

# FIFTY-EIGHTH CONVENTION OF THE ENGLISH DISTRICT LCMS

Living our Baptized Life in Christ

Brothers and Sister in Christ,

The 58th Convention of the English District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will be held **Thursday**, **June 26**, **2025**, **through Saturday**, **June 28**, **2025**, at Concordia University, 4090 Geddes Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Conventions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod represent the highest legislative bodies of both the Synod and its districts. The 58th Convention of the English District will hold elections for all offices of the district, including the election of Bishop/President, Vice Presidents, the Board of Directors, the District Committee on Nominations for the next district convention, the Endowment Fund Board of Managers, ratification of the College of Circuit Visitors, and District Representative for the Synod Nominations Committee. The convention delegates will hear reports on the mission and ministry of the English District and a synodical report from the Rev. Peter Lange, First Vice President of the Synod.

The Convention will include presentations from Rev. Dr. Chad Kendall, Associate Vice President for Church Relations and Mission, Concordia University Chicago, and reports about the mission and ministry of the English District. English District pastors and commissioned workers in attendance will be recognized for years of service to the Church.

The convention agenda will be available online (www.englishdistrict.org) in the Convention Workbook in May.

Please **read the workbook** carefully as much effort and time has been put into it by our district staff, congregations, and pastors.

Reflect on the ways in which you and your congregation are living your baptized life in Christ.

**Pray** that the Lord mightily sends His Holy Spirit upon the 58<sup>th</sup> Convention of the English District and all who lead and attend our convention. **Give thanks to God** for our many ministries that reach people of diverse ethnicity, language, age, and background.

May God be glorified by the way we conduct ourselves and worship Him at the convention.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# **General Information**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

The convention is designed to include all Ministers of Religion, ordained and commissioned, in addition to voting lay delegates. If there is a valid reason which would preclude you from attending any of the convention, please indicate that on the registration <a href="EXCUSE FORM"><u>EXCUSE FORM</u></a> available on our website.

#### REGISTRATION

**Registration should be completed no later than April 20, 2025**. Please note the attached instructions concerning your travel to the convention prior to registering. Online registration is available HERE.

#### ARE MY CONVENTION EXPENSES COVERED?

Travel, housing and meals at Concordia University are covered for voting and some advisory delegates by money received from the congregational assessment.

Voting and advisory delegates are:

- Lay delegates,
- Called pastors serving district congregations (including associates and assistants),
- Called commissioned ministers on the roster of Synod serving District congregations,
- Circuit youth representatives,
- District board members,
- · Chairs of District committees, and
- Emeriti pastors and teachers with ten (10) years of service in the English District who hold membership in a District congregation.

Covered expenses are indicated by an "x".				
	П			
		Travel	Housing	Meals
Voting Delegates - Lay		X	Х	X
Voting Delegates - Pastors		X	X	X
*Advisory Pastors		X	Х	X
*Advisory Teachers	П	X	Х	X
Youth Representatives		X	Х	X
Board members	П	X	Х	X
**Emeriti pastors/teachers		X	Х	X
Visitors/Exhibitors				
Spouses/Guests		•		

<sup>\*</sup> On LCMS roster and called by an English District congregation

(While expenses for vicars and certified professional church workers will not be covered, congregations are encouraged to give these parish personnel the opportunity to attend and participate in the convention.) Guests, visitors and other Ministers of Religion not currently called to an English District congregation are responsible for their own expenses.

#### ASSESSMENTS FOR CONVENTION COSTS

Every congregation, whether or not it is represented at Convention, is expected to participate in an assessment of \$3.00 per communicant based on the last available statistical report. The 2025 assessment invoices will be mailed in March/April and need to be paid prior to Convention.

# **CONVENTION SCHEDULE**

**Open Hearings of Convention Floor Committees** will be held virtually beginning at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

**Orientation Sessions** for delegates will be held virtually Thursday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

**Registration** begins June 26, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. in the Gym.

**Convention** will begin June 26, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. with the Opening Worship Service at the Chapel of the Holy Trinity. Convention sessions will begin at 3:30 p.m. Delegates should plan on staying until the close of convention at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 28. The last order of business will be the Convention Memorial Service and the installation of ALL newly elected officers.

Dress code for convention is business casual. Consider dressing in layers to take into consideration indoor and outdoor activities.

