

WELS Commission on Worship

School of Worship Enrichment



Travel Subsidy Grants

For a limited time a generous grant from Thrivent provides subsidy to help with travel costs for certain parishes. Here are criteria for being considered for subsidy.

- Funds are available primarily to those from congregations so isolated (or in an area with so few WELS parishes) that a SoWE would not likely be available nearby in the future.
- Subsidy covers 60% of motel cost up to a maximum of \$60/night; double occupancy (when possible); maximum of three rooms; for one or two nights (depending on distance from host parish). Congregations are encouraged to explore other ways to save costs, such as checking if members of the host parish will provide lodging.
- Subsidy is available only to congregations that send at least four people to a SoWE.
- Those requesting subsidy should live at least an hour's drive from the SoWE site. Applying funds to these requests assures that we will be able to serve more congregations. Those who live closer are able to drive home the evening between SoWE days.
- This subsidy program assumes that participants will drive to the SoWE site. If air travel is necessary, check with the Worship office about options.
- Subsidy funds are provided after the SoWE weekend as reimbursement for receipts submitted.

Those requesting subsidy will also follow this key SoWE guideline:

A major objective of this event is to lead parish worship planners to coordinate efforts. So it is best if all those with worship responsibilities participate. Obviously, key participants include the pastor(s), the main organist and choir director, the teacher in charge of the Lutheran elementary school music program, and a responsible member of the Church Council or Worship Committee. Assistant musicians and laypeople with interest in public worship are urged to attend as well. If one or another of the key participants is not able to attend, the Commission on Worship asks that congregations look for another opportunity to participate.

Scheduling a SoWE depends in part on a firm commitment from enough parishes. Since this requires advance planning, those interested in attending are encouraged to plan far in advance – asking key participants to reserve the weekend and then applying for travel subsidy.

If you wish to be considered for travel subsidy, please contact the Worship office:

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