

**2015 Annual Meeting  
Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino  
Sunday, January 18, 2015**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order – Darrel Klemp
2. Devotions – Pastor Jon Paquette
3. 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes – David Rohrer
4. Committee Reports – Education, Evangelism, Finance, Property, Stewardship, Worship, Youth
5. Treasurer's/Finance Report – Dennis Fuerst
6. Old Business - None pending
7. New Business
  - A. Nomination of 3 new council members for 2 year term
  - B. Election of council members for 2 year term
  - C. Selection of nominating committee and appointment of chairperson
  - D. Presentation of 2015 Budget – Dennis Fuerst/Rita Olson  
- Benevolence funds designation
  - E. Approval of 2015 Budget
  - F. Property Projects
  - G. Appointment of Good Shepherd Home Delegates
  - I. Other Business
8. Close with prayer
9. Adjourn

**2014 Annual Meeting**  
**Ascension Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, January 26, 2014**

Call to Order – President Darrel Klemp at 11:16 AM. 28 Confirmed members present

Devotion – Pastor Jon Paquette

2013 Annual Meeting Minutes – David Rohrer

May 19, 2013 Special Congregational Meeting (re: Constitution Change) Minutes

Motion by Arnie Kloes, second by Shelly Klemp, and approved by a voice vote.

Committee Reports (Education, Evangelism, Finance, Property, Stewardship, Worship, Youth)

Motion by Glen Peebles, second by Arnie Kloes to accept the reports as given the handouts. Approved with a voice vote.

Treasurer's/Finance Report. Dennis Fuerst presented the Report for 2013 showing a deficit in revenues for the year. Upon a Motion by Dave Klemp, second by Lois Rohrer, and a voice vote the Motion was approved. Lastly, Dennis reported to the Congregation on the investments currently held by the Lutheran Community Foundation. Motion by Arnie Kloes, second by Dave Rohrer, and a voice vote approved the report.

New Business –

Nominations of three (3) new Council members for 2 year terms. Nominees were Lisa Wollenberg, John Wudtke, and Dennis Fuerst. There being no nominations from the floor a Motion by Arnie Kloes was made to close the ballot, and instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees. Second by Dave Klemp, and a voice vote carried the Motion.

Approval of the 2014 Budget – Rita Olson & Dennis Fuerst presented the 2014 Budget. They explained that a great portion of the cuts were decreases in Pastor Jon's and Bonnie's (Church Administrator) salaries. It also changed the method that we do our tithing to assist our cash flow. A brief discussion was held seeking ways to better handle that issue. Sue Poole, Toni Klemp, and Heather Goodacre have volunteered to pursue the distribution of "The Visitor" . Motion by Jean Conradt, second by Glenn Peebles, and a voice vote the Motion to approve the 2014 Budget was approved.

Property Report – Darrel Klemp reported that the only pending projects are the Kitchen and the clean-up of the Bat project.

Appointment of the Good Shepherd Home Delegates – Alice Mueller & Arnie Kloes volunteered for the next year.

Other Business – None

Closing Prayer – Pastor Jon Paquette

Adjournment – Motion by Shelly Klemp, second by Faith Ehrle, and a voice vote the Meeting adjourned at 12:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted;

David Rohrer, Secretary

**Special Congregational Meeting**  
**Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino**  
**October 19, 2014**

The special congregational meeting was called to order at 10:38 am by President Darrel Klemp on Sunday, October 19, 2014.

Pastor Jon shared devotion and a prayer.

Darrel Klemp explained at times the NALC asks congregations to ratify the action of the annual Convocation. As a result of the action of the 2014 Convocation, each congregation is asked to schedule a duly called congregational meeting for the purpose of voting "yes" or "no" on the Convocation's unanimous action to amend Section 7.01 of the NALC Constitution as follows:

A Convocation of the NALC shall be held annually in August

to read

. A Convocation of the NALC shall be held annually.

Darrel Klemp made the motion to approve the NALC to hold the convocation annually. Arnie Kloes seconded.

