

Conference Representatives – En Bloc

Twin Valleys Conference: Dr. Todd Kolberg – Two Year Term

Tehachapi Conference: Ms. Terri Pyle – Two Year Term

South Bay: Ms. Margarita Gonzalez – Two Year Term

Central Coast Conference: Ms. Laura Krueger – Three Year Term

San Gabriel Valley Conference: The Rev. James Mericle – Three Year Term

Los Angeles Metropolitan: Zekiah Wright, Esq. – Three Year Term

1) Synod Council Vice-President – Two Year Term

Dr. Todd Kolberg
St. Matthew's,
North Hollywood
Twin Valleys
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I have served as President and Secretary on St. Matthew's church council.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I currently also serve as the Acting Executive Director of the newly-formed Twin Valleys Conference Lutheran Parish.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I currently serve on synod council representing the Twin Valleys Conference. I serve on the EOMT and have served on the Bishop's compensation committee.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I have successfully helped lead organizations through transformational change. I have collaborative leadership style, am well-organized, and try to value everyone's contributions in terms of time, energy and talents. I'm results oriented.

Ms. Sarah Stegemoeller,
Esq.
St. Paul's, Santa Monica
Los Angeles Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Currently and in the past year of the pandemic and a transition to worship webcasts, I have been an online song leader every 4-6 weeks for regular services, and a leader of Holden Evening Prayer during our Lenten weekday worship. In 2019, I served as the chair of the search committee for our music director/church administrator and also sang in our choir, as I have done for decades. During this period and previously I have taken on pro bono legal projects for the church, such as the review and revision of leases and the drafting of our mission and ministry trust. More distantly, I have co-chaired the internship committee,

chaired the stewardship committee and served on the investment committee and the congregational council.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I am currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), one of the seminaries of the ELCA, and I am chair of its Board Engagement Task Force. I have previously served as chair of the board of LSTC and as chair of its comprehensive campaign. Many years ago I was employed by LSTC as its first Executive Vice President.

I also have recently joined the board of Connections for Children, a nonprofit childcare resource and referral agency that helps primarily low income families find qualified childcare and provides support and professional development opportunities for childcare providers.

Finally, I provide occasional pro bono legal service and counsel for nonprofits that serve low income communities in Los Angeles through my affiliation with my former employer, Public Counsel.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I have not had direct involvement with our synod in the past three years other than as a vocal advocate within our congregational budget meetings for continued strong financial support to the synod and the ministries it serves.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Extensive board leadership and experience. In addition to being a member of and chairing the various committees, task forces and boards listed above, I have in the past been a member of and chaired the Santa Monica Commission on the Status

of Women, and have been a member of the boards of Advocate Health Care System and Lutheran General Hospital.

Professional expertise regarding the law and operations of organizations like our synod. Until my retirement in 2016, I was a corporate and tax attorney specializing in nonprofits. In my last position as senior staff attorney for the Community Development Project at Public Counsel, I provided more than a decade of free legal assistance on a variety of transactional issues to community-based organizations that serve low-income and underserved communities in Los Angeles County. I also provided many organizations with board governance training and was a frequent speaker at nonprofit board, pro bono attorney and public events involving issues related to nonprofit governance, tax exemption compliance, and legal representation of nonprofit organizations.

A heart for advocacy and social justice.

2) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Rostered Man) – Two Year Term

The Rev. Cesar Arroyo
Faith, Canoga Park
Twin Valleys Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.



Pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Canoga Park

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Topanga Clergy Council of the LAPD

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Member of the Latino Cluster
Member-at-Large, Synod Council

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I believe that the unity of our Synod is strengthened with diversity. The presence of diverse ethnic groups gives us an excellent opportunity to impact our communities which are constantly changing. It is important that our actions, our presence and our evangelism, accompanied by our 'historic service' to and action within the community, develop in concordance with our doctrine as ELCA and the Southwest California Synod. I am happy to service and act within our Synod. May God guide us with clarity to continue doing our best each day

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

The Rev. Scott Peterson
Lutheran Church in the Foothills, La Canada Flintridge
Foothill Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.



Pastor, Lutheran Church in the Foothill Conferences

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

La Crescenta Sheriff's Clergy Council
La Canada Baccalaureate Committee
YMCA Chaplain - Crescenta/Canada YMCA

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Consultation Committee
Preacher at Synod Eucharist

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Critical Thinking
Experience serving outside of the ELCA and U.S.A.
Familiarity with the Synod office

3) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Laywoman) – Two Year Term

Ms. Lisa Curtis
St. Luke,
Woodland Hills
Twin Valleys
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I finished a three-year term on our church council this winter. I am the choir director, and have helped provide our zoom virtual services by recording the choir on hymns and anthems. I lead the weekly women's Bible study.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I am a leader in the Malibu non-denominational women's bible study

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Tangentially through my church council participation; attending synod convention as I am able, participating in Twin Valley Parish's God's Work Our Hands Day. Serving on a support circle for ECAS.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

A deep love of bringing people closer to God through Word and music; a desire to truly listen to all people and find the common ground that will allow us to create practical strategies for bringing the church into a hurting world; patience.

Ms. Courtney Bassler
Heimbuck
First, Torrance
Emmanuel, North
Hollywood (Associate
Member)
South Bay Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Currently at First, Torrance I serve as a member of the worship and music board where I have attended meetings and represented those that serve as assisting ministers for our praise communion service as well as our live stream team. I also serve as a member of the communications team. Before purchasing a home in Torrance, I also served as member of the Mission Exploration Team for Emmanuel North Hollywood where I was a member for about 20 years.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Before the pandemic, I lead a group of 20-30-year-old women's Meetup group, which met on a bi-weekly to monthly basis for community interaction within the South Bay.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

While I have not served in the last three years synodically, I have been involved at the synod level for quite some time. For four years while in high school, I served as a member of the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) for the Southwest California Synod ranging from a member at large to the secretary position. I was also a representative of the Southwest California Synod at Lutheran Youth Organization Convention in 2009, where each ELCA LYO synod met and engaged in the business of their organization and in leadership development.

Following my time serving on LYO, I was elected to serve as the Synod Council Youth Representative. I also served on the Mission Team for Lay Leadership for a couple of years. After my time serving on the Southwest California Synod Council as youth representative, I appointed by the Southwest California Synod Council to fill a vacancy. I served for a period of time but then had to resign in 2011 as I accepted an internship with the Southwest California Synod under Bishop Dean Nelson.

