

CHRIST, THE LORD, IS RISEN!!!

WATER SUNDAY

APRIL 26, 2015



Three years ago, Water Sunday began as a way to mobilize churches in providing safe water to the millions of people who do not have access to it. Since then, thousands of lives have been transformed all over the world. This April, Water Sunday will bring the body of Christ together to again focus on the water crisis, and we invite you to join us. Water Sunday is April 26th, 2015, one Sunday your church can set aside to pray for & raise awareness for this mission. (continued on pg. 4)

*****ELECTION*****

The Women of the NALC are lead by an 8-member board, half of whom are elected every year at our Annual Gathering for a two year term. This means four women are called to this work each election. Please prayerfully consider submitting a nomination form (p.8) indicating your willingness to serve in this way. More details are given in this issue regarding what you would be signing up for in terms of activities. Your time and talents are needed to keep the WNALC moving forward in faith and mission.

ANNUAL GATHERING 2015

August 11-12

Hyatt Regency Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport

COST OF REGISTRATION

\$75 (including meals)

Due to NALC scheduling changes, two sessions are necessary; hotel requires us to include all meals.

Tuesday 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

SESSION I Fellowship and Inspiration

A GATHERING OF WITNESSES: Secure in Christ's Love, Christians Tried & True

"Remember ... them which suffer adversity, ...being yourselves also the body." – Heb. 13:3

Speakers/activities to be announced. Includes Fellowship Dinner 5:30 pm.

Wednesday 7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SESSION II Business & Operations

A GATHERING OF WITNESSES: Commissioned by the Lord: Laborers in the Harvest

"As long as it is day, we must do the works of Him who sent Me. Night is coming when no one can work." –

Reports, voting, workshops & fellowship. Includes breakfast 8 am & lunch 12 pm. John 9:4

REGISTER online at thenalc.com or request registration form by mail from NALC.

(continued on pg. 6)

THE WOMEN'S COUNCIL 2014-2015 (TWC)

Brenda Boor	brenniboor@icloud.com	361.275.9895 h	1762 Meyersville Rd.
	wnalc@icloud.com	361.571.5014 c	Meyersville, TX 77974
Beverly Bruns	bcbruns@wildblue.net	361.935.5243 c	47 Yorktown Slickfield Rd. Yorktown, TX 78164
Pamela Charas	mcharas@earthlink.net	937.434.0993 h	5624 Mark Dale Drive Dayton, OH 45459
Sherrie Palan	sherriepalan.wnalc@gmail.com	830.660.0446 c	133 Lauren Ct. LaVernia, TX 78121
Jessie Phillips	jmp218@att.net	920.285.1558 c	N562 County Road R Watertown, WI 53098
Jeanne Wallace	jeannewallace.wnalc@gmail.com	830.998.2300 c	60 Quail Run Fredericksburg, TX 78624
	jw@beecreek.net		
Kay Weaver	lutheranchick@gmail.com	828.455.7088	2380 Glennola Lane Vale, NC 28168

TWC OFFICERS

Chair	Brenda Boor
Vice Chair	Jessie Phillips
Secretary	Sherrie Palan
Treasurer	Jeanne Wallace

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications	Brenda Boor
Budget	Jeanne Wallace
Nominating	Sherrie Palan
Spiritual Growth	Kay Weaver
Mission Support	Pam Charas
Fellowship & Community	Jeanne Wallace
Annual Gathering subcommittee	

*****ELECTION*****

WNALC needs you. In August at our Annual Gathering, four seats on The Women's Council will be newly elected to two-year terms plus a one-year term for another seat vacated. Please pray with us that God will staff our volunteer board once again, for all the decisions and tasks to be accomplished in His plan for this mission of the North American Lutheran Church. If He is calling you to work with this group of women to support and connect our sisters in Christ across the continent, please step up and fill the need. Nomination form is in this issue, and can also be downloaded from our website www.wnalc.org.

