
District President Nominations

South Dakota District Bylaw 5.05 specifies that the names of all clergymen who have received at least 5 nominating votes for the Office of District President be reported to the Convention by means of the Convention Manual. The clergymen who received five or more nominating votes are:

Scott C. Sailer, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

The same Bylaw specifies that the candidates for the Office of President shall be the three clergymen who received the highest number of nominating votes from the congregations of the District. These three men must each give their written consent to be placed on the official ballot and must also indicate their willingness to serve as full time District President if elected. The three clergymen who have received the most nominating ballots and who have consented to have their names placed on the official ballot are:

Thomas Christopher, Alexandria, South Dakota	1 nomination received
Ray Greenseth, Murdo, South Dakota	2 nominations received
Scott C. Sailer, Sioux Falls, South Dakota	43 nominations received

Respectfully Submitted,

Reverend Samuel L. Bobby, Secretary
The South Dakota District LCMS

Biographical Data

Thomas D. Christopher

Born November 3, 1961

Family:

Wife: Jane Marie (nee: Jacobs) Christopher
Married August 5, 1989
John (1988)
Michaela (1991)
Joshua (1994)

Education:

University of North Dakota	BA - 1986
Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN	MDiv - 1990

Service to the Church:

Parish Ministry:

Redeemer, St. Cloud, MN	1990-1996
St. Martin-Trinity, Alexandria-Spencer, SD	1996-2011
St. Martin-Trinity-St. John, Alexandria-Spencer-Emery, SD	2011-Present

District Service:

Secretary of Fall Pastors Conference, SD District	1999 and 2006
Circuit Counselor	2009
District Convention Floor Committee Member	2012
District Reconciler	2010-Present
Circuit Visitor	2016-Present

Synod Service:

Delegate to Synod Convention	2001
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Auxiliaries:

Board of Directors – Good Shepherd Lutheran Home, Sauk Rapids, MN	
President SE SD Lutherans for Life	2004-2011
Pastoral Advisor SD LLL	2006

Community Service:

Alexandria, SD Library Board
Trap Instructor, 4-H Shooting Sports

Questions for Candidates for the Office of District President

1. Describe your commitment to the doctrine and practice of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

The officially-stated doctrine and practice of our Synod is, for the most part, solid and firmly Scriptural and Confessional, therefore my commitment to it is also solid. We must always remember, however, that due diligence must be maintained by both pastors and the lay people of our Synod to keep the LCMS firmly rooted in the Scriptures and Confessions so that we do not drift away from our Lutheran identity and practice as so many formerly solid Lutheran churches have done.

2. What challenges and opportunities do you see facing our South Dakota District?

Since I could probably go on for several pages on this topic, I will list just two challenges and opportunities that I see right now in our Synod/District.

First: The primary challenge that we all face is to not lose hope in our Lord Jesus Christ; He is still and always will be the Lord of the Church and our only hope; He has His Church in His hand and will not let her fall. So in our congregations we must continue to faithfully maintain the Word and Sacrament ministry, which is the means whereby our Lord keeps His Church and fills us with hope in Himself. Word and Sacrament ministry must be maintained in our communities as long as possible and we need to continue to work together to find creative ways to help and support one another in the Gospel work of continuing to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to an ever-darkening world in these latter days. Our strength lies in Christ and in our support of one another. If I may quote the great philosopher Red Green: "I'm pulling for you; we're all in this together!" That is "synod" – all being in this together and pulling for one another. And that is our opportunity as we see one another not in competition for members, but as fellow heirs of eternal life and help each other out as best we can to keep confessing the truth and reaching out with that truth into our communities. I will also say that our district's emphasis on education and outreach and mercy with programs such as the Lay Leadership Institute and the "Harvest Grants" are wonderful efforts to continue this walk together. Working together, we can continue to come up with creative ways of supporting one another as we faithfully reach out to the lost for their eternal salvation.

