



Pacific Northwest DISTRICT

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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Secretary

(Vacant until June Convention)



April 10, 2016

Dear brothers in the Pacific Northwest,

Here is the information that you have been eagerly awaiting in regard to this year's PNW District Convention on June 14-15. Along with this letter are the forms and other information you will need. The convention will begin with a worship service with Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 14. Plans are to conclude on Wednesday, June 15, by 3:00 p.m. A full agenda will be coming out in a second email.

Please read below, and then copy/share this information with all pastors, male teachers, lay delegates, and other interested individuals in your churches.

Location — Our District Convention will be held at Evergreen Lutheran High School at 7306 Waller Road East, Tacoma, WA 98443. www.elhs.org

This Year's Presentation — "God Speaks to Us Through the Prophet Joel." The convention presentation will settle into a single Old Testament book—the 73 verses of the prophet Joel. Prof. Nass has read this book in Hebrew with students at Martin Luther College for ten years, and he has signed a contract to write a professional commentary on the book. He intends to share four life-changing messages from God in the book of Joel, messages that are practical for all of us as New Testament Christians. Along the way he will share insights into the proper way to interpret the Old Testament prophets.

RTTTD — (Report to the Twelve Districts) Each congregation will receive one printed copy of the report by the first week in June. The report will not be mailed to individual called workers. A full electronic version will be available on wels.net by May 4. All delegates will receive a printed copy at the convention. Please review the online material before the convention, so you are informed on discussions and decisions that will take place at the convention.

Delegate credentials — Because this is a biennial convention, each congregation may seat one male lay delegate to represent your church and to vote. We need to make an attempt to make sure that there is no confusion as to who is a voting delegate and who is a visitor. For that reason we ask that you would provide your delegate the proper materials and the credentials from the congregation they represent. Non-voting observers are welcome to attend, but they will not be seated as voting delegates. Pastors, staff ministers and male teachers are voters by virtue of their call into the district. No additional credentials are required for them.

Conference dues

Your dues help cover conference expenses and provide travel equalization subsidy. Convention dues for your congregation are calculated at the rate of \$1.50 per communicant member as of the end of the year 2015. Please use the attached form to calculate your dues and travel subsidy (if subsidy applies to you).

We hope that every congregation will have the opportunity to be represented at this convention. However, as a congregation of the PNW please remember that convention dues need to be submitted whether or not your congregation is represented.

Please make congregational checks payable to ***Pacific Northwest District—WELS***. You may mail them to me in advance of June 14 at my address on the letterhead, or you may pay when you check in at the convention.

Hotel Information

Hampton Inn and Suites in Puyallup (6 miles from ELHS). It has a complimentary hot breakfast, wifi, a fitness center, indoor pool, etc. Book by clicking this link will include the corporate discount code that you will need to book at the lowered rate. <http://tinyurl.com/pnwhotel>

Travel subsidy

Travel subsidy will again be provided to congregations sending delegates over long distances. Mileage will be reimbursed at \$0.50 per mile, less \$180 per qualified individual (delegate or called worker) traveling in your vehicle. Airfare is reimbursed at cost less \$180. If you are requesting travel equalization subsidy, please complete the appropriate area of the attached form.

Excused absences

Called workers who are unable to attend this year's convention may excuse by letter, phone or email. Please excuse to me by June 6.

Materials for Convention Folders

All district materials for our reports will be done electronically. Please email all reports in PDF format to the DP's secretary, Deb Arstein (deb.arstein@cocboise.org), by one week before the conference (June 7). Reports will be shown on a video screen and will be able to be accessed by attendees on their devices. Please do not bring hard copies to the conference to be photocopied. **PLEASE BRING YOUR LAPTOPS TO THE CONFERENCE AND DOWNLOAD THE MATERIALS BEFORE YOU ARRIVE.**

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email or call me.

Blessings to you in Christ Jesus until we meet in June!

Working with you, for Jesus,

Pastor Jeremy Schulz