St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Publisher Church mouse Issue Number 53 Date Oct 2015

New website

Our webpage is up and running. Check it out. The address is www.stmarkslutheranmiddleburgh.com

Looking for new members!

If you would like to become a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church please speak with Council President Diane France.

Ongoing bottle and can drive. Please leave **clean** bottles and cans by the garage door. Proceeds will be used for the mortgage.

Prayer Ministry

You are invited to participate in a new prayer ministry. We meet on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in St. Mark's sanctuary. If you are unable to attend and have a prayer request you would like lifted, please contact the church office or feel free to place your written request in the prayer box located in the narthex.

Upcoming Events

Oct 10 - Men's prayer breakfast 9:00

Oct 11 - Confirmation of our youth

Oct 13 - Council meeting 6:00

Oct 17 - Chicken and biscuit dinner 4:30 - 6:30

Every Thursday 5:30 - Prayer meeting in sanctuary.

Oct 4 - Pastor James DeLong

Oct 11 - Pastor Gregory Davidson

Oct 18 - Ron Lower

Oct 25 - James Spencer

Special thanks to all our speakers for sharing their time with us.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Join us on October 11 as our 4 youth are confirmed: Logan Bartholomew, Morgan Gordon, Dylan Hillicoss and Madison Palmatier. Please lift them up in prayer as they begin another phase in their faith walk.

Next time you are outside the church take a look up and see the newly painted soffits. All the windows are completely caulked and painted. Special thanks to the men of the congregation and Lenny Coons Painting.

Servers for October

October 4:

Acolyte - Logan

Ushers - Gene/Georgia

Reader - Marie

Greeter - Deb P.

Prayer - Chris

Counter - Diane

October 11:

Acolyte - TBD

Ushers – Lori/Dean

Reader - Deb P.

Greeter - Ginny

Prayer - Gene

Counter - Carrie

October 18

Acolyte - Morgan

Ushers – Diane/Dennis

Reader - Jim

Greeter - Harry

Prayer - Jim

Counter - Debbie

October 25:

Acolyte - Dylan

Ushers - Maurice/Ginny

Reader – Ethel

Greeter - Pat

Prayer – Georgia

Counter - Diane

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Happy Days!!!!

Birthdays: October

October 1 - Chris Cash

October 2 - Dave Burnette

October 6 - Michelle Amendola

October 9 - Debbi Hagadorn

October 11 - Debbie Arnwine

October 12 - Kathy Kauffman

October 18 - Jessica Gordon and Lori Roney

October 20 - John Palmatier

October 26 - John Cronin and Willard Karsch

October 27 - Nicholas Roney and Allen Turner

October 28 - Mary Bowman

Anniversaries: October

October 4 - Todd and Lisa Bartholomew

October 7 - Joe and Gloria Falcone

October 15 - John and Lori Warner

October 25 - Denise and Terry Minton

Zumba Classes will be Wednesdays from 1-2 in the fellowship hall. Check the calendar in the hallway for more details.

Did you know St. Mark's offers the following opportunities for you and your family to participate?

Phoebes - every Monday from 9-2 PM

Youth Sunday School – Every Sunday during the Worship Service following the Youth Message

Adult Sunday School - Sundays from 9:15 - 10 AM

Prayer Ministry - every Thursday night beginning at 5:30 PM

After School Program - every day from 3 - 5:30 PM following school schedule

Men's Prayer breakfast - second Saturday of each month

Youth Group - every third Saturday of the month at 6:30 PM

Creative Women's Ministry - Fourth Friday of the month at 7 PM

SAMARITAN'S PURSE - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

HOW TO PACK A SHOEBOX

1. SHOEBOX

St. Mark's has Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes available or you may use an empty cardboard or plastic shoebox (average size). You can wrap the box, lid separately, but wrapping is not required.

2. BOY OR GIRL

Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Clearly indicate on the outside of the box the age and gender and tape the label to the top of your box.

3. FILL WITH GIFTS

Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child (see Gift Suggestions below).

4. INCLUDE \$7 DONATION PER BOX

Help cover shipping and other costs related to delivering your shoeboxes to children overseas by donating \$7 for each gift you prepare. You can write a check to Samaritan's Purse (note "OCC" on the memo line) and place it in an envelope on top of the items inside your shoebox. If you are preparing multiple gifts, please make one combined donation.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

- Toys: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.
- School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- Non-Liquid Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.
- Accessories: t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.
- A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include
 your name and address, the child may be able to write back.
- Do Not Include: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures;
 chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Please bring your shoeboxes to ST. MARK'S no later than NOVEMBER 15.

WINGS AS EAGLES MINISTRIES

Christmas Dream Boxes

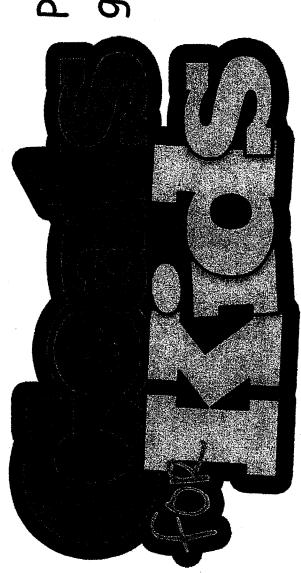
Over 3,000 gifts are needed for this upcoming Christmas season for the Native Youth! Seniors are also in need of a gift!

Because postage is expensive, in lieu of sending boxes, St. Mark's is asking our congregation to donate **Walmart gift cards**, in <u>any</u> <u>amount</u>, so WAEM may purchase the Christmas gifts needed. Please place your donation in a box located in the front of the sanctuary no later than December 1.

Let's help WAEM deliver Christmas to the children and seniors on reservations in South Dakota and Wyoming!