Second: We also face the challenge of remaining faithful to the Scriptures and our Lutheran Confessions and identity while at the same time continuing to reach out with the Gospel into an increasingly hostile world. One of the great blessings God has given our church is a body of doctrine that is faithful to the Scriptures and written for us plainly and clearly in our Lutheran Confessions and other writings. Despite this, there is unfortunately an increasing amount of doctrinal and practical disagreement in our Synod, especially in the areas of church fellowship, Communion practices, issues related to the Office of the Holy Ministry, and, I would say, the importance of actually *being* Lutheran in our public confession and practice and some of this disagreement inevitably makes its way into our district congregations. The question we all must answer, then, is whether being truly Lutheran is important and valuable enough in today's culture and society to actually keep us truly Lutheran in our doctrine and practice, that is, to keep us projecting and confessing a specifically Lutheran identity to the world around us (I would contend it is!). Therein lies also our opportunity. It is our Lutheran identity, doctrine, and practice that sets us apart from the generic and often Christ-less evangelical Christianity that we see so much in our society. What an opportunity for us to proclaim Christ crucified! Our sacramental, Law/Gospel theology and practice is right on the mark and is what distinguishes the Lutheran Church as the true church on earth. It is exactly this orthodox and true doctrine and practice that is the greatest opportunity we have to proclaim the truth of the Gospel and our greatest challenge as Satan hates this doctrine and will do all he can to silence it. Yet, again, Christ is Lord of the Church and will uphold her in that struggle through His blessed Means of Grace!

3. What is your vision for the South Dakota District?

Hmm. The word "vision" makes me cringe, just like the word "passion" does. It is vision and passion that get so many church leaders into trouble and lead to all kinds of dubious practices and false theologies in church. The Church doesn't need visionaries it needs faithfulness, so why don't we get rid of the word "vision" and replace it with "faithfulness" instead - in fact, that's my vision . . . and I'm passionate about it. What we need is faithfulness to the doctrines and practices of the Lutheran Church. I like the sainted Rev. Barry's motto: "Get the message straight, Missouri. Get the message out, Missouri." How about if our vision were simply to attain and maintain doctrinal and practical orthodoxy, unity, and faithfulness and then help and support one another in getting that message out into our congregations, communities and beyond? So, first, keep our message straight, and, second, get our message out. That would

be my vision for our District (I know it's pretty much plagiarizing Rev. Barry and it all sounds pretty cliché, but it's what our Lord wants of us so what other vision do we need?).

4. How do you see the role of District President?

First of all, the office of District President, as all synodical offices, is a corporate, man-made office that is useful and necessary for our ecclesiastical structure as it stands now but has no mandate in the Holy Scriptures. The Office of the Holy Ministry is the highest office in the Church, therefore, speaking personally, I would regard the election to the office of District President not as a "promotion," as I have heard some say, but, within the Church, actually a step down, as it were. Having said that, however, someone must serve in the office and I give thanks to God for the honorable service of Rev. Sailer and all who have and will serve our District and Synod in the office of District President. While I would humbly accept that office and serve to the best of my ability if actually elected to it, I would do so reluctantly and not without some degree of regret and sadness. I love being a parish pastor, I love the people of my parish and, as Circuit Visitor, the pastors and people of this circuit; to be a full-time synodical officer would be quite a change. I let my name stand in nomination for District President out of respect for those who trust me enough to have nominated me, yet I do so with a great amount of hesitancy.

Now, to answer the question at hand, the role and responsibilities of the District President are clearly given to us in the Synod's bylaws (Bylaw 4.4). I have neither the power nor authority to change these so anything else I would like to add or change is superfluous. I would uphold this stated and agreed-upon role to the best of my ability.

5. How would you assist the congregations and church workers of the District to remain theologically and confessionally strong?

