

2026 CONVENTION PROGRAM

All events are in the Ronald J. Younge Gymnasium of the *Sports and Fitness Center* unless noted otherwise.

SYNOD SUNDAY, JUNE 21

4:00 Synod Sunday Service (*Trinity Chapel*)
Preacher: The Rev. Jeffrey Merseith (Princeton, Minnesota)
Liturgist: The Rev. Samuel Gullixson (Parkland, Washington)

The offering has been designated for *Friends of Lime Creek*

5:00 Dinner (*College Cafeteria* -- free will donation)

Credentials/Roll Call will be gathered on Monday morning

MONDAY, JUNE 22

7:30–9:00 Credentials/Roll Call
All pastors and delegates need to report to the Credentials Desk

9:00 Opening Devotion (*Trinity Chapel*)
Chaplain: The Rev. Samuel Gullixson (Parkland, Washington)

9:45 Organization of the Convention:
Roll Call Report
Credential Committee Report
Official Opening of the Convention
Pastors' Equalization Rules
President's Message and Report
Adoption of the Convention Program
Welcoming of Guests

10:30 Nominating Ballot for the 2027 Committee on Nominations (printed ballot)

11:00 Organization of the Convention (continued)

11:30 Recess (*lunch served in the cafeteria*)

1:00 Scripture, Prayer & Hymn
Anniversaries observed:
Erwin Ekhoff—50 years
Theodore Gullixson—50 years
Harvey Abrahamson Sr.—40 years
Robert Lawson Sr.—40 years
Jonathan Madson—40 years
William Grimm—25 years
Timothy Hartwig—25 years
Lawrence Wentzlaff—25 years

1:20 Organization of the Convention (continued)
Credentials: Committee 3
Assignment of Committees
Assignment of Work

2:00 Committee meetings (*Honsey Hall*)
The official list of delegates attending committee meetings is gathered by the committee secretaries. Any alternate delegate name changes are to be reported at this time.

3:00 Coffee (*Honsey Hall*)

3:30 – 5:00 Committee meetings continue

7:30 – 9:00 Committee meetings continue

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

On Saturday, June 20 Lime Creek Lutheran Church will be decommissioned at a 10:30 a.m. service. Following the service, there will be a meal and then a program. Please RSVP to attend the service and meal at FriendsofLimeCreek.org. A charter bus will be available for transportation between Mankato and Lime Creek for \$26.00 per seat. It will depart Bethany College at 9:00 AM and return after the program in the afternoon. If you plan to ride the bus, please also register for that at FriendsofLimeCreek.org. *

*1:30 Bethany Auxiliary sponsored tea at the home of President & Mrs. Pfeiffer

6:00 Heritage of Hymns (Trinity Chapel)*

7:15 Cross-stich Presentation (Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center)*

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

- 8:00 Committee Meetings (as necessary)
- 9:00 Opening Devotion (*Trinity Chapel*)
Preacher: The Rev. Ben Wiechmann (Mankato, Minnesota)
- 9:30 Preliminaries:
Minutes: Committee 5
Credentials: Committee 3
Program: Committee 4
- 9:35 Synodical Membership & reception of new members: Committee 13
- 10:00 Election of president and vice president (four-year terms)**
(Once balloting for an office has begun, the convention shall remain in session without interruption until the office has been filled—Convention Guidelines [§240] Article VIII)
- 11:15 Greetings & Presentations
- 11:30 Recess (*lunch served in the cafeteria*)
- 1:00 Scripture, Prayer & Hymn
- 1:05 Preliminaries:
Credentials: Committee 3
Program: Committee 4
- 1:15 Election of the 2023 Committee on Nominations [first printed ballot] †
- 1:30 Essay and Discussion: *Our Father By Whose Name All Fatherhood is Known*
Essayist: The Rev. Alexander Ring (Port St. Lucie, Florida)
- 3:00 Coffee & Obenberger Reception
- 3:40 Doctrine Committee 6
- 4:15 Elections: Committee 2
(Convention Guidelines [§240] Article IX.B)
- 4:45 Recess for the Communion Service
- 5:00 Communion Service (*Trinity Chapel*)
Preacher: The Rev. Paul Webber (Eau Claire, Wisconsin)
Liturgist: The Rev. Samuel Gullixson (Parkland, Washington)
The offering has been designated for *Friends of Lime Creek*
Deaths noted:
Rev. Mark Rogers (1964–2025)
Ruth Orvick (1928–2025) - wife of the late Rev. Pres. George Orvick
Rev. Richard Fyffe (1942–2025)
Rev. Brad Homan (1955–2025)
Rev. Robert Carter (1928–2026)
Yvonne Keeler (1934–2026) - wife of the Rev. Charles Keeler,

† *Subsequent ballots for the 2027 Committee on Nominations will be brought forward as and when needed.*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

- 8:00 Opening Devotion (*Trinity Chapel*)
Preacher: The Rev. Gene Lilienthal (Lengby, Minnesota)
- 8:30 Preliminaries:
Minutes: Committee 5
Credentials: Committee 3
Program: Committee 4
- 8:35 Home Outreach Presentation
- 9:00 Home Outreach: Committee 9
- 9:15 Elections: Committee 2
- 9:45 Board for Lutheran Schools Presentation
- 9:50 Elementary Education: Committee 11
- 10:00 Coffee
- 10:30 Essay and Discussion: *Our Father By Whose Name All Fatherhood is Known*
Essayist: The Rev. Alexander Ring (Port St. Lucie, Florida)
- 11:30 Recess (*lunch served in the cafeteria*)
- 1:00 Lutheran Youth Honor Choir
- 1:10 Scripture, Prayer & Hymn (Don M.) with *Founder's Day History Presentation*
- 1:30 Higher Education Presentation (*college*)
- 2:00 Higher Education Presentation (*seminary*)
- 2:10 Higher Education: Committee 8
- 2:45 Miscellaneous: Committee 14
- 3:00 Coffee
- 3:30 Preliminaries
Credentials: Committee 3
Program: Committee 4
- 3:35 World Outreach Presentation
- 4:00 World Outreach: Committee 10
- 4:30 Finances Committee 7
- 4:55 President's Message and Report Committee 1
- 5:00 Recess

5:30 Honor Choir Concert
(Trinity Chapel) *

7:00 Apologetics Conference
(Trinity Chapel)*

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

- 8:00 Scripture, Hymn & Prayer (*Sports and Fitness Center*)
- 8:10 Preliminaries:
Minutes: Committee 5
Credentials: Committee 3
Program: Committee 4
- 8:15 Parish Services Committee 12
- 8:30 Pastoral Conference Records & Resolutions: Committee 15
- 8:40 Excuses: Credentials Committee 3
- 8:45 Unfinished Business
Adjournment
Closing Hymn & Prayer (Chaplain)

10:30 Apologetics Conference
(Trinity Chapel) *

* These concurrent events are not an official part of the convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.