Darrel Klemp called for a voice vote. It was unanimously approved.

Everett Olson made a motion to adjourn, Dave Klemp seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

Bonnie Weyers, Parish Administrator

### **2014 Finance in Review**

Grateful is a word that describes 2014 from a finance perspective. There were cuts made with the 2014 budget to stay in-line with financial giving. To make a balance budget happen people stepped outside of the norm and tried some new things. Individual's stepped up another step to help with the lawn mowing, getting the Visitor on-line, remodeling the kitchen, assisted in construction of new a shed, sought ways to save on utilities, salary reductions, contributing extra money in the offering, sharing more of their time and talents. I wish I could name them all but the list is truly endless.

All these things contributed to a church that paid its bills without dipping into savings. There were months that it was more difficult but it was done.

Through all your contributions the finance committee work was easier in 2014. I am so happy that God has chosen all of you to be a part of Ascension Lutheran Church. I look forward to sitting next to you in church in 2015 because you are God's gift to me.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Olson

Finance Chair

## PASTOR'S REPORT 2014

Once again we find ourselves together on the threshold of a new year! I must tell you that Kathy and I are continually amazed by the blessings of being called among you, and a part of the community! Thank you once again for hearing God's call to bring us here and to all of you for your graciousness and hospitality! We are truly blessed and amazed at what God does in our lives in and through you all!

I have continued to build relationships with other NALC congregations and pastors, and look for ways in which we can serve God together as a community with those same congregations. NALC congregations are scattered throughout Wisconsin and this has not been fast in coming. I have established a relationship with a group of pastors from both the NALC and the LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ). We meet monthly, and Ascension Lutheran Church hosted two such gatherings in 2014.

The "Open Table" community dinner continues to provide meals, bringing folks together and as is an awesome out-reach ministry in the community as well. This endeavor is now lead by Glen and Phyllis Peebles, and Judy Porter, with help and contributions from many others in our congregation. I would like to thank all of you for your support! It is a vital ministry that continues to reach out to those who are looking for friendship and a meal in the larger community, and the dinner is scheduled alongside the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry to ensure a meal is provided on the same Wednesdays as the pantry is opened. *The real presence of Christ in this is the relationships that are renewed and re-formed!*

The Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry continues to reside here at Ascension. The number of families served continues to grow and through your support provide a real presence of Jesus' admonition to feed the poor.

Confirmation class grew in 2014 to a total of 8 students. Riley Allen was confirmed in 2014. We are looking at other options to the traditional "confirmation camp" for the students. There are several youth events tied to the NALC/LCMC which may provide opportunities for our confirmands.

Sunday School continues to roll along! Again, Sunday School was led by a team of wonderful spirit filled people - Shelly Klemp, Lois Rohrer, Kathy Paquette, Angie Johnson, and Patty Lorenz, as well as others who support this program! Our Sunday School may be small, but through *all of you* the children have been energized in Christ!

Many other activities occurred in 2014: Easter Breakfast, Honoring Graduates, Confirmation planning, Summer Church Picnic, coordinating, lent suppers, tree at Christmas (Safe Haven), Rally Sunday events, Christmas Caroling, etc. In addition Ascension hosted a "Deer Hunter's" Worship in 2014 which was well received.

As Pastor, and in cooperation with the council, we will be working together with all interested persons over the coming months as we work to discern with renewed focus on 'what it means to be people of God here in this community' as members of Ascension. We often feel under qualified to serve, yet as I was reminded recently, "it is equally important not only to serve with your talents, but to serve where you are needed." I would encourage us to begin to look forward with great hope and anticipation. We have much going on - and life to live in the grace and love of our awesome God!

