REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
SLATE OF NOMINEES

SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER
Vote for no more than 2
The Rev. Brian A. McClinton
The Rev. Jim D. Polanzke
The Rev. Molly K. Haggerty
The Rev. Hans E. Becklin
The Rev. Kevin W. O’Bryan
The Rev. Carla Christopher Wilson

SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY WOMAN
Vote for no more than 2
Jennifer R. Lau
Carlotta C. “Chucki” Strevig
Linda J. Long
Stacy L. Schroeder

SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY MAN
Vote for no more than 1
Michael R. Zeigler
David G. Dobbs

CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR
Vote for no more than 3
The Rev. Kevin C. Stout
The Rev. Eric L. Petty
The Rev. Timothy J. Seitz-Brown
The Rev. Michael L. Reist
The Rev. Gwenn Louise Trout
The Rev. Karen E. Larson
The Rev. Miriam L. Nicholson
The Rev. Jason P. Northridge

CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAYPERSON
Vote for no more than 2
Rhada J. Hartmann
Shani Holleran Shenk
Evan P. Williams
Virgil L. Gibson
Gregory P. John

POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

THE SYNOD COUNCIL
• Is interim legislative authority between meetings of the Synod Assembly
• Exercises trustee responsibility
• Recommends program goals and budget to the assembly
• Carries out resolutions of the assembly
• Provides for an annual review of rostered ministers
• Issues letters of call as authorized
• Fills vacancies on the council
• Reports its actions to the assembly annually
• Determines the salaries of officers and assistants to the bishop and maintains a system of personnel practices for all employees
• Plans the time, place, agenda, and program of each assembly
• Confirms appointments by the bishop of this synod
• Creates and appoints committees, commissions, and other organizations needed to fulfill this synod's functions
• Provides liaisons to the conferences
• Elects members to Luthercare; Spiritrust Lutheran; Lutheran Camping Corporation; Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania, and United Lutheran Seminary
• Calls assistants to the bishop; appoints functional committees of the council and other committees and task forces of the council

DUTIES OF A SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBER

• Serves on at least one committee of the Synod Council
• Serves as a liaison to at least one committee or ministry of this synod
• Serves as a liaison to a conference
• Receives no compensation for such service
• Attends called meetings – at least 5 stated meetings annually, special meetings as necessary

Term – 3 years, with 2 consecutive terms allowed for adult and young adult members;
Youth seat is one term of 2 years.
Terms run from Synod Assembly to Synod Assembly.

CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

The Consultation Committee functions as an extension of the office of the bishop for purposes of adjudication when conflict arises or there is a need for discipline. It functions in two primary ways: 1) as a vehicle of appeal and mediation when there is disagreement among factions within a congregation on a substantive issue that cannot be resolved (+S17.11); and 2) in an advisory capacity to the bishop during the disciplinary process for ministers of Word and Sacrament and Word and Service. This second function is defined in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

NOMINEE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

THE REV. BRIAN A. MCCARTY
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER

Mailing address: 2164 Mount Zion Road, York, PA 17406
Phone number: 717-757-7626; 717-487-2183
Email:
Congregation: Mt. Zion, York
Congregation conference: North York
Current occupation: Pastor
Previous occupation (if relevant): Senior Pastor; Mt. Zion, York and Christ “Starview”
Mount Wolf
Year of birth (optional): 1967

Education:
• Lead Pastor Training – United Lutheran Seminary – 2018
• M. Div. – LTSG – 1993
• B.A. – Gettysburg College (Degrees Psychology / Musical Theatre) – 1989
• Incomplete Graduate Studies
  Towson University - Masters in Music Education
  LTSP - Doctor Ministry program

Church Service Position:
• Discipline Committee (6 years)
• Candidacy Committee (6 years)
• Worship Committee (6 years)
• Prison Ministry Task Force (4 years)
• ELCA Voting Member Churchwide Assembly (1998, 2009, 2013)

Significant Community Service Position:
• East York Fire Department – chaplain
• Spiritrust – Community Committee
• Access York (YWCA) Clergy Committee Domestic Violence
Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
My leadership style is very pastoral and team oriented, trusting the gifts of all people, being open to not just my ideas, but the ideas of others, realizing that all are called to ministry, regardless of profound agreement and/or disagreement. Being open to the Holy Spirit is crucial in acknowledging what the future holds for the synod and church. I have learned in my 27 years of parish ministry, to not only set goals and profiles, but to remain open, as the Spirit of God moves and flows as it chooses. There are a lot of wonderful ministries that are being done separately and collectively within congregations and the synod. Our society is embroiled in division and I have seen similar actions and behaviors becoming an influence in the life of the church. The challenge that I see is how can the church combat such influence in our working with one another while, at the same time, return to being a beacon for society by loving God and neighbor, transforming society rather than being a byproduct of it (Romans 12:1-2). My hope is being a part of the synod council, we can continue in assisting and moving toward the goal of inclusion and diversity. By working together in the tasks presented to us, we can reach a level that goes beyond the surface in dealing with the realities of the bigotry that is both overtly and covertly hidden within the synod among both lay people and ministers. Together in breaking the racial and LGBTQIA walls that are still standing strong within Central Pennsylvania we would be simply working side by side, with the help of God, in deciding on the daily, monthly and yearly issues within the synod making thus another avenue of truly adhering to God’s message that we are all known by our love.

