



# Pittsburgh District Church of the Nazarene

February  
2012



177 North Road, Butler PA 16001

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Rev. J Bret Metcalfe  
District Superintendent

The New Year is now in full swing. How many times have you written 2011 instead of 2012? When we get used to one thing for so long, it takes a while to get our brains to remember that something new is upon us. Those of you who made resolutions, are you still following them or have they already gone away? I wonder what 2012 will bring? Will there be a new round of natural disasters? Will the economy get better or worse? Will we re-elect the current president or will the people elect a new president? Will you be more prosperous or less prosperous? These are some of the questions that may consciously or unconsciously go through your mind. Does the fear of not knowing what tomorrow may bring cause anxiety to well up inside of you? Does the uncertainty of uncertain times cause you grief? What do you do about it?

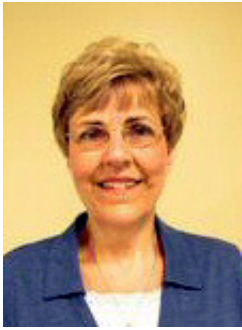
Since we live in uncertain times, we need that which gives us something to hold. There is an old hymn that records these words: "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ the solid Rock I stand all other ground is shifting sand, all other ground is shifting sand" *The Solid Rock*. Jesus Christ is who we can anchor our hopes in and on and only He can bring stability in an unstable world. If you and I will hold fast to that understanding, we are well on our way to the life He has laid out for us.

However, what about His Church? How does it fair in these uncertain times? In the past it seems that the Church has fallen victim to the personality of the worldly life. We let fear reign and uncertainty control. Isn't it time to let God have control and anchor the Church on the Solid Rock? When we anchor our lives in Christ, then the Church will be anchored. If the Church is anchored, then we are of one mind; the mind of Christ, right? If we are of the mind of Christ, then would that not mean that we are pushing in His direction? If we are pushing in His direction will He not lead us? It is time that we get our desires and wishes out of the way and let Jesus reign in the Church. When we make that our mission, then God will accomplish great things through us. If you want more information, read the book of Acts. The Church will impact the world when Jesus impacts the Church. We need each other, so let's unite as one and be a force in this world and not let the circumstances control us, but let Jesus control the circumstances.

All out for the kingdom!

J Bret Metcalfe

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**Barb Reagle**  
SDMI Chairman



*SDMI Treasurer:*

Ron Schaeffer, 141 Tressler Drive, Confluence, Pa 15424  
Phone: 814-395-5168 or e-mail: ronell62@verizon.net

**REMINDER:** Summer camps are probably far from our minds but please remember SDMI Camp incentives. If you experience an outpouring of God's presence and love in a Sunday School or small group setting, please share it with us. (These stories will be shared at SDMI convention and your church may be awarded a camp gift certificate) Also, we will be giving discounts on registration fees for Kidz camp to those churches who report Sunday School statistics each month and have their SDMI allotments paid in full.

I had just finished putting my Christmas decorations away, when I realized that the hardest part about it was getting started. It seemed to take more effort on my part to convince myself that it was time to get the job done than it took to pack everything away for another year.

I'm sure I am not the only one who suffers from this ailment. If we look at the advertisements and sales flyers right now, we will notice the many incentives to start a new diet or an exercise program. All the equipment we would need is on sale and just waiting for us to make up our minds to get started!

There are so many things that we know we should do and we know would be beneficial to us but we just keep putting them off. I know, we have heard this all before, but let's pay attention to it this time!

Might I suggest that we take advantage of this "slower-paced" season by spending more time curled up with our Bibles? Perhaps we could start a new Bible Study. Either personal or invite a few friends or neighbors in to study God's Word on these cold wintry nights. Maybe spend a little more time in prayer, seeking God's direction in areas of ministry for this upcoming year.

Remember two things ... God said that it was His job to build His Church and that it is our job to make disciples. If we let Him do His job, He will enable us to do ours! The hardest part just might be to GET STARTED! HAPPY NEW YEAR AND GOD BLESS  
Barb Reagle, SDMI Chair

## **CHILDREN'S BIBLE QUIZZING**

Our second invitational will be held on **FEBRUARY 25, 2012** at the following churches:

**FAITH FELLOWSHIP ALLIANCE**  
QM Nancy Wilson (njwquizzing@gmail.com)  
200 Faith Way, Butler, 16001

**KOSSUTH FAITH**  
QM Chris Chambers  
(smchambers@atlanticbb.net)  
2695 Rt. 322, Cranberry, 16319

**WAYNESBURG**  
Kidz Director Pas. Christine Siordia  
onwiththecall@msn.com  
115 Deerfield Lane, Waynesburg, PA 15370

Please pre-register your quizzers with these quizmasters and to pre-order lunch (if available).

