

# NOMINATIONS FOR SYNOD COUNCIL POSITIONS

Nominations can be made from the floor by obtaining a form from the Information Table located in the courtyard. Ten voting members' signatures are required for an individual to be nominated. If you are making a nomination for an "Area Representative" position, the 10 signatures must be from that "area." Nominations are valid only if prior to the nominations being closed, the nominee has, either directly or indirectly, indicated her/his willingness to serve if elected. (Incumbent marked with asterix\*)

Floor nominations must be turned in by **1:00 p.m., Friday May 10.**

SAN DIEGO AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY (MALE)

**Mr. Jeff Cours**

SAN DIEGO AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY (FEMALE)

**Ms. Becky Draper\***

**Ms. Esmeralda Vences**

ORANGE COUNTY AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY (FEMALE)

**Ms. Greta Goellrich\***

INLAND EMPIRE AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY (FEMALE)

**Ms. Nicolette Rohr**

INLAND EMPIRE AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY (MALE)

**Mr. Anthony Eder**

INLAND EMPIRE AREA REPRESENTATIVE, CLERGY (ANY GENDER) One year term

**The Rev. Dianne Finnecey**

**The Rev. Jennifer Shaw**

HAWAII AREA REPRESENTATIVE, CLERGY (ANY GENDER)

**The Rev. Jeff Lilley**

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE (ANY GENDER) Two year term

**Ms. Freya Hendrickson**

TREASURER (ANY GENDER) Remainder of term

**Mr. Tom Pankow**

**CANDIDATE FOR SAN DIEGO AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY, MALE  
(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: Mr. Jeff Cours  
Congregation: St. Peter's by the Sea, San Diego  
Present Employment: Chief Technology Officer

Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Engineer and attorney.
- Experience on synod council, having previously served two terms on the council from 2012 to 2018.
- Served on the Constitution and Resolutions Committees and was heavily involved in the ELCA Malaria Campaign and the synod's Walking into the Future Together initiative.



**CANDIDATES FOR SAN DIEGO AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY, FEMALE  
(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: Ms. Becky Draper (incumbent)  
Congregation: Incarnation Lutheran, Poway  
Present Employment: Retired Registered Nurse



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I am completing my first three-year term on council and feel that I have more to offer. I currently also serve on the Executive Committee and would like to continue with them if they will have me.
- I served on council for one three-year term a number of years ago.
- I very much enjoy working with others and my faith is strengthened by serving with others who also share my love for the church and the Pacifica Synod.

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**CANDIDATES FOR SAN DIEGO AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY, FEMALE  
(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: Ms. Esmeralda Vences  
Congregation: Our Savior's Lutheran, San Diego  
Present Employment: Office Administrator



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Creative and critical thinker.
- Hard working, and even more so in God's kingdom.
- Ability to solve problems and provide solutions when needed.

**CANDIDATE FOR ORANGE COUNTY AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY, FEMALE  
(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: Ms. Greta Goellrich (incumbent)

Congregation: St. Paul, Fullerton

Present Employment: La Habra City School District



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- If elected for a second term to Council, I will continue to live out a passion of serving.
- I have a love for helping others, and I hope to continue to bring the Synod vision to life.
- I enjoy being a young voice on the council and hope I can keep going with that. I feel I have great leadership skills, which I learned from running a business and now my own classroom. I would love the opportunity to be re-elected.

**CANDIDATE FOR INLAND EMPIRE AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY, FEMALE**

**(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: Ms. Nicolette Rohr  
Congregation: Eden Lutheran, Riverside  
Present Employment: History professor



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I have been active in my home congregation by serving on council and in a number of ministries and in the larger church through synod assemblies and synodical administration.
- As a young adult, I think I contribute a perspective that is open-minded, forward-thinking, and collaborative as well as deeply shaped by growing up in this church and community of faith.
- Through my professional work, I have experience working with diverse communities and building partnerships. This experience informs my work in and out of church through collaborations with other faith communities and local organizations in service and outreach. My faith leads me to a commitment to social justice and I am active in gun violence prevention and advocacy for migrants and refugees.

