

198th Session of the General Convention of the New Jerusalem

The Swedenborgian Church 2022 Convention

The Tree of Life: Into the Garden

Frequently Asked Questions

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Registering (Costs and Important Dates)

Q. Where is Convention being held this year? California State University Long Beach (CSULB), in Long Beach, CA. You can view the university's website at www.csulb.edu (This is not a CSULB-affiliated event.)

Q. What dates does Convention run? The Council of Ministers will arrive on Wednesday, June 22 beginning with an evening reception that night after dinner. Council of Ministers meetings will be Thursday, June 23, and Friday, June 24. General Council will arrive on Friday, June 24 and meet in the morning on Saturday, June 25. Other attendees will arrive on Saturday, June 25 and convention officially opens that evening with worship and keynote speaker, Dr. Rebecca Esterson. Convention closes after SCYL worship service and Appreciation Event on June 28, with Wednesday June 29 as a travel day. General Council will have an early morning meeting on June 29.

Q. What are check-in and check-out times? Check-in at the Parkside Service Center located at 1601 Earl Warren Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815. Check-in time is after 2PM. If you are going to arrive before then please contact Central Office and we will have a place for your luggage to be stored. You cannot check-in to your room early. If you are going to check-in after 5PM, please inform the Central Office so we can ensure you get your Convention Materials when you arrive. Check-out for everyone is on June 29 before 2:30PM at the Parkside Service Center.

Q. How can I register? Registration will be online, available on our website at <https://convention.swedenborg.org/register/in-person/>. If you are unable to register online you can call Central Office, Monday through Friday, from 10AM to 2PM ET for help and to walk through the process. Payment can be made with a credit card at the time of registration or by mailing a check to Central Office, 50 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Q. When must I register by? In order to stay on campus, eat in the campus dining commons, and take part in the outings, you must register by **MAY 13** at 5PM ET, no exceptions. If you are attending Convention virtually, you must register by **JUNE 13** at 11:59PM ET.

Q. When must my balance be paid by? All room and board reservations must also be paid in full by **MAY 20**, or they will incur a \$50 late fee.

Q. Can I pay in Canadian dollars? Yes. You can find currency converters online at sites like www.xe.com and www.finance.yahoo.com/currency-converter to figure out the correct exchange rate. Using a credit card and/or PayPal is preferred, because your account will be charged in US dollars.

Q. What happens if I sign up for Convention but am unable to come? Reservations cancelled prior to **MAY 13** are fully refundable. Cancellations must be done by calling the Central Office directly during normal business hours at 617-969-4240 (10AM–2PM ET, M–F). If you are unable to attend due to a medical emergency, please contact Central Office at manager@swedenborg.org and we will consider each case individually.

Q. What are the registration costs? *Please note: All ADULTS PAY A REGISTRATION FEE including General Council and Council of Ministers. If you are a local volunteer, then you only have to pay \$30 to attend the rest of Convention. If you are only coming to volunteer and are not coming to any additional events, then you do not need to pay a registration fee. This year, the registration cost for everyone 18 and under is free (this does not include Room and Board). These fees cover meeting rooms, breaks, the outings, etc.*

- Adult in-person \$100
- Youth League (13–18) Free
- Child (0–12) Free
- Volunteer \$30
- One day commuter \$50
- Virtual Attendees \$50

Q. What are the room and board rates? Rooms will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and may fill up before the end of the registration period. If you do not sign up for room and board before the end of the registration period, **unfortunately you will not be able to stay on campus.** Room and Board Packages: *Note: All rooms will be double occupancy, unless a single is requested. An additional fee will apply. If you are receiving a subsidy, the additional cost of a single room (or double suite when applicable) will be at your own cost. Double suites cost \$30 more a night, while singles cost \$35 more a night.*

If an infant (age 0–2) stays in a parent’s room, but does not use a campus bed (using your own portable crib), then the cost for their room rate is free. If they use a campus bed, they will cost the same as the youth rate on page 7, which is 1/2 the adult’s rate. There is a limit of one infant per adult room.

Your first meal will be dinner on arrival day, and your last meal will be lunch on departure day. If you arrive later than your scheduled check-in date and time, or depart before your scheduled check-out date and time, you will not receive a refund for any unused room nights or meals. For overnight stays or meals that don’t fit the listed packages, contact the Central Office at manager@swedenborg.org. Dinner on June 27 will be at Wayfarers Chapel. If you do not attend the outing, you can still dine at the dining hall that evening.

- **REGULAR CONVENTION:**

- **Sat. June 25–Wed. June 29 (four nights):**

- \$360 per person/double room. Includes 4 nights of lodging, 4 dinners, 4 lunches, 4 breakfasts, and June 27 and June 28 outings.

- **GENERAL COUNCIL/LAY MEMBERS:**

- **Fri. June 24–Wed. June 29 (five nights):**

- \$450 per person/double room. Includes 5 nights of lodging, 5 dinners, 5 lunches, 5 breakfasts, and June 27 and June 28 outings.

- **COUNCIL OF MINISTERS/LICENSED PASTORS:**

- **Wed. June 22–Wed. June 29 (seven nights):**

- \$630 per person/double room. Includes 7 nights of lodging, 7 dinners, 7 lunches, 7 breakfasts, and June 27 and June 28 outings.

Q. I see that there is something called a double suite that is different from a double. Can you explain what that is? A CSULB we will be staying in newly built housing. In addition to the standard single room and double rooms with a shared bathroom in the hallway, there are also premium rooms called “double suites.” These are double rooms that share a common area and bathroom. So you would share a small living space and bathroom between four people sleeping in two rooms. These rooms have an additional cost of \$30 per person, per night, are limited, and will be assigned by Central Office. If you would like to be considered for a double suite, please indicate as much on your registration. Once registration is closed and if you are assigned to a double suite, you will be asked to pay the additional fee associated with it. Only people who indicate that they are interested in a double suite will be eligible to stay in one. The additional cost of a double room to a double suite is: **4 nights-\$120, 5 nights-\$150, 7 nights-\$210**

Q. Can I request a single? Singles are available at an additional \$35 per person, per night and will still share a common bathroom with the doubles. If you are receiving a subsidy, you will be responsible for the additional expense. The additional cost will be: **4 nights-\$140, 5 nights-\$175, 7 nights-\$245**

Q. Can I modify my meal plan? No, the meals and lodging are a package from CSULB.

Commuter Packages: If you are staying off campus, you will be asked to pay for your meals with your own credit card. If you are a member of COM, a Licensed Pastor who commuted in for the COM meetings, or you are a lay member of the General Council who is commuting to Convention, you will be reimbursed for the cost of the meals on campus with a receipt. In addition, 50% of all meals purchased on campus for children will also be reimbursed with a receipt. Please save your receipts and submit them to Central Office at manager@swedenborg.org once the convention is over.

