

## DECEMBER 2020

### Rearranging and Reimagining

This is the first Christmas that we are spending fully in our home in the mountains. Last year we were still transitioning, having just made the decision to settle in at Bonita Park, so our decorating for Christmas was minimal at best. This year, we were free to decorate.

Since this home is smaller than our last, we had to do some reimagining of the space in order for Lisa to bring out the maximum amount of her (vast) collection of Christmas decorations. In order to do so, we had to do some rearranging and reimagining of our home to get ready to celebrate the most important moment in human history—the coming of Jesus to our world.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are all having to reimagine and rearrange. The things that we have always done to celebrate Christmas are off limits. There will be no Cantatas, no Christmas parties, no class gatherings, no pageants, plays, and productions. As a result, most of us are trying to imagine how we might acknowledge the coming of Jesus in this “new space” in which we find ourselves.

Perhaps, you will end up doing what Lisa and I did. We scaled down, found some new way to display our traditional decorations, and came up with some completely new ideas that we would never have thought of had we not been forced to reimagine and rearrange.

I know that our pastors and our churches are working hard to reimagine and rearrange how they will lead their congregations through the Christmas season. I would encourage you to see this “new space” not as a limiting factor, but as an opportunity to see everything new and fresh as we celebrate the coming of salvation into the world through Jesus. I have been so impressed with the ways that our churches have responded to this new space defined by COVID. I am really looking forward to what you will come up with as you take a completely fresh look at this season and find completely new ways to celebrate Jesus.

**As you do, know that Lisa and I love you and wish you the**

**Merriest Christmas ever.**

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**Dec 2020**

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**Phone: 575-626-1116**

District website:

[www.nmnaz.com](http://www.nmnaz.com)

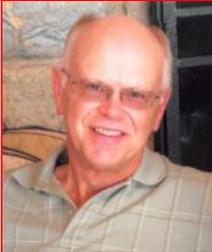
District Office:

300 Bonita Park Rd

Capitan, NM 88316

Merry  
Christmas





Greetings to you during this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We are starting to wrap up a year that none of us ever will forget. I know these holidays look different for just about all of us. During this holiday season many of us will find themselves quarantined at home instead of at Grandma and Grandpa's house. When I think about what I'm grateful for I think of family and friends. We have not seen many of these people in person for some time, but thanks to Zoom we have been able to connect and see the grandkids grow.

I hope you were able to watch the General Superintendent's Thanksgiving service. As we were reminded in this service, we need to give thanks and praise to God in this time. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV says, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:12-13 NIV says, "I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength." Yes, Paul reminds us to give thanks in all circumstances, regardless of the situation. As Dr. Crocker said in our District Assembly last summer, this COVID did not surprise God.

I encourage you to reach out to others to bring them greetings and lift their spirits during this time of isolation. I encourage you to deepen your walk with Christ and enrich your prayer life during this unusual time.

I trust you found a way to have a great Thanksgiving and that you will have a Merry Christmas.

May the Lord greatly bless you for all you do for His Kingdom,

Mark Asplund  
SDMI Chairman



Christmas Greetings from NYI,

In the midst of such a turbulent year, let's remember that the Christmas season affords us an opportunity to celebrate the constants in our lives: hope, peace, joy, love, and Jesus Himself. So, instead of focusing on presents, let's be present with the ones we love while experiencing the presence of God together! And don't forget to put your selfie on top of the Christmas tree because...you're a star!

Until we meet again (hopefully soon),  
Jordin





youth quizzing



## Teen Quiz Nov 7

### Team

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Jesus Freaks/Cornerstone (Hope Springs/LL Cornerstone)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Heights
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Sealed In Stone (Living Stones)

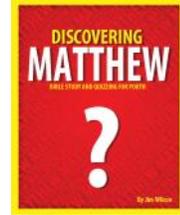
### Individual

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Allison Storch, LL Cornerstone
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Josiah Hurst, Heights
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Erika Cooke, Living Stones
- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Merrilee Martin, Hope Springs
- 5<sup>th</sup> place Toby Compton, Heights

Rookie – Toby Compton, Heights

Memory Master – Allison Storch, LL Cornerstone (quoted all 41 verses)

We had 57 verses quoted during this quiz and we are at 140 verses for the year so far.

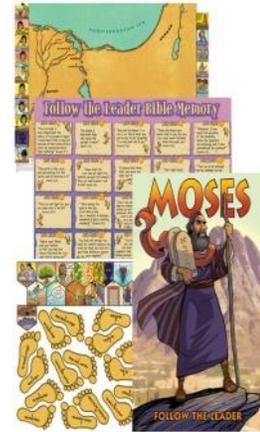


## Children's Quiz Meet Nov 16

Name	Church
Delaina Van Soest	
Adah Young	Carlsbad
Charise Young	Carlsbad
Evan Young	Carlsbad
Kyle Neill	Carlsbad
Annabelle Neill	Carlsbad
Lyrical Loftis	Carlsbad
Iris Loftis	Carlsbad
Cassie Keller	Carlsbad
Cayla Keller	Carlsbad
Fredom Laughlin	Carlsbad
Leah Ingram	Carlsbad
Lathan Ingram	Carlsbad
Annabelle Yocom	Carlsbad
Marshall Neill	Carlsbad
Myles Yocom	Carlsbad
Abbi Hurst	Heights
Nate Hurst	Heights
Madison Strange	Living Stones
Malorie Ford	Living Stones
Rhett Ford	Living Stones
<b>TOTAL: 54 Quizzers</b>	
Red: 21	
Blue: 33	

