December 27, 2019   
Dear Augsburg Lutheran Churches members:

We gather for another Annual Meeting to be held during this Training Event for the ‘Augsburg Chaplains NALC & ALC Endorsing Agent (mandatory for military) Training’.

Training Dates: February 23-28, 2020                \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*DATES CHANGED\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Travel Dates: February 22, 2020, and February 29, 2020

Location: Doubletree by Hilton, 600 N. El Paso St., El Paso, TX

Airport Shuttle is generally available before 2100.  Call: 915-532-8733

Lodging: A block of rooms has been reserved at the military rate which is highly reduced from the regular price. The daily room rate includes breakfast and parking for participants.

**Schedule for the Week of Feb. 23-28, 2020:**

Saturday, February 22

Travel Day

Arrive, get settled, eat, meet, greet.

Sunday, February 23

1130 – COB Worship at St. Paul’s (get new address)

1245 – 1400: Lunch on your own

P.T. on your own

1700 – 1900: Endorser’s Dinner at the DoubleTree Hotel

Monday, February 24

0900 – 1200: Class

1200 – 1300: Lunch

1300 – 1700: Class

1730 – 1900: Dinner (TBA)

Tuesday, February 25

0900 – 1200: Class

1200 – 1300: Working Lunch/Chaplain Bus.

1300 – 1700: Class

1730 – 1900: Dinner at Ansons 11

Wednesday, February 26

0900 – 1200: Class

1200 – 1300: Working Lunch/Chaplain Bus.

1300 – 1700: Class

1730 – 1900: Soup Supper

1900 – 2000: Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 27

0900 – 1200: Class

1200 – 1300: Lunch

1300 – 1700: Class

1730 – 2000: Dinner at the State Line

Friday, February 28

0900 – 1200: Class

1200 – 1300: Lunch

1300 – 1700: Class

1730 – 2000: Dinner (TBA)

Saturday, February 29

Travel Day

Check-out

                  President of the Institute of Lutheran Theology (ILT), Dr. Dennis Bielfeldt, Ph.D., will provide an in-depth look at the contributions Luther made to the work of a chaplain today in “Caring for the Flock: Luther, Spirituality and the Care of the Soul”. Participants will have the opportunity to receive graduate credit (M.Div., M.Th., STM, D. Min., Ph.D.), or continuing education credit for this training by enrolling with ILT and paying the respective tuition.

You are invited to be a participant and may either calling Rev. Lenae Rasmussen 915-238-9000 or the ILT in order to enroll for this gathering. The Lutheran Reformation will be highlighted as Pastoral Care competencies required of chaplains covers Nurture the Living, Care for the Wounded and Honor the Dead…… Ask what you should read in order to be prepared for sessions.

Cost of Attendance: $500 to cover the cost of lunch, coffee, snacks, and conference room rent.

Lunch: 1200-1300 Monday through Friday is included in the registration fee.

Breakfast is included with your room charge this year. Dinner, PT, Fellowship, etc. is on your own.

     The (annual) Fall Theological Conference held in Brookings, SD in latter September was a success with 20 participants coming to The Old Sanctuary. Keynote speaker was Dr. Steven A. Hein, whose presentations followed Dr. Dennis Bielfeldt’s ‘The Scandal of the Cross’. Mr. Leon Miles delivered information and data on teaching theology.

Watch for schedule for the 2020 Fall Theological Conference to be held in Brookings, SD. It is always good to gather as Augsburgers!

     I was pronounced Cancer Free in July, after the breast cancer surgery that removed what was left of the cancer lump and 8 lymph nodes. Radiation followed so I give thanks to God and the prayers of the Righteous for a prognosis of near-zero chance of returning breast cancer! Thanks be to God and also to you, for your prayers were answered to the affirmative.

Do not drive to Brookings to see me, for Tim and I have moved to 5913 Mira Hermosa Drive in El Paso, TX 79912. Do come and visit us and be our guests! Three bedrooms will help us accommodate you and your family. Tim continues to teach, write Table Talk and much other for the Institute, while I walk the mountain driveways to build my body back, and we both enjoy the beginning of Retirement by walking the irrigated Cassitas Coronado! We aim to get healthy and strong.

     Merry Christmas to you and yours. And a blessed year as we advance ahead in something called “2020”, referring to the ‘best vision acquired by looking backward’. I think that training via “Caring for the Flock” with lessons from Martin Luther will provide us with providential ability to Nurture the Living, Care for the Wounded, and Honor the Dead.

Augsburg Correspondence Committee member,

Dale Ann Swenson

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