

News for the



The Chair's Corner

Grace & Favor,

Welcome to the Council, Peggy & Sandy! Welcome back to active duty, Pat! Jody, Linda & Shelia: while you may no longer be on active duty, you will always be a Woman of the North American Lutheran Church, your contributions to this Kingdom's ministry are appreciated & they will never be forgotten. Thank you for answering the call to serve on & with the Women's Council.



Jacquie El Torro

God truly gave us both grace & favor as we had a wonderful first virtual Annual Gathering! Special thanks & shout out to Bishop Dan who gave us a heads up on his vision for the future. It was really a blessing, honor & privilege to hear directly from our presiding bishop. What is there to be said about my pastor & dean: Pastor Trina Petersen?! Well, while everyone enjoyed her wisdom & energy, I am amazed that she did it within her time limit! With Pastor Trina I just do not expect her to limit the message God gives her for His people; well done thy good & faithful servant.

While we missed the hugs & the love of being in person this year, we will share a double portion next year in Corpus Christi, Texas. The Omni Hotel sits right across the street from the bay &, be prepared, it will be hot in Texas in August. Luckily, the city has so much to offer in terms of family fun activities, as well as things to do for those of us in our twilight years, so hopefully the heat will not be much of an issue.

It was great to have some of our Canadian sisters with us at the virtual Annual Gathering & my prayer is that you will all be able to make it to Corpus Christi next year. We will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the WNALC! I do not have details to share yet, because it is OUR anniversary & we ALL need to be in on the planning. Feel free to share your thoughts & ideas on how we can celebrate 10 years & honor those who laid the foundation for who we are today. *"In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 1:4-6 NIV) The Women of the NALC has begun a good work; it will be carried on to completion.

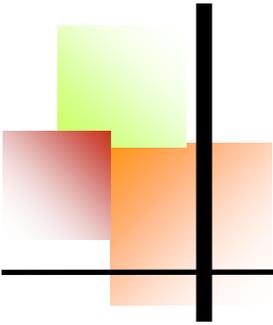
May God's Light guide your path, may God's Love dwell within you.

Jacqui

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Annual Gathering

We went virtual!

We had a few glitches. We had some pauses. We had the wrong missions slideshow. (That's on me, Rachel here, sorry about that...) There were some moments where we flat didn't know what was going on. And yet, we had a really good time, & we thank you so much for being patient, bearing with our fumbles & attending our Annual Gathering (AG). It's safe to say that if, God forbid, we have to go completely virtual again, we'll be much better prepared!

Bishop Dan Selbo was enlightening with his message about his vision for the direction of the NALC. Pastor Trina Petersen was phenomenal (we didn't expect anything otherwise) in her rousing sermon. A huge thanks to both for their time & energy!

We voted to approve our 2020-2021 Mission Banks: [NALC Disaster Response](#) (Domestic) & [Great Commission Society](#) (Domestic/International).

The Women's Council (WC) said a farewell to Jody Ford & Sheila Westrick, we voted in Peggy Jording & Sandy Strohecker as new WC members & welcomed back Rachel Busch Jones (again, me, referring to myself in the third person is weird) & Jill Nesheim for second terms.

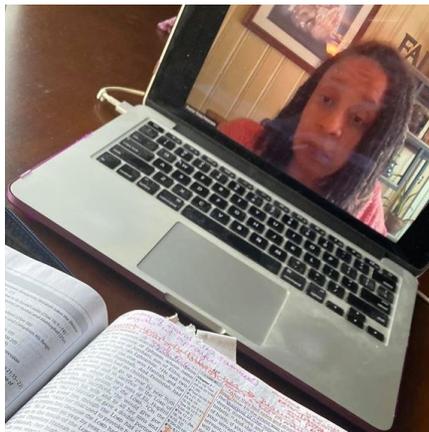
I'm sure that everyone went home & collapsed afterward. (Or maybe that was just me?) We — that includes you, reader — all deserved a rest! Insert cliché mumble re: unprecedented times.

