



*November 22 - 24, 2024*

*Delta Hotels by Marriott  
Minneapolis Northeast*

On behalf of the Minnesota Farmers Union, I welcome you to our 83rd annual convention. We come together each year to set our organization's policy and connect with each other.

The Policy Committee will lead us in debating the resolutions that county Farmers Unions passed. We will vote on each section of the policy statement, with time for members to express their support for or opposition to the policy. Our cooperative, democratic process makes us who we are, and I look forward to seeing it in action once again.

The convention begins Friday afternoon with a series of panels and an evening reception.

On Saturday, we'll have a full day of policy debate punctuated by a variety of speakers. On Saturday evening, we'll gather for our banquet.

On Sunday, we'll elect delegates to the 2025 National Farmers Union Convention in Oklahoma City, Okla., and vote on special policy orders.

Several exhibitors join us at convention. Stop by the Lake Superior Room to visit with them and learn more about their products and services.

We thank the many sponsors who financially support the convention. Their logos will be included in your convention binder, on convention signage and in a future issue of Minnesota Agriculture. Please thank them for their support.

Our meals are a highlight of convention, and we are sourcing as many meal ingredients as possible from our members. We thank the farmers who sell food to us and the chefs at Twin Cities 400 Tavern who create and prepare our delicious convention meals.

In order to be good stewards of the meals prepared, we are asking you to RSVP by Nov. 7 so we can provide an accurate count to the hotel. As an incentive, everyone who mails their check in by the Nov. 7 deadline saves \$5 per meal and you save even more by buying the full meal package. See the invitation for full details.

Also, see the invitation for details about a pre-convention prep call on Nov. 13. During this call, we'll cover what to expect when you serve as a delegate to the convention. There's information about the MFU PAC Reception, the fundraiser auctions and childcare. You can also order coffee and MFU clothing. Be sure to return the information to the state office by Nov. 7.

I look forward to seeing you Nov. 22-24 at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Minneapolis Northeast, conveniently located just off Interstate 35W with plenty of free parking in a paved lot.

Warmest regards,

Gary Wertish, Minnesota Farmers Union President

## Hotel Reservations

To reserve a room, contact Delta Hotels by Marriott Minneapolis Northeast at [bit.ly/MFU83HOTEL](https://bit.ly/MFU83HOTEL) (case sensitive). If you are unable to book online, contact Victor Farmah at [victor.farmah@scalzohospitality.com](mailto:victor.farmah@scalzohospitality.com).

The MFU State Convention rate is \$124 for kings and double queens, and \$194 for executive kings (plus taxes and fees). This rate is good until Nov. 7.

A credit card is required to book your reservation. The hotel is located at 1330 Industrial Blvd. NE, Minneapolis, MN. Check-in begins at 3 p.m. and check out is at noon. Please reference the Minnesota Farmers Union Annual Convention in any correspondence.

## Fundraiser Auction

The fundraiser auction will be held Saturday, Nov. 23. Members are encouraged to donate items. Many of the items will be silently auctioned during the day; others will be set aside for the live auction, which begins that evening at 8:30. The proceeds benefit the MFU Foundation.

Examples of items to donate include:

- Farm machinery collectibles
- Farmers Union commemorative/antique items
- Baked goods
- Theme baskets

Items may be checked in and dropped off in the foyer near the Lake Mille Lacs Room beginning Friday, Nov. 22 at 12:45 p.m. and resuming on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 8 a.m. Questions? Contact Stacy Ripka at (320) 412-6362 or Cindy VanDerPol at (320) 220-1852.

## Child Care

Childcare at the convention is open to all members. Children must be 4 years of age or older to attend. **You must register by Friday, Nov. 15.**

To register: [bit.ly/ConventionChildCare24](https://bit.ly/ConventionChildCare24)  
Questions? Contact Education Director Winona Anderson at (651) 288-4096 or [winona@mfu.org](mailto:winona@mfu.org).

## MFU PAC Reception

The MFU PAC will hold a reception on Saturday, Nov. 23 starting at 4:30 p.m. in the St. Paul Ballroom. All are encouraged to attend. **Suggested donation is \$25.** For more information, contact Stu Lourey at (320) 232-3047 or [stu.lourey@gmail.com](mailto:stu.lourey@gmail.com).

## Pre-Convention Prep Call

Join us for an informational session on November 13 at 6 p.m. We will cover what to expect as a delegate to convention.

**Zoom link: [bit.ly/ConventionPrepCall](https://bit.ly/ConventionPrepCall)**

Meeting ID: 842 5780 9014

Call-in number: (312) 626-6799



Pick up your copy of

**Climate & Agriculture:  
What Do Farmers Think?**

which will be unveiled at  
State Convention.