

Elections



2019 Bishop’s Nominations for the Synod Consultation Committee:

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sierra Pacific Synod, SB11.02.01 (below), Bishop Mark W. Holmerud nominates the following persons for election to six-year terms on the Synod Consultation Committee.

†**S11.02.** The Consultation Committee of this synod shall consist of at least 6 persons and not more than 12 persons, of whom half shall be ordained ministers and half shall be lay persons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection. The functions of the Consultation Committee are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and in Chapter 17 of this constitution. The size of the Consultation Committee, in accord with this provision, shall be defined in this synod’s bylaws.

SB11.02.01. There shall be a Consultation Committee consisting of 8 persons-who shall be nominated by the bishop and elected by the Synod Assembly. The bishop shall be a member of the committee ex officio except in instances where the bishop brings charges against an ordained minister. The Consultation Committee's responsibilities and procedures shall be those listed in ELCA Bylaw 20.21.05.

Synod Consultation Committee Nominees – terms expire 2025:

Current makeup of the Consultation Committee, with new nominees **highlighted** and expiration of terms and Congregational Membership (brief biographies on the following page):

Ms. Barbara Malispina	2021	Christ the Good Shepherd, San Jose
Ms. Etenesh Benti	2021	Christ Oromo, San Lorenzo
Rev. Chad Adamik	2023	St. Paul Lutheran Family, Carson City, NV
Rev. Trudy Franzen	2025	St. Stephen’s, El Dorado Hills
Mr. Dave Anderson	2023	Nuestro Redentor, Livingston
Rev. Sandi Olson-Decker	2025	Grace, King City
Rev. Bill Wong	2025	Peace, Grass Valley
Mr. Burke Wallace	2025	Zion, Stockton

The Rev. Trudy Franzen:

The Rev. Trudy Franzen is a pastor at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in El Dorado Hills, CA. A former teacher of Spanish, English and English as a Second Language, Pastor Franzen serves on the Racial Ethnic Mission Discipling Team of the Sierra Pacific Synod. She serves on the board of the Lutheran Development Society of Sacramento, which provides grants for missional projects in the Sacramento Valley. She is also a glass mosaic artist and Certified Clinical Hypnotherapist.

The Rev. Sandi Olson-Decker:

The Rev. Sandi Olson Decker serves as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, King City, CA. The Sierra Pacific Synod is the third synod in which Rev. Olson Decker has served. In the South Central Wisconsin synod, Rev. Olson Decker served on the Synod Assembly Planning Committee and on the Personnel Committee for the City of Brodhead. In the Northern Illinois Synod, she was an active member of Rockford Lutheran Area Ministries and assisted with grant writing. Rev. Olson Decker has extensive training in conflict management and church health. She has participated in numerous courses at the Lombard Mennonite Peace Institute in Chicago, on the topics of Mediation, Self-Differentiation, and Leadership and Anxiety in the Church. She has also completed Emotional Intelligence and Human Relations Skills led by Roy Oswald and Transitional/Interim Ministry training.

The Rev. Bill Wong:

The Rev. Bill Wong is presently the interim pastor at Peace Lutheran Church, Grass Valley. He is a trained intentional interim pastor with a synod council call and has served four other congregations in transition before coming to Peace Lutheran Church. He is also a member of the synod's Interim Ministry Steering Committee. Since graduating from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley, in 1981, he has served as the redevelopment pastor at Grace Lutheran Church, San Jose, CA; associate pastor at Tanque Verde Lutheran Church, Tucson, AZ; and pastor at Lutheran Church of the Incarnation, Davis, CA. In addition, he has served as an assistant to the bishop in the Sierra Pacific and Southern Ohio Synods, and as Director for Asian Ministries and Coordinating Director for Multicultural Mission Strategy on the staff of the Commission for Multicultural Ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Mr. Burke Wallace:

Burke Wallace is a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Stockton, CA where his spouse is the pastor. He currently serves on the Convocation for California Lutheran University, supporting the connection between his alma mater and the Sierra Pacific Synod. Burke is a former youth minister and now serves as the Executive Director of Academics for an independent study charter school organization which provides free public school education to 6000+ students across California who want a personalized approach to learning rather than the typical classroom-based education. He has earned a Master of Arts degree in Religion, a Master's in Education, and a Master of Business Administration.

