NOMINATIONS
For Pacifica Synod Council and Mission Funds Committee

Nominees on pages 4-2 through 4-3 will be voted on by every voting member of the assembly.

Nominees on pages 4-4 through 4-6 for the Mission Funds Committee will be voted on by every voting member of the assembly. There are 8 nominees and 5 open positions. The 5 nominees with the most votes will be elected.

Nominee on page 4-7 will be voted on by Orange County voting members only. Nominee on page 4-8 will be voted on by Hawaii voting members only. Nominees on pages 4-9 through 4-10 will be voted on by San Diego voting members only. Nominees on page 4-11 will be voted on by Inland Empire voting members only. (Incumbent marked with asterix*)

Nominations for any position can be made from the floor by obtaining a form from the Secretary. 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.

Voting for all positions will be done electronically using voting machines provided by Quick Tally. Instructions on voting and practice sessions will be provided during the assembly.

While a sample ballot is provided at the end of this section, on pages 4-12, voting will be done electronically.
Kathy Hartl  **incumbent**
Christ Lutheran Church, San Clemente, CA
Saddleback Conference
Occupation: Writer, Self-Employed

Having spent many years in relationship with God outside of organized religion, I found myself, as a queer person, needing to be safely in community with others. I found a home at Christ Lutheran Church in San Clemente.

Here are three of the gifts I bring:

1. Congregational experience at CLC beginning as a person afraid to step foot in the church through that of a Congregational President who led through the call process in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. The perspective of one new to the Pacifica Synod and the ELCA who believes that church is not a building, and the future of our work lies in engaging those in need - spiritually, emotionally and physically - where they are.
3. Commitment to further educating myself about racism and continuing anti-racism work within Pacifica Synod.

NOMINEES FOR SYNOD COUNCIL, TREASURER

No nominees were received for the position of Treasure. According to the Pacifica Synod Constitution, the current treasurer will continue to serve until a successor is appointed. (S8.51.c)
Rev. Maria Santa Cruz **incumbent**
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Pastor, Our Savior’s, San Diego

The three gifts I will bring to this position are:
My ability to translate from one language to another.
My ability to understand two cultures.
My ability to share my experience of working in one congregation with two expressions.
NOMINEES FOR MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE

Vote for 5

John Bunge
Faith Lutheran Church, Yucaipa
Raincross Conference
Occupation: Pastor at Faith, Yucaipa
Experience: I have been the second pastor of two different mission starts and so I am aware of the challenges of starting a new mission.
Fundraising: As Pastor of Cross and Crown in Rancho Cucamonga, significant funds were raised to assist us and other churches with property debts.
Location: I am contracted currently with Faith Lutheran in Yucaipa and live in the Beaumont area where a new mission start is under consideration.

Paul Coulter **incumbent**
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Huntington Beach
Son & Surf Conference
Occupation: Retired
I previously served on church councils, Pacifica Synod Council and Executive Committee and am currently chairperson of my church’s Mission Endowment Fund. I enjoy serving and working cooperatively in a variety of capacities with other like-minded servants of Christ. I have been blessed with my family, friends and church family and can share God’s bounty by using my spiritual gifts in many different ways.

Jonathan Doolittle **incumbent**
Clairemont Lutheran Church, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Pastor, Clairemont, San Diego
1. Experience as Chair of Mission Fund Committee for 3 years and pastor in Pacifica for over 25 years.
2. Christ centered and mission minded for the use of synod funds.
3. Excited to find new ways to share the Gospel, and ready to explore how to best renew our congregations.
James Grutkowski **incumbent**
St. Peter’s by the Sea, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Retired
Experience and knowledge in the mission and workings of Mission Funds Committee – Secretary for the prior three years.
Work well with other people – church council member numerous times and president twice.
Commitment to helping others exclusive of Mission Funds

John Lundblad
Incarnation Lutheran Church, Poway
Harvest Conference
Occupation: Retired
1. Pastoral experience in a variety of congregational settings, including seven years in overseas work and four years in a dual-parish call.
2. Ten years experience in municipal government evaluating applications for federal community development funds and managing grant awards to non-profit organizations.
3. Ten years as a board member for a non-profit organization operating five child development centers for children of low- and very low-income families.

