



Rev. John Bradosky

It has been a joy to serve with you as your bishop Dear faithful followers of Jesus from across the North American Lutheran Church: This is my final newsletter message while serving as your bishop. The joys and sorrows of life are never far apart. For this reason, we can cry at weddings and laugh at funerals. It has been a joy to serve with you in this office of Word and Sacrament ministry. I will forever treasure the relationships formed and the experiences shared over these past nine years. However, every change in life brings with it the grief that accompanies such loss. I would be less than truthful to deny those feelings. Those feelings are a part of what it means to love and care deeply for our staff, our deans, Executive Council, boards, commissions, committees, pastors and laity throughout the NALC with whom I have been privileged to serve. I am thankful for your faithful support and your prayers. I have been sustained and encouraged by our Lord's faithful answers to your prayers for me. I am certain there will be tears of both joy and sorrow as I conclude my service in this office. Together we have shared in numerous accomplishments, faced disappointments and struggled to embrace a clear di-

for our future while living out our Core Values, rooted in the Word and faithful to our confessional heritage. We have been learning all along the way what it means to heed Christ's call, "Follow me" — to equip others to boldly share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and become disciple-makers. Now we are praying for the Holy Spirit to guide us in the process of selecting the next person to assume the office of bishop. With the exception of nominations from the floor, you have been able to read the biographical information and the candidates' answers to the questions on the nomination form. I ask that all of you pray, read and discern carefully. We remain confident that our new bishop will be a person of Christ's own choosing. To that end, I am including my job description as another way to assist you in that process of discernment. I encourage you to reread the information from the candidates in light of this job description that comes primarily from our constitution. Among the priesthood of all believers, God has instituted the office of Word and Sacrament ministry. Within the office of ordained ministry is a ministry of oversight in the Church. This includes the bishop and others in leadership who serve together in a collegial manner.

The Bishop:

1. Supports congregations of the NALC by visiting among them, teaching the faith, forgiving sins, preaching the Gospel, administering the sacraments, defending the

faith in accordance with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.

2. Provides support for pastors including the ongoing development of an annual meeting of the ministerium and theological conference providing continuing education, fellowship, and time for personal interaction.

3. Participates in the process of doctrinal discernment — judging right doctrine (Augsburg Confession, Article 28).

4. Ordains or authorizes ordinations on behalf of the Church. In its structures, the Church equips and supports its members for their ministries in the world and in the Church.

5. Reviews and decides on the endorsement of all teaching statements prior to their submission to the Convocation for adoption.

6. Preside over all Convocations.

7. In consultation with the staff, set the agenda and preside at all meetings of the Executive Council of the NALC.

8. As the Chief Pastor and Evangelist of the NALC the Bishop is responsible for insuring that the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) is a priority in the life of this Church.

9. The Bishop is the chief ecumenical officer of the NALC and will participate in inter-Lutheran, ecumenical and inter-religious relationships. The nature and purpose of those meetings will be reported to the Executive Council

Continued on Page 7

FROM THE BISHOP, continued and Convocation.

10. The Bishop is also the chief executive officer of the NALC, serving in a collegial manner with other leaders of the NALC, having both voice and vote in all committees, boards, commissions, task forces and other similarly bodies within the NALC.

11. With the Executive Council, develop and implement a clearly developed strategic plan and provide for the creation of appropriate staff positions to effectively lead the NALC in its mission and ministry of support for local congregations.

12. Provide oversight for the executive staff, including regular staff meetings, updating job descriptions, analysis of annual goals, and developing strategic objectives.

13. Provide oversight and instructions to the Deans of each Mission District through monthly conversations (shared with executive staff) and annual meetings (traditionally during the fall and at the Convocation).

14. Provide for the leadership and composition of the Commission of Theology and Doctrine attending its meetings and providing appropriate input.

I made number eight bold to remind you that our focus on discipleship was never something I invented or a program I decided to institute. It is fundamental to our identity — not because we included it in our constitution but because Christ commanded it. It

is not one among many priorities but the central priority for fulfilling Christ's mission. More than an organization, we are an organism — the living presence of Jesus Christ, loving others in His name and sharing His Gospel in word and deed.

