



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

Registration Confirmation

Your registration as a voting member for the 30th annual synod assembly June 2-3, 2017 is confirmed.

Passengers can be dropped off under the portico at the Convention Center entrance. You can also use the main entrance if you wish to store luggage at the registration desk until check-in time at 4:00 p.m. Parking is free.

Registration opens at 8:00 AM on Friday, June 2. Registration lines will be set up alphabetically by your last name.

The assembly will begin promptly at 9:30 AM on Friday with opening worship and order for the opening of the assembly.

Plenary sessions are scheduled Friday from 9:30 AM-12:00 NOON and from 2:00-4:00 PM. Saturday's plenary session will be from 9:00 AM -12:00 NOON. The annual business of the synod, including elections, reports, and discussion, is conducted during plenary sessions. Voting members must be seated at the tables and chairs on the convention center floor to participate.

A Festival Worship Service marking the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and including Holy Communion will be held at 4:30 PM on Friday. Bishop Zeiser will be preaching. An offering will be received for the United Lutheran Seminary.

Lunch on Friday and breakfast on Saturday can be purchased at any of the various restaurants in the resort. There are also several marketplaces to purchase food to go. Due to quality control issues, all food consumed in the resort must be supplied and prepared by resort

restaurants. A complete list of restaurants can be found at www.kalahariresorts.com.

A banquet to mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation will be held Friday at 7:00 PM and a **cookout** will be held at noon on Saturday. Advance reservations **MUST** be made through the synod office before the close of business on Friday, May 19.

Everyone is welcome to attend God's Playground and worship. The banquet and cookout are also open to all (with advance reservations).

Visitors can come at any time for any amount of time. There is no registration fee for visitors. During plenary sessions, visitors must be seated in the designated chairs behind the voting members.

The Bulletin of Reports will be on the assembly page of the synod website – www.godslove.org by the middle of May. Each voting member should print a copy of the *Bulletin of Reports*.

Resolutions and memorials that are submitted to the Committee of Reference and Counsel for action at the assembly and **biographical information** for the Synod Council nominees will be posted on the assembly page of the synod website – www.godslove.org as it becomes available.

Special guests:

- The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, Professor of Religion at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Kleinhans' teaching responsibilities are primarily in Christian theology and church history, with an emphasis on Martin Luther

and the theology and history of the Reformation.

- The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director of ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeals, will be the churchwide representative.

Musicians:

- Mark Mummert, Artistic Director of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester, Massachusetts.
- Bobby Siegfried, Coordinator of Alternative Music at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown.

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center is located at 250 Kalahari Boulevard, Pocono Manor, PA, 18349. More information can be found at www.kalahariresorts.com. Kalahari is located right off Pocono Exit 3 of I-380. If you need printed directions, please call the synod office at 610-266-5101.

If you have made a reservation to stay at **Kalahari**, check-in time is 4:00 PM Friday and check-out time is 11:00 AM on Saturday. Arrangements can be made at the resort's front desk to store your luggage when you arrive Friday morning. **Remember that the cost of the room at Kalahari includes up to four people and guests can be family members or friends not attending the assembly.** The cost of the room includes admission to the water park beginning at noon Friday until the park closes at 10:00 PM on Saturday.

Complimentary Wi-Fi will be available in all guest rooms, common areas, and meeting spaces in the resort.

Fitness and training facilities are free of charge for those staying at Kalahari. There is a hiking trail leading to a waterfall available to all.

The annual **ELCA World Hunger** offering will be received on Friday morning.

Water stations will be available throughout the assembly. You can bring empty water bottles or cups to fill at the stations.

All rostered ministers are encouraged to have their portraits taken during the assembly to be included in a directory to mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Details will be available at registration.

Spatial Blessings – Here's your opportunity to share photos of your congregation's special

spaces that are blessings to you. By May 20, send up to three graphic files (.jpg) to Barbara Belon at bjbelon@gmail.com for display at the assembly. Examples are baptismal fonts, altars, stained glass windows, and entrance doors.

A bookstore sponsored by the synod's resource center and featuring books published by 1517 Media (Augsburg Fortress/Fortress Press/Sparkhouse) will be open in the convention center. Books can be purchased with cash or checks made out to "NEPS."

For emergencies, the telephone number for Kalahari is 570-580-6000.

Because temperatures can vary in the convention center, participants are encouraged to dress in layers.

All payments for registration must be received in the synod office no later than Friday, May 26.

There will be an additional \$20 fee for anyone who waits until the assembly to make payment on their registration fees.

SCHEDULE

Friday

8:00 AM	Registration opens
9:30 AM	Plenary Session One
12:00 NOON	Lunch/God's Playground
2:00 PM	Plenary Session Two
4:00 PM	Break
4:30 PM	Festival Worship
6:00 PM	God's Playground
7:00 PM	500 th Anniversary Banquet

Saturday

8:15 AM	Opening Worship
9:00 AM	Plenary Session Three
12:00 NOON	Pocono Mountain Cookout

A complete agenda and more details are available on the assembly page of the synod website – www.godslove.org.

Questions? Contact Pr. Kurt Garbe at kurt@nepsynod.org or Debbie Frey at debbie@nepsynod.org or call 610-266-5101.