

Youth Nominees
for the 2017 ELCIC National Convention

Ben Cameron
Meghan Dale
Andrew Famme
Ken Grahlman
Julia Hilgendag
Jennifer Mulholland
Freddy Sourial
Julia Wirth

Burlington ON
New Hamburg ON
Stratford ON
Ottawa ON
Brantford ON
Hamilton ON
Ottawa ON
Ottawa ON



**2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION NOMINATION FORM
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA**

EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Nominee Name: Ben Cameron Gender: M

Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay Youth (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)

Birthdate: 04/22/2016 *25 May 1998*

Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: Holy Cross

Congregation City: Burlington Congregation Province: ON

Residence Address: 2402 Hereford Crescent

City: Burlington Province: ON Postal Code: L7P 1X3

Day Time Telephone: (289) 700-8096 Email: bencameron@live.ca

Occupation: Student

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

I am completing High School this year and will be attending Waterloo Lutheran Seminary in September 2016 to start in the B.A. in Christian Studies and Global Citizenship. I have been very involved at Holy Cross including helping with weekly worship and community events like Vacation Bible School, e-waste recycling day and the Chilly Half Marathon. I've also been involved in ALSOC events through St. John's, Hamilton.

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

My hope is the ELCIC will find ways to keep current with an ever changing society. There have been many changes in our political world recently and the church needs to keep up with the changes. I am concerned that the church isn't doing a great job reaching out to people of my generation. Technology is changing how people communicate and how they get together. The church needs to find ways to communicate with people my age.

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

I have attended a number of events outside of my own congregation and would like to continue to learn more about the church. Being a delegate to National Convention would allow me to learn more about our national church. I would also like to meet more people my age who are interested in the church and see how we can get together to help the church continue to reach out to the world.

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Fax:	(519) 743-4291
Email:	wgrahlman@elcic.ca
Deadline for submission of nominees: April 23, 2016	

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Nominee Name: MEGHAN DALE **Gender:** F

Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay **Youth** (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)
Birthdate: Dec 13, 1999

Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congregation City: NEW HAMBURG **Congregation Province:** ON

Residence Address 347 Grandview Avenue

City: New Hamburg **Province:** ON **Postal Code:** N3A 1L5

Day Time Telephone: (519) 590-9213 **Email:** meggardsdale@gmail.com

Occupation:

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

I attended the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Detroit in the summer of 2015. It was an eye-opening and life-changing experience for me. I have attended Confirmation Camp at Camp Edgewood; this summer is my sixth year. I spent two years in the camper program, two years in the VET program, and I am now a second year counsellor. I am registered and planning to attend the Canadian Lutheran Youth (CLAY) conference in PEI this summer. I am active in my congregation's youth ministry program and often help to teach Faith Adventures (Sunday School) to the younger children as well. I have helped to lead worship at my church and currently play in our congregation's handbell choir. I sing in three different choirs at my high school, Waterloo-Oxford D.S.S, and we sing many faith-based songs and perform in different churches. I play hockey and soccer and I love applying my faith to the sports that I play.

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

In my congregation, many of the people at worship are quite elderly. I am concerned about the future of youth in worship and the life of our church as there are not many young couples or youth present in worship any more. I hope that the ELCIC would start to put more emphasis on youth ministry - through music, worship, mission trips and other service projects and events. It is very important to me that the youth become the next generation in my congregation and can carry on their families' legacies. Mentioning music, I hope that the music will shift to featuring some more contemporary Christian music that will attract my generation to become members of Lutheran churches. I hope that the ELCIC will also continue to support Camp Edgewood as well as other camps involved in the Confirmation Camp program as camp is a very important part of my faith life.

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

I am interested in being a delegate because as an active youth member of my congregation, I want to learn more about the work of the church nationally and internationally. I want to expand my knowledge and understanding of how the ELCIC works and how they help other countries in need. Our congregation recently sponsored a refugee family, who my family has gotten to know well. I want to participate in more of the ELCIC Reformation Challenges to raise hope and awareness for refugees and other world issues. Lastly, I play in my congregation's handbell choir and I am very interested to see how worship and music is done at a national convention and how different congregations across Canada with different ways of worshiping will come together as one church.

