

WNALC

Fall 2016, Vol. 5
August- September

2016 -2017
WOMEN'S COUNCIL



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
AMY, LINDA, JESSIE, ROBBIE,
CLYDE, LANE, PAM, & PAT

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Mission Support Idea	2
Annual Gathering Report	3
NALC Disaster Response News	4
New Council Member Bios	6
NEW! Mission District Reps	8
Donation Form	9
Membership Form	10

NEWS FOR WOMEN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE CHAIR'S CORNER

Dear Sisters in Christ,
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Another year has begun for the Women of the NALC (WNALC) and we pray that this year will be one of growing fellowship among our mission districts and congregations. It is an honor to serve as the chair of The Women's Council (TWC) and I ask for your prayers, not only for myself, but for all the women on the council, to execute dutifully the responsibilities set before us and to adhere to our mission statement: "we dedicate ourselves to guide and direct the women of the North American Lutheran Church in their efforts to move forward in faith and mission, through prayer and evangelism, with the Holy Scriptures as the final authority in all matter."

So much has happened in the 4 years I have served on the Council. I have seen us grow into a team for Christ and we have come to realize that the WNALC requires the efforts of all of us for the good of all the women in our NALC congregations. Each year we have endeavored to reach out to all congregations with active women's groups and to those who do not have one or are trying to start a group. This year our only face-to-face meeting will be in South Carolina (the other meetings are done through Skype). We will be discussing not only next year's

gathering but also how we can better assist our sisters in NALC congregations with their needs. In this newsletter you will find your Mission District representative. I know that in the past we have tried to get information to all the churches; however, we have found that information has not reached the appropriate person or persons. So, I am encouraging you, if you haven't already done so, to contact your representative and let her know if you are getting the information we send to your churches, and also let her know of your needs. At this year's gathering, those present updated their membership form so we will be able to send information to the contact person listed. However, that list is just a drop in the bucket, so please send in a 2016 membership form (located in this newsletter) so we are able to have a contact person within your church.

One more item – please send to our newsletter editor, Lane Magera at wnalcnews@yahoo.com, any events or dedications that your women's groups or congregation has done or will be doing. Just think free advertisement, what more could you ask for? Send the article with pictures if possible. I know the women would like to

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

see what other women's groups are doing. Remember to access our newsletters and other pertinent information about our organization, visit our webpage at www.wnalc.org.

In Christ,
Jessie Phillips, WNALC Chair



I know God has a plan for me.
I pray for direction to follow it, patience to wait for it and knowledge to know when it comes.



Support Idea:

LUTHERAN MILITARY VETERANS AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES, INC.

At the Women of the NALC Annual Gathering in Anaheim, CA this past August, we heard about a vital ministry, the Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Inc. (LMVFM).

This organization is located in Fort Wayne, IN, but serves nationwide. Organized in 2007, they seek to provide free counseling,

weekend retreats, assistance with obtaining care and resources necessary to the veteran, their family members, as well as military contractors. LMVFM also assists clients by helping them identify additional needed resources within their local community.

While the VA actively excludes many veterans who do not meet specific service criteria such as time in active service, or those ineligible due to their discharge status, LMVFM serves any veteran who comes in need. If a person has served one or more days in uniform or as a member of the military contracting community, they as well as their family members are eligible for care.

LMVFM also provides training programs for civilian care providers, therapists, counselors, clergy, Stephens Ministers, and other citizens who want to be better equipped to work with veterans and their families. LMVFM works with and assists congregations in the development of their mission outreach programs and focus to veterans and their families, and they provide resources to congregations and groups regarding various military issues.

LMVFM is a recognized ministry of the NALC and LCMS. They do not receive any government funding and are supported by individuals, churches and groups who support the work they do on behalf of veterans and their families. They are a 501 (c)(3) faith-based ministry and all donations are tax deductible.

Leslie Haines, Major (Ret), Dcs MA is the Executive Director of the program and would love to speak with anyone about this ministry. Visit their website at www.lmvfm.org to find out more. Consider supporting this ministry in honor of Veterans Day in November – maybe through a special offering, or choosing to have them as a national mission for your women's group or church.