THE REV. JIM D. POLANZKE
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER

Mailing address: 2385 South Queen St., York, PA 17402
Phone number: 717-654-8850
Email: jpolanzke@yahoo.com
Congregation: Christ Lutheran Church of Spry, York
Congregation conference: York
Current occupation: Pastor
Previous occupation (if relevant):
Year of birth (optional): 1963

Education:
- B.A. – University of Iowa
- M.Div. – Wartburg Theological Seminary

Church Service Position:
- Lutheran Camping Corporation Board (6 years)
- Global Mission Committee (2 years)
- Synod Council – Southeast Michigan (1 year – moved to new call)

Significant Community Service Position:
- Dallastown School District Clergy Council
- Dallastown School District Anti-Racism Council
- Judge of Elections

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
My goal is to continually listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit that impacts my life both professionally and personally. There are times when I am called to be pastoral and comforting and others when I am called to be prophetic and challenging. I believe the church, in all settings, needs to have both voices lifted up. I intend, with God’s help, to continue to listen and to continue to speak out in whatever ways and places that God calls me to serve, including as a member, once again, of a synod council.

THE REV. MOLLY K. HAGGERTY
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER

Mailing address: PO Box 103, Newville, PA 17241
Phone number: 717-321-4877
Email: Pastormolly.bsulc@gmail.com
Congregation: Big Spring United, Newville and Zion, Newville
Congregation conference: West Cumberland
Current occupation: Pastor and Interim Pastor
Previous occupation (if relevant): Deacon (rostered), Advocate
Year of birth (optional):

Education:
- B.S. – University of Minnesota, Moorhead – Elementary Ed/Special Ed
- M.A. – Luther Seminary – Children Youth & Family
- M.Div. – United Lutheran Seminary (Gettysburg/Philadelphia)
Church Service Position:
- Pastor; Mission Developer/Redeveloper (7/2019)
- Deacon (11 years)
- Youth & Children Ministry Volunteer Coordinator (25 years)
- ELCA Youth Ministry Network Region 5 Coordinator (3 years)
- Lutheran Campus Ministry Board, U of WI-Oshkosh (3 years)

Significant Community Service Position:
- Global Mission Synodical Committee – 5A (6 years)
- Crossways Camping Ministries, Wisconsin – Program Committee (11 years – volunteered 15 years)
- Human Rights Committee – DHS, Washington DC (4 years)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
Having served on both rosters of the ELCA synodical committees and nationwide ministries, I believe my experiences of church in the world and the Word help see the complexities of our church expressions. The synod calls communities from rural, suburban and urban areas which makes our church dynamic. I have served as a rostered leader and on church staff in all of these areas and believe it helps me seek a deeper understanding of context and unique ministry needs. Having served as a Court Monitor prior to ministry as well as being active on boards, I believe I have an understanding of rules/regulations and the importance to use them as a framework toward justice and community. They must be every changing to our contexts and we must have honest dialogue on the need to keep or change these guiding principles to live into God’s mission in our synod. As a mission developer and redeveloper as well as training in Congregational leadership & Change and Conflict, I believe I have the ability to think outside the norms and use creativity and imagination to find ways to live out our synodical mission and vision to meet traditional and creative new expressions of church.

THE REV. HANS E. BECKLIN
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER

Mailing address: 1005 Clearview Ave., Ephrata, PA 17522
Phone number: Office 717-627-0048; Cell 717-330-3918
Email: pastorbecklin@gmail.com
Congregation: Salem (Kissel Hill), Lititz
Congregation conference: North Lancaster
Current occupation: Pastor
Previous occupation (if relevant):
Year of birth (optional): 1992

Education:
- B.A. summa cum laude – Luther College
- M.Div. – Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Church Service Position:
- Member, ELCA Church Council (2013 – 2019)
- Presiding Bishop’s Representative to the Moravian Church (2015 – 2019)
- Member, ELCA Budget and Finance Committee (2013 – 2019)
- Member, ELCA Memorials Committee (2016)
- Voting Member, ELCA Churchwide Assembly (2011, 2013)

Significant Community Service Position:
- Warwick Released Time, Lititz – substitute teacher

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
As a baptized Christian, I bring to this work my call to pray for my fellow leaders and discern alongside them. As a young pastor with a strategic mind and a deep knowledge of church history, I bring a unique perspective to the cultural, societal, and ecclesial crossroads at which we find ourselves. As a leader with extensive experience in the national church and with our ecumenical partners, I can help our Synod strengthen and learn from these relationships. As a detail-minded thinker, I can serve as a faithful trustee of the Synod and its finances.

