



January 2022



Getting Back to What Matters

I am writing this letter from Iowa where yet more family members have been diagnosed positive for Covid-19 and I am thinking, with all of you, “Isn’t this pandemic supposed to be in our rearview mirror by now?” Like the prophets of the Babylonian exile, many have suggested that this pandemic would be a minor inconvenience that would be behind us in short order and the church could soon get back to being the church again. In the 29th chapter of Jeremiah, the Prophet took issue with those who were predicting a quick end to the Jewish captivity in Babylon and urged the people toward another strategy: “Thrive where you have been planted.” (4-7).

This morning, as I write this article to you, I am praying that we are not in for another sixty-seven years of this pandemic disruption. However, I do believe that this pandemic has normalized that we will be forced to think of new ways to approach church and culture going forward and that we will never be able to go back to church as it was when Christianity was the dominant voice in our cities and towns. Like Jeremiah, I want to challenge you to rally your churches to the things that will allow it to thrive in this strange place in which we find ourselves (29:11-14).

Pray: Seeking the Lord’s Plan: “¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you”—this is the LORD’s declaration—“plans for your well-being, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” This well-known and oft-quoted verse of Jeremiah reminds us that God has a plan for us. That plan is not to cause disaster, but to bring us well-being, hope, and a future. Since that is true, we should spend time talking to Him to find out what that plan is. God has chosen prayer as the primary way in which He communicates with His people. Therefore, if we want to know what He has planned for us as individuals, families, or churches, we *have to ask Him*. We have to pray until we have heard from Him and know the plans He has. Paul reminds us, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.” (1 Cor. 16). Prayer is the means to the Mind.

Pray: Seeking the Lord’s Presence: More important than knowing the Lord’s plan is knowing the Lord’s presence. Jeremiah goes on, “¹³ You will seek me and find me when you search for me with all your heart.” Here’s the real blessing. Whether we know God’s plan or not; whether we know anything about what is around the next corner, we can live our lives knowing the presence of God as a present reality if we are willing to seek Him “with all our hearts” through prayer. Prayer is the only means to know the plan of God, but, more importantly, prayer is the only means to have a personal fellowship with the God of the universe.

Pray: Seeking the Lord’s People: “I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and places where I banished you”—this is the LORD’s declaration. “I will restore you to the place from which I deported you.” (14). As we look across our sanctuaries and Sunday School classes wondering where all the people have gone, we need to remember this promise. God has promised to regather His people together again IF we will commit ourselves to seek Him in prayer. Here we see that what God finds important is a bit different than what we find important. We burn ourselves out with preaching and programs designed to proclaim the glories of God so that people will come to the saving knowledge of the Savior. These things are good. But, from God’s perspective, the most important thing to His is that we spend time listening to Him in the fellowship of prayer. If you want things to change in 2022, the ONE thing to focus on is PRAYER. Prayer unlocks everything that God wants to accomplish in your life and in your church. Without prayer, you don’t have a prayer.

In the weeks to come, you will be hearing about a “A Call to Pray, and A Call to Speak.” This initiative that has come out of the heart of our Regional Director, Dr. Stan Reeder, who seeks to mobilize ½ million Nazarenes to this call of Jeremiah to pray, to hear, to speak, and to follow as the Lord leads so that we can reach this nation with the love of God.

Let us seize the opportunity to use this disruption, caused by the public health crisis, as a time to hear a fresh Word from God that will mobilize His Church with His Love to reach His children.

Dr. Larry

Dr. Larry Lacher
District Superintendent

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District website:

Phone: 575-626-1116

www.nmnaz.com

District Office:

300 Bonita Park Rd
Capitan, NM 88316

Leadership Zoom is returning this month

Be watching your EMAILS for the information



ACTIVITIES IN SOME OF OUR CHURCHES

Farmington Cross Roads Community Church



Aztec Church of the Nazarene



Hope Springs Community church of the Nazarene

Join us Christmas Eve at 6:30 pm



26:16 Church of the Nazarene



Gallup First Church of the Nazarene: Thanks to ALL that donated to the "Kids Klub" Christmas. Kids sang Jingle Bells, Silent Night, and lit the Advent Candles with Pastor Dave Bates. The homeless/street guys had hot lunch, and received backpacks full of socks, gloves n goodies. Merry Christmas!!!



Roswell 1st Childrens Christmas Program



Clovis Living Stones, Drive through Nativity. About 1000 came through to see them,

El Paso Zone Community Christmas Eve Service at Open Gate Church of the Nazarene



Lovington's Children's Christmas program





New Mexico NYI
WINTER RETREAT
 @ Bonita Park
 JANUARY 14-16, 2022
 COST \$120

Registration forms are on the website: nmnazyouth.com

Make sure to register right away!