MISSION DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

NALC Mission Districts	Contact Person	NALC Mission Districts	Contact Person
Atlantic Mission District CT, DE, ME, MD (east), MA, NH, NJ, NY (east), PA (east), RI, VT, DC	Pam Charas	Mid-South Mission District AL, AR, FL panhandle, GA, MS, & TN	Kay Weaver
Caribbean & Hispanic Mission District Caribbean & Hispanic Ministries	Kay Weaver	Minkota Mission District MN and eastern ND	Jeanne Wallace
Canada Mission District Canada	Jessie Phillips	North Texas Mission District TX (north)	Sherri Palan
Carolinas Mission District North & South Carolinas	Kay Weaver	Northwest Mission District AK, ID, OR, & WA	Brenda Boor
Central Pacific Mission District Northern CA & Northern NV	Brenda Boor	Ohio Mission District Ohio	Pam Charas
Eastern South Dakota Mission District Eastern South Dakota	Jeanne Wallace	Rocky Mountain Mission District CO, NM, UT, & corner of TX below NM	Brenda Boor
Great Plains Mission District Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska & Oklahoma	Jeanne Wallace	Sonshine Mission District of Florida Florida (except panhandle area)	Kay Weaver
Great Rivers Mission District Illinois	Beverly Bruns	South Texas Mission District TX (south) & LA	Sherri Palan
Heartland Mission District Indiana & Kentucky	Jeanne Wallace	Southwest Pacific Mission District AZ, southern CA, HI, & southern NV	Brenda Boor
Iowa Mission District Iowa	Beverly Bruns	Virginia Virginia	Kay Weaver
Michigan Mission District Michigan (lower peninsula)	Jessie Phillips	Western Dakotas, Montana, & Wyoming Mission District Western Dakotas, MT, and WY	Jeanne Wallace
Mid-Northeast Mission District Western MD, west NY, west PA and WV	Pam Charas	Wisconsin and Upper Michigan WI & Upper MI	Jessie Phillips

“As long as it is day, we must do the works of Him who sent Me. Night is coming when no one can work.” (Lord Jesus Christ) John 9:4 (NIV)

THANK YOU

To every Group and Individual who has contributed

Prayers, Finances, Time & Talents

With your ongoing support, WNALC keeps blooming!

MISSION SUPPORT

WATER SUNDAY (continued from pg. 1)

Water Missions International – Water Sunday, April 26, 2015

We wake up each day with water readily accessible – turn it on to bathe, brush our teeth, make our coffee. But for many, their morning begins with a trek, on average 4 miles, to access water and most often, it's dirty and contaminated. But it's what they have to use. Water-related illnesses are the second leading cause of death in the world today – higher than AIDS, hunger or war. Nearly five thousand children die every day because of water-related illness. Not only does illness from contaminated water impact families, there is an economic impact, too. The time spent walking to gather water each day is time that can't be used to make food, to work to provide income for family, or for children to be able to go to school.

Water Missions International is a nonprofit Christian engineering ministry that transforms lives through sustainable safe water and sanitation solutions in developing countries and disaster areas. Since 2001, WMI has responded to the world's largest natural disasters and daily tackles the world's single biggest cause of illness – lack of safe water and sanitation and access to The Living Water message – for more than two million people in 50 countries. Through the provision of safe water, doors are opened to tangibly share the love of Christ with people in need around the world.

Three years ago, Water Sunday began as a way to mobilize churches in providing safe water to the millions of people who do not have access to it all over the world. In the Bible, Jesus calls his disciple Peter out to walk on the water with him – to take a walk of faith. Joining WMI's effort is a call to step out in faith and respond to the world water crisis by taking action and believing that God can use each of us to not only bring safe water to communities all over the world, but the Living Water that will fulfill their thirst forever. Water Sunday is a way to highlight the need for safe drinking water with those in your congregation.

You can partner with WMI by participating in Water Sunday on April 26th. Go to their website, www.watermissions.org, and register for Water Sunday. You will gain access to resource material to distribute to your women's group or church. There are ideas on how to hold a Water Sunday event, children's and youth activities, video clips and more.

Water Missions International has displayed at our NALC Convocation the past three years, and last year in Charleston, South Carolina, they had one of their purification units working and providing water to convocation attendees. They also invited us to tour their facility (they are home-based in Charleston), and I was able to participate in one of those tours. They are vetted by the NALC, are a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) and have received a top rating by Charity Navigator eight years in a row. I encourage you to visit their website to learn more about their ministry and mission. Feel free to contact me if you would like more information.

Sherrie Palan

Mission Support Committee, WNALC

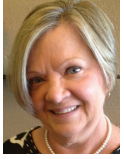
Pam Charas

Sherrie Palan

Jessie Phillips



MEET BEVERLY BRUNS



Beverly was born in Cuero, Texas but grew up in Yorktown, Texas. She was baptized, confirmed, and married at St. Paul Lutheran Church, the church of her great-great grandparents. She recalls that one Sunday she asked her grandmother where the beautiful music was coming from. When her grandmother explained the church organ, Beverly decided that she too wanted to do that some day. By the time she was in high school she was the church organist for St. Paul.