THE REV. KEVIN W. O’BRYAN
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER

Mailing address: 163 Honeysuckle Hollow Rd., Newport, PA 17074
Phone number: 810-580-9951
Email: kevin.w.obryan@gmail.com
Congregation: Mannsville, Elliottsburg
Congregation conference: Perry
Current occupation: Pastor

Previous occupation (if relevant):

Year of birth (optional): 1990

Education:
- B.A. – Oakland University – Philosophy
- M.Div. – Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University

Church Service Position:
- Vicar, Zoar Lutheran Church (2 years)
- Associate Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church Latrobe PA (1 year)
- Pastor, Mannsville Lutheran Church (Current – start 12/15/2019)

Significant Community Service Position:

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
As a passionate young adult with training in critical analysis, I am able to bring a new perspective to discussions related to this position. I am also serving within rural Perry County and hope to give voice to some of the passions of those congregations. I have always felt called and am excited by sitting on bodies like Synod Council and hope to not only contribute with these and other strengths, but also to learn this expression of the Church and from my more experienced colleagues.

THE REV. CARLA CHRISTOPHER WILSON
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – ORDAINED MINISTER

Mailing address: 127 Timber Drive, Mountville, PA 17554
Phone number: 717-814-7748
Email: poetrywarrior@gmail.com
Congregation: Good Shepherd, Lancaster
Congregation conference: Lancaster
Current occupation: Associate Pastor of Faith Formation and Outreach
Previous occupation (if relevant): Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries and Vicar of Union Lutheran Church, York, PA
Year of birth (optional): 1978

Education:
- Columbia University – Psychology and Creative Writing
- M.Div. – United Lutheran Seminary

Church Service Position:
- Co-Chair, Toward Racial Justice Task Force (2019, 2020)
- Transformational Ministries (2018, 2019, 2020)
- Synod Assembly Chaplain Support Team (2018, 2019)
- R3 Congregational Coach (2019/2020 Cohort)

Significant Community Service Position:

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I have extensive experience in marketing, social media, communications, writing and interviewing, fundraising, large and small event planning and coordination, diversity and equity work. I am well connected and deeply familiar with several counties in the synod and have the time and capacity to work in flexible cooperation across regions, borders, and differences.

JENNIFER R. LAU
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY WOMAN

Mailing address: 2515 Brady Road, York, PA 17404
Phone number: 717-332-8416
Email: JENNIFERL17404@yahoo.com
Congregation: Zion, York
Congregation conference: York
Current occupation: Administrative Assistant, Quickel Lutheran Church, York
Previous occupation (if relevant): Director of Child Care Licensing, OCDEL, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – retired 2013
Year of birth (optional): 1955
Education:
▪ B.S. – York College of Pennsylvania – Police Science and Corrections

Church Service Position:
▪ Synod Council Executive Committee (2018 – present)
▪ Synod Council Member; Member of Mission Committee, Constitution Committee, LSS Mission Fund Committee and Transforming Ministry Team (2017 – present)
▪ R3 Renewal Coach, Rounds 1 and 2 (2017 – present)

Significant Community Service Position:

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I feel God is calling me to deeper involvement in the life of all expressions of the church – congregation, synod and churchwide. I am committed to the priorities of our synod – equipping leaders, encouraging cooperation and engaging in new mission - and am involved in efforts to meet those priorities. I am passionate about renewal in our church on many levels and serve as a coach guiding congregations through the R3 journey. My experience working with other congregations across our synod has provided me with opportunities to learn about the ministries and joys as well as the concerns and challenges that are part of being the church. Three years of service as a member of Synod Council has broadened my understanding of issues facing our synod and I want to continue to be of service on Synod Council. Serving for 12 years on congregational council, including four years as president, allowed me to deepen my understanding of issues faced in each of our congregations. Through my career, I developed skills in administration, public speaking, team building, visioning, policy and program development, working across organizations and communications. With the help of God, I hope to put my love of Christ, talents and experience to use by continuing to serve as a member of Synod Council.

