



April 8, 2024

Dear Brothers in Christ,

**The 21<sup>st</sup> Biennial Convention of the North Atlantic District will be held on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chesapeake, VA.** The convention will begin with worship with Holy Communion at 9:00 am on Tuesday at Resurrection. President Michael Seifert will serve as preacher.

Our convention will meet under the theme *“Let Your Light Shine!”* based on 1 Peter 2:9: *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.* Pastor Jon Bauer will present on **Exiled Insiders: Our Sempiternal, Subversive, Submissive Life in Two Kingdoms Ruled by One Crucified King.** You will find a download link for the essay at [www.nadwels.net](http://www.nadwels.net) under “Study Documents” on the “Resources” menu. A synopsis follows:

*It was easy to support the basic liberal principles on which our nation was founded when the dominant worldview in our society at least somewhat resembled a biblical one. In recent years, however, that situation appears to have changed. American Christians and their pastors now find themselves in a society that not only disagrees with, but is hostile toward many articles of historic Christianity. Now what? As the sun appears to set on Christendom in America, one option is for Christians to abandon those liberal principles and grab for power while they still can. Catholic integralism and Protestant Christian Nationalism are two cases-in-point. How should Lutherans with a clear understanding of the two kingdoms confront this new reality? How do we speak publicly about contemporary issues where secular orthodoxy and biblical Christianity butt heads? What direction should our congregations give our people as each week they traverse the threshold that takes them out of the church and into society? This essay will seek to give pastors and laypeople practical guidance and gospel-driven confidence as they serve in our so-called secular age. Challenges are unavoidable. Potential pitfalls are nearly everywhere. But the opportunities in front of us are abundant and exciting.*

Convention information and registration information are in this letter. **Please note the deadlines.**

If you have not submitted the name of your congregation’s delegate yet, please do so by **April 28<sup>th</sup>**. Email the delegate’s name and email address to the District Secretary at [brent.r.bitter@gmail.com](mailto:brent.r.bitter@gmail.com).

### **District Officers**

**Rev. Michael Seifert**  
President

**Rev. Timothy Ehlers**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Rev. Mark Henrich**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Mr. Brent Bitter**  
District Secretary/Treasurer

The convention agenda will be sent out soon. The convention will begin on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. It is scheduled to end at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Floor committee assignments, the Report to the Twelve Districts (RTTD), digital copies of reports, and a copy of the NAD Called Worker Roster and lay delegates are forthcoming.

This information is being sent to all NAD male called workers. The male called workers of each congregation should communicate with each other and their lay delegates about this information, and then register **as a congregation**. Please make your attendance a priority. If you or your lay delegate cannot attend, please excuse to the Secretary at [brent.r.bitter@gmail.com](mailto:brent.r.bitter@gmail.com).

Vacancy pastors are welcome to attend as guests.

Please read all the information about the Convention today! **The registration deadline is May 17<sup>th</sup>**.

Complete your congregation's registration online at [www.nadwels.net](http://www.nadwels.net). All guests should also register.

If you cannot pay online, send a check for your district dues and your necessary food packages to: Brent Bitter, 3267 Dunbar Lane, Fort Mill, SC 29707. Make checks payable to "The North Atlantic District". Notify the Secretary at [brent.r.bitter@gmail.com](mailto:brent.r.bitter@gmail.com) if you are mailing a check.

If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the District Convention, contact me at [brent.r.bitter@gmail.com](mailto:brent.r.bitter@gmail.com) or 904-864-3384.

In Christ,

Mr. Brent R. Bitter

North Atlantic District Secretary/Treasurer

## **“Let His Light Shine!”**

June 4-5, 2024 | Resurrection Lutheran Church, Chesapeake, VA

### **CONVENTION INFORMATION**

#### **Registration**

The annual district dues of \$150.00 are assessed to all congregations in the district, including missions, vacancies, and wherever services are held. This fee helps cover the cost of convention, as well as other district expenses such as MAP counseling, honorariums, Help Team, administrative expenses, etc. All congregations of the district submit annual dues, including those not sending a delegate to convention. Please note that all registration and payments will be completed online at [www.nadwels.net](http://www.nadwels.net).

