



SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT
50th Biennial Convention + June 14-15, 2016
Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Our Great Heritage . . . from Age to Age

From the Office of the District President

May 2016

Dear brother -

In the course of my life, I haven't really inherited all that much. A modest amount of money, a few mementoes, that's about it, and that's OK. Maybe you have inherited or stand to inherit more.

Whatever the amount, when we think of inheritance or heritage, we probably most often think of things that have financial and sentimental value. Later, as Lutheran Christians, our thoughts turn to spiritual things that have been passed on to us by others: Our knowledge of and faith in Jesus as our Savior; God's powerful, saving Word in its truth and purity.

We have a great opportunity to be reminded of and to celebrate that great heritage and to also consider and encourage one another in working together to preserve and share that great heritage.

The opportunity is the biennial convention of our district. Your attendance at it is expected and will surely be appreciated by others. May God give you safe travel there!

Information about the convention appears in the following pages. You'll also find more information about the topics we'll discuss at the convention, including the keynote presentation and the topics we've assigned to floor committees, at the 2016 Convention page of the new district website, www.sew-wels.net. That's also where you'll find the online registration form.

In his service with and for you,

Pastor D. N. Rutschow, President



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Convention Information

Time: Tuesday, June 14 and Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Place: Wisconsin Lutheran College (Sessions will be held in the REX)
8800 West Blue Mound Rd, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Attendance: Expected to attend as voting delegates:

- All pastors and all certified male teachers and staff ministers serving in called positions and holding membership in SEW congregations;
- One lay delegate from each SEW congregation

Invited to attend:

- Retired pastors, male teachers, and staff ministers;
- Pastors, male teachers, or staff ministers not currently holding a call;
- All male called workers not yet synodically certified.

Lay Delegates: See the enclosed sheet for more information especially for first-time attendees.

Convention

Materials: **The 2016 Report to the Districts (RtD)** is being made available several ways.

- A single printed copy will be mailed to every congregation around June 1. (Note: printed copies will not be mailed to individual called workers.)
- Printed copies for everyone who attends the convention will be available at the convention. You can pick one up when you check in.
- If you wish to read the RtD before then, electronic copies are available at www.wels.net or at the district's new website, www.sew-wels.net.

District Reports and Other Convention Materials We intend to conduct this convention using as little paper as possible. Links to all convention reports and other materials will be available at the 2016 Convention page of the District's website, www.sew-wels.net/2016convention, several days before the convention. You will be able to use electronic devices to access those materials from the convention floor. We plan to provide access to outlets for recharging to as many of the seats as possible.

If you are not able or inclined to bring an electronic device to the convention, then we would strongly encourage you to print the materials – or ask someone to print them for you – before you come to convention. Please note that we will be using smaller screens than in previous conventions, so you shouldn't depend on being able to read the content of every report on those screens.

If you are not able to print the materials, we will have a limited (very limited) number of printed copies available at the convention. Please use the "Comments" box on the registration form to indicate that you would like to receive one of those copies.

Note: If you have reports or other materials that you would like to have included among the convention materials, please contact Secretary Carter for important details and deadlines for sending it to him electronically.

Registration: Register **before June 6**. Early registration is important for providing our hosts with accurate meal counts. If at all possible, please use the online registration form. The following link will take you directly to that registration form: www.sew-wels.net/2016registration.

If you have no Internet access, then you can register by contacting District Secretary Billy Carter by any of the means at the bottom of the next page. Please make sure that your message or letter includes a) your name and your congregation or calling body and b) which meals you will need.

Excuses: If you will be absent for all or part of the convention, please excuse to Secretary Carter. You may use the online registration form to do this.

Fees: There are no convention fees. The costs for this convention are covered entirely by district dues. A mailing with your congregation's or organization's dues assessment was sent to the attention of your treasurer the last week of April.

