

You're Invited!
to the
SE TX Mission
District Gathering
Saturday,
June 4, 2022

St. Peter Lutheran Church
100 N Promenade St.
Hallettsville, TX 77964

Through a generous grant from the NALC's Texas Mission Region, Pastor Greg Finke of Dwelling 1:14 will help us understand how to join Jesus on his mission.

What an impact we could have as followers of Jesus if we were more generous with our neighbors than those four little words “How're you? I'm fine.” What's better still is that our risen Lord Jesus is already out on his mission bringing the Kingdom of God to people's everyday lives. He invites us to join him, no special training or personality or finances required. Joining Jesus on his mission is an invitation to just do it.

Pr. Greg will highlight three simple ideas: mission, discipleship, and multiplication. The mission is Jesus bringing his kingdom into the everyday lives of people all around us. Discipleship is learning to read the Bible, pray, serve our neighbors, and being willing to seek God's mission at work around you. Multiplication is what happens when God's people join Jesus on his mission as his disciples, expanding the kingdom's reach into everyday lives around us.

Pr. Greg has previously presented at the LCMC TX gathering in July 2019 and at the NALC TX Fall Pastors Retreat in October 2021. He has also connected with several other NALC mission districts. His *Joining Jesus* materials align with all four of our NALC values: Christ-centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregationally Focused. His book *Joining Jesus on His Mission* is available on Amazon. You can learn more about Pr. Greg and his work at <https://dwelling114.org/>.

For further information and to register for the event, call St. Peter's church office at (361) 798-2808.

NALC Responds Swiftly
to Texas Wildfires

The Eastland Complex wildfires which began on March 16th, eventually charring an area approximately 75 square miles in size, were finally 100% contained on March 30th after significant rainfall. The fires have devastated farmers and ranchers throughout Eastland and Comanche counties.



NALC Disaster Response quickly sprung into action with relief efforts coordinated by Ricky Richards of Peace Lutheran in Clifton. Following word that ranchers will have no grazing for at least two

months, NALC Disaster Response committed an initial \$10,000 and sent four 18-wheelers of hay to the area. Through donations from the North Texas Mission District and Peace/Clifton, Richards and Jim Arnold delivered a ton of cattle feed to Carbon on March 23rd. Because of a strong response throughout the State, the need shifted to fencing materials to manage remaining livestock.



On March 28th Richards and Arnold took a ton of mineral supplements and a truckload of fencing materials. Richards and Arnold plan another trip on April 4th to take supplies provided by the NALC Disaster Response warehouse in Tyler, along with supplies procured through the generous contributions of NALC members and congregations.

The town of Carbon was the epicenter of the Complex. In addition to the loss of grazing and cattle, eighty-six homes were destroyed in the town of 348 people. Following his March 23rd trip to Carbon Richards said, “The devastation

on the ground is as bad as it looks on TV. Only a scattering of houses that are not just literally gone. On a five block street that we drove down, only one house survived. Along Highway 6, it is charred ground all the way to the horizon. We were only in the south edge of the burn area at Carbon. It extends for many miles.”



Local ranchers report that they are not eligible for FEMA assistance despite the disaster declaration. As always, NALC Disaster Response will be on the ground long after others have left. If you would like to assist in this work you can mail a check to: North American Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 860565, Minneapolis, MN, 55486-0565. Please note “Disaster Response Fund” on the memo line.

New Daycare Center at Mekane Yesus Seminary

In November 2021 the Texas Mission Region Missions Team gave a \$10,000 unrestricted grant to the Mekane Yesus Seminary to be used where most needed following the devastating flash flood which swept through the campus in August 2021.



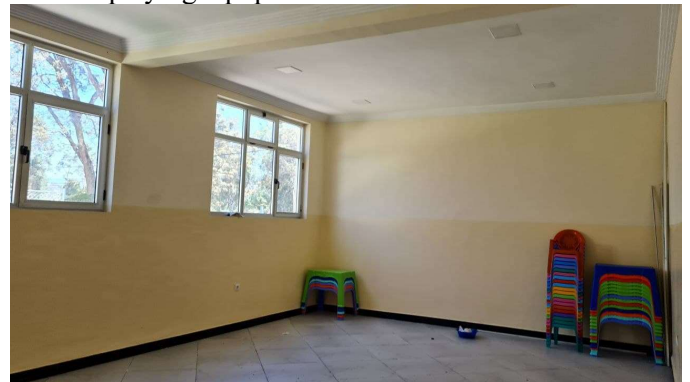
Most of the work was completed on the seminary’s new daycare center at the time of the flood. The funds provided by the Texas Mission Region helped to restore and complete the building, accord-

ing to seminary President Rev. Dr. Bruk Ayele. A formal dedication of the daycare was held on February 3, 2022, presided over by the Rev. Yonas Yigezu, President of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus.

Dr. Ayele reports that the daycare currently has 17 children enrolled, most of them being children of female students of the seminary. A few faculty and staff members have also enrolled their children as have a few from needy families in the surrounding community, a service which Dr. Ayele considers a valuable outreach.



The seminary’s daycare, however, has further need of our assistance. They need funding to provide more indoor and outdoor playing equipment.



If you and/or your congregation would like to contribute to support Mekane Yesus Seminary, please send your check to: North American Lutheran Church, ATTN: Mekane Yesus Seminary, P.O. Box 860565, Minneapolis, MN, 55486-0565. On the memo line please note that your donation is for Mekane Yesus Seminary.

For more updates about the NALC’s ongoing work with Mekane Yesus Seminary, please see the March issue of the NALC News, p. 10. It can be viewed at <https://thenalc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/NALC-March-2022-Outlined-web.pdf>.

We’ll help get the word out

We send this newsletter as a way of partnering in Christ’s kingdom work. Please feel free to submit an article. Stories along with photos can be submitted to Becky Thane, BeckyThane@aol.com. The deadline for the June newsletter is May 20th.