

Southern Ohio Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This form should be completed by the nominee. Completion of this form indicates willingness to serve in the nominated position indicated below. Return completed form to:

I. Please provide nominee information below.

Name: Elizabeth Gilbert

Congregation Name & City: First Lutheran Church, Cincinnati

What Conference is your congregation a part of? Cincinnati

(Optional) I am a person of color and/or my primary language is something other than English: Yes No

II. Please check the position for which you are nominated.

Churchwide Assembly 2022

Rostered Minister Lay Man Lay Woman Young Adult Youth

IV. Please help the Assembly know you better by providing a brief (few sentences) answer to each question below:

What leadership experience have you gained through service in your congregation, synod or Churchwide expression?

I am new to First Lutheran after moving to Cincinnati in August 2020, but previously attended Jacob's Porch Lutheran Campus Ministry in Columbus and Atonement Lutheran Church in Barrington, Illinois.

At First Lutheran Church, I have served as an assisting minister during zoom worship, and written and read the prayers of the people.

At Jacob's Porch, I served as a student board representative for one year, played cello in the band for three years, volunteered at the Southern Ohio Synod high school retreat for two years, helped plan 5 biannual retreats, wrote confessions to be used in worship, participated in worship planning, helped organize social events, and helped lead midweek conversations.

At Lutheran Church of the Atonement, I served as the youth representative on the church council in 2014, volunteered for week long mission trips in Kyle, South Dakota annually from 2014 to 2016, planned and led the worship services with the high school youth group twice a year from 2012 to 2016, and helped run the bake sale auction annually from 2013 to 2016.

With the support of Lutheran Church of the Atonement, I attended Leadership Lab, the week long ELCA leadership camp at Augustana College, annually from 2013 to 2017.

What leadership experience have you gained through your employment or service in your community?

Currently I am organizing Gather Cincinnati, a new young adult ministry to connect and foster faith community in young adults from the Cincinnati area (<https://www.firstlutherancincy.org/gathercincy>). I am working hard to connect to ELCA churches in the Cincinnati area, and am especially excited to connect to ELCA programs including service like YAGM, camps like LOMO and LOMIK, and more Lutheran Campus Ministries, all of which will have young adult alumni who may be looking for community in the wake of these meaningful faith experiences. I am excited about what I will be able to learn in the next year from establishing Gather Cincinnati, and hopeful to be able to connect with leaders of these ELCA programs, and think the Churchwide Assembly will be a helpful opportunity for these connections.

Southern Ohio Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Previously, I served on the executive board of the Big Data and Analytics Association at Ohio State for three years. I served as a Logistics Coordinator and Speaker Coordinator for the Women in Analytics conference in Columbus for two years.

Previous to that I served on the executive board of the Future Business Leaders of America Lake Zurich High School chapter for two years.

What gifts/perspectives are you eager to share with the whole church as a voting member at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly?

I am excited to share my value of inclusive community that grows in embracing people often marginalized from church, including LGBTQIA people, young adults, and people of different races and economic statuses. I have found that I am passionate about these things as a result of my time at Jacob's Porch and in Kyle, South Dakota. From leadership, especially as Executive Vice President leading the Big Data and Analytics Association, I found that one of my gifts is finding a solution that works for all parties by encouraging compromise and creating a plan. From my experience at Lutheran Church of the Atonement and First Lutheran Church, I have found that I enjoy intergenerational friendship, listening to and learning from the perspectives of those older than me in the church. I have already gained a lot of new perspective as part of First Lutheran, a growing inner city congregation with unique challenges that is very open to change, is open to all people, and uniquely partners with arts organizations. For me, living in the OTR neighborhood that First Lutheran is right in the center of helps me to see up close to the community, in its diversity and challenges on all levels. My involvement with First Lutheran and leadership of Gather Cincinnati over the next year will only strengthen and expand these new perspectives and learnings I can share. These are the strengths I can bring to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly.

Southern Ohio Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This form should be completed by the nominee. Completion of this form indicates willingness to serve in the nominated position indicated below.

I. Please provide nominee information below.

Name: Ethan Roberts

Preferred Phone:

Email Address:

Congregation Name & City: St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Lancaster

What Conference is your congregation a part of? SC

(Optional) I am a person of color and/or my primary language is something other than English: Yes No

II. Please check the position for which you are nominated.

Churchwide Assembly 2022

Rostered Minister Lay Man Lay Woman **Young Adult** Youth

IV. Please help the Assembly know you better by providing a brief (few sentences) answer to each question below:

What leadership experience have you gained through service in your congregation, synod or Churchwide expression?

I have gained a great deal of experience in serving my congregation, the synod, and Churchwide. At my home church I was active in the youth group for quite a while, and also had the honor of serving as (at the time) the congregation's youngest church councilman in its history.

Within the synod, I was a member of Bishop Dillahunt's first class of the Bishop's Young Ambassadors Program. I also served as one of our synod's representatives to the 2017 ELCA Youth Summit in Houston, Texas. I am actively involved in campus ministry at Capital University (Embrace) and try to attend Jacob's Porch at OSU when available.

In churchwide, I have gone to the two previous Youth Gatherings (2015 & 2018). There I began to learn how big the Church is and what it can do for Christ. I have stayed involved with churchwide via the Young Adults program, especially through the Abide small groups.

What leadership experience have you gained through your employment or service in your community?

Community is the fabric of life; I can't fathom how a person could make it through life without one. As previously mentioned, I have gained a great deal of my leadership skills through the Church. However, I have also done leadership and service in other organizations. For instance, at Capital I am the treasurer of Embrace (soon to be VP), president of Campus Democrats, and a senator in Student Government (soon to be VP). I do my best to participate in service or volunteer opportunities as they come available. For me, staying connected with family and church members (especially older ones) is a form of service - whether that be through cards, emails, or texts. I also have volunteered for the Lancaster Festival and am a regular blood donor.