

**In what capacity do you feel called to serve? (Please note a position or area of interest.)**

Synod Council - Eastern Conference Representative

**Name**

Kathryn Saunders-Allen

**Age**

18-35 years old

**Gender (Required according to our bylaws)**

Female

**Congregation & Location**

Good Shepherd, Irving TX

**Conference**

Eastern

**Occupation**

Pastor

**Education:**

Bachelors of Arts in Psychology - Oklahoma State University, Masters of Divinity - Trinity Lutheran Seminary

**Certifications, Ordination, and/or Licenses:**

Ordained minister of Word and Sacrament; 5 units of Clinical Pastoral Education

**Expertise: (Check as many boxes as apply.)**

- Teaching
- Long-Range Planning

**Congregational Involvement: (Past and Present)**

I am a life-long ELCA Lutheran; I have been a student ministry intern in college, an intern in Iowa during Seminary, and have spent three years pastoring Good Shepherd in Irving, including the past two years of pandemic.

**Synod/Churchwide Involvement: (Past and Present)**

I have been an active member of my conference, participating in relationships between congregations both in and across conferences. I have been a regular attender of both synod assembly and fall theological conferences, taking the opportunity for networking as well as continuing education.

### **Community Involvement: (Past and Present)**

Through a year residency in Clinical Pastoral Education as a chaplain at the OKC VA, I became connected to and concerned for issues around poverty and homelessness, both for vets and for non-veterans. When called to Good Shepherd, I discovered they were already part of a large ministry to feed, care for, and provide dignity to our homeless neighbors in Irving and I have been actively supportive of that ministry. I also have taken time in my role as an ordained person in Irving, TX to advocate to the Irving City Council to invest in affordable housing and other long-term solutions for homelessness in our city.

