

Synod Nominations Report

The Synod Council Governance Committee, on behalf of Synod Council, has the responsibility for nominations presented at the Synod Convention.

Nominations have been received for the positions indicated to be filled by election at the Synod Convention. Biographical information on these candidates is available on the pages following this report.

Nominations can be made from the convention floor accompanied by the candidate's completed biographical data form.

Nominations for Synod Council (partial term - one rostered member, and full terms - two lay members, two rostered ministers)

That the following persons be nominated to Synod Council of the Saskatchewan Synod, ELCIC for two terms through to 2030.

Lay:

1. Cindy Hoppe
2. Frederick Fromm

That the following persons be nominated to Synod Council of the Saskatchewan Synod, ELCIC for a 1 term through to 2027 and 2 terms through to 2030.

Rostered:

1. Munye Mtata
2. Greg Kiel
3. Karen Stepko
4. Ronald Shumba

Lutheran Theological Seminary (one lay member, one rostered member)

That Mary Vetter be nominated to serve as the Saskatchewan Synod lay representative on the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Directors for a term September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2027.

That Lori James be nominated to serve as the Saskatchewan Synod rostered representative on the Lutheran Theological Seminary Board of Directors for a term September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2027.

Biographical Data Form For ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod

Position nominated for: Synod Council - lay

Term: 2024 - 2027

Name: Cindy Hoppe

Address: Box 1395, Biggar, Sask S0K 0M0

Telephone: 306-948-7147

Email: echoppe@sasktel.net

Congregational Membership: Redeemer, Biggar

Education, Experience, Skills & Other Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained:

What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position?

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	2	Fund raising	1	Policy setting	1
Business acumen	1	Governance	1	Public relations	2
Communications / Writing	1	Law or legal understanding	2	Ecumenical	1
Theological	2	Negotiation and mediation	2	Strategic planning	2

If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list and rank your personal ability here:

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position:

Synod Council executive past 6 years;
Chair, Sask Craft Council;
Former Chair, Biggar School Division;
Former Health Board membership;
Former Sask Assoc of Health Organizations membership;
Former RM Councillor

List your concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod:

The church is choosing a new Bishop and some continuity at the Council Executive would be helpful.

Why are you interested in serving in this position?

I have met wonderful people and felt I have contributed.

If elected / appointed, I am willing to serve in this position.

Signature: Cindy Lea Hoppe

March 26, 2024

Biographical Data Form For ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod Council - 2024

Position nominated for: Synod Council - Lay Term: 2024-2030
 Name: Frederick Fromm Address: 3501 Evans Court Unit 405, Regina
 Telephone: 639-999-3804 Email: Fredlfromm@hotmail.com

Congregational Membership: Christ Lutheran Church Regina

Education, Experience, Skills & Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained: B.Sc. Hons. and MBA in International Management

What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position? Seminar on charitable giving (Anglican Church of Canada) and various investment management seminars.

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	1	Stewardship	1	Policy setting	1
Business acumen	1	Governance	1	Change Management	1
Communications / Writing	1	Law or legal understanding	1	Ecumenical	2
Theological	3	Negotiation and mediation	2	Strategic planning	1

If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list here: My organization skills are very high and my ability to complete a project on time and on budget.

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position:

Church Council member, President, Treasurer in various Lutheran and Anglican churches in Canada (Regina SK, Dartmouth NS, Richmond BC, Halifax NS, Ottawa Ont. and Sechelt BC.) from 1977 to present day. Held various supervisory and management positions in the RCMP Forensic Laboratory over 36 years of service. President of the Canadian Society of Forensic Science in 2006.

List any concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod: None

Why are you interested in serving in this position? I believe that in addition to managing the theological and spiritual affairs of the church, that a sound administrative approach is also required to ensure sustainable church governance. Especially in the current environment of declining church attendance and a reduction in charitable giving. Based on my many years of experience in church and secular management, I believe that I can add value to the Synod Council as it carries out its very important role in Saskatchewan Lutheran church management.

If elected, I am willing to serve in this position.

Sign & Date: F. L. Fromm

April 2, 2024

Biographical Data Form For ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod

Position nominated for: Synod Council - Rostered	Term:
Name: Munyengetero Mtata	
Address: 161 Echo Lane Martensville, SK SOK2T1	
Telephone: 639.916.0047	Email: pastormm@goodshepherdsaskatoon.ca

Congregational Membership: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Saskatoon

Education, Experience, Skills & Other Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained: BTh (Hons) - University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa MTS - Lutheran Theological Seminary, Canada Certificate in Project Management (In Progress) - Google
What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position?

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each: (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

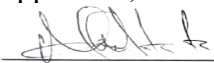
Accounting and finance	4	Fund raising	3	Policy setting	4
Business acumen	4	Governance	3	Public relations	3
Communications / Writing	2	Law or legal understanding	4	Ecumenical	1
Theological	1	Negotiation and mediation	3	Strategic planning	4
If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list and rank your personal ability here:					

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position: Besides being an ordained pastor since December 2010, I have also sat on the Central Diocesan Council from January 2014 to August 2016. I have also sat on the ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod Council since September 2022.