CARLOTTA C. “CHUCKI” STREVIG
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY WOMAN

Mailing address: 122 Stoners Circle, Littlestown, PA 17340
Phone number: 717-253-4960
Email: strevigc@comcast.net
Congregation: St. John, Littlestown
Congregation conference: Hanover
Current occupation: Retired
Previous occupation (if relevant): State employee Department of Public Welfare
Year of birth (optional): 1950

Education:
▪ Biglerville High School – 1968
▪ B.A. and M.P.A. – Shippensburg University

Church Service Position:
▪ Church Council/President (2005 – 2008)
▪ Parish Life Committee (2005 – current)
▪ Churchwide Assembly (2011)
▪ Synod Assembly (2000 – 2018)

Significant Community Service Position:
▪ Gettysburg Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop – manager
▪ Thrivent
▪ Gettysburg Hospital Auxiliary – president

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I have been a member of a Lutheran Church throughout my life. I enjoyed Camp Nawakwa four years and was active in Luther League through my teens. Upon transferring to St. John’s, I began teaching junior level faith formation at the primary level and then to the adult classes. Talents are accrued through all our experiences in faith, organization and management. I would bring these qualities to the table as the council considers action and direction. It is the unique blending of all experiences that move in the direction of God’s call to service.
LINDA J. LONG
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY WOMAN

Mailing address: 234 Spruce Street, Williamstown, PA 17098
Phone number: Home 717-647-4045; Cell 717-395-3689
Email: linken234@comcast.net
Congregation: Immanuel, Williamstown
Congregation conference: Upper Dauphin
Current occupation: Retired
Previous occupation (if relevant):
Year of birth (optional): 1948

Education:
▪ B.S. – Education

Church Service Position:
▪ Sunday School Teacher and VBS Director (23 years)
▪ President, Church Council (2 4-year terms)
▪ Upper Dauphin Conference & Synod Assembly Representative (18 years)
▪ Churchwide Assembly Delegate (New Orleans 2016)
▪ Member, Synod Council (Oct. 2017 – Sep. 2018)

Significant Community Service Position:
▪ Gate Ministry Twin Valley Alliance Church Williamstown – teacher
▪ Vikings Backpack Program – volunteer
▪ Neighbor’s United Café – volunteer

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
Through all my experiences at the various levels of Christ’s Church I have developed a "rule of life", Proverbs 3:5-6, "5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” I refer to this rule often especially in decision making and choosing what actions are needed. As I did when asked to serve on Synod Council once again; I agreed, with the help of God.

STACY L. SCHROEDER
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY WOMAN

Mailing address: Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
Phone number: 717-574-3629
Email: stacy.l.schroeder@gmail.com
Congregation: St. Stephen, New Kingstown
Congregation conference: West Shore
Current occupation: Writer and community leader
Previous occupation (if relevant): Nonprofit executive
Year of birth (optional): 1970

Education:
▪ B.A. with honors – Pennsylvania State University – English with writing emphasis

Church Service Position:
▪ Director of Camp Nawakwa (1994 – 1997)
▪ Mag editor/designer/writer/photog, St Stephen, New Kingstown (2018 – present)
▪ Member/blog coord, Toward Racial Justice Task Force, LSS (2019 – present)

Significant Community Service Position:
▪ Ta-ri (www.ta-ri.org) – exec. dir. local org. (2005 – present)
▪ Emmaus Village (bldg tiny homes for those experiencing homelessness) – board, local org. (2019 – present)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
Thanks for this opportunity! I am a lifelong Lutheran with deep roots in central PA, a dreamer who cares passionately about people. I’ve been involved with nonprofits my entire adult life, often in the formation or revitalization of them. One thing I love is to understand a system and its purpose, then brainstorm and get involved with improving how others are served through it. I’m still
learning, still growing, and I thank God for that. Currently, I'm part of a discipleship huddle and chair of my congregation's R3 team. I am also writing a book on women, faith, and leadership.

MICHAELE R. ZEIGLER
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY MAN

Mailing address: 4 Oakwood Place, Carlisle, PA 17015
Phone number: 717-249-4956
Email: mizeigler@comcast.net
Congregation: Big Spring United, Newville
Congregation conference: West Cumberland
Current occupation: Retired
Previous occupation (if relevant): System Programmer Analyst
Year of birth (optional): 1953

Education:
▪ B.A. – Shippensburg University – Chemistry

Church Service Position:
▪ Church Treasurer (2015 to present)
▪ Church Council (2016 to present)
▪ Finance Committee (2009 to present)
▪ Endowment Committee (2009 to present)
▪ Mutual Ministry Committee (2020)

Significant Community Service Position:
▪ Annual Fall Festival benefitting local community organizations – finance

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I believe I am a logical problem solver and am goal oriented to resolve issues and find solutions. I have been a Lutheran my entire life and a member of this Synod. I would look forward to becoming more involved in the larger Church of which our congregation is a member.

