



## NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

### 2018 MNYS Annual Assembly: Nominations & Elections

SYNOD OFFICERS ([WWW.MNYS.ORG](http://WWW.MNYS.ORG))

#### Vice President



**Christopher Vergara**

Saint Peter's Church, Manhattan

#### **Church Leadership**

Executive Committee of Synod Council, MNYS

President, Saint Peter's Church

ELCA AMMPARO Network, Member

## **Community Leadership**

Prop, Gotham Knights Rugby Football Club

Designer, BroadwayBares: Equity Fights AIDS

## **Statement**

*As a first generation Latinx native NYer, who found the Lutheran tradition in high school, I'm excited by the opportunities & challenges to use the diverse & abundant gifts God has given us to the service of the gospel in OUR synod.*



## **Petra (Renee) Wicklund**

Our Savior, Port Washington

## **Church Leadership**

Reference & Counsel (five years as chairperson)

Synod Council (three years on Executive Committee)

Church Council Secretary (at Trinity LESP)

## **Community Leadership**

Port Washington Parent Council

Port Washington SEPTA (board member)

Manorhaven School, Class Parent Coordinator

## **Statement**

*God is good. If by the Holy Spirit's guidance this Synod determines that my time for greater service has come, then I will aspire to serve competently and gratefully.*

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## **Secretary**



### **Rev. Robert Schoepflin**

Abiding Presence, Fort Salonga

### **Church Leadership**

Secretary, Metropolitan New York Synod

Board Member, Long Island Lutheran Day School

### **Community Leadership**

Northport Ecumenical Council

Kings Park Ecumenical Council

## **Statement**

*I have served as Synod Secretary since first being elected in 2010 and am willing to continue serving if elected by the Assembly.*

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## Treasurer



### John D. Litke

St. Peter's, Huntington Station

#### **Church Leadership**

Congregation President

Synod Vice President

ELCA Task Forces

#### **Community Leadership**

Habitat For Humanity

Science Fair Judge

Lutheran Schools Association board

**Statement** *I have taught congregational finance and administrations for several decades and understand finance and administration issues.*

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## **BALLOT 1: Synod Council Clergy | Southeast Queens**



## **The Rev. Marva Jenkins | Conference Nomination**

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Laurelton

### **Church Leadership**

Synod Council Member

Multicultural Committee, Chair

Dean

### **Community Leadership**

Addisleigh Park Civic Organization

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Member of the community

### **Statement**

*It will be my honor and privilege to have the opportunity to participate in the decision making body of the Metro NY Synod. I have long been concerned and involved in Synod wide and local church governance even prior to my ordination; serving as chair of the Multicultural commission, Synod Anti-Racism Team, congregational council president, etc.*

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## **BALLOT 2: Synod Council Clergy | Northeast Queens**



**The Rev. Daniel Penumaka | Conference Nomination**

St. Paul's International Lutheran Church, Floral Park

**Church and Community Leadership**

- Pastor, St. Paul's International Lutheran Church
- Synod Council Member
- Conference of Deans
- ELCA-Asian Church Planning Team Mgmt

**Community Leadership**

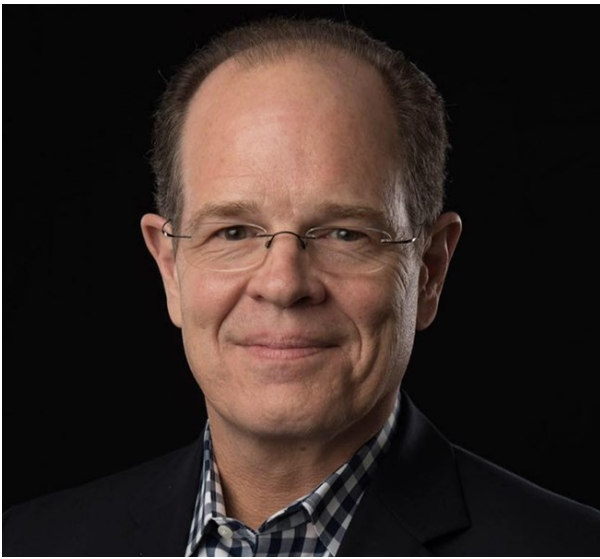
- Interfaith Clergy Fellowship, Floral Park
- Indian Christian Community Leader: Telugu