List your concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod: N/A
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Why are you interested in serving in this position? First, this is an important learning opportunity for me as I acquaint myself with the governance processes of the ELCIC in general, and the Saskatchewan Synod in particular. Second, I have interest to contribute as much as I can to the furtherance of the work of the Synod. I believe that the experience I have got can, in a small way, contribute positively to the Synod.

If elected / appointed, I am willing to serve in this position.

Signature: 	06 April 2024
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Biographical Data Form For ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod

Position nominated for: Synod Council - Rostered	Term: 2024 - 2030
Name Greg Kiel	
Address: 108-10 th Ave NE Swift Current, SK S9H 2T2	
Telephone: 306-774-6261	Email: gregkiel@sasktel.net

Congregational Membership

Name St. Olaf Lutheran Church	Location Swift Current, SK
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Education, Experience, Skills & Other Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained: D.Min 2015 Rural Ministry and Community Development LTS M.Div 1995 LTS BSA University of Saskatchewan 1988
What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position? Most of the continuing education I have done is with the Festival of Homiletics. It has been very good in contemporary theology and preaching.

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	2	Fund raising	4	Policy setting	2
Business acumen	2	Governance	2	Public relations	1
Communications / Writing	2	Law or legal understanding	4	Ecumenical	1
Theological	1	Negotiation and mediation	1	Strategic planning	2

If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list and rank your personal ability here: Leadership is a strength of mine as are my interpersonal skills.

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position:

I have been in various leadership positions in the past. I now chair the SK Synod Global Companion Committee. I am chairperson of my local ministerial. I am chairperson for the local homelessness committee. I am 2nd Vice President of the local Kiwanis organization in Swift Current. I have been the senior pastor for the Southwest Wide Area Parish and St. Olaf Lutheran Church for 17 years.

I served as a Missionary in Argentina for the ELCIC from 1999-2002 in Mission and Agricultural development.

These broad experiences in various positions and on various boards will help me serve the Synod council in a variety of ways.

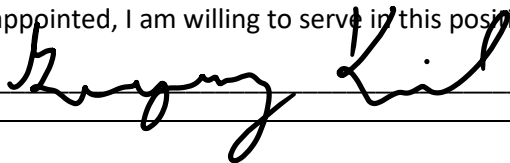
List your concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod: I am concerned about shrinking congregations and the financial implications for our congregations and Synod.

Why are you interested in serving in this position?

The church is in the midst of change and the model of doing church is changing. I have a lot of experience serving in different models of the church from mission work and shared ministry to a five-point wide area parish.

I think we need to have leaders who can help congregations do ministry in new ways. The old model served us well and it still does in certain settings, but the world is changing and so must the church. A reformation is coming, and we need to prepare for it by means of diaconal ministry.

If elected / appointed, I am willing to serve in this position.

Signature: 

April 10, 2024

Biographical Data Form For ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod Council - 2024

Position nominated for: Synod Council

Term: 2024-2030

Name: Rev. Karen Stepko

Address: Box 156, Rhein, Saskatchewan S0A 3K0

Telephone: 306-273-7800

Email: pastorkaren@sasktel.net

Congregational Membership

Name and location
of congregation

Christ Lutheran Church - Rhein, Saskatchewan (October 2013-present)

Education, Experience, Skills & Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained:

Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) – University of Saskatchewan; MDiv – LTS Saskatoon

What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position?

Fall Lutheran Anglican Gathering, Boundaries Workshop, ABT Synod Study Conference

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	2	Stewardship	1	Policy setting	2
Business acumen	2	Governance	2	Change Management	1
Communications / Writing	1	Law or legal understanding	3	Ecumenical	1
Theological	2	Negotiation and mediation	1	Strategic planning	2

If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list here: able to consider situations from both a rural and urban perspective; can bring the perspective of someone who did not grow up in the church; able to respectfully work alongside people whose ideas/perspectives differ from my own; approachable and open to feedback

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position: ten years as a rostered minister in the Sask Synod, ELCIC representative on the Canadian Council of Church Sexual Exploitation Working Group since 2017, member of the board of directors for Yorkton's Soup Haven Lunch Program since 2022, have served as both secretary and chairperson of the Yorkton Ministerial Association, served one term as secretary and two as president of the LTSS Students Society; prior to seminary: assistant director of a residential facility for at-risk teenage girls in Saskatoon, a member of the Youth Care Worker Advisory Board at SIAST Saskatoon Campus and the Salvation Army Community Board, secretary of the University of Saskatchewan Psychology Students Society

List any concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod: none

Why are you interested in serving in this position? I am excited about the future of the Sask Synod under a newly elected bishop! I feel called to personally take a more active role in helping to renew and revitalize our ministry and discern what new opportunities God may be calling us to pursue.

If elected, I am willing to serve in this position.