DAVID G. DOBBS
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: SYNOD COUNCIL – LAY MAN

Mailing address: 831 Clouser Hollow Rd., New Bloomfield, PA 17068
Phone number: 717-582-8569
Email: doombs@nmax.net
Congregation: Mannsville, Elliottsburg
Congregation conference: Perry
Current occupation: Recently retired
Previous occupation (if relevant): Fleet Operator
Year of birth (optional): 1957

Education:
▪ West Perry High School, Elliottsburg – 1976

Church Service Position:
▪ Church Council President (8 years, intermittent periods)
▪ Church Council Vice-President (10 years, intermittent periods)
▪ Worship & Music Committee Chair (6 years)
▪ Lector (Years and years)
▪ Communion Assistant (Years and years)

Significant Community Service Position:
▪ Perry County Food Bank – assist with food distributions
▪ New Bloomfield Fire Company events – volunteer

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I have been a Lutheran all my life. I recently retired from being a fleet operator 19 years for Morgan Products, LTD, and 20.5 years for Andersen Corp., delivering building products and Andersen windows and window parts. I am a people person and in my former job I met many varieties of people. I can get along with anyone. In my church at Mannsville Lutheran I have been church council president and council vice-president numerous times; served as Music & Worship Committee Chair for six years; plus serving as lector and assisting with communion. I feel Synod Council is a wonderful opportunity to help in the greater church family.
THE REV. KEVIN C. STOUT  
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR

Mailing address: 111 Walnut Street, PO Box 46, Boiling Springs, PA 17007  
Phone number: 717-877-8721  
Email: kcstout6@outlook.com  
Congregation: St. John, Boiling Springs  
Congregation conference: West Cumberland  
Current occupation: Pastor  
Previous occupation (if relevant): Christian Mission Development in Asia  
Year of birth (optional): 1963

Education:
- B.S. – Agronomy – 1985
- M.A. – HCD – 2010
- M.Div. – 2016

Church Service Position:
- Church Pastor, St. John Boiling Springs, PA (Oct. 2016 to present)
- Church Partnership World Wide, Compassion International (2008 to 2015)
- Bangladesh Country Director, Compassion International (2003 to 2007)
- Youth Group Coordinator, Mt. Zion Lutheran, Lewisberry, PA (2009 to 2014)

Significant Community Service Position:
- Red Land High School Soccer Boosters – board president (2010 to present)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
Passion for fostering a team culture complemented by discipleship and preaching from the Word. Leverage knowledge and faith as follower and believer in Jesus Christ as an advocate for children worldwide. A proven servant for leading supporters in today’s complex and fast-paced world with extensive experience in participatory planning, designing and implementing programs, financial and operational administration, and fund raising.

THE REV. ERIC L. PETTY  
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR

Mailing address: c/o Messiah Lutheran Church, PO Box 34, Elliottsburg, PA 17024  
Phone number: Office 717-582-8557; Cell 254-627-0371  
Email: prericpetty@yahoo.com  
Congregation: Messiah, Elliottsburg and St. Paul, Newport  
Congregation conference: Perry  
Current occupation: Pastor  
Previous occupation (if relevant): Intentional Interim Pastor  
Year of birth (optional): 1964

Education:
- M.Div. – Trinity Lutheran Seminary – 2005

Church Service Position:
- SW Texas Synod Council (2007 – 2011)
- Synod Assembly Planning Team (2015)

Significant Community Service Position:

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I have the desire to serve the synod and larger church. While having an eye for detail and the “letter of the law,” I always keep in view the larger picture, where an action will lead us in the future, and the spirit of the law when making decisions. My training and work as an Intentional Interim has taught me how to look beyond the “presenting problem” to the larger issues(s) that are driving it and the forces and systems that generate it. My goal is to bring about reconciliation to the situation and parties.
THE REV. TIMOTHY J. SEITZ-BROWN  
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR

Mailing address: 204 Encampment Court Spring Grove, PA 17362  
Phone number: 717-332-4216  
Email: timothy.seitzbrown@gmail.com  
Congregation: Benders and Saint Paul, Biglerville  
Congregation conference: Gettysburg  
Current occupation: Interim Pastor  
Previous occupation (if relevant):  
Year of birth (optional): 1959

Education:  
▪ Thiel College – Environmental studies – 1981  
▪ M.Div. – Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia – 1987

Church Service Position:  
▪ Lower Susquehanna Synod Council (2018 – 2020)  
▪ LSS Toward Racial Justice Team (2018 – present)  
▪ Pennsylvania Poor People’s Campaign (2018 – present)  
▪ Transformational Ministry Team (2012 – present)

Significant Community Service Position:  
▪ Movement of Immigrant Leaders of Pennsylvania  
▪ March on Harrisburg  
▪ Christian Peacemaker Teams/Iraqi Kurdistan

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:  
As a parish pastor since 1987, returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Jamaica, 1981-83), Global Mission Volunteer (Tanzania, 1999-2000), Christian Peacemaker Team delegate (Iraqi Kurdistan, 2016), I have had the opportunity to work alongside people of diverse backgrounds. I seek to listen to every person's backstory and listen to how the Spirit has been moving in our lives and to discover together what in their lives have been suffocating the Spirit.

