

March 13, 2019

**TO:** Iowa District West Pastors and Professional Church Workers  
**FROM:** Pastors Conference Committee – Dennis Martens, Secretary/Treasurer  
**RE:** Iowa District West Pastors Conference, May 6-7, 2019

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**The next Iowa District West Pastors Conference will be held at Starlite Village Best Western Hotel, 1518 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW, Fort Dodge on May 6-7, 2019.** Our conference presenter will be the Rev. Dr. Matthew Rueger on the topic, *“Sexual Morality in A Christless World.”* See schedule and biography.

**There is only one congregational fee of \$65 for this Conference** which is paid by each parish. For example, a congregation having three professional church workers attending would pay a flat \$65 congregational charge, which includes the church workers’ noon meal on Monday. You should have already received the book “Sexual Morality in A Christless World” by Dr. Rueger from your circuit visitor which was distributed at our 2018 Fall Conference. If you haven’t received this book contact your circuit visitor. There is no fee for spouses of workers to attend the sessions, or for pastors who are retired. Meal cost for spouse is extra and can be found on the registration form. **Multi-point parishes, including those identified by the Synod (formerly permanent vacancies served by another congregation), will be treated as one parish for the \$65 fee. Congregations are requested to provide for the expenses of the conference for the pastor and wife and the Emeriti pastor under contract and wife.** We would like to thank IDW and acknowledge that the professional church worker fee for this conference is being financially offset through the District’s ministry partnership agreement with Brotherhood Mutual.

**Housing arrangements are to be made directly with the motel/hotel by each participant.**

Participants will need to make those arrangements **ASAP** to ensure that a room is reserved for them. Conference lodging has been arranged at the **Starlite Village Best Western Hotel, 1518 3rd Avenue NW, Fort Dodge.** The direct number to the hotel is **515-573-7177.** A block of rooms has been reserved for the conference. The per night cost plus taxes, which includes a full hot breakfast is \$55 for single queen, \$61 single king, and \$75 for a double queen. When making your reservation, ask for the Iowa District West Pastors Conference group rate. Please note that room rates are **only guaranteed until April 7.** Please call Starlite Village as soon as possible to make your arrangements. See the link on the agenda for a map from the church to the hotel. **Please note:** Breakfast Tuesday morning is on your own. Childcare will not be provided at this conference.

Talk with your elders/leaders about attending this required IDW conference. The registration form will hopefully answer all questions about registration matters. As always, we can use your help in planning for food at St. Paul by filling out and emailing your registration information to [dmartensfaith@yahoo.com](mailto:dmartensfaith@yahoo.com) by **April 26.** You may also call me at 515-386-3517.

We thank our congregations for their support and encouragement of the continued growth of our pastors and professional church workers.

Pastor Dennis Martens, Secretary/Treasurer

**IOWA DISTRICT WEST  
SPRING PASTORS CONFERENCE**

May 6-7, 2019 – Fort Dodge

Opening Worship: St. Paul Lutheran Church, 400 S 13th St

Conference: Starlite Village Best Western Hotel, 1518 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NW

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rueger

Theme: *“Sexual Morality in a Christless World”*

**Monday, May 6:**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 8:00–10:00  | Registration and Fellowship Hour at <b>St. Paul Lutheran Church</b> |
| 10:00–11:00 | Divine Service with Holy Communion at St. Paul Lutheran Church      |
| 11:00–12:00 | IDW Report: President Turner and District Staff                     |
| 12:00–2:00  | Lunch at St. Paul Lutheran Church & travel time to Starlite Village |

**(Conference Schedule Starlite Village Best Western Hotel)**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 2:00–2:45   | Plenary Session #1 <i>“Male and Female in the Old Testament”</i>                        |
| 2:45–3:30   | Break & check in time   |
| 3:30–4:15   | Plenary Session #2 <i>“Sexual Chaos in the Greek and Roman World”</i>                   |
| 4:15–4:45   | Snack Break   |
| 4:45–5:30   | Plenary Session #3 <i>“Redefined by the Gospel”</i>                                     |
| 5:30–5:45   | Closing Devotion: Denison Circuit (Circuit Visitor Merle Mahnken)<br>Dinner on your own |
| 7:30–9:00pm | Presidium Reception at The Starlite Village Best Western Hotel                          |

