



THE UNITY OF THE BRETHREN

"In essentials, UNITY; in non-essentials, LIBERTY; and in all things, LOVE."

May 3, 2019

TO: All Congregations (Ministers, Synodical Committee Lay Members, Committee Chairpersons, Ministerial Students, Unity Organizations and Youth Director)

This letter serves as your invitation to the 68th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren, which will be held July 11-12, 2019 (Thursday-Friday) at Wall Brethren Church, Wall, TX. The theme this year is **"United in Love"** with scripture from Colossians 3:14: *"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."*

It is the hope of the Executive Committee that this convention be a learning experience. We want to invite and encourage all, not just the delegates, to participate in the Convention.

Special events this year will include a **"Meet and Greet"** for all convention members and friends on **Wednesday, July 10**, held at the Springhill Suites Marriott from **5:30-6:30 p.m.**, Billy Riggs (pastor/motivational speaker on **Thursday evening** and the Ordination of Ryan Volkman on **Friday, July 12 at 7 p.m.**

Registration & Check-In for Delegates will be Thursday, July 11 at 8:00 a.m.; complimentary breakfast at 8:00 a.m., with Convention Activities beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Listed below are items (with due dates) that will need to be taken care of prior to the Convention. Please note that all forms (fillable files or links) are provided on the Unity Website.

- 1) **Unity Questionnaires.** Most have been submitted. I will contact you if I still need your church's information.
- 2) **Annual Assessments.** If you have not yet submitted your Annual Assessments for 2017 and/or 2018 to the Brethren Fund, please do so at this time. This assessment is based on the active communicant membership reported on the Unity Questionnaire and is currently \$35.00 for each member. Please note that annual assessments should be sent directly to **Rev Joe Emerson, Financial Secretary; PO Box 1295, Belton, TX, 76513.**
- 3) **Number of Delegates.** According to the Unity of the Brethren By-Laws, Congregations are entitled to one delegate per 50 members or the greater fraction thereof. If you have questions regarding the number of delegates your church is allowed, contact Liz Ripple, Administrative Assistant. 979-378-2239; lizripple@hotmail.com.

- 4) **Registration Form.** Deadline is **May 31, 2019**. Complete the registration information for each person attending the Convention.

- 5) **Convention Credentials Form.** Deadline is **May 31, 2019**.
 - a. Complete all information for each delegate and alternate and have it signed by your Minister and/or Board President and Secretary. Each page contains two Credential Forms – complete two forms for each delegate/alternate. Copy additional forms, as needed. **Mail one copy of the signed credential form(s) and the delegate fee(s) to Angie Hairrell, Secretary, 11482 FM 2155 Somerville, TX 77879 by May 15, 2019.** The second copy must be brought by the delegate to the registration table at the Convention.
 - b. The cost per delegate is \$400.00. Do not send money for alternates. Please make the check payable to Unity of the Brethren. This fee covers the administrative costs, mileage and meal reimbursement of the Convention members. Meal tickets will be in the packet for each delegate and Synodical Committee member. Delegates – please check with your congregation to ensure that the \$400.00 payment has been submitted prior to your departure to the Convention.
 - c. Lodging and food expenses outside the Convention are considered separate and should be covered by your congregation.

- 6) **Invitation letter** to the Convention from Wall Brethren Church includes **Hotel Information/Lodging** recommendations.

- 7) **DEADLINE FOR REPORTS:** Reports (all Officers, Committee/Board Chairpersons and Organizations) to be included in the Convention Packets are due no later than **May 31, 2019**. Report packets will be sent to all members of the Convention prior to the Convention to allow time for everyone to review the reports and therefore reduce the time needed to conduct business at the Convention.

All information will be posted on the Unity website – www.UnityoftheBrethren.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. You can also join the FaceBook event to receive reminders and updates.

Please remember the Convention and all participants in your prayers and for God's will to be done through the work of the Convention.

Angie Hairrell

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