THE REV. MICHAEL L. REIST  
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR

Mailing address: 40 N. Railroad St., Annville, PA 17003  
Phone number: 610-698-0311  
Email: revmiker@outlook.com  
Congregation: St. Mark, Annville  
Congregation conference: Lebanon  
Current occupation: Pastor  
Previous occupation (if relevant):  
Year of birth (optional):  

Education:  
▪ M.Div. – LTSP  
▪ Masters in Sacred Theology – LTSP

Church Service Position:  
▪ Pastor, New Jerusalem Lutheran Church (6/04 – 7/07)  
▪ Pastor, Bethany Lutheran Church (8/08 – 9/13)  
▪ Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (9/13 – 3/19)  
▪ Pastor, St. Mark Lutheran (4/19 – present)

Significant Community Service Position:  
▪ Berks Habitat for Humanity – organized fundraisers (6 years)  
▪ Do free fundraisers a few times a year for different charitable organizations  
▪ Habitat, Special Olympics, Relay for Life, etc. – volunteer

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:  
I am not only an ordained pastor but I am a certified PA teacher in secondary education. As a result I am quite versed in education and youth issues. In addition I run my own business, The Amazing Magi, LLC. I am a professional magician that has performed all over the NE United States and on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line. Because of this I am also well versed in audience management, presentation...
of programs, delivering a message, and be able to hold people's attention. I have performed and been to many churches of different denominations. It has helped reinforce my already strong ecumenical nature. Church is about witnessing, serving, and then leading. That is why I am at your service. I want to serve however I am able. In addition, before I was a pastor but instead a Youth Director I served at St. Mark Lutheran Church during a time when there was a very nasty division and conflict over the serving Pastor. I was able to observe and learn during that experience and it has served me well.

**THE REV. GWENN LOUISE TROUT**

**NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR**

**Mailing address:** 265 North Enola Drive, Enola, PA 17025  
**Phone number:** Church 717-732-9652; Cell 717-602-9913  
**Email:** pastorgwenn@verizon.net  
**Congregation:** Zion, Enola  
**Congregation conference:** West Shore  
**Current occupation:** Pastor  
**Previous occupation (if relevant):** Arts administrator, Publications design consultant  
**Year of birth (optional):** 1958

**Education:**
- B.A. – Mansfield University – Communications & Theatre  
- M.Div. – Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (now United Lutheran Seminary)

**Church Service Position:**
- LSS Synodical Worship Committee (6 years – 2 years as chair)  
- LSS Assembly Planning Committee (7 years)  
- LSS Conference Dean, Lancaster & West Shore (3 years, 4 years respectively)  
- LSS Synod Council (6 years)

**Significant Community Service Position:**
- Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland/Perry County – member of the board and secretary  
- Greater Harrisburg Chorus, Sweet Adelines International – various administrative and musical positions, as well as administrative positions for the regional board/management team

**Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:**

As stated in their job description, “The Consultation Committee functions as an extension of the office of the bishop for purposes of adjudication when conflict arises or there is a need for discipline.” As a member of this committee, I would be open to hearing all sides, discussing the findings with committee members, and working toward a reasonable plan of action. I feel that I can remain non-judgmental, fair and impartial in all issues which would come before this committee, and would bring a sense of humility and compassion for all parties. Having served as a dean in two different conferences throughout my 23 years of ordained ministry, I have helped both individuals and congregations deal with issues which may come before this committee.

**THE REV. KAREN E. LARSON**

**NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR**

**Mailing address:** 67 Agape Drive, Ephrata, PA 17522  
**Phone number:** 302-897-4154  
**Email:** karen.larson522@gmail.com  
**Congregation:** Zion, Leola  
**Congregation conference:** North Lancaster  
**Current occupation:** Pastor  
**Previous occupation (if relevant):**  
**Year of birth (optional):** 1956

**Education:**
- B.S. Summa cum laude – Wilmington University, New Castle Delaware – Behavioral Science  
- M.Div. – Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg – 2012

**Church Service Position:**
- Pastor, Zion, Leola (2018 to present)  
- Dean, North Lancaster Conference (2019 to present)  
- Pastor, Grace, Easton, MD (2012 to 2018)  
- Secretary, S. Delmarva Conference DE-MD Synod (2017 – 2018)  
- Volunteer chaplain, Memorial Hospital (Regional UMMC) (2012 – 2018)
Significant Community Service Position:
- Memorial Hospital, Easton, MD – volunteer on-call chaplain.
- Talbot (Interfaith) Association of Clergy and Laity, Easton, MD
- CONTACT Harrisburg – telephone crisis and referral center telephone volunteer