**Statement**

*I thank the Lord for giving me an opportunity to serve on Synod Council. God has blessed.*

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**BALLOT 3: Synod Council Clergy | Brooklyn Bridges**



## The Rev. David C. Parsons | Conference Nomination

St. John–St. Matthew–Emanuel, Brooklyn

### Church Leadership

MNYS Commission For Gay & Lesbian People (past co-chair)

MNYS Anti-Racism Committee

Dean, Brooklyn Bridges Conf. (2 terms)

### Community Leadership

#GetOrganizedBK, Racial Justice Working Group

### Statement

*I feel called to serve on synod Council. I will seek to listen more than I speak, and foster a spirit of transparency, diversity and equity.*

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## BALLOT 4: Synod Council Clergy

***Bronx Conference did not provide a nomination***





## The Rev. Harry Schenkel | Standing for Re-election

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, East Northport

### **Church Leadership**

Executive Committee of Synod Council, MNYS

MNYS Synod Council

Board Member- LI Lutheran Day School

### **Community Leadership**

Northport Ecumenical Lay Council

### **Statement**

*It has been my honor and privilege to serve over the last four years on the MNYS Synod Council. If God so chooses, I would be willing to continue to serve.*





## The Rev. Justin Johnson | Standing for Re-election

Trinity, Kingston

### Church Leadership

Synod Council

Anti-Racism Strategy Enabler

RIT Campus Pastor (Upstate NY)

### Community Leadership

CROP, Walk Leader

Kingston Interfaith Ministerium

Kingston Backpack, Program Creator

### Statement

*My focus is on race issues, LGBTQ+, youth, and campus ministry.*



**The Rev. Chryll D. Crews**

Saint Stephen's, Brooklyn

**Church Leadership**

LMHE Board Member

Reference and Counsel Member

Vicar

**Community Leadership**

School District 27, Parent Council Vice President, 2004-2005

**Statement**

*I'm interested in representing the South Shore Conference and ADLA as a Synod Council member. I believe my leadership skills developed through pastoring, pastoral care, and legal studies will be an asset to the council.*



**The. Rev. Donald Lemke**

Gloria Dei, New Hyde Park

**Church Leadership**

Regional Director for Lutherans Concerned MNYS  
Interim Pastor in Western ND and MNYS

**Community Leadership**

SEFA Campaign–SUNY Downstate, Co-Chair

**Statement**

*For me to serve is to work within and outside of the usual in order to break the bounds of normalcy and create a new and vibrant community.*

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**BALLOT 5: Synod Council Lay Female**

***Southwest Brooklyn Conference did not provide a nomination***



**Barbara Holm**

Our Saviour, Mineola

**Church Leadership**

Treasurer, 2000-2017

**Statement**

*I have served my congregation since I was in my 20's and would like to expand my service.*



**Synod Deacon Anita Martin-Williams**

New Hope Jamaica, Queens

## **Church Leadership**

Church Outreach Committee

## **Community Leadership**

Music and Worship Committee

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# **BALLOT 6: Synod Council Lay Female | Delaware–Hudson**



## **Hazel R. Goldstein | Conference Nomination**

St. John's Lutheran Church, Middletown

## **Church Leadership**

MNYS Gathered Strategy, Chair

MNYS Assembly Committee

St. John's Church Council VP

## **Community Leadership**

Music and Worship Committee

## **Statement**

*Our synod offers wonderful opportunities for training, growth and support to all our congregations. It is a privilege to be part of the opportunity to serve the people of our synod.*

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**BALLOT 7: Synod Council Lay Male | Eastern Nassau**



**To Come**

Church

**Church Leadership**

To Come

**Statement**

*To Come*



**BALLOT 8: Synod Council Lay Male | Southwest Nassau**





## Cecil B. Spurlock-Shackelton | Conference Nomination

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Roosevelt

### Church Leadership

Director of Youth Ministries

### Statement

*I enthusiastically submit my application for nomination to serve in a capacity that allows me to be impactful within my Church community.*

