

October
2011



Pittsburgh District Church of the Nazarene

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Rev. J Bret Metcalfe
District Superintendent

“You don’t know me but I’m your brother
I was raised here in this living hell
You don’t know my kind in your world
Fairly soon time will tell
You ... telling me the things you’re gonna do for me
I ain’t blind and I don’t like what I think I see.”

Michael McDonald

As you may remember this was part of the theme song from the assembly, but I would like you to re-read the words once again. Where do you see yourself in these words? Are you the one in the living hell, or are you the one who is saying that you are going to do something about it? I do not know this for a fact, however, I wonder if Michael McDonald knew what he was writing. If we take this into our “language”, he could be talking about Christians.

Sometimes we let our “Christianity” dictate who we are and what our responses are rather than letting Christ. We build our nice little buildings and our nice little programs to create our nice little Christians. What are we to do with the not so nice people who live in the world?

We must find a way to reach our world. If Christ means anything to you, you will not be able to help yourself. If Christ means anything to you, and if you are filled with Him, He is going to flow out of you. You will not have to tell anyone that you are a Christ follower, they will just know you are different by your actions and your words.

Unfortunately, in too many of our churches, the “words” we speak are not inviting to those who are not a part of the club. Too many have been working too long to preserve what someone many years ago created rather than using what was created to impact the community.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am not saying to just let the churches go and do whatever. I am simply saying that we were never called to create monuments to the healthy, but places where the sick, the helpless, the hopeless, the lost can find health, help, hope and their way to Christ. Is your church looking at the world through the eyes of Jesus or yourselves? It is time to quit trying to appease people and speak the Truth in love. It is time to separate ourselves from the sin that separates us from God and share Christ, the Bridge. It is time to take our eyes off of ourselves and say as Paul said, “I have become all things to all men (people) so that by all possible means I might save some” (1 Cor. 9:22b). Are you willing?

I want you to ask the Spirit to come into your life with such force that you will be willing to do whatever He asks so that some might be saved. I am willing. Are you? Do you trust Him?

J Bret Metcalfe

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Barb Reagle
SDMI Chairman



SUNDAY SCHOOL | DISCIPLESHIP
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Find Us Faithful

SDMI Treasurer:

Ron Schaeffer, 141 Tressler Drive, Confluence, Pa 15424

Phone: 814-395-5168 or e-mail: ronnel62@verizon.net

CHANGING YOUR LIFE

“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16-17) Do we believe that God’s word can change lives? SDMI partnering with ABS (American Bible Society) has offered a program to help us interact with the Scriptures in order to learn what God is saying to us through His Word. The program is entitled “Engage the Word”. A forty day emphasis to help us develop life-long habits of daily Scripture engagement. Resources are available at: <http://engagetheword.nazarene.org> or call 800-221-6317. Perhaps your church is not involved in this emphasis. It is still something that should be considered by each individual. **What does it mean to engage the word?** Webster tells us that to engage means “to secure, to bind ... to pledge oneself ... to interlock ... to be an active participant. This goes beyond our obligatory daily devotions; it means more than reading the Word. It means applying it to our lives. Would your life change if you pledged yourself to God’s Word, if you were interlocked ... an active participant? Might it be worth a try? Reading God’s Word regularly feeds our hearts and minds with truth and inspiration, and it ushers us into His presence. Engaging God’s Word changes lives!

Children’s Talent Festival

*For children ages 3 through 6th Grade
to use their talents to praise the Lord.*

**Talent categories are: Art I & II, Creative
Writing, Instrumental, Keyboard,
Oratory I & II, Photography,
Puppetry and Vocals**

See www.phgnazarene.org for more information
and to download forms, rules and guidelines.

2011 DATES:

Zone Talent - Saturday, October 22

(Locations at www.phgnazarene.org)

District Festival, Saturday - November 12

Mt. Chestnut District Center

Registration - 9:15 am

Program begins at 10:00 am

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Children’s Bible Quizzing, Children’s Talent, Caravan, Women’s Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Adult Ministries, CLT Studies, Prime Time Ministry, Family Ministries. All of our directors would encourage you to get involved with these ministry opportunities. We need your prayers for new endeavors: Special ministry to families and children from broken homes ... programs to encourage and help teachers learn to teach more effectively ... motorcycle ministries.

REMINDER: Please send in your **Sunday School Attendance Statistics** to Rev. Mark Erskine (markerskine@ymail.com) each month. We are working on a possible discount to Kidz Kamp for churches that are faithful in reporting.

THANK YOU

A very heartfelt thank you goes out to all local Sunday School Teachers, Superintendents, Board Members, and, of course, my District Council Members! Please know that your labors are very much appreciated and do not go unnoticed. God Bless each one of you!

In Christ, Barb Reagle SDMI Chair

CHILDREN'S BIBLE QUIZZING

By now, all 2012 quizzing programs should be well into your lessons in *MATTHEW*.

Our first invitational will be on Saturday, November 12, 2011, and held at Waynesburg Church of the Nazarene and Faith Fellowship Alliance Church.

Please contact the below directors before November 12 to register your quizzer's names and levels.

