



# Good News

From the WNALC




## 2022 Annual Gathering

*With hope, let us sing praises to the Lord!*

The 2022 Annual Gathering of the WNALC is just weeks away.

The Women's Council is singing praises to the Lord as we write this newsletter. Another year has quickly flown by, and we are preparing to conduct the Annual Gathering. The Annual Gathering and business meeting of the WNALC is required to be held in conjunction with the NALC's convocation. The business meeting is important in many ways. There are minutes from the previous year's gathering, the year's financial report and budget, reports from ministry teams, and the election of candidates to open seats on the council. Along with conducting business, the council strives to have time for meaningful spiritual growth and fellowship.

Most of this year's virtual meeting will be live with a few prerecorded segments. The business portion of the meeting will be live, and delegates need to be present at that time for voting. We hope that as many women as possible will register for the Annual Gathering to let us know that you are watching live. It is our goal to have one voting delegate registered from every NALC congregation. Visit our website, [wnalc.org](http://wnalc.org), to register, read the speaker bios, and to learn

about the candidates, breakout sessions and more.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, a time of spiritual growth and fellowship is planned. Our guest speaker this year is The Rev. Salome Pathak. We will also hear from Pastor David Keener on the NALC's Life-to-Life Discipleship Experience. Bishop Dan Selbo will be present and give a greeting at the end of the meeting following which he will install the 2022-2023 council.

The entire gathering will be recorded and available on [wnalc.org](http://wnalc.org) for those who are not able to attend to view at their convenience.

Being that this year's meeting is virtual, it will be shorter than our in-person gatherings. It is our hope that you will not only be able to join us for this year's virtual meeting, but that you will consider joining us at next year's in-person gathering in Oklahoma City.

If you experience any difficulty with registration, please email [womenofthenalc@gmail.com](mailto:womenofthenalc@gmail.com)

---

### Virtual Gathering Speakers

---

**The Rev. Salome Pathak** is our featured speaker for the 2022 Annual Gathering. The Rev. Salome holds a Master of Divinity from Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus Ohio. Both the Rev. Salome and her husband, the Rev. Dr. Divaker Pathak, were ordained by the North American Lutheran Church in 2013.



Rev. Salome was inspired to be a church planter by her father, the Rev. Clement Johnson, who was a church planter and a

### What's Inside?

<b>2022 VIRTUAL GATHERING</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>WHAT'S INSIDE?</b> .....	<b>1</b>
VIRTUAL GATHERING SPEAKERS .....	1
COUNCIL CANDIDATES .....	2
<b>CHAIR'S CORNER</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>SPIRITUAL GROWTH</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>MISSION DISTRICT NEWS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>FACEBOOK UPDATE</b> .....	<b>4</b>

pastor for more than 60 years. The Rev. Salome and her husband planted the Christ Is Lord Lutheran Church & Ministries, a Jamaica mission of the North American Lutheran Church, (NALC), and Christ Is Lord Ministries, NALC, a US mission. Rev. Salome also planted a Free community Clinic in Jamaica. Visit [wnalc.org/annualgathering/](http://wnalc.org/annualgathering/) and scroll down to read Rev. Salome's full bio.

**The Rev. David Keener** has served congregations in Michigan and Georgia.



He served as chair of the North American Lutheran Church's Congregational Renewal Team and is currently a member of the NALC [Life-to-Life Discipleship](#) Team. As a certified discipleship coach

with the Navigators, he has assisted pastors and lay leaders in developing ways to become more intentional in their personal and congregational discipleship. In February, 2022 he joined the NALC staff and works in the areas of Life-to-Life Discipleship and New Mission Starts.

**The Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Selbo, Bishop** Selbo has been married for 33 years.



He and his wife, Mary, have been blessed with four children and just recently with two grandchildren. Bishop Selbo graduated from San Jose State University in 1982 with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious

Studies. He received a Master of Divinity degree in 1986 and earned a Doctorate of Ministry in Biblical Preaching in 2013, both from Luther Seminary. He enjoys golfing, fishing, working in the yard and spending time with family and friends

---

### Council Candidates

---

We currently have four candidates for council. **Peggy Jording** was elected to TWC in 2020 and has served as leader of the Spiritual Team and council treasurer during her first term. **Sandra Liska** and **Mary Lea Pfenninger** were both appointed to TWC in January 2022 to fill two open council seats, and both have decided to run for election to TWC. Over the last six months Sandra has been the Spiritual Team leader and

Mary Lea served as council secretary. Both Sandra and Mary Lea have been working on the Website Team. The fourth candidate is the Rev. Cathy Fanslau. Pastor Cathy has served the Church for 35 years, first as a deaconess and then heeding God's call, she became ordained as a pastor. To learn more about each of these candidates, please visit [wnalc.org/annualgathering/](http://wnalc.org/annualgathering/).

### *Chair's Corner*

Dear Sisters in Christ,

This is such a bittersweet article to write. The last four years on The Women's Council has been such a joy for me. During my time on the council, I have had the privilege of working with 14 different women. There is a special place in my heart for each of them.

As a newbie in 2018, it all seemed new, easy, exciting, strange, confusing, etc. As I got to know my fellow council members and shared time with them via virtual and in-person meetings, phone calls, texts, and emails, they all became dear friends and sincere sisters in Christ. We shared our joys and sorrows, our worries, and our difficulties. We became "The Praying Council".

During these four years of reading past minutes, newsletters, and the policies and procedures, I have gained a great appreciation for the work done by the early Women's Councils and all the women who worked hard to put these documents and ideas in place. Each of you has access to the policies and procedures and past newsletters on the WNALC website if you desire to know more about the purpose and hopes for the Women of the NALC.