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## BALLOT 9: Synod Council Lay Male | Western Suffolk





## Dave Ehlers | Conference Nomination

St. John's, Lindenhurst

### **Community Leadership**

Cub Scouts, Eagle Scout

Amityville and St. John's, Fund raising

### **Statement**

*The church saved me. Absent during my 20s, something was missing in my life. I hope I can represent a diverse point of view to make sure we are reaching out to everyone to share God's love for us.*

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## **BALLOT 10: Synod Council Lay Female | At Large**



## **Wendy Bean Tannenbaum | Standing for Re-election**

St. Paul's Lutheran, East Northport

### **Church Leadership**

Synod Council Member 2014 - 2018

Synod Capital Improvement Challenge Grant Review Committee

St. Paul's Ministry Partnership Committee

### **Community Leadership**

Currently in training for Stephen Ministry (lay care giving ministry that supplements pastoral care)

**Statement**

*Focused on advancing our synod's strategic plan to build bridges, serve others, address social issues and grow in our relationship with God.*

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**BALLOT 11: Synod Council Multicultural Male | At Large**



**Synod Deacon Steven Daniels**

Trinity, Wyandanch

**Church Leadership**

Assisting Minister

**Community Leadership**

Basketball Youth Ministry

Wyandanch PAL Football Coach

**Statement**

*I would consider it a honor to serve on the synod council.*

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**BALLOT 12: Synod Council Youth (16-17 Years) | At Large**



**To Come**

Church

**Church Leadership**

To Come

**Statement**

*To Come*

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**BALLOT 13: Synod Council Lay Male | Unexpired Term (2020)**



## **John Ogren**

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, Manhattan

### **Church Leadership**

MNYS Multicultural Committee, chair

Synodical Deacon

Church Council

Seafarers House Executive Committee

### **Community Leadership**

Gramercy Park neighborhood associates

Multi-cultural committee MNYS, Chair

Artbreak Hotel Gallery

### **Statement**

*God has found me and love me as I am. I have a deep desire to serve God and God's Holy people. I am excited to be serving in our synod and will be honored to serve in this capacity.*

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## **BALLOT 14: Consultation Committee | Clergy Female**



**The Rev. Jeanne Warfield**

Grace Lutheran Church, Forest Hills

**Church Leadership**

MNYS Candidacy Committee

MNYS Bridgebuilder

**Community Leadership**

Forest Hills Interfaith Clergy Group

FH Community Pantry

Healthy Congregations (trained facilitator)

**Statement**

*To listen calmly, respond with honest care and imaginative prayerfulness are gifts I can offer in service. Along with this is my abiding love for Jesus and church people. I believe in the capacity of congregations to navigate challenges and changing times in order to deliver genuine care for peoples' real lives.*

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**BALLOT 15: Consultation Committee | Clergy Female**



**To Come**

Church

**Church Leadership**

To Come

**Statement**

*To Come*

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**BALLOT 16: Consultation Committee | Clergy Male**



**The Rev. Justin Lathrop**

Ascension, Deer Park

### **Church Leadership**

Metro DC Synod Council Exec. Cmt.

Western Suffolk Conference Secretary

LuHi Head of School Search Cmt.

### **Community Leadership**

Town of Babylon Interfaith Task Force

Babylon Interfaith Homeless Initiative

Deer Park Community Assoc.

### **Statement**

*I would like to offer a steadying voice to congregations in crisis.*

---

## **BALLOT 17: Consultation Committee | Clergy Male**



### **The Rev. Peter Rustico**

St. John's, Middletown

### **Church Leadership**

Former Dean, Delaware-Hudson Conference

Former member of Synod Worship Committee



### **Community Leadership**

Greater Middletown Interfaith Council, President

Middletown Fire Department Interfaith Committee, Chaplain

Hospice of Orange and Rockland

### **Statement**

*I was pleased to be nominated for this position. If I am elected to serve I would gladly seek to help congregations in conflicted situations, drawing on my 36 years of experience as a parish pastor.*

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## **BALLOT 18: Discipline Committee | Clergy Female**



### **To Come**

Church

### **Church Leadership**

To Come

### **Statement**

*To Come*

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## **BALLOT 19: Discipline Committee | Clergy Male**



