

## Report of the Nominating Committee

This past January, the Nominating Committee of the Northern Illinois Synod met together via Zoom, and then stayed in contact over the following months. Together, we went over all the various positions and committees to which we elect individuals at Synod Assembly. As a committee, we needed to seek qualified candidates for over fifty positions, since we not only had openings to fill for positions of members of Synod Council and Committees who ended with this year's Synod Assembly, but we also were filling two-year positions for those positions not filled by election last year, due to the cancelled 2020 Synod Assembly; and also seeking nominees for the Consultation and Discipline Committees (elected in odd-numbered years for six-year terms) and for the 2022 Churchwide Assembly Voting members.

With careful deliberation of each individual's gifts and passions, the demands of each position, and while being mindful of the need to include representations across each of our Conferences, members of the committee approached many individuals across the Synod and asked them to consider taking on a new, continued, or greater role within the Synod in the coming year.

What we found was, as in years past, our Synod is full of amazing individuals. You all together make up an incredible group, filled with compassion, blessed with Spiritual gifts, and anxious to share the love of God here in Northern Illinois and across the globe. On behalf of the Nominating Committee, thank you to all who have expressed a willingness to serve Christ's church in new ways. We are enriched as a whole by your willingness to serve, and your willingness to run in an election. As stressful as the potential to lose an election like this might be, it is a natural consequence of our Synod abounding in individuals ready to serve. Thank you for taking that on.

Whether or not you received such a call from one of us, you may indeed be receiving a call from God to serve in some new way. If during this assembly you hear of the work of the Synod Council or any of its committees, and you believe that your gifts and passions would be well suited for that function, I invite you to please pursue that. You can find descriptions of each of these committees (and subcommittees) on our Synod website. Contacting that committee's chair may help you to find a way to get involved in a ministry of the Synod. If the Spirit is calling you, we will do what it takes to help you heed that call.

Ms. Donna Kelly

Committee Chair

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Elected at the 2019 & 2020 Annual Conference Meetings  
Staff Liaison: Deacon Cheryl A. Erdmann [CErdmann@nisynod.org](mailto:CErdmann@nisynod.org)  
Chairperson of Nominating committee: Ms. Donna Kelly

### **CENTRAL CONFERENCE**

Mr. Jim Gorman (St. Paul, Sterling) – Term ends 2022  
The Rev. Carol Soderholm (Trinity, Mt. Morris) – Term ends 2021

### **EAST CONFERENCE**

The Rev. Lu Cantrell (Peace, Morris) – Term ends 2022  
The Rev. Dave Hedlin (Peace, New Lenox – Term ends 2021

### **NORTH CONFERENCE**

The Rev. Frank Langholf (Emmanuel, Rockford) - Term ends 2022  
Ms. Carol Gargani (United, Rockford) – Term ends 2021

### **NORTHEAST CONFERENCE**

(unfilled position, lay male member) – Term Ends 2022  
Ms. Donna Kelly (Shepherd of the Prairie, Huntley) – Term ends 2021

### **NORTHWEST CONFERENCE**

Ms. Nancy Lillevold (Prince of Peace, Freeport) – Term ends 2022  
Mr. Alan Scheele (Scenic Hills Parish, Derinda/Hanover/Massbach) – Term Ends 2021

### **SOUTH CONFERENCE**

The Rev. Scott Schmidt (St. Matthew's Princeton) – Term ends 2022  
(unfilled position, lay male) – Term Ends 2021

### **SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE**

Mr. Ken Kindlesperger (Swedona, Lynn Center) - Term Ends 2022  
Ms. Carol Koresko (Messiah, Galva) – Term ends 2021

### **WEST CONFERENCE**

The Rev. Gwen Sehfrans-Murphy (St. Paul's, Orion) – term ends 2022  
Mr. Randy Mullin (First, Geneseo) – term ends 2021

**Nominees from the Nominating Committee for positions to be elected at the 2021 Synod Assembly:**

**Synod Council**

Two-year terms:

Lay Female

Ms. Carol Swenson, Our Savior's, Rockford

Lay Male

Vicar Ryan Mackey, Trinity, Manlius

Lay Female, Person of Color

Ms. Monique Castillo

Lay Female, Young Adult

Ms. Taylor Ufkin, Immanuel, Dixon

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Cathy Daharsh, Bethany, Crystal Lake

One-year term, Youth Representative

Ms. Madi Castell, Cambridge, Cambridge

Three-year terms:

Lay Female

Ms. Nancy Lillevold, Prince of Peace, Freeport

Lay Male

Ms. Jim Spring, Bethany, Leland

Rostered Minister Male, position 1

The Rev. Peter Bredlau, Trinity, Moline

The Rev. Andy Tyrrell, Grace, Richmond

Rostered Minister Male, position

The Rev. Mike Thomas, Zion, Rockford

The Rev. Brad Haugen, Followers of Christ, Plainfield.