Being a member of the council has increased my desire to live my life serving Jesus and spending more time in his word. Prayer along with Bible reading and study have become a focus in my life. One of the first things I do after waking up is grab my phone and open the YouVersion app. It was Marcella Nelson who first introduced me to this Bible app. It has so many amazing facets and I haven't yet explored them all.

What a blessing to get to know people by sharing pains, sorrow and joy; praying for each other; and sharing concerns for family, friends,

and churches. All these draw you closer in fellowship and with the Lord. Therefore, being on the council has encouraged me to make prayer and Bible reading more and more a part of my daily life and habits.

We all have the same amount of time each day. How we spend our time depends on jobs, family, and interests. But it also depends on our personal desires. I didn't always have a big desire to spend daily time reading the Bible and praying. Why did this change? I believe one reason was that deep down I knew its importance, and I knew I was falling short. I prayed a simple prayer — probably a few times — mostly in earnest but also with some trepidation. I simply prayed for God to place a desire for me to be in His word more and to become more focused on prayer in my life.

It didn't happen overnight, but slowly over time, my desire has grown stronger. My daily reading is more consistent. Prayers come more easily and more naturally. Serving on the WNALC council has certainly been instrumental in my growth as a Christian and my prayer life.

I encourage you to consider your time with God. What do you need and want? Pray for it and give it to God and He will fill the desires of your heart.

In Christ,  
Jill

### *Spiritual Growth*

**Jill Nesheim**

---

#### *Hope*

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

#### Refrain:

On Christ the solid rock I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil

This is a beloved hymn of mine and I believe it was one of my mother's favorites. I can still hear her singing it as we would stand in church together. The hymn is based on the parable of the wise man building his house on the rock and the foolish man building his house on the sand. I am sure all of you sang that Sunday school favorite "The wise man built his house upon the rock..." with the hand motions.

The theme for the Annual Gathering of the WNALC is "With Hope Let Us Sing Praise to the Lord!" In Jesus we have hope for a better future. Having a perfect life is not guaranteed, but when we place our hope in Jesus, we have the assurance that we are not alone. We know He will see us through the difficulties of life, and at the end of every day we know that the sun will come up in the morning and we can hope for it to be a better day.

Through songs such as "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less", we are reminded to keep our lives anchored in Jesus and His salvation. With Him as our anchor, we can have hope even in the toughest times.

### *Mission District News*

**Amy Werner**

---

*Do you like to talk? Meet new people?  
We need your help!*

One of the goals of TWC is to strengthen communication between TWC and the women in our mission regions, mission districts and congregations. We would like someone from each mission district to step up and become a representative. Representatives will monitor and communicate about upcoming events within their districts that might be of interest to the women in their congregations. Information would be shared through Facebook, email, and newsletters. If your area doesn't have a representative, please consider volunteering!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MD/Region \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Email or text your information to Amy Werner at [awerner.wnalc@gmail.com](mailto:awerner.wnalc@gmail.com), (724) 244-4242 and apply to be a MD/MR representative.

## Facebook Update

Our Facebook membership of 442 in the fall of 2020 doubled to 884 by the spring of 2022.

In last month's newsletter, Jill Nesheim made good on her challenge promise when she announced the list of drawing winners for the beautifully quilted items that she had offered as an incentive when she made the challenge in 2020.

This year, Peggy Jording got the bright idea to make some Bible bookmarks to give away when our membership reaches 1000. Little did she realize that we would get there so quickly! At the time of this writing there are already 975 members! We are only 25 people away! Invite someone from your congregation to join our Facebook page for a chance to win. Here is a sample and Peggy made 10 to give away:



## WNALC Mission Bank Donations

Thank you for supporting the WNALC and our Mission Bank partners!

WNALC General Fund donations help cover the costs of our website, the WNALC Annual Gathering, our display table at Lutheran Week, scholarships to in-person gatherings and more.

WNALC Mission Fund donations are collected and divided evenly between the two Mission Bank recipients.

We thank you for choosing to support the Women of the NALC, and we hope you continuously lift the TWC in your prayers that we would always serve according to God's will.

Please send donations for the WNALC General Fund and Mission Bank to:

North American Lutheran Church  
PO Box 860565  
Minneapolis, MN 55486-0565

**Make checks payable to:**

**North American Lutheran Church**  
and note on the memo line whether it is for  
**WNALC General Fund — or — WNALC Mission Fund**

## Council Contacts

Jill Nesheim — [jcnquilter@gmail.com](mailto:jcnquilter@gmail.com)  
Kim Isiminger — [kisiminger@gmail.com](mailto:kisiminger@gmail.com)  
Peggy Jording — [peggyjording@gmail.com](mailto:peggyjording@gmail.com)  
Rachel Busch Jones — [womenofthenalc@gmail.com](mailto:womenofthenalc@gmail.com)  
Sandra Liska — [liskats@yahoo.com](mailto:liskats@yahoo.com)  
Mary Lea Pfenninger — [MPfenninger@esc3.net](mailto:MPfenninger@esc3.net)  
Amy Werner — [awerner.wnalc@gmail.com](mailto:awerner.wnalc@gmail.com)  
General email — [womenofthenalc@gmail.com](mailto:womenofthenalc@gmail.com)  
WNALC website — [wnalc.org](http://wnalc.org)  
Facebook group — WNALC-Women of the NALC

*We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor  
of the soul, a hope that enters into the  
inner place behind the curtain  
Hebrews 6:19*

Sunset sea photo created by lachetas