

Synod 2006



Handbook for Delegates

Moravian Church in America, Southern Province

2006 Synod

April 19-23, 2006

Blue Ridge Assembly

Black Mountain, NC

Table of Contents

Provincial Synod.....	2
Standing Rules of Synod.....	3-4
Resolutions.....	5-8
Path of a Resolution.....	9
Reports.....	10
Parliamentary Procedure.....	11
Parliamentary Procedure Guide.....	12-13
Elections.....	14
Delegate Responsibilities.....	15-16
Transportation.....	16
Arrival and Departure.....	16
Communications.....	17
Telephones.....	17
Messages.....	17
Meals.....	17
Chapel.....	17
Facilities.....	18
What to Bring.....	18
Remember.....	18

Introduction

The church appreciates your willingness to serve as a delegate to Synod 2006. We welcome you. This handbook has been prepared to help delegates become familiar with “what’s going to happen at synod” and to participate to the fullest once synod begins. It will inform you about the details and procedures. Please study this handbook and bring it with you to pre-synod meetings and synod.

Your time at synod will be one of worship, renewal, fellowship and hard work as you participate in the decision-making process of the Southern Province of the Moravian Church. Being a delegate demands total commitment and participation. It is important that you be on time for worship and for all meetings, focus on the business at hand, love the other delegates whether you agree with them or not, appreciate the beauty of your surroundings and enjoy the fellowship that only a synod experience can offer.

Items in this handbook will be addressed at pre-synod meetings. If you still have questions, please call your pastor or one of the Synod Planning Committee members or e-mail the PEC Office at (pec@mcsp.org).

We look forward to working and worshipping with you at the Synod of 2006.

Synod Planning Committee:

Betsy Bombick
Ray Burke
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Bob Hunter
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Tom Shelton
Rick Sides
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Steve Wilson
Don Winters
Wally Yarbrough

Synod Officers:
Not yet determined

The Provincial Synod

From: *The Constitution of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province*
Section 3

The Provincial Synod has the supreme legislative power of the Province in all things not committed to the Unity Synod. It shall consist of elected delegates and official members; it shall determine the qualification of its own members; it shall prescribe what bodies shall be entitled to representation, and on what basis, and in what manner to be elected.

Duties and Functions of the Provincial Synod

The Provincial Synod shall have power:

- to examine the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations,
- to adopt rules and regulations for the same,
- to hear and redress grievances.

It shall elect

- the Provincial Elders' Conference,
- the Provincial Financial Board,
- other synodical boards,
 - all of which are responsible to the synod for the management of the affairs committed to them.
- bishops,
- delegates to the Unity Synod.

It shall interest itself in

- Salem Academy and College,
- Moravian College and Theological Seminary.

It shall supervise church publications and its provincial funds.

It shall watch over the doctrine and liturgy of the church, according to the principles established by Unity Synod.

It shall regulate the organization of congregations and shall exercise a general supervision over the church activities of the province.

Ministry Groups

The nomenclature “ministry groups” will be used in addition to “committees” to describe the small groups working during synod. “Ministry groups” have the same rights and powers and equivalent legislative authority as committees.

Standing Rules of Synod

1. Resolutions duplicated and distributed to the members before synod convenes shall be referred to proper synod committees for consideration without being read.
2. Synod minutes shall be reviewed by a committee of three appointed by the chairperson of synod so that they need not be approved by the full synod.
3. After the initial roll call of delegates, further roll calls shall be made by delegates signing attendance sheets. The synod secretaries shall immediately record the roll.
4. All resolutions coming from the synod committees shall be referred to the Steering Committee. This committee does not have the power to alter or reject resolutions, but to see that resolutions are duplicated and distributed to delegates before they are presented for action.
5. By the beginning of synod the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall have distributed to the delegates a list of offices to be filled by election and the nominations for these offices.
6. Ballots for all board elections shall be cast at the same time, except boards for which nominations are not permitted.
7. To provide for number 6 above, the ballot with nominations for all board elections, except boards for which nominations are not permitted, will be presented to synod delegates at the convening of synod, and
 - a. At the first appropriate time, opportunity will be given to present nominations from the floor.
 - b. After nominations from the floor have been closed, the ballots shall be prepared so that the names presented by the Nominations and Elections Committee are distinguished from those nominated from the floor. (A suitable difference in type will make this distinction.)
 - c. As soon as appropriate, the ballots having been printed, the voting for all boards, except boards for which nominations are not permitted, shall take place.
8. To provide for further balloting, ballots in numerical sequence and color-coded shall be distributed in pack form at one time.
9. Reports of task forces, study groups or committees authorized or appointed by synod during the inter-synodal period shall be referred to the appropriate synod committee.