# **Tentative Schedule of Events**

# Thursday:

11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration

11:30 p.m. Lunch - Ministry Tent Open1:30 p.m. Divine Worship Service

3:30 p.m. Opening of Convention Business

5:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Evening Session

Friday:

8:00 a.m. Morning Session

Afternoon Session

5:30 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Evening Session, as needed

Saturday:

8:00 a.m. Morning Session

Memorial Service and Installations

<sup>\*\*</sup> With ten (10) years of service in the English District and still hold membership in an English District congregation

#### HOUSING

Double-occupancy housing will be available for registered participants in the Concordia University dorms. The dorms are air-conditioned and a dorm linen kit including sheets, blanket, pillow, case, and towel will be provided. Please bring your own toiletries. There will be 2 people per room, 4 people per suite that share a bathroom.

Please note CUAA enforces a No Smoking Policy in all public buildings including dorms.

Double occupancy is encouraged and attendees will be financially responsible for costs incurred by the District due to changes made after May 31, 2025.

Single Room (if available) = \$50 (U.S. funds)/day Spouses = \$50 (U.S. funds)/day

Guests/visitors = \$50 (U.S. funds)/day double occupancy/\$65 (U.S. funds)/day single.

You will receive an invoice from the district to pay prior to arriving at convention.

**Hotel Group Block**: A block of rooms at the rate of \$119/night plus taxes (breakfast included) have been negotiated at:

Ann Arbor Regent Hotel & Suites 2455 Carpenter Rd, Ann Arbor, M 48108 734-973-6100

If you choose to stay at the hotel, you must call them directly to make a reservation or make a reservation online at: English District LCMS – Ann Arbor Regent Hotel reservation

The block will be held until June 1, 2025. To receive the conference rate, ask for EDLCMS25. Limited transportation will be provided by Regent Hotel to CUAA. This needs to be arranged with the hotel.

A \$50 per night housing reimbursement is available from the district with a hotel receipt submitted after the convention for covered registered participants.

# **MEALS**

All meals during convention business will be provided for covered registered participants at the University. Please indicate on the registration form only the meals you will be eating on campus. Breakfast will be available to those staying on campus. Spouses, guests, and others whose expenses are not covered will be invoiced for the meals they select on the registration form.

#### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

The District will reimburse for travel at the rate of the basic airfare, mileage, car rental and fuel, or fuel (optional) whichever is less expensive. We ask that each registrant do their best to keep transportation costs to a minimum and choose the best value for your travel including checking to see which airline carrier serves your location and schedule best into the Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) and making your reservation at least a month in advance of the convention. For those who choose to drive, we encourage carpooling. There is no reimbursement for passengers, but by practicing good stewardship, we can keep expenses down, leaving more for our District's mission work. Please read the attached travel memo outlining the district's policies carefully before making final travel decisions.

If the cost of flights from your location exceeds \$450, please contact the district office for options or assistance in planning your trip.

#### Airport to Hotel:

For those flying into the Detroit Metropolitan Airport, volunteers will be available with limited shuttles from DTW to CUAA or the hotel. To sign up for the shuttle you will need to go to this LINK and request a pickup at one of the available times. Please include your flight information and cell phone # for the driver to connect with you. From baggage area follow signs to passenger pickup area, and the driver will call you when they have arrived.

Schedule your pickup from the Detroit Metropolitan Airport HERE.

Return to Airport Saturday, June 28, 2025: A separate bus to the airport will leave Concordia University at 11:45 a.m. from the traffic circle/parking lot near Geddes Road. Please indicate on the registration form if you need a ride. If this time does not work for your schedule, please make other arrangements.

#### COMMUTER INFORMATION

Free parking is available at Concordia University.

# **WORKBOOK**

The Convention Workbook will be available online in May. In preparation for the convention, please carefully read the reports, biographical forms of those nominated, and proposed overtures presented in the Workbook. If you wish to print any part of the Workbook, you will need to do that before arriving at the convention. Electronic devices and laptop computers will be permitted in the delegate section and may only be used for convention business. There are limited power outlets available in the convention hall.

# **CONVENTION PRAYER PARTNERS**

Please encourage your congregation members, family and friends to sign up to be prayer partners for the Convention. We are seeking prayers for all aspects of the convention: safe travel, the business of the English District, elections, activities, discussions, theological presentations, fellowship and to celebrate the English District's ministries and missions. The signup can be found HERE. Scroll down to choose a time slot and then lift the needs of our delegates, staff, clergy and convention in prayer.

# **STAY INFORMED**

Visit the English District website for information about the convention: <a href="https://www.englishdistrict.org">www.englishdistrict.org</a>.

# **QUESTIONS**

If your questions are not answered in these materials, please contact the District office: 1-800-755-9335 or info@englishdistrict.org.

# **ATTACHMENT**

District Policy on Travel and Reimbursements

**REGISTER ONLINE**