



Dear Sisters in Christ,

Your Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA (WELCA) Board and our Host Cluster, 7-Diaspora, are excited to invite you to our 36th Annual Convention to be held at the Embassy Suites in Huntsville, Alabama, Friday, September 20, 2024, through Sunday, September 22, 2024. This year's theme is "Created to Shine Like Stars" based on Daniel 12:3.

The ladies in our Host Cluster have been very busy planning a fun and exciting event for you. So please encourage the women in your unit to attend the convention and extend a personal invitation to the young women (ages 14-35). We want everyone to have the opportunity to "shine" as we worship together, study God's Word, workshops, fellowship, and conduct the business of this star-filled community of women.

This year's business will include electing a vice-president, secretary, and board members for next year. We will also approve the budget for fiscal year February 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026. If you have any other business to bring before the organization, please consider submitting a resolution. Please contact Phyllis Wade at wade.phyllis73@gmail.com for information on how to write a resolution.

Each congregational or special unit of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA is entitled to one voting member. It is very important that all congregations be represented as we conduct the business of our organization because only voting members can vote on any business brought before the convention.

Please prayerfully consider shining like a star and serving this community of women, note that *changes to the bylaws allow up to two people from a congregation* to serve on the board if one serves as an officer, and one serves as a board member.

We have several general scholarships of \$100 that may be used toward your registration fee. There is also the Whitney Hill Memorial Fund which provides \$100 for a young woman 35 or under, and the Caroline P. Gammell Memorial Fund for a woman over the age of 65. Scholarships are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to apply for a scholarship is July 1, 2024. Please contact Phyllis Wade at wade.phyllis73@gmail.com for an application. *Names and information submitted for scholarships are kept strictly confidential.*

Please note that you will need to make your hotel reservations directly with the Embassy Suites by calling 1- 256-539-7373, or can be made online by holding your ctrl key and click the link below:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=HSVES&groupCode=92C&arrivaldate=2024-09-19&departuredate=2024-09-22&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Hotel reservations must be made no later than August 19, 2024, for the group rate which starts at \$169.00 per night. Rates are based on the number of persons and can accommodate up to 4 people. Room rates include breakfast and 2 complimentary glasses of wine in the evening.

Event Summary

Rate Start Date: Now

End Date: Monday, August 19, 2024

Embassy Suites by Hilton Huntsville Hotel and Spa

800 Monroe Street, Huntsville, AL 35801

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the board members.

Come join us and help us create a constellation of WELCA stars!

Blessings on behalf of your SES WELCA Board and the ladies from our Host Cluster,

Phyllis Wade

President, Southeastern Synod WELCA

Attachments: Registration Form, Nomination Form, Voting Member Information, Convention Poster