

The 2009 Synod of the
Missionary Diocese of the Central States
Will be held September 24-25

MDCS shield

Invitation - August 10, 2009

Dear fathers, brothers, and sisters of the MDCS,

New Covenant Church of Lynchburg, Virginia is pleased to host our annual Synod. We are especially grateful that Fr. John Heaton has made the facilities of [New Covenant Schools](#) available for us.

Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Lynchburg is a place of great natural beauty. It is also very rich in history. If you are able to do so, we invite you to spend a little extra time in our neck of the woods.

Here are a few matters that call for your attention as we get ready to assemble together:

- [Hotel Information](#),
- [Registration for Synod](#),
- [Banquet on Thursday](#),
- [Fellowship Wednesday and Friday](#)
- [Resources for Synod](#) (minutes, Constitution and Canons)
- [Driving Directions](#) (hotel, school, and Whiteheart Cafe)

Hotel Information

1. A group of rooms have been blocked off for us at the [Wingate Inn in Lynchburg](#). Our special group rate is \$99 plus tax per night. To get this rate, please call the hotel directly to make your reservations, and let them know that you are part of the Reformed Episcopal group. The number is (434) 845-1700, or toll free at 888-494-6428.
2. The rate includes a continental breakfast every morning. This is an especially good deal for those who have up to 4 in each room, as that means that up to four of you get a free breakfast for the same rate as one.
3. Most attendees will probably want to check in Wednesday, 23 September, and check out Saturday, 26 September. If any of you intend to come to Lynchburg early, stay later, or need to leave early, that is not a problem. It may be a good idea to make your reservations early if you fit into that category.
4. All the rooms can legally house up to four people. There are two kinds of rooms available: a) a king-sized bed with a sleeper sofa (which is the equivalent of a full-sized bed); and b) two queen-sized beds. If your party consists of only one person, please request one of the king-bed rooms, so that the larger parties can have the queen-bed rooms.

5. The hotel sits on the edge of Chandler's Mountain and offers a very nice view of Lynchburg and the Blue Ridge Mountains. If you want a mountain-side view, make sure you ask for it.

6. The deadline for making these reservations at this rate is Friday, August 21.

Registration for Synod

Rather than using much paper and many stamps, we are going to do this electronically. Please send the following information for every individual attending in your parish to

bmartin@newcovenantschools.org

- Name
- Parish
- Status (bishop, presbyter, deacon, Sr./Jr. Warden, Vestry member, lay representative, etc.)
- Affiliation: REC or other (specify)
- Attending Banquet: yes/no

Banquet on Thursday

Our banquet will be held at the Boonsboro Country Club:

- It will be a buffet-style dinner, with a carving station and cash bar.
- The price will be \$35 per person.
- Please make checks payable to "New Covenant Church," and be ready to give them to our volunteer first thing Thursday morning.

Fellowship at the White Hart Cafe

On Wednesday and Friday evenings, for those who can attend, we highly encourage you to come to the White Hart Cafe in downtown Lynchburg to enjoy good coffee, good food, good beer, good books, and good fellowship. The White Hart is owned and operated by Fr. Ed Hopkins and his family. Fr. Ed is the former rector of New Covenant Church. Check out his website at <http://www.inklingswhitehart.com>

If you have any questions or need any help please contact me, The Rev. Deacon Bart Martin, at bmartin@newcovenantschools.org.

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Contact Andy Figueroa at webmaster@rec-mdcs.org with content or comments.

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