### **The Rev. Wilbert Miller**

Holy Trinity, Manhattan

#### **Church Leadership**

Candidacy Committee

Dean (Pacifica Synod)

Chair of Professional Leadership Conference (Pacifica Synod)

Board ELCA Deaconess Community

#### **Community Leadership**

San Diego Organizing Project

PA Rotary Club, President elect-Ardmore

Board of the Lankenau Hospital, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania

#### **Statement**

*I have served in a host of different positions in four different synods (Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, and Pacifica Synod) and in varied congregational settings from inner-city to center-city to suburban. I am committed to mutual ministry between congregation, synod, and national church. Finally, my prayer is that we listen to one another carefully, especially in the face of differences of opinion.*

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## **BALLOT 20: Discipline Committee | Lay Female**



### **Synod Deacon Carole Brosnan**

Ascension Lutheran Church, Franklin Square

#### **Church Leadership**

Church Council

#### **Community Leadership**

Officer-Franklin Square Fire Department Auxiliary

#### **Statement**

*Honored to be considered for this position.*



**Synod Deacon Anita Martin-Williams**

New Hope Jamaica, Queens

**Church Leadership**

Church Outreach Committee

**Community Leadership**

Music and Worship Committee



**Madelyn Soussoudis**

Advent Lutheran Church, Manhattan

### **Church Leadership**

Congregation Call Committee

MNYS Candidacy Committee

Diakonia Graduate | Diakonia Location Manager

### **Community Leadership**

Residential Condominium Finance Committee

Previous Board Member

### **Statement**

*I am a long time member of the ELCA, graduate of the diakonia adult Christian education program, prior location manager of the diakonia Queens location, current lay member on the MNYS Candidacy Committee, and consistent volunteer and lay leader of committees and ministries at my home church.*

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## **BALLOT 21: Discipline Committee | Lay Male**



### **Synod Deacon John Malone**

Holy Trinity, Brooklyn

### **Church Leadership**

Synod Council Member

Co-chair Synod Diaconate Council

**Statement**

*It is important to me when situations arise that could involve discipline, that proper process is followed and anyone involved be treated fairly. I will bring this value to the Discipline Committee if elected.*

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**BALLOT 22: Churchwide Assembly | Clergy Female (3)**



**The Rev. Ann Tiemeyer**

Advent, Manhattan

**Church Leadership**

ELCA Justice for Women Consulting Committee

National Council of Churches – Associate General Secretary for Joint Action and Advocacy

Legislative Team for Good Soil – working for full inclusion in the ELCA

**Community Leadership**

Commission on the Status of Women, United Nations, Delegate

Advent Lutheran Church Food Pantry and Community Lunch, Volunteer

**Statement**

*Having attended past assemblies as a voting member, I am glad to share my experience with new voting members to help them negotiate the complexities of a churchwide assembly. I would be privilege and honored if elected to serve the whole church in important way.*



## **The Rev. Harriet Wieber**

Holy Trinity, (Flatbush) Brooklyn

### **Church Leadership**

Dean of South Shore Brooklyn Conference

Diaconate Council

### **Community Leadership**

Community Board #18

Marine Park Civic Association

### **Statement**

*I would consider it a privilege to serve our Synod in this way. I am reminded of my confirmation verse which I received so many years ago: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."  
Joshua 24:15.*





**To Come**

Church

**Church Leadership**

To Come

**Statement**

*To Come*



**BALLOT 23: Churchwide Assembly | Clergy Male (2)**



## **The Rev. Joel K. Brandt**

Gloria Dei, Huntington Station

### **Church Leadership**

Reference & Counsel MNYS 2016–2018, Chair

Member of MNYS Claimed Committee

Member of the Lutheran–Anglican–Roman Catholic Dialogue

### **Statement**

*In my 30th year of ordained ministry, I'm very interested in attending my first Churchwide Assembly.*



## **The Rev. Mark Erson**

St. John's, Manhattan

### **Church Leadership**

Claimed Committee, Chair

Project Connect, Synod Coordinator

Diakonia

### **Community Leadership**

Yorkville Youth Theatre, Director

Fierce, Comrade

Heritage of Pride, Volunteer

**Statement**

*It is both an exciting time and a challenging time to be the Church. We are wise to thoughtfully work together as God's people for the sake of the gospel and the world.*



