



Central / Southern Illinois Synod

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DATE March, 2013
TO Congregational Voting Members and Visitors to the 2013 Synod Assembly
Central / Southern Illinois Synod
FROM Rev. Ron Moorman
Assistant to the Bishop

IT'S TIME TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly is scheduled for June 6-7-8, 2013.

Our theme this year is: *"Blessed to be a Blessing!"* There you have it! The core of our faith...the heart of our lives as Christians. Come join friends and colleagues as we take time from our busy schedules to reaffirm our belief in this essential component of our lives as Lutheran Christians! Spend this valuable time assessing how this critical belief fills our days and gives guidance and meaning to our actions. This is a time for reflection, for discussion, for learning, as well as a time to catch up with your fellow Christians and friends. It will most certainly be a mix of learning and living!

**The Assembly will convene at 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 6, 2013 and
conclude on Saturday, June 8, 2013
and will again be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield.**

If you have not already done so, begin now to select your congregational voting members to the Assembly. Keep in mind that in addition to the adult delegation from your congregation, each congregation is entitled to send one youth (male or female) as a voting member to the Assembly. We urge you to take advantage of this provision—it will allow your young people to be involved with and connected in a meaningful way to the larger church community. They are, after all, our future leaders!

A few reminders...

Registration The pre-registration deadline is May 15, 2013.
There will be a late fee of \$25 for registrations postmarked after this date.
The registration form should be copied as needed for each voting member and visitor from your congregation.

We also encourage all of your voting members to read the enclosed Synod Assembly Policy Guide —it will help you understand better and interact easier with the synod business process.

Assembly Materials All materials and reports will be available on or about May 1, 2013, as they become available on the synod web site. You are encouraged to take the time to read through them.

Synod web site at: www.csis-elca.org

Sometime during the first two weeks in May, voting members can expect to receive in the mail, a copy of the proposed Agenda, Proposed 2014 Budget, Nominating Ballot for Synod Council / Committee positions, and Resolutions and / or Memorials as they are submitted.

Some special notes about this year's Assembly:

- ✠ There will be an extended period of time provided for dialogue with Bishop John Roth—a chance to ask questions, get answers, share thoughts and opinions on the status of the synod;
- ✠ Else Thompson, Executive for Hyman Resources of the ELCA, will be with us to deliver greetings from Bishop Hanson, share and update current church news and happenings as well as answer questions from the floor.
- ✠ Our Festival Worship will be held on Thursday evening, June 6 at 8:00 PM at the Church of the Little Flower—the site of our worship for many years. Bishop Roth will preach and preside...music will be provided by an Assembly Choir, and the Festival Offering will be designated for ministries of the Lutheran Church in Madagascar.
- ✠ Our banquet will take place on Friday evening, June 7, at 6:00 PM with our annual recognition of anniversaries and special achievements followed by entertainment provided by musical entertainer Robert Sampson (check him out on YouTube). This is a time devoted primarily to fellowship, networking, and relaxing. Enjoy!!

As members of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod, this is your event---a chance to get updated on synod activities, to gather new information, share ideas, ask questions, visit with old friends and make new ones! We look forward to seeing you and to joining you in celebrating our common bond in Christ Jesus!!

SEE YOU IN JUNE!!

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