**CANDIDATE FOR INLAND EMPIRE AREA REPRESENTATIVE, LAY, MALE**

**(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: Mr. Anthony Eder  
Congregation: First Lutheran, Redlands  
Present Employment: LRCC Director of Outreach

Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I am very connected to many churches in the Pacifica Synod.
- I am a person that relates well with others.
- I have a creative mindset and have experience with all types of ministry.



**CANDIDATES FOR INLAND EMPIRE REPRESENTATIVE, CLERGY  
(ANY GENDER)  
(1 YEAR TERM)**

Name: The Rev. Dianne Finnecey  
Congregation: Spirit of Peace Lutheran, Big Bear  
Present Employment: Pastor



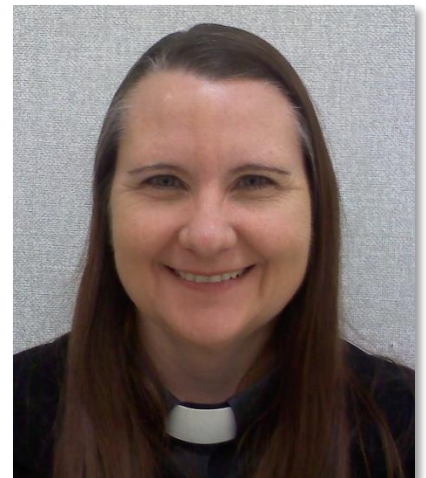
Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I have the ability to analyze, negotiate, mediate, and look at different sides of issues from the training and experience in my prior career as an attorney, 20+ years at San Diego County Public Defender's Office.
- I am willing to learn new things and accept challenges.
- I am passionate about God's church and inclusion of all God's children.

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**CANDIDATES FOR INLAND EMPIRE REPRESENTATIVE, CLERGY  
(ANY GENDER)  
(1 YEAR TERM)**

Name: The Rev. Jennifer Shaw  
Congregation: St. John's Lutheran, Palm Desert  
Present Employment: Pastor



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Faith: My hope and intention in my life and vocation is to share the good news of Jesus Christ because I believe it changes lives for the better.
- Creativity: My various professions have given me opportunities to successfully problem solve, manage healthy change, and help move individuals and organizations toward growth.
- Communication: I truly enjoy working with others and have often been able to guide conversations and actions toward the completion of beneficial common goals.

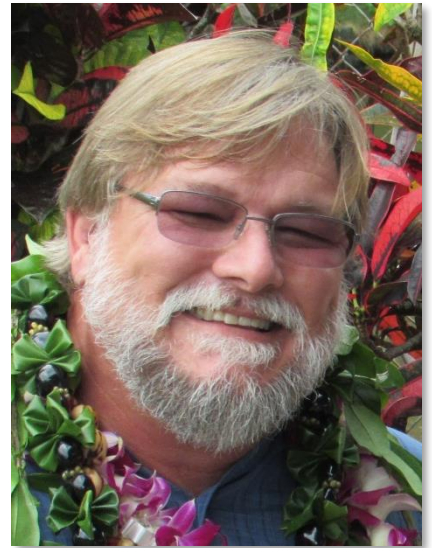
**CANDIDATE FOR HAWAII AREA REPRESENTATIVE, CLERGY, ANY GENDER**

**(3 YEAR TERM)**

Name: The Rev. Jeff Lilley  
Congregation: Lutheran Church of Honolulu, Honolulu  
Present Employment: Pastor

Three Things You Offer to this Position:

- Extensive experience with ELCA and synodical leadership and governance.
- Commitment to missional growth and outreach.
- Ability to understand complex situations and work toward appropriate resolution.

