



Latest and Greatest News!

Pastors and Congregations

Welcome. Pastor Khrystle Sullivan accepted the call to Emmanuel, Rochester MN, Iowa. She was installed on October 26 by Iowa MD Dean Pastor Christopher Staley.

Anniversary. Blessings to Pastor Norman Dew as he celebrates 30 years of ordination at Peace, Connersville, IN, Sunday, November 17th at 10:30a worship.

Support of Mission Congregations!

During this “Budget Development” time of year, make sure to consider partnering with a Young Mission Congregation or New Start Worshiping community in the Midwestern Area. Contact Pastor Jess for more information, midwesternaab@thenalc.org

Faith Landing, Davison, MI
Trinity, St. Charles, MN
Mission in Christ, Strawberry Point, IA
First Grace, Osage, IA

Disaster Warehouse, Caldwell, Ohio

Six Ohio congregations gathered to assemble flood buckets and stuff a truck for Disaster Relief, October 26th.



New NALC Mailing Address

2113 Harwood RD STE 309,
PMB 409,
Bedford, TX 76021-4703

2025 NALC Clergy Retreat January 28-30

“Generous Confessionalism”. Holiday Inn San Antonio Riverwalk, San Antonio TX. See details and registration at: <https://thenalc.org/clergy-retreat-2025/>

Retreats and Studies

These are provided in case your MD doesn’t have a retreat, or if you’d just like to get away from your area and enjoy the environs of other wonderful places.

Retreat for Council Members, Jan 11, 2025 time and location TBD

The SW Ohio Mission District is sponsoring this retreat and invites any in the Midwestern Area to attend. For more information or to **Register**, email Pr. Mark Daniels, markluth91@gmail.com

Society of the Holy Trinity Retreat, Feb 24-26, 2025 St. Augustine House Lutheran Monastery, 3316 Draher Rd., Oxford MI.

www.staugustineshouse.org
Contact Pastor Norman Drew for more information and to register; normandrew@gmail.com
Discussion will be on the nature Byzantine Christology, the full scandalous nature of Christ being fully God and Fully Man and a bit of Luther as a Chalcedonian theologian.

Michigan MD pastors and lay leaders via zoom, generally the **second Saturday** of each month at 10a. Pericope devotion followed by sharing of faith journey and concerns for prayer. Contact Pr. Abbott at midwesternaab@thenalc.org for Zoom invitation.

North Central Ohio Pastors Fellowship will gather November 21st at Pastors Dan and Kathy Pennington's home. We'll gather for fellowship starting at 10 am, have worship, lunch, and games to follow for those who can stay. Contact Pr. Pennington for more info. penningtonkm@gmail.com

Iowa Mission District Youth Trip destination TBD; July 27-Aug 3, 2025

“Solid” Lutheran Bible Camps

- * Ingham Okoboji in Milford, Iowa, which is near Minnesota, South Dakota, and Nebraska.
- * Riverside in Story City, Iowa nearer the middle of the state.

Candidacy for Ordained Ministry Seminarians in the Midwestern Area

Sandy Thompson, Diaconate program. Grace LC, Springfield, SW Ohio MD.
Michelle Kouse, North American Lutheran Seminary network (NALS) / Fuller Seminary, M.Div program. SW Ohio MD.
Monica Nufer, Fuller Seminary, M.Div program. NC Ohio MD.
Scott Stine - Fuller Seminary, M.Div program. SE Ohio MD.
Molly King, St. Paul Lutheran Seminary, M.Div program. SE Ohio MD
Keith Deak, NALS Center at Trinity School for Ministry, M.Div program. NE Ohio MD.
Ethan Zimmerman, NALS Center at Trinity School for Ministry, M.Div program. NE Ohio MD.
Pam Grandmaison, Ordination Under Special Circumstances Program Trinity School for Ministry (NALS), Ambridge PA, Michigan MD.
Wade Weaver, Ordination Under Special Circumstances Program, Living Faith, Wabash IN, Heartland MD.

Seminarians working on Certifications in the Midwestern Area

Rochelle Lemieux, St. Paul Lutheran Seminary, working on Pastoral Care certification, Heartland MD
Heidi Yahl, Institute of Lutheran Theology, Pastoral Ministry certification, NW Ohio MD
Christian White, Institute of Lutheran Theology, Pastoral Ministry certification, NW Ohio MD

If you know of any seminarians in the Midwestern Area not listed here, please email them to Pr. Jess with school, degree / certification being sought, and their Mission District.