ANNUAL GATHERING REPORT

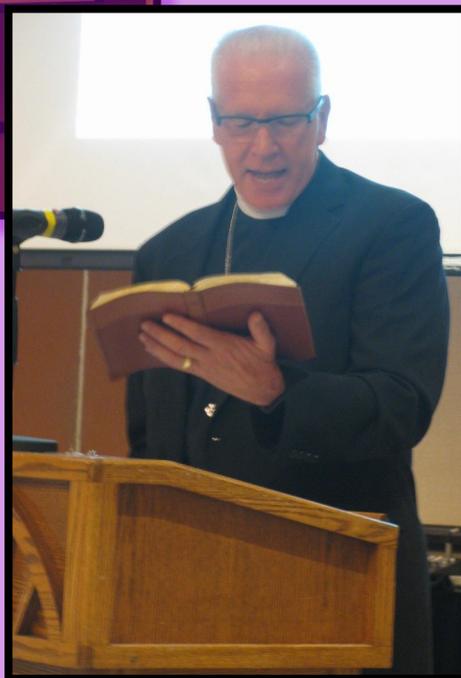
On August 9th, the Women of the NALC held their Annual Gathering in the beautiful state of California. This event was took place during the "Lutheran Week" sponsored by the North American Lutheran Church. There were 37 delegates and 13 visitors in attendance. People came from all over North America with 42 churches and 20 out of 28 mission districts represented!

With 'Holy Families in Today's World' as the theme, morning speaker Pastor Cathi Braasch spoke about the importance of living as a family in Christ. Gary Pecuch, Faithwebbing, spoke in the afternoon about how it takes a congregation to raise a child and the importance of a support network. A highlight of the day was Bishop John Bradosky who greeted and spoke to the Gathering.

While the Gathering is always fun & inspirational, there is always some business of the WNALC that needs to be taken care of!



There was an election to fill seats on the Women's Council. Elected that day were Lane Magera and Clyde Sanders. Re-elected for second terms were Pam Charas and Robbie Conley. Financial reports and the 2017 WNALC budget were also presented.



The exciting news was the first successful year of the Mission Bank project! The donations to this mission amounted to over \$8,400! The attending delegates voted to split the proceeds in half to support SOLA Publishing and missionary Matthew Riak in South Sudan. A free will offering was collected and the attendees voted to donate the \$737.00 to the NALC Disaster Response.

An important part of the day was the presentation of the Revised Operational Guidelines. The Women's Council had worked on tweaking the document and now brought the revision to the delegates for a vote of approval. It was approved and now will be sent to all the NALC churches as well as WNALC women's groups for ratification. More information about this document will be coming soon! Please be on the lookout for it.

The fun-filled day concluded with door prizes and presentations. The Women's Council thanked outgoing council member & Chair Sherrie Palan for all her work in the past several years.

Plans for next year's Annual Gathering are already in progress. We hope to see YOU in Nashville!!

Pat Dittrich, WNALC Secretary



*Left: Gary Pecuch
Center: Bishop John Bradosky
Right: Rev. Cathi Braasch*

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE NEWS

There is a great need for assistance from our NALC churches to assist the people in all states during disaster but especially for West Virginia and Louisiana at this time. I know that it is impossible for us to fill all these needs ourselves, but we can be part of a team of other NALC churches and give to our brothers and sisters in Christ. There is a need for: Money, Gift cards, squeegees for basement floor cleanup, mops, shovels, bleach, any cleaning supplies, School Kits, Health Kits, Flood Bucket Kits, Baby Layette Kits, quilts, and any other items to sustain a family until they can rebuild their homes.

1. The procedure for school supplies is: collect as many kits as possible, marking them elementary age or high school age, please add Bibles and religious materials, as much as possible.

School Kits

- 4 Notebooks of wide – or college-ruled paper, no loose-leaf paper
- One blunt scissors
- 12 sheets of assorted construction paper
- One ruler
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One pencil sharpener
- One cloth bag or backpack
- Six new pencils
- One eraser
- Calculators for high school age

2. Health kits are needed for high school age, to pair up with the school kits.

Health Kits

- One bath towel
- One wash cloth
- Two bars of soap, in original wrapping
- One toothbrush
- One pack of dental floss
- One tube of toothpaste (2 if sample size)
- Deodorant

Flood Buckets/Cleaning Supplies

- One 5 gallon bucket or 3 gallon bucket
- 2 large trash bags
- 1 gallon of bleach
- Comet or scouring cleanser
- PineSol or liquid floor cleaner
- Scrub brush
- Dust Mask (N-95 recommended)
- Rubber gloves
- Rakes, shovels, hoes – debris removal

Layette Kits

- Two shirts or Onesies (or similar item)
- Two gowns or sleepers (with or without feet)
- Two receiving blankets
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- One sweater or sweatshirt
- Two washcloths (full size preferred)
- One bath size bar of gentle soap (in original wrap)
- Two diaper pins

LOOKING FOR A NATIONAL MISSION?