You can view the highlights & minutes here: wnalc.org/annualgathering2020

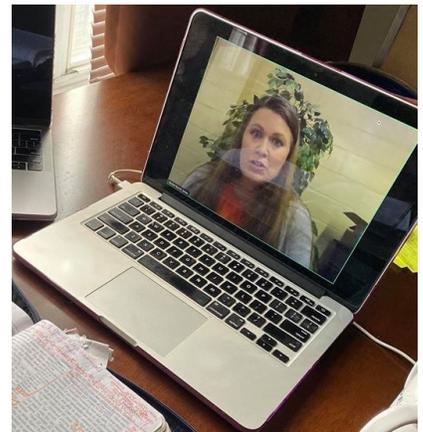
Thanks to Jenny Brockman for her photos of the AG!



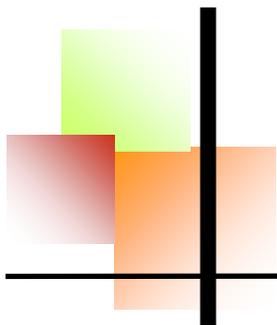
Bishop Dan Selbo



Pastor Trina Petersen



Rachel Busch Jones



Secretary's Note

An Overview of This Year's Voting & Post-Gathering Survey Responses:

The online format for this year's Annual Gathering required that we find a new solution for carrying out our annual tasks of voting on the 2020-2021 Budget & Mission Bank recipients, along with filling open positions on the WNALC Council. We chose to work with SurveyMonkey because of its strong reputation for security, accuracy & reliability. We were not disappointed — within minutes after closing the vote, we were able to announce the results of all three items on the ballot. For those who did not attend the AG, the 2020-21 Budget & the Mission Bank recipients were unanimously approved. The four council positions were filled; two by the re-election of Jill Nesheim & Rachel Busch Jones & the other two ladies who were elected are newcomers Peggy Jording from Christ the King Lutheran in Newcastle, Wyoming & Sandy Strohecker from St. Paul Lutheran in Oregon, Illinois.



Kim Isiminger

A huge benefit of turning to SurveyMonkey for voting was that we were able to create & distribute the post-gathering survey through it. By now you are probably aware that the NALC has proposed going to a biennial Convocation schedule. This led the council to consider what that would mean for our Annual Gathering. To make certain that this year's survey was relevant to our new circumstances, we began with the survey from the 2019 gathering. We added questions that would not only help us to evaluate how we did this year, but also to determine the steps that we might consider taking in the future to make the gathering available to more members.

Survey items were constructed as statements, most of which could be answered "Strongly Agree," "Agree," "Neither Agree nor Disagree," "Disagree" & "Strongly Disagree." As the survey responses began to come in, we were pleased to see that most of the responses were incredibly positive with an 85% overall average of the responses given as either "Agree" or "Strongly Agree." When asked to respond to the possibility of continuing to have an online Annual Gathering during the years that we do not have Convocation, 74% supported the idea by responding agree or strongly agree. In addition, 94% agreed or strongly agreed that we should pursue the possibility of live-streaming future Gatherings.

SurveyMonkey is a tool that we think will be beneficial, not only as we move through planning for future gatherings, but as we consider opportunities to serve our member churches & those in need. We hope that you will take the chance to give your feedback to the council through future surveys & polls. If you attended the gathering & have not yet responded to the survey, please take a few moments to do that today! If you have lost the link that we sent out, please send a request through the contact link on the website & we will resend it to you.

Blessings –

Kim Isiminger

WNALC Council Secretary



New Council Members



Peggy Jording lives in Newcastle, Wyoming, having moved there in 1989 from Torrington, Wyoming. Peggy's husband, Mike, is a family physician at Newcastle Monument Health — he will retire in 2021. Having grown up in the Denver, Colorado, area, Peggy enjoys the small-town life Newcastle has to offer. The nearest Walmart, McDonalds, Wendy's, Target, or Safeway is an hour & twenty minutes, or further, away.