Sign & Date: Pastor Karen Stepko

April 19, 2024

Biographical Data Form For ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod

Position nominated for: Synod Council - Rostered	Term: 2024 - 2027
Name: RONALD RUDORWASHE SHUMBA	
Address: BOX 88, MELVILLE, SK, S0A 2P0	
Telephone: 514 4300378	Email: pastorrudo@gmail.com

Congregational Membership

Name Good Shepherd	Location: Melville
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Education, Experience, Skills & Other Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained:
Diploma in Human Resources Mgt ; Diploma in Religious Studies; Diploma in Theology; B.A. Hons Religious Studies and Theology; Masters of Theological Studies

What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position?
I have just completed my Masters in Theological Studies.

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	2	Fund raising	2	Policy setting	3
Business acumen	2	Governance	1	Public relations	1
Communications / Writing	3	Law or legal understanding	3	Ecumenical	1
Theological	1	Negotiation and mediation	2	Strategic planning	2


If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list and rank your personal ability here:

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position: I have served as an ordained pastor for the past 10 years, 6 in Zimbabwe and 4 in Sask Synod. I have also worked in the Civic society space dealing with Mediation and justice.

List your concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod: There may be systemic issues within the synod or the wider church related to racism, colonialism, or privilege which may make me feel a burden to address these issues, which can be emotionally taxing and challenging to navigate

Why are you interested in serving in this position?
To represent diversity
To bring a different lens to see matters in a different way.
To add to the theological voice in the council

If elected / appointed, I am willing to serve in this position.



Signature: _____ March 4, 2024; Received May 4, 2024



Biographical Data Form - 2024

Position nominated for: Lutheran Theological Seminary

Term: 2024 - 2027

Name: Mary Vetter

Address: 3126 Assiniboine Avenue, Regina, SK S4S 1E3

Telephone: 306-584-1462 (H); (306-519-0261 (C)

Email: mary.vetter@uregina.ca

Congregational Membership

Name and location
of congregation

Bread of Life Lutheran Church, 3018 Doan Drive, Regina, SK S4X 1M1

Education, Experience, Skills & Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained: Ph.D. Botany; M.A. Environmental Planning; BSc Biology, Psychology

What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position? Workshops on non-profits leadership, grant applications

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	3	Stewardship	2	Policy setting	2
Business acumen	3	Governance	2	Change Management	2
Communications / Writing	1	Law or legal understanding	4	Ecumenical	2
Theological	2	Negotiation and mediation	3	Strategic planning	2

If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list here: academic administration and planning; faculty collective agreements

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position: Professor, Assistant Dean, Academic Dean, Luther College at the University of Regina

List any concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod: None

Why are you interested in serving in this position? During my previous term (just ending) on the LTS Board, we have seen the LTS work through many exciting changes including a change to course-delivery options, distributed learning, and the formation of the Saskatoon Theological Union. I would be very happy to continue on the LTS Board as these changes continue to unfold.

If elected, I am willing to serve in this position.

Sign & Date: *Mary A. Vetter* April 29, 2024

Please return the completed form to:

ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod
6, 2220 Northridge Drive
Saskatoon S7L 6X8

Or Email: info@sasksynod.ca

ELCIC Saskatchewan Synod
T: 306.244.2474

Email: info@sasksynod.ca Website: sasksynod.ca
Address: 6, 2220 Northridge Drive, Saskatoon S7L 6X8

Biographical Data Form - 2024

Position nominated for: Lutheran Theological Seminary

Term: 2024 - 2027

Name: Lori James

Address: 327 Keeley Cr. Saskatoon SK S7J 4B8

Telephone: 306-471-6778

Email: ljames@luthercare.com

Congregational Membership

Name and location of congregation

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Saskatoon

Education, Experience, Skills & Contributing Factors

Please list any degrees or certificates obtained:

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

Masters of Divinity

What recent professional development have you taken that might relate to this position?

Leadership Development

The following is a list of skills that assist individuals in contributing to the position. Please rank your personal ability of each. (Rank: 1 – high level, 2 – moderate level, 3 – low level, 4 – no knowledge)

Accounting and finance	3	Stewardship	2	Policy setting	1
Business acumen	3	Governance	1	Change Management	1
Communications / Writing	1	Law or legal understanding	3	Ecumenical	1
Theological	1	Negotiation and mediation	2	Strategic planning	1

If you have a skill (s) not listed that you believe is relevant to the position, please list here:

Describe past experiences or positions held that would assist in the position:

Saskatchewan Synod Council Chairperson

Assistant to the Bishop

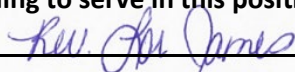
Director of Mission and Spiritual Care

List any concerns related to this position and/or the ELCIC SK Synod:

Why are you interested in serving in this position? To be a part of the discernment of God's call as the church and its organizations are presented with opportunities to re-evaluate current ministry models and to be a part of where God is calling the church to be today.

If elected, I am willing to serve in this position.

Sign & Date:



May 1, 2024