



January 2026

South Central Electric Association Trust supports local communities with \$9,100.00 in grants.



The South Central Electric Association Trust awarded \$9,100.00 in funding to community organizations in their fall round of grants. South Central Electric received applications requesting funding from the Operation Round Up® program. Since beginning the program in 2015 the South Central Electric Association Trust has awarded over \$162,000 in grants and scholarships.

A.C.E. of Southwest Minnesota	\$250.00
Butterfield/Odin High School FFA.....	\$1,500.00
Caregiver Response Effort & Service Team (CREST).....	\$250.00
Fulda Fire Department.....	\$250.00
Healing Hearts Recovery, Inc.....	\$250.00
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.....	\$250.00
Madelia Community Food Shelf.....	\$500.00
Odin Fire Department	\$500.00
Cottonwood County Agricultural Society	\$500.00
Mountain Lake Christian School.....	\$750.00
South Central Volunteer Dive Team	\$1,500.00
St. James Theater and Arts	\$500.00
Storden Fire Department.....	\$1,500.00
United Women of Faith.....	\$250.00
Watonwan County Food Shelf.....	\$250.00
Windom Junior Racquetball (Arena Booster Club)	\$100.00



Butterfield/Odin High School FFA received \$1,500.00 towards operations.



Watonwan County Food Shelf received \$250.00 towards a Thanksgiving blessing.



Storden Fire Department received \$1500.00 towards a grass rig pumper replacement.

South Central Electric Association Director Nominations

The South Central Electric Association 2026 Annual Meeting will be held at 6:15pm on March 31, 2026 at the Windom Community Center. The call for nominations of Directors is the first step in the Annual Meeting process. This is only for Director nominations. Official annual meeting notice and ballots will be mailed directly to members.

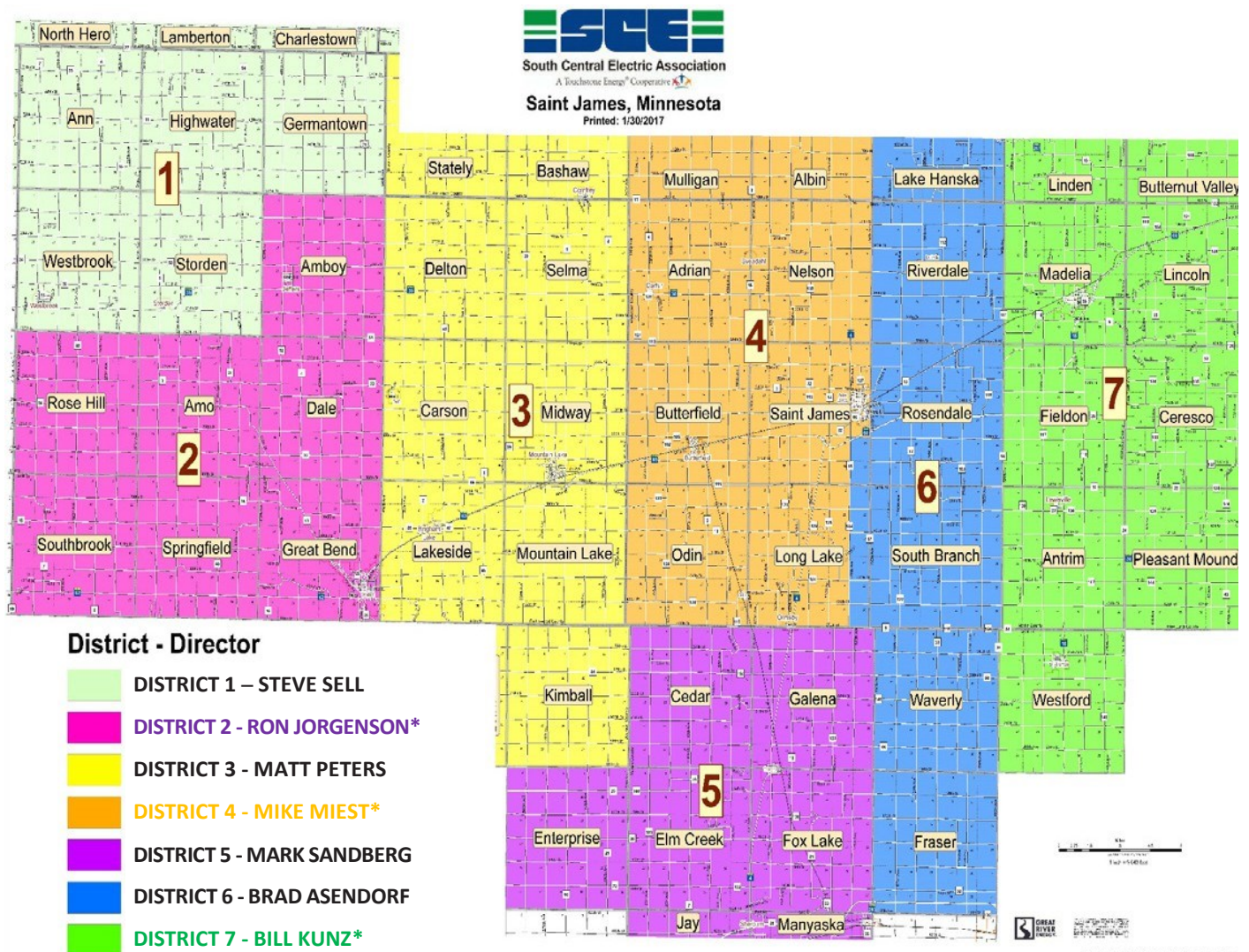
At this time South Central Electric Association is conducting the nomination process for Directors. There are two Directors up for election.

