



# *Conference for* Renewal Theology

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## The Renewal of Faith

“...contend for the faith that was once for  
all delivered to the saints.” (Jude 3, ESV)

Saturday, November 1st, 2025



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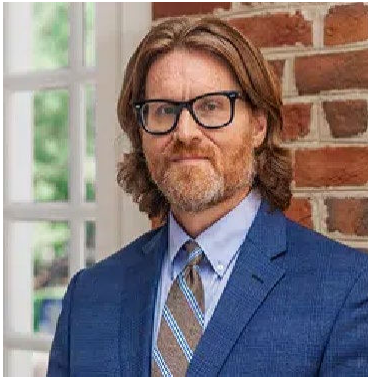
# PLENARY SPEAKERS

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**MATTHEW BARRETT (PHD, THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY)**

Matthew Barrett is Research Professor at Trinity Anglican Seminary. He is the author and editor of the award-winning books, *Simply Trinity* and *On Classical Trinitarianism*. He is also the author of *The Reformation as Renewal*. Currently, he is writing a *Systematic Theology* for Baker Academic. He is the editor-in-chief of *Credo*, host of the *Credo* podcast, and director of the Center for Classical Theology.



**JOHN-PAUL LOTZ (PHD, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY)**

Dr. John-Paul Lotz serves as an associate professor at the Regent University School of Divinity and chair of the Theological Studies committee.

Lotz grew up in Zurich, Switzerland, as the son of missionary parents. He went on to study at the Universities of Richmond, Muenster, Samford, Vienna, and Cambridge. He has lived and taught in Europe for almost 20 years. In addition, he has served as both a pastor and a professor in Europe and the United States for the last 15 years.

Lotz specializes in the field of patristics—which is the branch of Christian theology centered around the lives, writings, and doctrines of early Christian theologians. His continued areas of interest include New Testament Apocrypha and the history of ideas as they pertain to Biblical and historical theology. Lotz teaches the breadth of Church History from the ancient to the modern church.

He is married, and he and his wife home-educate their six children.



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# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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| 8:00 am – 8:30 am   | Check-in & Coffee                       |
| 8:30 am – 9:30 am   | Nicaea Commemoration - Shaw Chapel      |
| 9:30 am - 10:00 am  | Break - Coffee & Pastries               |
| 10:00 am – 10:45 am | Plenary Session 1 - Dr. Matthew Barrett |
| 10:55 am – 11:35 am | Session A Presentations                 |
| 11:45 am – 12:25 pm | Session B Presentations                 |
| 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm  | Lunch                                   |
| 1:30 pm – 2:15 pm   | Plenary Session 2 - Dr. John-Paul Lotz  |
| 2:15 pm – 2:45 pm   | Break - Coffee & Pastries               |
| 2:45 pm - 3:25 pm   | Session C Presentations                 |
| 3:35 pm - 4:15 pm   | Session D Presentations                 |
| 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm   | Closing                                 |



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# PRESENTATION SESSIONS

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## Session A - 10:55 am – 11:35 am

**RH 103 - Andrea Francis** – The Spirit who Gives Life: Catherine of Siena on the God Who Renews

**RH 105 - Mark Jumper** – Nicea's Christology: Prelude to Constantinople's Pneumatology

**RH 106 - Adam C. Pantling** – The Son of Man's Kingdom Will Have No End: The Old Testament Roots of an Aspect of Nicene Orthodoxy

**RH 107 - Kevin Spawn** – Reforms, Awakenings and the Shepherd Leadership of Jehoshaphat in 2 Chronicles 20:1-30

**RH 112 - Kamil Halambiec** – The Great Awakening in the 21st Century: Lessons from Historical Revivals for the Renewal of Faith

**RH 116 - Jordan Jones** – Let Us, However, Return to the History: Retrieving an Early 5th Century Antiochene Interpretation of Nahum

## Session B - 11:45 am - 12:25 pm

**RH 103 - Matisha Dentu** – Singing the Faith Once Delivered: African American Spirituals as Creedal Witness and Theological Resistance

**RH 105 - Jeff Anderson** – Retrieving the Message of Nicea for Renewal Theology: Important Lessons from Nicea

**RH 106 - Zachary Dawson** – What Does 1 Clement Have to Do with the Shema? Tracing Israel's Creed through Its Sacred Tradition in Early Christianity

**RH 107 - Jonathan Ottaway** – Forming the Faith of the Faithful: Developing a Renewal Theology Method for Worship Renewal

**RH 112 - Greg Kame** – Contending for the Faith with Compassion: Balancing Theological Conviction with Pastoral Sensitivity

**RH 116 - Esther Gillie** – A Renewal Perspective on the Role of the Holy Spirit in Spiritual Direction



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# PRESENTATION SESSIONS

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## Session C - 2:45 pm – 3:25 pm

