



# Pacific Northwest DISTRICT

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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May 22, 2017

Dear brothers in the Pacific Northwest,

Here is the information that you have been eagerly awaiting in regard to this year's PNW District Delegate Conference on June 8-9. Along with this letter are the forms and other information you will need. The conference will begin with a worship service with Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 8. Plans are to conclude on Friday, June 9, by 3:00 p.m. A full agenda will be coming out in a second e-mailing.

## Location

Our District Delegate Conference is held at Evergreen Lutheran High School at 7306 Waller Rd. E. in Tacoma, WA.

## This Year's Presentation—"Apt to Teach"

We are pleased to have Prof. Tom Kock from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary come out to lead our presentation and discussion this year. He comments on his presentation:

Scripture makes it clear that the minister of the gospel needs to be "apt to teach." (1Timothy 3:2, et. al.) While there is a certain aspect of sheer giftedness which impacts our "aptness to teach," there are also principles and skills which can be learned. In our time together, we'll focus our attention on teaching adults, but the material we cover will also have some application for teaching youth and even older grade-school-aged children. We'll consider differences between teaching adults and children, setting different types of goals, utilizing different "tools" in our teaching approach, etc. While there is no prior to conference reading necessary, while we're at the conference, the approach will be highly interactive.

We look forward to Prof. Kock's time among us!

## BORAM

You should have already received your print copy of the "Book of Reports and Memorials" (BORAM). You can also find it online at <http://synodadmin.welsrc.net/download-synodadmin/key-convention-documents-2017-synod-convention>. Please familiarize yourself with this material before our conference, so you are informed on what is might be discussed.

## Lay Delegates

It is encouraged that you bring one male lay delegate from your congregation. If your congregation has a Synod Convention lay delegate for late summer, he really should attend this conference to be informed on all the synod issues and happenings coming up at that convention. Since this is not a "District Convention" (those are held in even years), no credentials are necessary for your lay delegate.

### Conferences Dues

Your dues help cover conference expenses and provide travel equalization subsidy. Conference dues for your congregation are calculated at the rate of \$1.50 per communicant member as of the end of the year 2016. Please use the attached form to calculate your dues and travel subsidy (if applicable to you). Submitting this to your treasurer and having him send this in ahead of time is highly encouraged. Please remember that conference dues need to be submitted whether or not your congregation is represented. Please make checks payable to Pacific Northwest District—WELS. Have them mailed to me at 47585 Ciechanski Road, Kenai, AK 99611. Alternatively, you may bring a check in at the conference, if that's more convenient.

### Travel Subsidy

Travel subsidy will again be provided to congregations sending delegates over long distances. Mileage will be reimbursed at \$0.535 per mile, less \$180 per qualified individual (delegate or called worker) traveling in your vehicle. Airfare is reimbursed at cost minus \$180. If you're requesting travel equalization subsidy, please complete the appropriate area of the attached form.

**Lodging** Hampton Inn and Suites  
1515 South Meridian  
Puyallup, WA, 253-770-8880  
<http://tinyurl.com/PNWWhotel>

Reservations can be made online or by calling Hampton Inn and using the group name "The Evergreen Lutheran School System" to get a discounted rate (Our Corporate Number: 3073131). The cost of a bedroom with 2 queen beds would be \$135 + tax. It has a complimentary hot breakfast, wifi, a fitness center, indoor pool, etc. The hotel is roughly 15 minutes from Evergreen Lutheran.

### Materials for Conference Folders

All district materials for our reports will be done electronically. Please e-mail all reports in PDF format to me at [pastorguenther@gmail.com](mailto:pastorguenther@gmail.com) by next Friday (June 2). 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.

### Pastor's Institute June 6-7: (Prof. Em. Forrest Bivens)

Finally, don't forget that a Pastor's Institute will be held on the two days prior to the District Delegate Conference. This is scheduled to be at Evergreen this year. The PI will feature Professor Emeritus Forrest Bivens leading a presentation and discussion on "The History of Christian Doctrine: Pre-Reformation, Reformation, and Post-Reformation Periods." This will be a great continuing education opportunity. A brochure with complete information has been emailed to the district. It (along with this letter and accompanying forms) can also be found at our district website: [WELSPNW.Weebly.com](http://welspnw.weebly.com), specifically: <http://welspnw.weebly.com/2017-june-pastors-institute-and-district-delegate-conference.html>).

If you have questions, don't hesitate to email me or give a call. Blessings to you until we meet in June!  
In Christ's service,

Pastor Rob Guenther



PNW District Secretary