



30th Annual Synod Assembly
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
June 2-3, 2017
Kalahari Resort & Convention Center
Pocono Manor, PA

Directions for Assembly Registration

The 30th Annual Assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be held at Kalahari Resort & Convention Center on June 2-3, 2017. Find more information about the assembly at www.godslove.org and about the resort at www.kalahariresorts.com.

REGISTRATION OPENS at 8:00 a.m. and the assembly will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 2. **The deadline for all registrations is May 19.**

REGISTER ONLINE at www.godslove.org. Congregations may register all rostered ministers and voting members at one time; this option is available for online registration only. The cost for online registration is \$100 per person until midnight, May 12, and \$110 per person from May 13 through May 19.

REGISTER BY MAIL by completing separate registration forms for each voting member. The cost to register by mail is \$110 per person if postmarked on or before May 12, 2017, and \$120 from May 13 through May 19.

Please note the importance of the deadline. The convention center, caterer, and synod staff need final registration numbers to prepare for a successful assembly.

Every voting member will receive a confirmation letter that will include information you'll need before arriving.

THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER will be The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, Professor of Religion at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. Dr. Kleinhans will speak on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

WHAT DOES THE FEE COVER? Many costs are incurred by gatherings of this size: rental of the convention center; labor and equipment for staging, lighting, and sound; photocopying, production and mailing of assembly materials; worship costs such as instrument rental, and fees for copyrighted music.

WHO PAYS? The registration fee, meals, and lodging for all assembly voting members are to be paid by the congregation or employing agency. If requested, the registration fee, meals, and one night's housing for retired rostered leaders not serving a congregation will be paid by the synod. If requested, voting members who live on the synod territory may have travel expenses (mileage for one round trip) reimbursed.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME and encouraged to attend the assembly and will be seated in a special visitors section. There is no registration fee for visitors but they are encouraged to complete a registration form before May 19 and check in at the assembly. Visitors can attend any time and for any length of time and can sit in on plenary sessions, join in worship, enjoy God's

Playground, share in meals, or play and relax in the resort.

WORSHIP WITH EUCHARIST will be held on Friday afternoon. Bishop Zeiser will be preaching and Mark Mummert will be the musician.

HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS need to be made by congregations. The Kalahari has set aside a block of rooms for the assembly. **To take advantage of the reduced rate of \$199 for Friday night, reservations must be made by May 2.** Rates do not include taxes and are per room, per night, and for up to four guests. To make a reservation call 888-742-9099 and identify yourself as attending the Northeastern PA Synod Assembly. Luggage can be stored with the resort until 4:00 p.m. check-in time.

The cost of the room includes admission to the indoor/outdoor water park (largest in the United States) for the four people staying in the room beginning at noon the day of your arrival and ending when the park closes the day you check out. **Guests can be family members or friends not attending the assembly.**

Also included are complimentary parking and Wi-Fi. If you want to extend your stay, the room rate for Thursday night is \$129 and for Saturday night it is \$299 per room.

Go to www.kalahariresorts.com to learn more about the family arcade, black light miniature golf, treetop adventure, spa and fitness center, mountain biking, outdoor trails, and more on site for a family weekend.

MEALS DURING THE ASSEMBLY: A banquet marking the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation will be held in the dining room at the convention center on Friday evening. The banquet will be a plated dinner including a baby spinach salad, brioche rolls, double chocolate mousse, coffee, tea, and your choice of:

- herb roasted chicken with sausage stuffing, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans and cranberry glazed carrots.

- roasted top sirloin with caramelized garlic scallion mashed potatoes, port wine demi-glace, glazed green beans and carrots.
- five cheese macaroni with fresh mixed vegetable stuffed tomatoes.

A cookout will also be available for lunch on Saturday, including grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, potato chips, cheeses, watermelon, and cookies.

Half of the cost of the banquet and the cookout will be subsidized by the synod. The cost of the banquet is \$40 per person, with attendees paying \$20 each; and the cost of the cookout is \$31 per person, with attendees paying \$15 each. Reservations for meals must be in to the synod office by May 19. Check out www.kalahariresorts.com for options for other meals at the resort.

To compensate for the higher room costs this year, the assembly registration fee has been lowered by 33% and two meals will be subsidized. You can be a voting member, attend the banquet on Friday and the cookout on Saturday for \$135.

See the enclosed sheet to learn how to be a part of a once-in-a-lifetime PICTORIAL DIRECTORY for rostered ministers to mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

EXCUSES NEEDED: Written excuses for the absence of pastors or deacons under call, or for congregational voting members should be sent in advance of the assembly to Debbie Frey at debbie@nepsynod.org or mail to 2354 Grove Road, Allentown, PA, 18109-3044.

QUESTIONS? Questions regarding the assembly may be directed to Pr. Kurt Garbe or Debbie Frey. They can be reached at the Lutheran Center, 610-266-5101, kurt@nepsynod.org or debbie@nepsynod.org.