

# NALC News

North American Lutheran Church

August 2017

## 2017 NALC Convocation focuses on Discipleship and Reformation

More than 650 NALC members and guests gathered Aug. 9-11 for the 2017 NALC Convocation at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville, Tenn., around the theme, "Holding Fast: Being Reformed."

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation provided a focus for the Convocation. The leaders of the largest Lutheran churches in the world were featured speakers for the worship services.



*Delegates and guests at the 2017 NALC Convocation take part in the Festival Eucharist commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.*

The Rev. Dr. Fredrick Onael Shoo, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, was the preacher for the Festival Eucharist observing the Reformation anniversary.

The Rev. Yonas Yigezu, President of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, preached for the opening worship of the Convocation's Mission Festival.

The EECMY is the largest Lutheran church in the world with 9 million members. The ELCT is the second largest, with 6.5 million members.

The Rev. Dr. James Nestingen and the Rev. Dr. Nathan Yoder delivered keynote Bible study addresses on Reformation themes.

The Rev. Dr. Jared Wicks addressed Martin Luther from a Roman Catholic perspective, and Carmen Fowler LaBerge addressed the Lutheran Reformation from a Reformed perspective.

The NALC's focus on discipleship featured prominently in the Convocation. Bishop John Bradosky provided a keynote address and Bible

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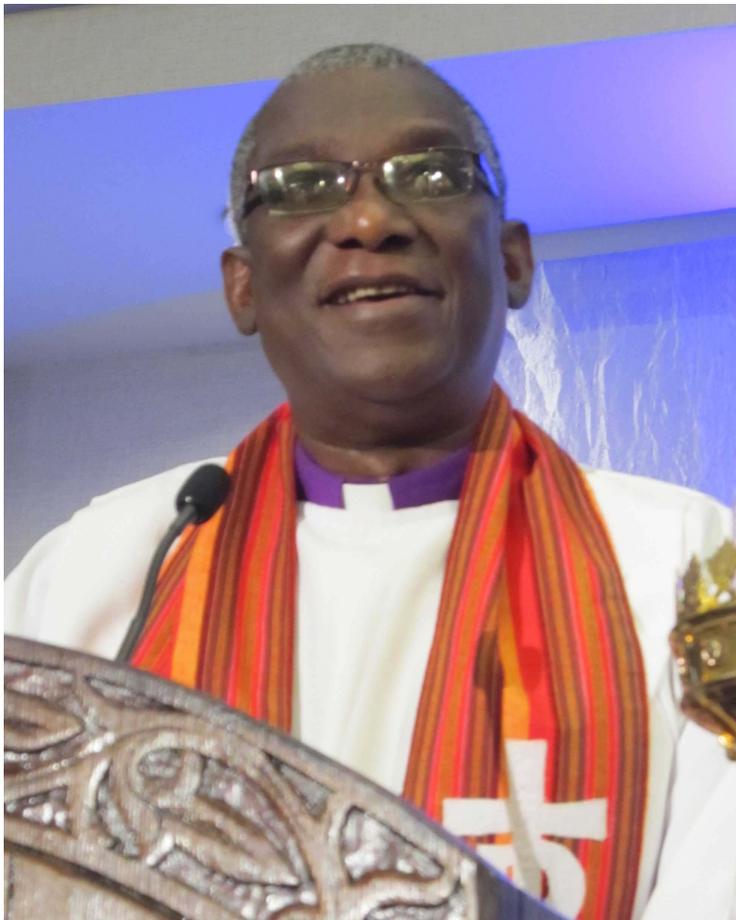
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study on discipleship for the Mission Festival. Discipleship was also a focus of his report to the Convocation and of other speakers and workshops.

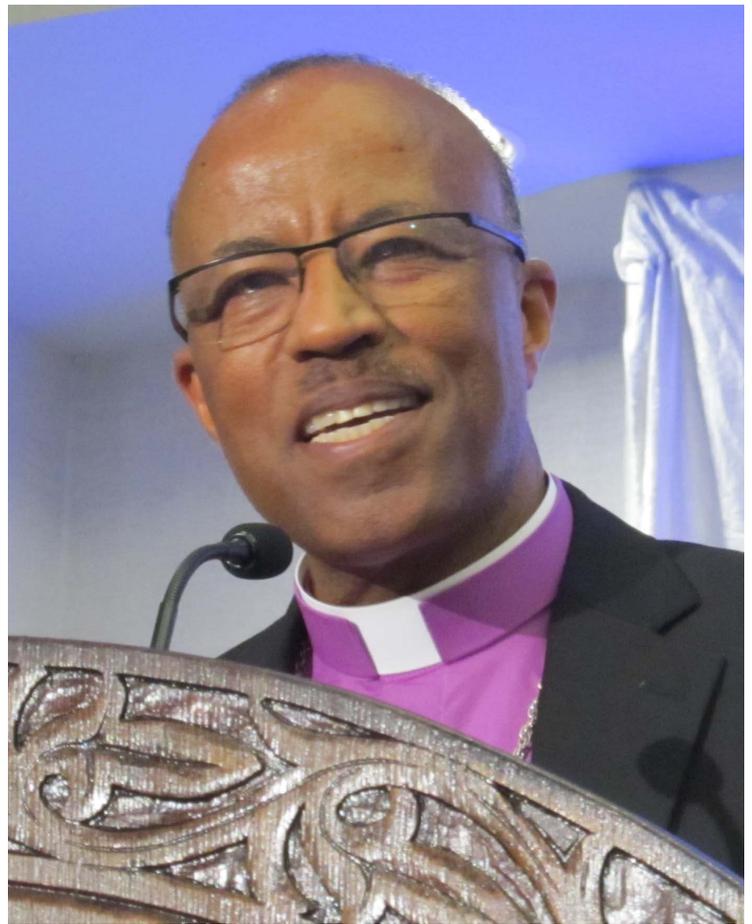
The Convocation opened with the NALC Mission Festival. Keynote addresses were given by Bishop Bradosky; the Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba, Assistant to the Bishop for Missions; and the Rev. Dr. Joseph Parsalaw, a professor from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

Church leaders from around the world took part in a panel discussion on congregational life in their countries during the Mission Festival and workshops addressed a variety of topics.