For three months in 2011, I worked under Deacon Nancy Ackerman, an assistant to the Bishop, where we continued and grew the communications of the

synod. Following that, I was brought to the staff part-time as a Communications Assistant while attending Cal State LA. I loved my time very much as a staff member of the Southwest California Synod where we expanded the synod's social media channels, developed a new website and continued to grow our weekly newsletter and communication to the members of the Southwest California Synod. I also traveled with Bishop Dean Nelson and a delegation from our synod to meet with our partner synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hong Kong, where I captured and communicated our partnership and the work being done in Hong Kong. As a member of the communications staff, I attended a conference for synod communicators at the Churchwide offices to be trained in communicating the mission and understanding new branding that was developed for the ELCA to implement across the synod. I continued working for the synod serving both the ministries of Bishop Dean Nelson and Bishop Guy Erwin before accepting another position in the summer of 2014.

Following my time on staff, I graduated from Cal State LA with a degree in communication studies, married a fellow member of the Southwest California Synod, and moved to San Jose to start my post-grad career. In 2018, I returned to Los Angeles and have taken some time but feel a call to return and serve the

rostered leaders, lay leaders and our members of the Southwest California Synod as a member of the Southwest California Synod

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I am a good communicator. When it comes to communicating, there is a time to listen and learn and also a time to share your message with others. As a publicist for more than 5 years, I understand the importance of good communication.

I am passionate and care deeply for those that I know and represent. I believe that a good leader knows when to step up and empower others. In order to grow things within an organization, one must know their own abilities as well as the gifts of others.

I am understanding. I like to learn both sides to a story. I have great empathy for those around me and like to see where people are coming from -- typically it comes from a good place and people want to know that they feel that they have been heard.

With these three gifts (and others), I believe that I would be a good representative to serve on the Southwest California Synod Council

4) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Rostered Woman) – Two Year Term

Deacon Jamie Hovland
Mt. Olive,
Santa Monica
Los Angeles
Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

The congregation I served, Our Savior's Lancaster, closed in June of 2019. We were guided through the process of Holy Closure by Pastor Donella Silveira and The Rev Dr Marj Funk-Pihl. I was retired, but served as a deacon, an assisting minister, and on the committee advising those working on Holy Closure. Prior to that, I had served as the deacon leading youth and family ministry and parish ministry.

After Our Savior's closed, we joined Mt Olive, Santa Monica, where our son Jeremy is on the staff. I didn't have much chance to get involved before the pandemic. Since we still live in Lancaster, I was also attending St Paul's Episcopal Church in Lancaster, where I once had a joint call. I enjoyed serving as a deacon there until the pandemic began. While worshipping at home, I sometimes helped Jeremy with his online Children's Sermons for Mt Olive.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

We were happy to part of the decision to help direct portions of Our Savior's sizable endowment to the Southwest California Synod, and to other ministries within the synod. I was especially excited to make sure that part of that money went to the Students 4 Students Homeless Shelters at Mt Olive, Santa Monica and all of the good work St Matthew's in

North Hollywood does feeding the community. Most of my community service now is giving to Lutheran World Relief and other worthy community causes I see.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Bishop Guy asked me if I would serve on Synod Council four years ago, and I was happy to add this new experience to my life in the Church. It has been rewarding and fulfilling to work with so many gifted and loving servants. I have seen Christ in so many of those with whom I have been called to serve. What a joy and an honor it has been!

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I think I bring experience from the point of view of someone who understands what it feels like to be both a lay person and a rostered minister. Deacons/AIMs haven't always fit comfortably in one category or the other. So I think we know how to represent both sides of the coin. It helps me to see more than one point of view as we discuss issues in the life and ministry of the Church.

I bring a sense of humor. My call was to work with those from cradle to grave. When you spend time on the chancel steps with little ones, sleeping on the parish hall floor with teenagers, or kneeling by someone's walker to chat with them, you also learn to laugh with them.

I have also learned to listen. Perhaps this is most important. Especially at council. People come with energy and new gifts. I always believed that my greatest gift in the parish was to help others recognize their own baptismal gift, and then encourage them to go with it! I hope I can do this at synod council too.

The Rev. Sharon Richter
Trinity, Pasadena
Foothill Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I have been pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Pasadena since 2018. It is my first call. I served as an intern at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica from 2016-2017, and prior to that was under contract from 2015-2016 to provide worship and pastoral services at Zion Lutheran Church, Nesquehoning PA and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Summit Hill PA.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I was elected to the board of Lutheran Social Services of Southern California in 2019, where I serve on the Mission Advancement Committee. At Trinity, I have led the congregation to partner with Pasadena City Hall, expanding the Trinity Food Bank Ministry to deliver food boxes to elderly residents throughout the city during the Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, I spearheaded a collaboration with Fellowship Church to offer the Great Banquet at



Trinity, a monthly elegant banquet for our homeless and poor neighbors in Pasadena. Most recently, I initiated a partnership with the Foothill Unity Center and Making Housing Happen to pilot the San Gabriel Safe Parking Program at Trinity, which provides safe overnight parking and hygiene facilities to people living in their cars.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

In addition to regular participation in the Foothills Collegium, I have regularly supported synod events. At the request of Bishop Erwin, in 2019 I recruited Pastor Tom Ford, interim at Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church and Pastor Mark Witte, pastor of Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church in Altadena, and we planned and led the Foothills Area Easter Vigil. In 2021 I organized the Foothills Area Virtual Easter Vigil, adding participation from a fourth congregation, All Saints in Sun Valley.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I have a passion for addressing and preventing homelessness, and I have experience with related local issues and solutions in Pasadena. I have leadership and life experience qualities honed in 25 years of middle management in healthcare publishing, as well as writing, editing, and Chinese translation experience that might prove useful in addressing synod needs.

5) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Rostered Woman) – Two Year Term

The Rev. Megan Fryling
Bethlehem,
Granada Hills
Twin Valleys Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I've been the pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School in Granada Hills since 2014.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I'm involved in a number of things through the congregation and I'm a resource parent (foster parent) through Los Angeles County.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I've been involved with both the Mission Team for Rostered Leaders and the Synod's Global Partners Team.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I believe that some of the gifts that I would bring to this position are that I have experience with HR issues, I'm committed, reliable, and I'm passionate about issues of diversity and equity.