Beverly attended Texas Lutheran (College) University where she majored in Elementary Education with a specialization in music. She met Calvin Bruns, her husband, while they were both in the TLC Band. After they were married they spent time in Coronado, California where Calvin was stationed on the USS Kitty Hawk. Beverly taught at Imperial Beach Elementary and served as the organist at the Lutheran Church on Coronado Island. When Calvin was discharged they moved to Victoria, Texas. Beverly became organist of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church there and substituted as organist at various churches in Victoria.

She also taught 3rd grade for 18 years before teaching 12 years as a music teacher. While teaching 3rd grade she became very interested in environmental education knowing that God gave mankind a responsibility for the earth. She developed an out-door classroom. For these efforts she was awarded numerous honors. She was a national finalist for Teacher of the Year in Conservation Education. She was named Teacher of the Year for Texas and South Central United States in Conservation. This placed her on the Board of Directors for Food, Land and People. This organization develops lessons for Kindergarten through 12th grades which teach students the responsibilities for where their food and clothing come. She continues on that board.

When Beverly and Calvin retired they returned to Yorktown, Texas and St. Paul Lutheran Church. They became owners of a cattle company which was started on the same property by Beverly's great-great grandparents. She currently teaches private piano and children's hand bells as well as Melody Chimes and serves again as St. Paul's Church Organist. She has two sons, two daughters-in-law, and four grandchildren.

Beverly truly enjoys the blessing her Heavenly Father has entrusted upon her.

MEET PAM CHARAS



Born March 4th in the year of our Lord, 1946, I spent my childhood and teen years in Port Washington, Wisconsin. I was baptized and raised in the Lutheran Church. I attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

I have been married for 48 years to Myron. We have two children, James and Kathryn. James is married to Michele and has a son, Samuel, now age 13. Kathryn has never been married. Both our children live in Lexington, Kentucky.

I was a Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Society Presiden at the congregational level. Three programs stand out for me in that arm of the church...Leadership Training, Christian Growth, and Mission Service. Their motto is "To Serve the Lord with Gladness".

I was a Zone LWML President. In that capacity, I worked with 20 churches. I helped plan retreats and rallies. I helped to get that group financially stable. I loved encouraging the women to be the best they could be, using their gifts and talents to the glory of God. It's my passion! On the District level, I helped plan a retreat for 500 attendees. I did reflection sessions and was song leader.

We moved to Dayton, Ohio, over 20 years ago and Living Water Lutheran Church in Springboro, Ohio.

I was a nanny for an Indian family here in Dayton for 12 years. I first traveled to India as a guest in the family's home in Chennai in 1994. I traveled to Mumbai, Pondicherry, Auroville, visited an ashram, went on a temple tour, and stayed at a beach resort one weekend. It was quite an experience!

I went on my first India Mission trip in 2004 with United Evangelical Mission India and have gone every year since. Pastor John encouraged me to start an India Mission Team at our church. That became my passion! I have started another Team at our present church. You don't have to go to India to be on the Team. You just need to have a heart in the shape of India! I went to India with Bishop John and Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba this past January. UEM/India Transformed is now a Mission Partner of the NALC. Praise God!

I feel blessed to have been elected to the Women's Council of the NALC. It is my hope and prayer that each NALC church women's group will join hands with us in faith, in love, in service. To God be the Glory!

MEET KAY WEAVER

I am a member of New Jerusalem Lutheran in Hickory, NC, where I grew up with my brother and sister. Dennis and I have been married for 35 years. I am “Mom” to our two handsome sons and “Nana” to our three beautiful granddaughters. I have spent the past 19 years working as Registrar/Data Manager for a local high school.

Growing up in the Lutheran church, I learned what it is to be a woman of faith and a woman of the church by watching my mother, grandmother, and great-aunts as they took part in “Missionary” meetings, taught Sunday School, and participated in every aspect of church life. I have served as President and Secretary of New Jerusalem Lutheran Women and Presider of the Catawba Conference of the NC WELCA. It was both an honor and a blessing to be allowed to serve on the Executive Council of the North American Lutheran Church for the first four years of its existence. Following in my mother’s footsteps, I was elected to The Women’s Council of the WNALC in 2013, and will serve through the 2015 Convocation.