Mission Districts gathered separately on Wednesday evening for a Bible study on discipleship by Bishop Bradosky and for business meetings.



***The Rev. Dr. Fredrick Onael Shoo, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, was the preacher for the Festival Eucharist observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.***



***The Rev. Yonas Yigezu, President of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, preached for the opening worship of the Mission Festival.***

The Convocation is the annual gathering and business meeting of the NALC. The Convocation elected members of the Executive Council and Court of Adjudication. The Convocation also approved 2018 budgets and adopted a resolution encouraging congregations to increase financial support for the NALC.

Several speakers representing a variety of NALC task forces, ministry partners, and other church bodies addressed the Convocation.

The Convocation was preceded by the NALC Youth Leaders Symposium, Women of the NALC Annual Gathering, and the Carl E. Braaten and Robert D. Benne Lectures in Theology.

Reports to the Convocation from committees and staff, as well as all documents pertaining to the Convocation, are available on the NALC website at [www.thenalc.org/2017-lutheran-week-documents](http://www.thenalc.org/2017-lutheran-week-documents). Videos from the Convocation and the Braaten-Benne Lectures will be posted online soon.

# Braaten and Sutton elected to NALC Executive Council

*Greene and Hollander elected to Court of Adjudication*

Pastor Mark Braaten of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas, and Brian E. Sutton of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Statesville, N.C., were reelected to four-year terms on the Executive Council of the North American Lutheran Church by the 2017 NALC Convocation.

Both men were completing four-year terms on the Executive Council, which functions as the board of directors for the NALC. Three pastors and three lay people were nominated for the positions.

Brian Sutton is a retired corporate Supply Chain and Technology Manager. He has degrees in business administration from Montreat College in Montreat, N.C. He serves as chair of the Executive Council's Task Force on Structure.



*Mark Braaten*



*Brian Sutton*

Pastor Braaten serves as pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas. He has degrees from Augsburg College and Luther Seminary. He was the Dean of the North Texas Mission District from 2010 until 2017. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Sola Publishing and served on the Lutheran CORE Steering Committee.



*Julie Eskeland*



*Jeffray Greene*



*Lyle Hollander*

Pastor Jeffray S. Greene of Word of God Lutheran Church in Peachtree City, Ga., and Lyle Hollander of St. John Lutheran Church in Boyden, Iowa, were elected to four-year terms on the NALC Court of Adjudication. The Court handles disciplinary matters and questions regarding the interpretation of the NALC's governing documents.

The Convocation also ratified the election of Julie Eskeland of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Dalum (Drumheller), Alberta, to the NALC-Canada Section Governing Board. She was elected by the Canada Mission District. The Canada Section Governing Board enables and oversees the operation of the NALC in Canada.

# Convocation votes to keep current process for electing NALC Bishop

The process to elect the Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church will remain the same.

Delegates to the 2017 NALC Convocation did not approve proposed constitutional amendments that would have made changes to the election process. Delegates voted 179-172 against the proposed amendments. A two-thirds majority was necessary for approval.

A task force that studied the NALC's procedure for electing a bishop released a report and seven recommendations regarding changes in NALC election procedures. Three of the seven recommendations required amendments to the NALC Constitution.



*Pastor Alden Towberman, of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Butler, Pa., one of the task force members, was one of many delegates joining in discussion of proposal.*



*Pastor Carl Rasmussen of First Lutheran Church in Kirkland, Ill., a member of the Executive Council and chair of the task force studying the bishop election process, presented proposed amendments to the NALC Constitution to Convocation delegates.*

The part of the proposal that would have removed language in the Constitution that allows delegates to nominate a candidate for Bishop from the floor of the Convocation brought the most debate among delegates.

Amendments also proposed changing the date when biographical information on the candidates for all offices must be made available to members of the NALC from 90 days to 60 days prior to the Convocation.

The next bishop's election is scheduled to take place at the 2019 NALC Convocation.

# Convocation approves 2018 budgets

*Congregations encouraged to increase benevolence giving to NALC*

The 2017 NALC Convocation approved a \$2.1 million operating budget for the North American Lutheran Church for 2018.

Budgets were also approved for NALC designated funds: \$543,000 for the Theological Education Fund (which includes the North American Lutheran Seminary); \$165,500 for the Great Commission Fund; and \$64,000 for the Disaster Response Fund.

As a way of expanding the NALC's service to its congregations, the 2017 and 2018 budgets plan to spend a portion of the church's reserve funds — budgeting expenses greater than anticipated income.

The 2018 general budget includes one additional staff member focused on domestic missions and a cost-of-living increase for all staff.

“As the NALC completes its seventh year of existence, our church body remains on solid financial footing, although operating with significant annual deficits at present,” Ryan Schwarz, NALC treasurer, reported to the Convocation.

“Last year at this time, the NALC was also experiencing substantial deficits. However, a surge of giving toward the end of 2016, including three very significant one-time gifts, eliminated those deficits and enabled the NALC to finish the year with a surplus. Once again, we have seen God's faithfulness in providing the substantial resources necessary for ministry,” he said.

Convocation delegates approved a resolution encouraging “all congregations to prayerfully consider increasing their benevolence giving for the NALC by at least 1 percent of their congregational budget annually.”

The resolution also asks the NALC's Stewardship Task Force “to continue to provide resources, information, and other forms of support that will assist congregations to attain the above goals.”

