

Name: **Matthew Kersten-Gray**

Lay/Rostered: Lay

Nominated for: Consultation Committee

Category if Applicable: Lay male/GNB

Occupation: Technical Program Manager

Conference: Metro South

Home Congregation: Bethany Lutheran, Cherry Hills Village

Member how long: 11 Years



List three current or past congregational or synodical service activities. List the activity and dates started and ended:

Activity 1:

Ministry council Bethany Lutheran Church 2019-2022

Activity 2:

Growth group leader, Bethany Fall 2020

Activity 3:

Synod assembly voting member 2021

Briefly describe your sense of God's call into mission and service in the Synod through this office:

I feel called to serve in the larger church polity. I have found that stepping up for service within my congregation has been meaningful to me. I love to work with others and give back. As a gay man I feel like having LGBTQIA+ inclusion on such a committee would help add to its diversity.

Describe your skills and experiences that would be an asset to this office:

I am currently serving on the ministry council of my congregation. I am a lifelong ELCA Lutheran and an alumnus of St. Olaf College. I feel ownership and belonging in this church. I have a passion to improve our institutions and to see them thrive. I think this particular position requires sensitivity to listen with compassion. I feel that I can come to this role with my whole presence, discernment and grace.



Rocky Mountain Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.