



North/West Lower Michigan Synod ELCA  
**Pulpit Supply List**

Revised: February 2026

### **When finding a Supply Minister:**

- a. Contact ELCA ministers in your conference. If you are not successful, broaden your horizon. Some ministers are willing to travel farther than others.
- b. If the worship service includes Holy Communion, seek out a pastor from a full communion partner church: United Methodist, United Church of Christ, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Moravian.
- c. If the worship service is a Service of the Word *without* Holy Communion, you may seek out an associate in ministry, deaconess or diaconal minister, synodically authorized minister, or lay leader who has been trained to preach, with the authorization of the called pastor. In congregation is without a called pastor, authorization comes from the synodical bishop or interim pastor.
- d. If the Worship service includes Holy Communion, contact the bishop to explain that the ELCA pastor and ecumenical partner is not available and to request the bishop to invite and authorize a synodically authorized minister.
- e. The Supply List is organized to reflect this process.

### **When Your Congregation Welcomes a Guest Preacher or Worship Leader:**

- a. Send a letter or email of welcome to the supply person:
  - i. Include details related to the person's duties, a map or directions to the church, service times, and a simple bulletin marked to indicate the supply person's responsibilities.
  - ii. Request in advance the supply person's name and spelling, and information that will help to clearly identify your guest.
  - iii. It is gracious to ask if the supply person will be accompanied by anyone, such as a spouse, and if that guest would like to be recognized.
  - iv. List any additional activities in which the supply person might be expected to participate. These might include a children's sermon, Sunday school, coffee hour, fellowship meal, etc.
- b. Mail or email the bulletin or a leader's book to the supply person. Have hard copies available when s/he arrives.
- c. Call the supply person during the week prior to the worship service to:
  1. Answer any questions,

2. Provide the name and phone number of a contact person within the congregation, as well as an active phone number for the day of,
  3. Check to make certain the supply person has directions,
  4. Confirm an approximate time when the supply person should arrive.
- d. Someone familiar with the congregation's worship should be available to meet the supply person on the day of the service at the time of their arrival.
- i. Familiarize the supply person with the church building (coat closet, restroom, place to robe, etc.) and the physical aspects of the sanctuary (seating for worship leaders, fans, acoustics, sound system, etc.).
  - ii. Be certain the supply person knows when and where to enter and leave the service (is there a procession/recession?) and where to stand before and after the service.
  - iii. Walk through the service in the worship space with the supply person, choreographing especially how the offering is received and Holy Communion is distributed, since these parts of worship are unique to each congregation.
- e. Have the contact person or church officers available during the greeting period to assist the supply person if needed and to identify, welcome, and follow-up on visitors and guests attending the service.
- f. As you and your congregation are hosting the supply person, do everything you can to make your guest feel welcome and comfortable.

**Compensation:**

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod Compensation Guidelines honorarium is \$225.00 for one worship service and \$50.00 for each additional service. Congregations are also expected to pay mileage at the IRS standard mileage rate for employee reimbursements (see [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for the current rate). The current mileage rate for 2026 is 72.5 cents per mile.

Contact the Synod Office if you have any questions or need assistance.

In Christ,

**Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas**

NWLMS | PO Box 67 Holt, MI 48842 | (517) 321-5066

## Current List of Pastors Offering Supply

**Rev. David Augenstein (Capital)**

12001 Country River Drive  
Rives Junction, MI 49277  
517-914-5745  
[pjamom@msn.com](mailto:pjamom@msn.com)

**Rev. Richard Bachman (Traverse)**

6081 Lake View Dr.  
Lake City, MI 49651  
970-768-9603  
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**Rev. Ruth Overdier (Traverse)**

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231-409-3104

**Rev. Tim Bender (Bay)**

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**Rev. Paulette Cummings (Bay)**

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**Rev. Teresa Foster**

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**Rev. Katy Johnson- (Stony Lake)**

515-360-2381  
[iowakatie1981@gmail.com](mailto:iowakatie1981@gmail.com)

**Rev. Paul Kehnle (Grand Rapids)**

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**Rev. Katheryn King (Traverse)**

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Traverse City, MI 49686  
231-946-6421  
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**Rev. Galen C. Knutson (Grand Rapids)**

1197 Bridge Crest Drive  
Ada, MI 49301  
616-635-4900  
[Galen.knutson@gmail.com](mailto:Galen.knutson@gmail.com)

**Rev. Thomas Mammoser (Sunrise)**

Gaylord, MI 49734

989 350-0758

**Rev. Dennis Meyette**

1293 Meadow Green Lane

Linden, MI 48451

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**Rev. Michael Mersy (Bay)**

2256 Moonglow Court

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989-714-6024

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**Rev. Thomas E. Pederson (Kalamazoo)**

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Kalamazoo, MI 49009

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**Rev. Frank Rothfuss (Grand Rapids)**

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**Rev. Stephen D Samuelson(Stony Lake)**

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**Rev. David Sprang**

531 Lennon Ln.

Gladwin, MI 48624

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**Rev. Daniel Stoneback (Bay)**

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989-240-4093

[danwestbranch@gmail.com](mailto:danwestbranch@gmail.com)

**Rev. Phillip (Phil) Van Dam**

618 Pine St.

Manistee, MI 49660

740-296-9175

[pastorphilvandam@netscape.net](mailto:pastorphilvandam@netscape.net)

**Rev. Sharon Van Dam**

618 Pine St

Manistee, MI 49660

740-296-9176

## **OTHER DENOMINATIONS**

**Note: Call the Bishop's office to arrange for coverage**

**The Rev. Dr. Kathleen Kircher**

(ECUSA) May thru October

11579 Arrowhead Drive

Williamsburg, MI 49690

231-264-9046

**Rev. Thom Daubenspeck**

**(Reformed Church in America)**

308 West 23<sup>rd</sup>. Street

Holland, MI 49423

616-610-2748 Home

[tmdaubenspeck@gmail.com](mailto:tmdaubenspeck@gmail.com)

**Synodically Authorized Ministers**  
**Note: Call Bishop's office to arrange for coverage**

**Peggy Burns (Traverse)**

231-929-1409 Home

231-392-6913 Cell

[Cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com](mailto:Cobaltblues2003@yahoo.com)

**Glenn Dunn (Traverse)**

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**Richard Klender (Bay)**

423 W. Huron

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**John McPhail (Capital)**

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Okemos, MI 48864

517-331-5860

[mcphail@msu.edu](mailto:mcphail@msu.edu)

**Scott Phillips (Bay)**

4567 Benchley Drive

Beaverton, MI 48612

989-435-4807 (H) 989-280-0794 Cell

[mymalibu.sp@gmail.com](mailto:mymalibu.sp@gmail.com)

**Lay Ministers – Non-Communion Worship Only**  
**Note: Call Bishop’s office to arrange for coverage**

**Deno Sorrels, Deacon (Kalamazoo)**

6837 Grove Side

Zeeland, MI 49464

616-894-0499 Cell

[denosorrels@yahoo.com](mailto:denosorrels@yahoo.com)

**Need to update your contact information?**

Please contact the synod office to update information: 517-321-5066 or  
[communication@mittensynod.org](mailto:communication@mittensynod.org)