



Dr. Lawrence Lacher



March 2025

MISSION DRIFT



I just completed reading a powerful book that I believe is a warning to the church titled, Mission Drift. While this book is not written to or for the church, many of the principles that they outline I found to be very applicable to the status of the church today.

The authors note, “Too often, the passions of the first generation become the preferences of the second generation and are irrelevant to the third generation” (99). Since most of our churches are at least three generations old, this quote should make us take note and ask, “Are we still on mission or are we just going through the motions?”

Sadly, it is uncommon to find a church in which all the people who attend are “mission aligned.” I suppose most people attend church because they are comfortable there, they find that they enjoy the music, preaching, fellowship, and programming. Their friends are there. Most people attend church for what the church offers to them or does for them. I suppose that few people attend church because they are captivated by the mission of the church and want to become involved in the purpose of the church, to lead people to the saving knowledge of Jesus.

If I am right, the church has drifted from her “prime directive.”

If you are reading this article and you are resonating with it in any way, what could you do to begin steering a corrective course?

One thing you could do is get the book that I referenced and read it prayerfully and humbly to evaluate whether you are a drifter. The authors of the book, Greer and Horst, will give you some pathways to get you and your church back on track if you are. They also have a workbook that could help you on the way.

Another approach could be to join me and several churches on the district in resetting your mission at the CPE training that will take place in El Paso on March 28-29. This training is designed for church planting but is also helpful in defining mission and plans to fulfill mission. So, if you feel like you are drifting and need to raise your sail to catch the wind of the Spirit, I want to help you. Gather up your key leaders and join us in El Paso for a reset.

Whatever you do, don’t let yourself or your church drift off mission. The stakes are too high for that, and people are too valuable for you to float by without noticing them.

In His Love,

Dr. Larry

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NM District
website: www.nmnaz.com

District Office:
300 Bonita Park Rd
Capitan, NM 88316

District Phone:
575-626-1116

MANCAMP

MAY 2-4, 2025 AT BONITA PARK

COST 160
REGISTER AT NMNAZ.COM

SPEAKER:
REV. JOE IBANEZ

Man Camp is on its way at Bonita Park, May 2-4, 2025. The cost is \$160. 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 www.nmnaz.com.

Bring your Star Wars gear to wear on Star Wars Day & May the Fourth Be With You!

Our speaker this year, Rev. Joe Ibanez, who is a pastor at Georgetown Church of the Nazarene in Georgetown, TX.

If you have any furthering questions, please email wade.elftman@yahoo.com or call 575-522-7120.

SAVE THE DATE

Church Planting Essentials

New Mexico District Training Event promoting the development of new and renewed churches.

March 28-29: El Paso, TX

Schedule: Friday Mar. 28, 9:00 a.m.- Sat. Mar. 29, 4:00 p.m.

Go to the District website: nmnaz.com under events to Register.



5th Sunday in the Month is now know as:

MISSION PROJECT FUND.

It is renamed from LEVEL CLUB.

The NMI council felt this new name better suited the purpose of these monies.

Please continue to give these 5th Sunday offerings to aid in our Mission Projects both near and far!

Mark you checks with MISSION PROJECT FUND and send them into the District Treasurer.

We are currently raising funds for our NACA W & W trips this year!!



Democratic Republic of the Congo -
 From General Superintendent- Carla Sundberg.
 2/15/2025
 Please pray for the DRC and our dear people there. The church where I was privileged to ordain folks a few years ago has been attacked and ransacked.

Up Coming Important Dates for the New Mexico District 2025

MARCH

Church Planting Essentials Mar 28—29 El Paso

APRIL

Year End Meetings April 10-12

Palm Sunday April 13

Easter April 20

Church Year Ends April 30

MAY

Man Camp May 2-4

Annual Pastor's Reports /NMI Due May 15

ELEVATE PLNU May 23—26

JUNE

Onward Young Adult Conference at Ruidoso June 6-8

NM District Conventions and Assembly Clovis June 26-28

JULY

"The Jubilee Gang" Kids Camp July 7-11

Teen Camp July 14-18

Family Camp July 25- 29

SEPTEMBER

WOMENS RETREAT Sept 26-28



Always check the district Calendar for complete schedule online: www.nmnaz.com

NM DISTRICT YOUTH!! PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THESE EVENTS!



Our NYC Coordinator is:
Cindy Byerly
She is working hard to plan an amazing NYC26 experience.

New Mexico District NYI!

Are you preparing to come to NYC, July 2026?
We have been busy gathering info and will have more info coming soon. If you are thinking about going with us scan the QR code and fill out the interest form.



ELEV8 May 23-26 @PLNU

General Info: elev8event.com

Leaders - How to register: elev8event.com/registration

Cost for all-inclusive - \$175
Event & food only - \$130
Event only - \$75
(cost is per person)

For more info or question:
Reach out to Rusty Brian
NYI Elevate Coordinator
pastorrustybrian@gmail.com
970.290.6510

OUR LINKS FAMILY FOR 2025

Greetings, District Family!

I wanted to send out our new Links Assignment for 2025. Thank you for loving on and lifting up our 2024 family, Chad and Lindsey Dickerson. Remember, they will be on a deputation tour later this spring, so we will get a chance to see them in person!



Our 2025 Links Missionary is:

Carrim, Errol & Rhonda

Email:

rcarrim@africanazarene.org

Profile

Page:

<https://give.nazarene.org/pledge/carrim>

Languages: English

Serving in: Africa

Please feel free to reach out to them, pray for them, and count them as part of your church family for this year! You can also send them love offerings and gifts via the link on their profile page.

Joyfully,

Nicole Young

Catching two stars in our District Family!