Please e-mail Joanne Tutor the names and levels of your quizzers as soon as possible: (pghnazquizzers@yahoo.com)

**DISTRICT FINALS WILL BE ON APRIL 14, 2012. COACHES MEETING WILL BE AT 9:30 AND QUIZZING WILL START AT 10AM.**



Pastor Sandy Sisler

# NMI



Praying Discipling Giving Education

## President's Corner

**“To Make Christlike  
Disciples in the Nations”**

Nothing on our planet fosters ministry more than *Missions!* If we aim for missions we will have community! Jesus went outside the four walls of the “church” to do missions. Communities of believers grew, and many ministries were begun. So many times we do it backwards. Let that “sink-in” for a little while, and then talk to God about your mission in life. God has called each of us to join with Him in His Mission to our world. Our responsibility is to simply be obedient. You are part of something much greater than yourself, your local church or district! Missions is the greatest adventure ever known to man!

I would like to remind you that we all participate in February to give to our Alabaster Offering. We are also looking forward to our Easter Love Gift for missions in April. I challenge you to think of new ways to pray, promote and do your offerings. Please go online and download articles and bulletin inserts for your promotion, use your Global Mission DVDs, and Engage Magazine. People are waiting to hear about missions.

The article beginning in the next column of this page is one of hundreds of stories of how we are keeping Missions alive and building the Kingdom of God around our world. May this story encourage you in your Mission! God bless each of you.

You are loved, Pastor Sandy

## Following the Light Abhaya's Story

*Western Nepal* — For nine days, Abhaya could not sleep. The elderly missionary named John had turned her thoughts and beliefs upside down.



Abhaya was devout in her worship of numerous gods in western Nepal, and her father was a priest in the local religion. Her husband and her parents were also devout worshippers of many gods. And until she met John, Abhaya, who was 26 at the time, had never given any other spiritual path a second thought.

John had stayed in her home as a guest for a week, and during that time he had talked to her about Jesus and asked her to consider following Him. He'd bought her a Bible, but she wasn't interested in reading it. Then he invited her to join him on one of his home visits, and she agreed.

John took her to the home of a man with a mental illness. The man was very sick, but none of his family members were willing to care for him. Abhaya watched as John prayed over the man, who was confined to a bed. Startled, she watched as the sick man gave a giant yawn, then sat up, suddenly full of energy and healthy. John then bathed the man, gave him a haircut, trimmed his nails and brought his physical hygiene up to date.

Abhaya was moved by the missionary's gentle care for the sick, lonely man. Before John left, he told her that he was praying and fasting for her.

Now he was gone, and Abhaya was alone in her house, as her husband, Dinesh, was out of the

country on business. And she sat alone on her bed at night, torn between her dedication to her religious beliefs and her doubt over whether there might be something true about this Jesus.

On the ninth night, around 1 a.m., she was sitting on the bed with her eyes closed, thinking and questioning for what seemed like the thousandth time. A white, bright glow filled her eyelids, and she opened them in alarm. But looking around the empty bedroom, there was no light.

That's when she *knew*. God had given her an answer. She felt light, almost like she could float away. Abhaya found the Bible that John had bought for her and began to read it.

The next time she talked to her husband on the phone, she told him that she now believed in Jesus and wanted to go to church. Dinesh refused. Yet, she couldn't stay away, and soon she found herself at the independent church John had been involved with and prayed to accept Christ.

When Dinesh finally came home, she "preached" to him. He had been exposed to the story of Jesus Christ while he was working abroad. So it only took two months before he accepted Jesus as his own savior.

Things weren't so easy with other family members, however. Her mother cried and cried. Her father was less disturbed, but not supportive. It was most difficult with Dinesh's father, Kalash, however. As a religious priest, having his son and daughter-in-law abandon the family religion to follow just one God was like a slap in his face, even though they tried to share with him.

Kalash, who lived with the couple since his wife had died from a snake bite, directed most of his anger at Abhaya, verbally tormenting her and criticizing everything she did. He refused to eat the food she prepared, and grew angry when she closed the family's small grocery store to attend worship services and other church activities.

One day, Kalash gathered the neighbors around him and, in an attempt to embarrass Abhaya, declared that he could no longer live with his son

and daughter-in-law because of their new religion. However, he didn't actually move out.

