

VSWO 2018 Call to Convention

Virginia Synodical Women's Organization - Women of the ELCA

Thirty-first Annual Convention - August 3-4, 2018

Bethel Lutheran Church, 2077 N Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603

- Convention Theme:** "Let Us Encourage"
- Convention Scripture:** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up on meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10: 23-25
- Convention Hymn:** “When Peace, Like a River” LBW Hymn 346
- CWO Representative:** Lydia Dávila, Caribbean Synod
Lydia is serving her second term on the WELCA board and is a member of the programs and communication committee. A longtime member of Sión Lutheran Church in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, Lydia served her local unit in many roles, including treasurer, vice-president and president. She has also been the President of the Caribbean Synodical Women’s organization.
- Special Guest:** Bishop Robert Humphrey
- In-kind donations:** **Personal care kits for LWR and wheelchair caddies for local senior homes**
Our service projects this year are part local, part global. You may bring items to convention for personal care kits to be donated to Lutheran World relief and/or your unit/conference can sew wheelchair caddies and adopt a local senior center or nursing home to receive your handiwork. You are encouraged to bring one sample of your work to convention.
- Offerings:** The Love Offering will be divided between two organizations that our host church supports: WATTS and CCAP. WATTS provides temporary shelter and other services to the homeless. CCAP offers a food pantry and clothing distribution. Offering will be taken at the door prior to the worship service and the VSWO offering will be taken during worship.
- Business:** Convention business will be conducted on Friday, August 3rd and will include the election of a Vice President, Secretary, and 2 board members, as well as the adoption of the 2019 – 2020 budget.
- Awareness Sessions:** ***Saturday will be devoted to our workshops. If you wish, you will be able to attend all that are offered!***
- Rostered Leaders:** The VSWO Board noted the declining participation in the Young Women Guest program and approved a recommendation for the 2018 convention to invite all women rostered leaders from the Virginia Synod to attend convention with registration covered by the VSWO.

VSWO 2018 Call to Convention

Official notice is given that the 31st annual convention of the Virginia Synodical Women's Organization (VSWO) of the Women of the ELCA will be held at Bethel Lutheran Winchester, 2077 N Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603, August 3-4, 2018

VOTING MEMBERS

The constitution of the VSWO includes the following provisions for representation at convention:

Article VI, Section 2: Representation Item 1: Voting members of a convention shall be the elected officers and board members of the synodical women's organization and one voting member from each unit on the roll of this synodical women's organization.

Item 2: Those congregations not represented by a unit shall be invited to send to the regular convention, one representative who shall have seat and voice. Voting members *must* register for convention using the enclosed Registration Form. If possible, please return form by July 6th. The Bulletin of Reports will be sent electronically and available on-line for printing by July 13th. Hard copies are available upon request at a cost of \$5.00 per copy.

SCHEDULE

Registration will begin at 11:30am on Friday with Devotions, Lunch (**voting members only**) and Orientation from 12:00-1:00. Business will be conducted from 1:00-5:00pm and all voting members are required to attend. Dinner is on your own. We will return to church at 6:30 for fellowship, dessert & coffee followed by large and small group. Saturday will begin with music and devotion at 8:45am. Small groups will be in one hour blocks with a break for lunch. Convention will conclude with worship at 2:30.

FAIR SHARE TRAVEL FUND

Delegates attending the entire convention will be reimbursed under the guidelines of the Fair Share Travel Fund, providing their unit has sent \$25 by July 28 to VSWO Treasurer Edith Blake, 3377 Brandywine Dr, Chesapeake, Virginia, 23321. Travel reimbursement requests must be turned in by the end of Business Session on Friday August 3rd.

LODGING -HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS

We have a block of rooms on hold for Friday night at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites 142 Fox Ridge Lane, Winchester, VA 22603 Tel: 540-667-7050 Cost is \$75.00+tax per night for king or 2 queen bed room and \$85.00+tax per night for queen bed suite. Breakfast is included. Please mention code VSW when calling. Deadline to reserve room at this rate is July 15th.

MEALS

Friday lunch (voting members only) and Saturday buffet lunch are included in the registration and catered by Flavours by Sodexo (Shenandoah University).

GUIDE TO ENCLOSED FORMS

- **Registration form**
All participants (voting members, visitors, guests, board members, conference coordinators) must return Registration Form, along with a check (if applicable) to Genie Brown, Registrar, at the address on the form by July 20. **Voting members are encouraged to return the registration form by July 6th.**
- **Board Nomination Form**
Use the enclosed form for nominations for Vice President, Secretary, 2 board members. **Mail to Helen Weaver by July 13.**
- **Sophie Wilson Grant**
This grant was established to help defray costs for first-time, non-voting member participants. **Mail to Edith Blake by July 6.**
- **Health Form**
Return with registration form

QUESTIONS REGARDING REGISTRATION?

