

**NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 5 Regions**  
**(to be elected if the proposed 5 Regions is approved at District convention)**  
**(as of June 11, 2009)**

**NORTHWEST – Ordained Minister (choose one):**

Rev. Lee Genter, Chaplain, Lutheran Home  
Rev. Lance O'Donnell - Emmanuel, Van Wert  
Rev. William Stottlemeyer, St. Stephen, Defiance

**NORTHEAST – Ordained Minister (choose one):**

Rev. Gerry Matzke - Zion, Painesville  
Rev. David Timm – Royal Redeemer, North Royalton

**NORTH CENTRAL – Ordained Minister (choose one):**

Rev. Hosea Ekong – Victory, Youngstown  
\*Rev. Larry Wesolik, EM

**SOUTHEAST – Ordained Minister (choose one):**

Rev. James Gau – Our Savior, Newark  
Rev. John Hohe - Beautiful Savior, Powell  
Rev. John Hood – St. James, Columbus

**SOUTHWEST – Ordained Minister (choose one):**

\*Rev. Dennis Dobbins – St. Timothy, Huber Heights  
Rev. Scott Tessin – Messiah, Cincinnati

**NORTHWEST- Lay People (choose one):**

Carl Rausch – St. Paul, Napoleon  
Roger Schlade – Trinity, Toledo  
\*W.I. “Joe” Strieter – Shepherd of the Valley, Perrysburg

**NORTHEAST - Lay People (choose one):**

\*Howard Chavalialia- Hosanna, Columbia Station  
Fred Kressierer - Hope, Aurora  
\*Gary Likowski – Royal Redeemer, North Royalton

**NORTH CENTRAL - Lay People (choose one):**

Joseph Kress – Redeemer, Cuyahoga Falls  
Phil Oberhaus – Hosanna, Columbia Station

**SOUTHEAST - Lay People (choose one):**

\*Larry Beal – Trinity, Logan  
\*Sandra Danneman – Life in Christ, Grove City  
Charles Elsea – Redeemer, Lancaster  
Terry Worst – Our Savior, Newark

**SOUTHWEST - Lay People (choose one):**

Frank Farr – King of Kings, Mason  
\*Jim Frye – Messiah, Cincinnati  
Gailyn Thomsen – Redeemer, Sidney

**COMMISSIONED MINISTER AT LARGE (choose two):**

\* Kenneth Boerger - Bethany, Parma  
Dale Lehrke - St. Paul, Westlake  
Gil Schepmann – King of Kings, Mason  
\* Christine Spohn - Trinity, Toledo

\* = *incumbent*

*Italics* = No biographical information submitted

**ORDAINED MINISTER – NORTHWEST REGION**

**NAME: Rev. Lee Genter**

**CHURCH:** Chaplain at Lutheran Nursing and Rehabilitation Center of Napoleon (2002-Present)

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CHURCH:**

- Pastor at Redeemer Convoy 1992 -2002
- Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church, Fayette, Iowa 1987-1992
- Mission Developer / Church Planter, Good Shepherd, West Union, Iowa 1988-1992

**POSITIONS HELD IN CHURCH AT LARGE**

- Ohio District Mission Board
- NW 1 Circuit Counselor
- Iowa District East Evangelism Committee

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**NAME: Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell**

**CHURCH:** Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Van Wert, OH

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION/COMMUNITY:**

Congregation

- Pastor (sole) 2002-Present

Community

- Post-tornado long-term recovery committee (2002-2003)
- Community health board member (2004-2006)
- Member of local neighborhood association (2003-present)
- Rotary club member (2002-2009)
- Crisis pregnancy center volunteer (Present)
- Cub scout den assistant
- Youth sport coach

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Seminary field work supervisor (2002 - Present)
- Ph.D. Candidate (Missiology) (2001- Present)
- PALS participant (2002-2005)
- Ohio District Human Care Board/Task Force
- Lutheran Women's Missionary League zone counselor (2006 – Present)
- Ohio District Wellness Group Participant (2006 – Present)
- Synodical convention delegate (2007)
- Human Care Floor Committee (2007 Synodical convention)
- Delegate-2008 Theological Convocation on Synodical Structure and Governance
- Ohio District Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board

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**ORDAINED MINISTER – NORTH CENTRAL REGION**

**NAME: Rev. Hosea Ekong**

**CHURCH: Victory Lutheran Church, Youngstown, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION:**

- Serving as Pastor of Victory Lutheran Church
- Director, Operation Learning Community Program, Inc., an after-school program.