No matter what Kalash said or did, Abhaya continued to dutifully carry out all the responsibilities that the Nepalese culture expected of a wife – and more. Her quiet perseverance began to have an effect.

Three years ago, through Abhaya's and Dinesh's persistent witness, Kalash accepted Christ as his savior. The experience transformed him. Although in Nepal there are strict barriers between what constitutes "women's work" and "men's work," Kalash cheerfully helps Abhaya with her work, despite the cultural boundaries that would ordinarily prohibit him from doing so.

The family knew Rev. Manu, a Nazarene leader in Nepal. He introduced them to the Nazarene denomination, and the family helped to plant the first Nazarene church in western Nepal.

Dinesh is now a pastor of three Nazarene churches that they have planted, and is the area coordinator for western Nepal. Abhaya teaches Sunday school, and also teaches in a Nazarene Compassionate Ministries child development center (CDC). Although it is illegal to provide Christian teaching in the CDC, they are allowed to integrate Bible stories into the lessons for illustration. As a result, about half of the children who receive educational assistance at the CDC now also attend the Nazarene church. Recently she was elected as the Nazarene Missions International (NMI) president at one church.

The missionary named John is gone, but Abhaya carries on his ministry to the sick. "Many sick people come in my house," she said. She provides healing care and invites them to accept Christ for spiritual healing as well. "Many of them come from far away."

It's been nine years since Abhaya accepted Christ. Today, her parents are both Christians. She reflects that it was Joshua 1:6-9 that gave her the courage to become a follower of Jesus.

*Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their*

ancestors to give them.  
 7"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

*All names have been changed to protect security.*



# ALABASTER

## An Offering of LOVE



### A RICH HISTORY OF ALABASTER

At the Global NMI Council meeting in 1949, Mrs. Venum told of the Alabaster plan God had given her, modeled after the sacrifice of the woman who anointed Jesus' head with expensive perfume poured from an alabaster jar. The Council unanimously adopted the plan, and the first offering was received in 1949. Today, we set aside February and September as months to receive this offering.

From 1949 through 2010, over 8,600 churches, mission centers, missionary homes, etc. have been built using Alabaster funds totaling over \$95,000,000. Alabaster continues to be a love offering, involving children through adults.

### CONTINUE TO GIVE TO ALABASTER

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**THERE ARE THOUSANDS WHO HAVE NOT HEARD OF JESUS!**



Contributed by: Jane Lute



### Children's Talent Festival Results - November 19, 2011

**Division A:** Art I: Graham Rose - 1st, Evan Yost - 2nd, Marcus Morvay - 3rd; Oratory I: Graham Rose - 1st; Photography: Raymond DiCamillo - 1st.

**Division B:** Art I: Lance Bill - 1st, Art II: Allison Young - 1st and 2nd, Keyboard: Isabelle Rose - 1st, Photography: Ryan Martin - 1st, Vocal Solo: Bethany Hicks - 1st, Vocal Ensemble: Isabelle and Madeleine Rose - 1st.

**Division C:** Art I: Gabrielle DiCamillo - 1st, Spencer Smith - 2nd, Art II: Talia Rheel - 1st, Creative Writing: Natasha Roxby - 1st, Keyboard: Logan Bill - 1st, Photography: Zarah Morvay - 1st, Puppetry: Union City Puppeteers - 1st, Vocal Solo: Kurtis Martin - 1st, Vocal Ensemble: Union City 1st, Vocal Choir: Corry Kids Choir - 1st.

**Thank you to the Zone Directors:** Debbie Gilmore (North), Carol Burns (East), Becky McCarthy (South), Amy Rose (West), and Vicki Beunier (Southeast) and David McCarriher for his expertise; as well as to all the Judges and helpers for their willingness to serve.

**PLEASE NOTE: Children's Talent will move to the Spring once again ~ 2013!**



**Rev. Chris Easton**  
**NYI President**

Pastor Appreciation Month just ended. You know a great way to show your pastor and family you appreciate them? Send their children to Clergy Kids Retreat! Clergy Kids Retreat keeps getting bigger and better! This winter, our District Clergy kids have again been invited to participate with the MVNU Region in their 6<sup>th</sup> annual regional retreat. This past year saw our largest turnout yet - 77 teenagers! Retreat is always during President's Day weekend, which for 2012 is February 18-20. Check-in is 4:00 p.m. Saturday. We wrap up with lunch on Monday.