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Nominee Name:	Andrew Famme		Gender:	Male
Position Nominated for:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rostered	<input type="checkbox"/> Lay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)	Birthdate: July 16 2000
Eastern Synod Congregational Membership:	Zion Ev. Lutheran Church			
Congregation City:	Stratford	Congregation Province:	ON	
Residence Address	40 Eagle Drive			
City:	Stratford	Province:	ON	Postal Code: N5A 7Y8
Day Time Telephone:	(226) 880-0671	Email:	andrewff50@gmail.com	
Occupation:	Student			

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

Education: Will have completed grade 10 at St. Michael's Secondary School as of June 2016. I am in French Immersion and plan on continuing.
Church/Life Experience: Confirmed at Zion in 2014. I serve as a reader at church. I also volunteer at Friendship Meals on the last Friday of every month. I

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

Concerns: Some people don't believe that church is relevant to their lives. Church attendance is dwindling and youth seem not to be interested in attending church, even though they're interested in their faith
Hopes: I hope that the future of the ELCIC involves engaging youth and people

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

I want to be a delegate to be involved in the church as it changes. I want to be a voice in the greater church to ensure that it involves youth as it continues to grow.

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Nominee Name: Ken Grahlman **Gender:** Male

Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay **Youth** (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)
Birthdate: 08/19/1991

Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: Mount Calvary

Congregation City: Ottawa **Congregation Province:** ON

Residence Address 2870 Cedarwood Dr. Apt. 1008

City: Ottawa **Province:** ON **Postal Code:** K1V 8Y5

Day Time Telephone: (613) 407-1554 **Email:** ken.grahlman@gmail.com

Occupation: Food Industry

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

As of July 2016, I will have attended two consecutive Synod conventions. I have confidence in using those experiences in order to fully participate within this convention. I currently sit on PCYM, and have been blessed with a more informed perspective on youth and concerns of youth within the church throughout my time spent on the committee. I also currently am organizing a youth group within the Ottawa area, of which is set to partake in the 2016 CLAY.

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

My concern is that the church as a whole will stay grounded and not be able to shed some of its old fashioned ways.
 My hope is that enough individuals will be able to lead us through these changing times in a strong, positive way.

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

I hope to help be that positive change, and lead who I can in mission for others.

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Nominee Name: Julia Hilgendag **Gender:** Female

Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay **Youth** (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)
Birthdate: 07/03/2000

Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: Faith Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Brantford **Congregation Province:** Ont

Residence Address: 101 Oxbow Rd

City: Brantford **Province:** Ont **Postal Code:** N3T 5L6

Day Time Telephone: (519) 757-5285 **Email:** p.hilgendag@gmail.com

Occupation:

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

Student at Brantford Collegiate Institute
Assisting Minister and Sunday School teacher at Faith Lutheran Church
Choir member
Help with food pantry
Active youth member; participated in Kamloops CLAY; going to PEI CLAY
Active ALSOC member

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

I hope to see a continued support towards the youth programs in church life.
Helping other societies and the less fortunate.

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

My big sister Isabel Hilgendag got to go to the last assembly. She was excited to share her experience. I look up to her and with all the opportunities and experience she got to do. Learn more / be a part of what the church does.

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Nominee Name: Jennifer Mulholland **Gender:** Female

Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay Youth (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)
Birthdate: 01/23/1995

Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: Faith Lutheran

Congregation City: Hamilton **Congregation Province:** ON

Residence Address 1134 King St. E

City: Hamilton **Province:** ON **Postal Code:** L8M 1E6

Day Time Telephone: (289) 887-7366 **Email:** jenny.mulholland23@hotmail.com

Occupation: Waitress

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

I attended both Westmount Secondary School as well as Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School where I graduated in 2013. Right after graduating high school I left to serve in El Salvador with Youth with a Mission. (YWAM) I stayed for six months where I graduated from their Discipleship Training School. (DTS) We also traveled to Colombia for six months during this time where we worked with different churches, programs and schools as well as evangelism throughout Bogotá, Medellín, and Cartagena. I then went back to San Salvador in July of 2014 where I took part in one of YWAM's secondary schools, The Foundations of Counseling Ministry. I completed the three months of lecture phase and then returned home. On top of doing the schools with YWAM I was also able to work with them in their varying ministries. This includes, feeding programs, house builds, discipleship with prostitutes, evangelism and discipleship with university students, kids and adults of a squatter community we work in, as well bible distribution in this same community.