Waynesburg: Lisa Garber at lisagarber@gmail.com

Kossuth: Chris Chambers at smchambers@atlanticbb.net

If you would like to start a quizzing program contact: Joanne Tutor at pghnazquizzers@yahoo.com.

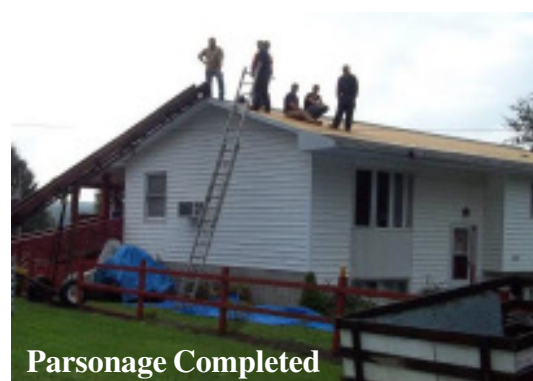
Belle Vernon, PA (September 4, 2011) - The Belle Vernon Church of the Nazarene celebrated 75 years of ministry with a special service, a dinner, and a concert. Rev. Tim Eyring, Pastor from 1987 to 1991, presented a challenging message and shared his testimony about the NewStart ministry he is getting underway in suburban Raleigh, NC. David and Anita Marker, the "Living Hope" from our New Brighton Church, provided the music for a wonderful afternoon concert. One highlight of the day was a "balloon release," with postcards attached to the balloons telling about the church's 75 years of serving God in Belle Vernon. Pastor Fred Brucker told the congregation that, as we were "sending out" these balloons, we are reminded that we, too, are to be "sent out" to share God's love with those that we encounter. The Belle Vernon church started meeting in September, 1936, as a result of a prayer group that had formed after a tent revival led by Rev. Paul Andree of the Monongahela Church of the Nazarene.



Balloon Release

Corry Church Roofs Done by Local W&W

The big event here at Corry is that the Local Work and Witness crew is here doing roof work. They replaced the entire parsonage roof in one day (Saturday, September 10). The power company had to turn off the electric for service work and the Lord answered prayer and they did not turn it off until we did not need it ... and when we needed it, it came back on! In addition, the weather report was for rain all day but God intervened in response to prayer again and it rained everywhere around us except right at the job site. The crew



Parsonage Completed



Church Roof Begun

guys kept checking their cell phones for the radar maps of the weather and it continued that way all day ... like some sort of Star Trek force field was over Corry. God is good!

In addition, we had a great week just preceding this at the Spartansburg Fair where we had a booth with food and a place to sit down. We interacted with hundreds of people from the community, even the "carneys" and several showed up for our Bible study. God is moving!



Pastor Sandy Sisler

NMI



Praying Discipling Giving Education

President's Corner

“To Make Christlike
Disciples in the Nations”

The Eastern Region W&W Conference, back to school, vacations end, back to church Sunday, and refocusing on NMI all mark the end of summer. Where did the summer go? Why does it always pass so quickly? Now what? We get back in the swing of things!

King David writes, “Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12). When we plan our days, weeks and months according to God’s plan we will gain wisdom. A wise NMI president will be making plans to become a Mission Priority One (MPO) Church and map out strategies for the rest of the year. Let us take a look at MPO and our Thanksgiving emphasis:

1. Mission Priority One: (October Emphasis)

What is Mission Priority One?

NMI has four objectives in which every local church can participate: *(see 4 icons at top of page)*

Praying - Interceding for leaders and churches and for the Holy Spirit to draw all people to Christ.

Discipling - Involving and mentoring future missions leaders, especially youth and children, to make Christlike disciples for God’s mission in the nations.

Giving - Devoting ourselves and our resources, especially the World Evangelism Fund, to extend Christ’s kingdom.

Education - Informing people of the World’s needs and enabling our church to meet those needs in Christ.

What are the MPO Requirements?

Local Mission Priority One requirements are:

1. 90% of churches prayed for missions.
2. 90% of churches used missions resources and participated in all five global awareness categories.
3. 90% of churches involved children and youth in missions.
4. 90% of World Evangelism Fund for the district paid.

Through MPO, a congregation extends Christ’s message around the world. Pastors are educated, and mission workers are supported. New believers come to Christ through prayer. Children, youth and adults hear and obey God’s call to cross-cultural ministry.

2. Thanksgiving 2011: (November Emphasis)

Date: November 20, 2011

Theme: Harvest 2011 - Plant, Grow, Thrive

The focus this year is on the life of a “Mustard Seed” Donation: a gift sown in faith and bathed in prayer that grows to cover the earth with Christ’s love.

Structure: Three Weeks of Emphasis:

Week 1: Planting with Faith

Week 2: Growing Through Prayer

Week 3: Thriving in Christ

Resources:

1. Digital Resources available online September 15, 2011: (clipart, sermon helps, powerpoint slides, poster, bulletin inserts, prayer initiative, web banners and badges, videos and children's activity sheet)

2. Print Resources: Order from the Nazarene Publishing House

a. Harvest 2011 Envelopes (FREE)

b. WEF Envelopes (FREE)

c. Kids' Quarter Collectors (Not Free)

3. On the Web:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/harvest2011

Twitter: www.twitter.com/harvest_2011

Webpage: www.nazarene.org/harvest2011

May God bless your local churches and our Pittsburgh District as we continue our mandate to Make Christlike Disciples in the Nations. I am praying that this will be our best year ever as we continue to reach our children, youth and adults through NMI by praying, discipling, giving and educating.