10. All legislation requiring funding either on a provincial basis or by the local congregation in the total amount of \$2,500 or more must be received by the Finance Committee no later than the end of the second day of synod. Such legislation shall be reported to synod by the Finance Committee, regardless of the committee from which it originates. All such legislation shall be presented at one time before any single item is voted on, with the total possible cost to the province and individual churches being indicated, and subsequent to the presentation, each item shall be given careful consideration and voted upon. Any amendment to legislation requiring funding which causes a net change of \$2,500 or more in any item on the floor of synod must be referred to the Finance Committee prior to being voted upon.
11. At the close of each synod, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall appoint a committee to review the Book of Order of the Southern Province and bring it into conformity with the acts of synod.

Resolutions

Synod 2006 will determine much of the future direction and actions of the Southern Province.

Who May Write a Resolution

Any individual Moravian, agency, or board who has a prayerful concern may submit a proposed resolution before or during synod. Prior to synod proposed resolutions are to be submitted to the PEC Office. Ministry groups/committees will be writing resolutions at synod.

What to Write

The first step is to meditate on the question, “What does God want the Moravian Church to do in the next 4 years?” and ask for God’s guidance. Identify the vision, goal, or problem to be addressed. Don’t stop with what needs change but continue on to how change might be accomplished. Think through whether it involves a new program, adoption of a new policy, or change in procedure. Don’t forget to consider what requirements might be necessary in personnel, resources, materials, space, or finances. This exercise will help you clarify your own thoughts and prepare to state them clearly in a proposed resolution.

How to write a resolution

Writing a proposed resolution is a matter of concisely stating the issue to be addressed and making recommendations. The style and form for preparing resolutions for Synod 2006 follows:

The background or reasons for the resolution are stated in one or more preambles. The preamble to a resolution is a clause beginning with the word “WHEREAS.” It is not necessary to use more than one preamble but more than one may be used. These should only be used to provide little-known information that relates directly to the point of the resolution. Do not state facts or positions that are already common knowledge. The recommendation statements begin with “RESOLVED” and each one states an action. Again one or more such statements may be made.

The proper format would be:

WHEREAS, ...(Text of the clause);

WHEREAS, ...(Text of the next to the last preamble clause); and

WHEREAS, ...(Text of the last preamble clause); therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That ...(state action to be taken);

RESOLVED, That ...(state further action if appropriate); and

RESOLVED, That ...(state still further action).

An example of format and wording of a resolution from a past synod:

To Synod 1998

Resolution

Subject: Church Educators Standardized Guidelines
From: Clergy & Staff Development Ministry Group

WHEREAS, the Church Educators Committee, created at the direction of the Synod of 1995, reports that many Moravian church educators receive lower salaries and fewer benefits than church educators of other denominations with comparable education and experience; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a wide discrepancy in the salaries and benefit packages of church educators within our province; and

WHEREAS, churches seeking to employ full-time church educators usually request information about salaries and benefit packages from the PEC and/or BCE; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the PEC, in consultation with the BCE, develop guidelines for standardized salary and benefit packages (i.e. insurance, travel allowance, continuing education, vacation, and retirement) for full-time professional church educators; and

RESOLVED, That these guidelines will be made available to our congregations no later than January 1, 1999.

Resolutions from Individuals

Prior to being read by the presenter during a plenary session, (5) copies of the resolution must be given to the Steering Committee Chairperson. The Steering Committee gives copies to:

1. Synod Chair
2. One of the synod secretaries (original)
3. Chairperson of committee to which resolution will be referred
4. Steering Committee Chairperson will keep a copy
5. Synod Office (The resolution will be kept on file there. It will be assigned a number by the Synod Office when it is submitted to the Synod Office by the referring ministry group/committee.)