Much is occurring here at Ascension – we are still Zoomba- ing, Sunday and Tuesday Bible studies, Praise with Passion, Quilting, Food Pantry, Community Dinners, Mission Trips, Tuesday and Saturday morning men's breakfasts, ALCW, Sunday School, music, a thriving Via de Cristo connection, and much more! The use of God's building is seeing more ministry – AWESOME! – *Pastor Jon*

## Worship Committee Report 2014

We are blessed that Pastor Jon Paquette continues to serve as full-time pastor for our congregation. We are also blessed with a church facility and grounds suitable for holding worship, meetings, Christian education, exercise classes, and community outreach events such as Community Dinner and the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, just to name a few.

The Sunday morning worship schedule consists of 9:30 am worship. Sunday School for the children and Adult Education classes precede Sunday worship at 8:30 am beginning with Rally Day in September through May. Praise with Passion continues on many Sunday evenings beginning any time after 5:00 pm with pot-luck food and fellowship followed by a gathering at 6:00 pm for informal, spirit-filled praise and prayer. Everyone is welcome.

There are many people to thank...

...to everyone who serves as greeters, ushers, readers, our acolytes and those who help with the set-up and clean-up of our communion items.

...to Pastor Jon for sharing Jesus' love through word and song.

...to Kris and others for keeping our facility clean.

...to the 'Secret Fairies' who do the decorating in the church.

...to Heather Goodacre and others for organizing and running our PowerPoint presentations.

...to Toni and Darrel Klemp, Jon Wudtke, Shelly and Dave Klemp, Ruth Allen, Dennis and Kay Fuerst and any others who share their gifts of music.

...to those who provide coffee and goodies after service during fellowship hour.

...to Bonnie for providing our weekly bulletins and monthly 'Visitor' to keep us informed.

...and to Arnie Kloes, Julie Wilber, Mark Mueller, Shelly and Dave Klemp, Ralph Mueller, Kathy Paquette and anyone else who assists by preaching, leading worship, distributing communion and helping during worship in other ways.

Many from Ascension have been active with the local Via De Cristo movements. Ascension also hosts a Via De Cristo Ultreya (worship) 2 or 3 times per year, usually on a Saturday evening, offering overnight sleeping options and a Sunday morning breakfast.

In August, Ascension once again hosted a community Vacation Bible School. This year's theme was: Weird Animals; Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind. On a very chilly, windy day in October, a church picnic was held at a rural water park of sorts near Gillett. Although the weather kept us all bundled up, the location and potential water activities (when the weather is warmer) were 'intriguing'. Watch the schedule in 2015 to see if another picnic is scheduled at this location (hopefully on a warmer day)!

## **Worship Committee Report 2014 (continued)**

Our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Operation Christmas Child event, held in November, highlighted our mission theme as Ascension's children and adults donated, packed and wrapped shoeboxes of Christmas gifts for those less fortunate than us. An evening Deer Hunter's worship service was also offered in November and a joint Thanksgiving worship service with St. Lawrence Catholic Church and Trinity United Church of Christ is an annual community celebration.

In December, our youth and some gracious adults presented a Christmas Program entitled: "An Unplugged Christmas". Thanks to all who brought cupcakes for the fellowship time after the program. The church quilters met again multiple times this year and once again sewed beautiful quilts to use for mission purposes. These quilts adorned the backs of the church pews one Sunday and received a blessing before being given to a distribution location. And our Christmas Eve services were once again graced with Christ's message of salvation and beautiful Christmas music, including singing 'Silent Night' to candlelight.

We thank the Lord that He has blessed us with the resources (both material resources and people resources!) to provide Spirit-filled and uplifting worship for all.

Respectfully submitted, Toni Klemp

## **EVANGELISM REPORT 2014**

The evangelism committee is not an active committee at this time. Without committed volunteers/leaders that is unlikely to change in the coming year. That does not mean that outreach was not happening. The quilters made several quilts which are going to various community needs. The community dinner serves to reach not only those within the membership but folks from the community as well as those using the services of the food pantry.

*God's Peace – Pastor Jon*

## **Youth Report**

In 2014, the youth did some fun activities. A group of children, youth, and adults went to the Navarino Ski Hill a couple of times and went tubing. They also went to a Blizzard football game. ACT NOW "Forward" continues on Wednesday evenings. This program is Bible based and helps the youth learn and understand how to deal with the everyday issues in their lives.