Kalahari is an amazing resort and a perfect setting for all the goals of the retreat. We have kept the cost as low as possible again. Between MVNU Church Relations and Admissions, and MVNU Regional NYI Council, they subsidize well over 50% of the total expense.

Enough suites are reserved for 80 students this year. Notice the three shuttles offered on Saturday and Monday (Parkersburg, Columbus and Dayton). Those should be a great help to many. Registration can be completed online at <http://www.mvnu.edu/churchrelations/ckretreat>. You will also find the medical release and further information there. *We understand a few schools do not get President's Day off. If your school does not and you choose to pick your teen up Sunday evening, we will discount your registration by \$25.*

*Clergy Kids are defined as assigned minister dependents. It is each family's responsibility to transport students to and from this event. Financial Aid from those clergy kids on the Pittsburgh District NYI is possible. Contact [ceaston@butlernaz.org](mailto:ceaston@butlernaz.org) for more details.*

***Date:*** Saturday - Monday, February 18-20, 2012

***Who:*** Teens (grades 7-12) of Nazarene clergy

***Location:*** Kalahari Resort & Water Park - Sandusky, Ohio

***Cost:*** \$129/person for single-student families; \$99/person for multiple-student families

***Sign-up:*** Registration & \$50 deposit is due January 5. The balance is due February 5.

# District Ladies Retreat I Release!

Join us for a time of spiritual teaching, prayer, great food, warm fellowship, workshops, hilarious games and renewal!

With *Vanessa Betancourt*



Vanessa is a licensed Minister with the Church of the Nazarene. Her vision is to see women become passionate about their purpose in God's great plan for their life. To help women experience God's healing, grace, mercy and love. To provide an atmosphere that all will feel His love and acceptance. To share in worship and in life the transforming work that God has done and is yet to do for all who will earnestly seek Him.

**Her message, I Release, will focus on life being a series of releases to the Lord. That God could not bring that next thing in our life until we release the current baggage we are holding onto.** You can find out more about Pastor Vanessa at [www.attheriver.org](http://www.attheriver.org).



**FRI., MARCH 16 to SAT., MARCH 17**

**Mt. Chestnut Nazarene District Center  
177 Norex Road, Butler, PA**

Registration begins at 4pm  
Workshops at 4:30pm  
Dinner at 6pm

Prayer room w/prayer counselors available throughout the weekend  
NPH books and gift items will be available for sale

## Ladies Spring Retreat – I Release

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to  
Room with \_\_\_\_\_

**Dorm rooms w/bunk beds sleeping 5 available on a first come, first serve basis**

✂ -----

Include form above and send payment to:

PGH District Church of the Nazarene Women's Ministries  
c/o Julie Beckley 153 Fitz Henry Rd., Smithton, PA 15479



Checks may be made payable to:  
PGH District Women's Ministries.

**Early Bird Special, save \$25!**

Payment received by **2/28 only \$80.**  
Payment received 2/29 – 3/07 \$105.

Colleen Smith, PGH District Women's Min. Director  
814-316-6819 [imapw@yahoo.com](mailto:imapw@yahoo.com)

# Brookville Installation of Pastor Jeff Horne



We announced the four-year recall of Pastor Gary John Smith at College Hill Church of the Nazarene by each board member presenting him with balloons, 18 colorful balloons to represent 18 years at Beaver Falls. Each board member then prayed with him.



Additional photos from installation at Brookville to the left.



On November 27, 2011, Conneaut Valley Nazarene celebrated a kind of Cycle of Life service for the Thanksgiving season. We began the service with the baby dedication of Katelyn McCurdy by her grandparents, Bill and Shelly Urban. Then 5 were baptized: (L to R) Norman Brumagin,



Terry Payne, Rev. Lillie, Theresa Ebner, Linda Norris and Ruby Overmier. Then 7 were taken in as members: (L to R) Norman Brumagin,

Sandra and Terry Payne, Rev. Lillie, Destiny Mattocks, Debbie Meadors, Theresa Ebner and Linda Norris. Then we presented 5 Memorial Roll Certificates to the families of Carl G. Overmier, Louise Brumagin, Freda Silvis, Anna Lewis and Nobilee "Rosie" Forro. There was a blessed spirit in this service which was followed by a church dinner.