Resolutions from Committees/Ministry Groups

Guidelines and procedure for committee/ministry groups:

1. Resolutions (and reports) may be typed in the Synod Office located in the Blue Ridge Center. Staff people will be there to offer assistance with formatting or keying in your work. (Laptop computers are encouraged. If a member of the group has a laptop, a copy of the work may be brought to the Synod Office on a disk.)
2. Each ministry group/committee will have a computer disk containing all its work. Someone from the ministry group/committee is responsible for bringing the disk to the Synod Office for each update or change. All work of the ministry group/committee will be saved to this disk.
3. The Synod Office will assign a number to each resolution. At synod the only numbering needed on a resolution is the one assigned. Notation of first, second, third etc. partial reports and then a final report from each committee is unnecessary. (In other words numbering of proposed resolutions within each committee is not needed as was done at previous synods.)
4. The Steering Committee will pick up resolutions to be reviewed and approved after they are documented in the Synod Office.
5. The Steering Committee will forward resolutions to other committees, where appropriate. Examples are:
 - a. All resolutions involving expenditure of funds over \$2,500 must be referred to the Finance Committee.
 - b. All resolutions concerned with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, or Book of Order will be referred to the Government Committee.
6. The Steering Committee will deliver resolutions, which have been approved, to the Synod Office for duplication and then pick up duplicated copies and deliver them to the place of the business sessions for subsequent distribution to each delegate.
7. The Steering Committee will work with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Synod to place the resolution on the schedule for discussion at a plenary session.
8. No proposed resolution from synod committees/ministry groups will be read and acted upon on the floor of synod until the resolution or report has been copied and distributed to all delegates.
9. Ushers shall not distribute any synod ministry group/committee proposed resolution until the Steering Committee chairperson has given them permission.

Presenting Resolutions (see “The Path of a Resolution”)

Once a synod ministry group/committee has decided to submit a resolution to the floor of synod and it has been approved by the Steering Committee, duplicated by the Synod Office, and distributed to all delegates, it is ready to be considered at a plenary (business) session.

The Synod Chair announces that the next item of business will be the consideration of a certain resolution, identifying it by number.

A member of the synod committee/ ministry group proposing the resolution comes to the microphone. That person states his or her name, identifies the resolution, (please allow time for the delegates to find the resolution before presenting it.), and reads it.

Then the presenter says, “I move the adoption of this resolution.” Any delegate may second a motion. (It is not necessary to gain recognition from the chair to second a motion. This is done by simply saying, “I second the motion.”) Once the motion has been seconded the presenter may then speak in favor of its adoption before yielding the floor.

When debate has been closed, the Synod Chair immediately states the question and puts it to vote.

(For the record, the minutes should show who makes a motion. The name of a delegate seconding a motion is not required.)



The Path of a Resolution

Resolutions developed prior to synod by boards, agencies, and individuals are assigned to the appropriate ministry group or committee.

During synod a delegate may present a resolution on the floor of synod. The resolution must be seconded. The resolution is then referred to the appropriate ministry group or committee.

Ministry Groups/Committees
may develop resolution(s),
consider resolutions referred

Ministry groups/committees determine whether to bring a resolution to the floor for consideration.

YES

Agrees to bring resolution to floor of synod

NO

declines to bring out resolution; (a 2/3 majority of synod may overrule and bring the resolution out of committee.)

Steering Committee

- May refer resolution to another committee
- Refers any resolution involving the expense of more than \$2,500 to the Finance Committee
- Refers resolutions which change rules and regulations or constitution to the Government Committee
- Approves resolutions, authorizes copies and distributes resolutions to delegates

Synod (plenary session) discusses and may call for a vote on the resolution

- The Synod Chair announces consideration of a specific resolution
- Someone from sponsoring ministry group/committee presents the resolution
- The resolution is discussed and may be amended, tabled, sent back to ministry group/committee

OR

- Question may be called for a **vote:**

YES

resolution is passed

NO

resolution is defeated

Reports

From Ministry Groups/Committees

In addition to proposed resolutions, ministry groups/committees may submit reports to the synod. These reports present information but require no action. They are prepared in the same style as the resolutions but do not require using “WHEREAS” and “RESOLVED, That”. Reports can be written in general paragraph form. See Guidelines 1,2, and 4 on page 7 for report preparation. The Synod Office will assign a letter to each report and the Steering Committee will determine when a report is distributed to delegates.