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE:**

- Served on the Ohio District Board for Mission Services
- Served on the Board of Lutheran Family and Children’s Services
- Zone Counselor, Lutheran Women’s Missionary League - Youngstown;
- Junior Pastoral Counselor, Ohio District LWML
- Currently serves as Senior Pastoral Counselor, Ohio District LWML
- Member of Learning Community Group

**OTHER:** Conducts worship services first Saturday of each month at Shepherd of the Valley, Poland, OH.

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**NAME: Rev. Larry Wesolik, EM**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

Senior Pastor 1993 - 3/31/09

As a retired Pastor since 04/01/09

- Bible class participant
- Bible class leader
- Stephen ministry trainer and leader

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Ohio District Board of Director – 2007 to present.
- Ohio District Board for Missions - 2005-2006
- Pastoral Coach associated with Transforming Congregations Network effort of the Ohio District. - current

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**ORDAINED MINISTER – SOUTHEAST REGION**

**NAME: Rev. James Gau**

**CHURCH:** Our Savior Lutheran Church, Newark, Ohio

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION:**

- Our Savior Lutheran Church, Newark, Ohio – 1/05-present
- Vacancy and Pulpit Supply, Columbus, Ohio – 4/96-12/04
- St. Luke’s Lutheran, Manhattan, Kansas – 6/93-3/96
- Immanuel, Hoxie and Grace, Hill City, Kansas – 6-90-5/93

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH AT LARGE:**

- Kansas District Youth Board (1992-95)
- Kansas District Campus Pastor Board (1993-96)
- Kansas District Evangelism Board (1993-96)
- Kansas District Evangelism Trainer (1994-95)
- LCMS National Youth Board (1992)
- Ohio District Youth Board (2006-08)
- Ohio District Circuit Counselor (2006-present)
- Ohio District Convention Chairman (2006 and 2009)

**OTHER:**

- STM in Exegesis/Systematics 2009
- Leading current congregation through Transforming Congregations (second year)
- Financial Planner with American Express Financial Advisors (1998-2004)

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**NAME: Rev. John Hohe**

**CHURCH:** Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Powell, OH

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Pastor, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church Powell 2004-present
- Pastor St James Lutheran Church Canton MA 1987-2004
- Pastor Holy Trinity Lutheran Terryville CT 1982-87
- Hope Lutheran Upper St. Clair PA 1981-82 (Vicarage)

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Ohio District Evangelism Task Force 2005-present
- Fan into Flame Committee Member Ohio 2008 to present
- Board of Director – New England 1998-2004
- Evangelism Commission Chair New England 1994-2004
- Parish Life Commission Chair New England
- LWML Zone Pastoral Advisor New England District
- Circuit Counselor New England 1985-1987.
- Synodical Convention Pastoral Delegate (1987, 1994).
- Treasurer Evangelism Chairpersons and Executives Conference (LCMS)1989-2005
- Alive in Christ Circuit Co-coordinator
- Participant in several National (LCMS) Evangelism Think Tanks
- Trained Parish Consultant

**OTHER:** Pastoral Chaplain House of Corrections Dedham MA (assistant)

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**NAME: Rev. John Hood**

**CHURCH:** St. James Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

Pastor: Trinity, Coon Rapids, IA 1994-1997  
Pastor: St. James, Columbus, 1998--present

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE:** Synodical convention delegate

