

## Virginia Synod Candidacy Committee Guidelines

1. The Candidacy Committee (CC) receives our guidance from the [ELCA Candidacy Manual, Pages 11-13](#) speak to the responsibilities and qualities of a member of the CC.
2. The CC provides support for and oversight of all those considering a call to public leadership in the church (so, our pastors and deacons), and for those currently in seminary. We have guidance from the ELCA Candidacy Manual for the work we do and the decisions we make.
3. Pastor Kelly Bayer Derrick, Assistant to the Bishop, serves as the primary staff person for the CC and with our candidates. Deacon Lisa Geiger serves as the administrative coordinator of all candidacy records and info.
4. The CC is made up of clergy and laypeople from around VA. We strive for diverse representation on the committee – diversity from around the Synod and also of age, vocational experience, gender, sexual orientation, race, language, and ethnicity.
5. Terms on the committee are 5 years, with a max of 2 terms (You can, of course, resign before your term is up)
6. Having some experience with the Lutheran Church and the Lutheran faith tradition/theology is important, since part of our role as the CC is to ensure that our candidates are able to preach and teach as Lutherans.
7. The CC meets three times per year: August Vocations Conference (3 days) in Lynchburg; December meeting (1.5 days) in Charlottesville; March meeting (1.5 days) in Charlottesville.
  - a. Dates for these meetings shift some; for 2019-2020, these are the dates:
    - i. August 16-18 (Th-Sat)
    - ii. Nov 30-Dec 1 (Fri-Sat)
    - iii. March 29-30 (Fri-Sat)
  - b. Generally, these meetings begin at either 10am or noon on the first day and go through about noon on the last day. This may change as we consider the schedules of folks, especially laypeople who would have to take time off of work. I say all that so that the particular schedule doesn't make preclude someone from discerning whether to serve; the schedule is open for discussion.