Parking: WLC's new parking structure will be available for us for this convention. It holds over 300 vehicles. You can enter the structure from Wisconsin Avenue. The address of the lot is 8701 W Wisconsin Avenue. There are turn lanes from the east and from the west, but in the morning traffic it might be better to approach from the west.

Once that structure is full, there are another 80 spaces available under the residence halls. If you find it necessary to park on the street, please note the parking restrictions that exist on many of the neighborhood streets.

Check in: When you arrive at the convention, please check in and pick up your name badge and your copy of the RttD at the table for your conference at the north end of the REX gymnasium. The conference secretaries will man these tables.

Offering: A floor committee will be asked to draft a resolution that will designate where to send the offering that will be gathered at the opening communion service.

Meals: Continental breakfasts will be provided Tuesday and Wednesday in the northwest and southwest corners of the REX.

A noon meal will be provided on Tuesday for all who registered for it.

A Tuesday evening meal will be provided for floor committee members.

(Floor committee members should register for this meal.)

A box lunch will be provided on Wednesday for all who registered for it.

(We are planning to work into the early afternoon.)

Refreshments will be available in the REX lobby throughout the convention.

Lodging: WLC will not provide lodging in their residence halls. If you need lodging, please contact one of the area hotels listed below. Make sure you mention that you are attending a convention at WLC to receive the reduced room rates.

Radisson Hotel Mayfair	(414.257.3400 or 800.333.3333)
2303 N Mayfair Road	\$87/night (regularly \$198-\$208)
Crowne Plaza - Milwaukee West	(414.475.9500 or 866.270.4552)
10499 Innovation Drive	\$85/night (regularly \$159-168)

Displays: Many synod and para-synodical ministries and groups will have displays at the convention. Please visit their displays while you are there.

If your group would like to set up a display and you don't hear from Secretary Carter about making arrangements to do so, please contact him before May 27.

Questions: Please contact District Secretary Carter at sewsec@gmail.com, at 920.979.3087 (voice or text), or at P.O. Box 44, Brownsville, WI 53006.



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Floor Committees

#1 - Elections: *Pastor John Borgwardt, chairman*

Pastors:	Teachers:	Laymen:
Brian Adams	Ryan Finkbeiner	St. Andrew, Chicago
John Borgwardt	Matthew Linton	Zion, Crete
David Ernest	Joel Moeller	St. John, Lomira
Jon Hartmann	Tyler Morgan	Crown of Life, Hubertus
Brian Koschnitzke	Thomas Neumann	St. Lucas, Milwaukee
Peter Martin	Kevin Poston	St. Matthew, Milwaukee
Timothy Wahl	Ryan Randall	St. Marcus, Milwaukee
Daniel Waldschmidt	Shawn Riesop	St. Peter, Milwaukee
Paul Waldschmidt	Alan Scharrer	First, Lake Geneva
Benjamin Wessel	Jacob Schable	Peace, Wilmot
Christian Winkel	Travis Wendt	St. John, Mukwanago
Joshua Yu	Keith Wordell	Star of Bethlehem, New Berlin

#2 - District President's Report and Resolutions: *Teacher Paul Patterson, chairman*

Pastors:	Teachers:	Laymen:
John Bortulin	David Allerheiligen	Beautiful Savior, Fort Wayne
Jeffrey Halldorson	Paul Berger	David's Star, Jackson
Jon Learman	Brad Essig	Messiah, Milwaukee
Paul Lehniger	Justin Gut	Mt. Lebanon, Milwaukee
Timothy Soukup	Paul Patterson	Trinity, Caledonia
Tod Vertz	Randall Watts	St. John, Lannon

#3 - Church of the Lutheran Confession: *Professor Bill Tackmier, chairman*

Pastors:	Teachers:	Laymen:
Martin Bentz	David Dodge	Lord and Savior, Crystal Lake
Aaron Bublitz	Sam Hunter	St. Paul, Lomira
Eric Roecker	Michael Koestler	Resurrection, Milwaukee
John Roekle	Chad Marohn	Christ, Milwaukee
Eric Schroeder	Michael Marquardt	Friedens, Kenosha
Bill Tackmier	Jon Woldt	Christ, Pewaukee