Youth News and Opportunities

Resources for Congregations Without Pastors

Online Confirmation Program - contact the Southern Area Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Mark Braaten, 903-316-1594 southernaab@thenalc.org or Pastor Teresa Peters at tpeters@thenalc.org The current plan is to start new groups next September.

Confirmation / Catechism Web Courses [Free] – Luther House of Study, <https://lutherhouseofstudy.org/courses/>

On Line Sermons

Pastor Jess Abbott posts services / sermons on YouTube. Go to YouTube and search “Abundant Grace Lutheran Church West Chester OH”. Or contact Pastor Jess at midwesternaab@thenalc.org

Pastor David Wendel posts sermons on YouTube https://youtu.be/gCcD_lvwCbA, he also posts them on his Facebook page and the NALC Fellowship group; or contact Pastor Wendel at dwendel@thenalc.org

Remote Pastoral Care

If you are a congregation without a pastor, you ALWAYS have a pastor. Contact your Mission District Dean for pastoral advice. Or, your Area Assistant to the Bishop (Pr. Jess) is always available to provide pastoral counseling midwesternaab@thenalc.org

On Line New Member Class

A four-session class (over 4 weeks) that introduces Lutheranism and prepares people to join the membership of a congregation. It is also a “Lutheranism 101” class for any who want to attend a to refresh their knowledge (and fellowship with people just joining a

Lutheran church). Future classes can be scheduled for groups of 4 or more. Contact Pastor Jess to register for July classes or for more information at midwesternaab@thenalc.org

Disaster Response

Volunteer Training and Retreat Center, Caldwell, Ohio. The center is on the property of the national disaster warehouse and is available for service projects, and retreats. Contact Mary Bates for more information and how to get involved, 740-509-1132, disasterresponse@thenalc.org

Intentional Interim Pastor Training

If you are a pastor interested in becoming a trained Intentional Interim Pastor, contact Pastor Marty Ramey pastormr@gmail.com and Pastor Keith Lessrevkeith54@gmail.com They are the NALC Interim coordinators and will be able to provide information about this intentional ministry as well as dates and locations of training.

Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries Inc. (NALC partner, Ft. Wayne, IN) www.lmvfm.org

If you are a veteran, contractor or family member of the Armed Services who is feeling overwhelmed by life experiences, please give LMVFM a call at: 260-755-2239.

If you'd like to support LMVFM donating your Thrivent Choice Dollars is easy Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted say "Thrivent Choice" which will connect you to a friendly Customer Care Agent and tell them that you would like to donate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to: Lutheran Military Veterans & Families Ministries.

Lutheran Chapel Week

Spring: Mar. 17-21, 2025

Trinity School for Ministry is a seminary in the Anglican tradition and, as such, uses the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) for all its liturgies in Trinity Chapel. However, once per semester, our Anglican brothers and sisters grant "we Lutherans" the opportunity to lead all the liturgies over the course of one week using the historic liturgies for Matins, Vespers, The Eucharist, and Compline; it becomes Lutheran Chapel Week! There is an open invitation for

anyone to visit the residential campus any time, but you might consider Lutheran Chapel Week as a special opportunity. For more information on any visit to campus, contact Frontz, Rebecka rebecka.frontz@tsm.edu

Series Devotional on 52 Hymns

Pr. Tom Jacobson decided to write a year-long series of devotional articles on his fifty-two favorite hymns, one for each week of the year. You can find these articles on his blog. www.theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com

Congregation Vacancies

The NALC website has a great section to see congregations looking for a full-time or part-time pastor <https://thenalc.org/call-process/>

Newsletter Distribution List

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter regularly, please provide name and email address. It will only be emailed, and they will be Blind copied (Bcc).

I invite you to submit material for inclusion in future newsletters, but keep your information concise, to the point, and use "links" if you want to provide the reader with access to "long readings". – Jess Abbott, Midwestern Area Assistant to the Bishop (AAB), 513-314-2028, midwesternaab@thenalc.org

Midwestern AAB Schedule Contact me if you'd like me to suggest some short presentations I can make at event. For convocations, I can provide a short update on NALC priorities and recent efforts.

The following events are on my schedule to attend:

Nov 12-13 – NALC Deans Meeting with the Bishop, Dallas, TX

Dec 2-5 – NALC All Staff, Dallas TX

Jan 28-30, 2025. NALC Clergy Retreat, San Antonio, TX

May 2-3 – Ohio Mission Region (all Ohio Mission Districts) Convocation.

Aug 3-8, NALC Luther Week, Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburg, PA

Midwestern Area Deans

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