Contact convention registrar Genie Brown at grandmag2@cox.net or 540-774-9165 or Helen Weaver at hkweaver@comcast.net

REGISTRATION FORM

VSWO – Thirty-first Annual Convention ~ August 3-4, 2018

Additional copies can be found at www.vswoweebly.com

MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM BY JULY 20, 2018 TO:

Genie Brown, Registrar
5517 South Village Dr
Roanoke, VA 24018

Questions? Contact Genie at grandmag2@cox.net or 540.774.9165

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Church/City _____

Conference _____ Email _____

Registration	Fee	Amount due
Full participant	\$50.00	
Meals		
Saturday lunch	Included	
Bulletin of Reports (hard copy)		
	\$5.00	
I've included a gift for the Betty Wilson Triennial Scholarship	\$ _____	
Total amount due		\$

Please check all that apply:

- My check is enclosed. *(Make registration checks payable to VSWO)*
- My registration will be paid by the VSWO*
- I would like a hard copy of the Bulletin of Reports (\$5.00)
- I have special dietary needs _____

Please check **all** that apply:

- This is my **FIRST** time attending VSWO Convention
- Looking for someone to share a room
- Voting Member
- Participant
- VSWO Board Member*
- Invited Guest or Speaker*
- VSWO Officer*
- Conference Coordinator*
- Rostered Leader*

**Virginia Synodical Women's Organization
EMERGENCY CONTACT AND MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM
VSWO CONVENTION**

(The information you provide may assist people treating you in case of an emergency. These forms are shredded after Convention)

First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____

Home Address _____
Street City State/Country Zip Code

Age _____ Birth Date _____ Gender (M/F) _____

Blood Type _____ Date of last tetanus shot _____ Do you wear glasses or contact lenses? _____

Describe treatments you are receiving for a current illness/condition (including chronic illnesses, i.e. asthma, diabetes, seizures) _____

List any allergies (e.g., insect stings, food, medication, etc.) _____

List any medications you are currently taking _____

Emergency Contact #1 _____ Relationship _____

Home Telephone _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Emergency Contact #2 _____ Relationship _____

Home Telephone _____ Work _____ Cell _____

PERMISSION TO TREAT

I give permission for Medical personnel to treat me in the event that I am unconscious or otherwise unable to give consent.

(printed name)

(signature)

(date)

Please return to Genie Brown with your registration form
or bring with you to the registration table at the VSWO convention.

This form is mandatory for participation in the convention.

NOMINATION FORM – OFFICER/BOARD MEMBER

Virginia Synodical Women's Organization ~ Women of the ELCA

MAIL/EMAIL COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM BY July 13, 2018

Helen Weaver

hkweaver@comcast.net

14705 Ridge Point Dr

Midlothian, VA 23112

Individual must consent to serve if elected. This nomination is for:

Vice President (2 year term) Secretary (2 year term) Board member (2 to be elected for 2 year terms)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

Email address: _____

Age range 34 and under 35-49 50-64 65 or older

Ethnic/racial heritage Caucasian Black or African American Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native

Middle Eastern or Arab Asian

Church/City _____ Conference _____

Occupation/Vocation _____

Women of the ELCA Experience (Check all that apply.)

Local unit: current participant officer

Conference: participant conference team conference coordinator

Synodical: attended convention convention voting member VSWO board member VSWO officer

Churchwide: attended Triennial Triennial voting member Churchwide board member Churchwide officer

Hobbies: _____

Volunteer Work: _____

Form submitted by Name: _____ Phone _____

Unit and conference _____

SOPHIE WILSON GRANT APPLICATION

Virginia Synodical Women's Organization ~ Women of the ELCA
Thirty-first Annual Convention ~ August 3-4, 2018

The Sophie Wilson Grant is available to help offset the costs of convention for
FIRST-TIME, NON-VOTING MEMBER ATTENDEES.

Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by July 13, 2018.

MAIL COMPLETED GRANT APPLICATION FORM BY July 6, 2018 TO:

**Edith Blake
3377 Brandywine Dr.
Chesapeake, Virginia, 23321**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

Email address _____

Church/City _____ Conference _____

Occupation/Vocation _____

To what extent are you currently involved in Women of the ELCA? _____

Why is attending this convention important to you? _____

How will you use this experience when you return home? _____

Why are you requesting grant support? _____

If chosen as a grant recipient, we ask that you attend the entire convention.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date _____

Virginia Synodical Women's Organization
Genie Brown, Circulation Manager
5517 South Village Drive
Roanoke, VA 24018

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