

ENGLISH DISTRICT

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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 3, 2021

Member Congregations of the English District-LCMS:

By now, you will have learned that the English District Board of Directors decided to **defer the 57th English District Convention to June 20–22, 2022**. This decision was taken following the referendum of Synod congregations that resulted in deferring the Synod Convention from 2022 to 2023 and allowing Districts to hold their conventions in either 2021 or 2022.

Because the District Convention will be held in June 2022, some adjustments have been made concerning deadlines for pre-convention actions, which I will outline below:

(1) Nominations for District President and District Vice-President

District Bylaws IV.B.3 and IV.C.3 state that the District Secretary can receive congregational nominations for District President and District Vice-President *“up to four months prior to the opening date of the District Convention.”* Due to the District Convention start date being moved to June 20, 2022, that **deadline for receiving congregational nominations is reestablished as February 20, 2022**. Any nominations that have already been submitted remain valid. If for some reason the nominee submitted by a congregation becomes ineligible for election, the nominating congregation will be allowed to submit a replacement nomination. Publication of nominees and total nomination votes will be done within the *Convention Workbook*, as required by District Bylaws IV.B.3 and IV.C.3.

(2) Nominations for Other District Offices

As required by District Bylaws IV.D.2 and IV.E.3, the **deadline for submitting suggested names for other elected offices within the District is reestablished as February 20, 2022**. These nominations can be submitted to the Committee on Nominations by the congregational and individual members of the District, as well as the laypersons who are members of District congregations. Any nominations already submitted remain valid.

(3) Election of Circuit Visitors

Circuit Visitors are elected by the Circuit Forums of the Visitation Circuits, then ratified by the District Convention. As of today, only 10 of the 24 Visitation Circuits of the District had held a Circuit Forum to elect a Circuit Visitor; those election results remain valid. If a Circuit Forum elected a Circuit Visitor who becomes ineligible to hold that position, that Circuit Forum will be allowed to convene again to hold a new election. The remaining 14 Visitation Circuits will need to convene their Circuit Forums and complete the election process. Though this could be done early next year, it may be wiser to do so later in 2021.

(4) Submission of Overtures

Overtures (proposed resolutions) can be submitted by Congregations, Circuit Forums, and plenary or regional District Church Worker Conferences to District President Jamison Hardy for consideration. President Hardy has **extended the deadline for receiving overtures to February 20, 2022**. Overtures already submitted remain valid.

(5) Election & Registration of Convention Delegates

Each congregation has the right to elect one pastoral delegate and one lay delegate to represent it at the District Convention. An alternate lay delegate should also be elected. If a congregation's voters assembly has already elected convention delegates, those results remain valid. If a congregation's voters assembly has not conducted these elections, it should be an agenda item for an upcoming meeting. Some congregations are accustomed to holding annual or semi-annual voters assembly meetings in June or July; in such cases, it may be wisest to hold the delegate elections this summer.

To assist the District staff with convention planning, including accurate housing and meal needs, please return the Convention Delegate Accreditation Form to the District office by **February 20, 2022**. A separate registration form for convention lodging and meals will be sent to accredited delegates in March 2022.

Helpful forms and instructions for District Convention activities will continue to be available via the English District website: <https://englishdistrict.org/events/57th-english-district-convention>.

I will also be able to render assistance to you, as together we navigate the District Convention process. Should you have any questions, please ask them, either by email (EnglishDistrictSecretary@gmail.com) or by telephone (717-636-1545). District Staff may also be able to answer your questions (248-476-0039).

Christ's peace and blessings be with you all!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Luke T. Zimmerman" followed by a stylized flourish.

Rev. Luke T. Zimmerman
Secretary, English District—LCMS