**ORDAINED MINISTER – SOUTHWEST REGION**

**NAME: Rev. Dennis L. Dobbins**

**CHURCH:** St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Huber Heights, OH

**BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION:**

Dennis attended Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebraska, where in 1988 he received his Bachelor of Science in Education, Lutheran Teachers Diploma and Director of Christian Education Certification. His one year internship for the Director of Christian Education was served at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, IN. He received a divine Call to serve as their Director of Youth and Christian Education where he served from 1988 to 1992. He accepted a divine Call from Concordia Lutheran Church, Sikeston, MO. in 1992 and served as their Director of Youth and Christian Education for two years. In 1994, he accepted a divine Call to Grace Lutheran Church, Columbus, IN to serve as Director of Youth and Christian Education. In the summer of 1996 he entered Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, to prepare for the pastoral ministry in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. His year of vicarage was spent at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Huber Heights, Ohio. On June 27, 1999, he was ordained and received a divine Call as Pastor of St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Huber Heights, Ohio.

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Ohio District Board of Directors: September 2008 - present
- Huber Heights Fire Department Chaplain: 2000 - present
- Indiana District Youth Board: 1988 - 1992
- Indiana District National Youth Gathering Coordinator: 1989 & 1992

**OTHER:** Member of the Miami Valley Women’s Center Pastoral Advisory Board: 2000 - 2007

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**NAME: Rev. Scott Tessin**

**CHURCH:** Messiah Lutheran Church, Cincinnati

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION - Pastor**

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Serving as Circuit Coordinator for “Fan Into Flame”
- Recently invited by the OH District to attend a NAME (North American Mission Executives) meeting on church planting in St. Louis, MO

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**LAY PERSON - NORTHWEST REGION**

**NAME: Carl A. Rausch**

**CHURCH: St. Paul Lutheran Church (Flatrock Twp.), Napoleon, Ohio**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION: Chairman**

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE: None**

**OTHER: Delegate to 2003 and 2006 Ohio District Convention; Delegate to LCMS 2007 Convention in Houston, TX.**

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**NAME: Dr. Roger E. Schlade**

**CHURCH: Trinity Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION:**

- Recently Board of Elders for 6 years
- Chairman for the last 3 years
- Stewardship Board
- Currently chair of our Trinity Call Committee

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE:**

- 6 year term on the Ohio District Stewardship Board

**OTHER: I help organize a Trinity golf outing each year and co-chair a fishing outing on Lake Erie for Christian fellowship among our Trinity men; member of the church choir; greeter; reader and member of an ushering team.**

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**NAME: W. I. ("Joe") Strieter**

**CHURCH: Shepherd of the Valley, Perrysburg, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION:**

- PAST  
Congregation President, Vice President, Chairman Board of Stewardship, Chairman Board of Elders, Member Boards of Stewardship, Lay Ministry, and Christian Education; Sunday School Superintendent; Sunday School Teacher (adult and youth), Building Committee Member
- PRESENT  
Building Committee Member, Substitute Adult Bible Class Teacher

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE:**

- PAST  
Lay Delegate Synodical Convention 2001, 2004, 2007  
Lay Delegate District Convention, 2000, 2003 (Floor Committee)  
2006 Lay Member, Ohio District Board of Directors (2004-5)
- PRESENT  
Lay Member, Ohio District Board of Directors (Northwest)  
Member, President's Circle, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (Development)  
Guest lecturer at CTSFW  
Lay Delegate to Circuit for 2007 Synodical Convention (until 2010)

**OTHER: Cleveland Lutheran High School Class of 1954; Valparaiso University Class of 1958**

**LAY PERSON - NORTHEAST REGION**

**NAME: Howard K. Chavalia**

**CHURCH: Hosanna Lutheran Church, Columbia Station, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Immediate Past Congregational Chairman
- Past Stewardship Chair
- Past Capital Campaign Chair for recent building project

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Current member of District Board of Directors
- Current member of District Fan Into Flame Steering Committee
- Current Guest Leader for Consecrated Stewards process
- Current presenter in stewardship training for vicars
- Past Chair of Stewardship Committee

