

Tidings of Grace

January 7, 2022

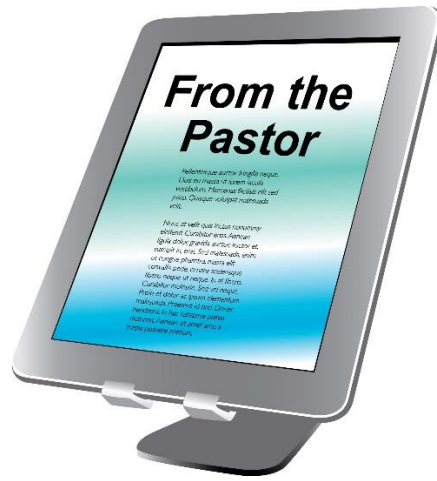


Lesson of the Week: Luke 3:21 – “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened.” We know why the people were baptized, but why was Jesus baptized? He didn’t need repentance or forgiveness. The answer is that He did it for us. The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. The whole of Jesus’ life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us. With our righteousness fulfilled in Jesus and given to us in Baptism, our hearts now overflow with thanksgiving and praise.

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****Dear Grace Family,**

Among other items on the agenda, we as a congregation of the NALC need to vote on amendments to the constitution.

As you will see from the information below *[following pages]*, these amendments will align our constitution to the organizational structure into mission regions and mission districts that has evolved over the course of the past several years.

I am recommending approval of these amendments.

Please read the information from the NALC and come prepared to vote on January 23.

Blessings,
Pastor Phil

September 8, 2021

Dear Congregations and Clergy of the North American Lutheran Church,

Grace and peace to you in the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

One of the NALC's Core Values is "Congregationally Focused." Congregational participation is a foundational principle of our church body's governance. By requiring congregational ratification of certain key decisions, the NALC ensures that its members are aware of and broadly supportive of those decisions.

At our recent NALC Mission Convocation in Corpus Christ, Texas, the delegates to the convocation voted to ratify amendments to Article 11 of the Constitution. As a result, each member congregation is asked to schedule a duly called congregational meeting for the purpose of voting "yes" or "no" to the convocation's action to amend portions of Article 11. A simple majority vote is required. This has to be done at a meeting of the entire congregation and not at a council meeting or any other sub-group meeting. **The deadline for voting on the ratification of Article 11 is within six months of the close of the 2021 NALC Mission Convocation – February 6, 2022.** It would be best to have a brief specially called meeting of the congregation well in advance of the deadline date.

EXPLANATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The 2020 NALC Mission Convocation voted to postpone proposed amendments to Article 11, Regional Subdivisions, of the NALC Constitution. The amendments proposed last year would have named mission districts as the regional subdivision.

There was support for naming them as mission districts. The reason for postponing consideration of the amendments was to revise the amendments so the constitution clearly allows for mission districts to form mission regions. Several mission regions have already been formed in the NALC.

BELOW IS WHAT WAS VOTED ON AND PASSED BY THE DELEGATION:

(Deletions are marked with a strikethrough and additions are in a red font and underlined.)



ARTICLE 11 – REGIONAL SUBDIVISIONS

11.01 Congregations shall join in collaboration as Mission Districts to fulfill most effectively the ministry and mission of the NALC, normally based on common geographic boundaries. Mission Districts may form Mission Regions for more effective ministry and mission as needed. Mission Regions shall have such organizational form and functions as shall be determined by the constituting Mission Districts. Such organization shall be done in consultation with the Bishop and subject to the approval of the Executive Council.

11.02 Each ~~regional group~~ Mission District or Mission Region ~~of congregations~~ shall adopt appropriate governing documents that are consistent with the governing documents and practice of the NALC and shall include election of a Dean, adoption of a budget, and provision for supervision, mutual support of member congregations, and procedures necessary for carrying out its mission and ministry.

11.03 The Deans, who shall be ordained ministers of the NALC, shall be accountable to the Bishop and work with the Bishop by conducting similar functions in their ~~respective areas~~ Mission Districts. Deans shall serve as pastor to ordained ministers, their families, and congregations, and will conduct a ministry of teaching and visitation with ordained ministers and congregations. Deans may continue to serve under the call of a congregation.

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Per the NALC Constitution, Article 17.03 states “Any amendment to this Constitution, prior to becoming effective, must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of congregations (i) that belonged to the NALC at the close of the Convocation that approved the amendment and (ii) that within six months after the close of the Convocation have voted on ratification in and through properly called congregational meetings.