**The Rev. David M. Grainson**

Holy Trinity, Rockville Centre

**Church Leadership**

MNYS Diaconal Council

**Community Leadership**

RVC Police Chaplain

**Statement**

*I would be incredibly honored to represent the Metro New York Synod at the Church Wide Assembly.*



**The Rev. Paul Milholland**

Trinity, Astoria (Long Island City)

**Church Leadership**

- Synod Council MNYS
- Executive Committee
- Assembly Committee, Chair

**Community Leadership**

- Lindenhurst Rotary, 8 years

**Statement**

*To serve the gospel of God's love and see it realized around the world.*



## The Rev. Kevin O'Hara

Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Patchogue

### **Church Leadership**

Steering Committee Secretary/Treasurer for Peconic Conference

Sent Committee Member

Synod Assembly Planning Committee Member

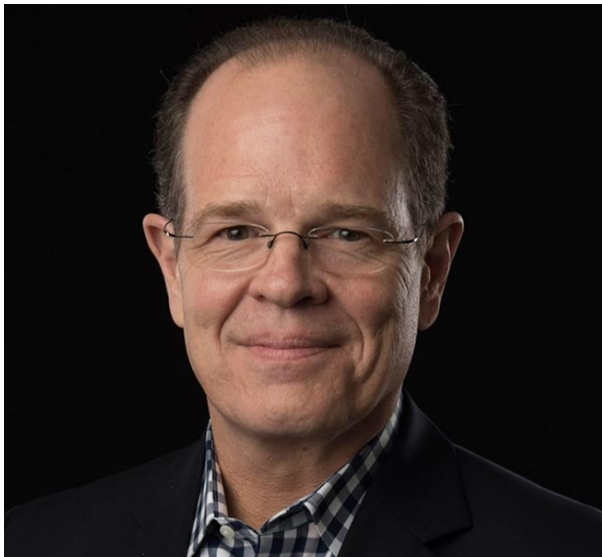
### **Community Leadership**

Protestant Campus Ministry at Stony Brook University, Board Member

Boy Scouts Troop 47, Board Member

### **Statement**

*My mother's faith is pivotal in my own life's journey and I wouldn't be who I am without her encouragement. As we discern our statement on women and justice, I would love to vote in honor of her.*



## The Rev. David C. Parsons

St. John-St. Matthew-Emanuel, Brooklyn

### **Church Leadership**

Brooklyn Bridges Conference, Dean (2 Terms)

MNYS Anti-Racism Committee

MNYS Commission For Gay & Lesbian People, Former Co-Chair

### **Community Leadership**

**Statement**

*I would be honored to serve. I will do my best to be prepared, and to participate as fully and thoughtfully as possible.*



**The Rev. Arden C. Strasser**

St. Luke's, Manhattan

**Church Leadership**

Synod Worship Committee

Interim Ministry

**Statement**

*As a missionary in S. Africa for 8 years, and having led congregations on both coasts, I bring a down to earth grasp of the ELCA, the global church, and passion for her mission. I'll speak faithfully to our MNYS memorials.*

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**BALLOT 24: Churchwide Assembly | Lay Female (3)**





# **Susan Brandt**

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church, Huntington Station

## **Church Leadership**

- Synod Council, Rocky Mountain Synod
- Stewardship Committee Chair, Rocky Mountain Synod
- Stephen Ministry Leader, Southeast Michigan Synod

## **Community Leadership**

- Parent/Teacher organization, Treasurer
- National Association of Church Business Administrators

## **Statement**

*Assemblies are important work of the church. We discuss and reflect on our mission and decide future steps. We pray, study, and worship. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve the synod as a Churchwide Assembly*





**Cynthia D. Corley**

New Hope, Jamaica, Queens

**Church Leadership**

Co-Chair Call Committee New Hope Jamaica  
Executive Committee MNYS Council

**Statement**

*I have been a lifelong Lutheran. I am daily growing in my relationship with Jesus Christ. As I grow, God is revealing gifts for me to share with others. I see this as an opportunity to continue my growth through service.*



