

## Western Iowa Synod ELCA 2026 Nomination Biography

(Enter your information in the spaces below)

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Position Nominated for:                | Synod Secretary     |
| My conference:                         | Abundant Fields     |
| My name (first, middle initial, last): | James (Jim) Mossman |
| My congregation:                       | Saltem Lutheran     |
| Congregation's town/city:              | Creston IA          |

The ELCA values diversity among the voices in its governance. Several elected positions are categorically reserved in an effort to create or maintain diversity. If the position you are nominated for is reserved by any of the definitions listed below please check the appropriate box. SAM, TEEM, or Vicar qualify as Lay for nominations.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rostered | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (under 18)                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Female          | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adult (18-30)                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Male            | <input type="checkbox"/> Person of Color/non-English primary language |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-English Primary Language                 |

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 previously served as Synod Secretary for two years prior to taking a churchwide call. I served on the Western Iowa synod council for several years before being Secretary. I'm familiar with the council's role and work. I've been an officer and member of numerous boards, including a campus ministry at Northwestern University and, as of this year, Lutheran Services of Iowa.

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

I was a history major in college and know the value of good records. I also care about the process of discernment and decision making in organizations. The role of the secretary is to preserve our history and to facilitate a good meeting process for the council, the executive committee, and ABC. I also have what some people might think is a strange fascination with the constitutions of the church. The secretary can also be a resource on constitution questions for congregations. In my own calls, I have worked to keep constitutions in good order, because when you need to appeal to your constitution is not usually the best time to bring it up to date. Finally, I've been part of the synod for 31 years, beginning as an intern pastor. Western Iowa is sort of my home. If I can be of help in this role, I am available and willing.