And, “As a responsibility of NALC membership, congregations are expected to vote on the ratification of proposed constitutional amendments. For ratification to be valid, at least 50% of congregations belonging to the NALC at the close of the Convocation that approved the amendments must have voted on the question. Abstentions and invalid ballots shall not be considered for purposes either of counting the number of congregations that have voted on ratification or of determining whether the two-thirds majority has been achieved.”

News and Events

***Indicates new information*

****Congregational Meeting Jan 23.** Our first quarter meeting will be held January 23, 2022 following the service. Among other items on the agenda, we as a congregation of the NALC need to vote on amendments to the constitution. Please read over the information.



****Christmas Clean Up this Saturday, January 8.** Join in and help us put up all the Christmas decorations. Clean up starts at 9:30am. See you tomorrow!!

****Fellowship meeting Jan 16** On Sunday, January 16, directly following Sunday worship the Fellowship Team will meet in the Adult Sunday School classroom to discuss the upcoming fellowship plans for Lent. Any questions contact Roseann Costantino.



****Grace's newest Bible study group, the Under Somethings,** will have their first meeting of the year on Friday, January 28th, at 6:30pm at the Terhunes. We'll start with dinner and then continue our survey of some of the NALC's doctrinal statements. This month we'll look at baptism. For more information contact Aaron at 724.322.2449.



****We are celebrating our new Rodgers organ with an organ recital on Sunday, February 13th,** at 3pm. The recital will be given by organists who have a connection to our church and members, and will include sacred, classical, improvised music, and original compositions. A cookie and punch reception will follow thanks to the fellowship committee.



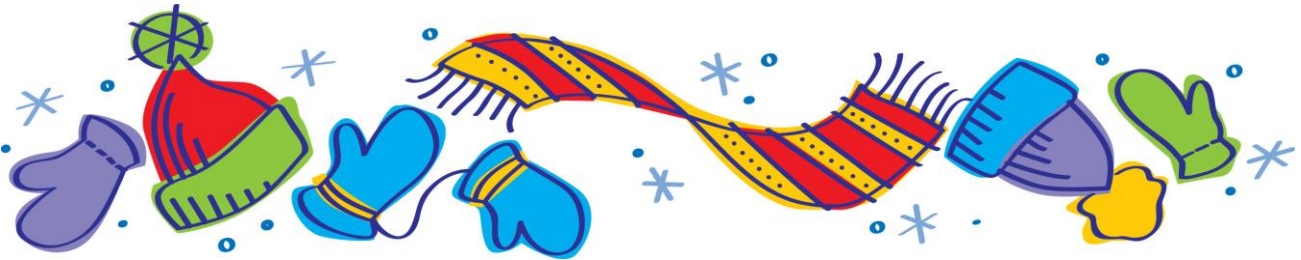
Thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, food, and caring during the sudden illness and loss of my son, Galen Smith. Blessings to all of you in the coming year.

~ Nancy Smith and family.

It isn't too late to bring in your donations to the Mitten Tree.



Our mitten tree could use some more decorations! Bring in the **SCARFS, HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, TROWS AND LIGHT WEIGHT BLANKETS** to fill our annual mitten tree! These items can be hung on the **Mitten Tree** for Jeremiah's Letter. (Under the tree is fine too.) The donations will go to homeless in the Dayton area. Our tree will stay up until the end of January, so please keep bringing in your donations.



Benevolence Team Meeting: Thursday, January 13, at 3:00pm.

Join us as we plan our upcoming year.

We will be discussing future plans for the team. **Please bring the following:**

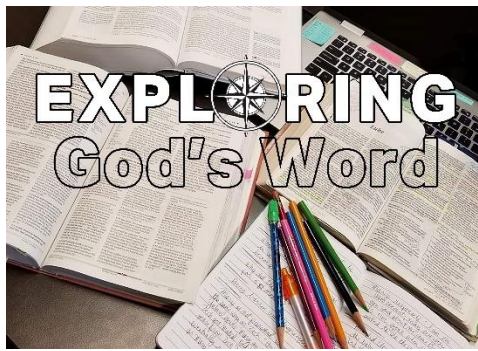
- Ideas of various ministries for discussion and consideration.
- Christian based local ministry for discussion and consideration.
- Examples of craft projects for Valentine's Day

We will recap our current ministries that we support financially, and those we support with donations of our time and talents.

One person in attendance will win the Attendance Door Prize. It could be you!

We have such a great Benevolence team! Thank you for sharing your time and contributing to our local ministries. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our meeting in January.

Thankfully and appreciably, Diane Jergens, Benevolence Team leader



Adult Sunday School 9:00 – 9:50 a.m. "Who Needs Christmas?" by Andy Stanley.