Our Love and Prayers to Stan and Sharon,

Sharon Yocom's dad, Jim Gilbert, went home to be with Jesus on Christmas Eve morning at about 11:00am. Stan said that God's timing was really perfect as always. Please pray for Stan and Sharon and all of the family members. Jim will be missed by so many. Jim gave many hours volunteering at the Bonita Park camp. The crosses that grace the pond as well as the cross at Armstrong Tabernacle were built by him. The hand railing around Morris Center decking was also his handiwork. So many things on the grounds are a reflection of his expertise and his love of giving himself away.

A memorial celebration of his life is pending. I will let you know when that is determined. Condolences may be sent to the address below:

Stan and Sharon Yocom
 108 Yocom Road
 Capitan, NM 88316



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE DISTRICT 2022

<i>Teen Winter Retreat</i>	<i>Jan 14-16</i>	<i>W.I.M. Zoom</i>	<i>Jan 29 2pm</i>
<i>Womens Retreat</i>	<i>Mar 25-27</i>	<i>Level Club Dues</i>	<i>March</i>
<i>Dist. Kid Quiz</i>	<i>Mar 5</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<i>Mar 2 (Lent Begins)</i>
<i>Dist. Teen Quiz</i>	<i>Mar. 12</i>	<i>NM Xtreme NYI</i>	<i>Mar 18-19</i>
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>April 10</i>	<i>Easter</i>	<i>April 17</i>
<i>Man Camp</i>	<i>April 22-24</i>		



Returning to Our Regularly Scheduled activities in 2022:

- * Children's Quizzing January 8th
- * Teen Quizzing January 22nd
- * NM Winter Retreat January 14th -16th

Also, please remember to send photos of new believers and/or new Nazarenes to Ryan Nelson (pastorryan@cscnaz.com) for a video for District Assembly.

Thank you!

Pastor Ryan Nelson
Church Street Church of the Nazarene\
2401 W. Church St.
Carlsbad, NM 88220
575-885-8198

New Mexico District Advisory Board and Council were invited to a

"White Mountain Christmas at the Flying J Ranch".

Dr. Larry and Lisa invited them to an evening of Food, Fun and Christmas music together. It was very cold and breezy but could not freeze out our wonderful time together.





Happy New Year!

I cannot believe it is already 2022 as I sit here and plan out the next few months and anticipate all that the Lord has in store for us, our family, our churches, and our district. I am really looking forward to gathering with Global NMI later this month for our District Leadership Training. I am anticipating a Spirit-filled time of encouragement, ideas, and learning about how we are continuing on mission in our ever changing world. I am excited to bring back all that I learn to our district and to see where God is directing NMI in the years to come.

One change that many of you may already know about is that our dear friends, the Grahams, have returned home from New Zealand after six years of service and are also anticipating where God will direct them in the months to come.

Because of this change, we now have only two Links families for our district: the Banos and the Goossens. If you were previously assigned the Graham family, please feel free to pick up the Banos or Goossens as your new Links family to love on until we are assigned new Links families this year at our Convention. Jaron and Elizabeth will always be part of our District family and I look forward to connecting with them state-side. Keep them in your prayers as God is directing them in a new path for His Kingdom.

We have reason to rejoice and live in Hope because of our Lord and Savior. This year holds as many unknowns as the previous two, but we serve a God who holds it all in the palm of His hand. I am praying for mighty days ahead as a district!

Joyfully,
Nicole Young



Womens Retreat 2022



NM District Women's Retreat March 25-27, 2022

***"Choose: An Invitation to the Best Day Ever Adventure"
With Carrie Wisheart***

She is a mom, wife, worship leader, song writer, prayer warrior, author, high school educator/principal.

It is going to be an exciting time!!! Plan to join us and bring some ladies with you.

Remember, the first 150 ladies to register will receive a book by Carrie.

Registration is open online just go to nmnaz.com.

For more information contact Pastor DeAnn at pastordeann16@gmail.com

Happy New Year Ladies,

I can't believe we are so close to Christmas and 2022! Unbelievable!!! That means that March is just around the corner. I am so excited that we will be together at Bonita Park on March 25th - 27th. It has been so long since we have been together. Carrie Wisheart is really looking forward to meeting you and sharing with us. It is going to be a great time. I know some ladies have already registered online. Just wanted to make sure everyone knows that you can register anytime now. Just go to our District website nmnaz.com then click on events and select Women's Retreat.

Attached you will find a copy of the flier. Share the information with a friend. If you would like to give a Christmas gift to sponsor a lady for the retreat, just call or email me and we can work on that. Now is the time to plan for the retreat.

I pray that you have a blessed Christmas! Such a wonderful time of the year. Share the hope of Jesus with those you come in contact with this season.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." Romans 15:13

Merry Christmas,
DeAnn

2022

Like Jeremiah, I want to challenge you to rally your churches to the things that will allow it to thrive in this strange place in which we find ourselves (Jeremiah 29:11-14).

Pray: Seeking the Lords Plan

Pray: Seeking the Lords Presence

Pray: Seeking the Lord's People