Blue Level			
Placing	Name	Score	Church
1st	Jaxon McCard	295	Living Stones
1st	Malorie Ford	295	Living Stones
1st	Adah Young	295	Carlsbad
1st	Charise Young	295	Carlsbad
1st	Abbi Hurst	295	Heights
2nd	Kalvin Nebres	290	El Paso Trinity
2nd	Evan Young	290	Carlsbad
3rd	Abbie Compton	285	Heights
4th	Madison Strange	280	Living Stones
5th	Brennan Myers	265	Sandia
6th	Jeminez Ortega	260	Sandia
6th	Melody Ysaben	260	Carlsbad
7th	Alex Byerly	255	La Vista
7th	Annabelle Bloomquist	255	Heights
7th	Arianna Landry	255	Sandia
8th	Jemirya Ortega	250	Sandia
8th	Annabelle Neill	250	Carlsbad
9th	Loren Ortega	245	Sandia
9th	Eben Laughlin	245	Carlsbad
10th	Iris Loftis	235	Carlsbad
P	Rosalynn Martin	230	Heights
P	Cassie Keller	225	Carlsbad
P	Cayla Keller	215	Carlsbad
P	Keliah McCard	210	Living Stones
P	Addison	205	Living Stones
P	Fredom Laughlin	185	Carlsbad
P	Leah Ingram	175	Carlsbad
P	Lathan Ingram	175	Carlsbad
P	Tyanna C	145	Sandia
P	Ruben Diaz-Jeminez	140	La Vista
P	Bobby Armijo	120	Sandia
P	Dahlia Rivera	105	Sandia
P	William Cooke	100	Living Stones

Red Level			
Placing	Name	Score	Church
1st	Rhett Ford	215	Living Stones
2nd	Jeremiah McDuff	195	Los Lunas
3rd	Ben Compton	185	Heights
4th	Kit Kat Ortega	180	Sandia
4th	Neema Milewa	180	Sandia
4th	Joshua McCord	180	Living Stones
5th	Jonah Byerly	170	La Vista
6th	Nate Hurst	160	Heights
6th	Dorothy Martin	160	Heights
6th	Trenton Strange	160	Living Stones
7th	Genevieve Anderson	150	La Vista
7th	Zaina Milewa	150	Sandia
8th	Annabelle Yocom	145	Carlsbad
9th	Marshall Neill	125	Carlsbad
10th	Joy Anderson	120	La Vista
P	Myles Yocom	110	Carlsbad
P	Maddie Bloomquist	110	Heights
P	Lyrical Loftis	95	Carlsbad
P	Elizabeth Carmona	95	Sandia
P	Alyssa Carmona	90	Sandia
P	Kyle Neill	65	Carlsbad



EVERY MONDAY Dr. Lacher leads a Leadership ZOOM for our ministry leaders at 2 different times to better fit your schedules. 10:00am and 7:00pm

The Monday 10:00am link is: <https://zoom.us/j/678230148>

The Monday 7:00pm link is: <https://zoom.us/j/598220646>

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING AT 9:00PM Dr. Lacher is leading a Prayer Meeting on Zoom. Everyone is invited to be a part of this worship in prayer.

The ZOOM meeting link is: <https://zoom.us/j/338982217>

If you already have the ZOOM app just select: Join a meeting and enter the numbers.



**Nov. 21-22,2020 Midnight to Midnight**  
**The Board of General Superintendents a Global Service of Thanks.**



What a beautiful service of Worship and Thanksgiving!! It is still up on Facebook. Church of the Nazarene Service of Thanks. Take 50 min and give Thanks to the Lord!

**Check out this link for the article written about Sandia Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Pete Myers and Pastor Patti Rivas. Great Work is happening”!**

<https://www.nazarene.org/article/new-mexico-church-raises-lay-ministers-through-discipleship-training>

**\*\*\*\*\*W.I.M.\*\*\*\*\***

**Women in Ministry Virtual Fellowship—NO ZOOM UNTIL JANUARY 2021!!**

**\*\*\*Saturday January 23, 2021—1:00pm** We will enjoy a time together on Zoom.

**NOTE TIME CHANGE**

Meeting ID on zoom ; 831 5944 5875

Passcode: 806233

Invite link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83159445875?pwd=S1jCOXMya0JOUmFhYnlGMVKUT09>

This Fellowship is for all our Women in Ministry— Ordained, Licensed, Pastors, Pastor’s wives including Staff. If you have not received an invite to this then I don’t have your email address. PLEASE send it to me ASAP. [lacherlisa@yahoo.com](mailto:lacherlisa@yahoo.com)  
Looking forward to seeing you all in January!!