- **Breakfast:**
\$6.63 per meal, per person
- **Lunch:**
\$8.08 per meal, per person
- **Dinner:**
\$9.51 per meal, per person

COVID-19 Policies

California State University, Long Beach current campus policy: All group leaders and visitors are required to be immunized against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. As part of the University's immunization policy, all participants are required to receive a booster shot prior to arrival, if eligible. Those who are ineligible for a booster are those who fall within 5 months after the second dose in a two-shot series, (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines), or two months after the J&J/Janssen vaccine. All participants arriving on campus that are fully vaccinated, must show a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to arrival. If you need help finding information on where and how to get an affordable PCR test done, you can contact manager@swedenborg.org to discuss possible options. Often they are obtainable at Drug Store Pharmacies or Urgent Care clinics for little or no cost, but may require an appointment.

Vaccine Card: You must submit an electronic copy of your vaccine card when you register online. If you are having trouble uploading the picture of the card you can email it to manager@swedenborg.org. EVERY REGISTRATION MUST HAVE EVIDENCE OF FULL VACCINATION AND BOOSTERS. If you fail to submit photo evidence of your card before May 13 then your reservation will be cancelled.

Testing on arrival: When you check in at the dormitories (if you are staying on campus) or when you check-in to get your registration materials (if you are commuting) you must produce a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of arrival. If you are unable to get a PCR test in time you will need to take a rapid test when you check in.

COVID-19 testing information for those who are 4 years old or younger: We are hopeful that there will be a vaccine for those 4 and under soon. If that happens we will make sure to check in with the University and see if they have updated their policies. Currently it is not possible for a child under 5 to be fully vaccinated. The University policy at this time for those who are unable to be vaccinated is: they must show a negative PCR test taken at least 48 hours prior to arrival on campus and must take a rapid test each morning that they are on campus before participating in any activity and in our service center. Please bring these rapid tests with you. They will be numbered for each day that you are here. The test taken must match the day they are testing and be given in front of the Operations Manager. You will need to coordinate a time and place with them each morning. Upon completion of the Convention, the CSULB staff will be given a completed list. Thank you for understanding.

If you test positive for COVID-19 while at Convention: We want to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone that attends Convention. Unfortunately, COVID is still with us and those that test positive while at Convention will be able to isolate in campus housing until the end of the Convention. If you need to stay past

when Convention ends, you will be charged the nightly Room and Board rate for the additional days. Payment will be made to The Swedenborgian Church of North America, not CSULB, for these additional costs at the conclusion of your quarantine. Testing positive may also affect your ability to fly home in a timely manner. You should take these risks into consideration when you are booking your flights and considering what the appropriate travel insurance might be for your trip.

Food, Lodging, and Campus Information

Service Center

Parkside North, our dormitory, has a central service center operated by student staff called Conference Assistants. Conference Assistants oversee check-in/out process, lost keys, lockouts, troubleshooting, and other related services. Conference Assistants also enforce housing policies and conduct room condition reports before and after each stay.

The Parkside service center's phone number is 562-985-4990. Its hours are 8:00AM–10:00PM and it is located at 1601 Earl Warren Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815. If you need help after hours, you can call 562-340-9306 or 562-340-9303. *(Please refer to the map located on page 11)*

Check-in and check-out is at the Parkside Service Center. Earliest check-in time is 2:00PM, check-out time is 2:30PM. Each guest will receive a key-card upon check-in that must be returned at check-out. Replacement for a lost key-card is \$25 even if it is found later. If you do not check-out with the Parkside Service Center there is an additional \$15 improper vacate fee. **You will be responsible for these fees.**

Parkside North dormitory

We will be staying at Parkside North dormitory. Accommodations are double occupancy rooms, with the rooms sharing a bathroom/shower room in the hallway. Linens (bed sheets, blankets, pillows, and toilet paper) are included with your room and The Garden Church will be providing laundry soap for those who need it. **You must bring your own towel, shampoo/conditioner, and body soap.**

Parkside North is a four-story building. The building is air conditioned and has 3 elevators. There are 3 shared kitchens (located on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floor) for residents to use as well as multiple study lounges, gaming room, and living rooms on each floor. Parkside North also has two courtyards and a roof top terrace. The laundry facility and multipurpose room is located on the first floor. CSULB has created a video tour of the facility on YouTube that can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/53dP5K1WXQk>.

Laundry machines are available for use at each residence hall by downloading WASH-Connect, a smartphone app, and loading the app with money. Laundry cards can also be bought as an alternative by using a credit/debit card. Laundry card terminals are located in Parkside's room. A wash cycle is \$1 and a dry cycle is \$0.50.

Rooms will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, and may fill up before the end of the registration period. If you do not sign-up for room and board (or make other arrangements with the Central Office) before the end of the registration period, **you will unfortunately not be able to stay on campus.**

Food and Dining

We will be eating at the dining hall that is located at Parkside. For those attendees who will be staying in the dormitories, dining is included with your Room and Board fee. Room keys are used for dining hall access. It is an all you can eat with 1-entry (no in and out privileges). Backpacks, purses, or bags are not permitted in the dining hall at any time.

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Commuters will need to pay for their meals with a credit card. If you are a member of COM, a Licensed Pastor who commuted in for the COM meetings, or you are a lay member of the General Council who is commuting to Convention, you will be reimbursed for the cost of the meals on campus with a receipt. In addition, 50% of all meals purchased on campus for children will also be reimbursed with a receipt. Please save your receipts and submit them to Central Office at manager@swedenborg.org once the convention is over.

Breakfast: \$6.63 per meal, per person

Lunch: \$8.08 per meal, per person

Dinner: \$9.51 per meal, per person

Dining Hours:

Breakfast: 7:00AM–8:30AM

Lunch: 11:30AM–1:30PM

Dinner: 5:00PM–7:00PM

Hallway Bathrooms

Both doubles and singles share a communal hallway bathroom. None of the bathrooms are gendered. The communal bathrooms include toilets and showers with stalls and floor to ceiling doors, as well as a single bathroom to use if it is more convenient for you. We will do our best to arrange the rooms around bathrooms that serve people with similar needs, but can not make any guarantees. The double suites have their own bathroom that is shared between the two double rooms (four people).