In addition to benevolence giving through the NALC, congregations are encouraged to support at least one domestic and one global mission. The NALC encourages congregations to support local and global



**Ryan Schwarz, NALC treasurer, addresses the 2017 NALC Convocation.**

mission directly — giving to projects, missionaries, and ministries rather than channeling that giving through the NALC offices. However, the NALC also needs regular support from congregations for its general and designated funds.

The NALC Constitution asks the Executive Council to report to the annual Convocation the percentage of congregational giving required to fund the general budget. The council again reported that 5-8 percent of congregational income would be necessary to fund the budget.

A range of financial information is available on the NALC website, including the treasurer's presentation at the Convocation, the 2018 budgets, the 2016 audited financial statements, and disclosure of compensation information for the NALC's executive staff.

# Stuff the Truck for Disaster Response

Stuff the Truck for NALC Disaster Response was a great success. So many supplies were brought for NALC Disaster Response that a larger truck needed to be obtained.

The Women of the NALC encouraged those attending the 2017 NALC Convocation and other Lutheran Week events to bring tangible gifts to help “stuff the truck.”

Donated supplies included 400 quilts, 366 health kits, 112 school kits, 70 flood buckets, and 225 Bibles.

With current disaster response supplies depleted, tangible donations of quilts, flood buckets, health kits, school kits, layettes, Bibles, and gift cards from Lowe’s, Home Depot, Target and Walmart were urgently needed.

“Through the amazing love and support of our congregations, it was necessary to call for a 16-foot box truck when my pickup truck started overflowing with the Bibles and the many items families need after they lose everything. Thank you NALC congregations,” said Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response Coordinator.

## Moments of Mission calendars and notecards

Those who attend the 2017 NALC Convocation had the opportunity to purchase “Moments of Mission” artwork — as well as calendars and notecards based on the artwork — to support the NALC’s Great Commission Society.

Pastor Phillip Gagnon of St. Albert Lutheran Church in St. Albert, Alberta, completed 12 “Moments of Mission” watercolor paintings as an effort to support the NALC’s mission work.

Notecards and 2018 calendars still are available for purchase. Sets of 12 notecards are \$6, and calendars are \$10 (not including postage).

Contact the NALC Administrative Office at 651-633-6004 or [nalc.mnoffice@thenalc.org](mailto:nalc.mnoffice@thenalc.org) to obtain an exact price for your order including postage.

All funds raised from the sale of the notecards and calendars will go to the Great Commission Society.

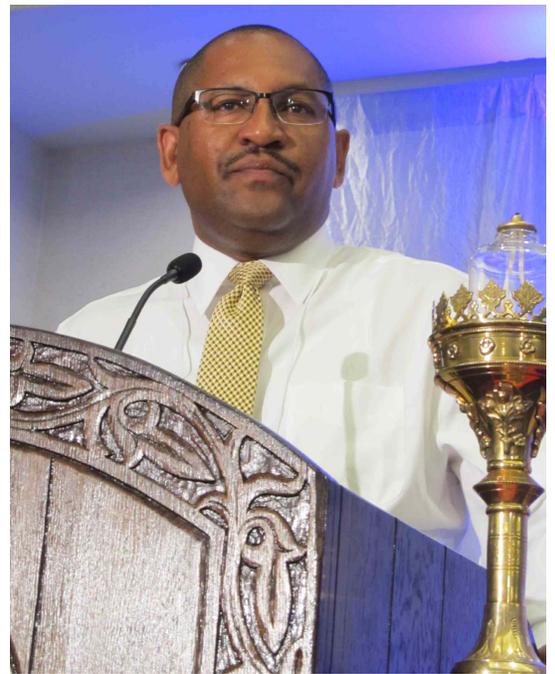


*Bishop John Bradosky and Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response Coordinator, join Women of the NALC leaders and others who helped stuff the truck for NALC Disaster Response.*

“When disasters strike, the NALC Disaster Task Force is able to support our local congregations to reach out and respond in their communities. Through the donations management, the disaster volunteer teams, and the spiritual Christian care provided, NALC members touch the lives of thousands of people who need the love of Jesus,” she said.



*Bishop John Bradosky presided at the Festival Eucharist observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.*



*The Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba, Assistant to the Bishop for Missions, delivered a keynote address at the Mission Festival.*

# 2017 NALC Convocation



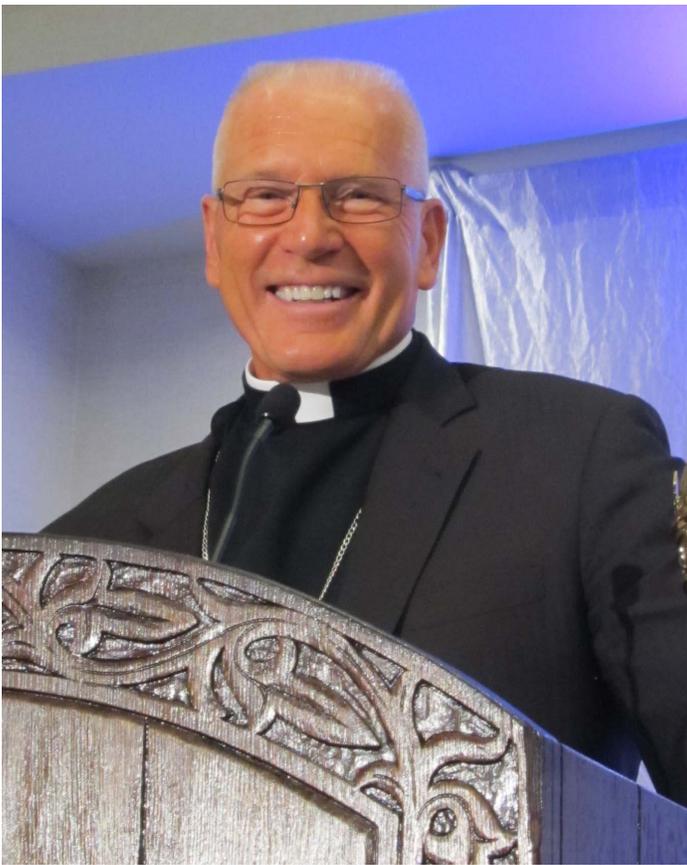
*Pastor Myles Hixson of St. John Lutheran Church in Roanoke, Va., served as chaplain for the Convocation.*



