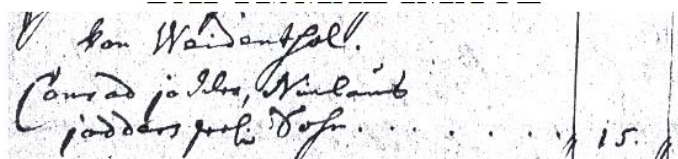


CONRAD YODER 300th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN NORTH CAROLINA: OCTOBER 23-26, 2025

Conrad Yoder founded the Yoder family in North Carolina after coming from Pennsylvania in the 1760s with his friend Heinrich Weidner. The Yoders of North Carolina began holding an annual reunion in 1949 and have done so ever since. This year marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of NC family founder Conrad Yoder! This October, as we approach the nationwide 250-year celebrations, we are hosting a National Reunion of the Yoder family to celebrate, with prominent speakers and activities over several days.



1740 confirmation record for Conrad Jodder, age 15, found in the church records of Mussbach, Germany.

- ❖ **Thursday, October 23:** Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and fellowship at Shepherd's Hill Farm, the ancestral homestead of William Yoder, Conrad's great-grandson.
 - ❖ **Friday, October 24:** Learn how Dr. Don Yoder discovered the links between Conrad and his ancestors in Steffisburg, Switzerland, and about Conrad's connections to all other Yoder immigrant lines.
 - At the old Catawba County Courthouse Museum of History in Newton, hear *Yoder Newsletter* Editor Chris Yoder, genealogist Emily Coffman Richardson, and Dr. Gary Freeze, professor of history at Catawba College and author of *The Catawbans*, who will discuss the fascinating accounts of the Yoder family and their neighbors during the American Revolution.
 - View the original 1700s Conrad Yoder Bible and other period exhibits.
 - Worship at a Memorial Service at the Conrad Yoder Family Cemetery.
 - ❖ **Saturday, October 25:** Choose to spend the day on Saturday at self-led area events, EITHER:
 - Attend the 40th Annual Hart Square Village Heritage Festival celebrating the nation's largest collection of 103 frontier-era log structures with over 300 artisans and historic demonstrators (website: <https://www.hartsquare.com/events/39th-heritage-festival-oct-26>; buy your tickets directly [see registration details below]);
- OR
- Video and ranger-guided tour of King's Mountain American Revolution battlefield, where 900 patriots (including Conrad, the sons of Heinrich Weidner, many of his neighbors, and the father of Davy Crockett) defeated a Loyalist militia of 1105 in "the largest all-American fight of the war" - one of the turning points in the American Revolution.
 - After your self-led activity, enjoy dinner at Grace Union Church, followed by a Pennsylvania Deutsch vintage candlelight vespers service at the historic Grace Union Church in Newton.
- ❖ **Sunday, October 26:** Worship at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, former parish of Rev. Robert Anderson Yoder (1853-1911), followed by a luncheon at the church before traveling home.



Wear your new Yoder shirt as you enjoy Southern hospitality and food, bluegrass music, dancing, storytellin', visiting historic sites, and taking in the beautiful autumn countryside and the Blue Ridge Mountains along the way. And through it all: learn about your own Yoder ancestral tree! The weekend will be a truly Southern experience of history and fellowship. So come on down, bring your family, and have fun while teaching them our Swiss American culture and heritage (with a southern accent)!

23-Oct Thursday	24-Oct Friday	25-Oct Saturday	26-Oct Sunday
	Museum Visit Presentations and Box Lunch Catawba Co. Courthouse Newton, NC	Harts Square Folk Festival or King's Mountain NP Dinner at Grace Union Church	Yoder Church Service Farewell Luncheon
Welcoming Reception & heavy hors d'oeuvres	Memorial Service at Conrad Yoder Graveyard	Vespers Service in PA Deutch	

Lodging: There are a number of excellent hotel options in Hickory, NC, all of which are near the event locations.

Please fill out the attached registration form and return it with your payment as indicated. If you have any questions, please contact: Doreah Yoder, phone 828-612-9572, email doreah@twave.net.

2025 National Yoder Reunion Registration Form

Names (Please spell out all names for name tags)

Address: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

TOTAL PEOPLE ATTENDING (adults and children) _____

1) GENERAL REGISTRATION FEE - (\$25 per adult age 18 and above for facilities rental, entertainment, etc.):

Number of adults attending: _____ **TOTAL REGISTRATION \$** _____

2) SATURDAY SELF-LED ACTIVITY OPTIONS - indicate how many participants; *you are responsible for making your reservation and purchasing your tickets directly from the event site; do not include ticket costs in Yoder registration payment:*

Either: _____ Hart Square Heritage Festival – Adults \$50.00; Youth \$25; Children 12 and under free; Order your tickets directly at <https://www.hartsquare.com/visit/events/40th-heritage-festival-oct-25>.

Or: _____ King's Mountain Battlefield – Free - a one-hour drive from Hickory, NC

3) MEALS (indicate number attending next to each meal opportunity):

Thursday reception at Shepherd's Hill Farm \$15 per adult _____
\$10 per youth 14 and under _____

Friday boxed lunch at Newton Courthouse \$10 per person _____

Saturday Dinner at Grace Lutheran Church \$20 per adult _____
\$10 per youth 14 and under _____

Sunday Farewell luncheon at St. Martin's Lutheran Church- No charge _____

TOTAL MEAL COST: \$ _____

4) YODER SHIRTS Available in polos and t-shirts, to be picked up at reunion; Polos are \$25; Adult-size T-Shirts are \$20; Youth-size T-Shirts are \$15.

Number of polos with size _____

Number of Adult T-shirts with size _____

Number of Youth T-Shirts with size _____

TOTAL SHIRT \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

PAYMENT: Make checks payable to "Yoder Memorial Fund", with the memo noted for "National Yoder Reunion." Please do not send cash.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Please submit this registration form and your payment by October 17th to: Doreah Yoder, P. O. Box 27, Hildebran, NC 28637