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
As a parish pastor, and previously serving in organizations as diverse as seminary student association (President) and PTA (offices including President), an Interfaith ministry organization and Stephen’s Ministry, I have wide-ranging experience. I have felt the movement of the Spirit and I have felt challenged at times, walking with people and organizations during times of stress and conflict. My gifts in serving as a listening post and non-anxious, and sometimes (when possible) healing presence has been honed in various settings including a daytime drop-in center for homeless and at-risk women, many of whom had just been released from prison, a church in conflict and an multi-cultural group working on homelessness. I have a deep love for people and deep sense that God is in the midst of all things, even the conflicts that arise in and between frail human beings. I desire to serve.

THE REV. MIRIAM L. NICHOLSON
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR

Mailing address: 219 Patio Court, New Bloomfield, PA 17068
Phone number: 717-579-4610
Email: auntiemn2017@gmail.com
Congregation: St. James, Gettysburg
Congregation conference: Gettysburg
Current occupation: Retired
Previous occupation (if relevant): Parish Pastor – Messiah Elliottsburg
Year of birth (optional): 1962

Education:
- M.Div. – Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg – 1992
- M.Ed. – East Tennessee State University – 2006

Church Service Position:
- Lower Susquehanna Special Needs Subcommittee (6 years)
- Perry Conference Secretary (4 years)
- Perry Conference Dean (3 years)
- Lower Susquehanna Listening Committee (4 months)

Significant Community Service Position:
- YOUNG VOICES IN SONG Planning Committee (Lutheran/Methodist Elementary After School Program)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
Twenty-three years of Parish Ministry have provided a variety of experiences, forming a good foundation to fulfill the obligations of this committee. I am very aware of the importance of good communication. (God gave us two ears and one mouth for a reason.) I believe that providing individuals and/or congregations the opportunity to express their points of view allows for the Holy Spirit to bring healing to difficult situations.

THE REV. JASON P. NORTHRIEDE
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – PASTOR

Mailing address: 2604 Sedgewick Ave., Dover, PA 17315
Phone number: 717-384-6026
Email: jpnorthridge@gmail.com
Congregation: St. John, Mt. Wolf
Congregation conference: North York
Current occupation: Pastor
Previous occupation (if relevant):
Year of birth (optional): 1983

Education:
- B.A. – Susquehanna University
- M.Div. – Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg

Church Service Position:
- Dean, North York Conference (2018 - )
- Reference and Counsel Committee (2017 – 2019)
**Nominating Committee (2018, 2020)**

**Significant Community Service Position:**
- Northeastern Area Senior Center – Board Member (2015 - Current)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:

_I have the patience to listen with empathy to different points of view and finding a compromise. I truly appreciate process and establishing ways for open communication between different parties and keeping the focus on the issue at hand._

**RHADA J. HARTMANN**  
**NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAYPERSON**

Mailing address:  
Phone number: (717) 309-9296  
Email: rhadahartmann@yahoo.com  
Congregation: St. Paul’s, York  
Congregation conference: York  
Current occupation: Adjunct Nursing Faculty at York College of Pennsylvania  
Previous occupation (if relevant): Director, Palliative Care and Bereavement Services, York Hospital, York, PA

Year of birth (optional): 1953

**Education:**
- B.S.N. – Villa Maria College, Erie, PA  
- M.S.N. – Capella University, Minneapolis, MN

**Church Service Position:**
- President, Church Council (5 years)  
- Chairperson, Pastoral Sabbatical Committee (3 years)  
- Chairperson, Mutual Ministry Committee (3 years)  
- Chairperson, Benevolence Committee (3 years)  
- Synod Representative (1 year)

**Significant Community Service Position:**
- Youth Aid Panel  
- Get Out the Vote  
- York County Food Bank

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:

_I have been very involved in St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, York, PA since 1998. Our church has many active and retired rostered leaders. I have a meaningful, personal relationship with several of them. As the founding chairperson of the first Sabbatical Committee at St. Paul’s, I learned about the practical and personal challenges that pastors face daily. As an expert with formal training on grief and loss, I understand that rostered clergy have unique issues that impact them on a daily basis, both personally and professionally. I also have training and experiences with assisting people struggling with the effects of grief and loss. Additionally, I have added expertise in mental health issues including addictions and mood disorders. I am very aware that rostered leaders are not exempt from these issues. In my management positions within the high stress environment of an acute care hospital, I have successfully utilized a holistic approach in assessing and managing behavioral and performance issues in the work place. I would bring this approach to evaluating performance concerns with rostered leaders._