**OTHER**

- Current Advisor for the Lorain County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
- Current Board President for the Midview Local School District Endowment Fund

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**NAME: Fred Kressierer**

**CHURCH: Hope Lutheran Church, Aurora, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION:**

- Presently serves as the Chairman of the Building Committee
- Chairman of the Stewardship Committee
- Member of the Board of Elders

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE:**

- I presently serve as the secretary/treasurer of the Redeemer Crisis Center located on West 30<sup>th</sup> Street in Cleveland and have worked there for the past nine years.
- I have represented Hope as the Lay Delegate at the past four district Conventions and my circuit at the Synodical convention.
- Also, I served the District as a member of the District Endowment Committee

**OTHER:** I am a life-long member of the LCMS, married for 47 years to Sheila, father of four grown children, grandfather of 6. I am a 1961 graduate of the Virginia military Institute, and retired after 30 years service from American Express Company where I was the manager of the Central Region.

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**NAME: Gary Likowski**

**CHURCH: Royal Redeemer Lutheran Church, North Royalton, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Former congregational president and board of directors chairman
- Currently full-time staff member at the church, focused on administration
- Church Planting Strategy group
- Development
- Strategic Ministry Planning

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Just completing second term on the Ohio District board of directors
- Served both terms as board chairman

**LAY PERSON – NORTH CENTRAL REGION**

**NAME: Joseph Kress**

**CHURCH: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cuyahoga Falls, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Business Manager – 2004 to Present.
- Also serve or have served Redeemer as:
  - Sunday School Teacher
  - Chairman – Board of Stewardship
  - Member – Redeemer Christian School Board of Education
  - Advisory Member – Board of Trustees
  - Usher and Greeter

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Ohio District Convention Layman Voting Delegate (2006)
- Synodical Convention Layman Voting Delegate (2007).

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**NAME: Phillip A. Oberhaus**

**CHURCH: Hosanna Lutheran Church, Columbia Station, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

I just recently I transferred to Hosanna Lutheran Church from Shepherd of The Ridge Lutheran Church, so I currently do not have a position in the church. I served as a lay minister and most recently, a Trustee, at Shepherd of the Ridge.

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

I currently serve as NE Vice President for the Ohio District Lutheran Layman’s League.

**LAY PERSON - SOUTHEAST REGION**

**NAME: Larry Everett Beal**

**CHURCH: Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS), Logan, Ohio**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Elder
- Organist
- Director of Music
- Adult Bible Teacher
- Former Youth Group Leader

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Present member of the Board of Directors
- Former Chairman of the Mission Board
- Representative to COMA (Central Ohio Mission Association), (Former President)
- Reconciler for Synod

**OTHER:**

- Member of the Board of Directors for Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association.
- Member and Former President of the Hocking County Bar Association
- Member and Former President of the Bowen House the cultural arts center of SE Ohio
- Member and Former Chairman of Hocking County Scenic Hills Senior Center
- Member of the Fairfield-Hocking Counties Major Crime Task Force
- Former Logan City Law Director
- Former Hocking County Prosecutor
- Assistant Morgan County Prosecutor

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**NAME: Sandy Danneman**

**CHURCH:** Life in Christ (mission congregation), Grove City, OH

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Treasurer
- Organist

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Board of Directors – Ohio District
- Commission for New Missions – Ohio District
- Board of Directors – African Immigrant Ministries – Synod
- Vice-President - Central Ohio Mission Association

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**NAME: Charles M. Elsea**

**CHURCH:** Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lancaster, OH

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Elder
- ODLCEF Representative
- (Former) President of Youth Group

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- (Former) Member, Ohio District Youth Board
- (Former) Member, LCMS Council for Lutheran Youth Fellowship Representatives

**OTHER:**

Employment: Stebelton, Aranda, & Snider, LPA (will join as associate attorney, 2009)  
 (currently a student at Ohio State University Moritz College of Law; expected graduation 6/09)  
 Member, Board of Directors of Fairfield County Big Brothers Big Sisters

