



January 17, 2024

Dear Congregations of the Western Iowa Synod ELCA:

2024 Western Iowa Synod Assembly Friday, April 19 – Saturday, April 20 in Council Bluffs, IA. The theme is Stir Us Up to Be.. brave, authentic, free, disruptive, and disciples. **Voting members will need to bring an electronic device (such as a smart phone or tablet) to be able to vote.** Two people will **NOT** be able to share a device as votes are limited to one per account. Please keep this in mind as you elect your voting members.

The assembly **timeline** looks like this:

Open to Everyone from the Western Iowa Synod

Our Saviors' Lutheran Church, 600 Bluff St

Friday, April 19 12:30-3:00 pm Pre-Assembly Event

Voting Members and Registered Visitors

St John Lutheran Church, 633 Willow Ave

Friday, April 19 3:30-6:00 pm Check-in

Friday, April 19 5:30 pm Dinner

Friday, April 19 6:30 pm Opening Worship/Assembly opening

Pace Center, 1001 S 6th St

Saturday, April 20 8:15 am Gathering music/Morning Prayer

Saturday, April 20 8:45 am Plenary 1/Elections

Saturday, April 20 10:30 am Break

Saturday, April 20 10:45 am Plenary continues/Conference gatherings

Saturday, April 20 12:00 pm Lunch

Saturday, April 20 1:00 pm Plenary 2/Resolutions

Saturday, April 20 2:30 pm Closing Worship

A Pre-Assembly Gathering will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Council Bluffs and is open to everyone in the Western Iowa Synod. Paul Erbes will present on Spirituality and Stewardship. Erbes is the current vice-president of Institutional Advancement at Morningside University, Sioux City. He is the former vice-president for development, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque. Prior to embracing a passion for stewardship and fundraising as a full time vocation, Erbes served as pastor to a number of ELCA congregations in several synods.

Registration will begin online on February 1, 2024. All assembly **reports** will be available on the synod website at <https://www.wisynod.org/synod-assembly-2024> by March 22, 2024 for downloading and/or printing. Assembly reports will **not** be printed or mailed out.

The deadline for submitting **resolutions** for consideration at the assembly is Friday, February 19, 2024. A Guide to Writing Resolutions, the Policy for Handling Resolutions, and a Resolution Submittal Form are available at <https://www.wisynod.org/synod-assembly-2024/resolutions--130>. Please remember that resolutions may be authored by individuals and congregations as well as conferences.

The list of **nominations** needed is available on the synod website at <https://www.wisynod.org/synod-assembly-2024/nominations--129>.

The **assembly offering** is a gift from your congregation for Western Iowa Synod youth attending the National Youth Gathering (75%) and the Western Iowa Synod Hog Program (25%) which provides pork for food pantries and food banks in the synod. Please give generously! Congregations are encouraged to bring their offerings to the synod assembly or donate while registering. Checks should be made payable to the "Western Iowa Synod".

Voting membership of the assembly includes rostered ministers and lay congregation members (including youth (up to age 18) and young adults (ages 18-30)). Also be mindful that, according to the current congregation model constitution, voting assembly members are to be elected from congregations.

Online registration is encouraged and will be available on February 1 at www.wisynod.org. An assembly registration form is also enclosed. Registration **fees** are as follows:

All voting members: Voting members - \$225/person
Visitors - \$225/person

March 15, 2024 **Last day to register! There will be NO walk-in registrations at the assembly. Registrations and payments MUST BE RECEIVED on or before March 15th.**

Please share this preliminary information with voting members if they are not registering for themselves. If you have any questions, please contact the synod office at 712-732-4968.

Grace and peace,



Dagna Simmons, Secretary
Western Iowa Synod ELCA

Enclosures:

Registration Form
Voting Membership of Synod Assembly
Lodging in Council Bluffs, IA
Synod Assembly Offering 2024

Deadlines:

Resolutions – February 19, 2024
Registrations – March 15, 2024

Resources available at www.wisynod.org:

Membership of Synod Assembly
Policy for Handling Resolutions at the Synod Assembly

A Quick & Easy Guide to Writing Resolutions
2024 Resolution Submittal Form

EVERY GENDER, EVERY RACE, **ALL** ARE COVERED BY



Western Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

GOD'S

Grace

ALL ARE WELCOME.