



# Nativity Council 2018

## **Tom Waddell, President - Nominated, 1-year term**

I grew up in Wisconsin and have lived in the Twin Cities for about 25 years, now living in New Brighton. My wife Shelly Franz and I have 2 grown children – Lee (18) and Samantha (21).

I love the energy and enthusiasm at Nativity worship and events. I have been involved in several planning activities at Nativity, and my children have both helped with Sunday School. I own a small business that does management consulting, and like most any sport that someone comes up with as well as biking.



## **Keith Kendall, Vice President - Nominated, 1-year term**

My wife, Patty, and I have been attending Nativity since around 2002 after a work colleague's recommendation. We have two children, Leah and Gregg, both attended NCFC, Faith Formation, and are now attending Nativity's confirmation program. I served on the long-range planning team back in 2008 and have also written a couple "Sharing the Story" articles for the newsletter. We live in Northeast Minneapolis.



## **Sue Lyon, Secretary - 2nd year of 2-year term**

I found a home at Nativity shortly after my husband Dan and I moved to St. Anthony Village in late 2009. I enjoy the many opportunities that Nativity provides for me to worship, learn and serve. I also appreciate the meaningful relationships that I've formed here. My background is in financial services and I feel fortunate to now be at home with my family. My husband Dan and I have two children, Beau, age 10, and Tatum, age 9. I enjoy reading, cycling, running, cross-country skiing and surrounding myself with family and friends.



## **James Smith, Treasurer - 2nd year of 2-year term**

I live in Saint Anthony with my wife Michon and our two children, Carsten (8) and Ani (5). We have been members of Nativity now for five wonderful years. I have been an accountant with Thrivent Financial for over 20 years. Through a culture of generosity at work as well as my local community and this church I have been blessed with many volunteer opportunities throughout the years to be impactful in helping grow, improve and extend goodwill in areas here, near and afar.



## **Mary Peterson, Member At Large - Nominated, 2-year term**

My husband, Mark, and I joined Nativity several years ago because we were drawn to the many ways in which Nativity gives the message of God's unconditional Grace along with God's yearning that we respond by loving our neighbors- here, near and afar. I have enjoyed the great team work I experienced on Church Council in my first term. There is a clear mission to serve Nativity. I have been retired for five years from a 35-year career as a School Social Worker with severely emotionally disturbed children. I found it to have been a powerful and very rewarding career!

We have a daughter and son-in-law and 3 granddaughters in California and a son and daughter-in-law in Australia . We visit them as often as we can! My other pursuits are a multitude of crafts, the wonderful Thursday Spiritual book club and LSS Circle at church and having fun getting into the kitchen and learning new ventures!



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## **Rachel Dungca, Member At Large - 2nd year of 2-year term**

Rachel Dungca has been part of the Nativity worship community since 2010. She is enthusiastic about serving on Council because she wants to support our church's efforts to create a loving, inclusive community that celebrates God's love and transformative power for all.

Rachel is married to Joseph Dungca and has two children in elementary school.



## **Erik Mosvick, Member At Large - 2nd year of 2-year term**

I am very excited about the opportunity to serve my fellow congregants at Nativity. My wife and I have been members for over three years now. We were instantly drawn to Nativity's unique community, particularly for the many ways to give back here, near, and afar. With the opportunity to serve on Nativity's Council, I am interested in utilizing my skills as an attorney to assist with Nativity's vision, policies, and administration. Our church strives to continually make our community better, to be a light for the world. I look forward to using my unique skills and exuberance to help lead our congregation forward.



## **Grant Wyffels, Member At Large - 2nd year of 2-year term**

I have been a member of Nativity since 2008 when my wife (Tina) and I joined this congregation. We have been married 19-years and now have two sons (Luke 9 and Jack 6) and live in Shoreview. We love that Nativity is a welcoming congregation with a strong faith formation program. I have been involved with the Nativity Building Committee and served on the Youth Pastor Call Committee. I am excited for the opportunity to serve on the Council and continue to contribute to this great faith community.



## **Stephanie (Goodsell) Neuberger, Member At Large - Nominated, 2-year term**

Stephanie grew up at Nativity, from her baptism and confirmation to her recent wedding. She has served Nativity in various capacities for almost two decades, including as a nursery caregiver, communion preparer, and Faith Formation teacher. Stephanie typically worships on Saturday evenings because she enjoys the casual style, variety of music, and tasty popcorn. She strongly values Nativity's commitment to meeting people where they are in their faith journey. Stephanie lives in Coon Rapids with her husband, Jacob, and her cat, Mildred. She enjoys cheering for Minnesota sports teams (Skoll!), reading, board games, and traveling.



## **Lisa Blanksma, Member At Large - Nominated, 2-year term**

I have been attending Nativity since 2000 when a friend invited me to attend with her. We frequent all the services, depending on the weekend, as we enjoy a mix of worship styles and times. I am a graduate of You Can Make a Difference and have served Nativity in various capacities, including setting up communion and mentoring confirmands. I live in Roseville with my husband, Kurt Bachmayer. We have three children, Meagan, Kyle, and Ian.



## **Dan Tight, Member At Large - Nominated, 2-year term**

Dan Tight has been attending Nativity since 2003. During that time, he has sung in the choir; participated on the Love Courageously, Live Generously Appeal Team and the 2014-15 Strategic Planning Committee; and collaborated on a number of other initiatives (e.g., Habitat for Humanity, Feed My Starving Children). He lives in St. Anthony with his wife, Leah Reddy, their 6-year old son, Graham, and their AFS exchange student, Jorge Morales. Dan teaches Spanish at the University of St. Thomas and enjoys playing sports and the guitar in his free time.



# 2018 Initiatives

**Based on the congregational study data called CAT, completed in March 2015, Nativity Council has identified the following as priorities:**

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the faith community.
2. Develop ministries to help those bruised or broken by life's circumstances.
3. Expand outreach to those living on the margins of society.
4. Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners.
5. Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships.

**Keeping the above 5 priorities in focus, council and staff propose the following as key initiatives for 2018:**

1. Reach out to new people and nurture spiritual growth: Implement new model for "Belonging".
2. Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church: Implement Outreach Team Model continuing dialog around race and religion, embracing and celebrating our differences.
3. Develop ministries to care for the bruised and broken: Implement Outreach Team Model.
4. Reach out to new people: Improving Communications and website.
5. Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships: maintain and better utilize Nativity's building as a tool to enhance faith formation and build relationships; engage an architectural firm to initiate a study to identify building needs for a possible expansion, as well as maintenance needs and maintenance schedules for the next 3-5 years.

**Love Courageously, Live Generously.**



**Nativity  
Lutheran Church**



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