Lisa Lacher



## NMI



### **Merry Christmas, NM District!**

I am praying for you all as you enter into this season of Advent. This entire year has led us to this season of longing and awaiting our Savior. He is here and He is good!

This year has brought many ups and downs as we have moved through pandemic and social distancing. We have sought out new ways to be the Church and creative ways to be the hands and feet of Jesus to our communities. Many of you have served, given, loved, and prayed your communities and our district through this year.

The most beautiful part of the Church of the Nazarene is our global presence. We are already present in hundreds of places all across the globe continuing in Kingdom work as the body of Christ. Thank you for your commitment to the World Evangelism Fund and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries all across the world!

For more information about our current work, please check out [Nazarene.org/NMI](http://Nazarene.org/NMI)

I am sharing some updates from our Links Missionaries along with some prayer requests from them. Please keep them in your prayers as they are serving the Kingdom across the world!

May you feel the comfort of His Presence, the peace of this season, and the joy of His perfect love for you as we move into 2021.

Joyfully,

Nicole Young  
NM NMI District President



Jaron, Elizabeth, and  
Quentin Graham

Our district convention went well, and we are praising God for wonderful reports in the midst of Covid. Our pastors and congregations have learned a lot and really leaned in to one another. Our district health markers are good, and for that we give thanks!

Quentin is about to finish year 3 (second grade) in a few weeks. He has had a great year, thriving in lockdown and out. Since Covid has been nearly eliminated in NZ, he has been able to participate in many activities he loves. We are grateful for safety and health, things we do not take lightly.

We would appreciate your prayers for our residency visa. The visa processes that were behind at the beginning of the year were further delayed because of Covid. We are currently on a 6 month extension that does not allow for any travel outside the country, even in emergencies. Would you join us in prayer that our residency visa would be processed quickly?

Would you also join us in prayer that this summer would indeed be a time of relative rest and renewal?

We are so grateful for our NM district family. Thank you for so consistently caring for us and pursuing relationship. Know that we are praying for you all in these days. May God's presence draw especially near in this Advent season.





Randy, Joani, Emma,  
Lexi, Ethan Goossen

"Look! I am doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness."  
Isaiah 43:19

It has been a great 18 months that our family has been serving here in Fiji. We have enjoyed a season of healing and growth with lots of fun mixed in. It has been a perfect place to shelter as the storm of covid has spread throughout the world. We have learned so much about ourselves and about the needs of each of our children as they grow. We have THREE teenagers in the house now, how did this happen? In August, after an eye-opening season of distance learning, we started an honest discussion with our leadership about our needs for the future which has led to another BIG change coming for our family. In March we will be leaving Fiji. We will be on Home Assignment in the States April through July and hope to be able to re-connect with many of you. Then in late July 2021, if the borders have re-opened, we will be headed to our new assignment in the Philippines. We are so thankful for all of you who have prayed for and supported our family as we have journeyed from Kudjip to Suva and now to Manila. There are many details to figure out as we move our family of 5 across the ocean during a pandemic...who does that? Please pray with us that God will continue to provide for our needs while we tell the world of His goodness and everlasting love. - The Goossens Family



Jorge, Ana Betsy, and Daniela Baños

It is a great joy to hear from you, we appreciate that you always pray for us, it is the main ingredient in the work we do for the Lord, knowing that we have churches that are praying and pending on us.

Thank God we are well, doing the ministry as far as we are allowed and with hygiene measures taking care of our health, that of our staff and that of the pastors and leaders we serve.

To comment on our family. Our daughter Daniela started college this year, she started her classes through platforms. Thank God she has adapted very well, so far her grades are doing well. Only once a week she travels to the university for lab class. My wife is very well, she serves coordinating finances in our field, this function has been carried out for 13 years. I coordinate at the national level the ministries of our denomination here in Costa Rica, working closely with district superintendents, pastors and district ministry presidents. About two months ago I was invited to coordinate the ministry of evangelism for the 5 countries in our field.

On a personal, family and ministerial level we are doing well, thanks to the Lord who has been faithful and has taken care of our health.

Prayer requests:

1. May our Heavenly Father continue to take care of our health as we continue to minister here in Costa Rica. Let him take care of our families in our countries of origin. My wife's family in Panama and my family in El Salvador.
2. Pray for so many families affected by the 2 hurricanes that have passed through Nicaragua and Honduras. We know of many families in Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Panama who have been directly affected by the ravages of these hurricanes. Many people have lost loved ones, and thousands of families have lost what little they had.
3. For our daughter's studies, may God continue to support her in everything as he has done so far. It is our request every day.
4. May God always put in us the love, the commitment, the commitment and the passion to do the ministerial work that he has called us to do in these countries where we serve.

Once again, thank you very much Sister Nicole for always having us in your prayers in your district.



# *A Christmas Prayer*

*Lord,*

*You came upon*

*A Midnight Clear*

*to bring*

*Joy to the World*

*and draw us near.*

*It was a Holy Night,*

*when you came from above,*

*to fill our hearts with hope and love.*

*Thank you,*

*Sweet Jesus Boy,*

*for clothing us with*

*Comfort and Joy.*