**Standing Committee – Congregational Life**

Two-year terms

Lay Female

Ms. Georgiana Grossmann, Immanuel, Amboy

Lay Male

Mr. Brandon Graves, Salem, Sycamore

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Christopher Lee, First, Rock Island

Three-year term

Lay Male

Mr. Kent Kindelsperger, Swedona, Lynn Center

Lay Female

Ms. Carol Johnson, Prince of Peace, Freeport

**Standing Committee – Global Mission**

One-year term

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Tammy Anderson, Bethesda, Morrison

Two-year term

Lay Female

Ms. Janet Larson, First, Geneseo

Lay Male

Mr. Mike Wadle, First, DeKalb

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Chris Schoon, St. John's, Somonauk

Three-year term

Lay Male

Mr. Alan Esker, Good Shepherd, Lena

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Makayla Dahleen, St. Paul, Sterling

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Tucker O'Leary, Grace, Knoxville

**Standing Committee – Ministry Support Committee**

One-year term

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Sharon Rogers, First, DeKalb

Two-year terms

Lay Male

Mr. Jim Cantrell, Peace, Morris

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Jen Beamsley, St. John, Joliet

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Doug Liston, Joyful Harvest, Johnsburg

Three-year terms

Lay Female

Ms. Julie Eshleman, St. Mark, Rockford

Lay Male

Mr. Bill Nelson, First, Geneseo

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Vince Marolla, First, Galesburg

**Standing Committee – Outreach**

Two-year term

Lay Female

Ms. Lisa Gerloff-Banker, Grace, Woodstock

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Stacie Fidler

Three-year term

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Sarah Wilson, St. Barnabas, Cary

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Brandon Nelson, GPS Faith Community, Machesney Park

**Standing Committee – Social Ministry**

Two-year term

Lay Female

Ms. Annette Petersen, Shepherd of the Prairie, Huntley

Lay Male

Dr. Peter Kivisto, St. John's, Rock Island

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Carol Soderholm, Trinity, Mt. Morris

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Scott Ralston, Faith, Forreston

Three-year term

Lay Male

Mr. Larry Cording, Shepherd of the Hills, Scales Mound

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Jacob Gawlik, St. John's, Sterling

**Consultation Committee**

Two-year term (completing an unfinished term)

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Frank Langhof, Emmanuel, Rockford

Six-year Term

Lay Female

Ms. Donna Kelly, Shepherd of the Prairie, Huntley

Lay Male

Mr. Trenton Ferro, First, Joliet

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Lu Cantrell, Peace, Morris

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Eric Lemonholm, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Rockford

**Discipline Committee** – all six-year terms

Lay Female

Ms. Susan Gavle, Bethany, Crystal Lake

Lay Male

Mr. Maurice Nelson, First, Geneseo

Rostered Minister Female

The Rev. Jill Flynn, Gloria Dei, Rockford

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Nord Swanstrom, First, Pecatonica

**2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Voting Members to be elected at-large** - for constitutional reasons, to meet the minimum 10% requirement for our Churchwide Assembly Voting members, all nominees are either youth (confirmed, less than 18 at time of election)/young adult (18 – 29 at time of election) or persons of color or for whom English is not their first language.

Elected to serve a term which ends when the next Churchwide Assembly Voting Members are elected for the 2025 Churchwide Assembly.

“Formula Members” (Counted as part of the 10% requirement)

Lay Female

Ms. Christina King, First, Galesburg

Lay Male

Mr. Kurtis Arndt, Shepherd of the Prairie, Huntley

Mr. Brandon Graves, Salem Sycamore

Rostered Minister Male

The Rev. Mack Patrick, Grace Place Campus Ministry

The Rev. Tucker O’Leary, Grace, Knoxville

“Non-Formula Members” (Not counted as part of the 10% requirement)

Youth/Young Adult

Ms. Madi Castell, Cambridge, Cambridge

Person of Color/Person for whom English is not their first language

The Rev. José Cortes, Messiah, Aledo; San José, Moline

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, I, Donna Kelly, chairperson, move acceptance of these nominations be accepted and placed on the ballot for the 2021 Synod Assembly Elections.

Also, on behalf of the Nominating Committee and in conjunction with the members of the eight Conferences, I move the Assembly affirm the following nominations from the conferences to serve as Churchwide Assembly Voting Members: