

**CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT,
AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Regarding the candidates for the offices of District President and vice presidents, the District *Handbook*, 9.03, states the following:

- a. Candidates for the offices of President and First and Second Vice President shall be in each instance the three candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the nominating ballots of the congregations.
- b. The Secretary of the District shall notify each candidate and shall secure his approval in writing to include his name on the convention ballot. Each candidate shall reply within ten days as to his willingness to serve if elected.
- c. In the event of the death, declination, or unavailability of any candidate, the nominee having the next highest number of votes shall become the candidate.
- d. In the event of a tie for the third position among the candidates, all names involved in the tie shall be listed as candidates.
- e. The Secretary of the District shall publish in the convention workbook brief biographies of the three candidates for President, the three candidates for First Vice President, and the three candidates for Second Vice President.

Regarding the nominations for the office of District President and vice presidents, the District *Handbook*, 9.01 d, states the following:

- d. The Secretary of the District shall tabulate the nominating votes and shall report to the convention by means of the convention workbook the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who have received nominating votes for the office of President or First or Second Vice President.

The following are the names and tallies of all ordained ministers who have received nominating votes for the office of President or First or Second Vice President:

President

Steven Turner	33	(accepted)
Roger Carlisle	2	(accepted)
Jonathan Riggert	1	(accepted)
Paul Egger	1	(declined)

First Vice-President

Roger Carlisle	24	(accepted)
Paul Egger	6	(accepted)
Thomas Schlund	2	(accepted)
David Beagley	1	
Benjamin Dose	1	
Merle Mahnken	1	
Russell Senstad	1	

Second Vice-President

Paul Egger	25	(accepted)
Benjamin Dose	1	(accepted)
Kevin Johnson	1	(accepted)
Merle Mahnken	1	(accepted)
Russell Senstad	1	(accepted)
David Beagley	1	(declined)
Roger Carlisle	1	(declined)
Max Phillips	1	(ineligible due to holding another elected position in the Synod)

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT

Name: **Roger Carlisle** Age: 61 Year of Ordination: 1983

Address: 405 Center Street, Wall Lake 51466

Number of Years in Synod: 35
Number of Years in District: 35

Present Position: Pastor, Peace Lutheran Church, Wall Lake

District Offices Held:

Youth Services Committee (Chairman 6 years)	1988-2000
District Reconciler	1993-present
Nominating Committee (4 terms)	
Circuit Visitor	2003-2011
1st & 2nd Vice President, Iowa District West	2012-present
Missions Committee	2015-2018
Human Care Committee	2015-2018
Endowment & Legacy Committee	2015-2018
Handbook Revision Committee	2015-2018

Former Pastorates:

Other significant service or experience:

Circuit Evangelism Rep	1984-1989
District Confirmand Retreat Dean	1985-1989
LCMS Convention Delegate	1989 & 2007
LCMS Convention Floor Committee	2007
District Junior High Retreat Staff	1990-1995
Circuit Youth Rep	1990-2004
Blackhawk Ministerium	1983-present
Sac County Hospice Board (Chairman 4 years)	1986-1992
Sac County Pheasants Forever Chairman	1995-2005
Trustee, Wilma Gosch Foundation	2003-present
Co-author of Circuit Pastor Planned Program	2005-2006
IDW Task Force on Pornography, Chairman	2008-2009
Pastoral Care Specialist Certification	
Various ad-hoc committees for school and community	

Name: **Jonathan Riggert** Age: 39 Year of Ordination: 2005

Address: 725 North Roosevelt, Cherokee 51012

Number of Years in Synod: 13
Number of Years in District: 7.5

Present Position: Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Cherokee

District Offices Held:

Chair, Youth Services Committee	2015-present
---------------------------------	--------------

Former Pastorates:

Holy Cross, St. Cloud, MN	2005-1020
---------------------------	-----------

Other significant service or experience:

IDW Senior High Youth Gathering Dean	2012-2016
President, Cherokee County Ministerial Assoc.	2013-2016
District Convention Floor Committee Secretary	2015
Iowa State Patrol Chaplain	2015-present

Name: **Steven David Turner** Age: 59 Year of Ordination: 1985

Address: 2227 Fairview Drive, Fort Dodge, 50511

Number of Years in Synod: 33

Number of Years in IDW District: 33

Present Position: President, Iowa District West, Fort Dodge

District Offices Held:

1 st Vice President, Iowa District West	2009-2015
2 nd Vice President, Iowa District West	2000-2009
Synod Nomination Committee	2010-2012
Chairman, Rural Ministry Task Force	2001-2002
Chairman, Stewardship Committee	1994-2000
Floor Committee Chairman, District Convention	1991
Delegate, Synod Conventions	1989, 1998, 2004

Former Pastorates:

Trinity Lutheran, Algona	1991-2015
Dual parish: Trinity, Marcus-Pilgrim, Quimby, IA	1985-1991

Other significant service or experience:

President, Board of Directors, Lutheran Family Service	1992-1995
Board of Directors, Lutheran Family Service	1989-1995
Board of Directors, Good Samaritan Communities	1998-2007 & 2013-2015
Kossuth County C.A.R.E.	2012-2015
Saint Paul Institute For Education Rural and Small Town	
Rural Ministry Institute Consultation Concordia Seward, NE	2001
Vicarage Supervisor	
4-H leader	
Pony league Baseball Coach	

CANDIDATES FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Name: **Roger Carlisle** Age: 61 Year of Ordination: 1983

Address: 405 Center Street, Wall Lake 51466

Number of Years in Synod: 35
Number of Years in District: 35

Present Position: Pastor, Peace Lutheran Church, Wall Lake

District Offices Held:

Youth Services Committee (Chairman 6 years)	1988-2000
District Reconciler	1993-present
Nominating Committee (4 terms)	
Circuit Visitor	2003-2011
1 st & 2 nd Vice President, Iowa District West	2012-present
Missions Committee	2015-2018
Human Care Committee	2015-2018
Endowment & Legacy Committee	2015-2018
Handbook Revision Committee	2015-2018

Former Pastorates:

Other significant service or experience:

Circuit Evangelism Rep	1984-1989
District Confirmand Retreat Dean	1985-1989
LCMS Convention Delegate	1989 & 2007
LCMS Convention Floor Committee	2007
District Junior High Retreat Staff	1990-1995
Circuit Youth Rep	1990-2004
Blackhawk Ministerium	1983-present
Sac County Hospice Board (Chairman 4 years)	1986-1992
Sac County Pheasants Forever Chairman	1995-2005
Trustee, Wilma Gosch Foundation	2003-present
Co-author of Circuit Pastor Planned Program	2005-2006
IDW Task Force on Pornography, Chairman	2008-2009
Pastoral Care Specialist Certification	
Various ad-hoc committees for school and community	

Name: **Paul Egger** Age: 55 Year of Ordination: 1990

Address: 406 Monona Street, Galva 51020

Number of Years in Synod: 28
Number of Years in District: 17

Present Position: Pastor, St. John Lutheran Church, Galva

District Offices Held:

Circuit Visitor	2009-2015
2 nd Vice President, IDW	2015-present
District Convention Floor Committee	2016
Youth Committee	2015-present
Education Committee	2015-present
Pastors Conference Planning Committee	2015-present

Former Pastorates:

Faith Lutheran Church, Flora, IL	1990-2000
----------------------------------	-----------

Other significant service or experience:

IDW Confirmand Retreat Dean	2005-2010
IDW Clergy Health Cabinet	
Synod Convention Delegate	1995 & 2007
Synod Convention Floor Committee	2016
Clay County Ministerial Alliance President (CID)	1993-1998
Area Pan-Lutheran Pastors study group host	2004-2009
Preacher/Activity Leader at Annual Area Middle School Retreat	2008-2012
Preacher at Iowa/Nebraska Middle School Retreat, Council Bluffs	2010-2013
Guest Lecturer at Nebraska Pastors Study	2012
Baseball/Softball Coach	1990-2013
Galva-Holstein High School "Success 4" Com	2006-2009
Circuit Bible Institute Presenter	2011-2015, 2017
AAU Volleyball coach	2014

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

BA Political Science/Journalism from UNI (high honors) 1985

Name: **Thomas Schlund** Age: 33 Year of Ordination: 2015

Address: 725 North Thorington Street, Algona 50511

Number of Years in Synod: 3

Number of Years in District: 3

Present Position: Senior Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Algona

District Offices Held:

Chairman, Student Financial Aid Committee 2017-present

Former Pastorates:

Other Full-time Positions Held:

Other significant service or experience:

Co-Founder of Ministry Focus 2013-present

IDW Jr. Youth Gathering Team 2017-present

Student Debt Task Force-Concordia Seminary, St.
Louis Board of Regents 2014-2015

Synod Convention Delegate 2016

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

Masters Degree in Higher Education Administration

From Texas Tech University

Student Development and Student Leadership at Texas
Tech University and University of Missouri 2007-2011

CANDIDATES FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Name: **Benjamin Dose** Age: 41 Year of Ordination: 2003

Address: 200 West Tracy Street, Arcadia 51430

Number of Years in Synod: 15

Number of Years in District: 10

Present Position: Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Arcadia

District Offices Held:

Youth Services Committee	2009-2012
Chairman, Youth Services Committee	2012-2015
Board of Directors	2012-2015
District Convention Floor Committee	2009 & 2018

Former Pastorates:

Associate Pastor, South Shore Trinity Lutheran Church, White Bear Lake, MN	1992-1996
---	-----------

Other significant service or experience:

Youth Advocacy Team, Minnesota South District	2004-2008
Minnesota South District Coordinator, National Youth Gathering	2006- 2007
Pastoral Representative, Camp Okoboji Board of Directors	2009-2012

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

Twice trained for Stephen Ministry DOXOLOGY Graduate	2011
---	------

Name: **Paul Egger** Age: 55 Year of Ordination: 1990

Address: 406 Monona Street, Galva 51020

Number of Years in Synod: 28

Number of Years in District: 17

Present Position: Pastor, St. John Lutheran Church, Galva

District Offices Held:

Circuit Visitor	2009-2015
2 nd Vice President, Iowa District West	2015-present
District Convention Floor Committee	2016
Youth Committee	2015-present
Education Committee	2015-present
Pastors Conference Planning Committee	2015-present

Former Pastorates:

Faith Lutheran Church, Flora, IL	1990-2000
----------------------------------	-----------

Other significant service or experience:

IDW Confirmand Retreat Dean	2005-2010
IDW Clergy Health Cabinet	
Synod Convention Delegate	1995 & 2007
Synod Convention Floor Committee	2016
Clay County Ministerial Alliance President (CID)	1993-1998
Area Pan-Lutheran Pastors study group host	2004-2009
Preacher/Activity Leader at Annual Area Middle School Retreat	2008-2012
Preacher at Iowa/Nebraska Middle School Retreat, Council Bluffs	2010-2013
Guest Lecturer at Nebraska Pastors Study	2012
Baseball/Softball Coach	1990-2013
Galva-Holstein High School "Success 4" Com	2006-2009
Circuit Bible Institute Presenter	2011-2015
AAU Volleyball coach	2014

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

BA Political Science/Journalism from UNI (high honors)	1985
--	------

Name: **Kevin Johnson** Age: 54 Year of Ordination: 2004

Address: 1040 Market Street, Carlisle 50047

Number of Years in Synod: 15

Number of Years in District: 15

Present Position: Pastor, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Carlisle

District Offices Held:

Chairman, Operation Barnabas 2015-2018

Former Pastorates:

Other Full-time Positions Held

Other significant service or experience:

Teacher, Matongo Seminary, Kenya (1 quarter) 2007
Iowa Representative for Higher Things 2007-2010
RSP Chaplain, Camp Dodge 2015-2018
Military Veteran 1981-2003

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

Camp Aquatic, Camp Okoboji 2009-2011
Memorial Day Retreat, Camp Okoboji 2017

Name: **Merle Mahnken** Age: 60 Year of Ordination: 1991

Address: 511 Glad Street, PO Box 6, Schleswig 51461

Number of Years in Synod: 26+

Number of Years in District: 21+

Present Position: Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Schleswig

District Offices Held:

Circuit Visitor 2000-2018

Former Pastorates:

Associate & Campus Pastor, Grace, Wayne, NE 1991-1996

Other Full-time Positions Held

Other significant service or experience:

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

Stephen Ministry Leader Training

Name: **Russell Senstad** Age: 52 Year of Ordination: 1992

Address: 4211 Eldorado Court, Sioux City 51106

Number of Years in Synod: 26

Number of Years in District: 26

Present Position: Senior Pastor, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sioux City

District Offices Held:

Chairman, Evangelism Committee	2000-2003
Pastors Conference Committee	2014-present
Nomination Committee	
Circuit Visitor	1998-2000 & 2007-2009
District Reconciler	2016-
present	2007-
2009	

Former Pastorates:

Immanuel, Adair, IA	1992-1996
---------------------	-----------

Other Full-time Positions Held

Other significant service or experience:

Dean, Junior High Week	1995-2000
LWML Zone Pastoral Counselor	1995-1996

Other experience or qualifications or degrees:

Served with PeaceMaker Ministries	1997-2001
Served on Camp Okoboji Board of Directors	

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The District *Handbook*, section 9.15 d, states that prior to the convention the District Nominating Committee shall “submit its complete list [of nominees] to the President of the District for publication in the *Convention Workbook*. This list shall contain for each candidate the name, address, congregation, present and previous District offices held, and the position to which nominated.”

Below is a list of the nominees for each office. The information on each candidate is contained on the following pages. Information on each additional candidate nominated either by the Nominating Committee or by the convention itself, if nominations are forthcoming from the floor of the convention, will be distributed at the convention (see District *Handbook*, section 9.17 b). The nominees in each category are listed in alphabetical order. This information is provided for your use in your preparation as a delegate. The number in parentheses following the office listed is the number to be elected to that office. The page number following the candidate’s name is the page on which his/her biographical information may be found.

Incumbents are designated by an *(I)* behind their name in the biographical information section.

DISTRICT SECRETARY (1)

David Beagley Page 78
Richard Merrill Page 78
Tom Schlund Page 78

DISTRICT TREASURER (1)

Kerry Burmeister Page 79
Scott Ernst Page 79
John Feldt Page 79

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS (1)

Stan Ullerich Page 80
Ralph von Qualen Page 80
Kirk Warnke Page 80

CHAIRMAN, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (1)

Joshua Keinath Page 81
Scott Kosizek Page 81
Nathan Peitsch Page 81

CHAIRMAN, STEWARDSHIP (1)

Jonathan Conner Page 82
Dennis Martens Page 82
John Rutz Page 82

CHAIRMAN, YOUTH SERVICES (1)

Eric Hauan Page 83
Duncan McLellan Page 83
Jonathan Riggert Page 83

CHAIRMAN, MISSIONS (1)

Chris LaBoube Page 84
Bruce Lesemann Page 84
Joseph Meyer Page 84

CHAIRMAN, HUMAN CARE-LAY (1)

Patti Anderson Page 85
Darlene Rueter Page 85
Janet Smith Page 85

CHAIRMAN, HUMAN CARE-ORDAINED (1)

Seth Kaiser Page 86
John Riebhoff Page 86
Ryan Roehrig Page 86

ORDAINED MINISTER-AT-LARGE (1)

Todd Bunge Page 87
John Schonkaes Page 87
Dan Vogel Page 87

COMISSIONED MINISTER-AT-LARGE (1)

Amy Schmidt Page 88
Marilyn Shults Page 88
Merrilee Sump Page 88

LAY MEMBER-AT-LARGE (2)

Patti Anderson Page 89
Kelly Bossard Page 89
Timothy Buelow Page 89
Rich Feilmeier Page 90
Mark Kramer Page 90
Kim Laube Page 90
Jane Morris Page 91

DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ordained Ministers (3)

Timothy Geitz Page 92
Seth Kaiser Page 92
David Lyons Page 92
Russell Senstad Page 93
Lindsay Watkins Page 93
Michael Wolfram Page 93

Commissioned Minister (1)

Jennifer Fuller Page 94
Amy Schmidt Page 94

Laypersons (3)

Timothy Buelow Page 95
Lee Dreyer Page 95
Ruth Gerken Page 95
Wanda Pritzel Page 96
Marilyn Schroeder Page 96
Dewey Torkelson Page 96

Office to which nominated: *District Secretary*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *David Beagley* Age: *37*

Address: *110 Lynn Avenue
Ames, IA 50014*

Present Congregation: *Associate Pastor, Memorial,
Lutheran Church and Student Center, Ames*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:

Year of Ordination: *2007*

Number of years in District: *10*

District and other offices held:

*Junior High Week Staff
Junior High Week Dean
LWML Zone Counselor
S & R Committee, Lutheran Deaconess Assoc.
Senior High Youth Gathering Team
Chairman, Kapfer Symposium on Preaching
District Missions Committee*

Office to which nominated: *District Secretary*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Richard Merrill* Age: *57*

Address: *PO Box 73
Charter Oak, IA 51439*

Present Congregation: *St. John, Charter Oak*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
Zion, Humboldt, IA

Year of Ordination: *1991*

Number of years in District: *27*

District and other offices held:

*Pastoral Advisor – District Singles Committee
Concordia Cub Week Staff
LWML Zone Counselor
Mapleton Circuit Visitor*

Office to which nominated: *District Secretary*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Tom Schlund* Age: *33*

Address: *725 North Thorington Street
Algona, IA 50511*

Present Congregation: *Trinity, Algona*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:

Year of Ordination: *2015*

Number of years in District: *3*

District and other offices held:

*Junior High Youth Gathering Team
LCMS National Convention Delegate
Student Debt Task Force-Concordia Seminary
Board of Regents
Co-Founder of Ministry Focus
Chairman, IDW Student Financial Aid*

Office to which nominated: *District Treasurer*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Kerry Burmeister* Age: *51*

Address: *2015 Texas Avenue
Hardy, IA 50545*

Congregation where membership is held:
Zion, Humboldt

Offices held in congregation:
*Board of Education
Elder
Organist
Endowment Committee*

Formal Education:
*BS degree in Animal Science, ISU
BBA Accounting, ISU
MBA, Drake University*

Occupation (past and present):
Controller – Hog Slat, Inc. Midwest Division

District and other offices held:
*Treasurer, Lutheran Family Service
Stewardship Committee*

Office to which nominated: *District Treasurer*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Scott D. Ernst (I)* Age: *64*

Address: *6420 Golf View Place
Sioux City, IA 51106*

Congregation where membership is held:
Redeemer, Sioux City

Offices held in congregation:
*President
Vice President
Treasurer
Chairman of Elders*

Formal Education:
BS degree in Business, Morningside College

Occupation (past and present):
Certified Public Accountant

District and other offices held:
Treasurer

Office to which nominated: *District Treasurer*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *John A. Feldt* Age: *52*

Address: *1080 63rd Street
West Des Moines, IA 50266*

Congregation where membership is held:
Holy Cross, Carlisle

Offices held in congregation:
*Treasurer
Financial Secretary*

Formal Education:
BS in Mathematics, ISU

Occupation (past and present):
Consulting Director-Goldleaf Partners

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Board of Directors**

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Stan Ullerich (I)** Age: **58**

Address: **106 Marinda Drive
Council Bluffs, IA 51503**

Congregation where membership is held:
Timothy, Council Bluffs

Offices held in congregation:
**Elder
President of Congregation**

Formal Education:
**BA from Buena Vista University
MS from Iowa State University
PhD from Purdue University**

Occupation (past and present):
Professor of Economics (emeritus)

District and other offices held:
**Chairman, IDW Board of Directors
Lay Member-at-Large, IDW Board of
Directors
IDW Stewardship Committee**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Board of Directors**

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Ralph von Qualen** Age: **65**

Address: **17434 Noble Avenue
Carroll, IA 51401**

Congregation where membership is held:
St. Paul, Carroll

Offices held in congregation:
**Sunday school teacher
Midweek class instructor
Chairman, Board of Education
Vice President
Chairman, Board of Elders**

Formal Education:
**AA
BS
MS
PhD**

Occupation (past and present):
Agricultural Researcher

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Board of Directors**

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Kirk Warnke** Age: **60**

Address: **1703 Main Street, PO Box 643
Manson, IA 50563**

Congregation where membership is held:
Immanuel, Pomeroy

Offices held in congregation:
**President, Board of Directors, Elder,
Finance Committee, Education Committee,
Trustee, Sunday school teacher, Usher
Camp Okoboji Delegate**

Formal Education:
**BBA from University of Hawaii at Hilo
Graduate School of Banking, Madison, WI**

Occupation (past and present):
**Executive Director, Camp Okoboji – Present
Banking (Operations Manager, Commercial
Lender, Assistant Vice President, Trust Officer)
Controller
Finance Manager
CFO**

District and other offices held:
**IDW Convention Delegate
IDW Endowment & Legacy Committee
Camp Okoboji Foundation BOD & Treasurer**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Christian Education**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Joshua Keinath** Age: **33**

Address: **1231 North 20th Street
Denison, IA 51442**

Present Congregation: **Senior Pastor, Zion, Denison**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Shepherd of the Hills, Yuma, AZ
Redeemer, Fredericksburg, VA (Vicar)
Search and Rescue for Yuma County Sheriff's
Office**

Year of Ordination: **2011**

Number of years in District: **1**

District and other offices held:
**Co-Chairman Board of Stewardship for Pacific
Southwest District**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Christian Education**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Scott Kozisek** Age: **56**

Address: **860 State Street
Garner, IA 50438**

Present Congregation: **St. Paul, Garner**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Emanuel, Seymour, IN/Bethel, Austin, IN
St. Paul, Mattoon, IL
St. Matthew, Milan, IL
Chaplain Garner Fire Department
DCE Supervisor
Vacancy Pastor in Illinois and Iowa**

Year of Ordination: **1994**

Number of years in District: **5**

District and other offices held:
**Circuit Counselor-Seymour, IN and
Champaign, IL**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Christian Education**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Nathan Peitsch** Age: **35**

Address: **400 South 13th Street
Fort Dodge, IA 50501**

Present Congregation: **Associate Pastor, St. Paul,
Fort Dodge**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:

Year of Ordination: **2010**

Number of years in District: **8**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Stewardship & Finance**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Jonathan Conner (I)** Age: **40**

Address: **519 12th Street
Manning, IA 51455**

Present Congregation: **Zion, Manning**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**St. John, Sanborn, IA
Speaker at apologetics conferences in IDW**

Year of Ordination: **2004**

Number of years in District: **14**

District and other offices held:
**Jr. Youth Gathering Dean
Pastors Conference Chairman**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Stewardship & Finance**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Dennis Martens** Age: **62**

Address: **801 West Lincoln Way
Jefferson, IA 50129**

Present Congregation: **Trinity, Jefferson**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
Christ, Remsen

Year of Ordination: **2008**

Number of years in District: **10**

District and other offices held:
**Pastors Conference Committee
IDW Stewardship Committee**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Stewardship & Finance**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **John Rutz** Age: **49**

Address: **800 North Sumner Avenue
Creston, IA 50801**

Present Congregation: **Trinity, Creston/Mount Ayr**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
St. John-Hastings/St. Paul-Oakland

Year of Ordination: **2009**

Number of years in District: **9**

District and other offices held:
Circuit Visitor-Southwest Circuit

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Youth Services**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Eric Hauan** Age: **36**

Address: **520 North Garfield Street
Algona, IA 50511**

Present Congregation: **Associate Pastor, Trinity,
Algona**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:

Year of Ordination: **2016**

Number of years in District: **2**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Youth Services**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Duncan McLellan** Age: **40**