# Synod Deacon Anita Martin-Williams

New Hope, Jamaica

## **Church Leadership**

Church Outreach Committee

## **Community Leadership**

Music and Worship Committee

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## **BALLOT 25: Churchwide Assembly | Lay Male (4)**



## **Alex Lawrence**

Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish, Manhattan

## **Church Leadership**

Choir Director

Previous Member of Sower's Project

## **Community Leadership**

Executive Director of a food pantry/soup kitchen ministry

**Statement**

*As the leader of a service ministry for the church, I'm excited to bring my perspective the wider church.*

**John D. Litke**

St. Peter's, Huntington Station

**Church Leadership**

Congregation President

Synod Vice President

ELCA Task Forces

**Community Leadership**

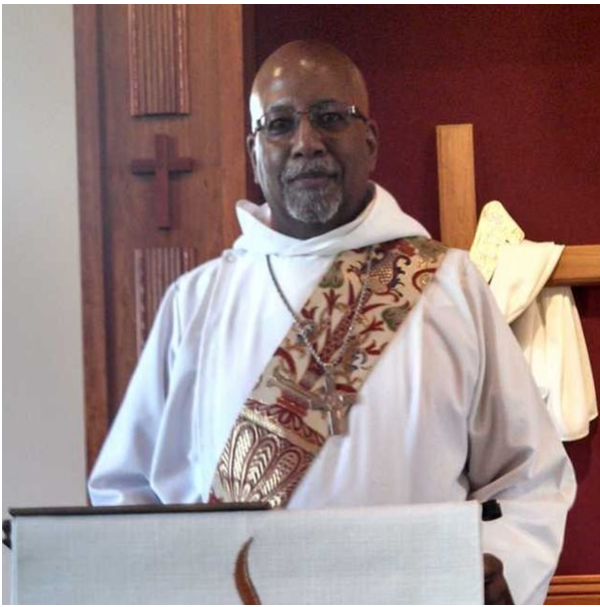
Habitat for Humanity

Science Fair Judge

Lutheran Schools Association, Board Member

**Statement**

*I have the experience and knowledge of the ELCA to make informed decisions during the Churchwide Assembly.*



**Synod Deacon Paul E. Lumpkin**

King of Kings, New Windsor

**Church Leadership**

MNYS Sent Committee  
Synod Council (2 terms)

**Community Leadership**

Dist. Chr. Boy Scouts of America  
Northeast Region, Vice-Pres  
NLAS  
CSEA Comm.

**Statement**

*Previous voting member of ELCA, love doing God's work.*



**Lenny A. Duncan**

Jehu's Table, Brooklyn

**Church Leadership**

Vicar (3 years), St. Mark's SEPA Synod  
National Evangelist #decolonizelutheranism SEPA Synod Anti Racism Team

**Community Leadership**

POWER (PA/PICO Affiliate), Clergy member/organizer  
S.A.A.AN at ULS, Chair

**Statement**

*The strategy for authentic diversity, the memorial on African Descent lives and its implementation, as well as a church wrestling with the most divided time politically in this country since the civil war. It is my sincere desire to represent and advocate for this synod and its people.*

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**BALLOT 26: Multicultural (1)**



## **Maritza Tamayo**

Trinity Astoria/LIC

### **Church Leadership**

Church Council

Stewardship Chair

Conversaciones biblicas en Español

### **Statement**

*Serving will give me the opportunity to voice the needs of those from other backgrounds.*

---

## **BALLOT 27: Young Adult (1)**





## **Marret Arfsten**

Bethlehem, Baldwin

### **Church Leadership**

MNYS LYO Board, Adult Advisor

Pinecrest Lutheran Leadership Ministries, Publicity Director

National Youth Gathering 2018, MNYS Day Coordinator

### **Community Leadership**

S.A.F.E. Classes (Special Action For Escape, self-defense for individuals with special needs),  
Assistant to the instructor

### **Statement**

*I am hoping to be able to serve the church at a higher level, and represent the interests and needs of my generation.*

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## **God's Work. Our Hands.**

Marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are claimed, gathered, and sent for the sake of the world.



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