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March 13, 2019

Dear Florida-Georgia Delegate,

Preparations for the 2019 Synod Convention to be held July 19 -25 in Tampa, Florida, are now under way. You will also be receiving mailings from the Synod office with more information about the convention.

The purpose of this letter is to give you some information regarding specific Florida-Georgia District arrangements and the reimbursement of expenses. We are also enclosing a delegate list which you may find helpful in making arrangements for travel and accommodations. Please notify me immediately of any changes.

1. The District will reimburse your cost of travel. In an effort to control costs, we ask that those of you planning to fly to Tampa to make your arrangements early. Direct billing arrangements have been made with Travelink Services Inc. to assist with flight reservations. You may contact them by phone 800-454-3737 or email [chuck@travelink-services.com](mailto:chuck@travelink-services.com). Should you decide to purchase your ticket, please send a copy of your receipt to us and we will reimburse you. If you need further assistance with either making reservations or purchasing your ticket, please contact Kathy Keene - [kkeene@flgadistrict.org](mailto:kkeene@flgadistrict.org) or 877-457-5556 Ext. 8. Please plan your arrival accordingly to attend the All Delegate Orientation, currently scheduled for Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 pm. Information being sent to you by the Synod Office will give details on ground transportation from the airport to the hotels and convention center.
2. We anticipate many of you will elect to drive, and as parking is in short supply in Downtown Tampa, please make every effort to carpool. We will offer mileage reimbursement at .30 cents per mile up to a maximum amount of \$400.00.
3. **We have reserved a block of rooms for our delegates at the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina. All room reservations must be handled through the Florida-Georgia District office. Registrations are available online through the District Website <https://flgadistrict.org> or this direct link [2019 Synod Convention Registration](#). Included in this letter is a paper registration form should you prefer to register this way. Please be sure to register no later than **March 29th**, as we must provide a rooming list.**

We have a limited number of rooms and are encouraging delegates to room together. If you share a room with another delegate, there will be no cost to you. All costs for room and tax will be handled on a master billing to our office. On the registration you return to our office, please indicate any dietary or housing needs and roommate preference. You will be responsible for all incidental costs billed to your room and the hotel will require a credit card at time of check in. **Delegates desiring a single room, or those taking spouse and/or family, will be billed for \$60.00 per night (½ of the room rate) plus applicable taxes.** We will bill delegates for personal charges after the convention.

*Note: estimated amounts will be deducted from any advances.*

We have scheduled some group meals and will provide a meal allowance totaling \$300.00 for our delegates. Your meal allowance check will be mailed in Early July to the address in your registration. The group meals for **delegates only** are as follows:

Breakfast -6:30 am, Sunday, July 21st  
Breakfast -6:30 am, TBD  
Lunch – 12:00 pm, TBD

District President Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, District Executive Staff member, Mr. Mark Brink, and Kathy Keene, President Walton's Assistant will be attending should you need any assistance during the course of the convention.

Prior to the convention, President Walton will be providing an informational video to assist you as you plan for your important role as a Delegate. In addition there will be two scheduled opportunities via video conferencing for Q & A sessions.

Should anyone need help or have questions about arrangements, etc. for the Synod Convention, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy Keene at the district office 877-457-5556 Ext 8. Information will be posted on the District website and additional information is available through the Synod Website, [www.lcms.org/convention](http://www.lcms.org/convention).

May God bless your preparation for this important event in the life of our church.

In His Service,  
Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, President  
Florida-Georgia District, LCMS

JOY:FULLY  
LUTHERAN  
1 THESS 5:16-24