Although baptized Lutheran as an infant, Peggy did not come to know Jesus as her Savior until meeting her husband in the early 1980s. She currently leads the 24/7 prayer group which meets weekly for group prayer & to study. She loves to lector as often as called upon. She participates in the women's group &, while the church was waiting for an interim pastor, she led an adult study on discipleship. She also serves on the Care & Serve Committee which

organizes the ushers, lectors, greeters & coffee hosts.

She & Mike have been married for 37 years & have two sons who also live in Colorado. Joe & his wife, Larissa, have two girls (3 y/o & 1 y/o). Al & his wife, Hanna, have one son (3 y/o).

Mike & Peggy raise Airedale terriers; from their most recent litter they kept Sammie, who will have her first litter in two years. Peggy enjoys reading, needlepoint, card making, knitting, sewing &, most recently, quilting.

Peggy has always loved books & reading which led her to become the district librarian for Weston county school district. She was based in the Newcastle Middle School as the librarian & worked to provide a rich library of books to serve the advanced young adult reader & the struggling special needs student. While studying for her master's degree, she developed a variety of programs to inspire students to read. Rheumatoid arthritis made it impossible to continue working in 2013.

The first convocation she attended was in Denver as a delegate. She & Mike went to Indianapolis as visitors & watched this year's convocation online. In Denver & Indianapolis, she attended the WNALC meetings & served on the Budget Committee this year. Currently, she is in several women's organizations. The purpose of one is women's education: local, national & international. Another organization's purpose is to support our library system & to continue to grow in knowledge & culture. In addition, Peggy & Mike financially support other organizations & causes.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV)



Hi, my name is Sandy Strohecker. I am a member of St. Paul Lutheran in Oregon, Illinois. I have lived in Oregon & have been a member at St. Paul my entire life. I am divorced, a mother of three sons & grandma to three grandsons (23, 18 & 1 yr. old) & three granddaughters (16, 13 & 5 yrs. old). I have been retired for three years. I trained as an R.N., worked in pediatrics for 1.5 years, stayed home to raise my three sons for 15 years, worked for 15 years as a secretary at our local park district & then for 13 years as a receptionist in the family planning clinic at the local health department.

I have been very active in my church in the past 10 years. I have served several terms on church council as secretary & have served as president for the past two years. Presently, I am on Altar Guild, in charge of the school kit bags, am a member of the "quilting ladies," in charge of Coffee & after church on Sundays, usher, greet & attend Bible study.

Since retiring, I have been volunteering at Serenity Hospice & Home (doing filing) & at the Serenity Shed (a grief management repurposing project). I have volunteered at the local elementary school, in the IRead Program, spending a half hour per week reading with two children that I was to follow from K – 3rd grade. That is presently on hold due to COVID-19.

I am excited to serve the WNALC for the next two years. I have some thoughts & ideas that I am anxious to share with the board as well as hear their plans for the future!

Financials

The budget team for the WNALC for the 2021 budget was comprised of Peggy Jording of New Castle, Wyoming & Jill Nesheim, WNALC treasurer. The budget is based on the averages of data recorded from 2015 through 2019.

With a generous balance & no Annual Gathering expense, the council has proposed offering scholarships for a total of \$8000 for the 2021 AG.

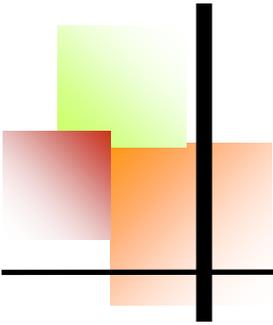
Thank you to all women's groups & individuals who have supported the WNALC & the Mission Bank program. We greatly appreciate your financial & prayer support.