The directions for registration are as follows:

1. Go to [www.nadwels.net](http://www.nadwels.net)
2. Select “2024 District Convention” from the home page.
3. Select “Register Now”.
4. Complete the required information for each attendee from your congregation.
5. Select “Submit & Pay”.
6. Select the quantity of food packages required for your attendees, complete the credit card information, and select “Pay”.

If you have any questions or difficulties with registration, please contact Mr. Brent Bitter at [brent.r.bitter@gmail.com](mailto:brent.r.bitter@gmail.com) or 904-864-3384.

### **The deadline for registration is May 17, 2024**

#### **Paperless Convention**

Most materials will be available online and will also be projected on a screen. All delegates are encouraged to bring a device to use during the convention. To avoid overwhelming Resurrection’s wifi network, please download materials to your device prior to arrival. All materials will be available at [www.nadwels.net](http://www.nadwels.net).

#### **Call for Reports**

All district committees should submit a written report to the convention. Committee chairman may request floor time to present on the work of their committee. Send your request including the time needed to Second VP Mark Henrich ([pastormark.henrich@gmail.com](mailto:pastormark.henrich@gmail.com)) no later than May 1<sup>st</sup>. **All reports are to be emailed no later than May 17<sup>th</sup> to the District Secretary at [brent.r.bitter@gmail.com](mailto:brent.r.bitter@gmail.com).** PDF files are preferred. If you request floor time to make a presentation, please prepare a written report as well.

#### **District Council Meeting**

President Seifert is calling a District Council Meeting in connection with convention. The meeting is scheduled to begin on **Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 PM**. The District Council consists of the President, the Vice Presidents, the Secretary, the Synodical Council lay representatives, Circuit Pastors, chairmen of the district boards, commissions, committees, and coordinators.

## **Missionaries Conference**

The annual Missionaries Conference will begin on **Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 PM**. All convention participants are invited to attend. There will be a pizza dinner provided after the presentations.

## **Hotel**

All those attending the Convention are asked to make their own room reservations. Neither the District Secretary nor the host congregation is responsible for your room arrangements. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Springhill Suites in Chesapeake, VA—about 15 minutes from the church. You can make your reservation by clicking this link: [BOOK NOW AT SPRINGHILL SUITES - GREENBRIER](#)

The hotel is located at 1446 Crossways Boulevard, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320.

The group reservation is listed under “North Atlantic District”. The daily cost is \$159-169 depending upon your room choice. Room rates are good through May 6<sup>th</sup>. Notify Brent Bitter if the link doesn’t work.

## **Travel**

All congregations are responsible for the cost of their travel. If the cost is prohibitive for your congregation, please speak with President Seifert to request possible assistance. If you are flying, the closest airport is Norfolk International Airport (ORF). There is no airport shuttle service available. Please plan ahead if you require transportation from the airport to the church or hotel.

## **Meals**

Breakfast is provided at the hotel. All other meals and snacks are provided with your food package purchase. Each food package is \$65. This includes daily snacks and beverages, gemütlichkeit, and the following catered meals:

Monday Dinner: Pizza dinner after Missionaries Conference

Tuesday Lunch: Hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, and all the fixings

Tuesday Dinner: Grilled chicken, pulled pork, ultimate mac ‘n cheese, green beans, coleslaw.

Wednesday Lunch: Turkey, ham, roast beef, Italian pasta, potato chips and all the fixings

Individual meals can be purchased for \$20/person if you will only be attending a portion of the convention, or if you will have family or guests joining you for the meal. Speak with Brent Bitter if you need to purchase individual meals.

## **Convention Snacks & Drinks**

A variety of snacks and beverages will be provided during the convention. The cost of these provisions is included in your food package. A special thanks to volunteers at Resurrection for managing these items.

## **Gemütlichkeit**

All conference attendees are invited to enjoy gemütlichkeit on Tuesday evening after dinner. Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided by the district. The cost is included in your food package.

Resurrection will allow participants to have beer or wine on site during evening fellowship, but none will be provided by Resurrection or the district.

## **WI-FI Network**

Resurrection has a reliable wifi network for our use. However, it is recommended that you download convention documents before arriving. The network ID and password are as follows:

**Network:** Resurrection

**Password:** 916centerville