Q. What are some items I may want to bring? We recommend bringing your own hangers and extension cords for your rooms if you need them. If you may need extra pillows or blankets you should plan to bring them. You must bring a towel and toiletries. Our outings are outside, so please bring sunscreen and bug spray for your own use. Even though we are in southern California, you should bring a sweater or light jacket as the ocean breezes can get cool in the evening.

Q. Will I be able to mail items to the Convention ahead of time? You can mail items to the Wayfarers Chapel ahead of time to: Attn: Rev. Dan Burchett, Wayfarers Chapel West, 6118 Palos Verdes Drive S., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275. Please clearly mark who the package is from. Please also email manager@swedenborg.org so that we know to keep an eye out for it.

Q. Who do I contact when on campus about issues with housing, meals, etc.? Contact the Conference Assistant using the service center number. They are not intended to provide hotel like services to overnight guests.

Q. Will internet access be available? WiFi access is available. Password will be provided upon arrival. You must agree to comply with the university's internet usage policies to use their network.

Q. Are there public computers, printers, or copiers on campus? Unfortunately, there are no public computers that available for use. Please bring your own if needed. There is a FedEx Print and Ship Center a 15 minute walk from where we are staying at 1800 Palo Verde Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815.

Q. How can I reserve a display table for Convention? Email manager@swedenborg.org and tell us how many chairs you will need, approximately how much table space (6-foot tables) you will need, and inform us if you will need electrical hookups. Tables are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. You will be able to set-up your tables on Saturday, June 25 between 3:00PM–5:00PM or Sunday, June 26 before 11:30AM. Display hours

will be Saturday, June 25 9:00PM–10:00PM, Sunday, June 26 between 11:30AM–1:30PM and 3:30PM–5:30PM, Monday, June 27 between 10:45AM–1:30PM, Tuesday, June 28 between 1:00AM–12:00PM. Please note, you are responsible for breaking down your table and removing all items that afternoon. Anything left into the evening will be thrown out that night.

Q. What area attractions are around the campus? Long Beach is known as a waterfront playground full of activities—the Aquarium of the Pacific, whale watching on the water, shopping, tours of coastal breweries, and excellent restaurants.

Special Needs

Q. What mobility accommodations will there be? Please be sure to indicate that you have mobility issues if you are staying on campus. The campus does not provide wheelchairs, scooters, etc. If you wish to park in the lot nearest to the dorms, you must bring your handicapped placard.

If you wish to rent a wheelchair or power scooter, you must make your own arrangements. The best delivery address for a wheelchair or scooter rental is your dorm (contact the Central Office at manager@swedenborg.org for details). You must be prepared to accept your own delivery and arrange your own pickup; we cannot provide convention staff or university staff to assist in this process.

Q. What special dietary accommodations are available? Please relay all special dietary needs on your registration form. The university will do its best to accommodate you, but may not be able to meet every need. A vegetarian option will be prepared for every meal.

Children and Teens

Q. Are children charged a different rate? All children and teens (18 and under) who stay in the dormitory or who obtain meals in the cafeteria as a commuter will be charged 1/2 of the adult price. If you have an infant (age 0–2) for whom you are providing a sleeping cot, their Room and Board are free. The 1/2 price for children will be applied to your registration if they are staying at Parkside North, and the 1/2 cost for food for commuting children and youth will be reimbursed to you after convention once you submit your receipts to Central Office. There is a travel scholarship fund for children 2–12, of 1/2 of the flight's cost, up to \$300/child. Please email manager@swedenborg.org for more information. For information on SCYL (age 12–18) travel scholarships please contact the Youth Director Kurt Fekete at kfekete@hotmail.com.

This is the cost breakdown for children needing a bed. Please add \$15 a day for double-suites:

- **REGULAR CONVENTION:**

- **Sat. June 25–Wed. June 29 (four nights):**

- \$180 per child/double room. Includes 4 nights of lodging, 4 dinners, 4 lunches, 4 breakfasts, and June 27 and June 28 outings.

- **GENERAL COUNCIL/LAY MEMBERS:**

- **Fri. June 24–Wed. June 29 (five nights):**

- \$225 per child/double room. Includes 5 nights of lodging, 5 dinners, 5 lunches, 5 breakfasts, and June 27 and June 28 outings.

- **COUNCIL OF MINISTERS/LICENSED PASTORS:**

- **Wed. June 22–Wed. June 29 (seven nights):**

- \$315 per child/double room. Includes 7 nights of lodging, 7 dinners, 7 lunches, 7 breakfasts, and June 27 and June 28 outings.

Q. What are the Youth League program details? The Youth League program is for youth ages 13 through 18. The program is supervised by Kurt Fekete.

Q. Can my teen (13–17) attend Convention if I will not be joining them? The Convention sponsor program allows teens aged 13–17 to attend Convention without parents. An adult sponsor must be named at time of registration who will attend Convention and agree to perform certain duties and take responsibility for the minor in place of the parent. Please name this sponsor in the “additional information” section of the registration form. The sponsor will be asked to co-sign an acknowledgement of this responsibility with the guardians of the youth after the youth has registered. Please notify Convention of any medications, allergies, or special needs when signing your teen up. Children under the age of 13 cannot attend Convention without a parent or legal guardian. Minors traveling by plane alone may be subject to certain fees or policies; please check with your airline(s).

Q. What are the childcare arrangements for Convention? There will be a Children’s Program for children ages 5–12 supervised by responsible caregivers/leaders during the following hours: Sun. June 26: 9AM–12PM, 1PM–5PM; Mon. June 27: 9AM–12PM, 1PM–3PM; Tues. June 28: 9AM–12PM and 1PM–2:30PM. Children will eat all meals with their parents. Please note that children under five cannot be signed up for childcare during regular Convention. The university does not provide cots, cribs, playpens, etc. so you should be prepared to bring your own. Childcare will be available for the children of ministers and Licensed Pastors on Thur. June 23 and Fri. June 24 (during their COM meeting times). Contact Central Office for more information and to sign-up for this service.

Contact Information

Q. How can I contact Central Office staff at Convention? The denomination’s Operations Manager may be reached via email anytime at manager@swedenborg.org or by calling 617-969-4240.

Travel Information

Q. What airport should I fly into? We recommend that you fly into Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The drive should be between 30 and 90 minutes depending on traffic and time of day.

