



April 2022 Volume 85. Number 04

Dr. Lacher's column	1
Churches activities	2&6
NYI	3
District Calendar	4
Man Camp	4
NMI	5
Obituaries	7

Easter-at last

For the last two years, the church had to be pretty creative about how we have celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus. Between the pandemic and the orders of the government, we were forced to celebrate outdoors, in our cars, in our masks, socially distant, and without the traditional trappings of our Easter celebrations. What we thought would be a temporary inconvenience became a way of life—and none of us liked it very much.

In many ways, we have identified with the first Christians, who had to find ways to celebrate and testify to who Jesus was while under government and social restrictions, facing death, political upheaval, isolation, and ridicule. Still, we proudly gathered and declared the glories of God working to save the world.

This year, we are back in our churches with little or no restrictions upon us. This year, how will we celebrate the glories of God's love penetrating the world, penetrating the grave, and offering the gift of saving fellowship with himself to everyone who would look to the cross and believe?

You see, I think there is a danger that we will retreat back into our buildings, close our doors to the world, have our grand celebrations of Jesus with our greatest festivities and suffer no ridicule, no inconvenience, no risk, and no one will hear the greatest news in all of human history.

At last, we can celebrate Easter with all the joys and none of the struggles of the pandemic, yet one thing remains the same. We still have the obligation to declare His wonders and His grace to and *in* the world.

One thing that has become clear to us during the last decade is that our traditional approach to building the church is no longer effective. The church growth plan that worked for decades, perhaps a century or more, built around attracting people to a place where Christians were gathering for worship using some sort of programming or event in order to get them to hear and to respond to the gospel is simply no longer an effective means of winning people to Jesus. In fact, more people have been leaving the church than there have been people drawn to the church in the last ten to twenty years or more.

I think that God has used the pandemic to teach the church a lesson. It IS possible to have church and to BE the church and not be locked *inside* a building. I think God has been reminding the church that the essence of the Great Commission is to GO INTO THE WORLD. Perhaps, the pandemic has taught us that it is possible to project the church out of the doors of the sanctuary and still be, in every way, the church.

So, before we go back to business as usual, let's take time to think and to pray about the lessons God has taught us in these past two years. Perhaps we have been singing, "Go tell it to the church pew" too long, when all along, God has wanted us to be singing "Go tell it on a Mountain!" (I know, wrong season).

Just don't forget how loved you are and how much love you have to share.

In His Service and yours,

Dr. Larry Lacher

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To see the entire NM District Schedule and Information go to: <u>nmnaz.com</u> and select a tab.

ACTIVITIES IN SOME OF OUR CHURCHES



By Pastor James Byerly La Vista Church of the Nazarene White Rock

La Vista Church of the Nazarene would like to announce a new Little Free Pantry at our church in White Rock.

After recognizing that there were several Little Free Pantry food boxes in Los Alamos, but none in White Rock, several members of La Vista Church Of the Nazarene decided it was time for that to change.

Our Missions President, Becky Garrett got to work planning to make this the missions project for our Vacation Bible School (VBS) during spring parent teacher conferences. The children who attended the VBS took part in painting and decorating the box, as well as bringing donations to stock it for the first time.

The following Sunday was our VBS take over where the children were able to take their parents to VBS. After service, all took part in mounting the Little Free Pantry in its final location and ceremonially dedicating it while stocking it for the first time.

This Little Free Pantry is now located near the mailbox at La Vista Church of the Nazarene at 15 Grand Canyon Dr., on the corner of N.M. 4 and Grand Canyon.

We invite the community to take what is needed and leave what you are able. We pray that this new addition will be a blessing to our neighbors in the White Rock community.



Imagine Church of the Nazarene will have it's first Family of God meeting this Saturday, April 2nd at 6 pm. We will begin with a free dinner followed by a family time of meeting with God.

Everyone is welcome! Come and join with us as we celebrate the opening of our new Church.

8040 North Loop Drive. (Yarbrough and North Loop) El Paso, Texas 915-881-4167

God is doing amazing things! Come expecting to make new friends, spend time with the

Family of God, and experience the love of Jesus!

Imagine what God will do...Meeting needs, making friends, connecting God!, Blessings, Pastor Chuck

Taco Tuesday is back! This Tuesday @ 6pm @ THE TINER'S HOUSE!! All are welcome. If you need the address shoot me a text or message.



FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2022 AT 5 PM Light of the World Aztec Church of The Nazarene

Gallup First Church of the Nazarene

Mt Taylor Church ot Nazarene:

Thanks Paul McGrady for bringing Angel's to visit us, the Jackson Family "25:2 Solutions".

Eric, Kim, Hattie, Hailey, Leif.







THE MISSION



Election results from NYI Convention March 2022

NYI Council President- Jordin West (Heights) Young Adult Representatives- Caleb Gomez (Roswell 1st), Jake Pope (Roswell 1st)

Senior High Representatives- Maddox Jennings (Roswell 1st), Truett Laughlin (Carlsbad) Junior High Representatives- Emma Tharp (Heights), Charise Young (Carlsbad) Wade Elftman continues on as our Vice President and the position of Secretary is currently vacant.

NYI Delegates to Global NYI Convention Ministerial Delegate- Stephanie Yocom (Carlsbad) Lay Delegate- Christa Storch (Los Lunas Cornerstone) Youth Delegate- Reagan Van Soest (Carlsbad)

Jordan West





Teen Camp July 18-22

Man Camp 2022



Calling all men!

You deserve some rest, relaxation, and retreat. Good news, Man Camp is on its way at Bonita Park, April 22-24, 2022. 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. Then be on the lookout for registration information in the coming weeks.

