

## Candidacy Committee Member Position Description

**OUR MISSION** - *God calls us to seek and nurture Christ-centered, transformational servant-leaders who proclaim the gracious reign of God.*

**OUR VISION** - *It is our vision to be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we work with our partners in advocating for the church in its need for rostered leaders and for our candidates' spiritual and financial support.*

### COMMITTEE MAKE-UP

The Candidacy Committee is comprised of 10 to 15 members, approximately half of whom are rostered leaders in the ELCA and half are lay leaders. One representative from Lutheran Theological Seminary-South and one representative of Region 9, also serve. We strive to have a diverse group to represent the many demographics of our community. ***Each Candidacy Committee member is valued and brings unique gifts to the committee; it is important they attend all meetings in their entirety, with exceptions as required.***

### PERSONAL COMMITMENT

Regular Meetings - There are generally three, two-day meetings per year. The dates and locations may vary. The days of the week on which meetings are held, will vary (weekdays and weekends) to accommodate the work and personal schedules of the committee members.

January or February, Tampa

June, July or August, Orlando or Jacksonville

November or December, Tampa area (usually associated with a retreat)

Room and lunch expenses are reimbursed. Travel may be reimbursed.

About three weeks before the meeting, applicable materials will either be sent to each member or be available on line. Members are asked to prayerfully review each document and be prepared to discuss at the meeting.

Communications – Members are asked to maintain regular contact with their candidates and to relay routine items of interest to the whole committee, prior to each meeting. In addition, when situations arise that require immediate attention from the Synod office, Candidacy Chair and/or Bishop, the member will promptly convey this information. Most committee communications are via e-mail and each member is expected to be diligent in their use of this tool. Each member is also expected to be able to access and complete on-line, the forms necessary to document their candidates' stages of their training.

Initial Interview Training - Initial interview training is offered to all new committee members. Members may be asked to meet with potential candidates to interview them for their interests, backgrounds and aptitude for rostered leadership.

Endorsement Panels - Members may be asked to travel to one of the six seminaries to participate in an endorsement interview. Two committee members and one faculty member meet with the candidate. Members have the opportunity to volunteer for candidates. All expenses are covered.

Retreat - The objective is to hold one per year and will often follow the Fall meeting (budget permitting). The committee meets Thursday and Friday (at the retreat center). The retreat begins at dinnertime on Friday and concludes at noon on Sunday. All committee members are expected to participate in the retreat

and to encourage their candidates (usually seniors only) to attend as well. Room and board expenses are covered.

#### Role of the Committee Member, as Relator

This is an intentional relationship between a committee member and their candidates (up to six per member). A Candidate is assigned to a Committee Member following their positive Entrance Decision. The primary function of the Relator is to guide, encourage and support the Candidate during their process towards Rostered Leadership. In addition, the Relator may:

- serve as link between the synod office and the Candidate
- be an advocate for the Candidate
- pray for the Candidate
- help the Candidate understand the Candidacy process
- remember the Candidates at special times (holidays, birthdays, etc.)
- visit the candidate's seminary for endorsement, or internship church site

Ad Hoc Groups – Committee members may serve on groups such as financial aid or retreat planning. Members are also asked to represent the committee at the annual Synod Assembly.