*Bishop Bradosky presided at the installation of newly-elected NALC and Women of the NALC leaders.*



*Representatives of NALC Ministry Partners and Recognized Ministries were introduced.*



*Bishop John Bradosky presided at meetings of the Convocation. He also delivered a keynote address and prepared a Bible study on discipleship for the Mission Festival.*



*Original artwork by Pastor Phillip Gagnon was auctioned in support of the Great Commission Society. Notecards and calendars of his paintings were sold.*

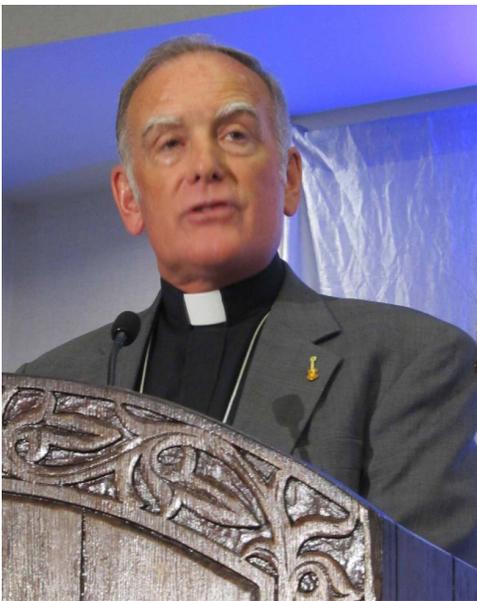
2017 NALC LUTHERAN WEEK



**HOLDING FAST**

**BEING (RE)FORMED**

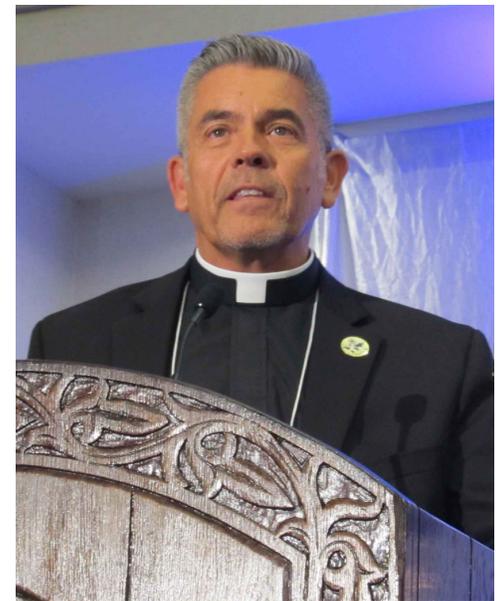
PHILIPPIANS 2:12-18



*Pastor Mark Chavez  
NALC General Secretary*



*The Rev. Dr. Amy Schiffrin  
President  
North American Lutheran Seminary*



*Pastor David Wendel  
Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry  
and Ecumenism*



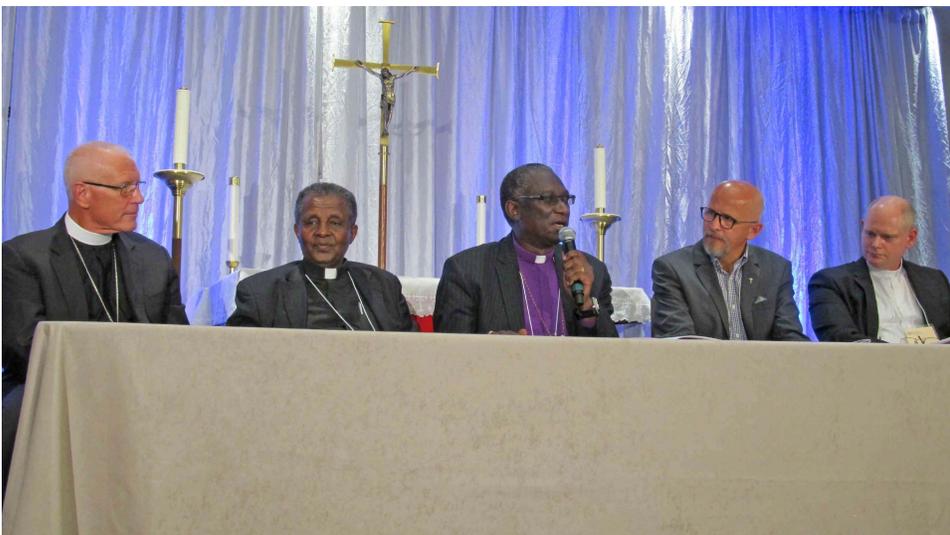
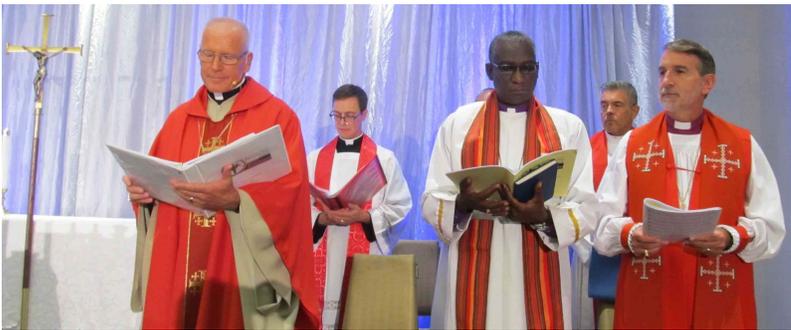
*The Rev. Dr. James Nestingen, a renowned Luther scholar, delivered a keynote Bible study address on Reformation themes.*