"Through Christmas, we are reminded that even when it seems God is silent, he is always working. God sent Jesus not simply to be the Savior of the world but to be the Savior in our world. Through Christmas, we are reminded that God always keeps his promises to us." (HarperChristian Resources) Join us for a 3 week Advent DVD series called "Who Needs Christmas?" Dates of the study are: Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 19, and will wrap it up on Jan. 9th with a review and final DVD witnessing session. Join one or all of the classes.

Interested in getting closer to God by studying His word? The Friday Morning Bible Study and Prayer Group will study the names of God using the book entitled "The Names of God ~ His



Character Revealed" by Melissa Spoelstra. The study will begin on **Friday January 7th and continue through Friday February 18th from 9:30 am until 11:30 am.** The study requires some reading prior to class.

Please contact Roseann Costantino at 937 434-2012 or via email at roseanncostantino@gmail.com, for questions.

The Men's Fellowship at Grace is beginning our third year meeting the first and third



Saturdays of the month in the church at 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. We have had a great time getting to know each other, praying for each other and studying the scriptures. Oh, and did I forget coffee and "Bill's" donut holes? If you haven't joined us, we would love to get to know you. We're very informal, friendly and you would fit right in. If you have any questions about the fellowship please ask John Michael or Bill Slusser. See you there.

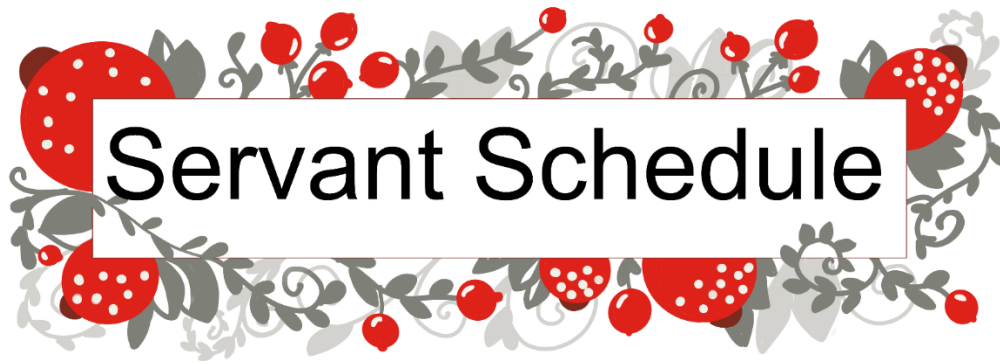
Wednesday Evening Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, join us as we delve deeper into the scriptures. Study is led by Pastor Phil and you can attend in person or online. Join Zoom Meeting:



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/595370970?pwd=MGQzK0VVZXkwUFF4VzJ6aXJjMGhTQT09>

Meeting ID: 595 370 970

Passcode: 023793



Servant Schedule

January Communion Servers

Nancy Oliver & Lauren Gleason

Assistant Minister

Jan 2	Shirley Schryver
Jan 9	Joe Costantino
Jan 16	Sandy Rice
Jan 23	N'Anne Knight
Jan 30	Shirley Schryver

Lector

Steve Gross
Julie Hohulin
George Reinhart
John Jackson
Leslie Jackson

Cantor

Cynthia Michael
Kylene Terhune
Erika Wattrick
Caitlin Coulson
Caitlin Coulson

Nursery

Jan 2	Jean & Debbie
Jan 9	Rachel & Debbie
Jan 16	Donna & Debbie
Jan 23	Cassie & Debbie
Jan 30	Kylene & Debbie

Sunday School

Julie & Susan
Diane & N'Anne
Wanda & Steve
Jean &
Mechelle & Ava

Sunday, January 9nd

Sermon: Pastor Phil Hohulin

Greeter/Usher: Bill and Evie Wheeler

Communion: Nancy Oliver & Lauren Gleason

Children's Nursery: Debbie & Rachel

Choir Director: Cynthia Michael

Organist: Aaron Mood

Pianist: Samee Griffith-Mood

Violinist: Bill Slusser

JANUARY



18 – NITA PETTICREW
25 – FUJI WALTER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service/Livestream 11:30 AM Fellowship	27	28 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship	29	30	31	1
2 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service/Livestream 11:30 AM Fellowship 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5 7:00 PM Bible Study	6	7 9:30 AM Friday Women's Prayer and Bible Study	8 9:30 AM Christmas Clean up
9 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service/Livestream 11:30 AM Fellowship 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 8:30 AM Ohio Valley Hospice Chaplains	11	12 7:00 PM Bible Study	13 3:00 PM Benevolence Team Meeting	14 9:30 AM Friday Women's Prayer and Bible Study 12:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	15 10:00 AM Men's Fellowship
16 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service/Livestream 11:30 AM Fellowship 11:30 AM Fellowship Team Meeting 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30 PM Council Meeting	18	19 7:00 PM Bible Study	20	21 9:30 AM Friday Women's Prayer and Bible Study	22
23 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service/Livestream 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting 11:30 AM Fellowship 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	24	25	26 7:00 PM Bible Study	27	28 9:30 AM Friday Women's Prayer and Bible Study 6:30 PM Under Somethings Meeting	29
30 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service/Livestream 11:30 AM Fellowship 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	31	1	2 7:00 PM Bible Study	3	4 9:30 AM Friday Women's Prayer and Bible Study	5 10:00 AM Men's Fellowship