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

My concerns and hopes for ELCIC is that the church will continue to raise up strong leaders who are passionate about bringing the gospel to the people here in Canada as well to people around the world and continue making God known. My hopes is that we will not only proclaim the word boldly to others, but also deepen our own relationships with God as well. My hopes is that we as the church, continue to be used as instruments of the Holy Spirit to be God's hands and feet on this Earth and to keep serving inside the church as well as beyond the churches walls and doors. I hope that we continue to build relationships with all walks of people and be able to disciple those people.

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

I am interested in being a delegate because, I am interested in hearing what the future is for the church here in Canada as well as offering my own thoughts and ideas. I think this is a great opportunity to not only make a difference within the church, but the world as well. Missions is something that has been on my heart for as long as I can remember, and I would love the opportunity to continue to serve in my own country, as well as countries around the world. And any opportunity that can help to better equip myself and others, as well as continue to learn and grow is something that I would love to take.

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Nominee Name: Freddy Sourial Gender: Male
Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay Youth (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)
Birthdate: 09/22/1999
Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: Resurrection Lutheran Church of Orleans
Congregation City: Ottawa Congregation Province: Ont
Residence Address: 1367 Boyer rd
City: Ottawa Province: Ont Postal Code: k1C1P9
Day Time Telephone: (613) 824-7274 Email: freddy.sourial@gmail.com

Occupation:

Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.

I have been elected with 4 other students from my school to go attend a leadership training course with schools from around Ottawa to learn about taking initiative and getting involved. I feel that being a delegate and attending the national convention I can learn skills from others that I can use in my home church. I have been on a mission trip to Vermont. I volunteer in my church: Sunday school teacher, help with communion, help with any fundraising activities that are held at church. I am apart of the cadet program and we do a lot to help out our community.

Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.

My concerns for the future is since I am a teenager I know that not a lot of teenagers go to church. Also lutheran churches have a very specific way of worship and the songs that are sung are not very popular with teenagers. In my opinion the lutheran churches are on of the least known/ popular in the teenage community which means that the lutheran churches will be one of the first ones to lose members without gaining any. My hope is that by going on this convention I will be able to learn skills that I can use to get more people to go to church.

Why are you interested in being a delegate?

I am interested in being a delegate and attending the national the convention because I wan to experience what it is like for other Lutheran churches in Canada and what difficulties the face and how they overcome those difficulties so that way if our church faces the same difficulties we will know how to overcome them. As well to share with others some difficulties that our church have struggled with in the past so we can all learn from each other. I have been asked to become an assisting minister by my pastor so I am interested about knowing some history.

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EASTERN SYNOD NOMINEE - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Nominee Name: Julia Wirth **Gender:** female

Position Nominated for: Rostered Lay Youth (Must be between 16 and 25 as of July 1, 2017)
Birthdate: 08/04/1996

Eastern Synod Congregational Membership: Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

Congregation City: Ottawa (Nepean) **Congregation Province:** ON

Residence Address: 37 Higgins Rd

City: Ottawa **Province:** ON **Postal Code:** K2G0R3

Day Time Telephone: (613) 700-1637 **Email:** jjwirth@bell.net

Occupation:

<p>Please describe your education, work, church or life experience that might relate to being a delegate to National Convention.</p> <p>I am a nursing student in 2nd year at the University of Ottawa. I have been a member of Faith Lutheran Church my whole life and have also become involved with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship on my University campus. I joined my congregational council as the secretary and chair of youth in 2014 and have now given up my role as secretary to try and improve communications within the church. Last fall, I was involved with starting up a Lutheran Youth group in Ottawa and am now helping with the running of the group as well as plans to attend CLAY in PEI this summer. I have lots of experience working with the elderly population through my schooling, my job as a server in a retirement home, and my time volunteering at a long term care home.</p>
<p>Please indicate your concerns and hopes for the future of ELCIC.</p> <p>I'm concerned about the Lutheran church and its future in Canada. In the Eastern Synod there are congregations closing down, and the trends in church attendance are also going down. My hopes for the ELCIC is that the congregations across Canada can have more communication with the other Synods and gain awareness of the things that are happening nationally. This way the individual congregations can learn from not only the other congregations in the area, but from the things that are going on in congregations across Canada.</p>
<p>Why are you interested in being a delegate?</p> <p>I'm interested in learning more about what goes on in the Lutheran church at the national level, and becoming more aware of some of the issues that the church is currently struggling with. I hope to be able to bring a unique perspective to the conference as well as bring some of the issues and perspectives raised back to my congregation. I also hope to find new ways in which to get the Lutheran Youth in Ottawa more involved in the church and more aware of the things that are happening at the national level.</p>

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