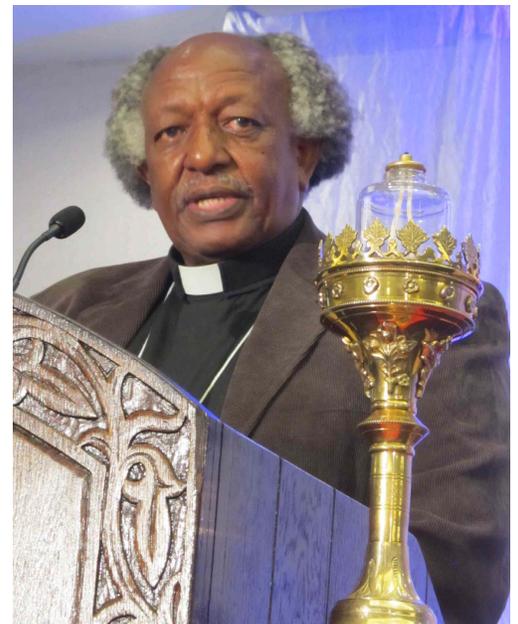
*The Rev. Dr. Nathan Howard Yoder of St Martin's Lutheran Church in Maiden, N.C., delivered a keynote Bible study on Reformation themes.*



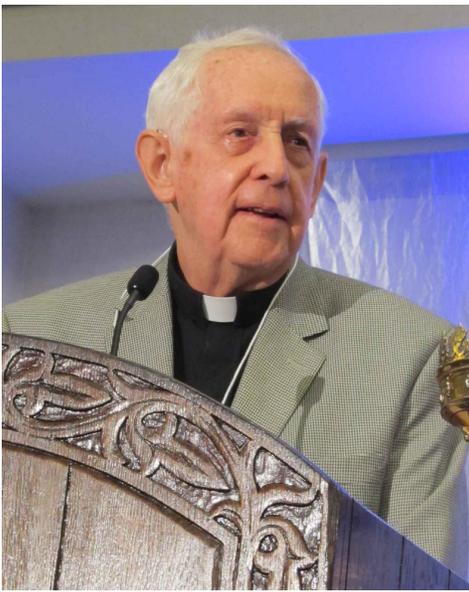
*Carmen Fowler LaBerge, president of the Presbyterian Lay Committee, addressed the Lutheran Reformation from a Reformed perspective. She also focused on the need for reformation today. She is a writer, speaker and host of the daily Christian talk radio show "The Reconnect."*



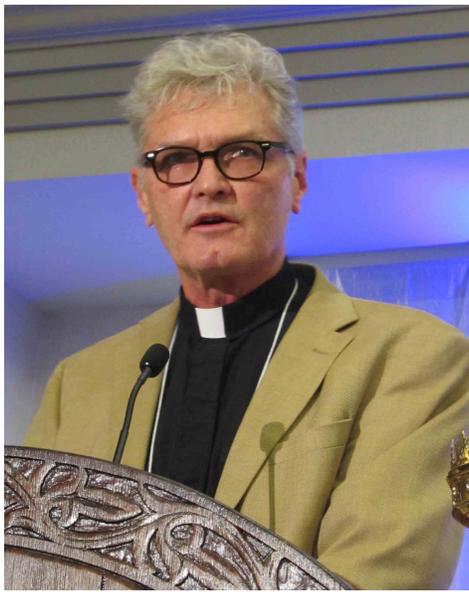
*International church leaders joined in a panel discussion of congregational life and discipleship during the Mission Festival. They are, from left, NALC Bishop John Bradosky; the Rev. Dr. Berhanu Ofgaa, General Secretary of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus; the Rev. Dr. Fredrick Onael Shoo, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania; the Rev. Rolf Kjøde, Norway; and the Rev. Martin Fromm, Germany.*



*The Rev. Dr. Joseph Parsalaw, Vice Chancellor for the Tumaini University Makumira, the main university of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, addressed the Mission Festival on "The Shape of Congregational Life in Tanzania: Blessings and Challenges."*



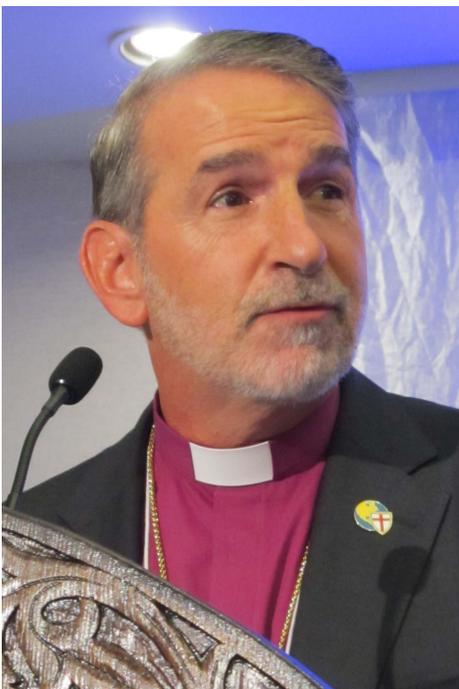
*Father Jared Wicks of the Pontifical College Josephinum offered “Reflections on Martin Luther from a Roman Catholic Perspective.”*



*Pastor Eric Riesen of Trinity Lutheran Church in Ashland, Ohio, explained the work of the NALC’s Life-to-life Discipleship Task Force.*



*Pastor Steve King of Sola Publishing explained the NALC’s “Holy Families” online resource for building faith in families.*



