

April 4, 2017

TO: Iowa District West Pastors and Professional Church Workers
FROM: Pastoral Conference Committee-Dennis Martens, Secretary/Treasurer
RE: Iowa District West Pastoral Conference, May 1-2, 2017

The next Iowa District West Pastoral Conference will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church 3204 S Lakeport St, Sioux City on May 1-2, 2017. Our conference presenter is Michael Middendorf. He will be speaking on the topic “**Reaching into Romans.**” See the accompanying schedule and biography.

Over the last two years due to our conference bank balance we were able to cover the cost of the attendees. For this conference, there are two separate fees. The first fee is the congregational fee in the amount of \$40. This fee is paid by each parish, whether their pastor attends or not. (**Note:** Multi-point parishes, including those formerly referred to as “permanent vacancies” which are served by another congregation, will be treated as one parish—meaning only one congregational fee would be due.) The second fee is a church worker fee of \$25.00 for each professional church worker who attends. Thus, as an example, a congregation having three professional church workers attending would pay the flat \$40 congregational fee plus \$25 for each worker attending, or a total of \$115. There is no fee for spouses of workers to attend the sessions or for pastors who are retired. Meal costs for spouses/children are extra, and can be found on the registration form. **Multi-point parishes, including those newly identified by the Synod (formerly permanent vacancies served by another congregation), will be treated as one parish for the \$40 fee.**

In addition to providing the congregational fee, due whether pastor(s)/church worker(s) attend or not, congregations are also encouraged to provide for the lodging expenses of the conference for pastors and professional church workers, as well as for their spouse/family. Note: Although this is a pastoral conference, other professional church workers are *also* invited to attend. Thus, the congregation is encouraged to support them as they would their pastor.

Housing arrangements are to be made directly with the hotel of your choice by each participant. Participants will need to make those arrangements as soon as possible to insure that a room is reserved for them. Below are a couple links to help you with your hotel options in Sioux City. President Turner’s Presidium Welcome on Monday Evening will be held at Famous Dave’s in the upper room by the Stoney Creek Inn.

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g38400-Sioux_City_Iowa-Hotels.html

<https://www.expedia.com/Sioux-City-Hotels.d601710.Travel-Guide-Hotels>

Talk with your elders/leaders about the cost for you to attend this required conference. The registration form will hopefully answer all questions about costs and registration matters. Please completely fill out and return these forms by the deadline, **April 21** or email the information—see address on registration form—and send payment separately or pay at the conference. As always, if you have questions, please e-mail me at dmartensfaith@yahoo.com or call me at 712-786-2225.

We thank our congregations for their support and encouragement of the continued growth of our pastors and professional church workers.

Pastor Dennis Martens, Secretary/Treasurer
Iowa District West Pastoral Conference Planning Committee

Link to restaurants in the Sioux City area: <http://visitsiouxcity.org/where-to-eat/>