Jill Nesheim

WNALC Budget 2021

	Current Balance: \$28,513.09
INCOME:	
<u>Donations</u>	
General	\$9,000.00
Missions	\$9,000.00
	<u>\$18,000.00</u>
<u>Annual Gathering 2021</u>	
Registrations (60 x \$100)	\$6,000.00
Donations	\$900.00
	<u>\$6,900.00</u>
	Total: <u>\$53,413.09</u>
EXPENSES:	
<u>Annual Gathering 2021</u>	
Council Travel	\$4,000.00
Supplies & Printing	\$600.00
Honorariums	\$200.00
Council Hotel	\$1,000.00
Council Registration Reimbursements	\$700.00
Lunch (60 x \$40)	\$2,400.00
Coffee	\$300.00
Audio/Visual	\$400.00
Registration Fee (60x \$3.50)	\$210.00
Total Annual Gathering Expense	<u>\$9,810.00</u>
<u>Scholarships for Annual Gathering</u>	
10 women @ \$800.00	\$8,000.00
<u>Other Expenses</u>	
Fall Retreat	\$1,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$200.00
Internet and Tech	\$100.00
Mission Donations	\$9,900.00
Total other Expenses	<u>\$11,700.00</u>
	Total Expenses: <u>\$29,510.00</u>
	Projected Balance December 2021: <u>\$23,903.09</u>



Mission Banks

WNALC Mission Banks 2020-2021

The Women of the North American Lutheran Church Executive Council thank you for your continued faithfulness in supporting the general fund & the Mission Bank Program this past year. \$8,132.00 was given to our two Mission Bank recipients for the 2019-2020 year; Lutheran Bible Translators & Bethesda Lutheran Communities.



Marcella Nelson

Additionally, there were contributions to the North American Lutheran Church Disaster Response given by the members of the WNALC. NALC Disaster Response wishes to thank you for the generous contributions of \$13,120 in gift cards from the Stuff the Tonka campaign for families impacted by disasters, 1168 flood buckets, 560 health kits, 648 quilts, 275 school kits, 200 baby layettes & 800 Bibles.

The virtual gathering of the WNALC on August 4th voted to approve two Mission Bank recipients for the 2020-2021 year. The **North American Lutheran Church Great Commission Society** & the **North American Lutheran Church Disaster Response** were chosen by the delegates attending the gathering.

The **Great Commission Society** works to connect needs & resources within the NALC. These needs are for global workers in overseas settings, new mission starts & various needs of churches in the United States. Grants are given to help missions, pastors & churches spread the Gospel. We will hear more about these projects in future newsletters. If you want more information go to thenalc.org/gcs.

NALC Disaster Response is familiar to many of you already because the WNALC has supported them in the past. They send relief items, volunteers & funding to aid disaster victims in the United States suffering damage from natural disasters such as floods, storms & fires. If you need help from Disaster Response, or desire to help, contact Mary Bates at 740-509-1132 or disasterresponse@NALC.org

Thank you for your faithfulness & prayer in supporting the Mission Bank Program. We appreciate your continued support in offerings to the missions in the USA & abroad.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV)



The purpose of the Great Commission Society of the NALC is to mobilize disciples for the work of the Great Commission. Our mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a world that is in

desperate need of the Good News. We propose to do this by networking congregations and individuals who have a passion for the proclamation of the Gospel and a commitment to the calling of the Great Commission.

"And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20 ESV)

NALC When Disaster Strikes: How NALC Congregations Can Help

- ◆ What should NALC pastors or congregation leaders do when a natural disaster, such as flooding, tornadoes, and fires, strikes in their community or in an area where the congregation is able to or desires to provide assistance?
- ◆ Since the NALC is a small church with widespread congregations, it is important that you contact us as quickly as possible when a disaster occurs in your area.
- ◆ First and foremost, if the disaster is close by, make sure you are safe.
- ◆ Next, contact NALC Disaster Response Coordinator, Mary Bates as quickly as possible so the prayer power of the NALC can be unleashed. Be sure to also contact your Mission District to see if your local NALC Disaster Response Team can provide assistance.
- ◆ NALC Disaster Response has resources and capabilities to assist in early response and longer term recovery. We can open the gates to material resources, networking, counseling, training, and volunteers.
- ◆ Remember, the key is early communication! The sooner we learn of a disaster in your area, the more quickly NALC Disaster Response can respond to the needs of your community.