Q. How can I get to California State University Long Beach from the airports in the area?

Uber/Lyft/Taxi

We recommend a few different ways to get to the University. One way would be to use Uber or Lyft which is estimated to be about \$50+/- (est. time 30 minutes to 90 minutes) each way from LAX. Although these prices and times may fluctuate based on the day and time that you are traveling. Uber and Lyft is an app that can be downloaded to your smartphone. In addition, there are usually taxis at each airport that cost \$100–\$150+/- **We recommend contacting other attendees to share your arrival and departure times to and from Convention to pool your resources and take an Uber/Lyft/Taxi together. If you would like your information shared with other attendees please email manager@swedenborg.org with your details by June 13.**

Car Rental

Another option would be to work with others to rent a vehicle to get to and from Convention (similar drive times to Uber/Lyft listed above, please add in time for rental process).

Shuttles and Public Transportation

There are a variety of private airport shuttles, busses, and trams that you can take as well. You must make these reservations on your own and information can be found easily on the web. When looking into transportation the address of the Parkside Service Center where you will be checking in is 1601 Earl Warren Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815.

June 29 Return Trip to Airports

Please arrange for your own transportation back for your return trip.

Please send your travel information to manager@swedenborg.org to be added to the “ride share” spreadsheet by June 13, which will be sent out to everyone on the list to coordinate travel with others from the airports.

If you will be arriving outside of the Check-In hours after booking your travel, please notify Central Office by no later than June 13.

Q. Are there other public transportation options? Uber, Lyft, Coach USA, rental car, and taxi services are available. There is also Long Beach Transit that provides service with a bus or water taxi and a light rail Metro Link. You can find transportation resources for Long Beach, CA here: <https://www.visitlongbeach.com/plan-your-trip/transportation/>

Q. What is the street address of the dorm where those staying on campus will be staying? Parkside Service Center is located at 1601 Earl Warren Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815

Q. How can I drive to the campus? Specific driving directions to the campus can be located here: <https://www.csulb.edu/maps/freeway-directions>

Q. How can I park on campus? Parking costs \$12 a day everywhere on the campus, and you can purchase tickets from a parking kiosk when you park. There is also a parking pass that is available for \$45 which allows you to park there for the month of June that would need to be ordered ahead of time. If you would like a parking pass, please indicate that on your registration and it will be added to your invoice.

When You Get to Campus

Q. Where should I go to get my room keys and check-in when I get to campus? Attendees who will be staying on campus should proceed directly to Parkside Service Center after 2PM on the day of their arrival to receive their room keys. The Parkside Service Center’s phone number is 562-985-4990. Its hours are 8:00AM–10:00PM and it is located at 1601 Earl Warren Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815. *(Please refer to the map located on page 11)* Everyone, including those who will be staying off campus, should go to The Pointe conference center (located in the Walter Pyramid) between 3PM–5PM on Saturday, June 25 to get registration packets, name tags, etc. If you are arriving outside of check-in hours, please notify Central Office by June 13.

Q. Where are the business sessions, meetings, Mini Courses, and dining being held? All of our meetings, Mini Courses will be held at The Pointe conference center located under the Walter Pyramid, which is a short walk from Parkside North. Most meetings will be held in the Sunset Room. In-person Mini Courses will be held in the Sunset Room and Summit Room. All of our meals will be served in the Parkside Dining Hall adjacent to the dormitory. *(Please refer to the maps located on pages 11&12)*

Virtual Voting

Q. How will I vote in-person during Convention? If you are a delegate you will be using NemoVote to vote and you will be sent a voter registration email after registration closes. It is a separate voting service and requires you to have a separate registration with their service. You will go to your account on NemoVote to make your choices and submit your votes. If you are attending in-person you can use a smart phone to vote. If you do not have a smart phone we will have a device available for you to use. There will also be someone available to help you if you are having difficulties with the system.

NemoVote Quick Guide

To log in:

- Go to <https://swedenborg.nemovote.com>
 - Or Follow the link you received in your email
- Type in your username (your email address) and password (included in the activation email)
- Click “Login”

To vote:

- NemoVote homepage should be the current votes available to you
- If not, click “My Votes” in the upper left
- Click the blue ballot box icon in the “Actions” column to open your ballot
- Follow the screen prompts to make your voting selections
- Votes CANNOT be redone so double check your selections carefully
- Click “Submit Vote” and follow prompt instructions
- Make sure you complete all the votes. There will be a second page of votes for elections.

Having Trouble? Here are some tips!

What is my username or password?

- Locate the activation email from NemoVote
- Your email address will work as your username as well
- Password is randomly generated and is in the activation email, UNLESS you have already logged in and reset it.

Can't find the activation email?

- Search your email with the keyword “Nemovote” (one word)
- Check Spam, Trash, and Promotions folders

Username and password don't work?

- Check for typos. Both are case sensitive and may have spaces.
- Check if Caps Lock is on
- Randomly generated passwords often contain similar characters like 1, i, and L.
- Copy and pasting works best
- Try a different web browser or device
- If you reset your password manually, the emailed password will no longer be valid.

Other Policies

Children: Residence halls are designed for adult usage and the facilities are not childproof. Parents or chaperones take full responsibility for the safety and supervision of their children at all times. The university will not be able to provide cots, cribs, playpens, etc. Please plan to bring your own.

If you are caught violating site’s alcohol or tobacco policies, the University may remove you from campus. You will not receive a refund if this happens.

Smoking: CSULB is a completely “Tobacco-Free” campus. All forms of tobacco use, including e-cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, are prohibited on University grounds.

Alcohol: The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances is prohibited anywhere in or around residence halls.

Display Room

This will be located in the gallery sized hallway in the Pointe conference center where all the meetings will be held. (See page 12 for *The Pointe’s layout*) Please email manager@swedenborg.org if you would like a table by no later than June 1st. You will be able to set up your tables on Saturday, June 25 between 3:00PM–5:00PM or Sunday, June 26 before 11:30AM. Tables will remain set-up throughout Convention and may be manned during the following times:

Saturday, June 25 from 9:00PM–10:00PM

Sunday, June 26 from 11:30AM–1:30PM and 3:30PM–5:30PM

Monday, June 27 from 10:45AM–1:30PM

Tuesday, June 28 from 11:00AM–12:00PM*

You must breakdown your table by 3PM on Tuesday, June 28. We are boarding the buses for the outing at 3PM. Anything left over that evening will be thrown away. **You are responsible for your own table.*

Choir Rehearsals

General Convention Choral

“Enter into Divine presence with a joyful song!” (Psalm 100:2) You are joyfully invited to join the 2022 General Convention Choir under the direction of Laurie Turley. There will be three rehearsals, as we prepare several music selections for worship services. If you like to sing, bring your talent and enthusiasm, so that together we can help Convention attendees enter more fully into Divine presence. Please let Laurie know ahead of time if you would like to join the choir at lstwirley@gmail.com, or just show up at one of the rehearsals. You can view the schedule to find out the place and times for Choir rehearsals.

