

Section IV
NOMINATIONS
For Today's Business
February 21, 2025

- Updated/Corrected Bios (Replace)



Ms. Lori Solyom

Candidate Nomination Info

Candidate Status: Layperson

Candidate Essay Question Response

Education:

Master of Business Administration - Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL
(Comprehensive Business Administration & Not-for-Profit Management)
- Bachelor of Arts - Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN (Communications -
Journalism & Theatre)

Additional Professional Education

- Certified Fund Raising Executive
- World Journalism Institute Graduate
- LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Training Workshop attendee.

Occupation:

Media Communication and Development Specialist - currently working in public relations strategy, with client publicity writing, marketing, and development focus
Strong career background in ministry development and communications (including Lutheran schools), national syndicated radio, local radio, and selected television programming, production, announcing, and voice work (for Christian and secular outlets), journalistic, contract, script and copy writing and editing (multiple arenas and media)

Professional Memberships:

- ACF (Association for Christian Fundraising - formerly ALDE - Association of), member, previous service on Communication and Curriculum Committees
- WSPN (West Suburban Philanthropic Network), member
- The Church Network – Chicago Chapter, professional services affiliate
- AFTRA (American Federation of Radio & Television Artists), member

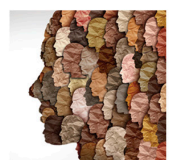
Candidate Congregation Information:

Trinity Lutheran Church, Lombard
1st LCMS Congregation Year: 1970
LCMS District Membership Year: 1985
Current Congregation Membership Year: 1985

Congregation Experience:

Current:

Lay Leadership positions include...Communications Director (since approximately 2015), Livestream Operator (since 2020), Webmaster (since 2017), Sunday School Coordinator/Teacher (since 2012/2007), Board of Stewardship Member (newly



elected), Trinity Lutheran School Journalism teacher (since 2017), Walther Delegate (since 2021)

Ongoing involvement: Voters Assembly, LWML/Lutheran Women in Mission, Mary Martha Guild/women's service ministry, Bible study,

Previous:

Board of Stewardship Chairperson (2018 - 2023), Finance Committee (2018 - 2023), Church Council Member (2018-2023), Trinity NLSA Accreditation Committee (2016-2017), Board of Education member (early 2000s), Parenting with the Lord member (1994-2007)

District Experience:

Current: NID Board of Directors (since 2018), LWML NID/Lutheran Women in Mission Vice President of Communications (since 2022), NID Communicators & Admission Counselors Networking Group regular participant, Sunday School/Child & Family Ministry Network Group regular participant, NID Life Task Force nonmember work
Previous: NID Singles Coordinator (1990 - 1995), Board of Singles Ministry (1986-1990)

Previous employment at NID Recognized Service Organization - Voice of Care - Director of Development and Communications (2013 - 2023)

Previous employment at NID School - Walther Lutheran High School (now Walther Christian Academy) - Media Communications Manager/Advancement Team (2003-2009)

Synod Experience:

no official synodical service

Community Service Experience:

- Village of Lombard (Illinois) Community Promotions and Tourism Committee, member (2014 - 2020)
- York Township (Illinois) Committeeman, Precinct 78 (2014 - 2020)
- York Township (Illinois) Women's Organization (2014 - 2022)
- District 24 (Illinois Senate) Legislative Advisory Council, co-chair of Legislative Advisory Committee on Human Services (2015 - 2018)
- Elected National Presidential Delegate to Republican National Convention (2016)
- Lombard Families First (citizen group for responsible village government), founder and spokesperson (2014 campaign seeking to ban video gambling in village)

Mission of Work:

As we humbly seek to share the Good News of Jesus - His death, resurrection, and anticipated return - our joining in the life and ministry of Word and Sacrament becomes a shared confession. God bestows on each of us different gifts, reflected in our individual traits and talents. He places us in community and in our varied vocations to serve Him in many different ways. Together, as ordained or commissioned ministers and lay members of the LCMS, we pray for God's Kingdom to come, even as we work to make Christ's love known to all - serving, loving, and forgiving one another for His sake. In the NID, our Gospel-minded focus on Word, Wellness, and Witness,



provides tools, resources, and encouragement to prepare, strengthen, and unify congregations, church workers, and laity for the task of Making Disciples for Life (as the Synod has eloquently phrased our focus). We seek any ability to do so in God's Word and sacramental gifts, relying on the Holy Spirit to awaken the faith of salvation.

