

VINJE CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

The Congregation will meet after worship on February 5 to elect four members to a three year term. The Nominating Committee has nominated the following members of Vinje to serve on the Congregational Council. Brief biographies of each nominee has been provided to aid your prayerful consideration. Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the meeting on February 5.



Brianna Bredeson

Brianna is a 5th generation member of Vinje. She was baptized in 1997 and confirmed in 2012. Brianna is a CPA at Westberg Eischens, PLLP in Willmar. At Vinje, she currently serves on the Faith and Finance Committee as well as helps with Wednesday confirmation classes. She loves to spend time with family and friends, help on her family farm, and watch and play sports. Brianna is a hard working, dedicated individual who is looking forward to adding her accounting and finance expertise to the Vinje Council in the coming three years.



Cynthia Cole

Cynthia is a retired teacher who taught for 39 years and has been a member of Vinje since about 1998. She has been actively involved in many activities since joining including helping with Sunday school, volunteering serving meals at funerals and running slides during worship services. She also enjoys mentoring confirmation students. She and her husband Jay, who is also a retired teacher, have three grown girls, Jayne (31), Kayte (30) and Baylie (29) who all grew up at Vinje. They have one grandson, Luey, who also brings a lot of joy to their lives. Cynthia enjoys being outside and staying active. She loves to garden, play pickleball, and

take her three dogs on runs. She and her husband enjoy watching and attending various sporting events, going camping and tackling home improvement projects together. She also subs at the schools, volunteers with hospice and is a member of the Kandiyohi County Area Family Promise Board.



Kris Gulbrandsen

Kris is a lifelong member of Vinje Church, beginning her Vinje journey at her Baptism at the former location in downtown Willmar. She has served on the council and several committees in the past and currently serves on the Stewardship committee. She has always been passionate about music, and enjoys playing her flute for services and other events. She has helped with youth choirs, the children's Christmas programs, helps with the funeral serving group, and served as a Confirmation mentor. Kris is retired from the ACMC Clinic (currently CentraCare), but has continued her

community service throughout her retirement. She currently serves on the Willmar Women's Fund Steering Committee, is President of the Willmar Sertoma Club, secretary of the Eagle Creek Golf Course Board of Directors, and participates in two Chamber of Commerce committees. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, music, reading and golfing as often as possible. She looks forward to working with the council to continue our mission both within the church and in our community.



Steven Tammen

Steven and his wife Emily have been a member at Vinje since 2021. He and his wife have two children: Madalyn (14) and Easton (10). He is a dispatcher at Woody's Trucking. In his free time, he enjoys attending his children's various sports activities, golfing, hunting and time at the lake. He is an open minded, positive person, hard working, and as a relatively new member of the congregation, is looking forward to being part of the council.