*Archbishop Foley Beach  
Anglican Church in North America*



*Pastor Larry Vogel  
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*



*Father Erich Rutten  
Roman Catholic Church*

# Anniversaries recognized at Convocation

## Ordination Anniversaries

### 60 years

Pastor William Haggis

### 55 years

Pastor Philip D. Anderson

Pastor Marvin Hileman

Pastor K. Glen Johnson

Pastor Melvin Kornfeld

Pastor Paul V. Martinson

### 50 years

Pastor M. David Hanes

Pastor Patrick N. Kelly

Pastor Sanford C. Mitchell

Pastor Richard A. Solberg

### 45 years

Pastor Robert K. Herndon

Pastor Timothy L. Knauff

Pastor Ronald A. Orovitz

Pastor James R. Shears

Pastor Warren Louis Smith

Pastor William G. Wallace

### 40 years

Pastor Bassam Abdallah

Pastor Gary Coble

Pastor Raymond Dean Forsythe

Pastor Victor F. Kolch

Pastor Edward George Mitchler

Pastor Gene R. Peterson

Pastor Michael Pozzuto

Pastor Leon A. Rawl

Pastor Warren Reichert

Pastor George L. Rhyne

Pastor Jack L. Richards

### 35 years

Pastor Charles M. Amdahl

Pastor Gary D. Blobaum

Pastor Gail Burwa

Pastor Alan J. Ford

Pastor Paul A. Gruetter

Pastor Carl M. Haynes

Pastor David L. Hefner

Pastor Kenneth D. Hohag

Pastor Timothy D. Hubert

Pastor Scott Jurgens

Pastor Darryl Landsverk

Pastor Donald C. Lindner

Pastor Richard D. Mark

Pastor W. Cary Moorman

Pastor Daryl Olson

Pastor Carl W. Schwinck

Pastor George Zornow

### 30 years

Pastor Paul F. Breddin

Pastor Mark C. Chavez

Pastor Randall Mark Conley

Pastor Tesfaye Dinegdie

Pastor J. George Gilbert

Pastor Timothy B. Graff

Pastor Rebecca M. M. Heber

Pastor Larry D. Hood

Pastor Carl A. Johnson

Pastor Kenneth C. Kimball

Pastor Timothy W. Muehlbrad

Pastor Ralph W. Reitmeyer Jr.

Pastor Richard Allen Riley Jr.

Pastor Robert M. Stevens

Pastor Kim E. Thacker

### 25 years

Pastor W. Bennett Harris

Pastor Douglas E. Hefner

Pastor Jay Johnson

Pastor Peter Lurvey

Pastor Paul J. Mattson

Pastor Dani Jo Ninke

Pastor Douglas J. Schoelles

Pastor Richard R. Vonesh

Pastor Solveig A. H. Zamzow

### 20 years

Pastor Sandra Lee Bowen

Pastor Jeffery Carpenter

Pastor Braxton East

Pastor Julie M. Fiske

Pastor Phil Gagnon

Pastor Bjorn Lervik

Pastor Frederick Luther Morck

Pastor Jeffrey Teeples

Pastor Claude Villemaire

## Congregational Anniversaries

### 250 years

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran

Church

Fredericksburg, Pa.

### 200 years

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

West Alexandria, Ohio

### 150 years

St. John's Lutheran Church

Montpelier, Ohio

St. James Lutheran Church

Newton, N.C.

### 125 years

Trinity Lutheran Church

Spencer, Iowa

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

of Sandy Hill

Brenham, Texas

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mankato, Kansas

Zion Lutheran Church

Skanee, Mich.

### 100 years

St. John Lutheran Church

Columbus, Ohio

Zion Lutheran Church

Readlyn, Iowa

Hayti Lutheran Church

Hayti, S.D.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Rosenberg, Texas

# Bishop's report to the Convocation

Dear Disciples of Christ Jesus,

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

What follows are excerpts from my oral report at our Convocation in Nashville. I realize many could not be there and some have asked for a written copy of what I said. Honoring their requests — and my promise — I am providing it as a part of our newsletter.

Many of you have heard me say in other settings that discipleship in a Lutheran setting consists of a culture defined by:

**1. Catechesis** — Teaching the faith — so that those who begin to believe in Jesus are maturing in their faith and being fully equipped to share their faith by teaching others.

**2. Vocation** — Living the faith — understanding that in every facet of our lives we are called to follow Christ and serve him as we care for others. Regardless of our station or career path in life, we are first and foremost disciples of Jesus Christ. We must ask: “How am I following Christ in my relationship with my spouse? How am I serving Christ as a parent, a friend, a neighbor? How am I serving Christ in my career, at work? How is my identity centered in Christ?”

**3. Ecclesiology** — Engaging in Christian community where love includes expectations of mutual responsibility and accountability. This is the nature of the Body of Christ — complete interdependence of all the parts intimately connected to the head, Jesus Christ.

Where do we find a structure that includes the accountability that discipleship demands? The truth is that you have to desire it and seek it.

Martin Luther found this accountability to be essential in his own life and ministry. Luther relied on Johann von Staupitz, who had a direct influence upon Luther's spiritual and theological development.



*From the Bishop*

**Bishop John Bradosky**

Luther later attributed much to his former monastic superior. It was Staupitz who heard Luther's confessions, served as his spiritual advisor during the spiritual struggles of his early career, and eventually directed him to channel his intellect into his teaching at Wittenberg.

It was also Staupitz who would impress upon Luther an Augustinian understanding of sin and grace. It was Staupitz who chose Luther to lecture in his place, encouraging him to earn his doctorate in theology and to become a professor. Staupitz made sure that Luther succeeded him as professor of Bible at Wittenberg.

Staupitz was at Luther's side when he faced Cardinal Cajetan over the issue of indulgences. Staupitz absolved him of his monastic vows, freeing him to pursue his theological reforms.

Luther believed his explanations of the 95 Theses were congruent with the teaching of his mentor Staupitz. Because of his relationship with Luther, the Roman Catholic Church was suspicious of Staupitz. Even 35 years after his death (1559) his books were banned because of his association with Luther.