The Rev. Ruth Sievert
St. Paul's, Santa Monica
Los Angeles Metropolitan Conference

See "2022 Churchwide Assembly Member" category later in this report

6) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Laywoman) – Two Year Term

**Dr. Cecelia Travick
Jackson**
**Mt. Cross, Camarillo
Channel Islands
Conference**



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Previous Church Council-Secretary
Previous Adult Education-Director
Previous Bible Study leader
Previous Hospitality-Coffee maker
Prayer Chain
Card Ministry
And anyplace else that I might be needed

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Previous member of Alzheimer's association

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Chair of Reference and Counsel
Candidate for Deaconship

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Experience working with and in Church groups
Professional Educator
Desire to serve

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Ms. Allison Johnson
**Mt. Cross, Camarillo
Channel Islands
Conference**



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I was baptized into the Lutheran Church as an infant and have been an active member my whole life. Currently I am a Council Member, on the Worship and Music Committee and am on the Worship Team helping with Drive Thru Communion during this pandemic time. I have served on the Care Team and help out where I am needed. I was a chaperone with our Youth going to Houston for the Youth Gathering. I have also lead Bible Studies and assisted regularly in various ways in worship.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Most of my community service is with my church. I have been active in the past with my children's schools and the Autism Society.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I have not been actively involved other than attending Women of the ELCA gatherings and also have represented my congregation several times as a delegate for the Synod Conventions.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I would bring the perspective of an active congregation member with a M.Div degree. I would be a good listener, able to hear many different points of view. I would be able to work with others from other churches and bring new ideas.

7) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Layman) – Three Year Term

Mr. John Halbert
Hope, Hollywood
Los Angeles
Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I'm currently serving as Vice President of our Church Council. I was also on our Call Committee, which recently successfully concluded. I occasionally teach Bible study.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I serve on the board of a woman-focused film festival, I am a longtime anti-death penalty activist,

and have volunteered on political campaigns. I am a judge for a competition for sustainable and socially responsible business plans.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I serve as the Secretary of the Synod Mission Team for Justice. I have attended Synod Assembly, and, at the invitation of Bishop Guy Erwin, organized film screenings at two of those Assemblies. I work with the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force and the Recovery & Spirituality Task Force.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I have an extremely wide range of experience, from politics in Washington to finance in New York to the film industry in LA. So 1) I am very good at thinking deeply and critically (I have a degree in philosophy), 2) I am a good listener, and 3) I am good at making decisions quickly.

Mr. Les Peters
St. Andrews,
Los Angeles
Los Angeles Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Actively involved in the Worship Life at St. Andrews LC (Lector, altar service support, etc.) Active participant in Adult Education programs. Volunteer for service events (food & meal distribution events during the Covid Crisis).

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Have supported food distribution initiatives at Port of Long Beach and South LA as organized by councilman and labor locals in our area.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Have attended the assembly as a congregational member and have participated in Martin Luther King workshops at the Synod's event.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

- Concern for social justice
- Concern for finding new ways for our Church to meet the needs around us in the larger community
- Concern for the vitality of our congregations and pastoral leadership in this Synod
- Have served 2 terms on the Synod Council in the New Jersey Synod prior to moving to California
- My faith and life-long involvement in the Lutheran Journey

Mr. Irvin Thomas
St Mark's,
Hacienda Heights
San Gabriel Valley
Conference

*In your own words,
let us know about
your congregational
service, currently and
within the last three
years.*



Currently a member of the church Finance
Committee
Former Church Council President

*In your own words, let us know about your
community Service, currently and within the past
three years.*

Supervised student participation in Special needs
soccer program.

*In your own words, let us know about your synodical
involvement, currently and within the past three
years.*

Lay member representative at Synod meeting.

*Please share three gifts that you would bring to this
position.*

Good listener, worker, and speaker

**Person of Color/Primary Language other than
English**

8) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Laywoman) – Two Year Term

Ms. Renee Brandt
Church in the Foothills
La Canada Flintridge
Foothill Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

LWR Kit Coordinator
Chair for Coffee Fellowship Committee
Tech Assistant for recording service to use for online/pandemic worship
Vacation Bible School Station Leader

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Solheim Senior Community Board of Directors (Treasurer)
My Friends House volunteer for food distribution
Red Cross Blood Drive Coordinator

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Attended Foothill Conference as a representative of my congregation
Attended Women of the ELCA Synodical Gathering as a representative of my Women of the ELCA Group

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Care and concern for others
Love of this church
Active participant in discussions/decisions/projects

Ms. Karen Moyer
St. Timothy,
Lakewood
Greater Long Beach
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Pre-COVID, Sunday School and VBS Coordinator, Assisting Minister, Choir, Member of the: School, Worship, Education, and Social Concerns Board. Currently, Assisting Minister and Reader, Counter of Offering, assist my sister with her Treasurer service and serve on the boards already mentioned.

For not active Education and Social Concerns, I plan activities.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

With COVID not much community service unless you count gifts to My Friends House and LLS.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Served on Synod Council and Executive Committee the last three or four years. Chair of the Lay Leadership Committee which needs reviving. Assisted wherever I could with Synod Assembly and activities at the Synod pre-COVID.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Leadership, insight, knowledge, and willingness to work together for the good of the Church and Synod. Offer time and consistent attendance.

9) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Layman) – Three Year Term

Mr. Bob Froehlig
Trinity,
Manhattan Beach
South Bay Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

For the past three years, I served on our Church Council, Choir, Band and several committees. I strive to advocate for visitors and people who are not yet connected with our church. I'm not afraid of the difficult questions, have a thirst for wisdom and seek to foster that in others.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I have coordinated volunteers and served as liaison for Habitat for Humanity, helped to promote political

engagement in poverty and justice issues and helped organize and lead God's Work, Our Hands activities.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I participate in conference events and Synod assemblies and work with Social Lutherans, Reconciling Works (formerly Lutherans Concerned) and helped staff the ELCA booths at two LA Pride events.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

As a former leader in USC Lutheran Campus Ministry, I have a passion for youth and young adult ministries, I have a long, multi-generational and loving connection with the ELCA members and its former constituent bodies, and a firm commitment to servanthood in the body of Christ.