CSULB HOUSING MAP

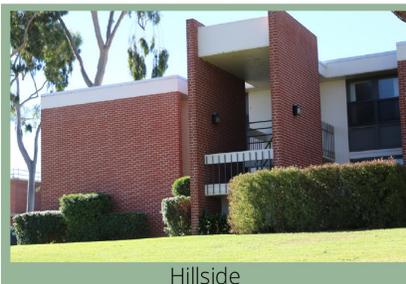


Premium Buildings/Rooms:
 Parkside North
 Hillside Los Alamitos
 Hillside Los Cerritos

For more information and for a video tour of our rooms and facilities, please visit our [website](http://www.csulb.edu/student-affairs/university-housing-residential-life/university-housing/residential-villages)
www.csulb.edu/student-affairs/university-housing-residential-life/university-housing/residential-villages



Parkside



Hillside

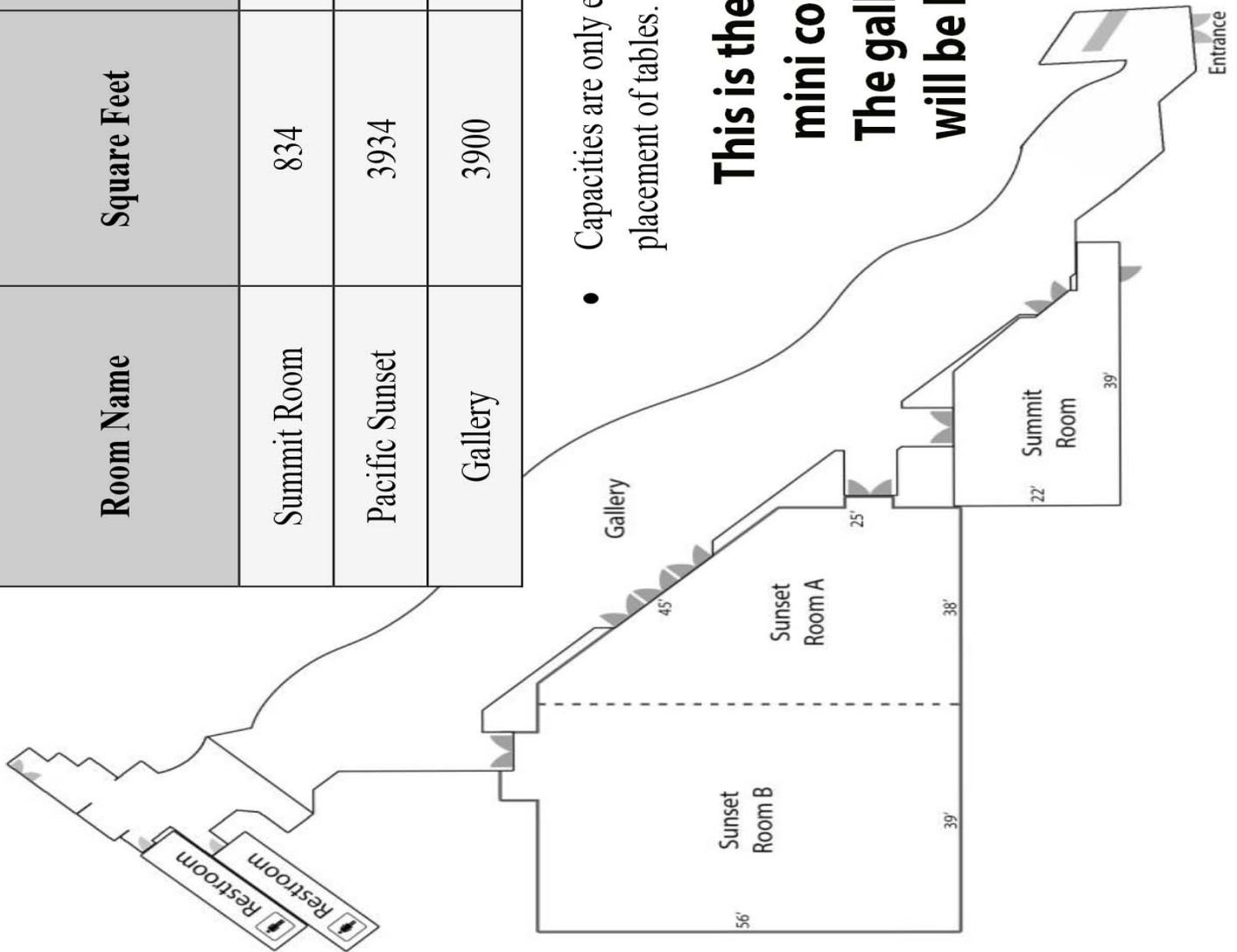


Beachside

Room Name	Square Feet	Lecture	Banquet	Banquet & Dance Floor
Summit Room	834	60	40	-
Pacific Sunset	3934	300	192	160
Gallery	3900	-	-	-

- Capacities are only estimates as doorways, mill work, etc., may inhibit the placement of tables.

This is the location for worship services, mini courses, and business meetings. The gallery is where the display tables will be located.



The Pointe

(located under the Walter Pyramid)

Special Events

A brief description of the Special Events, Meetings, and Activities for the 2022 Convention

Convention Keynote by Dr. Rebecca Esterson: *Images of Infinity in the Cosmic Garden.* Our tradition teaches that we can know something about the infinite nature of God by observing the natural world around us. Here we will consider two ways that the created world is infinite. First, we see images of infinity in the myriad forms that bodies of living things exhibit. If the human face alone exhibits this quality, how much more so do the ecosystems that fill our universe. Secondly, we can see an image of infinity in the way a seed contains within it the power of self-propagation to eternity (*Divine Providence* §56). Reflecting on these images of infinity in space and in time can inspire our thinking about the nature of God and our participation in the unfolding of Providence, as individuals and collectively. This address will consider ways that these images might be usefully applied to urgent ethical concerns of our time, such as inequality and divisiveness, and to anxieties about the future of our church.