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE NEEDS

BABY CARE KIT

TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts
TWO long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers
TWO receiving blankets, medium weight
 *Cotton, flannel, crocheted or knitted w/ lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
ONE jacket/sweater/sweatshirt w/ hood or include a baby cap
TWO pairs of socks
ONE hand towel
TWO OR THREE bars of gentle soap
 *Equaling 8-9 oz in original wrap
TWO diaper pins or large safety pins



SCHOOL KIT

ONE cloth bag or backpack
FOUR notebooks
 *wide or college-ruled
 *no loose-leaf paper
ONE blunt scissors
ONE ruler
ONE pencil sharpener
SIX new pencils
ONE eraser
TWELVE sheets assorted construction paper
 Elementary: **ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons
 High School: **ONE** calculator
 *Label bag handle for E or HS



FLOOD BUCKET

ONE 5 gallon bucket w/ lid
TWO large trash bags
ONE gallon of bleach
 Comet or scouring cleanser
 PineSol or liquid floor cleaner
 Dust mask, N-95 recommended
 *If no mask, mark bucket & send
 Scrub brush
 Rubber gloves
 Broom
 Rakes, shovels, hoes—debris removal tools



HEALTHCARE KIT

ONE bath towel
ONE wash cloth
TWO bars of soap
 *in original wrapping
ONE toothbrush
ONE pack of dental floss
ONE tube of toothpaste
 *two if sample size
ONE comb
ONE deodorant



NATIONAL CHAIN GIFT CARDS

HOME DEPOT
WALMART
LOWE'S
TARGET
& MORE



QUILTS & BLANKETS

ANY SIZE quilt or blanket
 *religious, patriotic & military fabrics okay



BIBLES
NEW AND USED



Mary Bates · NALC Disaster Response Coordinator · disasterresponse@thenalc.org · 740-509-1132

Material Donations:

NALC Disaster Response Warehouse
 16500 Noble Avenue
 Caldwell, OH 43724

Gift Card Donations & Mail:

NALC Disaster Response
 PO Box 166
 Caldwell, OH 43724

Monetary Donations:

NALC Disaster Response
 2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220
 New Brighton, MN 55112-2202

Reading Recommendation

Sheba Journeyed Across the Desert with a Caravan of Riches, Only to Find the Greatest Treasure of Them All. So Can You.

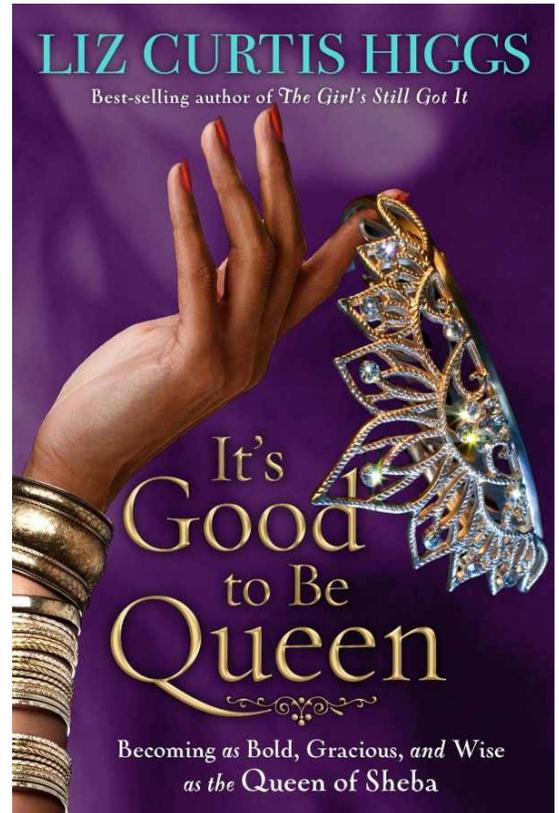
When it comes to famous queens of the Bible, we know the good one, Queen Esther, and the bad one, Queen Jezebel. Now meet the wise one, the queen of Sheba, who traveled to Jerusalem to test the mind and heart of a king.

