

Rocky Mountain Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work. Our Hands.

Position Nominated for: _Committee on Discipline_____

Name (First, MI, Last): __Lawrence A. "Bud" Sittig_____

Lay X Lay Roster Clergy Occupation: Retired, Corporate Executive__

Conference/Geography: __East Metro, Denver_____

Congregation Membership: _Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church and Preschool_____

How Long? ____8 years_____

Briefly describe your sense of God calling you into mission and service in the Synod through this nomination.

I am a life long Lutheran with many years service at the congregation level, including Committee work, Council leadership, Building Committee, Call Committee and other lay responsibilities. I have not engaged at the Synod level but feel the call to participate at Synod. I will be a voting delegate representing Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church and Preschool at the 2018 RMS Assembly.

Briefly describe your skills and/or experiences that would be an asset to area you are interested in.

I have a corporate background in arbitration and adjudication, particularly as it relates to personnel issues and performance. I may have skill sets that would support the sensitive process involved in discipline matters at the Synod Discipline Committee level.

List three current or past congregational and synodical service activities

a. __Church Council_____ from _2014_____ to 2017_____

b. __Global Outreach Committee Chair_____ from _2013_____ to _2017_____

c. ____Pastoral Call Committee_____ from __2014_____ to _2016_____

Rocky Mountain Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work. Our Hands.

Position Nominated for: Committee on Discipline

Name (First, MI, Last): Stephanie Kopsch

Lay **Lay Roster** **Clergy: yes** **Occupation:** Interim/Bridge pastor

Conference: Wyoming

Congregation Membership: St. Luke's, Buffalo **How Long?** April 2018 (Bridge pastor)

Briefly describe your sense of God calling you into mission and service in the Synod through this nomination.

Congregational structures have always been an interest of mine. I have been in calls as Associate and as Senior pastor, and learned much of congregational dynamics when, in one Associate call, I had three senior pastors in five years. As Lutheran Christians, we believe the church to be the body of Christ in the world, and so we want it to be as healthy and whole as it can be. The committee on discipline seeks to facilitate this health even in difficult situations.

Briefly describe your skills and/or experiences that would be an asset to area you are interested in.

I have been a pastor in the ELCA for 25 years and have learned that the growth, faithfulness, and ministry of a congregation is proportional to its health. Intentional interim ministry has taught me to look for healthy structures and healthy leaders, and for the healing that can occur after congregational trauma. Helping a congregation to move toward health and wholeness even after difficult experiences is a privilege and honor of ministry.

List three current or past congregational and synodical service activities

- a. Ecumenical clergy visitation program between the Rocky Mountain Synod and the Badische Landeskirche, Germany, 2013-2015
- b. Intentional interim pastor, Our Saviour's, Casper, Wyoming, from August 2016-April 2018
- c. Committee on Discipline, 2008-2014

Rocky Mountain Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's Work. Our Hands.

Position Nominated for: Committee on Discipline

Name (First, MI, Last): Teri L Hermsmeyer

Lay **Lay Roster** **Clergy** **Occupation:** _____

Conference/Geography: on leave from call, currently Supply Pastor Plus for First Lutheran, Gypsum, Metro West Conference

Congregation Membership: Atonement Lutheran – Boulder. **How Long?** 11 years

Briefly describe your sense of God calling you into mission and service in the Synod through this nomination.

I have a sense of call to the wider church, beyond the congregation I may be serving. It all began with missionary service overseas, before being called to Word and Sacrament. I am aware that we are all saints and sinners, loved by God, forgiven by God through Jesus our Lord and Savior. I acknowledge that I and others are not perfect, and sin may cause us to fall away from God's love, wisdom and guidance. We need the help and support of God through our brothers and sisters in Christ, so that we aren't led astray from God's calling for us.

Briefly describe your skills and/or experiences that would be an asset to area you are interested in.

As a chaplain for 7 years, I was trained in crisis management as well as dealing with conflicts between patients and their families. I try to understand and communicate both sides of a conflict and find a common understanding. I am known as a peacemaker, providing a spiritual presence and a calm, compassionate demeanor in times of crisis and conflict. I believe these skills can be beneficial as part of a committee dealing with discipline with rostered ministers or congregations in conflict. My continuing education this year will be updating my skills in conflict management.

List three current or past congregational and synodical service activities

- a. Atonement Lutheran – Boulder, Church Council from Feb 2014 to Jan 2016
- b. RMS Congregational Ministries Board from 2005 to 2008
- c. RMS Mission Outreach Board from 1994 to 2000