Business Sessions and Meetings: There will be several business sessions and meetings during the Convention. These will be shared via Zoom and will have virtual attendees as well. This is where reports, Standing Resolutions, voting and more happen. **All delegates are expected to attend all of the business sessions, both virtual and in-person.**

Mini Courses: (*For course descriptions please see page 15*) Mini Courses are small group offerings for attendees (both virtual and in-person) to learn about a topic that is presented by someone from the Swedenborgian Church of North America, or an invited guest. There are three formats for Mini Courses this year:

- In-person fully with no virtual component located in The Pointe, room to be determine
- Streamed “live” Mini Course (not pre-recorded) from The Pacific Sunset Room in The Pointe. People can virtually participate in the form of watching in real time, but will not be able to interact with those in the room
- Fully virtual on Zoom

There is one time slot where there will only be one option of Mini Course, which will be live-streamed. The other three time slots will have four courses running concurrently: two in-person, one live-streamed, and one fully virtual. Virtual attendees will be able to choose between the live streamed and fully virtual sessions, while the in-person attendees can attend any of the courses being offered (as long as they have a computer to join the virtual one).

Outing to Wayfarers Chapel and potential Ordination Service: We will tour the grounds of Wayfarers Chapel, enjoy dinner, and the worship service. Some attractions are:

- The Tree Chapel designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, Jr. surrounded by a grove of Redwood trees
- Beautiful landscape and gardens on 3.5 acres of land with stunning coastal views
- The Visitors Center & Gift Shop
- Walk of Honor—a brick walkway in the rose garden with names and dates of weddings, memorials, and other events
- Wayfarers Chapel is the National Memorial to Emanuel Swedenborg

Outing to The Garden Church and Feed and Be Fed’s Farm: Come, see, and engage in useful service. At The Garden Church, we’ll tour the space and pack up meal replacement bags for the food insecure in the community. At the Feed and Be Fed Farm, we’ll tour the space, have opportunities to get our hands in the dirt, and connect with the Lord’s creation. Each site will have options for people of all ages and abilities—all are welcome!

Mini Courses

Mini Course #1 – Translating at Babel: Church Leadership in the Public Square by Rev. Rich Tafel

This Mini Course will make the case that the most important way Christians can become peacemakers today is to become “translators.” We live in a culture now that talks past and over each other. We’ve learned to demonize those who disagree with us. We’ve sorted ourselves into bubbles of people who think like us. We use the same words with different meanings. Everyone is talking, but who is listening?

This high level of polarization has reached the point where we see people with different political views not as simply wrong, but evil and a threat to our life. Anxiety in the midst of pandemics, wars, and uncertainty, many political leaders exploit our fears

This course will show that Swedenborgian leaders can play a critical role in leading now as translators across cultural boundaries. Swedenborg’s insights into the meaning of the Tower of Babel offer us a different take on that famous story and new insights into our Babel culture today. Our tradition’s evolutionary spirituality offers us a map to understand what’s going and where things are going. Based on our theology of an inclusive and loving God who never uses fear and shame to guide us.

The course will give case study examples of what we can do as individuals, churches, and as parts of larger communities seeking to be peacemakers in these times of great division. **This course will be in person on campus and live streamed.**

Rev. Rich Tafel is deeply involved in the intersection of faith and the public square. He has been pastor of Church of the Holy City in Washington, D.C. for the past six years. He has represented the Swedenborgian denomination for a decade at the National Council of Churches. In addition to his church work, Rich is the Director of Marcum Social Capital Advisors working with social venture. He is involved in public policy work as the co-director of the American Project at Pepperdine School of Public Policy.

Mini Course #2 Black Church History in Convention (and more) by Sue Ditmire

This Mini Course will share something of the emerging story on Convention’s own “Black Church” history as it emerges with several key figures and valued neighborhood churches in Boston, Manhattan, and other places. Additionally, we will dive into how to be a church historian and offer tips and insights for discovering the history of your Church or Association or perhaps another story line that interests you. **This course will be in-person on campus.**

Sue (Weiss) Ditmire first joined a Swedenborgian church at Kemper Road Center (Cincinnati) in 1973 and served as the secretary for the denominational Board of Education for three years in the 1980s while also moving to southern New Jersey in 1983 and joined the Wilmington, Delaware, congregation. She holds a degree in accounting and ran Ditmire Motorworks with her husband for many years until turning it over to her children. Now retired, she dedicates her time to historic research and is currently working on Convention history from numerous angles and is available to assist people and congregations on history questions.

Mini Course #3 - Music and Video in Worship and Small Groups by Rev. Ros Taylor and Rev. Ken Turley

This will be an open and exploratory presentation, discussion and sharing of ways to use video and music to enhance worship, meditation and discussion in a variety of ways including in person and online settings. I will offer a few approaches and ideas and welcome the sharing and offering of experiences and resources of all who attend. It is a new world, and if we are to be relevant participants, we too must expand our repertoire and ways of reaching out. This is one opportunity to further the exploration. **This course will be in-person on campus.**

Rev. Roslyn Taylor is a minister with the Swedenborgian Church of North America, living in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. She facilitates the Home Church in Bryn Athyn, recently founded the Deborah’s Tree ministry, and has provided music for worship services in several different contexts.

Rev. Ken Turley, son of Rev. Cal and Marilyn Turley, was raised in the General Convention of the Swedenborgian Church. He performed and taught music in San Francisco and Seattle for many years getting a B.A. in Music along the way. Intending to serve music in the church, he was ordained in 1985 and served parishes in

Elmwood, Massachusetts, as well as Portland and Fryeburg, Maine. During his thirty years of active ministry, he earned his master's degree and served on a number of committees and support units, including Committee on Worship, Committee on Admission to the Ministry, General Council, and completed two terms as president of Convention. Now retired, he continues to compose classical music, write songs, and play original songs and covers in the folk-jazz genre with his wife, Laurie.

Mini Course #4 - Gender, Sexuality, and Swedenborg by Colin Amato and Rev. Rich Tafel

How can we view current issues of gender and sexuality through the prism of Swedenborgian spirituality? This Mini Course will offer short panelists presentations as conversations starters. The bulk of the session will allow for Q&A from participants with our panel. Facilitated input from audience members are welcome from all perspectives. No questions are off-limits. Come join as we work through this topic together. **This course will be live-streamed.**

Colin Amato is an ordinand in the Swedenborgian Church of North America and a psychotherapist at the Rainbow Community Center of Contra Costa County in California. He holds a certificate in Swedenborgian Studies, a master's in Theological Studies from the Pacific School of Religion, and an M.A. in psychology from San Francisco State with certification in California as a Marriage and Family Therapist.

