



**February 2024**

**The new 2023 Manual is available!!!**

In case you haven't heard, the new Manual 2023 is now in force for the Church of the Nazarene. It is not in print yet, but pre-orders can be placed with The Foundry, our publishing house at [www.thefoundrypublishing.com](http://www.thefoundrypublishing.com). You can also download a PDF version of the Manual at [www.resources.nazarene.org](http://www.resources.nazarene.org). The legislation of the 2023 Manual is in effect and supersedes all other versions of the Manual immediately. Without having you read the entire thing through, I thought it might be helpful if I provided a few highlights of important changes and where you might find them.

**28-29.6 The Christian Life:** This entire section has been rewritten to express our core commitment to holiness of heart and life in a way that projects that commitment into the complicated world in which we live. This section is an excellent piece out of which to disciple our people in terms of not only how we should choose to live but why those choices matter in terms of our own soul-care and the care of the world in which we have been placed.

**114.3, 143** Changed the length of time to remove an "inactive" member from membership from two years to one.

**115.2** Authorizes local churches to hold meetings and vote electronically.

**115.7-115.8** Requires that public notice of annual and special meetings be conveyed to the church at least two weeks in advance.

**119** Provides that pastoral appointments may be for one or two years.

**137.3, 149, 154-55** Allows the church board to fill vacancies on the board.

**139.10** Changes pastoral sabbaticals to every 5<sup>th</sup> year of consecutive service to a church and suggests they last a minimum of 4 weeks.

**147** Lowers the number stewards on the board from three to two.

**225.19** Removed the need for a District Assembly Finance Committee and assigns that duty to the District Advisory Board if the District prefers.

**302** The General Assembly is no longer required to meet in the month of June.

**919** A long paragraph was added to the appendix of the Manual regarding our stance on gender identity which supports the idea that gender is assigned by God at birth and is not to be considered a choice to be made by an individual.

These are just a sampling of some of the legislative changes made in the Manual by our gathered church. What is great to remember that our Manual is not a law-book passed down by a court of clergy on holy high horses, it is OUR considered opinion as a body of Christ—lay and clergy coming together to think through hard topics and decide together how will find the way forward. In this way the Church of the Nazarene is unique. The whole church may not always agree, but we find agreement and we choose to work together for the sake of the mission of "making Christ-like disciples in the nations."

You are loved,

Dr. Larry

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NM District  
website: [www.nmnaz.com](http://www.nmnaz.com)

District Office:  
300 Bonita Park Rd  
Capitan, NM 88316

District Phone:  
575-626-1116



**Man Camp is on its way** at Bonita Park, April 25-27, 2024. The cost is \$140. Please talk to your men's group, friends, and grab your sons and grandsons. As well as all those who might be interested and make plans to attend this year's Man Camp. **Registration information will be available on nmnaz.com.**

Our speaker this year, Rev. Dave Myer, who is a pastor at Christ Community Church of the Nazarene in Concord, CA and a pastoral coach.

If you have any furthering questions, please email me at [wade.elftman@yahoo.com](mailto:wade.elftman@yahoo.com) or call 575-522-7120.



**PALCON Theme: One Heart.**

This is the prayer of Jesus for us. It's also an invitation—an invitation into the love of God, **One Heart...**summons us to live into and from the promise of Jesus to accompany us as, together,

Here is the **conference website** ([www.palcon.org](http://www.palcon.org)) and the dates and location for the PALCON on your field.





I am happy to announce to you the hiring of Bonita Park's new Director of Camp Operation, Denny Flaherty.

Denny moved to New Mexico from Indiana, but has served in camping from California to Virginia, both in Boy Scouts and Christian Camping for over twenty years.

He is here with his wife (Melissa) and two of his sons, Connor and Liam. Denny has arrived on the campus and will begin work, officially, on February 1. We are looking forward to a long and productive relationship with Director Flaherty.

Dr. Lawrence A. Lacher

New Mexico District Superintendent



Greetings from the Flaherty's! My name is Denny , I have the privilege of being married to Melissa-going on 32 years. We are a blended family, with 1 daughter, Heather, 3 sons, David, Connor, and Liam. We have 4 grand children on Melissa's side. I started my work career in the remodeling industry with my father's firm, 20 years. I got into the camping industry in 2001 with the Boy Scouts as a camp ranger. We have been blessed to serve several camps over the years. I consider serving Christian camping and retreat centers my way of life, a servant of our Lord to enhance the Kingdom with the gifts He has blessed me with. To Him belongs all the glory!