#4 – Compensation Plan: *Pastor Robert Pasbrig, chairman*

Pastors:	Teachers:	Laymen:
Michael Bartsch	Joe Archer	Jerusalem, Morton Grove
George Ferch	Nick Bush	Peace, Hartford
Jon Nitz	Tim Mueller	St. Jacobi, Greenfield
Robert Pasbrig	Brad Nommensen	Garden Homes, Milwaukee
Steven Schmidt	Brian Papenfuss	St. Luke, Kenosha
Karl Schultz	Daniel Schultz	Faith, Sussex

#5 – Long Range Plan:

Pastors:	Teachers:	Laymen:
Daniel Babinec	Chris Avery	St. Matthew, Niles
Joshua Bishop	Alan Bitter	St. Paul, Slinger
James Fischer	Michael Henning	Good Shepherd's, West Allis
	Jason Schapekahm	St. Philip, Milwaukee
Mark Kock	Eric Troge	First, Racine
Paul Steinberg	Jeffrey Uhlenbrauck	Mt. Calvary, Waukesha

#6 – Other Topics: *(may not be needed) Teacher Phil Krueger, chairman*

Pastors:	Teachers:	Laymen:
Daniel Bondow	Robert Buss	Our Shepherd, Crown Point
David Carlovsky	Steven Haag	St. Matthew, Port Washington
Aaron Christie	Adam Igl	Nain, West Allis
Don Frelitz	Philip Krueger	Calvary, Milwaukee
Philip Malchow	Martin Miller	St. John (Slades Corner), Burlington
Greg Pufahl	Bryan Scriver	St. Paul, East Troy

#7 – Steering: *Pastor Nathan Cordes, chairman*

Pastor Nathan Cordes	Teacher Thomas Hering
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#8 – Copy Review: *Pastor Curtis Jahn, chairman*

Pastors:	Teacher:
Curtis Jahn	Scott Wagner
David Bitter	

Floor committees will meet Tuesday evening in Generac Hall (the science building at the east end of the campus). Room assignments will be published in the convention materials. Supper will be provided for all committee members (remember to sign up for it when you register). Chairmen will receive more information about each committee's assignments. Chairmen will be asked to appoint secretaries before the convention so that Secretary Carter can get them information they will need for their work.



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Proposed Agenda

Tuesday, June 14

8:00	Registration & Fellowship	
9:00	Opening Worship Service with Communion	Pastor David Rutschow, Preacher
10:30	Greeting from WLC	
10:40	Break	
11:00	Election Committee	
11:15	District President Report	Pastor David Rutschow
11:45	Announcements	
12:00	Lunch and Circuit Pastor Elections	
1:30	Synodical Council	Mr. Tim Snyder
1:45	Keynote "Embracing the Cross: A Reformation in the Pastor's Study"	Pastor Peter Prange
2:30	Synod Presidium	Pastor Joel Voss
2:45	Keynote, Part Two	
3:30	Break	
3:45	Board for World Missions	Pastor Mark Schultz
4:15	Board for Home Missions	Pastor Mark Wagner
4:30	Board for Ministerial Education	Pastor Paul Prange
4:45	Point of Grace	Pastor Don Thompson
5:00	Announcements	
5:15	Devotion	Pastor Christian Winkel
5:30	Celebration of Service - District President Rutschow	

