

Nominee Information

Board of Directors

Introduction

This document contains information provided by the nominees for the open Board of Directors positions. The information is being provided to assist the congregation in preparation for the Voters Meeting on June 7, 2026 at 11:00 AM. We will be electing four candidates for 2-year terms.

Nominee

Ron Johnson *

Dick Lemin *

Martin Meissenhalter *

Paula Schweiger

*currently serving on the Board

What are the responsibilities of a member of the Board of Directors?

The Board of Directors is a governing board. Its main duty is to ensure the fulfillment of St. John's Mission and Vision. It does this by holding the Lead Pastor accountable for implementing a ministry plan that pursues the mission and vision for our church and school, and supporting him in the fulfillment of that plan. The Board of Directors also prepares and maintains a policy manual that defines the goals of the congregation, the relationship between the Board and the Lead Pastor, the limitations on the Lead Pastor, and the way in which the Board will carry out its duties. The Board members do not represent any particular group or constituency in the church. Rather, the Board acts on behalf of the entire congregation, especially as it confesses its purpose through the Mission and Vision statement.

What are the qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors?

The By Laws state that Board members must be committed to the mission and vision of the congregation. Therefore the ideal board member is someone who is:

- Faithful in Worship
- Regularly in the Word: Bible Study or Small Group
- Active in service: Serving in a ministry of the congregation
- Supportive of tithing: Either tithing or working toward it.
- Strong support for the Mission and Vision
- Strong support for the new governance structure
- Able to see the big picture of the church's mission

Ron Johnson

Employment/Experience Background

I'm a retired Chief of Plant Operations from Public Employees Retirement System, State of California. I've been a member of St. John's Lutheran Church since 1976.

Previous Service at St. John's Church and School

I've served on several Boards over the years; including Board of Directors, Property Maintenance, Stewardship and Board of Elders. I served on the St. John's Lutheran School Parent Teacher's Board (my children attended SJLS). I currently serve through the Mission Farm, After Church Coffee Fellowship, Communion Assistant (as needed), Boy Scout Troop 83 Committee Member.

How are you regularly in the Word?

Lois and I attend Sunday morning worship services together every Sunday at SJLC. I lead the Saturday morning Men's Bible Study and Breakfast. I continue to read the Bible from cover to cover every evening before bed.

Why do you desire to serve the Lord and His people as a member of the Board of Directors?

As a member of SJLC since 1976, I know the history of the church and how it operates. I believe the members should be involved in the ministries of the Church and serve when called.

What is most important to you regarding our Mission and Vision as we seek to make disciples in our community?

Growing the Church with new members, ministering to every member, reaching out to those in need, feeding the hungry people in our community and being an active member in providing hospitality and fellowship opportunities for our members. Support the Youth Programs.

What is the role of our Day School in light of our Mission and Vision?

SJLS provides an outstanding, Christian based education to both member and non-member children. Unfortunately, the cost of that education makes it difficult for all of our member children, the ability to afford to attend.

William R. Lemin (Dick)

Employment/Experience Background

I retired from UPS in 2003 after 32 years of repairing big, brown trucks. I flunked retirement at that time, and took a job with the Napa Wine Train where I became an engineer. I recently from there after nearly 16 years. I am now enjoying being retired.

Previous Service at St. John's Church and School

I have been serving with the garden crew on the Mission Farm for 13 years now where I enjoy operating the tractor to prepare & cultivate the fields for the planting of the crops.

How are you regularly in the Word?

My wife, Marilyn, and I try to live our lives in the Word as much as we can. One thing that we continually practice is to live by the "Golden Rule." We attend church nearly every Sunday unless we are out of town.

Why do you desire to serve the Lord and His people as a member of the Board of Directors?

I think it would be another way to serve the Lord and to help spread the Word in another way.

What is most important to you regarding our Mission and Vision as we seek to make disciples in our community?

With a lot of the not so nice things happening nowadays, it is important to show children and adults that a relationship with God is very important and can help guide them through anything in their lives. All that they need to do is to follow God's Word and listen to what He is saying.

What is the role of our Day School in light of our Mission and Vision?

The role of our school is not only to educate our children, but to teach them to follow God and to make Him a part of their daily lives.

Martin Meissenhalter

Employment/Experience Background

Culinary Institute of America – Assistant Manager of Purchasing

Previous Service at St. John’s Church and School

- Parent of a child that attended SJLS for 12 years. Was involved in many of the projects and outings involving each grade.
- Was on school advisory team for several years.
- Committee Chair for Boy Scout Troop 83 @ SJLS

How are you regularly in the Word?

- Every morning in devotional reading and prayer
- Attend church and small groups
- I am part of our Tech Team

Why do you desire to serve the Lord and His people as a member of the Board of Directors?

Honestly, I have not sought this out before. I was asked to serve by a nomination. I spoke to my family and prayed, and I believe this is the Lord’s way of telling me to serve the church and school.

What is most important to you regarding our Mission and Vision as we seek to make disciples in our community?

Take advantage of the opportunities presented to us every day. Being able to recognize when I need to spread the Gospel.

What is the role of our Day School in light of our Mission and Vision?

To give every child at SJLS the ability to spread the Word of God and make every child be a good disciple and member of our community.

Paula Schweiger

Employment/Experience Background

After 30 year of working as a primary school teacher, I left to work at our family winery.

Previous Service at St. John's Church and School

I served for six years on the Board of Directors as secretary. I have also volunteered for VBS, served as a Children's Church leader, confirmation guide, and summer camp worker. I also serve on Sundays as a lay reader and communion assistant as well as helping with Aaron Comfort Dog.

How are you regularly in the Word?

I am in the word every morning. My current devotional includes a Bible passage and message to go along with it. I am also re-reading Jesus Calling each day.

Why do you desire to serve the Lord and His people as a member of the Board of Directors?

I want to have the Lord guide me in using my talents to further His kingdom. I am interested in having a variety of voice and opinions representing all people of the congregation to best meet the mission of the church to reach up, in, and out.

What is most important to you regarding our Mission and Vision as we seek to make disciples in our community?

Leading people to a relationship with Christ is very important to me. Having taught in the public school, I was not able to share the gospel directly, but could share the love of Christ with my actions and by being an example to my students and families. In my current position, the same is true. I believe one of the best ways to reach out is to "show we are Christians by our love."

What is the role of our Day School in light of our Mission and Vision?

The school is an important part of St. John's ministry outreach. Many of our student/families are not members of the congregation and not Christians, yet their lives are daily change by the influence they receive at school. This is a reaching out ministry, accepting all who come to us, and providing a wonderful Christian education to those in our community. We are clear with families about our beliefs and what will be taught in the school.