

**2025 Eastern Regional Meeting  
Call for Papers and Student Paper Competition**

Location: Liberty Theological Seminary (Liberty University)  
Theme: The Wisdom of Scripture for Worship in the Church  
Date: April 11-12, 2025



The Eastern region's executive committee is excited to announce our spring 2025 meeting. The keynote speaker, Daniel Estes (Ph.D., Cambridge University) is Distinguished Professor of Old Testament at Cedarville University in Ohio. A noted scholar of biblical wisdom and the Psalms, Dr. Estes' ministries of teaching and writing have enhanced the formation and work of pastors and students around the world. We are thrilled that he will be joining us in 2025 to speak on this year's theme, *The Wisdom of Scripture for Worship in the Church*.

**Schedule.** In-person registration will begin at noon on Friday, April 11, 2025, and the conference will end at noon on Saturday, April 12, 2025.

**Submitting a proposal.** Any ETS member of any rank, from any region, may submit a proposal to present a paper. We are only able to accept 24 papers for presentation each year. It is a privilege to present a paper to your fellow scholars and leaders. Therefore, we are looking for high quality papers which will lead to effective oral presentations. In evaluating papers, especially when we have more than 24 submissions, we first look at the academic contribution of the proposed subject and work, then preference is given to papers that relate to the conference theme, and preference is given to proposals from presenters who serve in the Eastern region. Ph.D. students may submit a proposal which should include a recommendation from a professor who is also willing to work with them on the presentation as needed.

**Expectations.** If selected to present, we have 40-minute sessions (6 each in 4 parallel sessions) and expect the presentation of the paper to be 30 minutes in length with 10 minutes of Q&A. We request that all presenters provide at least a one-page outline of the paper for the listeners to help them follow the presentation, as well as desire that whenever possible the presenter make an electronic version of their paper available (by e-mail request, on a website they maintain, or it can be sent to the ETS Eastern Secretary who would make it available to those present at the conference). We understand there are some instances where making papers available is not possible, but desire to have them accessible whenever possible to further the academic process. The Q&A time should be structured by the presenter to promote interaction about the subject of the presentation.

Proposals should include a title and abstract that provides a clear sense of the theme of and findings in the paper. All Proposals must be submitted to Tony Shetter ([TShetter@lbc.edu](mailto:TShetter@lbc.edu)). Place the proposal in the email (not an attached separate document) and send by Jan. 31, 2025.

**Student paper competition.** Undergraduate or graduate students within the Eastern region may submit a full paper (Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia). Students do not need to be ETS members to participate, but papers proposed should be consistent with the theme of the conference and the doctrinal basis of ETS. Student papers may or may not be slated for presentation (typically we only have one or two student papers actually present). Complete papers must be submitted electronically as a PDF by Jan. 31, 2025, and should not exceed five thousand words. Please email your student paper submissions and any questions to Tony Shetter ([TShetter@lbc.edu](mailto:TShetter@lbc.edu)). Recognition and prizes will be given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place papers. Student Papers chosen to present should comport to the expectations noted above.

**Conference registration.** Presenters must register for the conference and must have an active membership in ETS (students submitting to the competition do not need to be active members of ETS). Online registration information will be sent out in January 2025.

***Executive Officers of the Eastern Region, 2024-2025***

Jordan W. Jones, President ([jjones@regent.edu](mailto:jjones@regent.edu))

Tony Shetter, First Vice President ([tshetter@lbc.edu](mailto:tshetter@lbc.edu))

Carrie Wood, Second Vice President ([carrwo@regent.edu](mailto:carrwo@regent.edu))

Mark Deckard, Secretary-Treasurer ([deckard.m@gmail.com](mailto:deckard.m@gmail.com))

***ETS doctrinal statement –***

*“The Bible alone, and the Bible in its entirety, is the Word of God written and is therefore inerrant in the autographs. God is a Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each an uncreated person, one in essence, equal in power and glory.”*

***ETS Eastern Region Mission Statement –***

*“Encouraging sound Biblical and theological scholarship through the provision of a platform for the presentation of original research to enhance the academic and ecclesial community.”*