Floor Committees meet in the evening

Wednesday, June 15

8:30	Morning Devotion	Pastor Nathan Cordes
8:45	Elections Committee	
9:00	Minutes & Treasurer's Report	
9:15	Ministry of Christian Giving & WELS Investments	Pastor Kurt Lueneburg Pastor Kevin Hundley Mr. Rick Kneser
9:30	Christian Aid & Relief	Pastor Robert Hein
9:45	WELS Benefits Office	Mr. Joshua Peterman
10:00	Hymnal Committee	Pastor Mark Schutz
10:15	Break	
10:30	Congregational Ministry Support Group	Pastor Bryan Gerlach and others
11:15	Lutheran Military Support Group	Pastor Jason Hacker
11:30	Shepherd Plan	Hahn Financial Group
11:45	The Lutheran Home Association / Jesus Cares	Mr. Bill Truebenbach
12:00	Lunch (<i>box lunch in the REX – no reports during lunch</i>)	
12:30	Northwestern Publishing House & Reformation 500	Mr. Bill Ziche
1:00	Institutional Ministries	Pastor Mark Wenzel
1:15	Other Reports & Floor Committees	
	Courtesy Resolutions & Announcements	
	Closing Devotion & Installation of Officers	Pastor George Ferch

The Elections Committee will be given the floor whenever necessary to complete their work.



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Nominations

Notes: Biographical information will be provided in the convention materials.
All nominees are listed in alphabetical order.
(I) = incumbent

Nominations from the District Nominating Committee *(six year terms)*

Synodical Council Representative

Mr. Timothy Snyder (I), Pewaukee
Mr. Chip Tesch, New Berlin
One more nominee needed

Martin Luther College

Governing Board - Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Kolander (I), Menomonee Falls
Rev. John Raasch, Milwaukee
Rev. Karl Schultz, Elkhorn

Michigan Lutheran Seminary

Governing Board - Teacher

Teacher Ryan Finkbeiner, Milwaukee
Teacher Jason Lowrey, Sturtevant
Teacher Stephen Schultz, Antioch, IL

District Mission Board - Pastor

Rev. John Stelljes, Greenwood, IN
Rev. Michael Zarling, Mt. Pleasant

District Mission Board - Layman

Mr. Michael Nichols, West Bend
Mr. Bill Truebenbach, Jackson
Mr. Steven Wolf (I), Cedarburg

District Lutheran Schools Coordinator

Teacher Chris Avery, Kenosha
Teacher David Dodge, Milwaukee
Teacher Daryl Weber (I), Germantown

District Board of Appeals Chairman (pastor)

Rev. John Kelly, Zion, IL
Prof. Paul Zell (I), Mequon

District Board of Appeals - Pastor

Prof. John Brenner (I), Mequon
Rev. Kirk Lahmann, Burlington

District Board of Appeals - Teacher

Teacher Joshua Bauer, Milwaukee
Teacher Jeffrey Dorn, Sturtevant
Teacher Brett Kriese, Menomonee Falls
Teacher Chad Marohn, Lannon

District Board of Appeals - Layman

Mr. Paul Kieselhorst (I), Waukesha
Mr. Scott Scriver, Racine

Nominations from the District Council *(four year terms)*

District Nominating Committee

Chicago Conference - Pastor

Rev. Dustin Blumer, Joliet, IL

Rev. Nicolas Schmoller, Lafayette, IN

District Nominating Committee

Kettle Moraine Conference - Layman

Mr. Peter Gerbitz, Menomonee Falls

Mr. Jay Schambeau, Kewaskum

Mr. Donald Zastrow (I), Hartford

District Nominating Committee

Milwaukee Metro Conference - Pastor

Rev. Michael Feuerstahler (I), Brown Deer

Rev. Greg Pufahl, Oak Creek

Rev. Benjamin Wessel, West Allis

Rev. James Wilcox, West Allis

District Nominating Committee

Milwaukee Urban Conference - Pastor

Rev. Aaron Robinson (I), Milwaukee

Rev. Jon Hartmann, Germantown

District Nominating Committee

Shoreland Conference - Teacher

Teacher Bruce Babler, Franklin

Teacher Paul Scriver (I), Kansasville

District Nominating Committee

Western Lakes Conference - Layman

Mr. James Holm (I), East Troy

Mr. David Timm, New Berlin



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Guidelines for Lay Delegates

We hope you are looking forward to attending our district convention on the campus of Wisconsin Lutheran College. The communion worship service and the devotions will be good for the soul. The essay, the reports, and the discussions are sure to be interesting. And you will enjoy the Christian fellowship.