Address: **1100 SE Sharon Drive
Ankeny, IA 50021**

Present Congregation: **Senior Pastor, St. Paul,
Ankeny**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Zion, Bridgeville, PA
Faith, Lincoln, NE**

Year of Ordination: **2013**

Number of years in District: **1½**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Youth Services**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Jonathan Riggert (I)** Age: **39**

Address: **725 North Roosevelt
Cherokee, IA 51012**

Present Congregation: **Trinity, Cherokee**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Holy Cross, Saint Cloud, MN
Minnesota North District Youth Task Force
Pastoral Advisor to Prince of Peace Lutheran
School Association, St. Cloud, MN
Chaplain at Camp Okoboji
Delegate to Synod Convention
President Cherokee County Ministerial
Association
Iowa State Patrol Chaplain**

Year of Ordination: **2005**

Number of years in District: **7½**

District and other offices held:
IDW Senior Youth Gathering Dean

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Missions**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Christopher LaBoube** Age: **44**

Address: **506 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034**

Present Congregation: **St. Matthew, Mapleton**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Lutheran Bible Translators, missionary, Ghana,
West Africa
Bethlehem, Greenleaf, KS
LCMS missionary, Japan**

Year of Ordination: **2008**

Number of years in District: **1**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Missions**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Bruce Lesemann (I)** Age: **56**

Address: **215 Cayuga Street
Storm Lake, IA 50588**

Present Congregation: **St. John, Storm Lake**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Church Planter and Leadership Trainer, St.
Andrew, Kingston, Jamaica
Church Planter and Leadership Trainer,
Sarangani Province, Island of Mindanao
Vicar, St. John, Charter Oak
Lutheran Educator, Trinity, Stewardson, IL
Lutheran Educator, Faith, Godfrey, IL**

Year of Ordination: **1997**

Number of years in District: **11**

District and other offices held:
**LWML Junior Counselor
LWML Senior Counselor**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Missions**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Joseph Meyer** Age: **56**

Address: **8301 Aurora Avenue
Urbandale, IA 50322**

Present Congregation: **Senior Pastor, Gloria Dei,
Urbandale**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
**Faith, New Port Richey, FL
Hosanna, Mesa AZ
Good Shepherd, Midwest City, OK
Redeemer, Peoria, IL**

Year of Ordination: **1995**

Number of years in District: **3.5**

District and other offices held:
**Chairman, Pastors Conference, Pacific
Southwest District
Chairman, Seminary Interview Committee,
Pacific Southwest District
Circuit Counselor, Central Illinois District**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Human Care**

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Patti Anderson** Age: **46**

Address: **3830 Dakota Avenue
Gowrie, IA 50543**

Congregation where membership is held:
Holy Trinity, Farnhamville

Offices held in congregation:
**Treasurer
Chairman, Evangelism**

Formal Education:
**AA Degree, Business Administration and
Financial Management, AIB**

Occupation (past and present):
**Owner of Patti's Quilting & Gifts
Treasurer of Anderson Machinery Sales, Inc.**

District and other offices held:
IOWAY Coordinator

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Human Care**

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Darlene Rueter (I)** Age: **62**

Address: **1602 Harriet Avenue
Carroll, IA 51401**

Congregation where membership is held:
St. Paul, Carroll

Offices held in congregation:
**Parish Nurse
Chair, Human Care Board
Chair, Family Life/Stewardship
Secretary, Endowment/Legacy Fund and
Scholarship Fund Committee**

Formal Education:
**Nursing Degree, Sioux Valley School of
Nursing, Sioux Falls, SD**

Occupation (past and present):
Nurse Manager of Cardiac/Pulmonary Rehab

District and other offices held:
**District Parish Nurse Representative
Chairperson, District Human Care
Committee
Member, District Human Care Committee**

Office to which nominated: **Chairman,
Human Care**

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Janet L. Smith** Age: **57**

Address: **339 1st Street
Manning, IA 51455**

Congregation where membership is held:
Zion, Manning

Offices held in congregation:
**Evangelism Chairman
Church Council
Preschool Board
Sunday School Teacher
Music Leader
VBS Chairman
Youth Group Leader**

Formal Education:
**Registered Nurse/Diploma Degree
Securities & Insurance Licenses
Retirement Income Certified Professional
Certified Kingdom Advisor
Financial planning based on biblical
principles**

Occupation (past and present):
Financial Associate/Thrivent Financial

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman
Human Care**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Seth Kaiser** Age: **40**

Address: **512 2nd Street
Glenwood, IA 51534**

Present Congregation: **Trinity, Glenwood**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered
**DCE, Our Savior, Norfolk, NE
Disaster Response Missionary at Large for
Nebraska District (Hurricane Katrina)**

Year of Ordination: **2010**

Number of years in District: **30**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman
Human Care**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **John Riebhoff** Age: **68**

Address: **417 Clarendon Street
Kingsley, IA 51028**

Present Congregation: **Grace, Correctionville
Vacancy Pastor, Pilgrim, Quimby**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered
**Immanuel & St. John's, Herington, KS
Holy Cross, Scott City, KS
Vacancy Pastor, Christ the King, Dighton, KS
Vacancy Pastor, La Santa Cruz, Garden City, KS
Clinical Chaplain, Winfield State Hospital and
Training Center, Winfield, KS
Visitation Chaplain, Lutheran Mission Assoc.
of Kansas City, MO**

Year of Ordination: **1982**

Number of years in District: **4**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Chairman
Human Care**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Ryan Roehrig** Age: **27**

Address: **301 West 4th Street
Alta, IA 51002**

Present Congregation: **St. Paul, Alta
Vacancy Pastor, St. John, Alta**

Former Congregations / Church Services Rendered

Year of Ordination: **2016**

Number of years in District: **1**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Ordained
Minister-at-Large**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Todd Bunge** Age: **46**

Address: **1308 Bel Aire Road
Polk City, IA 50226**

Present Congregation: **Beautiful Savior, Polk City**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered
Trinity, Hawarden, IA