Mini Course #5 - Climate Care: How Can Swedenborgian Theology, Our Denomination, and YOU Support Climate Justice? by Rev. Dr. Jonathan Mitchell and Rev. Dr. Amanda Riley

Join the Social Justice Committee (SJC) of the Swedenborgian Church of North America (SCNA) for a discussion around what we can all do to support climate justice. We will consider how our Swedenborgian theology encourages us to understand our relationship and responsibility to the earth. We will take a look at what other denominations are doing regarding both institutional statements and direct action. We will share ideas with each other for effective strategies in supporting climate justice individually. **This course will be fully on Zoom and available to everyone anywhere.**

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Mitchell is co-pastor at The Garden Church in San Pedro, California. He has served ministries in Washington, D.C., Wayfarers Chapel, and San Diego, California. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking and the study of natural history.

Rev. Dr. Amanda Riley is co-pastor at The Garden Church and has served numerous Presbyterian churches. She fell in love with the vision, work, and mission of the Garden Church, and first became involved in 2016.

Mini Course #6 A New Church Year of Jubilee by Rev. Sage Cole

On March 3, 2022, the community at Swedenborg Chapel in Cambridge, Massachusetts, declared a New Church Jubilee Year, with the intention of taking a full year to not jump back to what once felt like normalcy, but instead to intentionally stay in the uncertainty generated by the pandemic, and consider how we are being called to change and grow to become more of the New Church that Swedenborg declared. We declared this year on March 3rd, as that was the day in 1887 when Helen Keller met her teacher Annie Sullivan and the day she would always celebrate as her "Spiritual Birthday." Helen Keller has been Swedenborg Chapel's resident Swedenborgian saint since 2018 when we first declared our dream to build a Center in her honor on our site. In this Mini Course, Rev. Sage will share stories from this New Church Jubilee Year, possibilities that have emerged and insights from Helen Keller's writings and life. **This course will be in-person on campus.**

I've been blessed throughout my life by the Church. Since my entry at age 13 into the loving embrace of the SCYL, the Church has held me and then called me into ministry where I have been serving for the last seventeen years. I have been blessed to serve in a diverse array of settings, the first Pastor of www.swedenborgiancommunity.org, Associate Pastor of the Church of the Holy City in Wilmington, Delaware, as a hospice chaplain in Southern Maine, Pastor of the Fryeburg New Church, Family minister of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Anchorage, Alaska, and then in my current post as Pastor of the Swedenborg Chapel in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Since coming to Cambridge in 2015, I have had the blessing of walking through a community truly at an ending point, then stepping into a new beginning as our community has grown in love and openness, and come to embrace the vision of expanding our ministry with the development of a Center in our space dedicated to the

faith and life of Helen Keller. I am excited to bring my experience to the work of General Council and to be a voice looking to the future, so that other 13-year-olds many generations from now will be blessed as I was. I live in Hyde Park, Massachusetts, with my husband Ted and two boys, Theo and Zach, ages 7 and 5.

Mini Course #7 - Where is God Leading Us: Youth Wisdom for our Times by Rev. Renée Machiniak

As we face many ongoing challenges in today's world, including fear and isolation from the global pandemic, violence in its many forms, environmental and war time concerns, what is it that our youth need from the church and what ideas for change do our youth envision for the church's future? Youth League Chaplain, Rev. Renée Machiniak, will facilitate the presentations and discussion, as well as offer reflection on Swedenborg's theology of innocence, Divine Providence and the prophetic sense. **This course will be in-person on campus.**

Rev. Renée has been serving the Royal Oak, Michigan, Church of the Holy City since 1995, serves as Youth Chaplain for our denomination and volunteers as Police Chaplain and Hospital Chaplain for the city of Royal Oak.

Mini Course #8 Church Strategies to Reach People: Lessons Learned from the Art of Reaching Course Told from Four Perspectives by Rev. Shada Sullivan, Rev. Rich Tafel, Pastor Paul Deming, & Pastor Robbin Ferriman

Last summer, an article by a Canadian evangelical pastor predicted that the church would never be the same after the pandemic. The insights from this piece were circulated to all clergy. A group of ministers wanted to know what more can we learn from the successful practices of other faith paths. Our denomination agreed to cover the cost for ministers willing to take the course, but also to provide a bi-weekly Swedenborgian translation of those growth efforts. Four pastors agreed to take the class and create their own working group.

In this course, four congregational leaders will share their takeaways from the course and offer ideas for how we can grow in these turbulent times. **This course will be live streamed.**

Rev. Shada Sullivan serves as minister at Church of the Holy City in Wilmington, Delaware; Rev. Rich Tafel serves as minister at Church of the Holy City in Washington, D.C.; Pastor Paul Deming serves at Church of the Open Word in St. Louis, Missouri; and Pastor Robbin Ferriman serves at the Urbana Society of the New Church in Urbana, Ohio.

Mini Course #9 The Great Day of the Lord: Swedenborgian Millenarianism after 1757 by Dell J. Rose

In 1757, Swedenborg had a vision of the last judgment, and his New Age was far from the brimstone and blood of the Christian millenarianism. However, this vision as well as Swedenborg's ambiguity toward apocalypticism did not stop his earliest followers from engaging in millenarian discourse and speculation about the end of all things and "the coming of the Lord." The beginning of the 19th century was a period of marked millenarian expectation, and though it was perhaps not Swedenborg's intention, there were several prominent apocalyptic thinkers deeply influenced by Swedenborg's thought. This workshop will provide an introduction to the world of 19th century millenarianism in its British context and highlight the role that Swedenborg's teachings played in popular imaginings of "the end." This course desires to be introductory and assumes no prior exposure to the material, and it is especially recommended for those interested in Swedenborgian cultural history. **This course will be fully on Zoom and available to everyone anywhere.**

Dell J. Rose is an American Ph.D. student at the University of Amsterdam. Holding a bachelor's degree with majors in English, History, and Religion and a master's degree in Folklore, he is also a fellow of the Swedenborg Society in London. His current doctoral project deals with the early reception of Swedenborg's ideas amongst nineteenth-century reforming societies and in nineteenth-century political discourse. Further academic interests include Christian theosophy (especially Caspar Schwenckfeld, whom Swedenborg mentions, and Jakob Böhme, to whom Swedenborg was often compared by his contemporaries), Willem Bilderdijk studies, Sabbateanism, and the work of Franz von Baader.