Mr. Everado Gonzalez
First, Torrance
South Bay Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I am a member of the weekly bible study on Wednesdays and Saturdays in my congregation, First Lutheran Church in Torrance.

When I retired in 2013, I moved to Puerto Rico and became member of Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey. I was also a member of the Church council and, participated in fund raiser activities.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Being a Rotarian for 35+ years has given me the opportunity to serve communities in need around the world and to serve in different board roles such as president, secretary, international service and Rotary International Foundation. Currently I am a member of

the Rotary e-Club Puerto Rico & Las Americas (past president 2019-2020).

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Even though I have not had the opportunity to serve in the SWCA Lutheran Synod due to my working responsibilities/schedule in the past, now that I am retired, I have the availability to serve. On the other hand, I have participated in the Lutheran Cursillo.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Strong background in public relations due to my experience with the airlines for 30 years in many capacities.

Educational background in political science.

Dependable and trustworthy

Bilingual - proficient in English & Spanish

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Robert McDuff
Central, Van Nuys
Twin Valleys
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Current Central Van Nuys Congregational Council Member: Financial Secretary and advisor since January 2019.
Helped with Startup of Mobile Food Pantry through LA Regional Food Bank, occasional distribution volunteer
Grill master for special events, Occasional Math Tutor, Spouse of Pastor, Tech assist with online worship.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Braver Angles Member & Participant November 2020 - Present, working to practice and promote civil dialogue between individuals at opposite ends of political spectrum

Health Care Advocate, Member of Health Care for All - Los Angeles Chapter 3+years, including organizing town hall forum on single payer health care system at ULCA business school, in the name of social and racial justice as affordable access to equitable comprehensive quality health care is a human right (see ELCA social statement on Health Care)

Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Water Committee 4 years, current focus on Native American Water Rights in light of past and current injustices by LADWP; periodic participant on Chapter Environmental & Social Justice Committee

Inner City High School Math Teacher (2019-2020) at predominately black Christian school in South LA (previously 5 years in underserved school in

Richmond CA, SF Bay Area, including Safe and Supportive Schools program administrator)

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Synod Finance Committee (since 2017), utilizing my long time professional finance and management experience, along with attention to both strategy and detail, while fostering collaboration and effective team dynamics.

Synod Justice Team (3+ years), representing Health Care Reform advocacy, including co-developing Single-Payer Health Care Resolution passed at 2019 Synod Assembly

Synod Green Faith Team member (mainly 2018/19) liaison to Sierra Club and wide ranging environmental issues; liaison to Angeles Chapter of Sierra Club

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

1) Passion for forward-looking strategic vision for God's church, following in Jesus' footsteps by being centered in active community service, social/racial/economic justice, love and hope for all

2) Committed to Transparency and Open Communication throughout Synod and with Congregations, with a Willingness to Listen and Learn from Diverse People and Opinions

3) Broad experience within this Synod, having been member at St. Paul's Santa Monica (joined from prior unchurched standing, married/council member/evangelism team/small group leader) 1983-88, Church of the Foothill Conferences La Canada (intern support team/children baptized) 1988-2006, (relocated to Nor Cal where was involved in two ELCA Lutheran Congregations over 10 years), St. Marks LA/USC (food distribution volunteer/garden helper) 2015 - 16, Bethel-LA 2016-18, and Mission Partner (member) Central Van Nuys 2018 - present, and a supporter of the Twin Valleys Conference Lutheran Parish of SWCA Synod.

10) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Rostered Man) – Three Year Term

**The Rev. Ryan
Chaddick
American, Burbank
Twin Valleys
Conference**



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Parish Pastor at American Lutheran Church, Burbank
Spiritual Care, Preacher, Educator, Community
Organizer, “Couch Church” creator/curator, Hybrid
Church curator

*In your own words, let us know about your
community Service, currently and within the past
three years.*

PFLAG-Burbank — Board Secretary
Organizing for Mission Network (ELCA)—
Community Organizer

Domestic Violence Center, Newhall
Burbank Tenants’ Rights Committee — Supporter
and Organizer
Burbank Coordinating Council — Active Member
Autistic Self-Advocacy Network — Supporting
Member/Ally/Disabilities Rights Activist

*In your own words, let us know about your synodical
involvement, currently and within the past three
years.*

Synod Council (Incumbent)
Mission Team for Rostered Leaders
Worship Collaborator with American Lutheran
Church and Bethel Lutheran Church, Encino
Collaborator with American Bethlehem Collective
Sunday School

*Please share three gifts that you would bring to this
position.*

Neurodivergent
Coffee Aficionado
Dad to Ella and Lyra. In love with Melissa Chaddick.

**The Rev. Jeff Kallevig
Emmanuel,
North Hollywood
Twin Valleys
Conference**



*In your own words, let us know about your
congregational service,
currently and within the
last three years.*

Senior Pastor,
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, North Hollywood, CA -
current.

Senior Pastor, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church,
Tucson, AZ - 2014-2020

*In your own words, let us know about your
community Service, currently and within the past
three years.*

North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry - current.
Cruzando Fronteras, Tucson AZ
Habitat for Humanity, Tucson, AZ

*In your own words, let us know about your synodical
involvement, currently and within the past three
years.*

Synod Council & Executive Committee, Grand
Canyon Synod, 2014-2020
Church wide voting member, 2016
Synod Council, Oregon Synod, 2009-2014

*Please share three gifts that you would bring to this
position.*

Creativity, inclusiveness, sweat.

11) Synod Council Member-at-Large (Rostered Man) – Three Year Term

The Rev. James Boline
St. Paul, Santa Monica
Los Angeles Metropolitan
Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Pastor, St. Paul's, 2000-present
Seminary Internship
Supervisor, 2012-present



In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

1. Volunteer, Westside Food Bank, Santa Monica
2. Member, Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council
3. ELCA representative, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles Ecumenical and Interfaith Program Group

4. Treasurer, SoCalLutherans, the LA chapter of Reconciling Works

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

1. ELCA representative, Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles Ecumenical and Interfaith Program Group
2. Member, African Descent Lutheran Association, LA chapter
3. Synod Discipline Committee
4. Churchwide Assembly Voting Member, 2019
5. Past Synod Secretary (2013-2016)

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

- * Experienced parish pastor of 32 years
- * Variety of leadership positions within this synod over past 27 years including conference dean, synod worship committee, discernment guide, synod secretary, MLK service planning, assembly planning
- * The gift of being queer - the LGBTQIA lens on life

The Rev. Drew Stever
Hope, Hollywood
Los Angeles
Metropolitan
Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.