First of all, by keeping myself theologically and confessionally strong. Of all people in the District, the District President should know his Lutheran theology and how that theology is reflected in our practice, therefore regular and devoted time spent in reading and studying the Scriptures and the Confessions is of utmost importance for this office. I give thanks for our current District President, Rev. Sailer, who is faithful in this regard and whom I have never found in error and always open to discussion when there is disagreement!

Second, by faithfully praying for each of the congregations and pastors in the District. This is especially important if conflicts should arise when it is easy to begin to see others as enemies and adversaries. You cannot long hold bad feelings for someone for whom you are praying.

Third, being a friendly Gospel presence! Visitation, friendly reminders of our mutual promise to remain faithful to the doctrine and practice of our Synod, fraternal admonition when required, but most of all an open communication between fellow pastors and parishes in our Synod and District are essential for maintaining theologically and confessionally strong pastors and congregations. I have never been District President, so I do not know how great is the workload, but I put a high priority on contact and visits with the members of my parish as pastor; I would intend to do the same with the members of the District if I were to ever serve as District President, at least as much as is possible with the other duties of the DP.

Fourth, in those unfortunate and hopefully rare times when there is clearly error on the part of a pastor or congregation and repeated discussion and Gospel admonition has been fruitless, when absolutely necessary the Law also must be applied and erring congregations and/or pastors who refuse to repent of obvious sin or false doctrine or to be faithful to the promises made when they became a member of Synod must be dealt with according to the currently agreed upon procedures for such disputes.

Biographical Data

Ray A. Greenseth

Born: December 13, 1953

Family:

Married Patti J. (nee: Geigle) Greenseth on February 14, 1996.

Children: Morgan (1984)
Joshua (1987)
Kodi Geigle (1984)
Hope Geigle (1983)
Jacob Geigle (1986)
Colleen (1997)

Education:

Concordia, Milwaukee, WI	AA - 1976
Concordia, Ann Arbor, MI	BA - 1978
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO	MDiv - 1982

Ministries Served:

St. Paul-Trinity, Wakefield-Altona, NE	1982-1986
Our Savior-Trinity, Carmi-McLeansboro, IL	1986-1991
First-Emmanuel, Wall-Creighton, SD	1991-2001
Messiah-St. Paul, Murdo-Draper, SD	2007-2011
Messiah-St. Paul-Our Redeemer, Murdo-Draper-Phillip, SD	2011-Present

District Service:

Dialog Evangelism
Education Program Area, Chairman

Community Service:

Ministerial Alliances
Kiwanis
American Legion
Volunteer Fire Department
Ambulance Driver
Lions Golf League
Food Bank
Chamber of Commerce

Military Service:

United States Air Force 1972-1974

Questions for Candidates for the Office of District President

- 1. Describe your commitment to the doctrine and practice of The Lutheran Church --- Missouri Synod.**
I fully support the doctrine and practice of The Lutheran Church --- Missouri Synod.
- 2. What challenges and opportunities do you see facing our South Dakota District?**
The challenges that I see areministering to the people who don't come to church.
... ministering to young families

... ministering to those who are getting older and are in care facilities and letting them know that the LORD and His church still cares for them.

... continually reaching out to others as our numbers are declining.

... seeing where we can start new missions.

3. What is your vision for the South Dakota District?

to keep it all about "JESUS" as it is all about Him!

To help our churches and families be better at sharing their faith in Jesus with others.

To see that churches look beyond the borders of their own area or town and remember that Christ suffered, died and rose for all ,even those who are not like us, i.e. different color, ethnic background. That we see the "Mission Field" as not only being over there but also here in our own yard.

4. How do you see the role of the District President?

I see the District President as a servant of Christ who is here to help us. He is on our side leading and guiding us in the way that we need to go, one who is in the Word and always willing to share God's Word with others as he leads, guides, and prays for the people of South Dakota and of our Synod.

5. How would you assist the congregations and church workers of the District to remain theologically and confessionally strong?

