

## Safe Practices for This In-Person Event

As of now, we plan to gather in person for this Bishop's Theological Conference at Cragun's Resort in the Brainerd Lakes Area. We begin on Sunday, Oct. 10 at 5 p.m. and the conference ends at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 12. We want you to feel as safe as is possible coming away. To encourage that, everyone will have a single room and the synod is subsidizing the cost.

A safe, enriching and successful gathering will be a partnership between us and Cragun's. Here are some of the practices on both sides that you should know about in advance:

## **Cragun's Safety Practices:**

- Because it is the end of the season, the resort is nowhere near full capacity during our stay; we are booking larger spaces than usual.
- We are getting creative—moving meals and worship outdoors or to indoor/outdoor spaces at every opportunity
- If we need to cancel due to a change in pandemic-related circumstances, we get a full refund, so you know that we are not making any decisions for financial reasons
- Cragun's staff follows all current statewide and county health department guidelines

## The Synod's Safety Practices:

To care for one another, we will meet or exceed current CDC guidelines on gathering/shared public spaces. This means:

- We will wear masks in shared indoor spaces except when we are eating or drinking; you are encouraged to spread out during mealtimes;
- We will opt for larger spaces, open windows and doors, and physical distancing at tables whenever possible
- Hand sanitizer will be provided and present all over the resort
- Everyone will get a single room (see above)
- Colored wristbands (green, yellow, red) will be provided for all attendees to easily communicate their level of comfort in a group of people.
  - Green says: "I'm feeling okay in a group; you can greet me normally," etc.
  - Yellow says: "I'm taking some extra precautions while we gather. Let's bump elbows instead of hugging or shaking hands," etc.
  - Red says: "I'm being extra cautious, please observe physical distance from me."

continued

- We are encouraging more recreation time to be outside (weather permitting). If you have normally found a place to sit inside and chat with friends, consider doing that on the resort's pontoon, or on the golf course, or on a bike ride!
- If you are not feeling well as the conference approaches, do not come! Just let us know and your registration will be fully refunded.
- We are closely monitoring statewide public health mandates and will cancel this gathering if that seems prudent

Because it is important to us that people feel safe in this group, we ask that you not attend this year if you are not vaccinated against COVID-19.

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