

DEAN'S REPORT – 2016:

- I want to express my thanks to Pr. John Moffett for his work in getting our tax ID # and Articles of Incorporation approved. Thanks also goes out to Julie Tucker for setting up the bank account with PNC; with John Moffett as a second signer for the account. I also want to thank John, Julie and Paula Caso for meeting once to approve these actions.
- The clergy and lay professional leaders of our mission district had their first meeting in December and their second in April. A calendar of monthly meetings was set up for the remainder of the year with different congregations hosting. It appears that this group is finally up and running.
- I did not call for any executive committee meetings during the last year (this was true for 3 of the 5 mission districts). At the end of this meeting I would like the executive committee members to meet for 5 minutes to schedule our first meeting.
- With regard to my work as dean of the mission district, I have held numerous conversations with various pastors and lay members regarding call process and other issues in their congregations. I recently received a request as dean to preach at the 175th Anniversary of Zion, Stone Creek on October 16, 2016. Before accepting we need to elect a new dean and, if elected, I would need permission from my congregation to be absent that day.
- Along with Paula Caso I attended most of the meetings of the Ohio Mission Region Executive Committee.
- In November I attended the annual meeting of all the deans with Bishop Bradosky and the NALC Ministry Assistants. The meeting was held in Columbus, OH. Among other items discussed we spoke about:
 - the NALC emphasis on Discipleship (*I have copies of my notes on what Bishop Bradosky shared*),
 - the need to have and follow congregational guidelines for weddings and use of facilities (*in light of the supreme court decision regarding Marriage*), and
 - changes to the NALC Health plan.
- As a dean who is part of the NALC's pilot program on Disciplemaking, working with the Navigators, I want to make myself available to share with congregations and encourage them and each of us to live out Jesus' call in The Great Commission.
- I was contacted by Dr. Amy Schiffrin, president of the NALS, to nominate people to represent our mission district on a Seminary Support Team. After consulting with the clergy, I nominated Pr. Patty Abel and two laity from Good Hope, Chuck Reilly, and Phillip Hall. Please let me know if others are interested
- In April I attended a video conference training with David Wendel, the Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry, regarding the call process and forming a "Pastoral Care and Transition Team" in each region or mission district. These teams would be available to lead a workshop as congregations enter the call process and be available for congregational conflict.
- Good Hope will be hosting a "Summer Renewal Conference" being led by Lutheran Lay Renewal on Saturday, June 4th from 8:30-3:00.