

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD
ANNUAL CONVENTION INFORMATION**

June 18-22, 2017

ROLL CALL AND CREDENTIALS: All pastors and delegates need to report to the credentials desk in the Sports and Fitness Center.

Pastors - will be asked to sign the official roll call register. If you fail to sign the register, your attendance will not be reported for the convention.

Delegates - will be asked to sign the official delegate register. **Delegate's credentials** must be presented in person upon arrival at the convention at the credentials desk before they can vote on the convention floor. Mailed credentials will not be accepted. Delegate's credentials certify the delegate has been elected by their congregation and must be signed by the secretary of the congregation. The delegate's credentials form will be on the **back cover** of the *Book of Reports and Memorials* mailed in May and at the convention website www.els.org/2017convention.

Lay members of permanent boards and committees, who are in attendance at the convention and are not delegates for their congregation, are to report to the credentials desk and sign the register. They will be regarded as advisory members having the right to speak on the floor of the convention.

If arriving late, please sign in at the credentials desk before joining the convention proceedings.

REGISTRATION PAYMENTS: Delegates or pastors who have pre-paid their registration may go directly to the credentials desk. All others need to first pay their registration fee at the payment of fees desk in the Sports & Fitness Center starting Monday at 8 a.m. No payments will be accepted Sunday.

EXCUSES: Any excuses for late arrival or non-attendance at the convention are to be sent to the office of the synod president prior to the opening of the convention.

DISPLAYS AND PRESENTATIONS: Those who would like to have a display table at the convention should apply at the link on the convention website www.els.org/2017convention before June 1. Those who desire to have special presentation time should contact President Moldstad before April 14.

SYNOD SUNDAY: Following the service there will be a supper (free-will offering).

LODGING:

Hotels - A listing of some of the hotels in the Mankato area are listed on an attached sheet.

Dorms - Bethany Lutheran College offers on-campus housing in Gullixson Hall. Teigen Hall will not be available this year due to remodeling.

Cost is \$40 per night for a single room or \$25 per person per night for a shared room.

Two sheets, one blanket, one pillow, one pillowcase, one bath towel, one hand towel, and one washcloth will be provided per person.

RV parking - Bethany also offers RV parking with electricity for \$20 per night or without electricity for \$10 per night.

Lodging at Bethany will be available beginning the evening of Friday, June 16. Rooms are reserved on a first come/paid basis. Registration for on-campus housing will **only be accepted online** (www.els.org/2017convention) and pre-paid with a credit card.

MEALS: Breakfasts and lunches will be served Monday, June 19, through Wednesday, June 21. Breakfast will be available for \$6.00 and lunch for \$7.00. A meal pass for three breakfasts and lunches may be purchased in advance or Monday morning for \$39. **Note: There will be no meals on Thursday.**

TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT TO MANKATO: Land to Air (507-625-3977 or 888-736-9190, www.landtoairexpress.com) provides airport transportation to and from Mankato. Twenty-four hour advance reservation is required. There are also several car rental companies located at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT:

Delegates - In April, Pastors will receive an email with their congregation’s financial responsibility for the Layman’s Equalization Fund for delegates. This payment should be made prior to the convention. The purpose of the fund is to help defray the transportation costs of the laymen delegates. Delegates should fill out a reimbursement form upon arrival at the convention.

Pastors - Clergy should submit their expenses to the Pastors’ Equalizer the first day of the convention. The equalizer will announce at the convention the amount due from each congregation.

The congregations should encourage their pastor(s) and delegate(s) to use the most economical way of travel to the convention to keep the equalization costs down for all congregations. Thank you for keeping convention expenses to a minimum.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

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| Greg Costello (telephone & fax) | 507-344-7305 |
| Keith Wiederhoeft (telephone & fax) | 507-344-7395 |
| Evangelical Lutheran Synod & Seminary Office – Elsa Ferkenstad | 507-344-7354 |
| Denise Luehmann – convention registration (telephone & fax) | 507-344-7848 |
| Renee Tatge – on-campus lodging | 507-344-7826 |
| College Switchboard | 1-800-944-3066 or 507-344-7000 |

