



## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD ANNUAL CONVENTION INFORMATION

June 26-30, 2022

### PRE-CONVENTION INFORMATION

**Convention Registration:** All pastors and convention delegates may register by mail or online at [www.els.org/convention](http://www.els.org/convention). We encourage all delegates to register by **April 8** so they may receive their committee assignments in advance of the convention. If you prefer, you may email the names and suggested assignments to Joni Wiederhoeft ([joniw@blc.edu](mailto:joniw@blc.edu)) by April 8 and pay later.

**Early Registration:** Early registration fees are \$85 for pastors and delegates and \$65 for teachers. Early registration ends Sunday, **June 19**. All delegates, pastors or teachers who register after that date will be charged an additional \$15.

**Pastor Emeritus:** If plan to attend the ELS Synod Convention please email Joni Wiederhoeft at [joniw@blc.edu](mailto:joniw@blc.edu) by **April 8**. If you wish to stay on-campus in Gullixson Hall, please include this in your email. The registration fee and Bethany lodging will be paid by Pastors' Equalization.

**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.

#### Lodging and meals:

**Hotels** - BLC corporate hotel sponsors are listed at: [www.blc.edu/about/campus-maps/local-accommodations/](http://www.blc.edu/about/campus-maps/local-accommodations/) Please note: rates are based on availability.

**Residence Halls** - Bethany Lutheran College offers on-campus housing in Gullixson Hall beginning at 5 pm on Friday, June 24. 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 offers RV parking with electricity for \$20 per night or without electricity for \$10 per night.

Lodging is reserved on a first come/paid basis. The deadline for reserving lodging is **Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**. **After this date, no rooms or RV spots will be available.** Registration for on-campus housing must be completed online ([www.els.org/convention](http://www.els.org/convention)) and pre-paid with a credit card.

**Meals:** Breakfasts and lunches will be served Monday, June 27, through Wednesday, June 29. Breakfast will be available for \$7.00 and lunch for \$8.00. A meal pass for three breakfasts and lunches may be purchased in advance or Monday morning for \$45.

**Displays:** Those who would like to have a display table at the convention should apply at the link on the convention website [www.els.org/convention](http://www.els.org/convention) before **June 1**.

**Congregation Events Reporting:** To give a report to the synod, President Obenberger will need complete information regarding any special events held in your congregation(s) by **April 1**. Please send photographs of church buildings, anniversaries, dedications, or other events that should be featured in the *Synod Report* to the synod office.

**Presentations:** Those who desire to have special presentation time at the convention should contact President Obenberger before **April 1**.

### **Transportation from the Minneapolis-St Paul International Airport to Mankato:**

**Land to Air Express** - (507-625-3977 or 888-736-9190, [www.landtoairexpress.com](http://www.landtoairexpress.com)) provides airport transportation to and from Mankato. Twenty-four-hour advance reservation is required.

**Car Rental** - Many rental companies are located at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

### **Expense Reimbursement:**

**Delegates** - In May, 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 and the equalizer will announce at the convention the amount due from each congregation.

**Pastor Emeritus** - Please submit any out-of-pocket expenses to the Pastors' Equalizer.

## **CONVENTION INFORMATION**

**Roll Call and Credentials:** 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 and submit a signed copy of the *Delegate's Credentials* form. The credentials form certifies the delegate has been elected by their congregation and must be signed by the secretary of the congregation. A delegate will not be allowed to vote if a credentials form is not turned in. Mailed credentials will not be accepted. The form is on the back cover of the *Book of Reports and Memorials* mailed in May and at [www.els.org/convention](http://www.els.org/convention).

**Lay members** of permanent boards and committees, who attend 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.

**Synod Sunday:** Following the 4:00 p.m. service there will be supper at the cafeteria (free will donation).

**Computer Access:** If you plan to use your laptop during the convention, you will need to run on battery power when you are on the convention floor. Outlets are available in the classrooms during committee meetings. Due to the size of the gymnasium, Wi-Fi is unreliable and may not be available.

**Streaming the Convention:** The convention will be streamed at [www.els.org/convention](http://www.els.org/convention).

**Book of Reports and Memorials:** The *Book of Reports and Memorials* (BORAM) will be mailed in May. Each congregation will receive one copy. Additional copies will be included for delegates/teachers who register by April 8. The BORAM contains reports from all permanent boards and committees of the synod. It may also include “memorials” which are recommendations in the form of proposed resolutions requesting action on the part of a convention and which originate from a source other than standing boards and committees. It is essential that you read the BORAM to get a picture of the synod’s work.

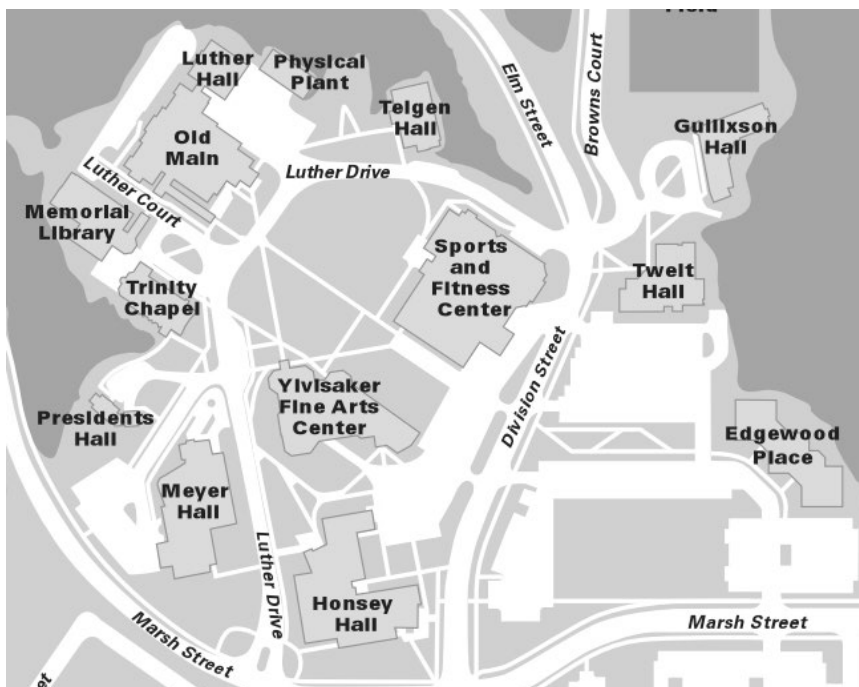
**COVID-19 Information:** We continue to follow the CDC and MN Department of Health guidelines. For further information please go to <https://blc.edu/COVID-19/>.

## QUESTIONS

Before or during the convention, we are available to answer any questions you may have.

### Telephone Numbers:

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



## POST - CONVENTION INFORMATION

Fourth Annual ELS Apologetics and Worldviews Seminar

*Biblical Identities in an Age of Wokism & Transhumanism*

Sponsored by the Center for Apologetics and Worldviews  
Hosted at Bethany Lutheran College

### Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, June 29, 7 pm – Keynote

Thursday, June 30, 10 am – 4 pm – Sessions

For updated information plus registration instructions, please contact:

Dr. Ryan MacPherson  
Director of the Center for Apologetics and Worldviews  
[www.blc.edu/apologetics/events](http://www.blc.edu/apologetics/events)  
[apologetics@blc.edu](mailto:apologetics@blc.edu)  
507-344-7787