Curt Spiller **incumbent**
King of Kings Lutheran Church, Oceanside
Harvest Conference
Occupation: Covid-19 Case Investigator, County of SD
1. I bring the gift of knowing that I am a SERVANT leader. Each position that I’ve held in my congregation (from being Congregation President several times to being Youth Ministry Coordinator, to pinch-hitting for our janitor when she had surgery), I know that in that job I am there to serve Christ and to serve the people of the congregation.
2. I bring the gift of empathy. I have the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. This allows me to get along with people who are not like me.
3. I bring the gift of humility. I am a follower of Christ and trust in the wisdom and salvation of God.
Kent Tuohino
Trinity Lutheran Church, Riverside
Raincross Conference
Occupation: Pastor, Trinity, Riverside
I am a native Californian who has served as a pastor for more than 30 years. I have a passion for supporting the mission and ministries of the church, especially to strengthen the work of our congregations and reach out with the love of Christ. I enjoy working with others to make decisions that will promote good stewardship of the funds available for ministry.

Sheila Wenzel **incumbent**
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Huntington Beach
Son & Surf Conference
Occupation: Retired
**Leadership:** Former Pacifica Synod Council Vice-President and Synod Council Secretary; former chair of the Mission Fund Committee; served on my local Church Council including as Vice-President and Council President; Lutheran Social Services of Southern California Board Member/Executive Committee; past president of WELCA at the local level; served on the ELCA Board for Social Ministries.
**Vision:** To assist in discernment and decisions regarding good stewardship of funds provided for mission support and outreach, as well as transformation and re-development of our current congregations.
**Personal:** It is a gift to serve.
ORANGE COUNTY AREA VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

SYNOD COUNCIL, ORANGE COUNTY AREA: LAY, ANY GENDER (3 YEAR TERM)

Sarah Tees
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fullerton
Rejoice Conference

As a Lay Leader I bring significant experience having served on Church Council as Lay Minister for two years, currently as Stephen Leader for five years. Serving also on the NOC Stephen Leader Network, Stewardship, Evangelism, Confirmation and Health Ministry Teams. As a Coach for Pacifica Synod, I have helped lead the online monthly gathering, Coaching for all Seasons. I have also partnered with Jim Tyler to host the month gathering; The People’s Roundtable, facilitating sensitive conversations around white supremacy and racism. I had the privilege of attending the Undoing Racism Workshop in the fall and have since joined the Synod’s Anti-Racism Team. Through my professional training as a Coach for the ELCA, and as a Stephen Leader of St. Paul and the North Orange County Stephen Leader Network; I have gained experience collaborating with other faith communities and cultivating partnerships while deepening my commitment to Christ-centered care. Thank you for your consideration.
Rev. Jeffrey Lilley **incumbent**
Lutheran Church of Honolulu
Hukilau Conference
Occupation: Pastor, Lutheran Church of Honolulu

Three gifts I bring to the position are:
Organization
Ability to listen, analyze, and make decisions
Compassion
SAN DIEGO AREA VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

SYNOD COUNCIL, SAN DIEGO AREA, LAY MALE (3 YEAR TERM)

Jeff Cours **incumbent**
St. Peter’s by the Sea, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Chief Technology Officer at Stored Value Cards

Jeff is an engineer and an attorney. He brings experience to this Synod Council position, having served on the Council, from 2012 through 2018 and from 2019 to present. He has also 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.

Frank DeLouise
First Lutheran Church, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Retired Nurse

Three gifts I bring to this position:
Faithfulness
Commitment
Organization

Curt Spiller
King of Kings Lutheran Church, Oceanside
Harvest Conference
Occupation: Covid-19 Case Investigator, County of SD

1. I bring the gift of knowing that I am a SERVANT leader. Each position that I’ve held in my congregation (from being Congregation President several times to being Youth Ministry Coordinator, to pinch-hitting for our janitor when she had surgery), I know that in that job I am there to serve Christ and to serve the people of the congregation.
2. I bring the gift of empathy. I have the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. This allows me to get along with people who are not like me.
3. I bring the gift of humility. I am a follower of Christ and trust in the wisdom and salvation of God.
SAN DIEGO AREA VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

SYNOD COUNCIL, SAN DIEGO AREA, LAY FEMALE (3 YEAR TERM)

Stephanie Jordan
Shepherd of the Valley, La Mesa
East San Diego Conference
Occupation:
Three gifts I bring to the position are a positive attitude, a love of service, and a willingness to listen and learn.