An example of format for a report:

To Synod 2002	
<u>Report</u>	
Subject:	XYZ Outreach Program
From:	Clergy & Staff Development Ministry Group
(Text of the report)	

Parliamentary Procedures

From **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised - 10th Edition**

1. **Motions.** Any delegate to synod has the privilege of making any appropriate motion or parliamentary point that pertains to the business of synod.
2. **Amendments.** Delegates offering an amendment to a motion should be specific, naming the words to be deleted (if any) and the words to be added (if any). Amendments of five or more words shall be written out with three copies (one for the delegate to keep, one for the secretary of synod, and one for the Synod Chair). An amendment may be amended only once. This is known as an amendment of the second degree. Amendments or so-called “substitute motions” which have the purpose of negating the meaning and intent of the original motion may be ruled by the chair as being “Out of Order” (the proper method of negating the original motion is to vote against it).
3. **Debate.** Every delegate has the privilege of participating in debate *if* the matter before the synod is debatable. To speak on a motion a delegate must gain recognition from the Synod Chair. This is done by approaching a microphone and identifying himself or herself. Efforts to be recognized by the chair should never be done in a manner that detracts attention from someone who is already addressing the synod, nor in any discourteous or disruptive manner.

After gaining recognition the delegate should address the chair and state his or her purpose in rising. The delegate may say, “I wish to speak for the motion” or “I wish to speak against the motion.” Or she or he may say, “I wish to offer an amendment.” The chair may rule as out of order any statement, which does not speak to the then-pending matter before the synod.

4. **Voting.** Every official delegate has the privilege of voting for or against a resolution or a motion. Delegates also have the privilege of abstaining. In voting by ballot for an election, a delegate may abstain by turning in a blank ballot, which is not counted.

A vote is ordinarily taken when the debate has concluded on the question before synod. At this point the chair usually asks, “Are you ready for the question?” If no one objects the vote is taken

If there is a serious question about how the synod is divided on a voice vote, any delegate may ask for a standing vote by saying, “I call for a division.” The chair then restates the question and asks the delegates to stand to be counted by the tellers. Delegates are reminded that a call for a division should not be made for the purpose of delay.

5. **General Parliamentary Procedure.** On the following pages is a general guide to parliamentary procedure, which will be useful in following or entering into debate in pre-synod meetings and at the synod.

PARLIAMENTARY MOTIONS GUIDE

Based on Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition)

The motions below are listed in Order of Precedence. A motion can be made only if it is HIGHER on the chart than the pending motion.

You want to:	After gaining recognition by the chair, you say	Second?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote
Close the meeting	“I move to adjourn.”	yes	no	no	majority
Take a break	“I move to recess until ...”	yes	no	yes	majority
Register a complaint	“I rise to a point of privilege.”	no	no	no	none
Make the chair follow the agenda	“I call for the orders of the day.”	no	no	no	none
Temporarily delay the motion	“I move to table the motion.”	yes	no	no	majority
Close the debate	“I call the question” or “I move the previous question.”	yes	no	no	2/3
Limit or extend the debate	“I move that the debate be limited (extended) to ...”	yes	no	yes	2/3
Postpone motion to a certain time	“I move to postpone the motion to ...”	yes	yes	yes	majority
Refer the matter to committee	“I move to refer the motion to the Committee.”	yes	yes	yes	majority
Modify the wording of the motion	“I move to amend the motion by ...”	yes	yes	yes	majority
Kill the main motion	“I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely.”	yes	yes	no	majority
Make a motion on a new matter – a “main” motion	“I move that (or to) ...”	yes	yes	yes	majority

Incidental Motions - these have no Order of Precedence and may be made at any time and are immediately decided.

You want to:	After gaining recognition by the chair, you say	Second?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote
Have the rules of synod followed	“Point of order”	no	no	no	none
Appeal the action of the chair	“I appeal from the action (decision) of the chair.”	yes	varies	yes	majority
Suspend the rules	“I move to suspend the rules in order to ...”	yes	no	no	2/3
Avoid the main motion altogether	“I object to the consideration of the question.”	no	no	no	2/3
Divide the main motion into parts to be voted on in parts	“I move to divide the question as follows ...”	yes	no	yes	majority
Demand a rising (standing) vote	“I call for a division”	no	no	no	none
Raise a point of parliamentary law	“I have a parliamentary inquiry”	no	no	no	none
Request for information	“I request a point of information”	no	no	no	none
Hear the motion read again	“I request that the motion be stated again”	no	no	no	none

These motions bring an action back before the assembly:

You want to:	After gaining recognition by the chair, you say	Second?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote
Take matter from the table	“I move to take ... from the table”	yes	no	no	Majority
Reconsider a previously decided matter	“I move to reconsider the vote on ...”	yes	yes	varies	Majority

This Guide is published courtesy of Jim Slaughter, Certified Professional Parliamentarian-Teacher and Professional Registered Parliamentarian. www.jimslaughter.com

Elections

Bishops

Resolutions calling for the election of a bishop or bishops are referred to the appropriate synod committee dealing with the ministry. In the event no such resolution is presented, the appropriate committee may recommend to synod the election of a bishop or bishops. Election of bishop is from among the presbyters and is by ballot without nomination. A majority vote of two-thirds of the votes cast is necessary for election.

Provincial Elders' Conference

The Provincial Elders' Conference consists of five persons, two who shall be laypersons and three ministers. These are elected by synod. The synod elects the president of the conference, who may be a layperson or a minister, after which the remaining four members are chosen. (No person sixty-five or over may be elected president.) All members of the Provincial Elders' Conference are elected by ballot without nomination. A majority vote of two-thirds of the votes cast is required for election.

Members of Other Boards

Synod votes to elect nominated individuals for vacancies on other boards and agencies of the province. Prior to synod the Nominations Committee requests information on vacancies that will be occurring from provincial boards and receives nominations. The Nominations Committee provides names and biographical data on those recommended, prepares descriptions of each board that will have a vacancy and who has been nominated to that board, and creates a sample ballot. This information will be mailed to delegates before synod convenes.

When synod convenes other nominations may be received from the floor, a final ballot is prepared; and the vote is taken. All elections shall be by a majority of the votes cast. Those elected will serve for a term of four years until the convening of the next synod.

Terms of Office: Since the Synod of 1998, all elections are for four-year terms. Those elected for the first time to four-year terms in 2002 are eligible for re-election. All positions become vacant and are elected at every synod. Persons are limited to serving two consecutive four-year terms. The one exception is PEC President. There is no limit to the number of terms a PEC President may serve.

Other particulars on terms of service, re-election, filling vacancies, etc. may be found in the Rules and Regulations, V. Elections and Appointments of the Book of Order of the Southern Province.

Delegates' Responsibilities

1. Tote bags will be provided for each delegate containing introductory material.
2. Each delegate will be able to choose 3 preferences for participation in a ministry group/committee. Delegates will then be notified of their assigned group.
3. Pastors are to talk with and answer delegate's questions about synod and preparation for synod.
4. The tote bag contains 5 folders and a set of labels. Folders and labels are for:
 - a. Reports to Synod 2006 (from boards/agencies/institutions)(received prior to synod)
 - b. Resolutions
 - c. Reports (from Ministry Groups/Committees) (to be received at synod)
 - d. A blank label for the delegate to write in his/her ministry group name
 - e. Miscellaneous
5. A great deal of the work of synod takes place in ministry groups and committees, which will meet each day of synod. For this work, each member should focus on the question, "What is God calling us to do or be in our area of concern?"
6. The way a delegate becomes more familiar with the structure of the Southern Province and his/her area of concern (which corresponds to a ministry group assignment) is to read all the reports from provincial agencies and institutions.
7. Before synod each provincial agency and institution (such as Bd. of Christian Education, Bd. of Evangelism and Home Missions, Salem Academy and College, etc.) submits a report to the PEC. (There are approximately 25 reports.) These describe how the agency or institution has completed assignments from the last synod and their goals and plans for the future.
8. Pray and read over all material given to delegates prior to synod. Reports from provincial boards and agencies are for delegates' information in preparation for synod and will not be presented on the floor of synod.
9. These reports will be placed on the mcsp.org website or mailed to delegates who do not have Internet access. Delegates who read the reports on the website are asked to print them for reference.
10. Reading the reports carefully will help the delegate better understand proposed resolutions that will come to the plenary (business) session for discussion and vote.
11. All reports should be filed in a folder in the tote bag and brought to synod.
12. Each report is assigned to one of the ministry group/committees. Delegates will receive a chart indicating the specific ministry groups to which reports and resolutions are assigned. The delegates are asked to especially familiarize themselves with the reports assigned to their ministry group/committee. It is from this background material and group discussion that many proposed resolutions are started and then brought to the full synod.

Please bring the tote bag and all materials received prior to Synod with you to Synod.