To make it a priority to visit every congregation and pastor in the coming triennium.

To attempt to attend the Circuit Pastor's conferences

To be there and be open in discussions with what is going on with them and be there to encourage them and their congregations as we are all here because it's all about "Jesus"

Biographical Data

Scott C. Sailer

Family Information:

- Born in Renton, WA, on March 24, 1959, to Calvin and Kathleen (nee Kraenzel) Sailer.
- Raised in western North Dakota. Graduated from South Heart (ND) High School in 1977.
- My home congregation is Redeemer Lutheran Church, Dickinson, ND.
- Married Sarah M. Meyer on December 28, 1982, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Willmar, MN.
- Sarah is the assistant principal at Sioux Falls Lutheran School.
- Sarah and I have three sons: Tim (31), a professional actor at the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, VA; Aaron (29), the Director of Finance at Concordia Lutheran Schools of Omaha, Nebraska, and married to Lisa nee Haberberger, June 26, 2015; and Daniel (27), a percussion performance student in a Masters program at the University of North Texas, Denton, TX. All three sons are graduates of Concordia University System institutions.

Occupation, Education, Employment History, Involvement in the Church:

- President of The South Dakota District—LCMS since 2015.
- BA (1981), Biblical Languages and Literature, Concordia-St. Paul, MN.
- M Div (1985), Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO.
- Ministries served –
Vicarage at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Royal Oak, MI (1983-1984);
Pastor at St. John Lutheran Church, Howard, SD (1985-1989);
Pastor at Bethesda Lutheran Church, Hot Springs, SD (1989-1994);
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Admission Office (1994-1998);
Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD (1999 – 2015).

Other service in the Church:

- 1st Vice-President of The South Dakota District (2013-2015).
- 2nd Vice-President of The South Dakota District (2012-2013).
- Secretary of The South Dakota District (2006-2012).
- Circuit Counselor, Brookings Circuit (ca. 1987-1989); Sioux Falls Circuit (ca. 2000-2005).
- District Nominating Committee (past service).
- Synodical Nominating Committee (1992).
- Advisory Delegate to the 2013 Synodical Convention.
- Chairman of several District Pastoral Conferences, the last being the Fall Conference, 2014.
- District Youth Ministry and Missions/Evangelism Task Forces (ca. 1987-1993).
- District Church Worker Recruitment Committee (ca. 1985-1990).
- District Continuing Education Committee (ca. 2000-2005).
- Community Life Builder, 2001 Synodical Youth Gathering.
- Chairman of the Feasibility Committee and of the Planning Committee for Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls (2005-2008).
- Member of the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Alumni Council (2004-2010).
- District CWEDA Chairman (Church Worker Education Debt Assistance) (2004-present).
- Camp Minneboji Staff (1986-2013), including Dean of the Camp (1999-2013).

Service in the Community:

- Howard, SD, Service Club (1985-1989).
- Howard, SD, Ministerial Association (1985-1989).
- Hot Springs, SD, Kiwanis Club (1989-1994).

- Intermittent Chaplain at the Hot Springs VA Hospital (1989-1994).
- Little League Baseball Coach (2001-2002).
- YMCA Basketball Coach (2000-2003).
- Sioux Falls Lincoln High School Band Parents (2001-2009), Booster Club (2008-2009).

Questions for Candidates for the Office of District President

1. Describe your commitment to the doctrine and practice of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. God has made us a church body that honors Him by holding fast to His Word and sharing the hope we have in Christ, who is the Savior of the world. I believe we in the LCMS rightly understand and teach God's Word, properly dividing and applying His Law and His Gospel. I fully accept the Holy Scriptures as the inspired, unchanging, and inerrant Word of God, and the Lutheran Confessions as a correct exposition and interpretation of God's Word. I am fully committed to the doctrine and practice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. I believe I demonstrate such commitment sensitively, confidently, and winsomely. This is the evangelical tone I think we all would do well to employ in giving witness to the hope we have in Christ, if we are to impact the ever-changing, unsteady world with His Gospel.