I have been gifted with a talent in crochet, making items from caps and scarves to afghans and stuffed toys. You will rarely find me travelling without a skein or two of yarn and my bag of hooks. I am a bit of a geek; Doctor Who and Star Trek are among my favorite TV shows. I love to cook, dabble in blog-writing and jewelry-making, and am looking forward to retirement when I anticipate that there will be more time for family and fun.

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION 2015
USING THE FORM
YOU CAN DOWNLOAD AT
WWW.WNALC.ORG
& SEND TO
YOUR MISSION DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE
(must be thus “rostered” to vote)**

**FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNITY
ANNUAL GATHERING PLANNING**

(continued from pg. 1)

This year we faced some challenges in getting our Annual Gathering scheduled. With the NALC Theological Conference beginning on Tuesday midday and the Convocation beginning on Wednesday midday, we had the choice between all day Tuesday (a full day earlier than usual) or two sessions running concurrent with the Theological Conference. Then we found out the meeting room was not available until Tuesday afternoon, and that settled it. Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning sessions are needed for all that WNALC members have told us these meetings should include.

Session I: Inspiration & Fellowship is focused more on the faith issues that unite us as a church body. We plan to have speakers and group activities to expand our awareness of Biblical persecution in the world today, with the Fellowship Dinner (included in cost) capping the evening with an inspiring speaker and/or music.

Session II: Business & Operations is when we will present our Annual Report, minutes of last Annual Gathering for approval, proposed budget for vote, Women’s Council election, committees workshop and lunch with speaker, just before the start of the NALC Convocation. Please, join us.

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH
RESOURCES**

Please send your reviews of books or other Bible study materials that you personally or your women’s groups have used. You can serve by sharing your experience in studying God’s Word with you sisters in Christ across the NALC. We are here to connect you through our developing communications tools. Please send these to your Mission District representative or the Spiritual Growth committee Chair. Thanks for your participation.

2015 NOMINATION INFORMATION

The Women of the NALC have a national board (The Women's Council) which functions to help facilitate the individual women and women's groups of the NALC rostered churches. At our 2015 Annual Gathering we will have five positions to fill: four are for two-year terms, and one will be to fill the second year of a two year term that was vacated.

These are the qualifications & general duties for the Members-at-Large and Specific Offices:

- ❖ Must be a **member** of an NALC-affiliated church.
- ❖ Church **does not need** to have an active women's group. A woman is eligible for being a member of an NALC church. In other words you can be your own women's group.
- ❖ Participate in monthly telephone/computer conference calls (or as determined by the Council as a whole). Participate in email discussions (via "threads") on committee and Council business.
- ❖ Communicate with the women's ministries in several Mission Districts, encouraging and supporting them in their missions. This may be by phone, email, or speaking at their meetings (individual churches or at the mission district level).
- ❖ Travel & speak at individual women's group meetings and/or regional (Mission District) meetings when invited and funded - some TWC members have not done this, but it is a possible support function for developing women's groups, although not requested much so far.
- ❖ Travel to meet as a Council once or twice during the year (to be determined by the Council)
- ❖ Work as a Council to create an Annual Gathering that is spirit filled, informative, and inspiring.
- ❖ Chair, develop and work with committees as outlined in the Operational Guidelines.
- ❖ General duties of The Women's Council are located in Chapter 5, Section of the WNALC Operational Guidelines. [available on the WNALC website at <http://www.wnalc.com>]
- ❖ The Women's Council will elect a Chair, Vice Chair.(or Co-Chairs.), Secretary and Treasurer. These specific duties are listed in Chapter 5, Section 5 of the Operational Guidelines.

Please prayerfully consider serving the church in this way! There is a nomination form included in this issue of the newsletter (next page). Please print these out as well and share with your women's group. Then send this form to Sherrie Palan - contact information below. Thank you!

If you have any questions please contact:

Sherrie Palan
Nominating Committee
133 Lauren Court
La Vernia TX 78121
830-660-0446
sherriepalan.wnalc@gmail.com



**Women of the North American Lutheran Church
2015 Women's Council Nomination Form**

Please Print or Type

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Alt phone(_____) _____

Email: _____

Congregation: _____

City of Congregation: _____

Biographical Information and Qualifications

1. Age Range: 20-35 35-55 55+ (please circle)

2. Occupational History: _____

3. How you serve in your Congregation: _____

4. How you serve the larger church body: _____

5. How you serve in your community: _____

6. Family or other information you would like us to know: _____

Written Consent is required for all who are nominated.

(Signature) _____