13. If, for some reason, prior to the convening of synod, you find that you cannot come to Blue Ridge Assembly in time for the opening of synod, call your pastor immediately so that an alternate may be seated. An alternate may not be seated after the initial roll call.
14. Worship and plenary sessions are held in Washburn Center. Please allow enough time to answer roll call or sign your attendance slips for each session and other called meetings, held in various locations. Please stay until adjournment.
15. Morning worship begins at 8:15 am.
16. At the time of your check-in and registration on Wednesday, April 19, delegates will receive a tablet of ballots, room assignments, room keys and other final synod information.

Transportation

Travel to synod

- For those traveling over 250 miles to arrive at synod the province will assist with travel costs. From NC locations the province will pay the current IRS rate per mile for one car per congregation. Delegates traveling from Florida may receive up to \$250 each for travel expense. Florida delegates are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and will be reimbursed promptly when receipts are received in the PEC Office.

Air Transportation

- Please book your flight into the Asheville, NC airport and notify the PEC Office of your arrival/departure times as soon as you have confirmed your reservation.

Arrival and Departure

Check-In

- Check-in at the Blue Ridge Center (the main building on the grounds) upon arrival.
- Please plan to arrive on Wednesday, April 19 in mid-morning. Synod begins with lunch at 12:15pm. (Please advise if your air travel requires a different arrival time.)
- The first meal served will be lunch on Wednesday.
- Someone will be at the registration table to carry your luggage and help you find your room.

Check-Out

- Please return your room keys to Blue Ridge Assembly office. (An unnecessary cost is added to our bill for each key not returned. Your local congregation will be billed \$10 per key if your key is not returned.)
- Synod will end with lunch on Sunday, April 23.

Communications

Telephones

- Pay telephones are available throughout the grounds.
- There are phones in the rooms in Blue Ridge Center and Asheville Hall. If there is a phone in your room you may use a calling card from that location and you may also receive calls there 24 hours a day. After you arrive at synod, advise your family of your room number and they will be able to call you at any time. (Room numbers will not be available until registration is complete on the first day of synod.)
- Please use your credit card or the pay phones for all outgoing calls.

Blue Ridge Assembly Telephone:
(828) 669-8422 7 am-9 pm
(828) 777-1728 9 pm-7 am (Emergency Only)

Messages

- Emergency messages will be delivered to you (to your assigned room) during night hours. If you change your room please notify the Blue Ridge Assembly Office so they will know how to locate you.
- Non-emergency messages will be posted in the Blue Ridge Center, near the office and lobby.
- General notices and schedule changes will be posted on the bulletin boards in Blue Ridge Center and on the screen in Washburn Center.

Meals

- All meals are served cafeteria style in the dining hall of the Blue Ridge Center. The variety of food served in the dining hall will accommodate those on special and/or vegetarian diets.

Breakfast: 7:15 am – 8:00 am
Lunch 12:15 pm - 1:00 pm
Dinner 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm

Chapel

The Chapel in the Blue Ridge Center will be available for meditation and prayer.

Facilities

- Delegates will be housed in Blue Ridge Center, Weatherford Hall, Asheville Hall and Abbott Hall. Persons attending as volunteers will be housed in cottages on the grounds.
- Plenary sessions will be held in Washburn Center.
- Check-in, food services, message notification, and displays will be in Blue Ridge Center.
- The Synod Office will be housed in the Blue Ridge Center near the cafeteria in a room called Robertson II.

What To Bring

- Bible
- Your tote bag containing all pre-synod materials especially Reports to Synod 2006 (from boards/agencies/institutions)
- Blue Book of Worship
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Your laptop computer (for work in your ministry group/committee) (there are two outlets available for connecting to the Internet. Blue Ridge Assembly will specify hours when you may connect to check e-mail. Your computer should have a LAN [Ethernet] card to function properly with the Blue Ridge Assembly equipment.)
- Casual clothing
- A jacket and/or sweater
- Rain gear
- Athletic clothes/equipment for tennis, basketball, volleyball, hiking
- Band instruments
- Toiletries
- Flashlight
- Linens are provided.

Remember

Synod activities take place in different buildings; the terrain is hilly and spring weather in Black Mountain is unpredictable.

The Blue Ridge Assembly Staff is trained to react to medical emergencies.

No motorcycles are allowed on the property.

Blue Ridge is a smoke-free facility.