District 2 currently held by Ron Jorgenson

District 4 currently held by Michael Miest

District 7 currently held by Bill Kunz

To be an eligible candidate for Directorship, the member must reside within the district up for nomination. In addition, an eligible candidate cannot be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy, or supplies to the Cooperative. Please nominate serious candidates. Candidates must be able to meet the requirements of being a Director.



**If you wish to nominate someone for the
South Central Electric Association Board of Directors,
please use the nomination form below.**

**Return this form before 3:30 p.m. February 6, 2026 by mail to
South Central Electric, P.O. Box 150, St. James, MN 56081
or return it to our office.**

Only current members can nominate members for director.

South Central Electric Association Director Nomination Form

1. To nominate a member to serve as a Director you must be a current member of South Central Electric Association.
2. The nominee must be a current member and live within the District up for election.
3. The nominee must be willing to serve as a Director and fulfill the obligations of Directorship.

This is for nomination only. This is not a ballot for election.

Directorship DISTRICT 2 currently held by RON JORGENSEN

District 2 is Amboy, Rose Hill, Amo, Dale, Southbrook, Springfield, and Great Bend townships in Cottonwood County.

Nominee Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Directorship DISTRICT 4 currently held by MICHAEL MIEST

District 4 is Mulligan, & Albin in Brown County, Adrian, Nelson, Butterfield, St. James (excluding sections 25 & 36), Odin and Long Lake (excluding sections 1,12,13,24,25 & 36) in Watonwan County.

Nominee Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Directorship DISTRICT 7 currently held by BILL KUNZ

District 7 is Linden, Butternut Valley, Madelia, Lincoln, Fieldon, Ceresco, Antrim, Pleasant Mound and Westford.

Nominee Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Person making nomination:

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____

This nomination form must be received by South Central Electric Association by 3:30pm on February 6, 2026. Return this form by mail to South Central Electric, P.O. Box 150, St. James, MN 56081 or return it to our office drop box. All nominations will be verified for eligibility before being placed on a ballot for election. Form must include name, address and signature of person making nomination.

Attention Students and Parents!

Sophomores and Juniors Win a FREE Trip to Washington D.C.



Area sophomores and juniors have an opportunity to win an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. Students will travel with others from around Minnesota and the country as they visit the sites in and around our nation's capital. Over 1,500 delegates from electric cooperatives around the country visited Washington D.C. in 2025. The students visited with their congressional representatives, toured famous museums and made memories and friends that will last a lifetime.

Don't miss this opportunity to make lifetime memories.

1. To enter the contest the student must live within the South Central Electric service area or attend one of the following schools: Butterfield/Odin, Comfrey, Madelia, Martin County West, Mt. Lake Public or Christian, Red Rock Central, St. James, Truman, Windom Area or Westbrook.
2. Each contestant must submit a contest application form and an essay on the following topic: *"How do you and your family benefit from electricity?"*
3. Applications are due at our St. James office by February 23, 2026 and the applicant must complete a personal interview on March 4, 2026. Interview times are between 3:30pm and 5:00pm.

Prizes

1st All-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. June 15-20, 2026

(No substitute prize if unable to make the trip.)

2nd \$150 cash award and will serve as first alternate.

3rd \$100 cash award and will serve as second alternate.

Contest rules and application forms are available at our St. James office, on our website (www.southcentralelectric.com) or by calling 507-375-3164.

Learn more at the national Youth Tour website: youthtour.coop or check out the Minnesota Youth Tour Facebook page *Minnesota Rural Electric Association Washington D.C. Youth Tour*.



TWO NEW LINEMEN JOIN OUR JEFFERS CREW

We're excited to introduce the newest members of our Jeffers Crew-Mason Irlbeck and Levi Bunting. Mason Irlbeck, who grew up in Lambert, joined us in November after working for Nishnabotna Valley Rural Electric in Iowa as an Apprentice Lineman.

Levi Bunting, who grew up in Westbrook, joined us in April after working for the City of Windom as a Journeyman Lineman.

Join us in welcoming Levi and Mason to SCE!



Left-Mason Irlbeck, Right- Levi Bunting



Official monthly newsletter

South Central Electric

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sce@southcentralelectric.com

Web:

www.southcentralelectric.com

Office hours:

7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Jim Haler, General Manager

Board of Directors

President, Ron Jorgenson

Vice President, Michael Miest

Secretary, Brad Asendorf

Treasurer, Matt Peters

Mark Sandberg, Director

Steve Sell, Director

Bill Kunz, Director

The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at South Central Electric's building at 71176 Tiell Dr., St. James, MN.

Please see our website for a summary of the board meetings.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

ONLINE PAYMENT & BILLING WITH SMARTHUB



Pay your bills on-line with South Central Electric's on-line bill payment system, SmartHub. Download the SmartHub app for your mobile device or tablet from the APP Store or Google Play.

To get started visit our web site southcentralelectric.com and click on the SmartHub logo. Once you are at the SmartHub site you'll have to sign up as a first time user by clicking the "New User" link and follow the prompts.