3. **Gift cards to Lowes and Home Depot (or other businesses available in the area of the disaster) are needed to start rebuilding homes.**

4. **Volunteer teams** are needed for rebuilding

Thank you for all you do!

Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response



NALC DISASTER RESPONSE TASK FORCE

WANTED: NALC Disaster Response Task Force is seeking volunteers for a position on the council with the ability in communications such as maintaining our web page, newsletter, and in electronics. We are also seeking individuals from other mission district to become members. It is a goal of the NALC that all mission districts are trained in Disaster Response. As Women of the NALC, our assistance is needed to maintain warehouse inventory and documentation in the mission districts' warehouses once they are established. Please consider becoming a council member however if this is not something you are led to do – maybe you know someone who has the desire to serve in this capacity, please pass along this information to them.

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING SESSION

It is not “IF” a disaster happens, it is “When” a disaster happen.

Are you prepared for a natural or man-made disaster? Is your congregation ready to provide assistance in your community or state after a disaster? If not, your mission district needs to set up a training session with Mary Bates, Chair.

It is the goal of the NALC to have all NALC churches trained and to set up at least one warehouse in each mission district so when the need arises we will be ready.

For more information, contact **Mary Bates** at **(740) 509-1132**, batesm55@gmail.com or **Jessie Phillips** at **(920) 285-1558**, jmp218@att.net

More information concerning Disaster Response can also be found in the NALC website www.thenalc.org

Submitted by,
**Jessie Phillips, WNALC Chair
& NALC Disaster Task Force Council**

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LEBANON, WISCONSIN

Some of the children with our pastor, Rev. David Phillips, praying over school backpack and health kits for the children effected by the floods in West Virginia. The generosity of the congregations enabled us to send to the NALC warehouse a total of 27 backpacks (18 High School and 9 lower grades), 25 health kits, 35 quilts, and over \$500 of monetary donations in the form of gift cards or cash.



**LANE MAGERA,
NEW COUNCIL MEMBER**



I grew up in the northern suburbs of Chicago, IL. It was there in church where I met my husband, while we had Sunday School and youth group together. We then taught Sunday School and wrote, and directed Christmas Programs. We married in 2006 in that beloved home church before moving to central PA to finish his Bachelors. After two years, we moved to Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN for his Master of Divinity. We spent our internship year in Rochester, MN and welcomed our daughter, Skye, in 2010. He graduated in 2012 and accepted the call to St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Trufant, MI in 2014, our current home. Last year, we began opening our home to foreign exchange students and we had great fun with our daughter from Taiwan. We are currently having a good time getting to know our new daughter, Shion, from Japan.

I am secretary of our church women's board. I just completed co-organizing a Trufant Community Cookbook. Many weeks on Thursday I help out at our church sponsored food pantry, Barrie's House. I lead a circle for women under 50ish once a month and enjoy attending the other two circles our church offers. I delight in finding creative uses for Thrivent Action Teams and putting those blessings into motion. I edit this WNALC Newsletter and am always looking to hear about your events and happenings (pictures are wonderful!!).

In my spare time, I take pleasure in photography, baking, and traveling to experience God's amazing creation. My education is in Civil Engineering and Drafting but I currently only do very limited contract work on new residential housing. I look forward to serving you on the council for the next two years.

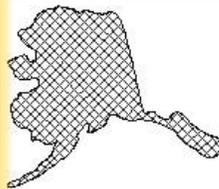
**CLYDE SANDERS,
NEW COUNCIL MEMBER**



I am married and have 3 married children and 6 grandchildren. I have been an Educator for 46 years, teaching business education courses on the middle school, high school, and college level. I owned a catering company for 13 years.