Denny Flaherty◊◊+

## **Up Coming Important Dates for the New Mexico District**

### **2024**

#### **FEBRUARY**

<u>Teen Quiz at Tuscon</u>	<u>Gal—Phil</u>	<u>Feb 3</u>
<u>Childrens Quiz at Sandia Valley</u>		<u>Feb 10</u>
<u>ASH Wednesday</u>		<u>Feb 14</u>

#### **March**

<u>District Childrens Quiz at Heights 1st</u>	<u>Mar 2</u>
<u>District Teen Quiz at Rio Communities</u>	<u>Mar 9</u>
<u>SPARK—Bonita Park Children' Workers workshop</u>	<u>Thurs 3/21– 3/24</u>
<u>Palm Sunday</u>	<u>March 24</u>
<u>Good Friday</u>	<u>March 29</u>
<u>Easter Sunday</u>	<u>March 31</u>

#### **April**

<u>Bonita Park Pause for Improvement Days</u>	<u>Apr 1-14</u>
<u>Ordinands Retreat</u>	<u>Apr 10</u>
<u>Year End Meetings</u>	<u>Apr 11-13</u>
<u>Man Camp</u>	<u>Apr 25-27</u>

# NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

I pray this new year finds you all well and excited about the Kingdom opportunities this year will bring! We have several NMI pieces of news and events to highlight.

**The Global Week of Prayer is coming up from February 25 - March 2.** There are some exciting New Prayer Guides available for Adults and Children (available in 15 languages!) at the NMI Website.

Check it out: <https://nazarene.org/nmigwp>

## Prayer Video

The NMI prayer video, that debuted during the Global NMI Convention, is available in English, French, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish by clicking [here](#).

## Alabaster 75th Anniversary Year

Throughout Alabaster's history, there have been many places where funds could be used to help rebuild or establish church presence following times of war or other catastrophic events. The encouragement that comes through Alabaster giving fosters a spirit of gratitude for the granted funds but also a spirit of participation by those recipients for the sake of others who need buildings. In these contexts, Alabaster truly lays foundations for people to worship, heal, and learn.

This month's Alabaster video comes from Seoul, South Korea, where following the Korean War (1950-1953) the Sangam-dong Church of the Nazarene was able to build a church that has proven to have significant influence to this day.

To download this month's video from Seoul, South Korea, on the Asia-Pacific Region, click [here](#)

## Care and Connection

Our new District Links family for 2024 is Chad and Lindsay Dickerson. Some of you may remember Chad visiting our district a couple of years ago. He and his wife just welcomed their first baby this past November and they are serving in Spain on the Eurasia Region. Check out their attached bio and pray about how your church can support them throughout this next year. Their link to support through giving is: <https://give.nazarene.org/pledge/cldickerson>

If you were counting up the Areas of Impact this email covers, you found 4! This email gives you direct ways to engage in: **Prayer, Care and Connection, Alabaster, and Engaging Youth and Children.**

The **5th Area of Impact** is **paying your World Evangelism Fund budget every year.** We are closing in on the end of our church year in April. Please make sure your WEF is up to date and paid in full. This is one of the ways we participate in the Global Mission of God to make disciples in all nations. I love that our church has made this a staple in Who we are and how we value the impact of the Gospel on the whole world. Thank you for your faithfulness to the Kingdom, both close to home and far away.

As always, please keep me updated on how your church is engaging in mission! I love to pray for you and see how you are engaging your communities and sending people and resources out for Global Impact! Also, please feel free to post your mission updates on our NMI leaders Facebook Group!

One exciting event approaching this summer is the trip to Costa Rica with Encuentro Missions. Pastor Chris Tiner is spearheading this trip and taking 90 people to serve together in Costa Rica! Our district is very excited about the Kingdom impact of this experience; both for the community in which we will work and minister and in the lives of all of those participating. We have a large number of people who are participating in their very first mission trip! If you are interested in assisting with the cost of this trip, please send any donations to our District Treasurer, Larry Fry, marked for Costa Rica. We will have a special time of prayer over the team at our Mission Rally on June 20th.

Thank you for being who you are, for loving the people God loves, and for partnering in God's redemptive activity all over the world!

Joyfully,  
Nicole Young  
NM District NMI President  
Church Street Church of the Nazarene  
Carlsbad, NM





HALF-MILLION  
MOBILIZATION



### Half Million Mobilization 2024

Half Million Mobilization (HMM) Call to Pray. [Click here](#) for the video of the HMM Call to Prayer for 2024.

HMM 2024 Prayer Journals. [Click here for HMM Prayer Journals](#) from the Foundry. Currently, preorders of the Prayer Journals are being accepted.

