



A Summary of the 21st Biennial North Atlantic District Convention

The North Atlantic District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod convened for its biennial convention at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Chesapeake, Virginia, June 4-5, 2024.

The North Atlantic District includes congregations from Canada, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina. There were 85 people in attendance including 34 active pastors, 2 retired pastors, 1 vacancy pastor, 1 staff minister, 2 teachers, 3 vicars, 28 layman, and 14 guests.

The convention opened with worship including Holy Communion, featuring many instrumentalists from the district and an inspiring sermon from President Michael Seifert.

The theme for the convention was *"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 Jonathan P. Bauer from Good News Lutheran Church in Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin presented his paper *"Exiled Insiders: Our Sempiternal, Subversive, Submissive Life in Two Kingdoms Ruled by One Crucified King."*

Pastor Michael Seifert (Living Hope, Midlothian, VA) was re-elected as president of the district. Other elected officers include 1st Vice President Pastor Kevin Wattles (Grace, Falls Church VA), 2nd Vice President Pastor Mark Henrich (Hope, Toronto, ON), and Secretary/Treasurer Staff Minister Brent Bitter (Grace, Charlotte, NC).

The District President's Report provided an overview of the ministry in the district, welcomed new workers into the district, and provided recognition and appreciation to retiring workers as well as those celebrating ministry anniversaries.

WELS 2nd Vice President Joel Voss attended the convention to provide encouragement from synod leadership and review the synod's work at home and abroad.

Many reports were shared regarding the ministry of the synod, the North Atlantic District, and other WELS partners. You can view these reports at www.nadwels.net.

The convention concluded with worship and the installation of officers and circuit pastors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Staff Minister Brent R. Bitter
District Secretary/Treasurer