The youth helped make and sell pizzas in the spring to raise money for some fun activities. They also sold candy during the Christmas season to raise money so they can paint and decorate a room for their youth room. This will be an exciting time for the youth, as they will be picking the paint and the furnishings for their room. This project will hopefully be finished by the summer.

Youth Leader,  
Shelly Klemp

## **Sunday School Report**

Sunday school started on September 14, 2014. There was a bunch of activities for the children. They had a blast winning tickets so they could purchase some fun toys. We also had treats for them after the activities. We have five teachers helping. Patty, Kathy, Angie, Lois, and Shelly take turns teaching each week. The program is the same as last year: Hands-On Bible Curriculum. The children really get into all the activities and ask questions. We planned some other activities with the children: working at food pantry, putting up Christmas tree, and caroling with some adults. The Christmas program was on December 21 at 9:30. The children did an awesome job! None of this could have been done without the hard work of Toni Klemp. Our thanks go out to her for her patience and teaching skills! We are looking forward to another great year with this class of awesome young people!

Sunday School Leader,  
Shelly Klemp

## **Vacation Bible School 2014 Annual Report**

Attendance: 30 children ranging in ages of 3 to 5th grade

Group Leaders: 6th grade and up. (9 kids participating)

Held the 2nd week of August at Ascension. Monday nights 6-8 pm and finishing on Thursday night with a celebration service at 7:00 pm. Coordination with UCC and St. Lawrence church.

Attendance is down from past years. Possibilities include children gone on family vacations, less children in the area?, or busy with other activities. (fairs, school)

Intent to hold VBS again in August for 2015. Cost of supplies keeps increasing. Held donation price of \$6.00 per child in 2014. May need to consider changes to donation costs or other ideas to keep costs down with lower number of students attending.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Dingeldein

**Property Committee Report**  
**Ascension Lutheran Church of Navarino**  
**January 2015**

Our congregation has been blessed again in 2014 with a building and grounds that allow us to study, gather, learn, exercise, worship and praise God. I'd like to share some of the specific happenings this year with you.

Water tests continue to confirm that our previous well treatments were effective and that the well is safe.

The solar electric system continues to serve us well with over 101,300 kWh produced in its lifetime, and roughly 16,000 kWh generated in the last year.

Many volunteers and donations have resulted in completion of our major kitchen remodeling project. This has included new cabinets, countertops, sinks, faucets, serving counter electrical outlets, paper towel dispensers and most recently new flooring. I am extremely thankful to all who have played parts in this project; and there are many people who have! From those who did the planning and coordination of individual projects, to those who made financial donations, those who worked at fundraisers and those that did the actual work, my gratitude to you all! It is beautiful.

The bat exclusion and cleanup project is now complete. Numerous small repair projects have been completed.

The Loaves and Fishes food pantry still serves our community and remains our welcome guest; occupying the two rooms in the Southeast corner of our building.

Our custodian continues to do a great job keeping our facility clean and beautiful.

The volunteers that took care of the church and cemetery lawn did a great job! The grounds looked great and the donation of time and equipment helped the budget substantially! Thank you all. We intend to continue this in 2015. If you would like to participate, please speak to Pastor Jon or me. We will have an organizational meeting some time before spring.

We have a new lawn equipment storage shed! The Tech Ed program at Shawano High School and many volunteers have worked very hard and the shed is nearly complete. Final touches will be completed when the weather allows. This year we also purchased an additional, smaller used late model lawn mower. This will allow two people to mow at one time and easier mowing is some of the tighter areas of the property.

Thanks to a Focus on Energy program, more efficient light fixtures and exit signs are in place in many areas of the church building at minimal cost to us. This work was just completed.

To all who have helped maintain, repair and improve our church building and grounds I extend my sincere thanks. May God continue to bless you all richly.

Darrel Klemp  
Property Chair

## ALCW Report for 2014

Officers are: Bonnie Weyers, Jean Conratt, Ruthann Meiers, and Joy Daebler

No ALCW meetings were held in 2014.

