

Lake Erie Regional Church Workers Conference

GRAND RAPIDS and DORR MICHIGAN

OCTOBER 16-18, 2018

Dear brothers in Christ,

This year is a year of **CHANGE**. Some of these changes were requested by you, the conference, at last year's meeting. Other changes have been implemented by our organizing committee.

Change: Last year you asked us to move the conference so that it was hosted by one of our congregations and so we did. We give praise and thanks to God for Pastor Ryan Beffrey and Epiphany Lutheran Church in Dorr, Michigan for their generous offer to host our conference.

Change: We will be staying at a hotel in Grand Rapids but our conference will be at the church in Dorr, located 10 miles from the hotel.

Change: YOU WILL NEED TO BOOK AND PAY FOR YOUR OWN ROOMS. We have reserved a block of 40 rooms at the hotel for a special rate. When you book mention you are part of the Lake Erie Regional Church Workers Conference and they will give you the discounted rate. Once the 40 rooms are booked they will give us another block of rooms. PLEASE BOOK ASAP (within the two weeks) so that we can get the next block of rooms.

The Hotel: Baymont by Wyndham

The hotel phone number is: (616) 583-9535

The address is: 8282 Pfeiffer Farms Drive, Byron Center, Michigan 49315

The website is: https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/baymont/grand-rapids-michigan/baymont-inn-and-suites-grand-rapids-sw-byron-center/overview?hotel_id=17830&brand_code=BU

Change: You are responsible to find your own room-mate if you wish to share costs.

Change: Registration fees will include the cost for the speakers and the meals during your stay at the conference. Your congregation will be expected to pay for your room, travel, and meals in transit.

What you need to do...

1. Book your room NOW at the hotel. Find a room-mate and split the costs if possible.
2. Send your registration form (below) and a \$150.00 check to:
Rev. Jeff Teeple
Peace Lutheran Church
355 E. State Road 120
Fremont, IN 46737 ***Make the check out to 'Lake Erie Pastoral Conference'***
3. Any questions regarding registration should be directed to Rev. Jeff Teeple at pastort@plcms.org
4. Speak to your congregation's council regarding the changes in room and travel.

More Important Details

The name and address of the church is:

Epiphany Lutheran Church

4219 Park Lane
Dorr, MI 49323

Epiphany is 2.5 miles west of US-131. The exit for Epiphany is exit 68, for 142nd Ave. **Just behind the Post Office on 142nd.** Please note that the church is not easily seen from the main road.

What To Do

There is nothing to do in Dorr. Nothing against the township, but it's a small town and basically a bedroom community. However, once you head out of Dorr, there are a lot of options, especially in Grand Rapids.

Shopping - Across the street from the hotel is a fairly new (maybe 2 years old) Tanger Outlet Mall with a lot of great shops.

Museums - Grand Rapids (half hour north) has plenty to see, from the Grand Rapids Art Museum, Grand Rapids Public Museum, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, and the Grand Rapids Children's Museum

There are also several breweries and distilleries that do tours. USA Today named Grand Rapids "Beer City USA." Between breweries, distilleries, and meaderies, there are almost 85 places to choose from, and that doesn't even get to all the wineries that are around.

Another great place to look around and relax is Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Museum. It's a 200-acre outdoor sculpture garden, the largest in the Midwest, and has the largest tropical conservatory in the state. There are also nature trails and a guided tram tour. Meijer Gardens is definitely worth the time and cost of admission (\$14.50; \$11 for 65+).

A good website for Grand Rapids attractions is www.experiencegr.com

Lake Michigan is not far away. The best place to go on Lake Michigan is Grand Haven, but that's an hour away. Saugatuck and Douglas are much closer and have a lot of great things to see and do, especially for food and art.

Registration Form

Lake Erie Regional Church Workers Conference

October 16-18, 2018

Name: _____

Pastor: _____ Lay: _____ DCE: _____ Deacon/Deaconess: _____

Church Name, Address, City, State, Zip:

If not attending please let us know why – perhaps we can help.

Meals while at conference (breakfasts are provided at Hotel) – please check the other meals you would be attending.

My spouse will be attending and will join in the meals _____

Tuesday Supper _____ Spouse _____

Wednesday Lunch _____ Spouse _____

Wednesday Supper _____ Spouse _____

Please send this form with your \$150 check made out to 'Lake Erie Pastoral Conference' to:

Rev. Jeff Teeple

Peace Lutheran Church

355 E. State Road 120

Fremont, IN 46737