I have been a Lutheran for all my life. I am actively involved in women's circle, women's ministry, evangelism, and leadership in my church. One of my passions is missions and outreach in our community, nation, and internationally.

My hobbies include needlework of many types, sewing, gardening, cooking, and entertaining.



**20 OF 28 MISSION DISTRICTS
WERE REPRESENTED AT OUR
ANNUAL GATHERING (71%)**



CARIBBEAN

**MISSION DISTRICT
FACILITATORS**

A great big thank you to Sherrie Palan who has volunteered to be the mission district facilitator in North and South Texas. Sherrie has been the representative in these areas for a number of years and will continue to serve them although her time on the board has ended..

Is this somewhere you might be willing to serve??
Could you be the point person for your district?
You do not need to be a member of the board for this position.

Is God calling **YOU** to serve the women's groups of your district? Contact your current mission district representative for more details.

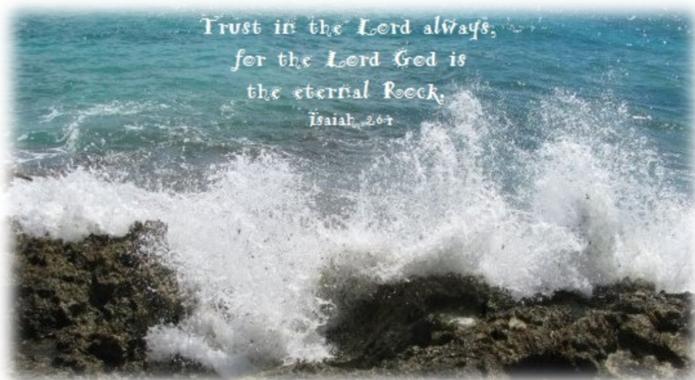
**WNALC GUIDELINES
RATIFICATION PACKETS**

Packets should be on their way to your women's group through your church/pastor as well as through your mission district representatives.

Please be sure to hold a vote and get the result back in before 2/2017.

PRAYER REQUEST

Please join us in lifting up in prayer the church and women's groups of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Wichita, Kansas which has closed.



**BE SURE TO SUBMIT YOUR GROUP'S
MEMBERSHIP INFO FORM TO YOUR
MISSION DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE.**

**SEND IN YOUR STORIES,
PICTURES, BLOGS, OR
EVENTS**

Please send your stories, pictures, blogs, or event information to Lane Magera, editor at wncnews@yahoo.com by November 15, 2016 for inclusion in the next edition of News for Women of the North American Lutheran Church. Photos included in this newsletter are the property of the article's subjects. Please contact them for permission to reuse.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
NALC ENDORSED MISSIONARIES,
MISSION PARTNERS, MISSION
MINISTRIES, THE GREAT
COMMISSION SOCIETY, AND THE
NALC MISSION CONGREGATIONS,
VISIT THE WEBSITES BELOW.**

Great Commission Society:

<http://thenalc.org/great-commission-society/>

NALC Missionaries:

<http://thenalc.org/missionaries/>

NALC Mission Partners:

<http://thenalc.org/ministry-partners/>

WNALC Council & Mission District Representatives 2016-2017

JESSIE PHILLIPS, Chair

N562 County Road R, Watertown WI 53098
(920) 285-1558
imp218@att.net

- Central Pacific Mission District** (4)
Northern CA & Northern NV
- Minkota Mission District** (16)
MN & eastern ND
- North Texas Mission District** (5)
TX (north)
- South Texas Mission District** (25)
TX (south) & LA
- Southwest Pacific Mission District** (8)
AZ, southern CA, HI, & southern NV
- Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Mission District** (18)
WI & Upper MI



AMY WERNER

331 Hill Churches Road, Latrobe, PA 15650
(724) 244-4242
awerner.wnalc@gmail.com

- Atlantic Mission District** (27)
CT, DE, ME, MD (east), MA, NH, NJ, NY (east), PA (east), RI, VT, & DC
- Mid-Northeast Mission District** (32)
Western MD, western NY, western PA & WV

CLYDE SANDERS

142 Rocky Well Road, Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 608-4855
icsanders@windstream.net

- Carolinas Mission District** (41)
North & South Carolinas



LINDA BROWER, Vice Chair

310 Cedar Circle, Brenham, TX 77833
(979) 203-6828
LindaB.wnalc@hotmail.com

- Heartland Mission District** (13)
Indiana & Kentucky
- Iowa Mission District** (35)
Iowa