Mini Course #10 The Life of Religion: The Challenge of Doing Good by Rev. Robert McCluskey

Ours is a tradition that encourages people of faith to be active and conscientious citizens. With this in mind, the

Swedenborgian Church offered a five-week series last winter and spring titled “Spirit in Action: Civic Engagement and Religious Life” and sponsored by the Center for Swedenborgian Studies, Swedenborgians in Action Against Racism, and the Social Justice Committee of the SCNA. In it, we explored ways we might be engaged with and support civic action, both individually and as a church. We were assisted in our efforts by representatives of the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Topics included: Swedenborg’s own involvement with civic life, interfaith advocacy, lobby training, raising our voice, and current efforts by Swedenborgians to engage civic life. In this Mini Course, we will offer a summary of the content of this series, highlight key findings, and provide ample time for discussion and questions on this topic of growing import for our church. **This course will be in-person on campus.**

Rev. Robert E. McCluskey holds a B.A. and an M.A. in philosophy and is also a graduate of the Swedenborg School of Religion. He was ordained into the Swedenborgian Church of North America in 1984. He has pastored churches in Portland, Maine, and New York City, New York, and for eighteen years served as representative to the National Council of Churches, with specific attention to the work of social justice and religious freedom. He currently administers rites and sacraments at Wayfarers Chapel. In addition to progressive Christianity, his interests include the electric guitar and all things cinematic.

Mini Course #11 Is Heaven A Frequency? by Rev. Dr. Dave Brown

This Mini Course will take a closer look at Swedenborg’s short book *On Tremulation* and explore the implications from his scientific research leading to his spiritual explorations. Is there more to explore in Swedenborg’s spiritual practices that can also be applied to our own? This course will also explore some of the spiritual mysteries contained within vibration. **This course will be in-person on campus.**

Rev. Dr. David Brown has been serving the Wayfarers Chapel since 2006 in Rancho Palos Verdes, California.

Mini Course #12 Feminine Swedenborgian Spirituality by Rev. Roslyn Taylor

This Mini Course offers an overview of female spirituality, with a look at the relevant Swedenborgian teachings. Participants will explore together how the themes of female Swedenborgian spirituality are emerging in the activities of the Deborah’s Tree ministry. **This course will be live-streamed.**

Rev. Roslyn Taylor is a minister with the Swedenborgian Church of North America, living in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. She facilitates the Home Church in Bryn Athyn, recently founded the Deborah’s Tree ministry, and has provided music for worship services in several different contexts.

Mini Course #13 Three Essentials of Church Governance: What Pastors and Leaders Need to Know by Rev. Kevin Baxter

Church governance is often overlooked when things are going along well. It is only when a church faces conflict or crisis that the documents are pulled out and all too often are found wanting. Reviewing them for key elements when things are going well is a gift to the church if crisis befalls it. This course will look at best practices of key areas of church governance documents, parliamentary procedures, and liability issues. Based on work by Richard Hammer of Church Law and Tax, Rev. Kevin Baxter will highlight some crucial areas that are important for ministers, pastors, and church leaders to be aware of. **This course will be fully on Zoom and available to everyone anywhere.**

*Rev. Kevin Baxter is the senior pastor of Church on the Hill, Boston, Massachusetts—an independent Swedenborgian Church. He has also served as Chair of the Council of Ministers, co-editor of *Our Daily Bread*, pastor at Swedenborg Chapel in Cambridge, and as an administrator and instructor at Urbana University.*

Event Schedule

(Subject to Change)

If the event is available online there will be a √ next to the title

All times listed are in Pacific Time

For more detailed information and links to the online events please visit

<https://convention.swedenborg.org/schedule/>

Saturday, June 25, 2022

12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Arrival of Overnight Convention Attendees
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Informal Gathering
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Dinner Open
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Opening of Convention √
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Opening Worship and Keynote Speaker √
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Reception and Displays Open

Sunday, June 26, 2022

7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast Open
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Business Session I √
10:00 AM - 10:15AM	Break
10:15 AM- 11:30 AM	Mini Course 1
11:30AM -1:30 PM	Lunch Open, Social Time, and Displays Open
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Business Session II √
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	CSS Meeting √
3:45 PM - 5:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal, Social Time, and Displays Open
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Dinner Open
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Convention Worship Service and Communion √
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Reception, for the CSS Dean

Monday, June 27, 2022

7:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast Open
8:45 AM - 9:30 AM	Memorial Service √
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Mini Course 2, 3, 4, 5 √
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Break, Social Time, and Displays Open
11:00 AM - 11:45 PM	Children's Ministry Meeting
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM	Lunch Open
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Business Session III √
2:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Gather and Travel to Wayfarers Chapel
4:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Tour of Wayfarers and Dinner
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Worship Service with Potential Ordination √
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Return to Campus

(continued on next page)

Event Schedule (continued)

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

<i>7:00 AM - 8:30 AM</i>	<i>Breakfast Open</i>
<i>9:00 AM - 9:30 AM</i>	<i>Children's Program</i>
<i>9:30 AM - 10:45 AM</i>	<i>Mini Course 6, 7, 8, 9 √</i>
<i>10:45 AM - 11:00 AM</i>	<i>Break</i>
<i>11:00 AM - 11:30 AM</i>	<i>Business Session IV √</i>
<i>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM</i>	<i>Break/Displays (Close displays)</i>
<i>11:30 PM - 1:30 PM</i>	<i>Lunch Open</i>
<i>1:15 PM - 2:30 PM</i>	<i>Mini Course 10, 11, 12, 13 √</i>
<i>2:30 PM - 3:00 PM</i>	<i>Break</i>
<i>3:00 PM - 3:30 PM</i>	<i>Travel to Garden Church</i>
<i>3:30 PM - 5:30 PM</i>	<i>Garden Church and Feed and Be Fed Farm</i>
<i>5:30 PM - 5:45 PM</i>	<i>Travel Back to Campus</i>
<i>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM</i>	<i>Dinner Open</i>
<i>7:30 PM - 8:30 PM</i>	<i>SCYL Worship</i>
<i>8:30 PM - 9:30 PM</i>	<i>Close Convention</i>

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

<i>7:00 AM - 8:30 AM</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>
<i>9:00 AM - 2:30 PM</i>	<i>Depart & Check Out</i>
<i>8:00 AM - 11:00 AM</i>	<i>General Council Post Convention Meeting</i>
<i>11:30 AM - 1:30 PM</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
<i>2:30 PM</i>	<i>Dorms Must Be Vacated By This Time</i>