Most recently, I was called in March to serve as Lead Pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in Hollywood and began in April 2021. From 2018-2019, I served as the seventh vicar at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Santa Monica. During that time, I was also an intern with SoCal Lutherans, the Southern California chapter of Reconciling Works. I have been active in the synod by doing pulpit supply with congregations and have worked with the Director of Congregational

Relations at CLU in coordinating and hosting Zoom workshops.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Last summer, I co-founded Queeranteen Camp. It is a virtual community for LGBTQIA+ youth from around the world created in response to the global COVID-9 pandemic. Additionally, I have been active in justice initiatives revolving around race and equity. During my internship at St. Paul's, I created a worship service that centered the voices and experiences of those from the LGBTQIA+ community as a way to foster community and healing.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I have just been called to serve as pastor for Hope in Hollywood. Historically, Hope has not been very active in the synod. With my leadership, we are excited to be more engaged with the synod and learn about all the great opportunities it has to offer our communities. I have worked closely with the synod's Assistants to the Bishop Rev. Brenda Bos and Rev.

Joseph Castañeda Carrera on various projects in the last couple years as well.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I am an observer and listen to all that's being said so that I can hear both what's being said what isn't being said. I'm intuitive and easily pick up on the emotions of those in the room. I am detail-oriented and am excellent at highlighting what might be missed.

12) Youth Representative – Two Year Term

Mr. Jaivan Ortiz
Redimidos, Oxnard
Channel Islands
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I volunteer with my community outreach team, organize musical activities and assist with extracurricular actions for the youth of my church, openly speak on church problems and decisions in order to not only speak for myself but speak on behalf of my youth as well.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I currently volunteer for my community diaper drive

lead by our community outreach program “Graceful diapers”. I tutor youth of all ages to help with their necessary style of learning. volunteer Coaching for little league baseball teams.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I am a member and leader in the Cali Strong Tri-synod youth group, however, this would be my first synod assembly.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I love to listen to everyone and gather perspectives from all of those around me to paint a bigger picture. Being a respectful, brave, empowering, and gentle voice for myself and those who cannot speak means the world too me. My passion for the success of myself along with the success of my peers.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Ms. Lucia Salazar-Davidson
Holy Trinity,
Thousand Oaks
Channel Islands
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I have been at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for about three years now. It is the church where my family and I landed when we moved from Palmer, Alaska, to here in Thousand Oaks. During that time as I’ve gotten closer to my church community here, I have helped a lot with the youth group at my church. During these last three years, we’ve had three different youth pastors, and I have helped to

interview and call the two most recent. I have done work with the congregation on a service trip to San Francisco. I have also worked frequently with the Lord Of Life student congregation at CLU, providing music with my guitar, helping with setup and cleanup, et cetera.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I currently serve as the Chair of the Educational Equity Committee on SDAC, which is the Student District Advisory Council for Conejo Valley Unified School District. My role on the council is to be a voice for the students and implement changes within the district. Together, we are helping bring out change that will impact the experiences of LGBTQ+ students and students of color. Last summer, I helped create Queeranteen Camp, which is an online camp for LGBTQIA+ youth from all faith backgrounds.

I helped found my high school's first GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) in at least 2 decades. I am in my second year as President of that club. As president, I helped to build a network of GSA's from within our district and plan events that help bring our communities together.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Most recently, I helped create #CaliStrong. #CaliStrong is a peer-led youth group for ELCA high schoolers. It includes youth from all over the Southwest California Synod and beyond. We are a group that is dedicated to creating change within the synod and the church, in particular creating more inclusive spaces and practices by and for LGBTQIA+ and youth of color. I was a voting member for ADORE LA at the 2019 Synod Assembly. Through ADORE, I attended the Authentic Diversity training (which I regard as one of the most impactful experiences of my life.) I was slated to be the MC for the Western States Youth Gathering this past

year, but it was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I also had the opportunity to preach for the Sierra Pacific's Youth Summit at Mount Cross, which was my first time ever preaching!

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I offer a perspective that I find is still unique and also very much needed in the church. I am a youth in the church, I am bi-racial, and I am queer. I am also a pastor's kid, so I can offer a perspective that comes from both outside and within the church. I am not afraid to share my thoughts on issues that are important to me and my community. I am a hard worker and I am passionate about creating change in spaces in order to make it more just and equitable for future generations.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Committees

Endowment Committee Member-at Large (Two Open Positions - Laypeople)

Ms. Renee Brandt
Church in the Foothills, La Canada Flintridge
Foothill Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

Ms. Martha Santrizos
Trinity, Santa Barbara
Channel Islands
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I was called to serve Trinity as Social Justice Coordinator until 2019. I continue to serve on the Outreach Committee, assist. minister; preach, and also served on worship and communication committees.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Coordinator for the Grace Food Pantry for 7 seven years; On the board of CLUE SB (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice); I serve on the Criminal Justice Workgroup and the executive board as

Treasurer; ISA (Interfaith Sanctuary Alliance) working for fair treatment of undocumented immigrants; I work with other groups to advocate for the under-resourced in the community.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I attend the Mission Team for Justice when possible. I learn so much from the rest of the group. Since I live so far away, I cannot always attend special events in person. I attend the synod assemblies whenever I can.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

1. I have some financial background as a former business owner and working with budgets
2. As a social justice coordinator, I bring compassion for those who apply for funds
3. As a treasurer, I understand how crucial funding can be to an organization's life and health at certain points.

Ms. Eloise Kaeck
Grace, Bell
Greater Long Beach
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Grace Church Council

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Pick fruit in season, wash and deliver to Friends in Deed, Pasadena. Homeless count. Immersed in Latino immigrant community. Summit Ave. Neighborhood Association, pick up trash

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Synod Assembly 2019

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Past experience in major and planned gift fund development for charities. Commitment to social justice along with African descent and Latino friends. Wish to see church structure change.