Year of Ordination: **2002**

Number of years in District: **16**

District and other offices held:
**District LWML Jr. and Sr. Counselor
Le Mars Zone LWML Pastoral Counselor
Vacancy Pastor at St. Paul, Ireton
Vacancy Pastor at Peace, Alcester, SD**

Office to which nominated: **Ordained
Minister-at-Large**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **John Schonkaes** Age: **47**

Address: **309 4th Street NW
Altoona, IA 50009**

Present Congregation: **Christ the King, Altoona**

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered
Holy Trinity, Parma, OH

Year of Ordination: **1997**

Number of years in District: **16**

District and other offices held:
**Chaplain, Altoona Police & Fire Departments
President and Board Member, Caring Hands
Outreach Center, Altoona
Circuit Visitor
LWML Zone Pastoral Counselor
Dean, IDW Jr. Youth Gathering
Member, Constitution Review Committee
IDW District Secretary**

Office to which nominated: **Ordained
Minister-at-Large**

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Daniel Vogel (I)** Age: **66**

Address: **32678 Aspen Avenue
Manning, IA 51455**

Present Congregation: **Pastor Emeritus**

Former Congregations / Church Services Rendered
**Church Planter for Hispanic Ministry,
Florida-Georgia District, Mount Olive, Perrine, FL
Bilingual Pastor, St. Matthew, Miami, FL
Senior & Associate Pastor, Zion, Manning, IA
IDW Missionary at Large for Hispanic
Ministry**

Year of Ordination: **1982**

Number of years in District: **21**

District and other offices held:
**Circuit Counselor, South Miami Circuit, FL
School Principal, St. Matthew, Miami, FL
Circuit Counselor, Carroll Circuit, IDW
District Missions Committee, IDW
District Board of Directors, IDW**

Office to which nominated: **Commissioned
Minister, Member-at-Large**

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Amy Schmidt** Age: **31**

Address: **410 SW Westlawn Drive
Ankeny, IA 50023**

Present Position:
DCE, St. Paul, Ankeny

Former Congregations and Positions:

Other Church Service Rendered:
**Registrar, IDW Sr. Youth Gathering
District Coordinator for National LCMS Youth
Gathering**

Year of Commissioning: **2006**

Number of years in District: **12**

District and other offices held:
Nominating Committee

Office to which nominated: **Commissioned
Minister, Member-at-Large**

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Marilyn Shults** Age: **55**

Address: **3600 Stonebridge Road
West Des Moines, IA 50265**

Present Position:
**Director of Family Ministry, Shepherd of the
Valley, West Des Moines**

Former Congregations and Positions:
**Director of Child & Family Ministry, Faith,
Topeka, KS**

Other Church Service Rendered:
**Part-time teacher, Topeka Lutheran School,
Topeka, KS
Special education teacher, Good Shepherd
Lutheran Home, Terra Bella, CA**

Year of Commissioning: **1976**

Number of years in District: **5½**

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: **Commissioned
Minister, Member-at-Large**

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHARACTERIZATION

Name: **Merrilee Sump** Age: **62**

Address: **1951 390th Street
Westside, IA 51467**

Present Position:
**Principal/Teacher/Athletic Director, Zion,
Denison**

Former Congregations and Positions:
**Clarinda Lutheran School, Clarinda, IA
St. Paul High School, Concordia, MO
St. Paul College & College High, Concordia, MO
Bethlehem-Trinity, Fort Wayne, IN**

Other Church Service Rendered:
**National Lutheran School Accreditation
Commissioner
IDW NLSA Accreditation Commissioner
Assoc. of Choice in Education Board of Directors
Council of Iowa Accredited Nonpublic Schools
Dept of LCMS Ministry Task Force for National
Lutheran School Accreditation and Excellence in LCMS
Education**

Year of Commissioning: **1978**

Number of years in District: **23**

District and other offices held:
**Iowa Lutheran Teacher Conference Committee
Interim IDW Education Executive
Assoc. of Choice in Education Board of Directors
Council of Iowa Accredited Nonpublic Schools
Iowa Governor's Advisory Board for Nonpublic
Schools**

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Patti Anderson* Age: *46*

Address: *3830 Dakota Avenue
Gowrie, IA 50543*

Congregation where membership is held:
Holy Trinity, Farnhamville

Offices held in congregation:
*Treasurer
Chairman, Evangelism*

Formal Education:
*AA Degree, Business Administration and
Financial Management, AIB*

Occupation (past and present):
Owner of Patti's Quilting & Gifts

District and other offices held:
IOWAY Coordinator

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Kelly Bossard* Age: *35*

Address: *32277 162nd Lane
Woodward, IA 50276*

Congregation where membership is held:
Christ, Bouton

Offices held in congregation:
Chair of Acorns & Oaks Daycare Board

Formal Education:
Bachelor of Arts, Simpson College

Occupation (past and present):
Project Manager

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Timothy Buelow (I)* Age: *50*

Address: *2813 Walnut Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265*

Congregation where membership is held:
Messiah, Johnston

Offices held in congregation:
*Vice President
President*

Formal Education:
*Bachelor's Degree-Civil Engineering
Master's Degree-Environmental Engineering*

Occupation (past and present):
Consulting Engineer

District and other offices held:
*Lay Delegate to 2012 IDW Convention
Member of Missions Floor Committee at 2012
IDW Convention
IDW Board of Directors Lay Member-at-Large*

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: ***Rich Feilmeier*** Age: ***67***

Address: ***2440 230th Street
Early, IA 50535***

Congregation where membership is held:
Faith, Early

Offices held in congregation:
***President
Vice President
Trustee***

Formal Education:
Master's Degree

Occupation (past and present)
Speech-Language Pathologist

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: ***Mark Kramer*** Age: ***51***

Address: ***5200 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50312***

Congregation where membership is held:
Gloria Dei, Urbandale

Offices held in congregation:
***Vice President
President
Treasurer***

Formal Education:
***BA, Buena Vista University
MBA, University of Iowa***

Occupation (past and present):
***VP-Trading Operations, Wells Fargo Home
Mortgage***