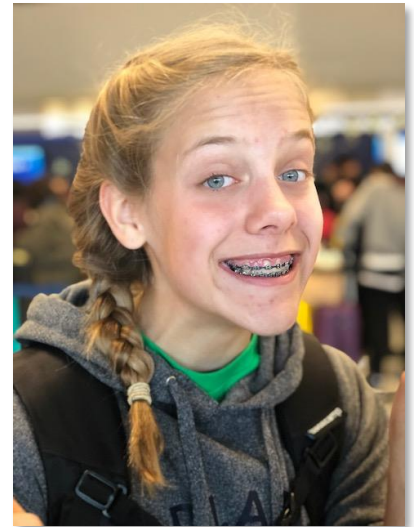




## CANDIDATE FOR YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE, ANY GENDER

(2 YEAR TERM)

Name: Ms. Freya Hendrickson  
Congregation: First Lutheran, Redlands  
Present Employment: Student



### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I am an active and confirmed member of my local church. I serve in several areas during worship (acolyte, reader, communion assistant, sound booth). I also represented First Lutheran at the National Youth Gathering last summer.
- I am a camp kid. LRCC at El Camino Pines and Beach Camp have strengthened my faith and I am looking forward to the Staff in Training program next year.
- I have been a Girl Scout for 10 years and gained many leadership skills such as planning events, teaching younger girls, and working to improve my community.

## CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER (REMAINDER OF TERM-ending 2021)

Name: Mr. Tom Pankow  
Congregation: St. Paul, Fullerton  
Present Employment: Retired Financial Executive

### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Strong financial management experience.
- Experience with church and nonprofit organizations.
- Enjoy strategic planning and analysis.



## **NOMINATIONS FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

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Three positions available. Vote for THREE.

**Mr. Paul Coulter**

**Mr. Allan D. Griesemer**

**Mr. James Grutkowski**

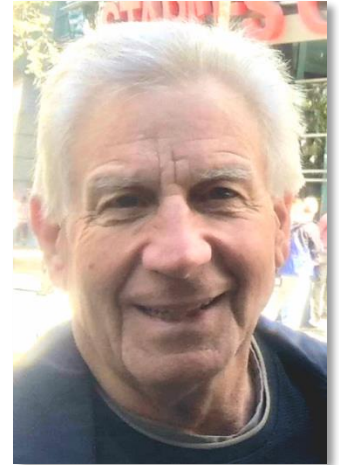
**Mr. Marc Portillo**

**Ms. Sheila Wenzel**

## CANDIDATES FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE POSITION

Vote for **THREE**

Name: Mr. Paul J. Coulter  
Congregation: LC of the Resurrection, Huntington Beach  
Present Employment: Semi-retired



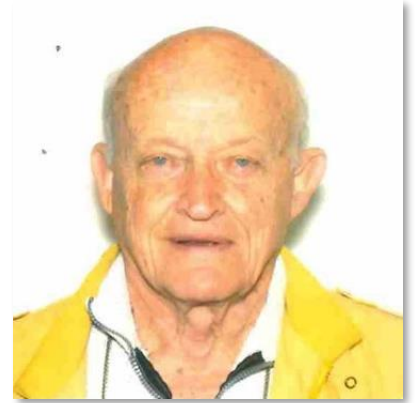
### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- As a member of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Huntington Beach, I served in leadership capacities on church council, executive committee, Mission Endowment Fund, and Staff Support, among other committees. This allowed me to work with many different congregational leaders learning from their experiences, gifts, and talents.
- Developed understanding of Pacifica Synod's scope and reach in ministries serving two terms on synod council (male lay at large) and executive committee.
- Wide-ranging interests including extensive travel, personal finance and investing, and understanding the positive impact of non-profits in our communities both locally and internationally. My belief is our communities and we are all enriched and strengthened when our talents and gifts are used to benefit others.

## CANDIDATES FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE POSITION

### Vote for **THREE**

Name: Mr. Allan D. Griesemer  
Congregation: First Lutheran, Redlands  
Present Employment: Retired



#### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Concern that humans pursue the path outlined for us by Jesus Christ.
- A concern that our actions take into account their worldwide impact.
- Pursue actions that promote love over hate.

## CANDIDATES FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE POSITION

### Vote for **THREE**

Name: Mr. James Grutkowski  
Congregation: St. Peter's by the Sea, San Diego  
Present Employment: Retired



#### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I am an active member of the church who has been and continues to be on various committees and the church council. I am also a Trustee for Atonement Lutheran Church in San Diego.
- I am a retired accountant who has learned to work well with people and respect the opinions of others.
- Having the Rev. Karen Marohn as our pastor for the last 16 years has taught me a lot about grace and justice which would serve me well in this position.