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**NAME: Terry Jon Worst**

**CHURCH:** Our Savior Lutheran Church, Newark, OH

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION (Transferred membership in 1985)**

- Elder & Head Elder: 1987 to present
- Worship Committee: 2006 to 2007
- Deacon of Stewardship: 2005 to 2007
- Finance Committee: Various periods
- Council President: Four two year terms since 1989
- Christian Education Committee: Wife’s work as Director of Christian Education & Head of OSLC Sunday School
- Visioning Committee (Transforming Congregations): 2008 to present
- Trustee Committee: As needed

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Lay Delegate (OH Dist, Circuit S4);
- 2007 LCMS Synodical Conference, Houston, TX
- Participant at the Theological Convocation on *Congregation — Synod — Church*, St. Louis, MO sponsored by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Structure and Governance (Aug 2008).

OTHER:

Education

BSLA, Biology/Education, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois – 1974

BS, Social Psychology, Park University, Parkville, Missouri – 1987

MBA, Capital University, Columbus, Ohio – 1991

Ministry Specialist, Certificate, Ohio District – Lutheran Church Missouri Synod – 2008

Employment Experiences

The Ohio Department of Education, Office of Career-Technical and Adult Services - State Approving Agency for

Veterans Education and Training, Field Consultant & State Director (DVA–G.I.Bill Educational benefits) (1994 – to date)

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH: Assistant Manager of Training, Departmental

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**LAY PERSON - SOUTHERN REGION**

**NAME: Frank R. Farr**

**CHURCH: King of Kings, Mason, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

As a Layman in a congregation:

- Elder
- Chairman – Board of Stewardship
- Adult Bible Study Leader
- Sunday School Teacher – Adults
- Congregational President

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Congregational District Representative

OTHER: Currently employed as Director, Regulatory Affairs, A.M. Todd Ingredients | Flavors  
Active in trade association committees.

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**NAME: Jim Frye**

**CHURCH: Messiah Lutheran Church, Greenhills (Cincinnati), OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

As a Layman 20+ years:

- Sunday School Teacher (1 year)
- Member and leader of small-group Bible Studies
- Member (4 years) and Chairman of the Board of Trustees
- Chairman (2 years) of the Stewardship Task Force
- Member (4 years) and Chairman of the Ministry of Sharing
- Member (4 years) and Chairman of the Ministry of Elders
- Chairman (1 year) of the Energy Savings Task Force

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Lay Member of the Ohio District Board of Directors -- 2003 to present.
- Lay Delegate to the District Convention -- 2003 and 2006
- Lay Delegate to the Synodical Convention -- 2001

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**NAME: Gil Schepmann**

**CHURCH: King of Kings Lutheran Church, Mason, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION**

- Director of Early childhood Education Ministries

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Serve on the Ohio Dist. Local Professional Development Committee – Chairman
- Serve on Ohio Dist. NLSA Commission – member
- Serve on Ohio Dist. Early Childhood Advisory Cabinet – member
- NLSA consultant to St. John Christian Preschool, Dublin, OH

**OTHER:** Served on the Planning Committee for the Ohio Dist. Educator’s Conference; Advisory Delegate to the National LC-MS Synodical Convention 2007

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**NAME: Christine Spohn**

**CHURCH: Trinity Lutheran Church – Toledo, OH**

**POSITIONS IN LOCAL CONGREGATION:**

- Principal/Administrator at Trinity Lutheran School.
- Involved in many aspects of congregational and school life!

**POSITIONS IN CHURCH-AT-LARGE**

- Member of the Ohio District Board of Directors (2006-2009)
- Served on several District Task Forces including Ohio Standards, Educator’s Conference, Professional Church Workers Wellness Task Force, LPDC for Lutheran Schools in NW region, Education Exec. Search committee

**OTHER:** Maumee Rotary; Lutheran Homes Society Board of Directors

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