2. What challenges and opportunities do you see facing our South Dakota District? Declining membership and fewer worshipers challenge many of our congregations. And yet, by God's grace, our churches are still standing, and, in some cases, are the only remaining church in town. Still, it is challenge is to keep our churches open as population and membership numbers decline, and so we District and Circuit leaders need to strategize with our congregations about their future and their opportunities for witness and mercy. Our numbers may be down, but there is still so much we can do to share the love of Jesus in word and deed.

The demographic challenge is not only a reality for the LCMS, but it has struck all the mainline denominations hard. There will be folks from other Christian traditions left without a church, as churches close. What an opportunity this presents for us in the Missouri Synod to be available to and warmly welcome these people. Our pastors can be their pastor and our churches can be their church! An attitude adjustment may be required of us. We will all need to remember that our churches are really not "our" churches, they are Christ's churches. Congregations exist not only to nourish their own, but, like the mission of the Son of Man, we are used by Him to "seek and save those that are lost." It seems to follow, from this outward-looking mission emphasis of Jesus, that we have the call to warmly minister to our friends in Christ who no longer have a church home in their town, when they approach us.

Another reality in South Dakota is that there are plenty of unchurched and de-churched folks all around us who need the hope that only Jesus can give them. This is true in the rural areas and in the cities of our state. The Sioux Falls metro area alone has 97,000 people who claim no church affiliation. This is a challenge! But what a privilege and opportunity this is for us to reach out to these precious souls with God's love.

Finally, another hard reality is that the Church no longer holds a high position in society. Unfortunately, it also holds a lower place than it ought to even among our church members. We, too, are being infected with the disease of secularism. Recent research by the Pew Research Center shows that LCMS members reflect the attitudes of the rest of the culture on such issues as abortion, homosexuality, and same-sex marriage. This is a challenge, and it is an opportunity. Clear teaching on the basis of God's Word is what we are called to convey, because it can change hearts and minds. However, this will take great patience and a posture of love over against the false beliefs we encounter.

Retaining our often wandering sheep takes a great deal of going and finding and listening, and not a mere waiting for them to settle back into our pews.

3. **What is your vision for The South Dakota District?**
 - a) To continue to provide a solidly Lutheran Christian witness throughout the state of South Dakota, but taking care to forge relationships with our neighbors and our communities, so that they are more willing to listen to the treasured Gospel God has given us;
 - b) To have congregations, pastors and lay people who love and trust one another, as we work together for the sake of the Gospel, recognizing that our covenant as “synod” does not preclude using creative, impactful ministries in whatever county of the state God has placed us;
 - c) To continue to partner as congregations in providing Gospel-centered, servant ministries, such as our Native American work, the Sioux Falls hospital chaplaincy, campus ministry, and, increasingly, short-term mission trips; and
 - d) To stand together with non-LCMS South Dakota Christians in witness and service where our Biblical and Lutheran Confessional witness is not compromised, in this increasingly secular society. Life issues, the Biblical definition of marriage, and disaster response are examples of places where we can stand arm-in-arm with other Christians.

4. **How do you see the role of District President?** The District President is the chief servant-leader of the District and representative of the Synod, who lives and serves in South Dakota. He is the chief liaison between the International Center and the saints of God in our congregations, and between our saints of God and the International Center. He is a faithful Christian and pastor who loves and understands South Dakotans and, especially, LCMS pastors, teachers, DCEs, and deaconesses, and laypeople in South Dakota. He visits, advises and guides; he does not dictate. He is an encourager and provides correction, when needed, on the basis of God’s Word. He empowers and trusts his fellow workers in the District Office to do their work, which they are far better at doing than he.