**RH 103 - Robb Torseth** – Pietistic & Propositional: Gisle Johnson as Renewal Dogmatician par excellence

**RH 105 - Matthew Arakaky** – Demonic Parodies: False Prophecy and the Art of Discernment

**RH 106 - Jon W. Thompson** – Divine Immensity and Participation: Platonic and Christian Sources

**RH 107 - Jacqueline Faulhaber** – Gleaning Insight from the Spiritual Transformation of the Apostle Peter and Comparing His Transformation to Saint Bonaventure's Theology

**RH 112 - Michael Blythe** – Renewing Jubilee: Luke's Christological Vision as Fulfillment of Nicene Orthodoxy

**RH 116 - Brent Joseph** - The Apostolic Deposit: Towards a Pre-Nicene, Explicit New Testament Hermeneutic

## Session D - 3:35 pm – 4:15 pm

**RH 103 - Trevor Hodges** – “Yet for Us...” Proto-Creedal Christology in 1 Corinthians 8:6 as a Foundation for the Nicene Confession and a Call to Renewed Faith

**RH 105 - Austin Lynch** – Procession and Power: Revisiting the Filioque for a Unified Pneumatology

**RH 106 - Kenneth Brown** – Philippians 2:5-11 and Early Christian Hymnic Christology: A Renewal Approach to Confession, Creed, and the Nicene Tradition

**RH 107 - Carlo Serrano** – Contending Without Drifting: Renewal Theology for a Networked Church

**RH 112 - Kancho Georgiev** – Discipleship and Theology of Prayer in the Gospel of Matthew

**RH 116 - Paul DuPont** – The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: A Reconsideration of the Spirit's Role in Luke 4:18-19 and Select Dead Sea Scrolls



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# STATEMENT ON RENEWAL THEOLOGY

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Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.” (Jude 1:3, ESV)

The Regent University School of Divinity was founded on the Biblical call to train ministers, scholars and leaders who will contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3). We believe that the Gospel of Jesus is indeed the power of God for salvation (Romans 1:16), a light that shines in the midst of darkness (John 1:1-5). It is our aim to train Christian ministers, scholars and leaders who will participate in the transformation of our world through a faithful commitment to the Gospel of Christ, a fidelity to the Holy Scripture and by being witnesses of the active work of God’s Spirit in our world.

The School of Divinity is focused on the study, praxis and proclamation of Renewal Theology. Renewal Theology is the believing reflection on the activity of God in Holy Scripture and in the history of the Church from the point of view of the renewing work of the Holy Spirit. It operates within a Trinitarian framework with a Christological focus, and is shaped by the normative voice of Holy Scripture. Renewal Theology values the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit, while acknowledging the role of love as “the most excellent way” (1 Corinthians 13).

Renewal theology aims to strengthen the faith of the Christian community and emphasizes the conviction, formalized by Augustine in the fourth century as *credo ut intelligam*, “I believe in order to understand” and by Anselm in the eleventh century as *fides quaereus intellectum*, “faith seeking understanding.”



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# STATEMENT CONTINUED

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In our pursuit of Renewal Theology we know that we are treading on holy ground. God is never “summoned into the presence of reason; reason is summoned before the presence of God.” Renewal Theology is not merely free speech, but rather holy speech.

Renewal theology is rooted in the idea that the triune God alone is the source of all genuine reviving and awakening, and thus it seeks to foster within all people an inner experience of treasuring the beauty and worth of God in an ever-growing love for God and the Lordship of Christ over all of life. To this end, the Bible is the primary means through which God makes his nature, beauty, and will known to humanity. As such, the Old and New Testament are God’s self-disclosure, through the many genres of literature, like the many colors of the rainbow. No one literary type or literary device is preeminent over all others (e.g., propositional, metaphor, etc.). Rather, God’s renewing and reviving works are mediated through the multi-colored spectrum that constitute the palette of literary forms. The Spirit of God carries out his restoring and reviving work primarily through the Scriptures, by which he confronts, convicts, imparts faith, produces repentance, and creates life-sustaining joy in the heart, so that people begin to value and intentionally display his worth in their lives. These displays of his worth are expressed through our natural giftedness, as well as the Spiritual gifts he grants for the purpose of building up the Church—which is Christ’s body—and to empower us as his witnesses, with the biblical text adjudicating these expressions; making it both the means and the standard of renewal.



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# SPECIAL THANKS & 2026 CONFERENCE

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The Regent University School of Divinity wishes to give thanks to the following organizations and individuals who made this conference possible:

The Christian Broadcasting Network  
Gordon Robertson - Chancellor of Regent University  
Dr. William Hathaway - Provost of Regent University  
Crossway  
IVP Academic

## **2026 Conference for Renewal Theology**

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2026

Theme: Holy Spirit & Holy Scripture

Plenary Speakers:  
Dr. Hans Boersma  
Dr. Kevin Spawn



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## Campus Map

### Regent University Campus

-  BICYCLE RACKS
-  77 COFFEEHOUSE
-  EMERGENCY CALL BOXES
-  THE ORDINARY
-  PARKING
-  DEDE ROBERTSON THEATRE
-  RUPD
-  PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CENTER

