



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Ministry Support Committee

2022 Annual Report

Ministry Support Committee Mission Statement: Enabling Christians of the Northern Illinois Synod to realize their call to ministry as both lay and professional workers. To accomplish the mission, we provide resources, support, and continuing education within our synod, in cooperation with other synods, agencies, and institutions within the ELCA and the Church.

The members of the Ministry Support Committee include: Pastor Andrew Kayes, Pastor Doug Liston, Pastor Vince Marolla (chairperson), Marianne Barstow, Julie Eshleman, Kay Johnson, Pastor Sharon Rogers, Barb Stark, Jim Cantrell, Doug Murray, Bill Nelson, Pastor Jen Beamsley (Synod). We thank them for their service this past year!

The Ministry Support Committee strives to support those who are invested in ministry, both lay and rostered. There is an interdependent role between the Ministry Support Committee and all the working groups that fall within the Ministry Support Committee. We formed three working groups in 2023:

- **Communications and Resources**, whose purpose is to share existing and new resources for ministry and leadership.
- **Salary Guidelines**, whose purpose is to guide congregations and Rostered Ministers on making decisions about compensation and benefits. In the next year, we will be crafting guidelines to better suit our changing landscape of part-time ministry.
- **Synodical Authorized Ministers**, whose purpose is to work with Bishop Stacie Fidler and the Synod Council to develop resources for best practices when planning compensation and benefits for Synodically Authorized Ministers.

Much of the work of the Ministry Support Committee happens via the work and leadership of all these working groups. The Ministry Support Committee meets quarterly to check in, to report on working groups progress, and to discuss upcoming projects we can do to support the development of leaders within the church.

During the 2022-2023 year, we specifically focused on 1) identify resource needs and existing resources for Rostered Ministers, Synodical Authorized Ministers, church staffs, councils, and congregations; 2) submitting 2023 Salary Guidelines for Rostered Ministers after researching salary guidelines for several synods and our ecumenical partners; and 3) developing guidelines for congregations being served by Synodical Authorized Ministers.

The Ministry Support Committee greatly appreciates the faithful work of the Synod staff, Synod Council, and Bishop's Office who provide guidance, leadership, and assistance, and we're glad to play a role in supporting the vocational calling of the members of the Northern Illinois Synod and its congregations!

Respectfully Submitted,
Marianne Barstow