

Roster Report – August 2026

Synod Council Call – Ecumenical/Inter-Religious Ministry

Sheri Ellwood (Word and Sacrament, removed from the roster) has received approval from the Central States Synod Candidacy Committee for reinstatement to the roster and is employed by our state public policy office, Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA), in a ministerial role as Rural Engagement Coordinator. Sheri intends to do more preaching and worship leadership as a member of the roster.

Bishop's Recommendation: Grant a synod council call to ecumenical/inter-religious ministry (7.44.A24.b.8.1) effective August 21, 2026.

Retirements

Rev. Larry Lemke (Word and Sacrament) has been covenanted to serve Lutheran Church of Atonement, Florissant, Missouri, under a Synod Council call to Interim Ministry. He requests retired status effective September 1, 2026.

Recommendation: Grant retirement status effective September 1, 2025.

Information

- **Scott Vana** (Word and Sacrament, retired) has transferred from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod to the Central States Synod, effective May 15, 2026.
- **Melissa Woeppel** (Word and Sacrament) was promoted to Dean of Spiritual Life and Campus Pastor within her current Synod Council Call to Bethany College.
- **Community Lutheran Church, Eagle Rock, Missouri**, disbanded effective June 29, 2026.
- **Jerry Reynolds** (Word and Sacrament, retired) has transferred to the South Carolina Synod, effective July 21, 2026.
- **Kaylie Ines** (Word and Sacrament) has resigned from her call to Olsburg and Walsburg Lutheran Churches, effective July 26, 2026. She has accepted a call in the New England Synod.
- **Dean Apel** (Word and Sacrament, on leave) has entered onto the roster of the Church of Sweden and thus is now removed from the ELCA roster effective August 13, 2026.
- **Gerald Mansholt** (Word and Sacrament, retired, East-Central Synod of Wisconsin) will be entering into a covenant to serve Lutheran Church of the Atonement, Florissant, Missouri, effective September 1, 2026.
- **Jessica Molina** (applicant for Word and Sacrament candidacy; M.Div., Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma) has been received as a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Wichita, Kansas, and is anticipated to be approved as a Synod-Authorized Minister to serve the congregation under covenant effective September 1, 2026.
- **Lutheran Church of the Living Christ, Florissant, Missouri**, is planning to disband effective with a closing worship on September 27, 2026.
- **Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Bridgeton, Missouri**, is planning to disband. Closing worship (and effective date) is not yet determined.