



Southeast Michigan Synod • ELCA

Conference 8 Report for 2025 Southeast Michigan Synod Assembly
Pr. Sara Freudenburg, Emmanuel/Livonia

Serving Conference 8 Congregations:

Celebration/Westland: Pr. Jim Fogle

Emmanuel/Livonia: Pr. Sara Freudenburg

Holy Cross/Livonia: Pr. Scott Seeke, Intern Pr. Rick Durance (through Dec. 2026)

Holy Spirit/West Bloomfield: Pr. William Matlack

Holy Trinity/Livonia: Pr. Andrew Chavanak, Vicar Alysa Offman

Hope/Farmington Hills: Pr. Kristin Swenson departed Sep 15, 2024; Pr. Krister Ulmanis began as interim Sr Pastor Oct 1, 2024; Pr. Amy Cooley Higgs continues as associate pastor

Shepherd of the Lakes/Walled Lake: Pr. Judd Delancey

Shepherd's Way/South Lyon: Pr. Tom Scherger

St. John/Farmington Hills: Pr. Mark Fisher

Timothy/Livonia: Mr. Eric Stenson

Highlights/Changes from May 2024 - April 2025

Pastor Kristin Swenson departed Hope/Farmington on September 15, 2024 and Pastor Krister Ulmanis assumed interim senior pastor on Oct 1.

Rick Durance began serving as intern pastor at Holy Cross/Livonia in January 2025. He will be there for two years, ending his service there in December 2026.

Holy Trinity/Livonia continues to be blessed by the service of Vicar Alysa Offman, who concluded her formal internship on April 30, and will graduate from Luther Seminary this spring.

Our conference continues to meet weekly for text study and fellowship and is a source of great support for each other. We joined efforts and collaborated on a pilot program with MOSES and OBI to organize and implement a Long Bridging experiment. You can see the explanation [here](#).

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Sara Freudenburg, Conference Dean