



April 2018

the Proclaimer

All are Baptized into One Body

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

— 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 ESV

In other Lutheran church bodies there is little representation from congregations at denominational convocations and those who were elected are told, “You are not to represent your congregation — you are here as a ‘voting member,’ not a ‘delegate.’”

This creates a politicized agenda driven process that many times does not reflect the will of the church body.

The NALC created a constitutional form that intentionally involves representation at the Convocation from each congregation — both clergy and lay — together with a congregational ratification process that requires changes to the constitution, teaching statements, and formal ecumenical relationships to be approved by two-thirds of our congregations.

It assures that decisions made by the Convocation have the support and

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approval of a super-majority of those in the NALC, or they are not ratified. This is an important aspect of being Congregationally Focused — one of our four Core Values.

An aspect of that core value is the provision for each congregation to send lay representation to our annual NALC Convocation.

Our constitution states: Delegates with voting privileges at a Convocation shall be the ordained ministers of the NALC and at least an equal number of laypersons. Each congregation of the NALC shall elect one lay delegate to the Convocation for every 750 baptized members, or fraction thereof, of such congregation. ... In the event that the total number of lay delegates elected pursuant to the preceding sentence is less than the total number of ordained ministers, the Executive Council shall apportion additional lay delegates based on the relative size of the congregations of the NALC. To the extent appropriate to maintain good order, and subject to any action by the Convocation, the Executive Council may adopt procedures relating to the timing of delegate selection and to verifying the credentials of all delegates. (Article 7.02)

All members of the Convocation are delegates and as such represent their

congregations. (Article 7.03)

It is significant in the NALC that ordained ministers and laypersons shall be present and voting in “at least an equal number.” It is also important that our constitution states, “all members of the Convocations are delegates and as such represent their congregations.”

It is important to life of the church that each congregation make a commitment to full participation in the life and ministry of the NALC by sending a lay delegate to the NALC Convocation.

Lay participation at Lutheran Week and Convocation is an investment in the life, health and well-being of the church and the local congregation.

Our congregational focus is part of the DNA of the NALC, and the hope is that all congregations participate in Mission District convocations and the annual Luther week and convocation.

Contact me or Jerry Trostle if you feel called to represent St. John’s as our lay delegate at upcoming NALC Lutheran Week and Convocation, Aug. 14-17 in Denver, Colorado.

Just ask Phil Mills if it is worth your time to attend.

In Christ,

Pastor Ernie



The next Munchin' for Mission is Sunday, April 15 after worship. Bring a dish, enough for your family plus a few more, and join us. We will learn about our April mission project.

2017 Endowment Interest Distribution

Community Outreach

NA Lutheran Seminary	500
Navigators	1,000
Samaritan's Purse	200
Cystic Fibrosis Research	300
ISS-homeless children	500
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,500</u>

NALC Causes/Missions

NALC Great Commission Fund	1,000
Carolinas Mission District NALC	200
Home Mission Foundation	1,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,200</u>

Capital Imp/Debt Reduc

<u>AC Fund—Capital Fund</u>	<u>3,614</u>
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Total Distribution **8,314**

St Johns Lutheran Church,

Many years ago, I realized that in order for me to help anyone, that first I had to care about them, and I needed to hear their story and understand as best I could how they got to where they are today. That is a philosophy we try to practice every day with all of our guests. We are so fortunate to have the flexibility to address each person and their need individually.

The reality is that because of your support, we are able to provide the multi-faceted services for over 800 individuals each year. Thank you for your donations for general operating expenses. Your donations go to Diakonos, doing business as Fifth Street Ministries. Thank you for being our partner in making our little corner of the world a better place. It takes all of us!

Patti West, Executive Director
Fifth Street Ministries—Hope of
Mooresville—My Sisters House

ICM

In March, we gave 141.6 pounds of food to ICM. Our next collection is Sunday, April 8. Please do not donate previously opened packages. To volunteer at ICM, call 704-924-6700.



WINGS Executive Board Meeting

The WINGS Executive Board is meeting on Monday, April 16, 2018. We are still in need of a Vice-President and Secretary. The Executive Board meets 3 to 4 times per year. Attendance at those meetings would be the basic requirement along with keeping the minutes. If you can serve, call Brenda Dunn (704-876-4028).

2018 Spirituali-Tea

The 2018 Spirituali-Tea was Saturday, March 17. The theme was *Amazing Grace for a Woman's Heart*. We had 46 ladies in attendance: 20 from St. John's, 24 from 12 other churches, and 2 not affiliated with a church. Thank you to Sheila Burger, Patti Horinka, and Rosemary Muffley for organizing the tea; to the Hospitality Committee for providing the delicious refreshments; to Patti Horinka for sharing her collection of tea sets for table decorations; and to Sue Hinson for helping with the decorations. Thank you to all you came and supported this WINGS outreach project!



Walking with Jesus to Ascension

This WINGS sponsored project begins Easter Monday, April 2 and ends Ascension Day, May 10. Each participant will walk at least 1 mile per day for 40 days. If you have difficulty walking, you can even ride a bike, wheelchair, or electric scooter for 1 mile per day.

Participants will get family and friends, to sponsor them by donating a specific amount of money per mile walked. Money collected will go to the 2018 WINGS Mission Project (Alzheimer's / Dementia Support). Call Brenda to register.



Circle Meetings

Priscilla Circle

Mon., April 2, and May 7,
2:00 pm Meeting room

Rebekah Circle

Wed., April 4 and May 2,
9:30 am, Fell. Hall

Happy Birthday!

April 4	Sandor McSwain
April 6	Steve Horinka
April 11	Lisa Moore
April 12	Caleb Hager
April 14	Barbara Rainwater
April 15	Tracy Ryan
April 17	Frances Goffey
April 19	Helen Ruffy
April 26	Renae Karriker

Called Congregational Meeting—April 8

April 8 after worship is a called congregational meeting to approve the expenditure of \$10,028 to replace the 'red door' and the fellowship hall entrance door, and to put a panic bar on the existing kitchen door.

General Fund March

March Income:	16,157
March Expenses:	12,404

Building Fund March

March Income:	1,569
Monthly payment:	2,262

Men's Fellowship

this evening event replaces Men's Breakfast

Thursday, April 12

6:30 PM, Greg's BBQ

Community Breakfast

Saturday, April 14

8—10 AM



Pop Tab Collection

We are collecting pop tabs from aluminum cans – soda, soup, juice, dog and cat food cans. Put your pop tabs in Ziploc bags and leave them in the organizers outside the conference room. They will be taken to Charlotte for the Ronald McDonald House.

Labels for Education

The collection of “Labels for Education” from Campbell’s soups, General Mills cereal, Swanson’s products, and other grocery items for East Iredell Elementary School is continuing. The labels help them purchase items for the school. If you use

any of these products, please save the “Labels for Education” and the UPC Code printed on the item. Place these in the baskets in the bookshelf outside the conference room.





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Pastor: Rev. Ernie Sheldon—pastorsheldon@aol.com



May deadline: April 24



First Sunday

April 8 @ 5:00 PM

due to Easter, it's the 2nd Sunday

Easter Sunday

April 1

Sunrise Worship: 7:30 AM

Continental Breakfast: 8:30 AM

Bible Studies: 9:30 AM

Festival Worship: 10:30 AM

*Join us as we celebrate
the risen savior!*