Mr. Aaron Poley
Shepherd of the Valley,
Simi Valley
Channel Islands
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I deliver food from a distribution site to our Stillwaters Cafe church campus distribution every other week. Two years ago, I ended four years of serving as a confirmation teacher. I have served in many other capacities over the years.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I serve on my school district's local control and accountability parent committee.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I last attended the synod assembly about two years ago. I've attended a few conference meetings.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I'm a skilled accountant. I'm good at facilitating group work. I'm enthusiastic about the potential for the synod to grow its service and glorification of God

Consultation Committee (Two Open Positions - Laypeople)

Ms. Lillian Parker
St. Matthews, North
Hollywood
Twin Valleys
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I currently represent the church on our non-profit, NoHo Home Alliance, as a member of the Board of Directors. I've served on the Nominations Committee and previously held the position of Vice President.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I've actively been involved in "homeless outreach" as well as leading coordinating "Mexico House" build, with two of our sister churches.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Nominate church members to attend Synod functions.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

The gifts of listening, reasoning & open mindedness.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Mr. Robert Siemer
Gloria Dei, Long Beach
Greater Long Beach
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Church Council, President - 2018/2019
Choir
Audit Committee, Chair - 2019
Website/Tech Admin - to present
Constitution/Bylaws - to present

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

-Homeowners Association, Vice-President - to present
-Long Beach Yacht Club, RVers Section, Chair - to present
-Community Legal Aid SoCal, Volunteer - 2019 to present

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

-Synod Assembly, Church Representative - 05/2019
-Conference Assembly, Church Representative - to present

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

-Preventing and resolving disputes has been my life's work
-I am a calm listener
-I respect the contributions of individuals

Discipline Committee (Two open positions - Rostered Leaders)

The Rev. Ronald Cox
Ascension,
Thousand Oaks
Channel Islands
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Coordinator, Eucharistic Ministry (communion to homebound, care facilities); adult education; Alpha evangelism coordinator; chair, outreach team.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Pulpit Supply.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Pulpit supply; new pastor/seminarian mentor.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Past corporate senior management experience; trained in mediation / conflict resolution (Lombard center); discernment.

The Rev. Chris Hogstad
St. Stephens of the
Valley, Palmdale
Tehachapi Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Pastor of St Stephens of the Valley since Oct 2016

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Rules of Golf official with the SCGA since 2018

Hold position of Spiritual Director on Via de Cristo of Southern CA and Central Valley secretariat since 2019

On national Via de Cristo lay rollo edit committee 2019 - present

Volunteered at various PGA tour events in number of roles

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Attended synod assemblies and Tehachapi Conference gatherings as I was able and scheduling allowed

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

To be fully present to hear all sides of given situation
Suggest what is best outcome for all interested parties
Work alongside others to resolve disagreement

The Rev. Marc Mohr
Church of the
Foothills, Sylmar
Twin Valleys
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Currently I'm the pastor at Church of the Foothill Conferences, Sylmar. I serve as a Minister of Word & Sacrament part time and part time at a local high school as an intervention paraprofessional. Most of my time spent at Church of the Foothill Conferences is preparing for worship. I have been a pastor for a year and a half. Prior to being a pastor, I was a vicar at Bethel Encino, completing my last year of seminary. During my time at Bethel, the congregation went through quite a few transitional changes.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

During the past year and a half I have served as part of the chaplain team at the San Fernando Police Department. I volunteer my time in this position providing the police officers with pastoral care at the police station, on ride alongs, and through food.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

During the past three years I have been involved with the Twin Valleys Conference of the Southwest California Synod. My time spent with the Twin Valleys Conference has been assisting the other pastors with confirmation and working together to collect food for the local food pantries within our synod. I have also recently been able to provide pulpit supply to a local Twin Valleys Conference congregation that is without a pastor.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Three gifts that I would bring to this position are:

- 1) Encouraging
- 2) Discernment
- 3) Exercising Patience

The Rev. Dr. Robyn Provis
Calvary, Morro Bay
Central Coast
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years. Interim at Calvary, Morro Bay and settled pastor in the Southern Ohio Synod.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Activism within the eco faith and social justice arenas. Frequent guest speakers for justice rallies on LGBTQ equity.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Previously served on synod council and synod executive committee for the Minneapolis Synod.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

1. Consultant skills
2. Training skills
3. Governance acumen

Discipline Committee (Six Open Positions - Laypeople)

Ms. Margarita Gonzalez
First, Torrance
South Bay Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Due to our relocation from Puerto Rico to California (2017 to present) my husband and I have been members of First Lutheran Church in Inglewood (2018-2020) and due to Covid-19, transferred to First Lutheran Church in Torrance. During this transition I have been just attending services, tithing, and contributing, as needed to the church.

During the period of 2013-2017 my husband and I retired temporarily to Puerto Rico and became members of the Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey in Puerto Rico. During this period I was actively involved in the church and served as a reader in the Sunday services. Due to Hurricane Maria in the island (2017) we decided to move back to California.

Before 2013 (time when my husband and I decided to retire in Puerto Rico), I was actively involved in the church (St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Gardena with Pastor George Villa) was assisting the treasurer in budgeting and collection/reconciliation of the offerings, was member of the church's council and served in community services. At the Synod level I was a member-at-large of the Synod and member of the Discipline Committee.



In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Being a member (2016 to present) of the Rotary e-Club of Puerto Rico & Las Americas, non-profit organization that its main purpose is to serve the communities in need, I have had the opportunity to be involved in community projects mainly in Puerto Rico, Central America & The Bahamas. These projects are related to aid and services provided due major disasters related to hurricanes in these countries.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

During the last three years I have not being involved in the synodical services, but before I went to Puerto Rico (2013), I was a member-at-large and a member of the Discipline Committee of the Southwest Synod.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Educational preparation (B.B.A, Accounting; M.Ed., Vocational Education, & M.A., Counseling)
Counseling and listening to others
Bilingual - proficient English & Spanish

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Ms. Gwendolyn Jackson
Olivet, Hawthorne
South Bay Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently



and within the last three years.

Currently I am serving as a Worship Assistant, Usher and serve on the Worship and Music Committee. Service as President of the Congregation ended in 2019.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I am a volunteer for My Friends House. We serve the community every Wednesday with food distribution and other needs. I have been a member of the Board for seven years. I also participate in the distribution of needed items for the Nursing Homes in the Hawthorne and Inglewood area through my church.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I volunteer yearly at the Church Wide Synod Assembly through ADLA (African Descent Lutheran Association).