More than an institution, we are a movement guided by the Word of God, working for renewal and reform focused on this one central mission, making disciplinarians. To that end, I encourage you to press on!

May the Lord continue to bless and strengthen the entire NALC as together we move forward following Him!

With a heart filled with gratitude and joy, I look forward to all the future holds.

~Bishop John Bradosky

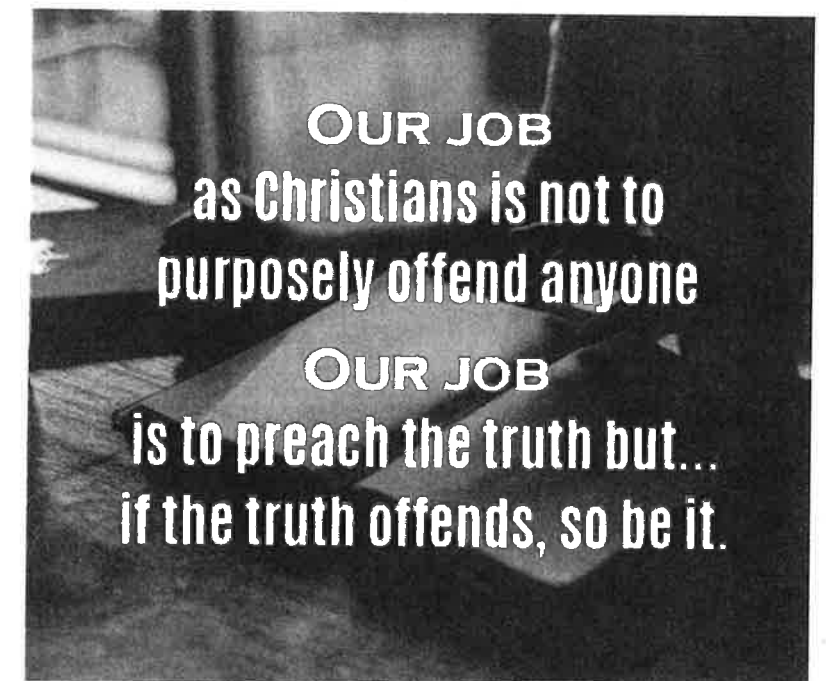
FROM THE PASTOR, con't. These will be used to buy supplies in the disaster areas to be distributed to those in need by local N.A.L.C. congregations. Gary and Paul will take our donations to fill the "Tonka Truck" at the convocation.

There will be a written report in next month's newsletter from Gary, Paul and Pastor Baker.

Keep the work of the Convocation in your prayers. Pray that the Holy Spirit will provide us with another excellent bishop.

May Jesus and His Holy Word guide all who attend the convocation that we may faithfully and always serve our God.