The women of Ascension made quilts, which will be or have been distributed to area nursing homes or shelters.

Our Community Golden Age Holiday Party was held on December 6, 2014. Four women volunteered to help with this event. About 40+ Golden Agers from the community came to the party.

Submitted By Ruthann Meiers

### ALCW Treasurers Report

**Bank balance 12-31-2013 \$1026.41**

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Income</u>
Cards		\$73.00
Golden Age Party	\$102.17	
Misc.	<u>31.83</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$134.02</b>	<b>\$73.00</b>
<b>Bank Balance 12-31-2014</b>	<b>\$965.39</b>	

### ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT-2014 submitted by Lon Hilliker

There were three regular meetings and two clean-up days during 2014.

This year our new storage shed was built. The money for building the shed was raised by working at the Red Barn food stand at Charlie's Country Store in Shawano.

The Cemetery Association would like to thank everybody involved in getting the shed project completed.

Three poplar trees were removed from the Hilda Cemetery property. Also, clean-up work was done due to storm damage.

There were no burials in 2014.

Lon Hilliker mowed the Hilda Cemetery.





## Via de Cristo 2014

Ascension supports two movements of Via de Cristo that are alive and active in the state of Wisconsin. **Son-Rise** offers weekends hosted in churches and **Northern Light** hosts weekends at campgrounds that are easily accessible to both northern Wisconsin and part of the UP. There have been weekends offered in spring, summer and fall this year and we have had several members serve on team for one or more of these weekends - It's a big responsibility and we thank all of those who have given their time to make each VDC weekend a success.

All Ascension members are invited to join us at one of our monthly gatherings after church, generally on the third Sunday of the month. We have a short business meeting followed by a lively discussion on how each one of us carries God's love out to others in our homes, church and community.

We also hosted 2 Ultreya's this past year ('Ultreya' is a Spanish word for Gathering). Everyone is invited to join us on these Saturday evenings when we enjoy a pot luck meal, Music and Worship Service as well as a witness talk followed by fellowship and discussions. We would like to thank the church for allowing us to offer the option of overnight lodging for our guests that travel from all over the state to join us for the Ultreya. It's been a blessing to host anywhere from 4-8 overnights, wake them up, serve them breakfast and then have them join us for our Sunday service. We hope you will consider joining us for either a Sunday morning discussion or a Saturday night Ultreya. Everyone is Welcome.

If you are **curious about** what is offered at a VDC Weekend, please pick up a brochure at the table in the narthex. If you are **interested in attending** a VDC Weekend, please see Dennis/Kay Fuerst or Pastor Jon/Kathy Paquette.

### God Loves You and So Do We



### Champions of Prayer

There are a core group of church family members who have been praying for you all year through. We have had several requests that have been shared with specific needs and are always open to add your requests to our list. If you have a prayer need, a praise report, or simply a concern, please consider filling out the form and turning it in to either Pastor Jon or Kay Fuerst. God knows your name; you only share your name if you want to.

If you are interested in joining us and praying for others in our families, church and community, please provide your name and email address to Kay Fuerst. God Hears the Prayers of His Children.

## Membership Activity-----2014

### BAPTISMS:

Kaelynn Johnson  
Erik Houdek  
Carsen Wadeen  
Mason Kauffman

### NEW MEMBERS:

Ralph & Jean Mueller (8/17/14)  
Heidi Schmidt (12/14/14)

### CONFIRMANDS

Riley Allen

### MARRIAGES:

Michael and Emily Houdek (9/27/14)

DEATHS: 0

Membership as of 1/1/2013	325	(Accurate)
Membership increase:	+4	
Membership decrease:	-2	
	<hr/>	
Membership as of 12/31/2014	327	(Accurate)

Number of households in total membership: 208 (Accurate)

Average number in attendance each week at worship: 60

### Members Transferred Out

Roger Ort  
Elizabeth Ort

Submitted by Bonnie Weyers