Many of the representatives from the boards and commissions of the synod who will report to us will refer to printed reports in the 2016 Report to the Twelve Districts (RttD). Your congregation should receive a printed copy in the mail by June 1. Printed copies for every convention delegate will also be available at the convention. If you wish to read the RttD before then, electronic copies are available at www.wels.net/about-wels/official-reports or at the "Convention Materials" link on the district's new website, www.sew-wels.net.

Other reports and materials for this convention will also be available at www.sew-wels.net the week before the convention. Making these materials available electronically has resulted in significant cost savings for recent conventions. If you are not able to download or print the reports for yourself, and you don't have anyone who can print the reports for you, we will have a limited number of packets of these materials available at the convention. Please use the comments box in the online registration form (also available at www.sew-wels.net) to indicate that you would like to receive one of these packets.

When you arrive at the college, please come to the REX, the large gymnasium/auditorium building at the north end of the campus. Check-in tables (one for each conference of the district) will be at the north wall of the auditorium. (Your pastor will be able to tell you the name of the conference to which your congregation belongs.) You will receive your name badge and your printed copy of the RttD when you check in.

A festival communion service will open the convention at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Worship and commune with us as we ask God's blessings on our convention and on the work of the synod.

As a voting delegate, you may participate in all election ballots and voice votes. You may also participate in floor discussions. To do so, simply proceed to one of the floor microphones and wait until the chair recognizes you. Please identify yourself and your congregation.

One of the main orders of business at the convention is elections. There will be nominating ballots followed by election ballots for each of the officer positions (president, vice presidents, and secretary). That process will be explained very early on the convention agenda. Please feel free to participate in the nominating and election ballots.

The district nominating committee has also placed quite a few names in nomination for many other district positions. The election for those positions will take place by ballot after the

elections for the officers are complete. A list of those nominations is included in these pages. If you didn't receive a copy, please ask your pastor to get you one. Biographical information for all these candidates will be included among the downloadable convention reports. You may wish to take some time to look over that information prior to the time of the actual ballot.

Each of the district's circuits will also hold elections for circuit pastor at the convention. These elections will take place at circuit meetings during the lunch hour on Tuesday. The downloadable convention materials will include a list of times and locations. Please attend this meeting and participate in the election of your circuit pastor.

You may be assigned to a floor committee. These committees study and discuss specific matters coming before the convention and prepare resolutions for discussion and adoption on the convention floor. A list of the floor committees and their members is included elsewhere in these pages. If the name of your congregation is listed under one of those committees, please make arrangements to attend the meetings of that floor committee. The rooms where each committee will meet will be listed in the convention materials. Directions to those rooms will be posted. Most committees will meet Tuesday evening. Supper will be provided in your committee rooms. Note: some committees may be asked to meet Monday evening before the convention. You will be contacted if your committee will be meeting Monday evening.

The information sheet (also elsewhere in these materials) includes other important information you will need in order to register for the convention. If at all possible, we'd like you to register online. Instructions for registering online are included on that information sheet. That information sheet also includes instructions for registering by phone or mail if you have no Internet access.

We want you to feel at home at the convention. We hope that this information has helped. If you have any questions or need more information, please speak with your pastor or contact any of the district officers. Our contact information is included below.

In the Savior's name,

The Southeastern Wisconsin District Officers

President

Rev. David Rutschow

527 63rd St

Downers Grove IL 60516

630.852.7914

First Vice-President

Rev. Joel Leyrer

7809 Harwood Ave.

Wauwatosa, WI 53213

414.258.7831

Second Vice-President

Rev. Jonathan Kolander

N84 W15252 Menomonee Ave.

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

262.251.3353

Secretary

Rev. William Carter

615 Highland Ave - PO Box 44

Brownsville WI 53006

920.979.3087