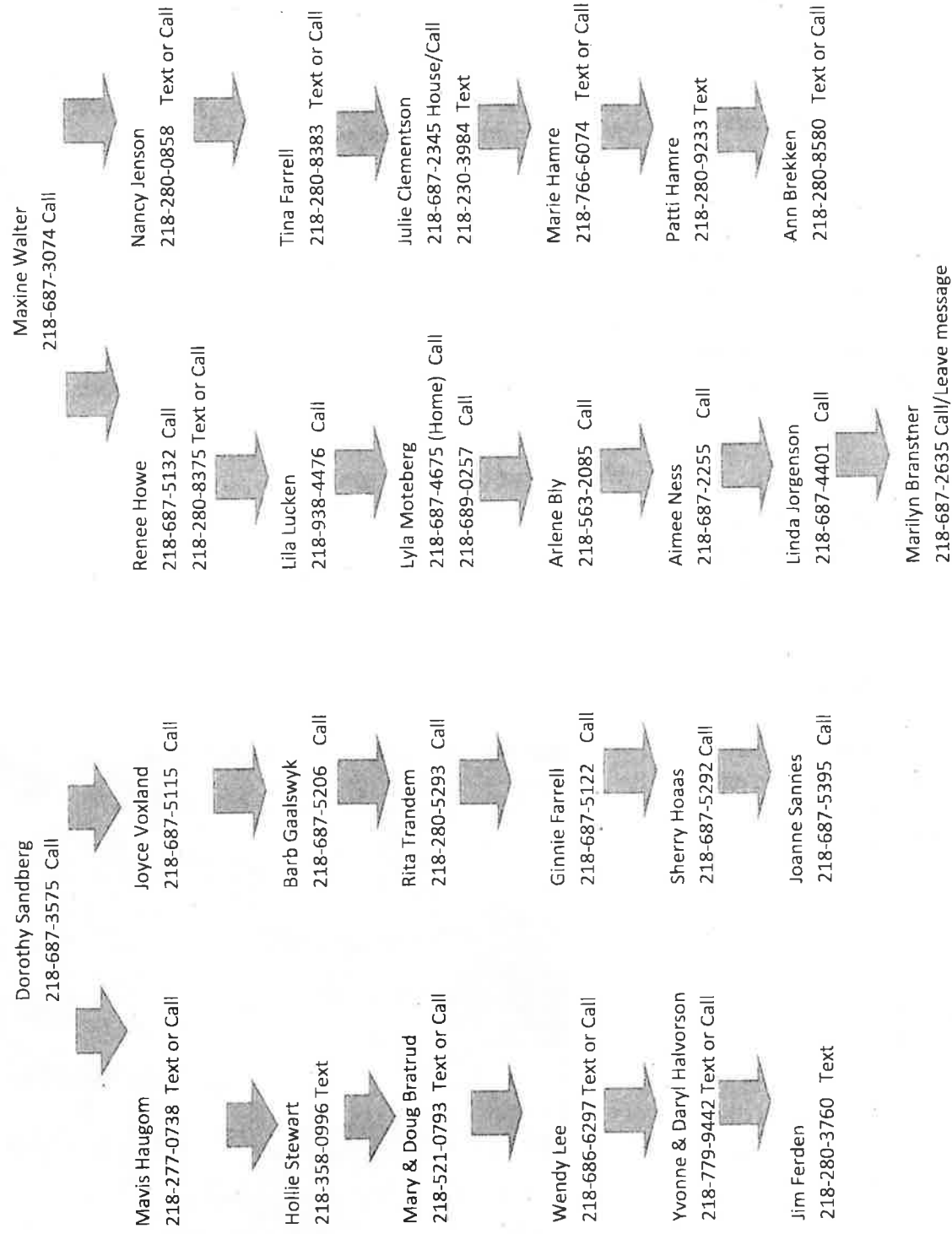
~Pastor Baker



Prayer chain

For a prayer request, Please contact the top two people below. If you do not receive an answer or acknowledgement when you call,

please contact the next person on the list.



UPDATED: July 20, 2019

For any Questions, please contact Mavis Haugom at 218-563-3292



The Grace Education Committee is looking for people interested in crafts/ decorating to help get the church ready for Vacation Bible School! Do you like to create, paint, and decorate? Contact the church or Ann Brekken to get connected with this group! We will meet the week before VBS to share ideas and plan, and then decorate on Sunday, August 11.



Pastor Baker will be leading an Adult Vacation Bible School August 12-15 from 7:00-7:45 p.m. The class will be on The 8 Churches of Revelation. All adults are welcomed to attend.



Summer brings us lots to be thankful for whether it's the wonderful Sun filled days or the air-conditioner that works so we can get in and cool off.

WNALC women have a disaster relief project at our national meeting next month that will make help available to those who are hard hit in this year's round of strong weather. Our women voted to lead the way in stuffing the truck -the TONKA truck-with gift cards from the national chains of Lowe's Home Depot Walmart and Target in the amount of \$400. We will be having the truck up in church on Sundays until Gary and Paul leave as our Grace delegates to the NALC convocation held at the same time. They will deliver our offering of cards to the Tonka truck in Indianapolis. We invite anyone in the congregation to add cards to the truck and join in helping those in need in our sister congregation areas.