Let me ask you: “Who is your Staupitz? Who is your confessor, your mentor? Who is encouraging you, pushing you, staying in touch with you? Who is there to support you in the difficult moments, to be by your side in the midst of controversy? Who speaks both Law and Gospel into your life? Who is investing themselves in your life?”

*Continued on Page 13*

## Continued from Page 12

This is the nature of living out an incarnational theology.

You may not like the terms “coach,” “spiritual father,” “confessor” or “mentor,” but we all need this connection. “Who is your Staupitz?” is a first-level question of “What does this mean?”

If we go deeper, we must also ask, “To whom am I being a Staupitz or how can I be equipped to be a Staupitz for others?” This is what it means to pursue discipleship.

Frankly, I am weary of trying to describe it, explain it, and justify it. I simply want you to experience it.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes, “The only proper response to this word which Jesus brings with him from eternity is simply to do it.” (Now you know where Nike got its motto!)

I prepared a form that you can use to engage another person in the process of discipleship. (*The form is available on the NALC website with other documents from the Convocation.*)

The first part of the process is getting to know the other person and deepening the relationship through sharing information that exposes more of your life while learning more about theirs.

The second part of the process is focused on hearing from Jesus, learning from Jesus, and being guided by Jesus through his holy Word. Before you begin, pray that the Holy Spirit will be your teacher. Listen for the voice of Jesus as you read and meditate on his Word. Let him do the talking and the teaching. Then read the selected passage of Scripture to each other.

The third part of the process is focused on reflecting or meditating on the meaning and power of the Word in your life. I suggest using the process Luther offered to his barber when he asked Luther how he should read the Scriptures. Others have summarized this method with the acrostic TRIP — Thanks, Repent, Intercess, Plan.

Take turns reading the Scripture to each other before you answer each prompt.

**T — Thanks** — Share one thing in this text for which you are thankful (write it down and share it).

**R — Repent** — Share one thing in this text for which you need to repent and seek forgiveness.

**I — Intercess** — Share one thing this text reminds you to pray for.

**P — Plan** — Share one thing that needs to change in your life as a result of meditating on this text.

The final part of this process is one of encouragement to engage in mutually accountable and responsible relationships, by asking helpful questions designed to encourage and support one another.

+ What is the first step you need to take to make this change?

+ When will you start?

+ How can I support you?

After having the conversation, pray for each other. Agree to contact the other person by phone and check on their progress. Decide on a time and who will initiate the call and add those details to your calendar.

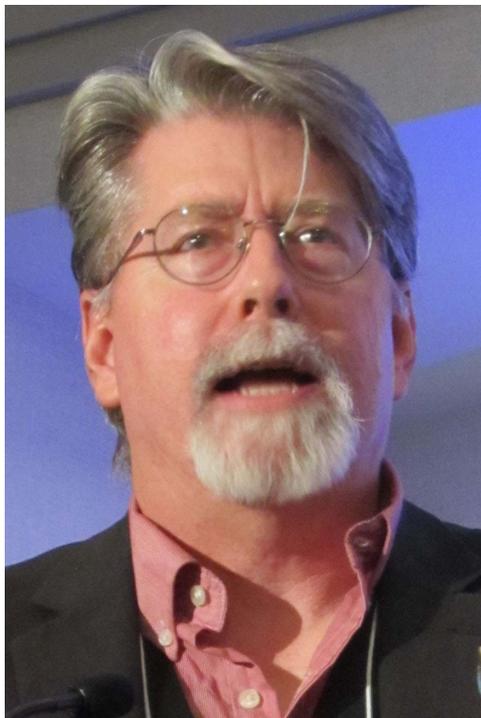
Could you imagine a congregation in which every one is connected just this way — reading and reflecting on the Scriptures together, praying for one another, developing relationships that are mutually responsible and accountable? Do you think it would help you to grow spiritually and strengthen your sense of Christian community where you are? That is the nature of life to life discipleship! This is the mutual consolation of the brethren.

In the Smalcald Articles IV we read, “Let us return to the Gospel, which offers counsel and help against sin in more than one way ... finally *through the mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren. Matthew 18:20, “Where two or three are gathered together in my name there I am in the midst of them.”*”

So may it be among us!

It is good to be with you following Christ Jesus.

# Braaten-Benne Lectures in Theology



**Dr. Don Collett**  
*Christ in the Psalms*

“Savior and Lord: Lectures on the Work of Christ” was the theme of the 2017 Carl E. Braaten and Robert D. Benne Lectures in Theology, Aug. 8-9 in Nashville, Tenn.

The speakers for the annual theological conference which precedes the NALC Convocation were Dr. Don Collett, Dr. Gordon Isaac, Dr. Paul Hinlicky, Dr. David Luy, and Dr. David Yeago.

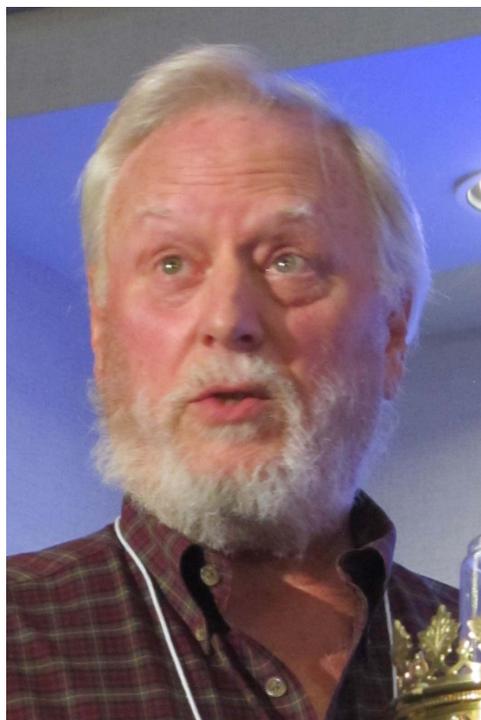
Video recordings of the lectures will be available on the NALC website. Like previous Braaten-Benne Lectures, the 2017 lectures will be published in a book available from the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, [www.alpb.org](http://www.alpb.org).



