

FAQ—Frequently Asked Questions



Attending Synod Assembly 2018

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2018 LOCATION

Howard Johnson Plaza, 9 N. 9th St, Yakima, WA 98901 - (509) 452-6511

Host Hotel - Assembly Registration - Workshops & Pre-Workshop - Synod Council Meetings

Yakima Convention Center, 10 N. 8th St, Yakima, WA 98901 - (509) 575-6062

All-Assembly meetings - Ministry Partners - Bookstore - Contemplative Room - Childcare

Central Lutheran Church, 1604 W Yakima Ave, Yakima, WA 98902 - (509) 575-6490

Opening Eucharist - Workshop

DIRECTIONS

From the East (Spokane/ 3.25 hours)

Take I-90 West nearly to Ellensburg.

Take Exit #110 to Yakima and follow I-82 South until Exit 33B Yakima Avenue/Terrace Heights.

Turn right on to Yakima Avenue.

The Howard Johnson Plaza is on 9th Street one block to the north from Yakima Avenue.

The Yakima Convention Center is at the corner of 8th Street and Yakima Avenue.

From the West

Take I-90 East; at Ellensburg take Exit #110 to Yakima

Follow I-82 South until Exit 33B Yakima Avenue/Terrace Heights.

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The Howard Johnson Plaza is on 9th Street one block to the north from Yakima Avenue.

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LOGISTICS

Hotel check-in/Checkout times Hotel room and keys will be available after 3:00 p.m. daily. Checkout time is 12:00 p.m.

Parking Those staying overnight at the Howard Johnson's will have complimentary parking with their room. Those driving to the Assembly may park at the Convention Center parking lot at no charge.

Meals Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast are provided. A Friday lunch bar at the host hotel is available for purchase to those arriving early and attending workshops.

Shuttle service is available from the Airport is available through the courtesy of Central Lutheran Church. The Hotel does not provide a shuttle. The Shuttle will run at 9:00 am, noon and 3:00 pm. Upon arrival, proceed out the main (N) doors and head left to the yellow posts for pick up. Yakima also has Yellow Cab and Uber services.

How to stay warm It is best to dress in layers. Although we do our best to make you comfortable, large rooms can vary in temperature.

Where to sit We will be sitting at round tables in the meeting room. You are encouraged to sit anywhere in the meeting room and to connect with other members of the assembly.

ABOUT ASSEMBLY

The Synod Assembly is an assembly of members from the congregations and related ministries of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod, ELCA. We expect approximately 300 people to assemble to worship, to attend hearings and workshops, to be inspired by our guest speakers and to do the business of the synod. The assembly serves as the Synod's highest legislative authority according to Chapter 7 of the Synod Constitution (available online at www.ewaidssynod.org under *Resource Documents*).

Bishop Kristen Kuempel presides over the business of the Assembly using *Roberts Rules of Order* to govern the proceedings. A parliamentarian is in attendance and minutes are taken for publication following the Assembly. Voting members have the privilege to speak to an issue under consideration; they may move, second or amend any motion. Those speaking are asked to identify themselves by name and congregation before speaking from one of the three floor microphones.

Voting Members

Each congregation is invited to send their pastor(s) serving under call and all other leaders who are rostered by the church including clergy, associates in ministry, diaconal ministers, deacons and deaconesses.

In addition, congregations may send at least two lay members (more depending on baptized membership). Retired pastors and members of the Synod Council are also voting members.

How voting is conducted

Each voting member will be assigned voting cards. Voting cards are used at the microphones to indicate vote position (green – in favor of motion; red – opposed to the motion; white – point of order) and may be used by the chair to get a “sense of the vote.”

Hearings

Hearings are opportunities to hear more and be in conversation about a particular resolution or topic before Assembly business is called to order. There will be an Assembly Orientation during that time designed for those who have never attended an assembly.

Table Talks

Table talks are opportunities for conversation about a particular subject or ministry during a meal. This year Table Talks will only be held on Saturday morning. The topic is put up on a standard at a table and you are invited to bring your breakfast, to sit and take part in the discussion.

New! Pre-Assembly Workshop

This year, the pre-workshop *Church Growth Guaranteed* is offered at no additional cost. This workshop is focused on maximizing strategic plans, hospitality, and marketing for your congregation. Hands-on time will enhance practical application. **Please bring copies of the following items:** bulletins, newsletters, and other pamphlets for these activities. The presenters are all experienced Mission Developers with proven concrete and practical and creative ideas to share.

Interactive Opportunities

This year's assembly features many interactive opportunities that allow you to more directly experience the life and spirit of our Synod. These include: a Contemplative Room with a labyrinth and continuous prayer led by Anchoress Sandy Bryant of Lake Chelan Lutheran Church. Prayer walks and a Walk for Water will be held outdoors. A family style meal on the first evening is intended to allow you to sit with, meet and converse with members from around the Synod. A large graphic depicting the many congregations of our Synod will allow you to share the special ministries your congregation shares with your local community. A community Bible study led by Rev. Ron Glusenkamp prior to the start of Assembly business will also be held. We hope that you'll take advantage of all of these opportunities when we gather together.

How to prepare for Assembly

You are encouraged to prepare through prayer, reading registration and pre-assembly materials and by attending your cluster's Pre-Assembly meeting for conversation about matters coming before this year's assembly.

More questions?

Registration/Housing: Assembly Registrar Diana Abken at registrar@ewaidssynod.org;

Program/Assembly: Assembly Manager Julia Bennett at 208-867-1217 or jvpbennett@gmail.com

Synod Business: Synod Administrator Cathy Steiner at 509-838-9871 or office@ewaidsynod.org