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Experience - The ability to make sound judgements based on my former position as President.

Spiritual Gifts-Ability to serve others while serving God.

Ability to be fair and impartial.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

2022 Churchwide Assembly Voting Members

The Churchwide Assembly meets triennially in regular session, and the next regular session is scheduled to meet during the week of August 8, 2022, in Columbus, Ohio. Voting members are chosen locally from across the United States, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands, representing the diverse communities, congregations, synods, perspectives and geographic contexts of the ELCA. Together with other leaders of the ELCA, and guided by the Holy Spirit, they discuss the work of the church in the world and make decisions reflecting the challenges we face and the strengths we all bring to loving and serving our neighbors in the name of Jesus Christ, locally and globally. Over the course of the assembly, voting members:

- Hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units;
- Receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies;
- Elect officers, board members and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws;
- Establish ELCA churchwide policy;
- Worship together;
- Adopt a budget; and
- Conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization.

The outcome of the Synod Vice-president election will determine the available openings for voting members of the churchwide assembly from our synod. The synod assembly can vote for two non-rostered persons who are men and two non-rostered persons who are women among the churchwide assembly inclusion categories, so the gender of the VP, who must be a non-rostered person, will determine how many additional persons we can elect in those two categories.

As a result, the final grouping of those nominated to be voting members of the churchwide assembly will take place after the election of the Synod Vice-President and will be communicated to the voting members of the synod assembly.

2022 Churchwide Assembly Member (Rostered)

The Rev. James Boline
St. Paul, Santa Monica
Los Angeles Metropolitan Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

The Rev. Jeff Kallevig
Emmanuel, North Hollywood
Twin Valleys Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

The Rev. Maria Paiva
St. John, Gardena
Los Angeles Metropolitan Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I have been serving at Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Gardena since August, 2016 and as Coordinator of Latino Ministries at the Southwest California Synod since July, 2000.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I am part of the West Side Support Circle of the ECAS (Ecumenical Collaboration for Asylum Seekers).

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I serve in the Global Partnership Team, Immigration Task Force and El Salvador Mission Trip team of our Synod.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

As a member of the ELCA, I would love to participate in the Churchwide Assembly to share my wisdom, commitment and vote to the decisions that will be made there.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English



Deacon Shannon Savage-Howie
Holy Trinity, Thousand Oaks
Channel Islands Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

In my congregation I serve on the staffing/personnel committee creating and implementing policies and procedures for staff, as well as facilitating staff reviews. I also have also offered an Advent and Lenten yoga series within my congregation.



In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

In 2019 in the aftermath of the mass shooting and devastating wildfires in the Thousand Oaks community I helped to create and carry out a community storytelling project called Thousand Oaks Remembers. I am currently a member of Unity Conejo, a local grassroots committee comprised of allies, parents, and students of the LGBTQ+

community working together to make the school district safe and inclusive for all. I am also an active volunteer in my children's elementary school. Part of my call as a Spiritual Director is to work in substance abuse facilities and as an extension of this work, I occasionally present to community groups and local conferences addressing addiction and spirituality.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

For the past 5 years I have had the true joy of serving on the synod's candidacy committee. In my role as a spiritual director I have consulted with congregations going through transition, and led various leadership retreats for church councils.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

As a churchwide voting member I am able to bring knowledge of how the church functions on a multitude of levels. As a spiritual director I take discernment very seriously and seek to listen to the Spirit's stirring. As an individual I am looking for ways that the church can be a leader in social change and take steps to move ministry forward to address the issues we face in our country and our world.

The Rev. Ruth Sievert
St. Paul, Santa Monica
Los Angeles Metropolitan Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I have helped in giving out food to the community, and sought to preach and teach about Social Justice for my entire ministry.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I have been engaged in education for myself and educating my congregation about systemic racism and all its subtleties in our life together in the Church and in the Community. I am completely committed to helping our church and community dismantle systemic racism.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I have been active in our synod for my entire ministry. Currently, I serve on Synod Council, and the Mission Team for Rostered Leaders, and served on the 2021 Committee to Elect the Bishop.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

- 1) I have long term relationships with the clergy and congregations in our Synod, having served 5 congregations as pastor, and 8 congregations as interim pastor, in 6 of our conferences.
- 2) I listen well when others are speaking and I am able to make connections between what different people are saying. I work hard to be objective in what I am hearing.
3. I will carefully and thoroughly prepare for the Assembly by reading all of the preparatory materials sent to me ahead of the Assembly.

The Rev. Drew Stever
Hope, Hollywood
Los Angeles Metropolitan Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

**Pastor Changan
(John) Yu
Chinese Ministry of
Trinity Lutheran
Church, San Gabriel
San Gabriel Valley
Conference**



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I have been working on helping the congregation grow in the love of God, likeness to Christ and fruitful service in the whole of life, and re-build up the function of the Church such as teamwork, Leadership training, small service group; encourage the congregation to grow spiritually, emotionally, relationally, and intellectually in sense of belonging of the church development!

I have been working with Church Council, based on Lutheran Biblical understanding and context with our new location and situation, to build up the vision and mission for the church development.

Creative liturgical worship: In some special festivals, I leading contextualized liturgical worship using my own music compositions and creative idea based on our Chinese cultural; participate in thinking and feeling the embodiment and expression of God's grace in Chinese culture!

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Outreach Social Serves Program: In partnership with other organizations, and Churches, Provides support group service to communities and neighborhoods in need. The programs including: Leadership Development, Cultural and Art Traditions, Post Disaster Caring and Consoling, Caring of Disabled, Senior Care, as well as Education for Family Health ministries.

Community Choir: Our Choir not only serves for Sunday worship, and also serves for community events, senior house, and other social activities.

Table tennis ministry: provide Ping pong tables open to the church community and neighborhood, we also provide professional coaches to help people to learn, the goal of this activity is to make a good connection with the neighborhood and bear the good news of God.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

- As an Asian pastor, I have been actively and establish a platform of communication between congregation and synod office and staff.
- I encourage and leading our church council and members to participate in the activities and events of our Synod.
- I attach great importance to cross-cultural communication and learning, I participate in various ministries of our Synod such as Assemblies, Pastor Conferences, Ordination services, and also Outreach Social Serves Program!

