



Southeast Michigan Synod • ELCA

Assembly 2023

Conference 1

Pr. Nathan Allen - Holy Spirit/Grand Blanc

Our conference includes the following congregations:

All Saint Lutheran-Hartland, Pr. Denise Russell

Holy Spirit Lutheran-Grand Blanc, Pr. Nathan Allen

Lord of Life Lutheran-Brighton, Pr. Dale Hedblad

Our Risen Savior Lutheran-Burton, Pr. Sue Lidums

Shalom Lutheran-Pinckney, Intern Dan Quagliata

St John Lutheran-Fowlerville, Pr. Diane Greble

Grace Lutheran-Howell, Pr. Ken Greble

King of Glory Lutheran-Flushing, Pr. Monica Villarreal
(contracted stated supply)

Messiah Lutheran-Swartz Creek, Pr. Bart Muller
(contracted stated supply)

Salem Lutheran-Flint, Pr. Monica Villarreal

St George Lutheran-Brighton, Pr. Sharon Smith

Transfiguration Lutheran-Fenton, Pr. Kate Zywicki

Our conference generally gathers monthly to support one another and share updates about the congregations we serve. We also use these meetings as an opportunity to support & welcome colleagues going through pastoral transitions. Pr. Ken Greble was installed as pastor at Grace in Howell on Transfiguration Sunday, February 27, 2022. As of the writing of this report, Seminary Intern Dan Quagliata is preparing for ordination; he will continue to serve at Shalom in Pinckney.

King of Glory in Flushing continues to share their building with Trinity Episcopal Church. As of January 1, 2023, Rev. Barbara Cavin who was serving Trinity Episcopal retired, so Pr. Monica Villarreal leads worship for both congregations with a new resident of our conference, Pr. Diane Sponheim, also serving as a supply preacher for King of Glory and Trinity Episcopal.

Some of our meetings in 2022 included updates from Pr. Beth Birkholz on behalf of Samaritas, and Ms. Sonja Marquart presenting on changes to the Model Constitution as well as on her work with the ELCA Foundation.

One of our plans as a conference for 2023 is to read and discuss *Sticky Teams: Keeping Your Leadership Team and Staff on the Same Page* with the author of the book, Larry Osborne. If you would like to be a part of the discussion with Pr. Osborne, let me know and I can share a Zoom link with you. We also plan to discuss ways congregations in our conference could partner together to contract with a third-party vendor for Social Media advertising.

I am grateful for the faithfulness and creativity of my colleagues and the congregations they serve in Conference 1, and I look forward to the year ahead as we continue to work together in ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

-Pr. Nathan Allen, Dean