Rev. Marshall Lillie, Conneaut Valley Church of the Nazarene

# **SCRAPBOOK RETREAT**

**March 2-4, 2012**

**Mt. CHESTNUT NAZARENE CENTER**

**177 NORTH ROAD, BUTLER, PA 16001**

- ***DEMONSTRATIONS FOR THE BEGINNER***
  - ***TIPS FOR THE EXPERIENCED***
- ***DEVOTIONS AND WORSHIP SERVICE***
  - ***FOOD AND LODGING INCLUDED***
- ***4:00 PM FRIDAY THROUGH 4:00 PM SUNDAY***
- ***FUN AND FELLOWSHIP WHILE YOU BUILD YOUR SCRAPBOOK MEMORIES***

**Cost: \$105 (Commuters: \$95)**

Contact the District Office for an application

**Phone: 724-287-5867**

**Email: [pghdistnaz@zoominternet.net](mailto:pghdistnaz@zoominternet.net)**

## District Events Schedule for 2012

**Friday, January 27 thru Sunday, January 29:** NYI Winter Retreat @ The Woodlands in Wexford (*see district website for more information*)

**Saturday, February 11:** District Teen Quizzing (*see district website*)

**Saturday, February 18 thru Monday, February 20:** Clergy Kids Retreat

**Saturday, February 25:** Children's Bible Quizzing (*see SDMI article*)

**Friday, March 2 thru Sunday, March 4:** District Scrapbook Retreat

**Saturday, March 10:** Unity in Community Day

**Friday, March 16 and Saturday, March 17:** District Ladies' Retreat

**Saturday, March 24:** M&M Spring Fellowship day; date will be changed

**Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21:** Women in Ministry Retreat

**Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5:** ENC Graduation, Quincy MA

**Saturday, May 19:** NYI Convention

**Friday, June 8:** NMI Convention and District Assembly (begins in the evening)

**Saturday, June 9:** District Assembly and Ordination

**Sunday, June 10:** All District Worship Service with Dr. Eugenio Duarte,  
General Superintendent

**Saturday, June 16 thru Wednesday, June 20:** Kidz Camp – Yes, these are  
the right dates

**Monday, June 25 thru Saturday, June 30:** Teen Camp

**Friday, July 28:** SDMI Rally

**Sunday, July 29 thru Sunday, August 5:** Family Camp

### Speakers:

**Sunday, July 29 thru Wednesday, August 1:**

Dr. Harold Graves, President of Naz Bible College

**Thursday, August 2 thru Sunday, August 5:**

Pastor Gene Wells, DS, Kentucky District

**Bible Teacher:** TBA

**Music:** Vance and Jeannie Sharp

**Kids Evangelist:** TBA

## Demonstrations and Tips

### **The Cricut cutting machine:**

Create pages that you only thought the professionals could.

### **Stamping with Scrapbooking:**

How to use stamps to enhance your pages!

### **Card Making:**

Make great greeting cards that can be used for any occasion.

### **Scrapbooking in 5:**

How to design scrapbook pages in less than 5 minutes, that look like they took all day!

**\*Note:** if you have any tips or demonstrations that you would like to share with the group, please let us know and we will happily include you in our agenda!

## **Weekend includes:**

Demonstrations for Beginners

Tips for Experienced

Devotions and Worship Service

Food & Lodging

4pm Friday - 4pm Sunday

*Fun & Fellowship  
while you build your  
scrapbook memories  
and make new ones!*

Complete the attached form and return to Mt. Chestnut Nazarene Center to make your reservations!

# Scrapbook Retreat

March 2-4, 2012

Mt. Chestnut Nazarene  
Center

177 North Road  
Butler, Pa 16001

\$105 for the weekend -  
meals and lodging  
included!

Contact Mt. Chestnut  
Nazarene Center for  
additional applications:  
[Pghdistnaz@zoominternet.net](mailto:Pghdistnaz@zoominternet.net)  
724-287-5867

Scrapbook Retreat  
March 2-4, 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Information:

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Preference:

\_\_\_\_\_

Tablemate Preference:

(Up to eight persons in a group)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cost:**

\$105/\$95 for commuters

Payment must accompany application

(non-refundable after deadline)

**Includes:**

Meals & lodging (linens not included - bring bedding/towels), also bring your own lamp

**Deadline:**

February 20, 2012

**Time:**

4pm on Friday to 4pm on Sunday

**Devotions & Worship:**

Your church can count you for Sunday School & Church Service

Hi! My name is Patti Smith, and I am looking forward to sharing my story and my passion with you.

I hope this weekend not only proves to be a wonderful scrapbooking experience, but also a time of praise and worship. Our God uses many means to create new relationships where we can share his love.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share my story.