Her quest for wisdom will surprise you, challenge you, inspire you, change you. This wealthy royal from antiquity will show you how to live boldly, seek after truth, ask the right questions, encourage others, receive graciously, and honor the Lord above all.

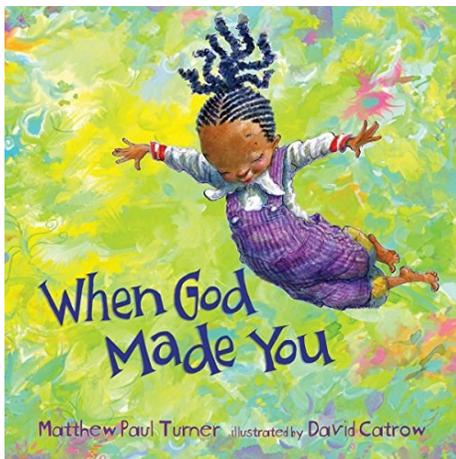
Shedding new light on this ancient biblical role model, Liz Curtis Higgs unveils timeless wisdom for all who aspire to please the king of Kings.

Verse by verse, we'll follow the queen of Sheba on her journey to Jerusalem, recorded in 1 Kings 10:1-13. As I plumbed the depths of her story in forty different English translations of the Bible, I was astounded to find how each verse revealed a unique aspect of her personality through her actions and words. So, in each chapter we'll explore those fine attributes.

More at: lizcurtishiggs.com



For Kids!



YOU, you... God thinks about you. God was thinking of you long before your debut.

From early on, children are looking to discover their place in the world and longing to understand how their personalities, traits, and talents fit in. The assurance that they are deeply loved and unique creation in our big universe is certain to help them spread their wings and fly.

Through playful, charming rhyme and vivid, fantastical illustrations, *When God Made You* inspires young readers to learn about their own special gifts and how they fit into God's divine plan as they grow, explore, and begin to create for themselves.

'Cause when God made YOU, somehow God knew, That the world needed someone exactly like you!

More at: matthewpaulturner.com

A Trip to Caldwell



Jill Nesheim

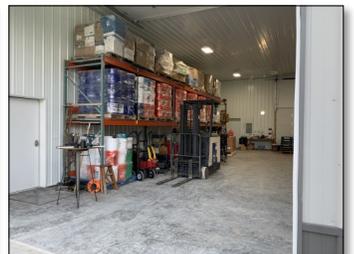
On June 22, my husband, Ed & I drove to First Lutheran Church in Washburn, North Dakota, to load their quilts & school kits. That afternoon, we were at Peace Lutheran Church, Devils Lake, North Dakota, (our home church) to help pack & load quilts, school kits & baby care kits.

Wednesday, June 24, we headed east & made stops to pick up more boxes from Grace Lutheran Church, Erskine, Minnesota, along with quilts from Riverside Lutheran Church & Pine Grove Lutheran Church in Wannaska, Minnesota. We went on to St. Cloud, Minnesota, where we picked up more boxes & items at Abounding Joy Lutheran Church, where they had gathered quilts & prayer shawls, along with more boxes from Holy Trinity Lutheran in Kettle River, Minnesota.

To top off the load, our last stop was in at Calvary Lutheran Church in Brookfield, Wisconsin. The trailer was stuffed, the pick-up box was full & even our backseat had boxes. Thank you to Jason Hanson of Devils Lake for the use of his trailer, & to Marcella & Ken Nelson & our son Matt for places to stay!

In Caldwell, Ohio, Mary Bates provided us with a hotel room for the night. She & her husband helped sort the boxes onto pallets & shrink wrap everything so it was ready for shipping. The total count: 500 quilts, 94 baby care kits, 171 school kits, 21 Bibles, 6 towels, 16 health kits, 3 prayer shawls, 30 fleece throws & 1 Home Depot gift card.