LANE MAGERA

420 West Second Street, Trufant, MI 49347
(847) 714-3876
WNALCnews@yahoo.com

- Great Plains Mission District** (14)
Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska & Oklahoma
- Great River Mission District** (19)
Illinois
- Caribbean & Hispanic Mission District** (3)
Caribbean & Hispanic Ministries
- Western Dakotas, Montana, & Wyoming Mission District** (5)
Western Dakotas, MT, & WY



PAT DITTRICH, Secretary

PO Box 341, Orchard, TX 77464
(713) 254-0044
pdittrich.wnalc@gmail.com

- Eastern South Dakota Mission District** (16)
Eastern South Dakota
- Mid-South Mission District** (8)
AL, AR, FL panhandle, GA, MS, & TN
- Northwest Mission District** (6)
AK, ID, OR, & WA
- Rocky Mountain Mission District** (4)
CO, NM, UT, & TX below NM
- Sonshine Mission District of Florida** (5)
Florida (except panhandle area)
- Virginia Mission District** (5)
Virginia



PAM CHARAS

5624 Mark Dale Drive, Dayton, OH 45459
(937) 434-0993
mcharas@earthink.net

- Northeast Ohio Mission District** (9)
Northeast Ohio
- Northwest Ohio Mission District** (7)
Northwest Ohio
- Southeast Ohio Mission District** (13)
Southeast Ohio
- Southwest Ohio Mission District** (11)
Southwest Ohio
- North Central Ohio Mission District** (16)
North Central Ohio



ROBBIE CONLEY, Treasurer

8307 Scott Road, Hubbard Lake, MI 49747
(210) 347-2417
RLConley.wnalc@gmail.com

- Canada Mission District** (22)
Canada
- Michigan Mission District** (8)
Michigan (Lower Peninsula)



Collect contributions from your women's group(s) and forward offerings by JUNE 1st of each year to:

Women of the NALC
2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220
New Brighton, MN 55112-2202

Be sure to enclose deposit slip designation WNALC as the recipient. All grant proposals will be voted on each year at the WNALC Gathering.

MY MISSION BANK



My daily contribution is to:

PRAY
for missions

PRAISE
God for the work
He is accomplishing

GIVE THANKS
with a coin offering to help
further God's kingdom on earth

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THE WOMEN OF THE



NALC
North American Lutheran Church

Connecting with our Sisters in Christ to Share God's Love

MISSION DONATION DEPOSIT SLIP

DONOR'S INFORMATION

Individual Church Mission District Group Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

DONATION AMOUNT

Amount of Donation: _____

Please make checks payable to **Women of the NALC** and note "**Mission Donation**" on the memo.

Send to: **Women of the NALC, 2299 Palmer Drive Suite 220, New Brighton, MN 55112-2202**

WNALC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION 2016

Church Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mission District (if known): _____

Congregational Women's Group:

Women's Organization Name: _____

Size: (total # women & #circles/groups) _____

When does your women's group elect new officers? Spring Fall Month _____

Are you rostering as an individual member? Please circle: Yes No

#1 Contact Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

#2 Contact Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

We ask for two contacts so that you can be assured of receiving the information should something happen to one contact (new email, relocation, health issue, or becomes inactive for any reason).

PLEASE SEND IN MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION **ANNUALLY, in December or January.**

MEMBERS & MEMBER GROUPS ARE ROSTERED FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR & NEED TO RENEW EACH YEAR.

- ◆ This information is used to maintain a membership roster that enables us to communicate news and activities of the WNALC and facilitates voting and ratification as needed.
- ◆ For elections and ratification processes, each congregation has one vote. At the Annual Gathering, the voting packet will be given to one person from each congregation represented.
- ◆ Complete this form, and send to the **WNALC Women's Council representative for your Mission District.**
- ◆ Individual women of an NALC congregation that does not have an organized women's ministry or may be trying to organize a congregational women's ministry are encouraged to become a member of WNALC.

PLEASE NOTE: All communications (newsletters, correspondence, etc.) will be sent by Email so it is important that you submit a contact with an Email address. If you do not have a person with email to receive your communications, please list as your #1 Contact the church office, along with their email.