Jayme Elftman!, Angela Walker



That's right we're doing it again! KUDOS, THANKS, CONGRATULATIONS and FELICIDADES to our next Standing Ovation Award winner, Jayme Elftman!

Nominated for her commitment to students' academic success and going above and beyond for the students at University Hills Elementary School, we are honored and grateful for you and for these reasons and so many more, we give YOU a Standing Ovation. Congratulations to Jayme Elftman!!!



Rev. Angela Walker

[Started New Job at Mission El Paso Immigration Center](#)

November 2024 — Dept of Justice accredited Immigration Legal Representative

In 2018, I was worship pastor at Guymon Nazarene Church and a group of Sudanese Christians began meeting at our church. I became friends with Yar Jok, the pastor, and one day she called me to ask for help for one of their members. Jacob was trying to get a visa for his wife to come from Egypt to join him in Oklahoma, and he'd received a letter from US Citizenship and Immigration Services [USCIS]. I met him in my office, and even though English is my first language, I had a difficult time understanding what they wanted. As I helped him, I began to get an idea of

how difficult the immigration process is.

I learned of the Department of Justice program for accredited representatives. Someone who is not a lawyer can act as a legal representative for a non-citizen going through the immigration process. I took a 40-hour immigration law course and spent about 100 hours observing practicing representatives in Cactus, TX, Oklahoma City, OK, Tulsa, OK, and Iowa City, IA, then applied for the accreditation in Oklahoma. It was awarded 4 months after I moved to El Paso to work with immigrants here. On November 22, 2024, I was accredited here in El Paso, which gives me the ability to serve immigrants in Southwest Texas and New Mexico.

Please use Angela for any questions you may have regarding Immigration.



While we know that the greatest gift, we can give to someone is the knowledge of the love of God, most of us feel ill-equipped to share that gift. We might be better at purchasing tangible gifts than sharing good news, finding ourselves tongue-tied or feeling awkward. If you are one of those people, I encourage you to sign up for the webinar that is taking place on March 11 at 11:00 Mountain time. This webinar will help you to "say it with Jesus." It may help you give the one gift that lasts forever.

Bringing People to Jesus Webinar March 11, 2025 12:00 CST

Topic: Multiplying Churches by Cultivating a Culture of Missional Evangelism

Guest Speakers: Jad and Jamie Levi, pastors of Trinitas Church

Description: It's been said that in the West, "we don't plant churches—we start services." Join

us as we explore practical ways to plant the gospel and establish Christ-centered communities by living out foundational Kingdom principles rooted in prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Register Here https://nazarene.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hfSQix2JQ9Otomld-3tWvw#/registration

DISTRICT NMI NEWS– DEPUTATION SCHEDULE

I am working on finalizing our May visit from Chad and Lindsey Dickerson. The Dickersons were our LINKS family a few years ago and will be on home assignment. Below is the current schedule I have for them. Please review the available dates and let me know if you want to host them for a missionary visit. Please consider travel time as they will be traveling with their 18 month old daughter, Phoebe. I am also getting some specifics from the Dickersons regarding their needs during their time on our district. If you have any questions, please let me know. If your church has never hosted a missionary before, please consider doing so! It is an excellent opportunity to hear how God is working around the world. Amy DeWees daskdewees@gmail.com

May 7 - Deming (evening service)

May 8 -

May 9 -

May 10 - Apache Ave. Albuquerque (afternoon luncheon)

May 11 - Aztec (morning service)

May 12 -

May 13 - Hobbs (evening service)

May 14 - Carlsbad (evening service)

May 15 -

May 16 - Bonita Park

May 17 - Bonita Park

May 18 - Angus (morning service)

THE JUBILEE GANG
is coming to
New Mexico District Kids Camp
July 7-11, 2025
@ Bonita Park Camp
200 Bonita Park Rd. Capitan, NM 88316
REGISTER NOW!
NMNAZ.COM
Early Bird Registration - Now until June 9, 2025
Camper \$250 Sponsor \$210
Late Registration - Begins June 10, 2025
Camper \$260 Sponsor \$210
*shirt not guaranteed after June 9, 2025

Get Ready for an Exciting Week of Kids Camp!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS KIDS!!

For all the Nazarene news around the world click on this link

<https://nazarene.org/news>

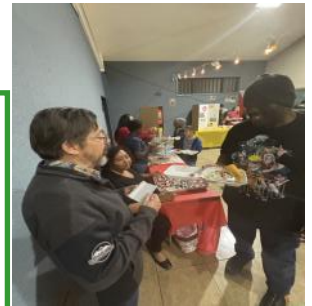
NMI/ SANDIA/RIO COMMUNITIES INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL



This years' Festival featured Missions from the Nazarene Asia Pacific Region and the Euro Asia Region

We learned about active Missions and Creative Access areas as the Nazarene Church has a presence worldwide. A presentation shared information and pictures of the recent Encuentro Trip to Costa Rica. As a District we celebrate Missions locally and abroad.

Great Food, Fellowship and Learning were the highlights of the evening. We encourage Churches from our District to share Missions as an Outreach to their Communities and to continue Missions for the "Great Commission" on a local, district and international level.



WELCOME OUR NEW PASTORS ONTO THE DISTRICT!!

Rev Jett Davis and Rev Ron Gilbert



This is the new pastor and family coming to Roswell Central in March. Rev. Jett Davis and wife, Rev. Megan Davis. Their children, Jeremiah, 15 and Kingdom, 7.

ROSWELL CENTRAL

Here is the new T.I.P.S pastor at Carlsbad Church Street. Rev Ron Gilbert and wife Dianna.

CARLSBAD CHURCH STRET