**SHANI HOLLERAN SHENK**  
**NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAYPERSON**

Mailing address:  
Phone number:  
Email:  
Congregation: Big Spring United, Newville  
Congregation conference: West Cumberland  
Current occupation: Big Spring Area Food Bank Director and Assistant Realtor  
Previous occupation (if relevant): Statistical Analyst for PHC4  
Year of birth (optional): 1973

**Education:**
- B.S. – Penn State University, University Park, PA – Health Policy and Administration

**Church Service Position:**
- Food Bank Representative (Dec. 2016 to present)
Significant Community Service Position:
  - Big Spring Area Food Bank – director
  - Boy Scout Troop 186 – committee secretary

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
I have a diverse background professionally. Each position I have held requires me to interact and manage many points of view and personalities. My current position with Food Bank is an excellent example. I meet many people from various backgrounds and I serve as a mediator for a variety of situations that arise. Each time I encounter a conflict between two parties, I empathize with each party to understand what their motivations and reasons are that created the conflict. I ask for God to guide me for the best solution for all that will serve the greatest good.

EYAN P. WILLIAMS
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAYPERSON

Mailing address:
Phone number:
Email: eywms1@comcast.net
Congregation: Zion (Rife-Kllinger), Millersburg
Congregation conference: Upper Dauphin
Current occupation: Retired
Previous occupation (if relevant): Superintendent, Upper Dauphin Area School District
Year of birth (optional): 1955

Education:
  - A.B – Lafayette College – 1977
  - M.Ed. – East Stroudsburg – 1989

Church Service Position:
  - Upper Dauphin Cabinet Representative, Nominating Committee (2019 – present)
  - Lower Susquehanna Synod Discipline Committee (2019 – present)
  - Church Council Member, Zion Lutheran Church (2013 – 2019)

Significant Community Service Position:

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
With God’s help, I feel I may ably serve on the Consultation Committee. Sorting through thorny matters was an integral part of the various positions I have held throughout the course of my career in education. I have had to consider many and various cases as a mediator and as a judge. As a teacher, principal, and superintendent, I have been called upon to settle disputes, to ascertain the facts of a case, and do what is proscribed and, most importantly, what is right. Thankfully, I have always had sound guidelines to work with, and I have always hoped for the Lord’s guidance. Given the choice between justice and mercy, I feel that the Lord would want me to show the same mercy that I pray he will show me when the time comes.

VIRGIL L. GIBSON
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAYPERSON

Mailing address: 123 Laura Lane, Gettysburg, PA 17325
Phone number: 717-334-8614
Email: virgib@embarqmail.com
Congregation: Christ, Gettysburg
Congregation conference: Gettysburg
Current occupation: Retired; Part-time Teacher/Tutor, Harrisburg Area Community College
Previous occupation (if relevant):
Year of birth (optional): 1944

Education:
  - M.S.B.A. – Boston University – 1985
Church Service Position:
- Synod Council, Lower Susquehanna Synod (5 years)
- Executive Committee (1 year)
- Mission Interpreter, Lower Susquehanna (2 years)
- Crossroads Campaign, ULS (1 year)
- Congregational Council, Our Shepherd, MD (3 years)

Significant Community Service Position:
- Adams County (PA) Literacy Council – tutor (6 years)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
The only gift I bring to this job is that of being loved by God and having a deep love for Jesus' church as it lives out faith in the Lutheran tradition. I've held about every job a layman can over the years, serving on Synod Council for the recent five years. I firmly subscribe to Luther’s explanation of the eighth commandment, putting the best construction on others' comments and actions, not exaggerating others' beliefs, nor making prejudicial assumptions based on labels, categories, or stereotypes. I extend the benefit of the doubt. (Ephesians 4:29)

GREGORY P. JOHN
NOMINATED FOR POSITION: CONSULTATION COMMITTEE – LAYPERSON

Mailing address: 3801 Oxbow Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone number: Mobile 717-576-8579; Home 717-761-5329
Email: beachdogs4@verizon.net
Congregation: St. Stephen, New Kingstown
Congregation conference: West Shore
Current occupation: Retired
Previous occupation (if relevant): Logistics Analyst Manager/Consultant
Year of birth (optional): 1953

Education:
- Chambersburg High School – 1970
- B.S.B.A. – Shippensburg State University – 1974
- M.B.A. – Shippensburg State University – 1976

Church Service Position:
- St. Stephen Church Council Member (3 years)
- St. Stephen Church Adult SCS Teacher (Circa 2000 – present)
- St. Stephen Church Educational Ministry Com. Member (Circa 2010 – present)

Significant Community Service Position:
- Boy Scouts of America – various adult leadership and service positions (over 45 years)

Please describe your unique talents and/or experiences that equip you for this position:
Greg is locally acknowledged as a faith-grounded, prayerful, deep thinker. In his congregational life, his Scouting life, and in his professional life he has been willing to engage in contentious discussions and provide researched, balanced, and logical feedback.