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I have led Christian social service development and as a choir conductor as well for 10years, with these work experiences and interdenominational, intercultural contact and communication, my leadership and faith nurtured in many ways. As an Asian Pastor, I believe I am a bridge between the Asian church community and the outside world, with my Creative Communication, Leadership, and faith gift, I will help people to see and understand the beauty of God's grace and work in our culture!

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

2022 Churchwide Assembly Member (Layman)

Mr. Randall Foster
Community,
Los Angeles
Los Angeles
Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

Congregational services have manifested themselves in the areas of 1) Altar Guild, 2) Choir, Elder assistance, & bible study. In past years, congregational services have included: president, treasurer, auditor, property management and faith formation via scheduled bible study leadership.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Since 2003, I have had the pleasure of serving 18 years as a member of the Board of Regents for California Lutheran University, most recently as Vice Chair of the Board. In past years, I have also served as Audit Committee Chair, Student and Academic

Affairs Committee Chair, and Advancement Committee Chair as well as two time member of the Executive Committee, Board of Regents.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

Since 2014, I have had the pleasure of serving as the Synod Vice President, offering guidance and leadership to the Synod Council while working in concert with Synod Administration and the Office of the Synod Bishop. My term was extended through 2021 in keeping with the postponed 2020 Synod Assembly.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

Perceived gifts as a faithful servant: 1) Understanding and familiarity with Churchwide programs and committees, 2) Past Synod Representative to Churchwide Assemblies, 3) Presently responsible through the Synod Council for the implementation of the Future Church Initiative (FCI)

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Mr. Bryan William Hiroaki Honda (he/him/his)
Shepherd of the Valley, Simi Valley
Channel Islands Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I am a first-time Dad (as of the end of May!), an engineer, and currently a member of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church Simi Valley. I have attended SVLC most of my life, recently serving on the Call Committee and currently serving on Council.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

In the community, our church supports Relay for Life, ACTION Day of Service, and Christmas Shoppe, which I volunteer with. Last year, I connected with others in the community to protest alongside and financially assist people of color who have been far too ignored in our places of gathering.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I have served the greater synodical and national branches of the ELCA in attending Synod Assembly for the past 5 years and serving as a Servant Companion Lead for the National Youth Gathering.



Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I'm excited at the prospect of attending the churchwide assembly, and would look forward to bringing my gifts of dedication to Christ's work, a passion for activism, and a relational approach to serving those in need."

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

2022 Churchwide Assembly Member (Laywoman)

Ms. Jeanne Armstrong
Holy Trinity, Inglewood
Los Angeles Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I am currently serving as the Vice President of the council at Holy Trinity. We currently don't have a pastor, so I take on a lot of responsibilities along with my colleagues on the council. I previously served on the council for 7 years and was secretary for 6 of those years. I have planned and organize bible study, as well as being a leader.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I am a member of the ADLA in our area. I provide support for kids in the community, as far as instructional support. I am involved in a cycling club that supports raising money to purchase bicycles for

kids in the inner city. We also support many organizations to help improve our community (i.e. Habitat for Humanity)

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I have had an opportunity to work with the former Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Reg. Our church was going through the call process and we were working closely with the synod. I am currently working with the current Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Brenda Bos as our church will be going through the process of calling a new pastor.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I am good planner and organizer.
I am bilingual (Spanish) and can support others.
I enjoy getting to know people and are very social. I can help get things done.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Ms. Renee Brandt
Church in the Foothills, La Canada Flintridge
Foothill Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

Ms. Allison Johnson
Mount Cross, Camarillo
Channel Islands Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

Ms. Gwendolyn Jackson
Olivet, Hawthorne
South Bay Conference

See "Discipline Committee" category earlier in this report

Ms. Karen Moyer
St. Timothy, Lakewood
Greater Long Beach Conference

See "Synod Council Member-at-Large" category earlier in this report

2022 Churchwide Assembly Member (Youth or Young Adult)

Ms. Shawntelle Augustine
St. Mark's, Los Angeles
Los Angeles Metropolitan
Conference



In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.

I currently sing in the church choir and participate in church events and fundraisers. Within the past three years, I was able to plan be apart of service events like God's Work, Our Hands, partake in meetings with the work being done in our parking lot and the pre-school.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

I work with a center that is in partner with my congregation that gives students and staff an opportunity to be active in community service. We give our food bags every 4th Wednesday, make projects to help the community like composting, and

have camps for kids in the community to participate in.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

My most recent experience is volunteering for the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2018. I was a part of the Southwest Synod Youth Team in high school from 2014-2017.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

The gifts I would bring to this position is the gifts that my congregation has given me for 20 years. I will bring the open-mindedness and adaptability needed for the position. There are so many creative ideas from each person that you want to incorporate them all. Just being the person who listens and understand every person's backgrounds and adapt to that is what I bring to the table.

Person of Color/Primary Language other than English

Mr. Andrew Johnson
Mt. Cross, Camarillo
Channel Islands
Conference

In your own words, let us know about your congregational service, currently and within the last three years.



I have been active in my Church Youth Group and have volunteered as a lector and have worked in on the Sound Board for worship services. I attended the National Youth Gathering in Houston and have also attended camp many times at El Camino Pines. I have helped out with VBS.

In your own words, let us know about your community Service, currently and within the past three years.

Most of my community service has been through Boy Scouts. I have collected food for the food pantry, volunteered for many projects like painting over graffiti, painted at local elementary schools, and building planters, and helping people move. I also planned, purchased materials for and made a new church sign for my own church as my Eagle Scout Project. I attained my Eagle Scout rank this year.

In your own words, let us know about your synodical involvement, currently and within the past three years.

I do not have experience at the synod level. I am interested in finding out how the larger church works.

Please share three gifts that you would bring to this position.

I would bring the gifts of looking at things from a young person's perspective, the ability to learn new things quickly, and the ability to listen and learn from those around me.

Ms. Lucia Salazar-Davidson
Holy Trinity, Thousand Oaks
Channel Islands Conference

See "Youth Representative" category earlier in this report

Mr. Jaivan Ortiz
Redimidos, Oxnard
Channel Islands Conference

See "Youth Representative" category earlier in this report