Our speaker this year, Dr. Jaron Graham, is a home-grown New Mexico boy, who grew up on our district and has served it in a variety of ways. Most recently he was a pastor and District Superintendent in New Zealand.

If you have any furthering questions, please email me at <u>wade.elftman@yahoo.com</u> or call 575-522-7120. We are interested in creating some excursions, for those interested, so if would be interested in heading up golfing, hiking, frisbee golf, or a motorcycle ride please let me know ASAP.

Man Camp Director: Rev. Wade Eftman.

GO TO: <u>www.nmnaz.com</u> for registration!

		<u>GEVENTS FOR THE DISTRICT 20</u> April	<u> </u>	
Ordinand's Retreat Palm Sunday	April 6-7 April 10	Year End Meetings Easter	April 7-9 April 17	
Man Camp	April 22-24	<i>NM District Year ends</i> May	April 30	
**ANNUAL PASTO	OR'S REPORTS DUE	May 11 District NMI council	May 24	
		July		
**District Assembl	y and Conventions	July 7-9 2022 (Abq He	eights First)	
Kids Camp	July 11-15	Teen Camp	July 18-22	
**District Family (Camp July 25 –3	<u>1</u>		
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NMI



Greetings, NM District! I am praying for you all as you continue in the mission God has for you in your communities and around the globe!

Below are a few updates from Global NMI for you to share and use as you lead in NMI in your local churches.

Year-end reports are right around the corner. Our NMI numbers this year will determine how many delegates our district can send to the Global NMI Convention in 2023. Please make sure your NMI membership matches your annual pastor report numbers.

We will be sending out the link to fill in the report soon.

Thank you for all you do for the Kingdom! Joyfully, Nicole Young

BRAZIL

The Church of the Nazarene began work in Brazil in 1958. It has a population of approximately 211 million people. It is a very ethically diverse country due to the mass immigration from around the world. It has beautiful coastlines as well as tropical forests spread through the country. The church in Brazil continues to blossom and grow year after year. People are hearing the Good News in Brazil and around the world as Brazil continues to be a sending country with Brazilians serving the church in many regions.

PRAYER

- Pray that the church in Brazil recovers from the effects of the pandemic and becomes stronger in 2022.
- Pray for the new district superintendents who were elected in 2022, that they may be instruments of God for the g growth of the Church.
- Pray for the families who are experiencing extreme hardship due to the rains and floods in the Brazilian states of Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, and Bahia.
- Pray for the national ministries, their projects, conferences and congresses, so that there is a revival in Brazil among children, youth, and adults.

Pray for the National Nazarene Pastors and Leaders Retreat, which will be in October 2022. Our theme will be Holiness: In All and For All.

Here's the link for the Jesus Film. If you feel so moved to get the Jesus film in the Ukrainian language for adults and /or children it would be used!!!

I have the Tarrants address if you need it.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries - Ukrainian Help in Poznań, Poland

Www.NCM.org/Ukraine—Use this link for giving to our work in Poland for the Ukrainian help!!

<u>Ukraine Crisis | Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (ncm.org)</u> - Information on Crisis Care Kits!!! They are desperately needed! This link will get you all the info for the kits and <u>most important HOW TO SHIP THEM</u>

Here is another giving link for giving: https://give.nazarene.org/donate/f/137043

For our missionaries in Poland This link came from Hayley Tarrant.





CHURCH - SIA

Women's Retreat 2022



Today support our Teens by eating at Fuddruckers at Cornado Mall. All money goes to teen for Mission trip and Teen camp this year!

ALB Sandia Church of the Nazarene

MISSION ABQ

It seems like just yesterday we were sending out our Holiday update and now it's March! We have been very busy! There were many construction projects and improvements that were just beginning in December. Some of them are finished and others are ongoing. Meanwhile, we are busier now than ever with continuing programs and new initiatives.



The Kingdom Builders fence is completed on the outside facing the street and we are still

waiting for the portion that faces our parking lot to be completed. We decided to add to the project and place a priority on getting a wrought iron security fence put around our front parking lot. This decision came after there about 8 different campfires set ablaze against the outside of our building over the course of just a couple of months, causing us to be concerned for our building should one of these get hot enough to penetrate the outer stucco coating.

MISSION TRAINING CENTER.

The Students and Staff at our Mission Training Center have been busy! Among their activities are:

- Christmas outreach in partnership with Shine, APS, the Sheriff's department, and other local organizations who helped us identify community members in need.
- Valentines Day Outreaches at Pueblo del Paiz
- CLT courses: Practicing Wesleyan Holiness Spiritual Formation

• Several of our students participated in "Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World" through our partnership with Shine. This is an incredible life skills and human development program. We are so happy for our graduates and hope to increase our ability to offer this and refer our families to it in the future

And much more...

A team from Oklahoma visited us to do some ministry and work through our partnership with local churches connected with Shine. They came and handed out cheeseburgers on Central Ave, contributed to our Loads of Love event at the Spin Cycle laundromat near Copper Terrace, and spread a new load of sand and did some landscaping at Kingdom Builders



Our families who have lost loved ones



Rev. Patti Rivas' father and Bianca's grandfather died January 12, 2022. Norman Evan Johnson retired US. Army. Please keep them in our prayers as they travel this journey.

Jayme Minyard's father died March 17, 2022. James Gordon Jackson. Please keep them in your prayers as they walk this new path.

Hayley Tarrent's mother passed away March 30, 2022. Hayley and her sisters were able to facetime with her mom's last breaths. Please be in prayer for Hayley and Andrew and the family as they travel this journey from so far away. Hayley's father passed away last year also. It has been a difficult year for them.