We had a nice trip home &, of course, stopped at a cheese factory & store to get some good Wisconsin cheese to enjoy! We hope others will consider making their own trip. With nine warehouses across the USA, you can pick the one closest to you. Ed & I plan to go again next year but will probably deliver to the warehouse in Illinois!



News from You!



St. Paul Lutheran Church *Oregon, Illinois*

The quilting ladies have been busy before & during COVID-19. When 100 people lost their homes in mid-August from severe storms, the ladies were able to supply 30+ quilts to those displaced.

Story submitted by Sandy Strohecker



New Beginnings Lutheran Church *Mahomet, Illinois*

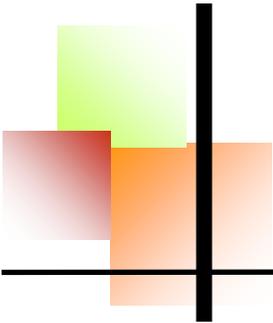
The Wrapped In Prayer ladies of NBLC wrote to Mike Lindell, of My Pillow, & sent a picture of their social-distancing weekly yard meetings. They asked Mike if he would be willing to send seconds (pillows unfit for sale to the public) to Restoration Urban Ministries, a local Christian homeless assistance program. Mike wrote back quickly & said that he was not only sending 20 pillows, but they wouldn't be seconds, & he is also sending a pillow for each lady in the photo (14)!

Story submitted by Sally Roth



Mike Lindell, My Pillow





Info for You

Check out our new look!

WNALC General Fund donations help with the WNALC website, WNALC Council Fall Retreat, WNALC display table at Lutheran Week & the WNALC Annual Gathering.

WNALC Mission Fund donations are collected & split between the domestic & international Mission Recipients voted on at the previous Annual Gathering.

We thank you for choosing to support the Women of the NALC! We hope you continuously uplift the WNALC in your prayers to serve as God wills.

Submit your stories, pictures, recipes, or events!

Please send your content to Rachel Busch Jones at womenofthenalc@gmail.com by October 1, 2020 for inclusion in the next edition.

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wnalc.org

Register Now!

If you, &/or your church, are not registered with the WNALC for 2020, please do so now!

There are no annual fees, membership fees or required donations — just a registration so you can receive newsletters, upcoming information, vote on business & stay connected.

Please complete the "Join the WNALC" form [HERE!](#)

facebook
+ join our group

Get news & daily Bible messages!

"WNALC-Women of the NALC"

facebook.com/groups/WNALC

WNALC
c/o North American Lutheran Church
2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220
New Brighton, MN 55112-2202
DESIGNATION:
WNALC Mission Fund or WNALC General Fund



NALC Guides

Great Commission Society: thenalc.org/gcs
NALC Global Workers: thenalc.org/international-mission

Ministry Partners

Awakening Lives to World Missions: alwm.org
China Service Ventures: chinaserviceventures.org
Friends of Madagascar Mission: madagascarmission.org
India Transformed: indiatransformed.org
Life Together Churches: lifetogetherchurches.org
Lutheran CORE: lutherancore.org
Lutherans for Life: lutheransforlife.org
Lutheran Lay Renewal: lutheranrenewal.com
Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries: lmvfm.org
Lutheran World Relief: lwr.org
SMI Haiti: smihaiti.org
Sola Publishing: solapublishing.org
SON Network: sonetwork.org
World Mission Prayer League: wmpl.org

MISSIONS

"Therefore go and make disciples..."

Recognized Ministries:

Bethesda Lutheran Communities: bethesdalc.org
Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute: clbi.edu
Commission Expeditions: commissionexpeditions.org
Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch: dakotaranch.org
Gudina Tumsa Foundation: gtfus.org
LAMP Ministry Inc.: lampministry.org
Lutheran Bible Translators: lbt.org
Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute: lcbi.sk.ca
Malawi Orphan Care Project: malawiorphancaresproject.org
Moved to Missions (M2M)
Philos Project: philosproject.org
Water Mission: watermission.org
We Raise Foundation: weraise.org
The Wilderness Ranch of Claresholm: wildernessranch.ab.ca