[2024 Blessing Our Community Sermon Series](#) is available in English now with other translations coming soon. The Blessing Our Community Sermons are intentionally integrated with the day-to-day devotionals of the Prayer Journal

Children's Resources. These resources will also coincide with the sermon series that runs from Easter to Pentecost.\

### Cycle of Resurgence / Blessing Our Community 2024

The Blessing Our Community Website is live. This is the place to find all available resources, links and everything Blessing Our Community. Please visit <https://usacanadaregion.org/cycle-of-resurgence/blessing-our-community> for all available resources.

Intro to Blessing Our Community Webinar. Please keep sharing the link to the Webinar being held January 17th from 12 Noon to 1pm Central Standard Time. [Register Here](#). We currently have over 130 people registered! Thanks for participating and sharing!

### **INTERNATIONAL Food Festival 2024!!** The New Mexico District is Invited to Participate!

I am reaching out to the Nazarene Churches here in the New Mexico/El Paso District. The International Food Festival of 2024 is approaching soon, so I would like to remind everyone that it will be on **February 25, 2024**, 6pm-8pm at the Mission Training Center in Albuquerque. Sandia Valley will be hosting this event and we would like to invite your Church/Fellowship to join us. We can provide sleeping quarters for those who would like to stay the night also.

There will be three (3) categories for each region that must be met; food that your group would make of that region, research page of missions in that area, and overall presentation. We will also have guest speakers, experiences from missionaries, music from around the world and door prizes. Please join us for an evening of fun and food.

#### **The regions you can choose from are:**

Africa	Asia-Pacific
Eurasia	Meso-America
South America	USA/Canada

New Mexico District Mission Area Coordinators and Pastors, Please get this information to your church's NMI President or let me know how to contact them so that I may give them this information also.

Please Contact Pam at 505-362-5844 or email: [bipdragonlady@gmail.com](mailto:bipdragonlady@gmail.com) with the country your Church/Fellowship is planning to represent no later than February 1, 2024

I look forward to seeing you all at the Festival.

Sincerely,

Pamela Gonzalez

Sandia Church NMI President



NM DISTRICT WOMEN'S MINISTRY



## Womens Retreat 2024!!

The women's Ministry Council  
Has been working hard  
To create a Retreat to  
Give our women Rest and Renewal!

Save the Date!!!

Aug 24—26

Come and bring your friends  
To sit in our Father's SHADE togeth-  
er this weekend. New format  
through out our time in His SHADE.



A 3 day/2 night retreat for children's teachers.  
A time of learning, resourcing, and equipping  
as well as connecting with children's leaders.

## SPARK::New Mexico

**Who:** Children's Directors, Children's Pastors, Children's Teachers,  
Children's Team Members, and Pastors

**When:** Thursday, March 21 – Saturday, March 23, 2024

**Where:** Bonita Park in Angus, NM

**Early Bird Registration:** By February 15, 2024 - PRICE BELOW

**Regular Registration:** By February 28, 2024 - ADDITIONAL \$30

**Late Registration:** After February 28, 2024 - ADDITIONAL \$60

**Lodging:**

Option 1: Dorm - \$160 per person

Option 2: Double Occupancy - \$170 per person

Option 3: Single Occupancy - \$180 per person

Option 4: No Lodging - \$145 per person

**Includes:** 6 meals and 2 nights of lodging

**To Register or For More Information:**

[equiptoengage.org/spark](http://equiptoengage.org/spark)

**We Are One Team From Different Cities and On Different Districts,  
But All Called to Serve God, Children and Their Families.**





## SPARK Schedule

### Thursday

3:00 Check-In Opens  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Ugly Sweater Party  
 8:30 Fellowship

### Friday

7:00 Coffee & Fellowship  
 8:00 Breakfast  
 9:00 Worship  
 10:30 Breakout Session 1  
 12:00 Lunch  
 1:00 Breakout Session 2  
 2:30 Breakout Session 3  
 4:00 Free Time  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Team Building  
 8:30 Fellowship

### Saturday

7:00 Coffee & Fellowship  
 8:00 Breakfast  
 8:45 Breakout Session 4  
 10:00 Breakout Session 5  
 11:15 Worship  
 12:30 Lunch  
 1:00 See You Next Year!

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Dorms  
 Linens & Towels not Provided  
  
 Double & Single Occupancy  
 Linens & Towels not Provided

### MORE INFORMATION

Beth Bidle Rush  
 SPARK Director  
  
 Trey and Candice Brooks  
 Equip to Engage Directors  
[info@equiptoengage.org](mailto:info@equiptoengage.org)  
 or 260.632.7855

### UGLY SWEATER PARTY

Night One...  
 You are encouraged to  
 dress up for our theme.  
 Come in your ugly sweater  
 or anything Christmas!