5. **How would you assist the congregations and church workers of the District to remain theologically and confessionally strong?** Congregations and schools will remain theologically and confessionally strong only if the pastors, teachers, DCEs and other workers are theologically and confessionally strong. To remain strong, we must know and study God’s Word and the Confessions. To that end, I would encourage our pastors and teachers to practice the disciplines of study and prayer. I would emphasize that our pastors should attend the Winkels and the twice-annual district pastors’ conferences, and that our teachers and DCEs should attend their conferences. I would remind the pastors that continuing education opportunities are available for them, and they must make this a priority. Congregations, for their part, must lovingly insist that their pastors properly proclaim God’s Law and Gospel. They should expect the pastors to conduct Bible studies, and the people must avail themselves of these studies. Ted Kober, in his new book from CPH, *Built on the Rock: The Healthy Congregation*, provides evidence that the healthiest congregations are those in which a significant percentage of worshipers and leaders are involved in Bible study on a regular basis. This commitment to Bible study is the #1 factor in a congregation’s health, according to Kober’s research. Such study will contribute to our having theologically and confessionally healthy congregations and workers, too.

Nominations for Circuit Visitors

The following are the results of the nominating process for Circuit Visitors carried out throughout The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod according to Bylaw 5.2.2 of the 2016 Synodical Handbook (pages 186-187). The list is submitted by the District Secretary and is subject to ratification by this District Convention.

Circuit A

Reverend Timothy Koch
Concordia-Immanuel Lutheran Churches, Cresbard-Wecota, SD

Circuit B

Reverend David Knefelkamp
Zion-First English Lutheran Churches, White-Aurora, SD

Circuit C

Reverend Ray Greenseth
Messiah-St. Paul-Our Redeemer Lutheran Churches, Murdo-Draper-Philip, SD

Circuit D

Reverend Dale Sattgast
Emeritus, Huron, SD

Circuit E

Reverend Randy Sturzenbecher
Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, SD

Circuit F

Reverend Thomas Brown
Zion Lutheran Church, Mitchell, SD

Circuit G

Reverend Thomas Christopher
St. Martin-Trinity-St. John Lutheran Churches, Alexandria-Spencer-Emery, SD

Circuit H

Reverend Raymond Hartwig
Emeritus, Sioux Falls, SD

Circuit I

Reverend Jordon Andreasen
St. John-Trinity Lutheran Churches, Wagner-Fairfax, SD

Report of the Nominating Committee

This slate of nominees, together with pertinent biographical information, is provided for the offices of: District Secretary; District Treasurer; District Board of Directors (lay member) – 2 to be elected. A change of circumstances (i.e. the departure of a nominee from the District) may necessitate a change in this report prior to or during the Convention.

FOR DISTRICT SECRETARY

NAME: Reverend David G. Otten

BIOGRAPHY: **Family Information:**

Wife – Heather

Children – Anna, Dorothy, Esther, Irene, Marlys, Gerhard

Church Membership:

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, SD

Church Experience/Positions:

MDiv, Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN 1996

Vicarage at St. John Lutheran Church, Plymouth, WI

Pastor at Messiah-St. Paul Lutheran Churches, Murdo-Draper, SD 1996-2004

Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Dimock, SD 2004-2016

Pastor at Emmanuel-Christ Lutheran Churches, Gettysburg-Lebanon, SD 2017-Present

Camp Minneboji Staff

District Constitution Committee

Voting Delegate 2001 and 2007 and 2013 Synodical Conventions

Circuit Counselor 2006-2012

District Secretary 2012-2015

LWML District Counselor

LWML Zone Counselor

Lions Club

NAME: Reverend Randy Sturzenbecher

BIOGRAPHY: **Family Information:**

Wife – Vonda

Children – Ryan, Megan

Church Membership:

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, SD

Church Experience/Positions:

MDiv, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO 2001

Vicarage at Trinity, Persia, IA, and St. John, Honey Creek, IA

Pastor at First English, Centerville, SD and Zion, Hurley, SD 2001-2006

Pastor at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church and School, Black Hawk, SD 2006-Present

