

Central Illinois District

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



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“Nothing... except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.”

I Corinthians 2:2

To: Central Illinois District Congregations, Guests, Ministers Ordained and Commissioned

Date: January 31, 2018

RE: 2018 Central Illinois District Convention Information

The 59th Convention of the Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and the 8th Convention of the Church Extension Fund, Inc. will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, on July 8-10, 2018. **Registration** for the convention and business sessions will be held at the Crowne Plaza from **3:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Sunday, July 8th**, and beginning at **7:00 am on Monday, July 9th**. **Rooms** will be available at the **Crowne Plaza** and the **Holiday Inn Express** (next door). The Holiday Inn provides a continental breakfast, but the Crowne Plaza does not.

The By-Laws of Synod (4.2.2) state “The **delegates of a voting congregation** to a District Convention shall be accredited.” This involves pre-convention registration by both the pastoral delegate and lay delegate with properly signed documentation by 2 congregational officers. At the convention they are to identify themselves to the credentials committee, presenting a document included with your registration materials with their name and congregation, also signed by two congregational officers. All **nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers** who are members of the Synod within the district shall serve as **advisory delegates**. They are entitled to voice and vote on a floor committee, if appointed, and to voice in the convention. All advisory members are expected to attend all sessions of the convention. (Bylaw 4.2.3, (a), (b)).

Guests, exhibitors, and others are welcome to attend, but are also to present themselves to the credentials committee at the registration desk to submit fees, registration forms, and a means to identify themselves.

Prior to the convention, around the beginning of June, the Convention Workbook will be posted on the CID website (www.cidlcms.org). **Each individual is responsible for printing up any material they need for the convention off the website.** Limited printed convention material will be available on request to those asking for such prior to the convention. There also are no electrical outlets available in the convention hall for computers.

We plan to again use **voting key pads**. This should hasten the election process and eliminate much paper work. Each voting delegate will be assigned a wireless voting key pad. There is a charge of \$395 for any damaged or lost key pad.

Registration Fees: Each voting delegate will be assessed a fee of \$125 to cover convention costs and 2 meals on Monday. **Voting delegate registration not received by June 1, 2018 will be subject to an additional \$50 fee.** *Nonvoting ordained and commissioned ministers* who are actively serving will be assessed a fee of \$35 which does not include meals. If meals are desired add \$70 (\$30 for lunch and \$40 for dinner). For *emeritus ordained and commissioned ministers, and guests* there is no charge for registration, but the \$70 meal charge applies if meals are desired and at least one week notice must be given before the convention convenes. Exhibitor space is available for \$40 per table desired. If an electrical connection is desired, an additional \$30 is required. Exhibitors will be assigned tables and a layout will be available so conventioners will know where each exhibitor is located.

Hotel Information: Everyone is to make their own reservation with the hotels. Room rates which include 1 or 2 persons at the Crowne Plaza is \$109 (does not include breakfast) and at the Holiday Inn Express \$99 (which includes a continental breakfast). When you contact the hotels for reservation, tell them you are with the **Central Illinois District Convention or CID** to receive our special rates. Deadline for Special Convention Room Rates is Sunday, June 10, 2018. If you have any difficulties, contact the District Office.

Crowne Plaza	Holiday Inn Express
3000 S. Dirksen Parkway	3050 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62703	Springfield, IL 62703
217.529.7777	217.529.7771

Directions: From Interstate 55 take Exit #94 (Stevenson Drive) and travel west to Dirksen Parkway. Turn right (north) and travel a short distance to the hotels located on your right (East).

Schedule: The convention will start with an opening communion service on Sunday, July 8th, at 7:00 pm. Monday morning, July 9th, the sessions begin at 8:00 am and will continue until 9:30 pm. The only scheduled breaks are for lunch and dinner. **Bathroom and coffee breaks are on your own.** It is not good stewardship to have everyone heading to those areas at the same time. Our meals will be next door to our convention meeting area on the Main Floor. Tuesday, July 10th, the sessions again begin at 8:00 am and continue until 12 noon, if necessary. You will be on your own for Tuesday lunch.

Seating: There will be sufficient seating for all delegates in the delegate section. All voting delegates are asked to sit in the table cloth area which will have a different color for the delegate section and advisory section.

Electing Circuit Visitors

1. It will be done at a Circuit Forum attended by 1 lay person and 1 pastor properly designated by each congregation (Forums should be held before March 15, 2018).
2. Election shall be by written ballot.
3. Eligible – All pastors serving congregations in the circuit and any emeriti pastors in the circuit.
4. Process to follow:
 - A. Information provided on each pastor who is nominated,
 - B. Each voter shall vote for 2 pastors on the initial ballot,
 - C. The 3 Pastors with highest votes are placed on next ballot,
 - D. Each voter shall now vote for 1 pastor,
 - E. Voting continues until 1 has majority of votes cast,
5. Immediately after election, the current Circuit Visitor reports the election in writing to the District Secretary, Rev. Michael Mohr, P. O. Box 336, Strasburg, IL 62465-0336.
6. The July CID Convention will ratify the election.