

The Synod Journey January Updates!

FORMS DUE

Below is the list of forms that need to be sent to the synod office by May 1. In the event that one of our servant event sites requires an additional form, you will be notified by email as soon as possible. All forms can be downloaded from the Synod Journey website: www.nemnsynod.org/SynodJourney, click on the "Registration Forms" tab. The forms are in the top left column. **Before sending in forms, make sure all forms are complete and accurate, have necessary signatures and you have the appropriate copies!**

- **Synod Journey Health and Release Form**
(one for each participant, youth and adult: send originals, you keep a copy)
- **Special Needs Survey**
(one per congregation)
- **ELCA Youth Gathering Adult Release of Liability Form***
(one for each adult leader: send a copy, you keep original)
- **ELCA Youth Gathering Youth Release of Liability Form***
(one for each youth participant: send a copy, you keep original)
- **ELCA Medical Form***
Please **DO NOT list your social security number** as requested on this form.
(one for each participant, youth and adult: send a copy, you keep original)

*These are the forms required by the ELCA Youth Gathering. Why do we ask for the ELCA forms? The ELCA will not allow participants to participate in the servant and other events without their paperwork. By sending us a copy, it means you have peace of mind that all your paperwork is complete and means a copy is on site in case yours are lost or stolen!

REGISTRATION CHANGES

Additions/Waiting List: The Synod Journey is full and we are not able to take additions. HOWEVER, we are able to put youth on a waiting list. If a cancellation occurs in any of our Synod Journey congregations, youth on the waiting list can take those spots (and assume full payment for that spot) if space allows in your bus and housing assignments. Email Catherine to add youth to the waiting list.

Substitutions: If a member of your group cancels, you can make a same-gender substitution. If housing configurations allow, it *may* be possible to do a cross-gender substitution. Contact Catherine as soon as you have a cancellation and potential substitution to see what is possible, and what forms are necessary.

Cancellations: Each payment is non-refundable. Please contact Catherine as soon as you know of a cancellation that you will not be able to fill, to avoid any additional costs. If there are youth on the waiting list who are able to fill your cancellation, we will reduce your final payment to reflect the substitution.

In case you didn't catch the common thread...contact Catherine if you have any changes!

REQUIRED SPRING TRAINING EVENTS FOR ADULT LEADERS!

Mark your calendars now! There will be three identical spring trainings for adult leaders to equip you with the final details for the Synod Journey and ELCA Youth Gathering. It is expected that all adult leaders attend one of these trainings, and **mandatory that at least one adult leader from each group** attend. You are also welcome to bring additional adults working with your group. These trainings are essential as you prepare for the Journey!

Training dates and locations are below. Light snacks will be provided.

Sunday, April 15

2:00-4:30pm

First Lutheran Church
301 Lawler Ave S, Hinckley

Saturday, April 21

9:30am - Noon

First Lutheran Church
1100 E Superior St., Duluth

Sunday, April 22

2:00-4:30pm

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
6190 Fairview Rd., Baxter

HOUSTON HOUSING

We will receive our housing assignment in Houston in late January. As soon as I hear from the ELCA, I'll post that update on the Facebook group! **If you see reminders and notices in Gathering updates about making housing arrangements, disregard that information!** We take care of all housing assignments for you!

SYNOD JOURNEY BAND APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 15

Youth on the Synod Journey are invited to apply to be part of the Synod Journey Band! We need both instrumentalists and vocalists. Band members will need to attend 3 rehearsals: March 11, April 29 and June 3. Transportation to and from the rehearsals is up to the participants. Applications are due January 15. Youth will be notified by January 31 with our decision. More information and the application link can be found on the "SJ Resources" page.

GETTING READY RESOURCES

More Story Kit Resource have been posted, as well as worship liturgies! Resources will continue to be added in the coming months. Keep checking back to the "SJ Resources" page!

CPR TRAINING

Trinity Lutheran Church in Princeton is hosting an American Heart Association CPR Training January 13th at 9am-12pm. The cost is \$45. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register, call Heidi Skuza (Trinity, Princeton, Primary Leader) at (612) 987-1798.

Instant Church Directory

We have set up the online directory for Synod Journey Adult Leaders! You can download it to your smartphone: search for "Instant Church Directory" in the Apple App Store, Google Play, or Amazon Appstore, or go to this link: <https://www.instantchurchdirectory.com/app>. These links and more information are also on the Synod Journey website on the new "Adult Leader Info" page: www.nemnsynod.org/SJAdults.