District Youth Board and Chair

CWEDA Secretary

LWML Jr. and Sr. Counselor

Circuit Visitor

Parish Services Committee, 2015 District Convention

Higher Things Catechist and Chaplain

Black Hills Lutheran School Pastoral Advisor

2016 Circuit E Pastoral Delegate to Synod Convention

FOR **DISTRICT TREASURER**

NAME: James W. Schnaidt

Church Membership:

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Menno, SD

Occupation:

Banker

Church Experience/Positions:

Elder

Treasurer

Member of District "Future of the CEF" Committee

Other Experience/Positions:

Menno-Olivet Care Center Board of Directors

Menno City Council

Menno School Board

Menno Ambulance Service

NAME: Jeff Siekmann

Church Membership:

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Brookings, SD

Occupation:

Special Assistant to the VP for Finance and Business/CFO at SDSU

Church Experience/Positions:

Current Treasurer of SD District LCMS

Current Treasurer of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

Elder

Congregational Vice President

Church Council

Building Committee

Board of Stewardship

Endowment Fund Committee

Circuit Delegate to LCMS Synodical Convention

Other Experience/Positions:

Thrivent Congregational Advocate

Thrivent Builds Volunteer

ADVANCE Board of Directors

ADVANCE Foundation Board of Directors

Past Assistant Scoutmaster – Boy Scout Troop 14

Past Den Leader – Cub Scout Pack 4

FOR **LAY MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS (TWO TO BE ELECTED)**

NAME: Dale Hemminger

Church Membership:

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Spearfish, SD

Occupation:

Retired Educator

Church Experience/Positions:

Elder
Congregational President
Secretary
Sunday School and Bible Class Teacher
Lutheran Youth Fellowship Counselor
SD Lutherans for Life Board Member
Black Hills Lutheran School Board Member

Other Experience/Positions:

Beadle County Thrivent Board President
Spearfish Food Pantry Board Member
Onward Wolsey President
Wolsey Lions' President
Wolsey-Wessington Boosters President
TriState Museum Member

NAME: Robert J. Herz

Church Membership:

Zion Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD

Occupation:

Retired Educator

Ministries Served:

Principal/Teacher in Lutheran Schools – 25 years

Church Experience/Positions:

Congregational Chairman – 4 terms
Chairman Board of Lay Ministry – 3 terms
Board of Stewardship – 1 term
District Board of Missions and Evangelism – Missouri District
Chairman North Wisconsin District Teacher's Conference
One floor committee for the North Wisconsin District Convention
Two floor committees for the South Dakota District Conventions
Delegate to the Synodical Convention twice
Delegate to the SD District Convention – 3 times
Served as a facilitator for Synod's Dispute Resolution Process
Serving as a Lay Member to the SD District's Board of Directors

Other Experience/Positions:

President of Post 22 American Legion Baseball Parent's Inc.
Board of Directors for Timberline Little League

NAME: Pauline Sumption

Church Membership:

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, SD

Occupation:

Municipal Finance Officer for Rapid City, SD

Church Experience/Positions:

Sunday School Teacher
Congregational Secretary and Treasurer
South Dakota Youth Ministry Task Force
Financial Review Committee

Other Experience/Positions:

United Way of the Black Hills (Chairman)
Rapid City YMCA (Secretary)
Rapid City Area Schools Financial Advisory Council
SD Municipal League (1st Vice President)
SD Government Finance Officers Association (President)

NAME: David L. Zuercher

Church Membership:

Faith Lutheran Church, Pierre, SD

Occupation:

Retired Attorney (United States Department of Justice, Supervisory Assistant
United States Attorney, District of South Dakota; State of South Dakota Assistant
Attorney General)

Church Experience/Positions:

