

# Nicole Garcia -- Alternate Residency Formation Plan (Amended August 22, 2018)

**FORMATION:** To give a broader sense of the ELCA to candidates through church experience, understanding ELCA polity and connecting with future colleagues.

**Depth and Breadth of the Rocky Mountain Synod:** Connection with ten congregations/ministries in the Rocky Mountain Synod, one in each conference

*Goal:* Understanding the diversity of ELCA congregational ministry.  
*Expectations:* Occasional preaching, leading a study, attending council meetings, having conversation with rostered leaders, experiencing a variety of ministries, seeing how the church is alive in the world.

WYOMING – The Church in the Windswept West – St Paul’s, Cheyenne, Pastor Alison George

UTAH – The Church in the Mormon Context: Redevelopment at St. Matthew Pastor Christine Higuera-Street (ZOOM or Theological Conference)

NORTH COLORADO – Ministry on the High Plains: Eben Ezer Care Center Deacon Ro Fesser

METRO EAST – Lives Transformed by Hope: New Beginnings Women’s Correctional Ministry  
Pastor Terry Schang

METRO WEST – Contrasts of Ministry in the Mountains: Vail and Sky Ranch Pastor Liliana Stahlberg and Brad Abbott

METRO SOUTH – Ministry on the Margins: Lutheran Family Services RM  
Jim Barclay

BOULDER BROOMFIELD – Ministry on the Campus: CU Boulder  
Pastor Zac Parris

SOUTHEAST COLORADO – Ministry meets Medicine: Zion, Trinidad  
Pastor Andrea Doeden, TEEM Pastor and Physician

NORTH NEW MEXICO – Advocacy Ministry for hunger and justice in New Mexico  
Ruth Hoffman, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry NM

BORDER – Ministry in the Shadow of the Fence

Pastor Rosemary Sanchez-Guzman, Pastor Matt Barnhouse, Deacon Laura Carson, Pastor Diana Linden-Johnson (ZOOM or Theological Conference)

**Understanding ELCA polity and practices:**

*Goal:* Understanding how the ELCA's polity and practices inform Word and Sacrament ministry.

*Expectations:* Schedule conversations with the following people to get a broader understanding of the following, and experience the intersection of our three expressions of ministry from the perspective of leaders in the Rocky Mountain Synod:

The Rev. Judith Van Osdol, DEM: missional leadership,  
New congregations, Revelopment

Ms. Earline Bohling, Synod Council: synod governance

Mr. Dennis Reynolds: money matters: how we are better together

Deacon Erin Power: global mission, world hunger, hospitality,  
RMS events and hospitality

The Rev. Sarah Moening: healthy leaders and healthy congregations

Bishop Gonia: mission statement, strategic planning, integration of  
Congregation/synod/churchwide ministries

**Connection:**

*Goal:* To develop collegial relationships within the wider church.

*Expectations:* 1. Attend conference meetings/text studies, as well as other synodical events when applicable.

**Wellness:**

*Goal:* To live and serve in harmony with God, self, and creation

*Expectations:* Using the Wholeness Wheel...

**REFLECTION:** Using these experiences and conversation share with the Candidacy committee in a reflection paper/blog what you have witnessed and experienced across the vast lands of the Rocky Mountain Synod.

**Blogs and Photos:** After each experience or conversation, reflect on the ministry of Christ's church, and how we are better together, when united together. Post reflections and photos, which also will be used in other ways, to tell the stories of our mission and ministry.

**FINAL REFLECTION:** A closing blog post of 2000-2500 words, integrating these experiences and conversations.

**TIMELINE:** We expect that this experience is congruent with 1 full-time semester at Luther. However, the experience will take place over 8-9 months, allowing for continued serving in counseling practice. Ammended: This will take place from August- Nov 28, 2018, prior to the meeting with the candidacy committee Nov 29-30, 2018.