



Southeast Michigan Synod • ELCA

**Conference 3 Report for 2025 Southeast Michigan Synod Assembly  
Pr. Jonathan Heierman, Dean**

Abiding Presence, Rochester Hills	In Call Process
Beautiful Savior, Bloomfield Hills	Pr. Nik Schillack
Calvary, Clarkston & Pontiac	Pr. Jonathan Heierman, Pr. Bob Hegdal, LLM's Dana & Ray Chobot
Christ, Waterford	Pr. Stephanie Newman
Christ the King, Lapeer	Served by Pulpit supply
King of Kings, Lake Orion	Pr. Eric Johnson
Spirit of Grace Lutheran/Episcopal Community West Bloomfield	Pr. Joyce Partyka Staib
Saint Augustine's House, Oxford	
Zoë Oakland College/Young Adult Community	Pr. Eric Johnson, Mission Developer

Some Highlights in Ministry Together this past year:

- Growing out of efforts to develop a Conference Mission Strategy to increase our collective impact in our area, an ELCA campus ministry has been reestablished at Oakland University guided by Pr. Eric Johnson as half-time mission developer. While developing ministry among students he also continues to cultivate connections and funding well beyond our conference including congregations, synod, and churchwide. This ministry, Zoë Oakland College/Young Adult Community, began by gathering students and stakeholders for a time of visioning and planning. This led to establishing a student organization at OU which now meets regularly for conversation and service projects.
- St. Augustine's House in Oxford, a unique Lutheran Benedictine Community in our conference area, continues to offer daily Eucharist and offices of prayer, retreats, and more.
- Christ the King culminated its partnership with Calvary at the end of 2024 and is now being served through regular pulpit supply.
- Abiding Presence was served by Stated Supply Pr. Beth Birkholz during 2024. This congregation is now actively engaged in the call process
- Currently two Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs) are serving in our conference at Calvary. We hope to add others called to this great ministry of our synod.
- Our conference congregations and members continue to creatively impact our communities with the Good News of Jesus and seeking to fulfill our Synod mission to "Rise up to Bear Burdens, Build Bridges, Break Chains and Bring Hope!"

In Christ's Service,  
Pr. Jonathan Heierman, Conference Dean