3 Nominations and Elections

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### ELECTION GUIDE  2009 ASSEMBLY SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD

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<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER TO BE ELECTED THIS YEAR</th>
<th>SPECIFIC CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENCES</th>
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<td>SYNOD COUNCIL District Members</td>
<td>Five Members</td>
<td>S10.01</td>
<td>During the Caucus, members vote to select two nominees for each position from among all those nominated by Conferences and on the floor of the Caucus by voting for two persons for each position. The two nominees receiving a plurality become the District’s nominees.</td>
<td>Entire Assembly votes on the nominees for each position. A majority of the votes cast is necessary for election.</td>
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<td>Positions for:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dist A</td>
<td>Lay Female</td>
<td>SB10.01.01 SB10.01.02 SB10.01.03</td>
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<td>Dist B</td>
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<td>Dist E</td>
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<td>DISCIPLING TEAM District Members</td>
<td>Dist A</td>
<td>Witness &amp; Service</td>
<td>SB11.07.03</td>
<td>Each District directly elects the team members from its District for each team; a majority of the votes cast is necessary for election.</td>
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<td>Dist B</td>
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Electoral District A: Redwood, The Vineyard, Gateway, and Delta Diablo Conferences
Electoral District B: Northern Mountain Valley, Sierra/Nevada, Foothill, and Sacramento Conferences
Electoral District C: San Francisco, East Bay, and Southern Alameda Conferences
Electoral District D: Peninsula and Monterey Bay Conferences and the Santa Clara Valley
Electoral District E: Sierra San Joaquin, Central Valley, Central San Joaquin and South Valley Conferences

3.1
Nominations for Treasurer

Elaine Alexander
Member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Reno, NV

*Why I wish to serve:* I wish to serve where there is a need, preferably a need that I believe I can fill with a level of confidence. I am good at financial analysis and analytic review and am experienced in working with volunteer boards; I am open, honest and straightforward.

Sharon L. Amundson
Member of Mariposa Lutheran Church, Mariposa, CA

*Why I wish to serve:* My father, a Lutheran pastor (retired), always taught that talents were gifts from God, and for his service. As a CPA, my talent with numbers can be used for the betterment of the Church. I bring no personal agenda, and just as I followed God’s call to the Seminary, I will do my best, as Synod Treasurer, to follow where God leads.
Nominations for Treasurer

Linda Lownes

Member of Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Citrus Heights, CA

Why I wish to serve: I believe in serving the church wherever God leads me, and I am excited by the challenge that this nomination presents. I have been my congregation’s treasurer for two years and would be honored to serve as synod treasurer. If elected, I will do my best to fulfill the responsibilities of this office with the help of God and the support of other synod members.
Nominations for Synod Council

**District A**

**Lay Female**

**Karen Goldsmith**
Nominated by Redwood Conference
Member of Christ Lutheran, Fortuna, CA

*Why I wish to serve:* I was honored to be called to serve on Synod Council. My gifts are financial skills and a passion for the poor, especially those in low-income housing. I am from the far northwest corner of our Synod and have a heart for small, rural congregations.

**District A**

**Lay Female**

**Sue C. Hertless**
Nominated by Delta Diablo Conference
Member of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Concord, CA

*Why I wish to serve:* Thirty-six years of management experience in a large telecommunications company, along with an undergraduate degree in human behavior and graduate degree in organizational effectiveness. Add to that, a passion to serve Christ with obedience and faithfulness. If elected, I will pray and listen to discern “God’s work so that my hands can be at work to serve Him.”
Nominations for Synod Council

District A

Lay Female

Suzanne O’Dea
Nominated by Redwood Conference
Member of Calvary Lutheran, Eureka, CA

Why I wish to serve: The bishop’s transition plan will make the synod more accessible to everyone. One of my goals would be to create communication links among congregations with the intention of sharing ideas and strategies and reducing the isolation felt by some congregations and their members. I want to help.

