

**Western Iowa Synod ELCA
2023 Nomination Biography**

(Enter your information in the spaces below)

Position Nominated for:	Synod Council (lay male)
My conference:	Winds of Hope
My name (first, middle initial, last):	Kenneth W. Less
My congregation:	St. John, Preston township
Congregation's town/city:	Akron, IA

Please use this space to highlight your experience (professional or work experience, congregational responsibilities, and community involvement) in relationship to the position you are nominated to serve:

I am president of the congregation. I've held other various jobs at church during my 45 years as a member at St. John. Held various positions with Pork Producers, Farm Bureau. I have farmed for 50+ years and have plenty of experience with managing employees and budgets.

Please use this space to share what motivates your interest and your desire to serve the position to which you have been nominated.

After being totally involved with my farming career. I have more time to help with other opportunities. I would like to do this by serving on synod council.

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2023 Nomination Biography**

(Enter your information in the spaces below)

Position Nominated for:	Synod Council
My conference:	Hands of Hope
My name (first, middle initial, last):	Denise A. Lindemann
My congregation:	Our Saviour Lutheran
Congregation's town/city:	Humboldt, Iowa

Please use this space to highlight your experience (professional or work experience, congregational responsibilities, and community involvement) in relationship to the position you are nominated to serve:

In the past I have been involved in WIS Synod Council, and the ABC committee. In my ministry call as hospital chaplain I have been involved in various committees, including Ethics committee and process improvement work groups. I have served as parish minister in rural congregations. As a congregational member I have service on church council, assisted with youth group activities, helped with confirmation classes. And provided support to others in ministry roles. Currently I am called as a Hospice Chaplain and do supply ministry on the weekends.

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I believe that I am called to share my gifts and talents with the congregation, synod, and wider church wherever God has called me at this time. For this reason, I look forward to serving the Western Iowa Synod on synod council.

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2023 Nomination Biography**

(Enter your information in the spaces below)

Position Nominated for:	Western Iowa Synod ELCA Council Member
My conference:	Winds of Hope
My name (first, middle initial, last):	Nicholas C Milbrodt
My congregation:	St. John Lutheran Church, Preston, Iowa
Congregation's town/city:	Rural Akron, Iowa

Please use this space to highlight your experience (professional or work experience, congregational responsibilities, and community involvement) in relationship to the position you are nominated to serve:

I'm a civil engineer, with the ability for design services and project management skills. I also serve on St. John Lutheran Church's council as VP. As people ask of my time, I tend to donate and assist as I can here. That is no different here. I've assisted and ran projects for towns and governmental agencies in my professional life, and with church I've come up with refreshing ideas like a game night or volunteer church cleanup day to get congregants active in church. I also strive to stay fiscally responsible in all aspects of my life.

Please use this space to share what motivates your interest and your desire to serve the position to which you have been nominated.

My uncle has been a big motivator in pursuing my relationship with God & Christ our Lord. He runs a non-profit organization, hope4kidsinternational.org, which his path started in his early 20s. He has shown me faith through action, and being on an Ugandan Mission trip through h4ki, I can understand why he's continued to do so for the past +50 yrs. The sense of fulfillment in helping others through the Lord's work is beyond describable. That's what drives me to keep my relationship with the Lord.

With this position, I hope to assist at a regional level. While I believe our faith is strong, it's my belief that the people of the church no longer feel the need for a community based faith and can forge/have their own solo relationship with the Lord. It's my belief that there is sooo much more can be gleaned from listening to our peers as a community than alone, so my goal is to try and bring people back together to hear the good news and learn from the trials of the past.
Amen.

**Western Iowa Synod ELCA
2023 Nomination Biography**

(Enter your information in the spaces below)

Position Nominated for:	Synod Council – Lay Man – Seeds of Faith
My conference:	Seeds of Faith
My name (first, middle initial, last):	James (Jim) E Post
My congregation:	Immanuel
Congregation's town/city:	Titonka

Please use this space to highlight your experience (professional or work experience, congregational responsibilities, and community involvement) in relationship to the position you are nominated to serve:

Personal info: I have owned and operated Post Construction since 1978. It is primarily involved in new home construction, residential remodeling and interior finishing.

Congregation activities: I've served terms as president and treasurer of my congregation. I also taught Sunday School several years ago.

Synod activities: I've attended numerous synod assemblies and attended the Churchwide Assembly in 2019. I participated in the (previously known as) Lay School of Ministry.

Please use this space to share what motivates your interest and your desire to serve the position to which you have been nominated.

I would like to be a part of the Church's mission to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. To do that I feel leadership and organization can be a useful tool. We are called to be in community, to serve one another's needs. This is an opportunity to do that.

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2023 Nomination Biography**

(Enter your information in the spaces below)

Position Nominated for:	Synod Council
My conference:	Seeds of Faith
My name (first, middle initial, last):	Mark E. Stelzer
My congregation:	First Lutheran
Congregation's town/city:	Milford

Please use this space to highlight your experience (professional or work experience, congregational responsibilities, and community involvement) in relationship to the position you are nominated to serve:

<p>I retired to Spirit Lake 5 years ago. I practiced surgery in LeMars, Iowa for 36 years, served on the LeMars Board of Education for 20 years, and was a member of St. John Lutheran Church for 37+ years, serving on Church Council several times, as president for 3 of those years.</p> <p>At First Lutheran I am part of the Stephen Ministry team, as well as being one of three Spiritual Directors at our church. I am a member of the choir, and also volunteer to help with various other events as I am able.</p> <p>I volunteer each Wednesday at our local food pantry in Spirit Lake.</p> <p>I enjoy being in a position to help guide and nurture organizations that are important to me and to the community.</p>
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Please use this space to share what motivates your interest and your desire to serve the position to which you have been nominated.

<p>I have been a member of the ELCA since it was organized in the late 1980's and the ALC before that. There are many changes and challenges in the church, and I hope to learn and appreciate the issues better as a member of synod council. I look forward to using my past experiences and training as a member of the WIS synod council, actively participating in our church's growth into the future.</p>
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