



THE UNITY OF THE BRETHREN

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

May 16, 2023

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

Let's get ready for the 70th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren, which will be held on **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 20-22, 2023** at Camp Allen, Navasota. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information regarding the convention. Please remember the Convention in your prayers for God's will to be done and to pray for all the participants.

Registration & Check-In: Thursday, July 20 at 3:00 p.m.

Enclosures and information as follows:

- 1) **Questionnaires** – the deadline for the 2022 questionnaire was **April 17, 2023**.
- 2) **Convention Credentials Form** (copy more as needed) – Each page contains two Credentials forms – complete two forms for each delegate/alternate.
 - a. Please fill out all information – name, address, email, phone number - for each delegate and alternate and have it signed by your Minister and/or Board President and Secretary. Mail one copy of the signed credentials form(s) and the delegate fee(s) to Liz Ripple by **June 16, 2023**. The second copy is to be brought by the delegate to the registration table at the convention.
 - b. Please return \$250.00 for each delegate with the credentials form to Liz Ripple (keep a copy for your records). Do not send money for alternates. Please make the check payable to Unity of the Brethren. This fee covers the administrative costs and mileage reimbursement of the Convention members. Delegates – please check with your congregation to ensure that the \$250.00 payment has been submitted prior to your departure to the Convention.

According to the Unity of the Brethren 2019 By-Laws: Congregations are entitled to one delegate per 50 members or the greater fraction thereof. This translates into the following number of entitled delegates per number of members:

<u>Number of members:</u>	<u>Number of delegates:</u>
75 or less	1
76-125	2
126-175	3
176-225	4
226-275	5

- c. **Delegates, Pastors, Lay Members and Day Guests:** Everyone must register by **June 16, 2023**. Room reservation forms are enclosed. Please make your reservations through your congregation. We have single and double rooms reserved: Single rooms - \$130 a night; Double rooms - \$190 a night. All meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) are included in the cost. No

food is to be brought into the Conference Center. Day Guests will pay a day charge of \$35 which includes lunch, specifying the day of attendance.

- 3) **Invitation letter** to the Convention from the Executive Committee.
- 4) **DEADLINE FOR REPORTS:** Reports (all Officers, Committee/Board Chairpersons and Organizations) to be included in the Convention Packets are due by **JUNE 16, 2023**. Liz Ripple will contact all Chairs/Organizations for reports. The packets will be available for all members of the Convention. Reports will be emailed prior to the convention to give everyone time to read the reports.
- 5) If you have not yet submitted your Annual Assessments for 2021 and/or 2022 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 \$40.00 for each member. Please note that annual assessments should be sent directly to Kayla Marek, Financial Secretary, (kmarek2012@gmail.com) mailing address: 1804 Mallard Ln, Taylor, TX 76574.
- 6) This information (secretary's letter, 2022 questionnaire, convention credentials form, room reservations form and invitation letter) will also be posted on the Unity website – www.UnityoftheBrethren.org – see Convention 2023.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Liz Ripple

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