We will be giving a program for our neighbors at the Pioneer Care Center on August

15th at 10:00. We invite you to come sing with us. One of the best things we do in the year. Come find out for yourself why. Work will officially begin on two of our biggest projects: The WNALC Auction in October and the Deer Hunters Meatball supper in November. Becky Lindseth has agreed to chair both of these projects again this year. She makes it look easy with all her talents in this work. Be ready when the call goes out for help and donations for these projects. Auction monies go to Missions decided on at the WNALC November meeting and monies from the supper are voted on by the Grace Council. Enjoy the rest of your summer! God's Blessings to you and yours!





AUGUST ACOLYTES

4th: Sydney Svalen and Presley Haugen

11th: Josie Johnson and Paige Breitbach

18th: Lily Pries and Shayna Juve

25th: Maci Smeby and Shea LaBrecque

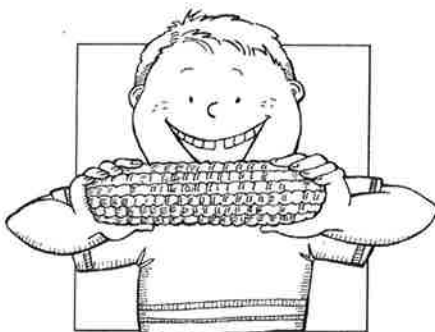
AUGUST VIDEO TECHS

4th: Izabelle Ostenaar

11th: Tabitha Bratager

18th: Melissa Pries

25th: Emily Strom



- * Allen Salverson
- * Shirley Uang
- * Don Barrow
- * Bonnie Strand
- * Michael Jenson
- * Neva Schepersky
- * Steven Baker
- * Grace Call Committee



REMINDER – Please save your grocery receipts from Groceries Plus in Erskine and Jered's Grocery in McIntosh. Both stores are donating 1 percent of the total purchases to the youth group. There is a container for the receipts at the church in the hallway by the coat racks.



Thanks to CHS and Paul Lindseth for providing and delivering bags for the aluminum cans.

~~ Grace Youth Group



The Grace 'Men of Courage' are planning a trip to a Fargo/Moorhead RedHawks baseball game on Sunday August 25th. The Redhawks will be taking on the Winnipeg Goldeyes.

They will meet at the church and leave at 11:00AM.

Game time is 1:00PM

RSVP to the church office by August 20th.

Adult tickets ~ \$9.00

Youth tickets ~ \$4.00

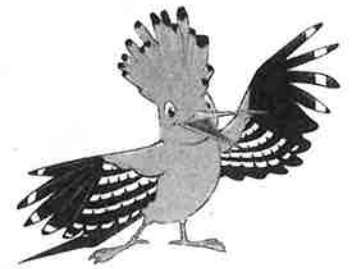
This is open to anyone who wishes to go along.



Grace Lutheran VBS

August 12th-15th

6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m.



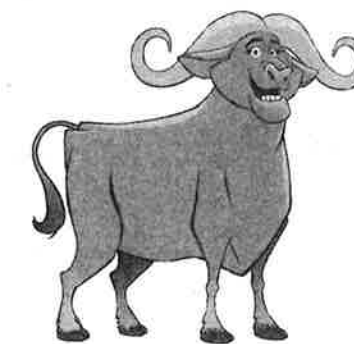
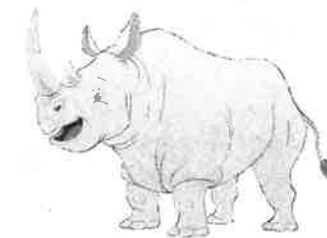
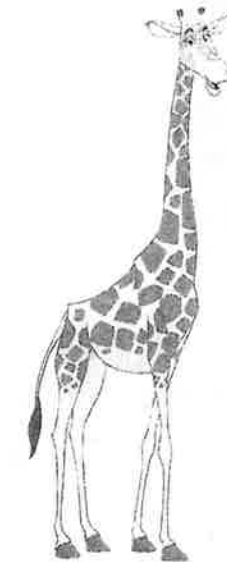
Children entering Pre-school to 6th Grade

