carla Vanatta

The Rev. Andrew Kayes - *Parliamentarian*
The Rev. Pat Esker - *Synod Staff Liaison*

7. Additional Personnel Items

a. Housing Allowance

Bishop Stacie Fidler

The Rev. Jennifer Beamsley

The Rev. Julie Monnard

The Rev. Pat Esker

b. Approval of Portico Benefits Plan Selection—Gold+

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Luanne K. Cantrell, Secretary