2019 Bishop’s Nominations for the Synod Committee on Discipline:

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sierra Pacific Synod, SB11.03.01 (below), Bishop Mark W. Holmerud nominates the following persons for election to six year terms on the Synod Committee on Discipline.

- †**S11.03.** The Committee on Discipline in this synod shall consist of 12 persons of whom six shall be ordained ministers and six shall be lay persons, who shall each be elected by the Synod Assembly for a term of six years without consecutive reelection.
- The functions of the Committee on Discipline of this synod are set forth in Chapter 20 of the Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
 - The terms of committee members shall be staggered so that the terms of four committee members (two clergy and two lay) expire every two years.
 - The Synod Council shall fill vacancies on the Committee on Discipline for any unexpired term.

SB11.03.01. Members of the Committee on Discipline shall be nominated by the bishop and elected by the Synod Assembly. Each biennium the Synod Council shall appoint the chair of the committee.

Synod Committee on Discipline Nominees – terms expire 2025:

Current makeup of the Discipline Committee, with new nominees **highlighted** and expiration of terms and Congregational Membership (brief biographies on the following page):

Rev. Brian Stein-Webber	2025	PLTS, Berkeley
Rev. Stephanie Johnson	2025	Trinity, Alameda
Rev. Heidi Hester	2021	Trinity, Pleasanton
Ms. Gisela Daetz	2023	Immanuel, Los Altos
Ms. Larrell Finneran	2023	Elim, Petaluma
Rev. Mary Lou Petitjean	2023	Lord of Mercy, Sparks, NV
Deacon Susan Wessner	2025	Cross and Crown, Rohnert Park
Mr. Nulek Singkeovilay	2025	Lahu Ministry – Christ Lutheran, Visalia
Mr. Randy Presuhn*	2021	Christ the Good Shepherd, San Jose
Mr. Perry Gray-Reneberg	2021	Calvary, Eureka
Rev. Ron Valadez	2023	Bethlehem, Auburn
Rev. Adisa Armand-Miller	2021	Epiphany, San Leandro

* Appointed to two year term as Chair – 2019-2021

The Rev. Stephanie Johnson

The Rev. Stephanie Johnson serves as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Alameda, CA where she has served since 2018. The Sierra Pacific Synod is the third synod in which Rev. Johnson has served. During her first two years of ordination, she was a member of the Community Board for the Young Clergywomen Project (now Young Clergywomen International). In the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Rev. Johnson served six years as a conference dean, a member of the synod's Youth Planning Team, a member of the synod's Young Adult Taskforce, and for three years on the Synod Assembly Planning Committee and as chair of the Synod Nominations Committee. In the Grand Canyon Synod, she served for two years as a Dean of her Conference.

The Rev. Brian Stein-Webber:

Brian Stein-Webber has served as Director of Seminary Relations at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley for over six years. Previous calls have been to Trinity, Oakland; Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, Walnut Creek; Christ, Long Beach (all in California); and Mount of Olives, Phoenix, Arizona. His passions are for music, healing, the future of the church and encouragement among the people of God and beyond. Oh, and crossword puzzles and cross-stitching. (That's two avocations that have "cross" in them! Hmmm...)

Deacon Susan Wessner:

Deacon Susan Wessner is currently On Leave from Call from the Northeast Ohio Synod and moved with her husband Interim Pastor Bill Wessner to Petaluma in May 2014. Susan began her ministry in the Lutheran Church of America as a Certified Lay Professional since 1988 before she was grandfathered into the newly formed ELCA as an Associate in Ministry. Susan worked with the mission developer in Illinois knocking on doors and inviting the community to "Come and See". Susan went through Mission Developer training in Illinois where she served for eight years as a youth ministry and small group coordinator. In Ohio she served as the Bishop's liaison to the Northeast Ohio Synod Lutheran Youth Organization and as an Associate in Ministry in Boardman, OH for 15 years. She is enjoying being Nana to their 7-year-old grandchild who has recently moved to Minnesota.

Mr. Nulek Singkeovilay:

Nulek Singkeovilay is a member of the Lahu Ministry at Christ Lutheran Church in Visalia, CA. Mr. Singkeovilay and his family are actively involved with the Lahu Ministry where he serves on the Lahu leadership team. Mr. Singkeovilay's experiences include 16 years in a supervisory role in supply chain, internal audit, and accounting. Nulek earned his Master of Arts degree in Business Administration with Emphasis in Management and Global Business from Fresno Pacific University and is currently studying for a Ph.D. in Psychology at Walden University.