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: ***Kimberly Laube*** Age: ***49***

Address: ***2300 4th Street SW
Altoona, IA 50009***

Congregation where membership is held:
Hope, Des Moines

Offices held in congregation:
***Grow Team Member
Adult Bible Study Facilitator
Director of Education***

Formal Education:
BA Public Relations & Communications

Occupation (past and present):
***Life Ministries Director for Lutheran
Family Service***

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: *Lay Member-at-Large*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Jane Morris* Age: *47*

Address: *519 Tarkio Street
Clarinda, IA 51632*

Congregation where membership is held:
Immanuel, Clarinda

Offices held in congregation:
*Sunday School Superintendent
Endowment Committee
Sunday School Teacher
LWML President
LWML Vice President
LWML Zone Vice President
LWML Zone Human Care*

Formal Education:
BS in Public Relations from NWMSU

Occupation (past and present):
Housewife

District and other offices held:
*LWML Leader Development
LWML Vice President of Gospel Outreach
and Special Focus Ministries
IDW Missions Committee*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Ordained*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Timothy Geitz* Age: *56*

Address: *1430 7th Avenue SE
Le Mars, IA 51031*

Present Congregation: *Grace, Le Mars*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered
*Associate Pastor, St. Paul, Fort Dodge, IA
Trinity, Manilla, IA
St. John, May City, IA
Dean of Cub Week
LWML Pastoral Advisor
LLL Pastoral Advisor*

Year of Ordination: *1987*

Number of years in District: *31*

District and other offices held:
*Ordained Member-at-Large, IDW Board of
Directors
Secretary/Treasurer, IDW Pastors Conference
Circuit Visitor*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Ordained*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Seth Kaiser* Age: *40*

Address: *512 2nd Street
Glenwood, IA 51534*

Present Congregation: *Trinity, Glenwood*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered
*DCE, Our Savior, Norfolk, NE
Disaster Response Missionary-at-Large for
Nebraska District (Hurricane Katrina)*

Year of Ordination: *2010*

Number of years in District: *30*

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Ordained*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *David Lyons* Age: *56*

Address: *PO Box 368
Schaller, IA 51053*

Present Congregation: *St. Paul, Schaller*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:

Year of Ordination: *2004*

Number of years in District: *14*

District and other offices held:
*Board of Directors, Camp Okoboji
District Rural & Small Town Ministry
Committee
District Pastors Conference Planning
Committee*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Ordained*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Russell Senstad* Age: *52*

Address: *4211 Eldorado Ct
Sioux City, IA 51106*

Present Congregation: *Senior Pastor, Redeemer,
Sioux City*

Former Congregations/ Church Service Rendered:
*Immanuel, Adair
Redeemer, Sioux City (Associate Pastor)
LWML Zone Counselor
Synod Reconciler*

Year of Ordination: *1992*

Number of years in District: *26*

District and other offices held:
*Chairman, IDW Evangelism Committee
IDW Nominating Committee
Sioux City Circuit Visitor*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Ordained*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Lindsay Watkins (I)* Age: *64*

Address: *527 South Marshall Street
Boone, IA 50036*

Present Congregation: *Trinity, Boone*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
*Wittenberg Lutheran Chapel, University of
North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND, Campus Pastor
Mt. Hope, Evergreen, CO
Immanuel Lutheran Church & Student
Center, Western Illinois University, Macombe, IL
St. John, Rushville, IL
Education Committee, North Dakota District
Continuing Education Pastor, North Dakota
District
Synod Convention Delegate
Christian Education Committee, IDW*

Year of Ordination: *1979*

Number of years in District: *23*

District and other offices held:
Circuit Visitor, Boone Circuit

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Ordained*

PASTOR CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Michael Wolfram* Age: *67*

Address: *2814 Center Lake Drive
Spirit Lake, IA 51360*

Present Congregation: *Lutheran Family Service
Director of Congregational Services*

Former Congregations / Church Service Rendered:
*Holy Cross, Onida and St. John, Agar, SD
Peace, Marcus, IA
Shepherd of Peace, Sergeant Bluff, IA
Trinity, Des Moines, IA*

Year of Ordination: *1977*

Number of years in District: *28*

District and other offices held:
*US Navy Reserve Chaplain
Concordia Cub Week Staff
Circuit Visitor
IDW Board of Directors
Chairman, IDW Personal Missions Committee
IDW Youth Gathering Committee
Chairman, IDW Operation Barnabas Task
Force*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Commissioned*

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Jennifer Fuller* Age: *39*

Address: *2439 Whispering Ridge Drive
Des Moines, IA 50320*

Present Position:
*DCE, Messiah Lutheran Church/Loving Arms
Children's Center, Johnston*

Former Congregations and Positions:
DCE, Redeemer, Sioux City, IA

Other Church Service Rendered:
DCE, Messiah, Tampa, FL

Year of Commissioning: *2001*

Number of years in District: *13*

District and other offices held:

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Commissioned*

COMMISSIONED MINISTER CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Amy Schmidt (I)* Age: *34*

Address: *410 SW Westlawn Drive
Ankeny, IA 50021*

Present Position:
DCE, St. Paul, Ankeny

Former Congregations and Positions:

Other Church Service Rendered:
*IDW Youth Gathering Committee
District Coordinator for National LCMS Youth
Gathering*

Year of Commissioning: *2006*

Number of years in District: *12*

District and other offices held:
District Nominating Committee

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Layperson*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Timothy Buelow* Age: *50*

Address: *2813 Walnut Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265*

Congregation where membership is held:
Messiah, Johnston

Offices held in congregation:
*Vice President
President*

Formal Education:
*Bachelor's Degree-Civil Engineering
Master's Degree-Environmental Engineering*

Occupation (past and present):
Consulting Engineer

District and other offices held:
*Lay Delegate to 2012 IDW Convention
Member of Missions Floor Committee at 2012
IDW Convention
IDW Board of Directors Lay Member-at-Large*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Layperson*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Lee Dreyer* Age: *66*