Our Member's Prayer Concerns:

***Denotes Grace Member**

Alicia-protection and guidance (Cynthia Michael)

Robin Jergens-healing and comfort (Diane Jergens)

Judy and Doug Rettich-healing (Joyce Mears)

Gareene-healing (Bill Slusser)

***George and Nancy Brooks**-healing and comfort (John Michael)

Amber Brakora-healing from accident (Aaron and Samee Mood)

Julie-healing and guidance (Shirley Schryver)

Afghanistan Christians-protection and strength (Cynthia Michael)

Rachel Riddiford-peace for her and her family (Roseann Costantino)

David and Sydney-peace and care during high risk pregnancy (Shirley Schryver)

Bentley – healing and strength for the family (Cassie Pfeiffer)

Tara-healing (Kylene Terhune)

Loretta McGuire-comfort and healing (Rachel Reinhart)

***Lynda Bragg**—continued recovery (Pastor Phil)

Rick-healing (Becky Reinhart)

Lilyanna- please pray for her safety and peace (Diane Jergens)

Levi, parents-Damon & Rachel, brother-Dean-development and strength (Aaron Mood)

***Barbara Baker**-healing

Kendall & Marie-comfort and peace (Shirley Schryver)

Raymond Johnson-comfort during Hospice Care at his home (Leslie Jackson)

Ray Johnson and family- strength and healing from Covid (Leslie Jackson)

Jones Family-comfort and peace-loss of Mike (Donna Tucker)

Britt, Kate & Zachary- comfort in the loss of their husband and father(Erika Wattrick)

Family and Friends in our Hearts:

Paul Yeager (The Yeager's)

Those Confined to Care:

Lois Costantino (Joe Costantino)

Those Serving in the Military:

Josh Weiland, Zach Ravlin (Lea Ravlin), **Matthew Spence** (Lea Ravlin), **Tyler Dovayak** (Shirley Pappas) **Jake Bradosky** (Becky Reinhart), **Jake Byorth** (Becky Reinhart)

Those with Continuing Health Concerns:

Janet Dovayak (Shirley Pappas), **Sally Fiste** (N'Anne Knight), **Farralee Baldwin** (Becky Reinhart), **Mary Welker** (Sandy Rice), **Georgene Bonsteel** (Becky Reinhart), **Fran McDaniel** (Roseann Costantino), **Robin Connellee** (N'Anne Knight), **Cindy Puskar** (Becky Reinhart), **Gary Rothermel** (Annemarie Stein), **Yvonne Becker** (Joyce Mears), **Clayton Daniels** (Cassie Pfeiffer), **Pam Mehlhorn**, **Barbara Baker** (Pastor Phil), **Camille Evans**(Cynthia Michael) **Mike Stein** (Shirley Schryver), **Martha Williamson** (Roseann Costantino), **Nancy Bruggeman**(Cynthia Michael), **Janet Zerger**(Cynthia Michael), **Judy Yeager**(Shirley Pappas), **MacKenzie Aitken** (Lea Ravlin) **Edie Smalley**(N'Anne Knight), **Michael Wiseman** (N'Anne Knight), **Tom Gustin** (N'Anne Knight), **Pam & Allen Smith** (Julie Hohulin) **Dallas Mathile**(Janice Mathile), **John Cooper**(Cynthia Michael), **Don Slokowski** (Shirley Schryver), **Judy** (Donna Tucker), **Scott Placke** (Shirley Schryver)**Tim Scott** (John Michael), **Phyllis Reed** (Cynthia Michael)



Thank you for your Prayers!

I want to thank my Grace family for the prayers for my daughter, Kelly. Her biopsy from her second surgery to remove the area around the cancerous tumor that was removed, came back negative, PRAISE THE LORD!

She may still face some radiation therapy for safety measure, but we are so relieved and she knows her faith in God kept her strong and at peace thru this journey. She has also had a real transformation in how she views life and what is REALLY important.

God is Good!

Donna

Hope in God;

*FOR I SHALL AGAIN PRAISE HIM,
MY HELP AND MY GOD.*

PSALM 42:11, NRSV