You are loved, *Pastor Sandy*

Call for LTG Club Members!



LTG Club (Laborers Together for God) is a group of people with a heart for Work & Witness. LTG helps raise the funds to purchase project materials for the International W&W teams. Some of our members are W&W team members and many are not able to participate on a W&W trip; but all of them need you to become a member as well! The membership fee is \$15; which is affordable to most people, young and old! These funds are to be sent to: Marian Lineman @ 213 High Street, Bradford, PA 16701.



MT. CHESTNUT NAZARENE CENTER

Philip D. Heckman, Executive Director

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E-mail: Pghdistnaz@zoominternet.net or Philhe19@zoominternet.net

Remember that here, at Mt. Chestnut Nazarene Center, in addition to retreats, seminars, and Board Retreats, we can also host Christmas Dinners and other holiday fellowship dinners for your church group. You will find that our prices are very reasonable and we can accommodate groups from 20 to 300. Call the District Office at 724-287-5867 for more information.



Rev. Chris Easton
NYI President

Greeting in the name of Jesus Christ!

Your District NYI had a great time at our Fall Retreat led by Chris and Kelly Miner! Join us for our next event led by Sarah Smail (sarah.smail11@gmail.com) as we travel to Eastern Nazarene College for our annual **ENC VIP TRIP**. The visit will take place October 20-23, 2011. It is an official ENC VIP weekend, thus most of the schedule is taken care of by ENC. We have Saturday free to sightsee. Contact Sarah **ASAP** if you plan on attending. **Cost: \$39.99** (Our District NYI is investing and underwriting a majority of the cost making this so affordable.)

The District Impact Team will begin travelling soon. Their theme this year is “**Life**” taken from Isaiah 43. Remember to pray for them and the work God has them in each week.

Repute is preferable to great wealth,
 Grace is better than silver and gold.
 Rich man and poor man meet;
 The LORD made them both.
 The shrewd man saw trouble and took cover;
 The simple kept going and paid the penalty.
 The effect of humility is fear of the LORD,
 Wealth, honor, and life.
 Thorns and snares are in the path of the crooked;
 He who values his life will keep far from them.
 Train a lad in the way he ought to go;
 He will not swerve from it even in old age.

Publication Society, 198, Pr 22:1–6.

Jewish Publication Society, *Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures* (Philadelphia: Jewish)

It is my hope that as the students across our district go back to school we as a church do not forget to train our students in the ways of God. The world is busy training; how much more concerned about what our young people are learning should the church be? If you have a small youth group or a large one, please send them to your District NYI events. This trip to ENC will be amazing! Our winter retreat led by Brian Burke is going to be amazing! Our students are learning with each passing day how much we have received in Christ. May our change be so radical for Christ that His Word is all we seek hide in our hearts!

Grace and Peace, Chris Easton, your District NYI President

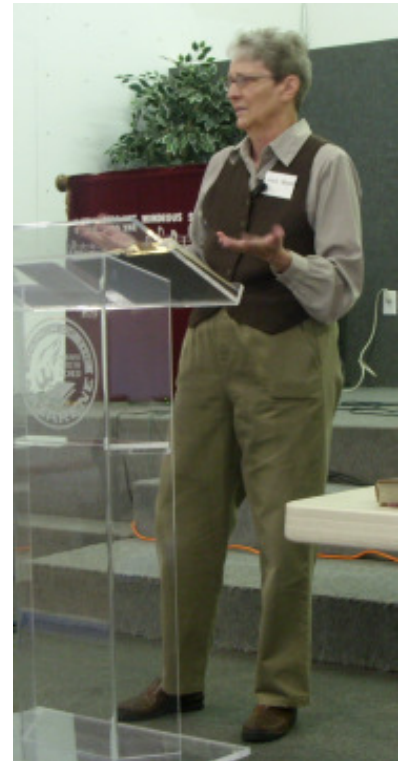
Prime Time Weekend - September 16 and 17



Friday Night Campfire



**Ken Osborne -
Wonderful
Musical Presentations**



**Cookie Tressler - Great
Spiritual Sessions**



Saturday's Turkey Dinner

PRIME TIME NEWS - What a great time of inspiration and encouragement at the Primetime Days, September 16 and 17! Beginning with the bonfire on Friday night and continuing with the music ministry of Ken Osborne and the dynamic speaker, Dr. Cookie Tressler, on Saturday, Prime Timers from all over the district experienced fun and fellowship at this extended retreat at the

District Center. Many thanks to the Prime Time Committee and the District staff for providing an enjoyable two days. The noon meal was fantastic! Watch for more Prime Time events coming in the future months and plan now to participate.



Fall 2011 Prime Time Group Picture