May God bless you for sharing your love with His precious children!





Please donate new or gently used coats for Schoharie County children in need

Coat drop off locations until November 12, 2015

The Laundry Basket 131 Campus Dr. (Granite Dr.) Cobleskill

Mart Cleaners 107 Union St. Cobleskill

Dates of Distribution at Shoppers Mart Plaza 795 East Main St., Cobleskill

Saturday, October 31, 2015 10am to 3pm Thursday, November 12, 2015 10am to 2pm Friday, November 13, 2015 10am to 2pm

Date of Distribution at St. Mark's Church 326 Main St., Middleburgh

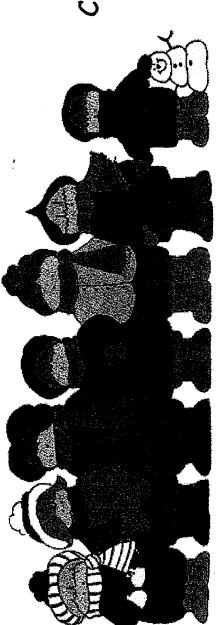
Friday, November 13, 2015 6pm to 8pm

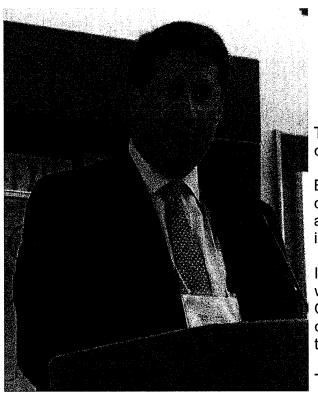
518 234-2568 x3010

Schoharie County

Community Action Program

795 East Main St. Suite 5 Cobleskill, NY 12043





Ryan Schwarz, NALC treasurer, presents the budgets to the 2015 NALC Convocation.

2016 NALC budgets are approved

The 2015 NALC Convocation approved an operating budget of nearly \$2 million.

Budgets were also approved for two of the NALC's designated funds: \$170,000 for the Great Commission Fund and \$625,860 for the Theological Education Fund (which includes the North American Lutheran Seminary).

It is estimated that 5-8 percent of congregational offerings will be necessary to meet the operating budget. The NALC Constitution asks the Executive Council to report an estimate of the percentage of congregational income required to fund the annual budget.

The NALC encourages congregations to support domestic and international ministries directly in addition to their support for the NALC and its designated funds.

Convocation approves constitutional amendments reflecting change in NALC relationship to Lutheran CORE

The 2015 NALC Convocation approved several amendments to the NALC Constitution. The proposed constitutional amendments are all related to a change in the relationship between Lutheran CORE and the NALC.

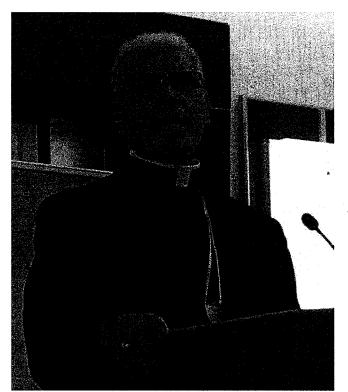
The proposed amendments now go to NALC congregations for ratification. The amendments will go into effect if a two-thirds majority of the NALC congregations voting by the Feb. 14 deadline approve the amendments.

The amendments remove references to Lutheran CORE in constitutional language about the Commission on Theology and Doctrine. The commission had been a joint commission for the NALC and Lutheran CORE.

The "Vision and Plan" for Lutheran CORE and the NALC, as announced in 2010, was for Lutheran CORE to continue as "an association of confessing Lutherans spanning denominational bodies" and for a close ongoing relationship between Lutheran CORE and the NALC. The NALC was to continue as a member of Lutheran CORE.

Lutheran CORE leaders have decided it is now necessary for them to focus on providing "shelter" and "voice" for confessing Lutherans remaining in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. That focus requires an end to the formal relationship between Lutheran CORE and the NALC.

The details of the proposed amendments are available online at thenalc.org/2015-convocation.



Bishop John Bradosky addresses the 2015 NALC Convocation following the announcement that he had been reelected as bishop.

John Bradosky reelected as bishop

Bishop John Bradosky was elected to a second four-year term as Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church by the 2015 NALC Convocation.

Also nominated for Bishop was Pastor James Lehmann of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Flattville (Thomasboro), Ill. Bishop Bradosky received 321 of the 386 votes cast.

Responding to the announcement of his election, Bishop Bradosky said, "I'm so grateful for the honor that you've bestowed on me in the past. And I get the chance to continue to nurture and develop these relationships for the next four years also serving as your bishop. It is my privilege and my hope that I can also be a blessing to you and your congregations as we continue to serve Christ together and to lift up His name, to give expression to the truth and wonder of His Word. Thank you so much for this opportunity. God bless you."

Three elected to Executive Council

Two lay people and a pastor were elected to serve on the NALC Executive Council, the NALC's board of directors, by the 2015 NALC Convocation.

Rosemary Johnson of Hope Lutheran Church in Ladysmith, Wis., and Pastor Carl Rasmussen of First Lutheran Church in Kirkland, Ill., were elected to four-year terms on the Executive Council.



Rosemary Johnson



Carl Rasmussen



Brian Sutton

Brian Sutton of St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Statesville, N.C., was elected to a two-year term to fill a vacancy on the Executive Council.

Carolyn Nestingen of Roseville, Minn., and Pastor Marty Ramey of Dallas, N.C., were elected to the Court of Adjudication. The Court decides questions regarding interpretation of the NALC's governing documents and handles disciplinary matters in the church.

Five members of the 2016 Nominating Committee recommended by the Executive Council were confirmed by the Convocation.



Carolyn Nestingen



Marty Ramey