



# North Carolina Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## An Open Letter to Bishop Timothy Smith, NC Synod, ELCA

Fall Convocation, Lutheridge, October 10, 2018

Dear Bishop Smith,

Aware of some of the destructive, demeaning, and distasteful words and actions said and done to women, and in recognition of the call of God as mediated by the call of the ELCA to word and sacrament ministry or to word and service ministry, and in support of our colleagues—our sisters in Christ Jesus—we the undersigned rostered male leaders of the NC Synod ask you, as Bishop, to make known to congregations seeking leadership that if we are in the call process, we do not desire to interview for the position of pastor with any congregation who refuses to consider extending a call to a rostered leader who is female.

*Note: Seminarians and retired pastors were invited to add their names in support of their female colleagues.*

In the unity and hope of Christ Jesus our Lord,  
**The Rev. Russell Makant & The Rev. Jonathan Schnibben**

AND

Jonathan Conrad

Greg Williams

David Eric Fox

Scott Berry

Jefferey Ingold

Paul Christ

Joseph Tallent

Ethan Overcash

Paul Myers

John W Futterer

David T. Drysdale

Daniel Keck

John Mark Beam

Scott Anderson

Paul Carlson

Tommy Lineberger

Will Rose

Russell D. Peek

Jesse Canniff-Kuhn

John Locke

Joseph A. Miller

Ed Harper

Richard C. Little

John Tucker

Bob Shoffner

Andrew Miller

Ben Krey

Matt Canniff-Kesecker

Gregory Yeager

Kyle Bates

Daniel R. Burris

Philip Thoresen

Sean Barrett

Matthew M. Smith

Chad Walker

Matt Miller

Ronald D. Philabaum

Ben Kifer