

## **Appendix II**

### **Chapter Candidate ~ Nominee Biography and Statement**

#### **Phyllis Deter Lengyel**

**What brought you to St. Paul's Cathedral and why did you stay?**

We discovered SPC watching the St. Patrick's Day parade our first March in San Diego. We met the newly arrived Dean Penny & were drawn to her and the beauty of the Cathedral. We had another church commitment at the time but returned during the pandemic. We stayed because I feel God's presence at St. Paul's. I love the solace and creativity of our ministries, the people, and can see my personal potential for service as an active member of this dynamic congregation.

**With what activities or ministries have you been involved and how?**

Because of my background working in Long-term Care, I was asked to represent the Cathedral on the St. Paul's Senior Services Episcopal Home, Inc. board which voted me in earlier this year. I'm pleased to offer my expertise for this important work to benefit San Diego seniors.

I joined the original SPC Evangelism Committee in a leadership role. I completed my EDSO Certificate as a Lay Evangelist, and as a Certified Eucharistic Visitor this year after I was officially confirmed. I love spreading the good news of Christ to the rest of our community through the work of these ministries. I'm looking forward to my continuing participation in Women Together and The Listening Hub.

**To which strategic goal area would you most want to be a Chapter Liaison (Cathedral for the City, Community, Formation, Music & Arts, Outreach & Justice, or Worship)? Why?**

Using my background in news, public relations, training, facilitating, and advocating, I want to let the world know joy and inclusivity are alive and well at St. Paul's; that people of faith or looking for faith have a home here to enthusiastically experience God's redemptive love while walking the walk of faith with compassion, innovation, and creativity. For these reasons I am especially drawn to the mission of Cathedral for the City and/or evangelism Outreach.

**What attributes and gifts do you bring to the ministry of Chapter (please include any pertinent educational, professional or community experience)?**

I have a B.S. with honors in Radio/TV/Film and Advertising from the University of Texas at Austin. I am a retired Broadcast/Print journalist and Medical/Science Writer-Producer. I also have a decade of experience as a Life Enrichment Director and on the Leadership Teams of Skilled Nursing, Assisted Living, and Independent Living Continuing Care Retirement Communities in Houston, Texas.

Coincidentally, I'm a singer here in San Diego and have performed locally and internationally with the San Diego Festival Chorus (Carnegie Hall), the Greater San Diego Music Coterie chamber orchestra and chorus (Hong Kong Oratorio), and the La Jolla Renaissance Singers (December Nights in Balboa Park, numerous local venues). These performing arts groups are nonprofits and as a former board member I've helped them fundraise and apply for grants to survive. My lifelong experiences give me useful knowledge and unique perspectives for serving on Chapter.

**Why do you feel called to serve on Chapter?**

I've served on boards in United Methodist churches over the years and know they can't function without people willing to commit their time and talent. With experience, I find myself trying harder to pay attention to where God is calling me. I've been working with some Chapter members in other endeavors

and am impressed with the qualities they bring to the challenging job of managing our awesome Cathedral. The message I hear in my ear is “You can help”. I’m heeding the call.