Contact Information:

*Ann at ann.brekken@yahoo.com

*Our facebook page: Grace Lutheran Sunday School

*Grace Church Office ~ 687-4035





Grace Lutheran Sunday School will be collecting school supplies for the Win-E-Mac School during the week of August 11th -18th. Supplies can be brought to the church during services on both the 11th and 18th, as well as during Vacation Bible School that week. Thanks for your support! Any questions, contact Ann Brekken.



Giving Options

Not only can you give through your offering envelope on Sunday morning, but our church offers other options to receive your offering:

Automatic Giving – You can set up monthly or weekly automatic deductions from your bank account. Contact the church office (218-687-4035) for a form to complete.
 Online Giving – There are several links throughout our website (www.gracechurcherskine.org) that will allow you to give a one-time or regular donation from your bank account, credit card, or debit card.
 Mobile Giving – You can utilize your mobile device and scan the following code –



Benevolence Ideas

Our church has several special funds to meet needs that can't be met through our General Fund. Currently, these special funds are: Building Improvements, Grace Youth Group, Joy Ride Fund, Oil Candle, Sunday School Improvements/Supplies, Sunday School Outreach, Video Ministry, Vacation Bible School, Worship Hearing Aids, 'Men of Courage' Men's Group, and Shoebox Funds. In addition, our church houses the Grace Food Shelf and we ask for donations on their behalf as well as for the After School Backpack Program. Finally, our church is a part of the Grace Cemetery Association and we ask for donations on their behalf for the maintenance of the Synod, Pioneer, and Fairview Cemeteries in rural Erskine. Please contact Jim Ferden if you have any questions.



June 2019 Financial Summary

Congregational Offering to the General Fund - \$13,010.36

Expenses:

Administrative - \$7,689.19

Education - \$0

Mission Outreach - \$2,016.88

Pastoral - \$5,217.65

Worship - \$412.24

Total Expenses - \$15,335.96



Wanted: A few strong Men

Grace food shelf needs some help in unloading the food truck the second Wednesday of the month.

We have 2 women but would also like 2 men for the heavier items. This usually happens around 10:30 in the morning and done by noon or 12:30 that day.

If you want to help, please call Dave Hinkley at 701-361-3136 or Mavis Haugom at 218-563-3292. Thank you very much!



GRACE CHURCH

June 30th:
Attendance~ 75
Offering~ \$1,459.10

July 7th:
Attendance~ 92
Offering~\$3,599.00

July 14th:
Attendance~ 57
Offering~ \$1,657.02

July 21st:
Attendance~ 72
Offering~\$1,781.51

The Grace Lutheran Church Council will meet in regular session on Wednesday August 14th at 8:00 PM. All meetings are open to members of Grace unless otherwise stated.

North American Lutheran Church Women of Grace

The Grace NALCW will meet on Thursday August 8th at 3:30 PM. Group #6 will serve from 4:30-6:30 PM. Members of Group #6 are Nancy Jenson, Stacy Tadman, Diane Hoeft, Darlene Lien, Pam Walk, Stephanie Helgeson, and Cindy Nelson.

**Please note change in serving time.*

Circle Meetings

- Hope Circle:** Thursday August 22nd at 2:00PM at the church.
- Rebecca Circle:** does not meet for the summer months
- Mission Circle:** Friday August 23rd at 2:00PM at the church

AUGUST GREETERS

- 4th: Barb Gaalswyk
- 11th: Matthew & Ashley Gunderson
- 18th: Rodney & Lila Jean Gunderson
- 25th: Bill & Marjetta Hadler



The Grace 'Men of Courage' will meet on August 6th and 20th at 5:30 PM, at Grace Church. Bring your own meat for grilling. All men are welcomed to join this group.