## CANDIDATES FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE POSITION

### Vote for **THREE**

Name: Mr. Marc Portillo  
Congregation: Christ Lutheran, San Clemente  
Present Employment: Caregiver

#### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Enthusiasm for gathering people at the altar.
- Ability to bring people together in the Spirit of Christ.
- Real desire to be involved in the community as a representative of Christ Lutheran Church.



## CANDIDATES FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE POSITION

### Vote for **THREE**

Name: Ms. Sheila Wenzel  
Congregation: LC of the Resurrection, Huntington Beach  
Present Employment: Retired



#### Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- **Leadership:** Former Pacifica Synod Vice-President and Secretary; former chair of Mission Fund Committee; served on Church Council including as Vice-President and President; Lutheran Social Services of Southern California Board Member/Executive Committee; past president of WELCA at the local level; served on ELCA Board for Social Ministries.
- **Vision:** Assisting in discernment and decisions regarding good stewardship of funds provided for mission outreach, as well as transformation and re-development of our current congregations.
- **Personal:** It is a gift to serve. Having served this committee previously, I am familiar with the process involved in use of the gifts provided for disbursement.



## **NOMINATIONS FOR CONSULTATION COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

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There are 4 open positions. (2 Lay Male and 2 Lay Female) Vote for up to 4.

### **Two Lay Female Positions:**

**Ms. Joanne Manzi**

**Ms. Meri Jo Petrivelli**

### **Two Lay Male Positions:**

**Mr. Scott Anderson**

**Mr. Dennis Heider**

**CANDIDATES FOR CONSULTATION COMMITTEE POSITION (Female)**

**Vote for TWO**

Name: Ms. Joanne Manzi  
Congregation: Bethlehem Lutheran, Encinitas  
Present Employment: Per Diem MA/X-Ray Technician



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Leadership skills: Served on Bethlehem’s church council, overseeing the Congregational Life Events.
- Listening Skills: Current Chair of the Pastoral Support Committee for Bethlehem’s Associate Pastor.
- Interpersonal Skills: Bringing people together, member of the Welcome Ministry at Bethlehem.

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**CANDIDATES FOR CONSULTATION COMMITTEE POSITION (Female)**

**Vote for TWO**

Name: Ms. Meri Jo Petrivelli  
Congregation: St. Andrew’s Lutheran, San Diego  
Present Employment: Director of Administration, St. Andrew’s



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- A 6-year term on the ELCA Church Council, as well as 2 separate terms on the Pacifica Synod Council have provided me with a good perspective of the wider church and the importance and relevance of boundaries and standards.
- I am detail oriented and can make sense of complex issues.
- I have a direct and efficient communication and work style.

**CANDIDATES FOR CONSULTATION COMMITTEE POSITION (Male)**

**Vote for TWO**

Name: Mr. Scott A. Anderson  
Congregation: Bethlehem Lutheran, Encinitas  
Present Employment: Pharmaceutical Trade Relations



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- I served on the Bethlehem, Encinitas council for three years, with two of those years as President.
- I started attending the congregation shortly after the long-time Pastor left and prior to Pastor Laura's call. We went through three periods with an interim Pastor and one called Pastor. I believe that both of those experiences provide a basis of understanding challenges that congregations can face.
- I've been working as a consultant for many years and learned that difficult situations need to be handled in a timely and honest manner. I say to people when they need to deliver difficult news, "Bad news doesn't get better with age."

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**CANDIDATES FOR CONSULTATION COMMITTEE POSITION (Male)**

**Vote for TWO**

Name: Mr. Dennis Heider  
Congregation: Christ Lutheran, San Clemente  
Present Employment: Civil Engineer



Three Gifts You Offer to this Position:

- Lutheran background-raised in Lutheran School from Kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Webster Gardens Lutheran, St. Louis, Missouri.
- Commitment to the Christian faith.
- Served on other committees and in leadership roles in other organizations (Jaycees, Optimist Club, American Society of Civil Engineers).