Maria Guadalupe Adame Manriquez
Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Cashier at El Pollo Loco
The three gifts I bring to the position are: My ability to speak two languages. I’m well organized. I work with groups very good.

Marissa Valentán
Clairemont Lutheran Church, San Diego
West San Diego Conference
Occupation: Teacher at Sherman Elementary
Three gifts I bring to the position are my honesty, my faith and love for others and my good and fair judgment.
INLAND EMPIRE VOTING MEMBERS ONLY

SYNOD COUNCIL, INLAND EMPIRE, LAY MALE (3 YEAR TERM)

Larry Dodson
Trinity Lutheran Church, Riverside
Raincross Conference
Occupation: Retired

Three gifts that I would bring are my strong faith, desire to love and serve others, and experience working with diverse populations in my career with the Los Angeles County Probation Department and in the church. I served on the church council at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Rowland Heights where I initiated the sponsorship of a Vietnamese refuge family in 1979. I have served on church council at Hope in Riverside. For more than thirty years I have been part of social concerns ministries including the establishment of a food pantry. For several years I have been on the policy council of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy, California.

Larry Anderson
First Lutheran Church, Redlands
Big Bear Conference
Occupation: Retired

I would bring a number of years of experience on church councils that have served on since 1983 both in the Inland Empire and when I resided for a number of years on the Central Coast of California. Organizing activities on Worship & Music Teams, as well as in Education/Learning including two church anniversaries, one for a 100th Anniversary and one for a 35th Anniversary. Bringing knowledge of how churches are run from having been a member of a number of congregations where there are some differences but a lot the same. Now bringing these experiences to a higher Synodical Level.

SYNOD COUNCIL, INLAND EMPIRE, LAY FEMALE (3 YEAR TERM)

Brenda Lussier
Trinity Lutheran Church, Riverside
Raincross Conference

Three gifts I bring to the position are: Strong organizational knowledge including risk management, human resources and financial; Leadership skills; and Focus on community and growth in the church and a willingness to step up and lead or step back and follow.
SYNOD COUNCIL

SECRETARY
4 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1
☐ Kathy Hartl **incumbent**

PERSON OF COLOR/PRIMARY
LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH
2 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1
☐ Maria Santa Cruz **incumbent**

MISSION FUNDS COMMITTEE
Vote for 5
☐ John Bunge
☐ Paul Coulter **incumbent**
☐ Jonathan Doolittle **incumbent**
☐ James Grutkowski **incumbent**
☐ John Lundblad
☐ Curt Spiller **incumbent**
☐ Kent Tuohino
☐ Sheila Wenzel **incumbent**
ORANGE COUNTY AREA BALLOT

VOTED ON BY: Saddleback, Son & Surf, Rejoice Conferences

SYNOD COUNCIL

LAY FEMALE
3 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1

☐ Sarah Tees

HAWAII BALLOT

VOTED ON BY: Hukilau Conference

SYNOD COUNCIL

CLERGY MALE
3 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1

☐ Jeffrey Lilley
SAN DIEGO AREA BALLOT

VOTED ON BY: East San Diego, West San Diego, Harvest Conferences

SYNOD COUNCIL

LAY MALE
3 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1

☐ Jeff Cours **incumbent**

☐ Frank DeLouise

☐ Curt Spiller

LAY FEMALE
3 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1

☐ Stephanie Jordan

☐ Maria Guadalupe Adame Manriquez

☐ Marissa Valentán

INLAND EMPIRE BALLOT

VOTED ON BY: Raincross, Big Bear Conferences

SYNOD COUNCIL

LAY MALE
3 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1

☐ Larry Dodson

☐ Larry Anderson

LAY FEMALE
3 YEAR TERM, Vote for 1

☐ Brenda Lussier