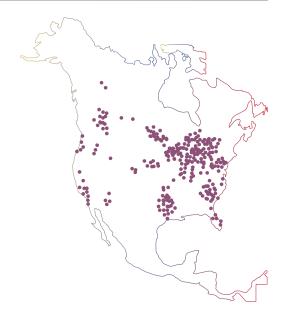


## ABOUT THE NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

The North American Lutheran Church (NALC) is a growing Christian church in the Lutheran tradition, uniting more than 142,500 Lutherans from 475+ congregations across the United States and Canada. The NALC embodies the theological center of Lutheranism in North America and stands firmly within the global Lutheran mainstream. The NALC is a church family committed to the authority of the Bible as the inspired Word of God, and, in keeping with the Lutheran Confessions, believes all doctrines should and must be judged by the teaching of Scripture.

The NALC has embraced four Core Values which shape its common life: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregationally Focused. As a church centered on the unique Gospel of Jesus Christ, the NALC is animated by missions and evangelism, grounded in the 2,000-year tradition of Christian faith, and organized chiefly to serve our congregations. A renewed Lutheran community moving forward in faith, the NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe.



#### CORE VALUES



#### HISTORY

The NALC was constituted on August 27, 2010 in Columbus, Ohio, at a Convocation organized by the church reform movement Lutheran CORE. One year earlier, a similar gathering of Lutheran CORE had directed its leadership to develop new organizational alternatives for faithful Lutheran Christians in North America. In response to numerous requests from congregations for the creation of a new Lutheran church, Lutheran CORE developed a vision and plan for the North American Lutheran Church and Lutheran CORE, published in February 2010. Six months later, our new church was formed.

The constituting Convocation was attended by nearly 1,000 members and visitors from across North America. A number of other churches sent leaders to greet the Convocation, including the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, and the Anglican Church in North America. Bishop Benson Bagonza of the Karagwe Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, preached at the closing worship and, along with retired Bishop Ken Sauer, installed the Rev. Paull E. Spring as the first Bishop of the NALC.

The NALC has been blessed with extraordinarily rapid growth. At the time of the constituting Convocation in August 2010, seventeen congregations had voted to join the NALC. Six years later, that number had grown to more than 400 congregations. Of those, roughly 70 are mission congregations, reflecting the priority placed on missions and evangelism by the NALC. We give thanks to God for all that has been accomplished, and seek his guidance as we move into the future with excitement.

## **OUR WORK**

- Stewardship
- Ecumenical and other relationships
- Disaster Response
- Youth and Family Ministry

# NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY (NALS)

The North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) Center is located at Trinity School of Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. The NALS also has various undergraduate and graduate partnerships with Trinity School for Ministry (Ambridge, PA), Beeson Divinity School (Birmingham, AL), Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, CA and Houston, TX), Sioux Falls Seminary (Sioux Falls, SD), Concordia Lutheran Seminary (Edmonton, AB), Concordia University (St. Paul, MN), and Grand View University (Des Moines, IA). Learn more about the seminary at *thenals*.org.

- Ministry Partners
- Life Ministries
- Women of the NALC
- Multi-National and International Mission

## LIFE-TO-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP

The vision of NALC Life-to-Life Discipleship is that the NALC will reclaim the confessional Lutheran emphasis on ongoing catechesis and intentional faith formation in the life of all of its congregations. This same disciple-making identity will permeate every NALC congregation, be adopted by every NALC pastor, and become part of our church body's DNA. Its vision also includes becoming known to the ecumenical community as a church body that takes seriously its calling to make disciples and intentionally cultivates a framework to do so in its congregations. Learn more about NALC Life-to-Life Discipleship at *nalclifetolife*.org.





# LEADERSHIP

#### LEAN STRUCTURE WITH THE LOCAL CHURCH AT ITS HEART

The NALC is very lean structurally, but there is enough structure to help congregations with their ministries. The NALC's focus is on assisting the ministry of congregations, not on congregations assisting the ministry of the continental church.

### THE NALC EXECUTIVE STAFF POSITIONS INCLUDE:

- Bishop
- General Secretary
- Director of Communications
- Assistant to the Bishop for International Mission
- Assistant to the Bishop for Domestic Mission & Discipleship
- NALS President
- Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry & Ecumenism

There are also five area assistants to the bishop who are appointed to provide discipling and pastoral care for the deans, pastors and mission districts in five geographic areas of the North American Lutheran Church.

# LEARN MORE

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE NALC

*thenalc.*org 888-551-7254

2655 Innsbruck Drive, Suite A New Brighton, MN 55112-9304