District B

Clergy

Rev. Tom Beck
Nominated by Sierra Nevada Conference
Member of Faith Lutheran, Reno, NV

Why I wish to serve: Having served in this Synod since 1984 and in Nevada since 2001, I recognize the struggle of the conferences and congregations of this church to stay connected. If re-elected I will continue to represent the concerns of ministry from our territory while relaying the support of the Sierra Pacific Synod back home.
Nominations for Synod Council

District C

Lay Male

Jayesh Hines-Shah
Nominated by East Bay Conference
Member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran, Berkeley, CA

Why I wish to serve: The year I graduated from law school, I was baptized a Lutheran because of meaningful experiences in the Church. I want to make sure my son—and children not yet born—can grow up in as faithful, relevant and vibrant a Church as the one that welcomed me.

District D

Lay Female

Gisela V. Daetz
Nominated by Santa Clara Conference
Member of Immanuel Lutheran, Los Altos, CA

Why I wish to serve: Soon after immigrating to the US in the late 1950’s, God’s grace led me to seek out a Lutheran congregation, St. Andrew’s, in San Mateo. Loving people reached out to me and embraced me as a sister in Christ and I learned that God’s love extends to the whole human family. As an active member in my current congregation, I hope and pray that we may be agents of Christ’s all-encompassing love and grace. We have a wonder-filled story to share with the world—let’s be joyful conduits of His grace!
Nominations for Synod Council

District E

Clergy

Rev. JoAnn Neal
Nominated by Central Valley Conference
Member of Emanuel Lutheran, Modesto, CA

Why I wish to serve: I want to serve on Synod Council because I have discerned God’s call to extend the Gospel through synod action. Through serving congregations in Hilmar, Mi-Wuk Village, and Modesto, I gained knowledge of our opportunities and challenges. I have gifts in evangelism and teaching, and advanced education in administration.

District E

Clergy

Rev. Brian Malison
Nominated by South Valley Conference
Member of Christ Lutheran, Visalia, CA

Why I wish to serve: The Synod Council has the unique opportunity to assist the Bishop’s office in carefully thinking through the direction the Synod needs to go, and then to allocate the resources necessary to go forward. After 21 years in ministry within this synod, I believe I have the gifts and skills required for the challenge.
Nominations for Discipling Teams

District A - Witness and Service

Rev. Mary Lou Petitjean
Nominated by Sierra Nevada Conference
Member of Lord of Mercy Lutheran, Sparks, NV

Why I wish to serve: I have served on the Leadership Discipling Team for one term and would like to continue the work on that team. Leadership is one of my strongest spiritual gifts, and that is where I get much joy in serving, and I feel I have much to offer the Church using that gift.

District B - Leadership

Rev. Mary Lou Petitjean
Nominated by Sierra Nevada Conference
Member of Lord of Mercy Lutheran, Sparks, NV

Why I wish to serve: I have served on the Leadership Discipling Team for one term and would like to continue the work on that team. Leadership is one of my strongest spiritual gifts, and that is where I get much joy in serving, and I feel I have much to offer the Church using that gift.
Nominations for Discipling Teams

District C - Word and Sacrament

Arlin Aasness

Nominated by East Bay Conference
Member of Christ Lutheran, El Cerrito, CA

Why I wish to serve: I love worship, and I love facilitating worship! I would love to work with the Word & Sacrament Discipling team to encourage our congregations to use the incredible tools available to create worship services that are creative, rich, innovative, and rich in tradition, while making these services “user friendly.”

District D - Witness and Service

Rev. Michael O’Berg

Nominated by Peninsula Conference
Member of Messiah Lutheran, Redwood City, CA

Why I wish to serve: I have completed my first term on the Witness and Service Team and I am very excited about the work that we are doing on behalf of the synod. New ministries are springing up all across our synod and it is a joy to be a part of a group of people dedicated to expanding the ministry footprint of our synod.
Nominations for Discipling Teams

District E - Leadership

Rev. Victor Berg-Haglund

Nominated by Central Valley Conference
Member of Saron Lutheran, Escalon, CA

Why I wish to serve: The work of our Synod is vital for us all. I have enjoyed the privilege of serving in many capacities for over twenty years; and as liaison to this Discipling Team for the Council of Deans several years ago. I will eagerly work with them again.

District E - Leadership

Jim Rouse

Nominated by South Valley Conference
Member of First Lutheran, Tulare, CA

Why I wish to serve: With over 8 years of experience in discipleship ministry at the Visalia Rescue Mission, it would be a pleasure to extend that ministry within the ELCA.