Board of Stewardship
Board of Elders, Chairman (many terms)
Adult Bible Class Teacher; numerous committees
LCMS District/Synod: South Dakota District Lay Voting Delegate
Lay Voting Delegate Synodical Convention 2016

Other Experience/Positions:

United Way Board of Directors
Community Banquet Server
South Dakota State Bar Association Ethics Committee
US Attorney's Office Ethics Advisor and Professional Responsibility Officer

FOR PASTORAL MEMBER, DISTRICT CONVENTION NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2021
(2 to be elected)

NAME: Joshua Jones

PARISH SERVED: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Rapid City, South Dakota; Sole Pastor 2007-Present

BIOGRAPHY: 2007 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO

Currently working on a Doctor of Ministry degree;
Service with Habitat for Humanity
Special needs and disabilities organizations

NAME: Lloyd Redhage

PARISH SERVED: Holy Cross-St. John Lutheran Churches 1983-1987
Onida-Agar, SD
Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1987-1997
Black Hawk, SD
Zion-St. Paul Lutheran Churches, 1997-2017
Andover-Ferney, SD
St. John-St. Paul, 2017-Present
Britton-Ferney, SD

BIOGRAPHY: 1983 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN

District Youth Ministry Task Force
Constitution Committee
Rural Ministry Program Area
Circuit Counselor
4-H Leader in the community
LLI Instructor

NAME: Steven Weispfennig

PARISH SERVED: St. John's Lutheran Church, 2008-Present
Yankton, SD

BIOGRAPHY: 2008 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO

SD District Youth Board 2011-2014
LWML SD District Counselor 2014-Present
DCE Intern Supervisor 2013-2015
Yankton Area Ministerial Association
Camp Minneboji Honors Camp Counselor 2009

NAME: Matthew E. Wurm

PARISH SERVED: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 2013-Present
Brookings, SD
Trinity Lutheran Church, 2008-2013
Bemidji, MN

BIOGRAPHY: 2008 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO
DOXOLOGY Collegium member 2014-Present

FOR LAY MEMBER, DISTRICT CONVENTION NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2021
(3 to be elected)

NAME: Steven Fiechtner

CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP: Faith Lutheran Church, Pierre, SD

BIOGRAPHY: **Faith, Pierre** – Congregational Chair/Vice-Chair/Board of Elders/Board of Stewardship/Board of Education. Congregational member for 20 years

Holy Cross, Onida – Congregational Chair. Congregational member for 9 years.

Other – State Department of Education Director for 17 years
Public School Principal for 11 years
Public School teacher for 13 years

NAME: Douglas Klipfel

CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP: Our Savior Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD

BIOGRAPHY: ASNT Ultrasonic Level III NDT

Congregational Vice Chairman – 2018-Present
Congregational Chairman – 2014-2018
Sunday School Teacher – 2000 – Present
Board of Elders
Board of Social Ministry

NAME: Terry Reck

CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP: St. Peter Lutheran Church, Wentworth, SD

BIOGRAPHY: Elder, Lay Leadership Institute, Level III Certification (SD District)

Board of Education
Youth Group Leader
Fire Chief

NAME: Davyd Titze

CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP: Zion Lutheran Church, Mitchell, SD

BIOGRAPHY: Currently serve as President of the congregation, Camp Minneboji staff (media coordinator/website), and Worship team musician. Serve/served on committees including Constitution, Mission, Music, Nominations and etc. 2012 and 2015 Lay delegate to SD District Conventions, 2016 Lay delegate to LCMS National Convention. Former LYF Youth Leader and Board of Elders

Former small business owner and manager (Flower shop and landscape garden center). Former Board member of Oscar Howe Arts Center and Mitchell Area Arts Council. Served on several municipal Boards and Committees.

NAME: Adam Weeman

CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP: Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD

BIOGRAPHY: Financial Planner

Financial Secretary

Chairman

Elder

Adoption Ministry Team Member

Former Advisory Committee Member to South Dakota District Church Extension Fund