Address: *2242 140th Street
Fort Dodge, IA 50501*

Congregation where membership is held:
St. Paul, Fort Dodge

Offices held in congregation:
*President
Board of Elders
Finance Board*

Formal Education:
2 year Community College

Occupation (past and present):
Self-employed Sales Agent

District and other offices held:
*Chairman, IDW Board of Directors
IDW Endowment Committee*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Layperson*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Ruth Gerken* Age: *59*

Address: *2201 North 15th Street
Adel, IA 50003*

Congregation where membership is held:
Faith, Adel

Offices held in congregation:
*Youth Board
Confirmation Teacher
Sunday School Teacher
LWML Religious Life
Mentor – Mom for MOPS*

Formal Education:
BA

Occupation (past and present):
*Support staff Lutheran Church Extension
Fund IDW*

District and other offices held:
*Fan into Flame Committee
IOWAY Board
Education – Preschool Visitor*

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Layperson*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Wanda Pritzel* Age: *57*

Address: *234 9th Avenue North
Fort Dodge, IA 50501*

Congregation where membership is held:
St. Paul, Fort Dodge

Offices held in congregation:

Formal Education:
Masters in Social Work, University of Missouri

Occupation (past and present):
*Director of Development, Lutheran Family
Service and Perry Lutheran Home*

District and other offices held:
Member, IDW Human Care Committee

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Layperson*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Marilyn Schroeder* Age: *74*

Address: *1828 14th Street
Boone, IA 50036*

Congregation where membership is held:
Trinity, Boone

Offices held in congregation:
*Sunday School Teacher
Financial Secretary
Trust Committee
Active member of LWML at the local, district,
and national level*

Formal Education:
Some College

Occupation (past and present):
Retired (banking)

District and other offices held:
Lay Member at Large, IDW Board of Directors

Office to which nominated: *Nominating
Committee, Layperson*

LAYPERSON CHARACTERIZATION

Name: *Dewey Torkelson* Age: *68*

Address: *410 North 1st Street
Terril, IA 51364*

Congregation where membership is held:
Immanuel, Terril

Offices held in congregation:
*Elder
Chairman*

Formal Education:
M.A.

Occupation (past and present):
Teacher/Principal

District and other offices held:

CIRCUIT VISITOR NOMINATIONS

The regulations regarding the nomination and election of circuit visitors are found in Bylaw 5.2.2 of the *Handbook* of the Synod. This Bylaw reads as follows:

The circuit visitor shall hold his position by virtue of his selection by the circuit forum and ratification by the district convention.

- (a) Circuit forums shall meet at the call of their circuit visitors to select their circuit visitors no later than the time established by the district. When in-person meetings are burdensome (e.g., geographically large circuits), a circuit may select another manner of meeting (e.g., e-meeting technologies) that is suitable and made available to all participants, taking into consideration the need to provide for an open and fair exchange of ideas and secure, private, and confidential voting.
- (b) Nominations for candidates for the office of circuit visitor may be submitted by a voting congregation of the circuit and suggested by the district president, in consultation with the praesidium of the district.
- (c) Each circuit may adopt procedures and methods that will insure efficiency and accuracy, including the use of mechanical, electronic, or other methods of casting, recording, or tabulating votes. The privilege of voting shall be exercised by the representatives from each member congregation of the circuit, who shall have been selected in the manner prescribed by the congregation (Bylaw 5.3.2).
- (d) All nominated pastors serving congregations and emeriti pastors shall be eligible for election in accordance with section 4.3 of these Bylaws.
 - (1) Following presentations of pertinent information regarding each pastor as listed in Bylaw 3.12.3.6 (c) and circuit visitor responsibilities as provided hereafter in this bylaw, each voter shall submit the names of two pastors on the initial ballot.
 - (2) The three pastors (or more in case of a tie vote) who receive the highest number of votes in this preliminary ballot shall be placed on the next ballot. Each voter shall vote for only one candidate.
 - (3) Balloting shall continue with the lowest candidate being removed from each succeeding ballot until one pastor shall have received a simple majority of all votes cast, who shall be declared the nominee.
- (e) Immediately following the circuit forum, the circuit visitor shall report in writing the results of the selection process to the secretary of the district in preparation for ratification by the district convention.
- (f) In the event that a circuit visitor has not been selected by a circuit forum or has been selected but is no longer available to serve, thus resulting in no circuit visitor selection being included on the convention slate of circuit visitors for a circuit, the district president shall make the selection, which selection shall then be included on the convention slate of circuit visitors.
- (g) The convention shall have the right to alter the slate by amendment.
- (h) The convention shall then ratify the slate of circuit visitors, which ratification shall constitute election.

Bylaw 9.31b of the District *Handbook* states that “[e]lection to the office of circuit counselor shall not exclude the person from consideration for another office. If also elected to another office, he shall choose in which position he wishes to serve.” *At past conventions, when a pastor who was nominated as circuit counselor from his circuit and was elected also to another office had chosen to serve in that other office, the delegates from his circuit have caucused and selected another pastor from their circuit to serve as circuit counselor. This selection process must be completed and the name of the pastor given to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee prior to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee’s presentation to the convention for ratification of the candidates for circuit counselor* (Bylaw 9.17c).

The results of the selection by the circuit forums are as follows:

Adair Circuit	no selection	Le Mars Circuit	Timothy Geitz
Algona Circuit	Scott Kozisek	Mapleton Circuit	Richard Salcido
Boone Circuit	Stephen Ude	Northwest Circuit	no selection
Carroll Circuit	Brian Licht	Sac City Circuit	Don Pobanz
Cherokee Circuit	Leroy Riemer	Sioux City Circuit	Ralph Shorey
Council Bluffs Circuit	Seth Kaiser	Southwest Circuit	John Rutz
Denison Circuit	Merle Mahnken	Spencer Circuit	no selection
Des Moines East Circuit	no selection	Storm Lake Circuit	Bradley Ketcham
Des Moines West Circuit	no selection		
Fort Dodge Circuit	no selection		
Humboldt Circuit	no selection		

The Rev. John Schonkaes, District Secretary