

“Signs of Hope in Turbulent Times”



The Twentieth Annual Grand Canyon Synod Retirees Retreat

Pastors, Deacons, Spouses, Widows, and Widowers

October 28, 29, 30, 2024

*Spirit in the Desert Retreat and Conference Center
Carefree, Arizona*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Are you new to retirement? Or have you been retired for some time now? Either way, we'd like to spend some time with you! We too are the "retired" among the Grand Canyon Synod's roster of saints. Please join us for a two-night gathering of new and old friends at this year's **Retirees Retreat** - a time for fellowship, worship, and learning in a peaceful desert setting.

Program:

We are pleased this year to have **Rev. Mark Hanson** with us as our presenter! Mark has been one of the most well-known leaders in our ELCA in the past half century. As Pastor, Bishop, ELCA Presiding Bishop, speaker and author, and for many years President of the Lutheran World Federation, Mark has been at the forefront of many challenges and creative changes in the life of our church not only in the United States, but across the globe. Newly re-elected Bishop **Deborah Hutterer** will present a *State of the Grand Canyon Synod* report, and **the Rev. Steve Holm**, a retired parish pastor and devotional writer, will again serve as Chaplain.

Schedule:

The retreat begins on Monday, October 28th at 1:00 PM and ends with lunch on Wednesday. The program includes presentations on our theme (above) that begins with personal loss and will include dialogues with global leaders, small-group gatherings, fellowship times, and a Reformation worship Service of Remembrance. We also encourage you to take time before and after the retreat to explore the unique shops and offerings of Carefree and Cave Creek.

Room and Board:

Rooms at the retreat center will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, with additional lodging available at the Hampton Inn just across the street. All meals (from Monday dinner through Wednesday lunch) will be at the retreat center.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Synod Retirees Retreat

(Pastors, Deacons, Spouses, Widows, and Widowers)

October 28 – 30, 2024

Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, Carefree, AZ

Participants will be assigned to rooms at Spirit in the Desert on a “first-come/first-served” basis.

Additional guests will be assigned to the Hampton Inn, just a short walk from the Retreat Center.

Registration fees are based on actual costs (rooms, meals, and program expenses) for two days, two nights, and six meals, reduced by generous gifts from many sources! With gratitude, we note that donations from **synod congregations make possible an approximately 50% reduction from actual costs.**



Registration Fees:

Double occupancy	\$185 per person = \$370 for two people
Single occupancy	\$230 for 1 person
Commuter	\$130 per person

Scholarships are available!

Please make a confidential inquiry to:

Registrar Jan Fosen: (602-758-0875) fosen1215@gmail.com

The Synod Retirees Retreat Team looks forward to your presence!

Helen & Les Hoffman, Jan Fosen, Sue & Joel Bjerkestrand, Steve and Eileen Holm, Jane Yost; Jane & Dan Hodgson, Kirk Anderson & Sheri Brown, Jennifer & Conrad Braaten

2024 REGISTRATION FORM

Grand Canyon Synod Retirees Retreat

Please Mail this completed Registration Form

with check payable to: **Grand Canyon Synod, ELCA & marked "Retirees Retreat"**
to: **Jan Fosen, Registrar: 19758 N Los Altos Way, Surprise, AZ 85374**

Date: _____ Date Received (for Jan's use only): _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone (_____) _____

E- Mail _____

(Please PRINT Carefully and clearly)

I/We require special accommodations: _____

_____ Two people in one room at \$185 /person = \$370

_____ One person in one room at \$230 / person

_____ I'm single, but would be willing to share a room with reduction of fee of \$50

_____ Commuter \$130 / person

\$ _____ TOTAL **AMOUNT** enclosed **by check** for my/our registration.

Your cancelled check serves as your Registration Confirmation.

A letter with up-to-date information (directions, housing, etc.) will be sent early in October, 2024

Cancellations will be refunded if requested by October 21, 2024.

Please register 'special needs' promptly (ADA – physical mobility rooms are limited)