Challenges, Opportunities, Goals:

Whenever God grants us a position of joint responsibility, "iron sharpens iron" (Proverbs 27:17) One opportunity in my NID Board of Directors has been the privilege of encouraging and fostering support of Christ-centered ministries. Promoting the Gospel-based work of Belize Mission Society and LINC Chicago has allowed us to see fruit borne via the nurturing of children in Seine Bight and development of ministry leaders in urban Chicago. What a joy it has been to watch our own Lutheran maternity home open in the NID through the faithful labors of Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries! The NID has provided many chances for personal spiritual growth and congregational pursuit of excellence. The biggest challenge for me has been in learning that being of one heart does not always mean we are all of the same mind. My brothers and sisters in Christ on the NID BOD have taught me to listen better, think deeper, and be slower to judge. My goal is to continue to humbly serve wherever God leads me.



Rev. David Totsky

Candidate Nomination Info

Candidate Status: Ordained Minister

Candidate Essay Question Response

Education:

Bachelor of Arts 1985 -- Concordia Wisconsin

Master of Divinity 1989 -- Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne

Master of Sacred Theology 1999 -- Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne

Master of Science 2009 -- Non-Profit Leadership and Management -- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Occupation:

Ordained Pastor

Candidate Congregation Information:

St. Peter Ev. Lutheran Church, Joliet

1st LCMS Congregation Year: 1963

LCMS District Membership Year: 2021

Current Congregation Membership Year: 2021

Congregation Experience:

1990-1993, Immanuel and Zion Lutheran Churches -- Hepler and Brazilton Kansas

1993-2003, St. John's and Trinity Lutheran Churches -- Oxford and Packwaukee, Wisconsin

2003-2012, Walther Memorial Lutheran Church -- Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2012-2021, Sherman Park Lutheran Church -- Milwaukee, Wisconsin (merger of Walther Memorial and Sherman Park congregations)

2021-Present, St. Peter Ev. Lutheran Church, Joliet

District Experience:

2022-Present, Secretary, Northern Illinois District LCMS

2022-Present, Registrar/Treasurer, South Region Pastoral Conference

2021-Present, Committee on Constitutional Matters, Northern Illinois District

2006-2021, Secretary, South Wisconsin District LCMS

2015-2021, Chair, South Wisconsin District Policy Committee

2007-2021, Chair, South Wisconsin District Governance Task Force

2006-2021, Chair, Committee on Constitution Matters, South Wisconsin District

2006-2010, District LWML Pastoral Counselor

2004-2006, Assistant Secretary, South Wisconsin District

2004-2006, Secretary, Committee on Constitutional Matters, South Wisconsin District

2003, Floor Committee Chair, South Wisconsin District

1997, 2000, Floor Committee Member



2000-2003, Circuit Counselor South Wisconsin District
1994-2002, LWML Zone Pastoral Advisor

Synod Experience:

2018-Present, Commission on Handbook
2017-Present, Dispute Hearing Panel Facilitator
2016-Present, Reconciler
1992, 1998, 2001, 2007, 2013, 2019, Convention Delegate
2016, 2023, Convention Representative/Advisory delegate
2013, Convention Floor Committee Member and Secretary
2008-2012, SMP Mentor
Vicarage Supervisor

Community Service Experience:

2009-2015, Board of Directors, Interfaith Senior Programs of Waukesha
2008-2012, Consultant and volunteer -- Friedens Ministry -- Social services/food pantry
2004-2012, Board of Directors, Clare Oasis
2004-2010, President and Board Chair, A Second Chance Outreach Ministry
2004-2009, Treasurer for Boy Scouts
1998-2003, Hospice Pastor

Mission of Work:

The Church is known by the presence of its marks -- the Word, faithfully preached, and the sacraments, rightly administered as instituted by Christ. The LCMS, the NID, and its member congregations should place a priority and focus on these means which God gives to establish, maintain and strengthen our faith. The Spirit at work in and through the Word is the only means by which the Church will grow. Our congregations and members need to be in the Word so that they may faithfully bear witness to the world, as well as supporting and encouraging our brothers and sisters in the faith in good times as well as bad.

Challenges, Opportunities, Goals:

I would be honored to continue to use the gifts and abilities which God has given me in service of His Church here in the Northern Illinois District.

