

# 2022 Nominee Biographies

## Synod Council

Synod Secretary

**Rev. Doris Tollefson** **Hinsdale, MT**

Doris lives in Hinsdale and serves as pastor at the Hinsdale and Saco Lutheran Churches. She has been married to Jim for 48 years and has two adult daughters and seven grandchildren. Doris enjoys watching birds, reading, and spending time with her grandchildren.

Synod Treasurer

**Dave Scholten** **Bethel Lutheran, Great Falls, MT.**

Dave is a banker and LPA who was born in Minnesota. While not raised in the Lutheran Church, he notes “where I lived, you couldn't swing a dead cat without hitting a Lutheran”. Dave received a bachelor's degree in Economics from Northwestern College and an MBA in Finance from the University of Minnesota. After a brief stint as an associate pastor, he has worked in the banking industry in Seattle, Minnesota, and Montana. Dave currently runs an audit and consulting business with bank clients throughout the western United States. With a strong work ethic inherited from his father, Dave has a head for analysis, and a non-confrontational, easy-going nature which promotes a team approach to the tasks he undertakes. When he is not traveling, you can find him at home near Ulm, MT where he and his family have lived for 27

Youth Cluster Representative

**Charlie Parker** **First English Lutheran Church, Great Falls, MT**

Charlie is currently a 7th grader at East Middle School in Great Falls, where he is an honors student. He has a variety of interests which include piano, tai-kwan-do, reading, writing, and theater. He is a Boy scout and has been a key volunteer at the Helping Hands Food Ministry at First English for most of his life. He is looking forward to affirming his baptismal promises in October and is very excited about the possibility of serving as Youth Representative on the Montana Synod Council.

Shepherd Cluster Representative

**Natasha Morton** **First American Lutheran, Hardin, MT**

Natasha Jacobson Morton resides in Hardin, Montana, where she is a member of First American Lutheran Church (FALC). She has served on FALC's church council and as President and Secretary of the church council on several occasions. She is enrolled in the LPA program and working on completing those requirements. She is an attorney with a solo law practice in Hardin. In the past, she has served as the Hardin City Attorney and as the Big Horn County Justice of the Peace. She is a native of Plentywood, Montana, where she attended Plentywood Lutheran Church.

Great Divide Cluster Representative

**Lorrie Vennes** **St. John's Lutheran, Helena, MT.**

I have served in several different roles in the churches where we have been members. I have been treasurer, Sunday school director and teacher for ages K-12, and Constitution chairperson to name a few. I would like to share my financial knowledge, leadership skills and my faith by serving on the Montana Synod Council for the Great Divide Cluster. Thank you.

Golden Triangle Cluster Representative

**Kim Bloch**

**Sunburst Lutheran, Sunburst, MT**

I moved to Sunburst in 2010 and began teaching. I joined Sunburst Lutheran Church in 2011. I was soon elected to the church council. I served on the council until I took a one-year hiatus in 2015. I returned to the council in 2016 and am serving my 6th year. During my tenure on the council I served as church secretary, I helped revise our church constitution, and I wrote an application for an open-door grant to the ELCA for which the Lutheran Church of Sunburst received \$1500 to help open the church doors after Covid. More recently, I have felt a greater call to serve and have entered the LPA program to increase my knowledge and understanding of the word of God. I serve as recorder for our WELCA group. I feel a call to help reach out into our community and invite new community members and youth to our church to be introduced to and hear the word of God. I have used the open-door grant to try to accomplish this call. I have been brought up in the ELCA having been baptized, communed, and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church of Abington, PA.

Fort Peck Cluster Representative

**Pastor Bonnie Novak**

**First Lutheran Church, Wolf Point, MT**

Bonnie began in ministry in 1999 after having completed the first class of the Montana Synod LPA program. In 2005 she became a Synodically Authorized Minister when her pastor left to accept a full-time call with another congregation. In 2007 she entered the TEEM program working toward ordained ministry. In 2010 she was ordained at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and installed as Pastor for Bethel Lutheran Church of Grain. She provided pulpit supply to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Nashua and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Glasgow. In 2017 She began her second call with Our Redeemer being the ministry point and Bethel Lutheran being the second. In 2019 she began her current ¾ time call to First Lutheran Church in Wolf Point and Our Redeemer in Nashua. She continues to provide pulpit supply to Bethel on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. She currently serves as the Dean of the Fort Peck Cluster. She and her husband Leroy have been married for 37 years and they farm his grandmother's homestead north of Nashua. They have two grown children and one grandson.

**Synod Nominating Committee**

**Margie Fiedler**

**Bethlehem Lutheran, Kalispell, MT**

Margie joined the staff of Flathead Lutheran Bible camp in 2011, where she currently serves as the Executive Director. Prior to that she served as Associate to the Bishop in EWA-ID and worked with the ELCA Foundation and the Mission Investment Fund. She has been an Executive director in Lutheran Camping for for 35 years. Margie is married and has two adult children. She loves camping, ice cream, leading worships, and finding creative ways to welcome people into the body of Christ

## **Synod Committee On Discipline**

**Marvin R Johnson**

**Frist Lutheran Church, Glasgow, MT**

Was a member of Pella Lutheran Church for 43 years when living in Sidney and moved to Glasgow and a member of First Lutheran. Baptized and confirmed in First Lutheran. First Scout to earn Pro Deo El Patria at First Lutheran. Served 43 years in Law Enforcement in Sidney over 33 years as Detective. Now serving on Church Council.

## **Consultation Committee**

**Rev. Peter Erickson**

**Our Savior's Lutheran, Columbia Falls, MT**

Peter is a graduate of St. Olaf College ('94) and Luther Seminary ('98). His first call was to Our Savior's and St. Olaf Lutheran Churches in Chester, MT (1998-2007). Since then he has served as pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls, MT. Peter has been involved with youth soccer in Columbia Falls, coaching and coordinating. He served as president of the Montana Association of Christians. He is a level one coach in the ELCA.

**Rev. Greg Holler-Dinsmore**

**Fort Peck Lutheran Church, Fort Peck, MT**

Greg is a retired ELCA pastor and is currently Director of the Spirit of Life Community Bike Shop.

**Alicia Moe**

**American Lutheran, Harlowton, MT**

Alicia Moe is a member of the American Lutheran Church in Harlowton. She recently retired as owner and general manager of Cream of the West, a 108-year-old food manufacturing company. She spent her first career as an educator in the Great Falls Public Schools. She has been active in Montana ELCA as a Churchwide Delegate; a St. John's Congregational Delegate; a Consultation Committee Member; and an ALC Council Member.

**Rev. Phil Wold**

**Trinity Lutheran Church, Sheridan WY**

Pastor Phil Wold has served Trinity Lutheran Church since 2006. He previously served Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Butte from 1993-2006. He served on the ELCA Church Council from 2009-2013, and the Montana Synod Council from 2003-2006.