



LUTHERAN WEEK 2023

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council of the North American Lutheran Church took the following actions since the 2022 Virtual Mission Convocation.

- In a joint meeting with the North American Lutheran Seminary Board of Regents, Bishop Selbo led a re-installation of new leaders to the Board of Regents and the Executive Council elected at the 2022 NALC Virtual Mission Convocation.
- The Executive Council approved a request from the Board of Regents' appointment of Roger Weyersberg to a two-year term, beginning October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024.
- The council approved a "Thank You" gift to the Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, PA in the amount of \$8,000 for the use of their facility for the 2022 Virtual Mission Convocation, per our memorandum of understanding.
- The Executive Committee gives its blessing to Pastor Gemechis Buba to serve as deployed staff stationed in Ethiopia from January 1, 2023 until June 30, 2023. This is for a six-month trial basis.
- The Executive Council approved changes to the NALC Handbook as recommended from the Governance Committee.
- Elected Pastor Mark Werner to serve as recording secretary for the Executive Council.
- Approved a proposal from Mutual Brotherhood for insurance coverage.
- Approved dispersal of funds to our mission partners as adopted by the convocation.
- The Executive Council gave its approval to the proposed NALC Foundation from the Finance Committee.
- The Executive Council reviewed materials to send out to congregations in advance of the bishop's election at this year's Mission Convocation.
- The Executive Council approved a request from Pastor Lalisa Daniel, Mission Director for Mekane Yesus to translate the NALC Discipleship Manual into the Amharic and Afanoromo languages.
- The Executive Council approved the following invitations be sent for the 2023 Mission Convocation:
 - Invitation to Bishop Shoo, Tanzania, and President Yonas of Ethiopia to come for the Global Forum, plus one more from their staff.
 - Invitation to the Tumaini Choir, directed by Mr. Randy Stubbs, professor of music at Tumaini University in Tanzania. Mr. Stubbs is one of our global workers through Awakening Lives to World Mission. He is requesting funding for 15 people (musicians and dancers) to attend the Convocation.



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- Invitation to Dr. Bruk of the Mekane Yesus seminary to attend the convocation.
- The Executive Council approved the adoption of the NALC Foundation Charter as presented by the NALC Foundation working group.
- The Finance Committee reported that we approved visits of global forum guests and Tumani choir. The Finance Committee moved that the funding for the visit of our global forum guests and the Tumani Choir to the 2023 Mission Convocation come from unrestricted funds.
- The Personnel Committee move that the Executive Council extend a special call to Deacon Fuller, as a non-NALC Pastor and offer him all full time NALC employees' benefits, which include medical, dental and prescription insurance — for him and his family. The Personnel Committee further moved that whatever monies Andrew paid in insurance premiums to ensure his family since he became a full-time employee of the NALC on January 1, 2023, the NALC will reimburse him.
- Accepted a colloquy process for clergy from non-Lutheran backgrounds.
- Adopted a proposed severance policy for Executive Staff.
- Received from the Commission on Theology and Doctrine with appreciation the statement on the question of non-NALC Lutheran and non-Lutheran clergy serving in NALC congregations and that this as well as The Word of Counsel for Lay Worship Leadership be shared with the NALC Deans.
- Approved the proposal to translate the *NALC Life-to-Life Discipleship Book* into Oromo and Amharic and to publish it in volume, at a cost of \$32,498 for the first 1,000 copies, to be used in the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, financed by the global mission funds from the sale of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Ohio.
- Approved an increase in the PTO for non-ordained staff.
- Approved the recommendation from the Board of Regents of Pr. Paul Krueger as their representative to the NALC Foundation Committee.
- Appointed Mr. Mike Johnson, Pr. Paul Krueger, Mr. Ryan Schwarz, Mr. Darrell Shideler, and Mr. Joel Williams to the NALC Foundation Committee.
- Appointed Mike Johnson chair the NALC Foundation Committee.
- Upon recommendation from the Board of Regents, the Executive Council adopted the seminary model of a hub and spokes, with the three options for seminary education as presented by the NALS Faculty and Staff.
- Upon recommendation from The Board of Regents the Executive Council approves the MoU with Gordon Conwell as amended.



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- Upon recommendation of the Board of Regents the Executive Council extends a call to Reverend Dr. Nathan Yoder to serve as the Director of Lutheran Studies Program at Gordon Conwell, as a full faculty member of the NALS.
- Upon recommendation of the Board of Regents the Executive Council extends to the Reverend Dr. Mary Havens a specialized call to serve as Adjunct Faculty of the Lutheran Studies Program at Gordon Conwell.
- Approved the adoption of a calculation of the lay delegates at one person for every 260 baptized members for the 2023 Mission Convocation.
- Approved that the NALC provide 40 grants of \$500 per congregation for the 2023 Mission Convocation.
- Approved that we engage our psychologist that those persons wanting to be in the NALC through the colloquy and certification processes, in addition, other NALC clergy at the bishop's discretion be required to undergo a psychological assessment. The cost to be borne by the NALC.
- Bishop Selbo appointed Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky as Ex. Officio member to the Commission for Theology and Doctrine (CTD). Bishop Selbo also appointed Dr. David Luy, The Rev. Dr. Andrew Weissner, a pastor in Dallas, North Carolina, and The Rev. Dr. Thomas Jacobson, Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Thornville, Ohio to the CTD. The Executive Council affirmed these appointments by the Bishop to three year terms on the CTD. Pastor Theresa Jacobson recused herself from this vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Mark A. Werner