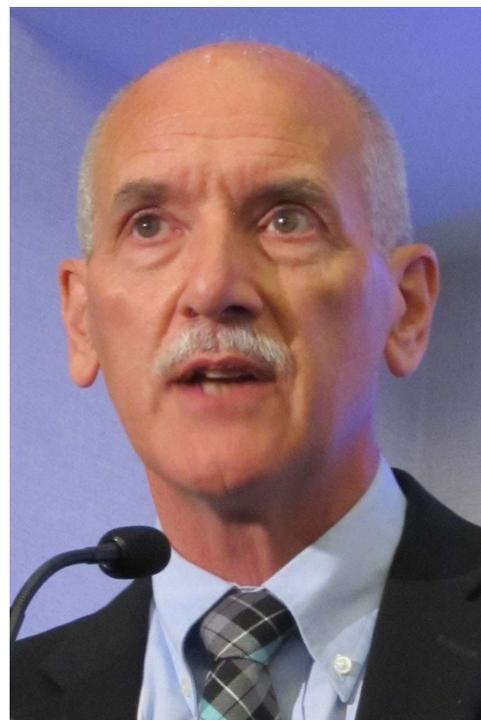
**Dr. David J. Luy**  
*A Wondrous Strife:  
Luther's Baroque Soteriology*



**Dr. David Yeago**  
*Life-Giving Flesh:  
Cyril of Alexandria on  
Incarnation and Redemption*

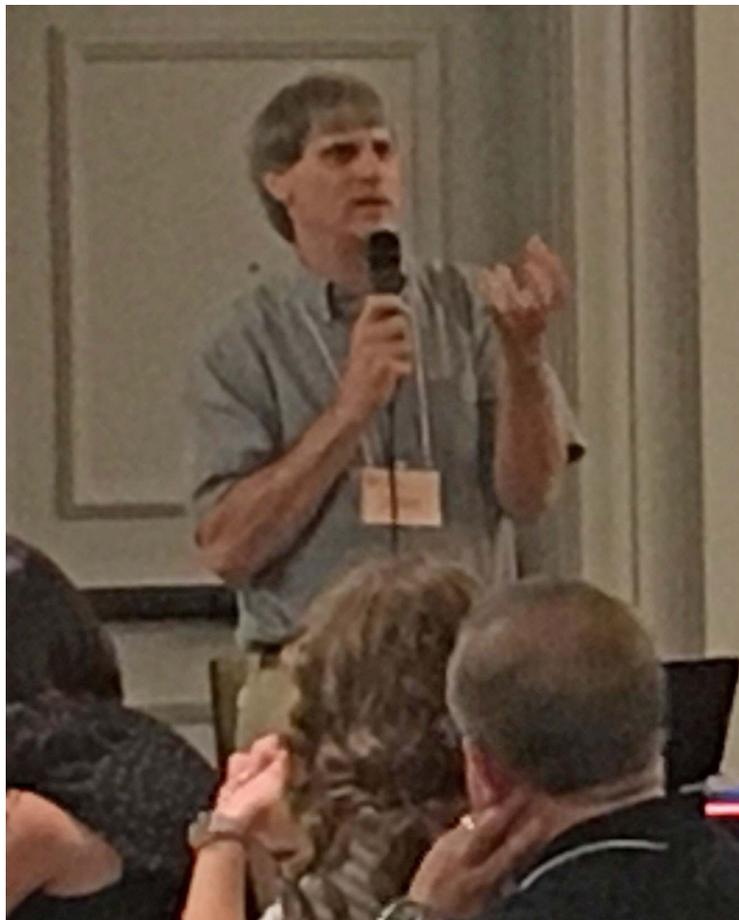


**Dr. Paul Hinlicky**  
*The Liberating Sacrifice:  
Dalferth, Augustine and Luther  
on the Saving Significance  
of Messiah's Cross*



**Dr. Gordon Isaac**  
*Luther on Prayer, Meditation,  
and Spiritual Trial*

# Ventures in Youth Ministry Symposium



*Gary Pecuch of faithwebbing.com speaks during the NALC Youth Ministry Symposium.*



The NALC, through the faithwebbing.com folks — Gary and Laurie Pecuch — facilitated a “Ventures in Youth Ministry Symposium” Aug. 8-9 in Nashville, Tenn., during Lutheran Week.

Nearly 60 youth ministry enthusiasts gathered for a day-and-a-half of presentation, discussion, connecting, and sharing of best practices. When asked if a similar event should take place on a regular basis the participants, through surveys, gave a resounding “Yes.”

An outgrowth of the symposium is a newly-created Facebook page. Search for “NALC Youth Leaders” and request to join. Let the networking begin!

**Fall Webinars:** The faithwebbing.com school year webinars start on Tuesday, Sept. 12. The webinars will be held at 2 p.m. (ET) on the second Tuesday of each month.

Just as in the past, the webinars will be subdivided into bite-sized viewing videos and posted on the faithwebbing.com website. This year the webinars will continue to walk through the Outcome-based Youth Ministry Faith Skills list.

**Gary and Laurie Pecuch have served in youth ministry for more than 35 years at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Grove City, Ohio. They serve the NALC as youth ministry coaches and provide a variety of resources for NALC congregations free of charge through their website.**

**Visit [faithwebbing.com](http://faithwebbing.com) or contact them at [faithwebbing@gmail.com](mailto:faithwebbing@gmail.com).**



*Nearly 60 people attended the NALC Youth Ministry Symposium.*



# NALC

North American Lutheran Church

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**Christ Centered + Mission Driven + Traditionally Grounded + Congregationally Focused**

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## NALC News

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