**Tuesday, May 7:**

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|-------------|--|
| 8:00–9:00   | Breakfast on your own  |
| 9:00–9:10   | Morning Devotion: Denison Circuit                                    |
| 9:10–9:25   | Conference President Report  |
| 9:25–10:25  | Plenary Session #4 <i>“The Modern Disintegration”</i>                |
| 10:25–10:55 | Break  |
| 10:55–11:55 | Plenary Session #5 <i>“Sex Education and Christian Re-education”</i> |
| 11:55–12:10 | Closing Litany: Denison Circuit                                      |

**Additional item of interest:** *Darlene Turner will host an event for pastors’ wives.*

Map from **St. Paul Lutheran Church (400 S 13th St)** to  
**Starlite Village Best Western Hotel (1518 3rd Avenue NW)**

(To view a map, copy and paste into your browser)

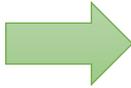
<https://binged.it/2GIGTNw>



Pastors Conference  
 Registration Form  
 May 6-7, 2019  
 Fort Dodge

*Please fill out ONE registration form per participant.  
 You may make copies of this form.*

**EVERY**  
 congregation  
 pays



**\$65**

- **Every congregation** (vacant or not; sending a worker or not) contributes this *per parish* fee.
- Multipoint parishes (including former “permanent vacancies” as defined by the Synod) are considered one parish, so one parish fee applies.

**Worker Registration**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Multi-parish: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Congregation(s): \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Circuit: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Registration (with all required information) to: [dmartensfaith@yahoo.com](mailto:dmartensfaith@yahoo.com)

Make checks payable to: **Iowa District West Pastors Conference**

Bring your check to the conference or mail it to: **Rev. Dennis Martens, 801 W Lincoln Way, Jefferson, IA 50129**

**Spouse Registration**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Monday Lunch at St. Paul: \$10

**Return by: April 26, 2019**

Questions?

Call: **Pastor Martens (515-386-3517 or 515-370-4809)**

**Itemization:**

Parish fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's meal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## CONFERENCE SPEAKER: THE REV. DR. MATTHEW RUEGER

Matthew Rueger is a parish pastor in Hubbard, Iowa, where he has served 25 of his 29 years in the ministry. He and his wife have been blessed with seven children and one grandchild. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Durham, England, in 2004 researching the Christology of Helmut Thielicke. In 2016, his book *Sexual Morality in a Christless World* was published by CPH. It is scheduled to be released in Chinese this year. He also authored a chapter in *The Ethics of Sex*, published by CPH in 2017. Rev. Rueger has lectured on sexual ethics in Germany, Lithuania, Siberia, and recently in Taiwan.



# Presidium Reception



Please join us for after-dinner fellowship at  
Starlite Village Best Western Hotel, Fort Dodge

**7:30-9pm**

Appetizers and beverages will be served.

Sponsored by:



Carole White  
Lutheran Church Extension Fund



Jim Schroeder  
LCMS Foundation

In partnership with the Pastors Conference Committee



Dear friends and sisters in Christ,

The Spring Iowa District West Pastors Conference will be held May 6-7, 2019 in Fort Dodge. Steve and I are looking forward to hosting this in our new hometown! I am planning an event for the wives on the afternoon of Monday, May 6.

1-4pm NEW OPTIONAL IDW WIVES EVENT - Studio Fusion Private Party



The women's gathering will be a fun time with the opportunity to make a glass fusion project, or paint a ceramic form. The photos above are part of the display shelves of art you can potentially create. Their website: [studio-fusion.com](http://studio-fusion.com) may provide additional insight to the possibilities at Studio Fusion. You certainly do not need to be an artist and there will be assistance and directions during the class.

Please let me know if you are interested in attending **by April 15**. Many projects are in the \$15-35 price range, and the district (with LCEF funds) will cover \$25 toward your project. The glasswork will need to be left for firing in the kiln, with a 2-3 week turnaround time. Arrangements can be made to pick them up in Fort Dodge at the studio, the district office, or you can pay to have them shipped to you. This is not a child-friendly environment, so it is an opportunity for you to have some adult time with other pastor's wives. We will have a light dessert bar with coffee, tea, lemonade, or water at the studio. Childcare will not be provided, so please call upon grandmas or congregational help to watch your small children at home and enjoy the conference and an evening away with your husband. Ellie Menz plans to join us at the studio, so there is no conflicting program you will be missing.

You will have time to check into your hotel before dinner, which is on your own in Fort Dodge. The President's reception will be held at the Best Western Starlite Village from 7:30-9pm.

Please email me at [darlene.turner60@gmail.com](mailto:darlene.turner60@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining us at the Studio Fusion event by April 15 so plans can be confirmed. I look forward to an afternoon of enjoying your company, and hope you can make plans to join us in Fort Dodge!

In Christ,

Darlene Turner