AUGUST 2019

Grace Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 9am- Worship w/ Holy Comm.	5 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast NALC	6 8pm-AA mtg. LUTHERAN	7 12pm-AA mtg. 6:30pm-Rebroadcast WEEK	8 3:30pm-NALCW 6:30-8:30pm-VBS	9 INDIANAPOLIS	10 9:30am- Rebroadcast
11 9am- Worship w/ Holy Comm.	12 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast 6:30-8:30pm-VBS	13 8pm-AA mtg.	14 12pm-AA mtg. 6:30pm-Rebroadcast 6:30-8:30pm-VBS 7:30pm Committees meet 8pm-Council mtg.	15 6:30-8:30pm-VBS	16 6:30-8:30pm-VBS	17 9:30am- Rebroadcast
18 9am- Worship	19 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast	20 5:30pm- Men of Courage 8pm-AA mtg.	21 12pm-AA mtg. 6:30pm-Rebroadcast	22 2pm- Hope Circle	23 10:30 am-Pr. at Mac St. Living 2pm-Mission Circle	24 9:30am-Rebroadcast
25 9am- Worship 11am-Leave for RedHawks game	26 7:30am-MBS 9:30am-LBS 10am- Worship Re-broadcast	27 8pm-AA mtg.	28 12pm-AA mtg. 6:30pm-Rebroadcast Greeters: 4th: Barb Gaalswyk 11th: Matthew & Ashley Gunderson	29 18th: Rodney & Lila Jean Gunderson 25th: Bill & Marjetta Hadler	30	31

CIRCLES

Hope at the church
Rebecca no meeting
Mission at the church

Ushers :
David Halvorson
LeRoy Johnson
Darrin Faldet family
Earl Lucken family

Communion Assistants:
Becky Lindseth and Mary Bratrud

Altar Flowers:
Hope Circle

Altar Guild:
Maxine Walter

R= Reader
V=Video
A=Acolyte

AUGUST 4th:
R~ Rita Trandem
V~ Izabelle Ostena
A~ Sydney Svalen and Presley Haugen

AUGUST 11th:
R~ Ray Voxland
V~ Tabaitha Bratager
A~ Josie Johnson and Paige Breitbach

AUGUST 18th:
R~ Dorothy Sandberg
V~ Melissa Pries
A~ Lily Pries and Shayna Juve

AUGUST 25th:
R~ Liz Jenson
V~ Emily Strom
A~ Maci Smeby and Shea LaBrecque

*"Serving all people by sharing God's Word
and Gift of Grace"*

**GRACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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The Scroll

Grace Lutheran
Church

August 2019



Every year, the North American Lutheran Church gathers for **Lutheran Week!** The week is more than a conference, more than a church festival and much more than a

business meeting. The NALC Lutheran Week is all of that and more!

This year's theme is *Walking by the Spirit with the Fruit of the Spirit.*

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:16-23

The events of Lutheran Week will include the annual Ventures in Youth Ministry Symposium, Women of the NALC Gathering, Carl E. Braaten-Robert D. Benne Lectures in Theology, Mission Festival and Convocation.

The major event at this year's Convocation of the N.A.L.C. will be the election of a new bishop of the denomination. Bishop John Bradosky has served this responsibility since 2011. He announced that he would not seek to be re-elected. Any ordained minister may be nominated to fulfill this position of leadership.

Gary Walter and Paul Mahlen will represent Grace Lutheran. Pray for their travel (with Pastor Tim Lundeen.) Pray also for Pastor Lundeen who is sharing a room with Pastor Baker (and his snoring!) Pastor Baker will travel a day early to attend the theological conference on the Work of the Holy Spirit.

The Women of the N.A.L.C. will also have their annual gathering. This year they are raising funds for our church's disaster response. They will be collecting gift cards from Walmart, Target, Lowes and Home Depot to help with the recent disasters: flooding in the Mid-West, Tornadoes in Ohio, Georgia and Alabama.

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