



"I am the way and the truth and the life."

John 14:6

Way of Christ

NLS 2011 Annual Meeting

July 28 – 31, 2011



Hosted by Western North Carolina Via de Cristo

On behalf of the National Lutheran Secretariat and the Host Committee from Western North Carolina, you are officially invited to attend the National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting in Charlotte NC, July 28th through July 31st.

The NLS 2011 Annual Meeting theme celebrates our name, Via de Cristo (Way of Christ) and honors Christ who said "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6) This theme is especially fitting as we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of our adopting the Via de Cristo name. We hope to have as many charter members, forefathers, and former National Board officers as possible at this anniversary meeting.

Queens University of Charlotte (www.queens.edu) will be the site of this year's annual meeting. The lovely tree-covered campus is located about 15 minutes from the Charlotte Douglas International Airport and near downtown. A committee member will greet you at the airport and welcome you to the Queen city. (This is the only airport from which we can provide transportation.) The dorm rooms share a bathroom with the adjoining room; making no more than four persons sharing. There is no smoking and no alcohol permitted on the campus. The facilities are entirely air-conditioned (necessary in the hot and humid climate). The short walks between events are along tree-lined walkways and on level terrain.

Charlotte is a city of trees and churches and offers many and varied visitor attractions. For those that want to extend their stay, we are convenient to South Carolina beaches which are about 3 ½ hours southeast and the beautiful Blue Ridge and Smoky Mountains can be enjoyed 2 hours west.

Enclosed you will find a Registration Form and a Transportation Form for your convenience. Additional forms are available on the NLS website www.viadecristo.org. Please note that you may take advantage of a special "Early Bird" discount if you register by April 30th. The full registration fee will be paid by attendees registering after May 1st. Also note that on the registration form, there are options for an extra night stay as well as additional meals in the dining room. Be sure to include the cost for the extra night and meals with your total payment when you make your reservation. If you prefer, restaurants are located several blocks away (a good walk for the healthy) and there is a small café on campus for coffee, snacks, and a light meal for those arriving on Wednesday.

Please plan to attend this year's NLS Annual Meeting. We encourage members from all Secretariats to send representatives to this year's celebration annual meeting. If funds are an issue for your Secretariat, please contact NLS VP of Outreach, Steve Giolda at sgiolda@cox.net regarding possible scholarships. Each year the meeting proves to be a wonderful forum for exchanging information, sharing ideas, making new friends, and renewing old friendships. You will be led, fed, and encouraged while sharing music, worship, the Eucharist, meals, laughter, and God's love with Brothers and Sisters from all over the United States that have chosen to walk in the "Way of Christ".

On behalf of the entire Western North Carolina Via de Cristo community, we look forward to being your hosts and offer you a heartfelt, "Ya'll come"! We look forward to your joining us in July for some true "Southern hospitality".

Lois and Larry Witham Co-Chairs