



Dr. Larry Lacher District Superintendent

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The Word became flesh... (John 1:14).

Often, Jews and Christians have been referred to in history as "people of the book." This reference points to the fact that we are people of the Word. We are people who confess that God has spoken in history. That Word has been captured and preserved by patriarchs, priests, prophets, scribes, apostles, and the canons of the Church to bear faithful witness to God who has spoken and acted in the history of humanity to reconcile the world to Himself.

That act of reconciliation takes on no more definitive shape than it did during the time of history that we celebrate during this season of the year marked by the Advent journey to Christmas. Historians and theologians cannot fully agree on the exact day in history on which Jesus was born and cannot even put a precise pin in the map saying the exact place where the Christ-child lay in His tiny borrowed bed. However, we can all agree that God Himself took the cosmic journey from Heaven and crossed space, time, dimension, and whatever other barriers He had to cross and clothed Himself with the totality of humanity in a particular time and in a particular place, becoming human flesh. The Creator of the universe, became a mere zygote, divided on a cellular level in a teenager's womb. He became a fully developed infant and entered into this world in the same way that every one of us has—vulnerable, needy, helpless, dependent, naked, and unable to survive on his own.

The technical word for this act of God taking on our human flesh is, "Incarnation." Through the centuries, Christians have come to agree that this incarnation was absolute. Jesus was fully human. He was human in every way that we are. He was tempted in every way that we are. He suffered in every way that we do. He even suffered death—a death worse than anyone has ever had to suffer.

Indeed, I am thankful for the Word of God, the Bible, that faithfully and reliable preserves God's will and ways for us so that we know how to walk in ways to serve and to please Him. I have confidence in the Bible and the stories that are contained within. It is a reliable record of God's activity in the world bringing about salvation and teaching us how to live according to His plan and design for Humanity.

I am thankful also for the Word of God, who became Flesh and taught us the Way of God. God's way is Incarnate. He immersed Himself in our human condition in order to deliver salvation directly to our point of need. The way of God is incarnational. It invites us to consider how we can "enter into the world" of those who need reconciliation with God and deliver it right at the point of need. It invites us to be more than words. It invites us to enflesh the good news and bring it to the dark and empty places where it hasn't penetrated yet.

Advent reminds us that our God is a missional God. He is seeking to save that which was lost. He is waiting for prodigals to return. He is seeking lost sheep. He is sweeping the house looking for lost coins. He is praying for harvesters to join Him in the field. He is putting on flesh and getting to work reconciling the world to Himself. He is not reading books about good news. He is busy declaring it in the highways and byways and wondering who will join Him crying in the wilderness.

Will you?



ACTIVITIES IN SOME OF OUR CHURCHES

CRCC NAZ Farmington Christmas Gathering! Following church Dec 5. If you signed up to bring Enchilada's or Cobbler, don't forget them.



Angus Church of the Nazarene



Women's Christmas Party Aztec Church of the Nazarene Mon Dec 6 6:30pm



DECEMBER 4TH



Community Service Project at the church at 10 am



The La Vista Teens made gingerbread houses!



Lovington Church of the Nazarene

Dec 4 is the day! We will be packing and delivering Christmas boxes to those in need of them. Meet at the Life Center at 10am! 90th Anniversary Celebration for Broadview Cowboy Church of the Nazarene



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2021 AT 5:30 PM Youth Progressive Dinner

Aztec Church of The Nazarene



Roswell 1st



Roswell 1st Jan 2, 2022



| | UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE DISTRICT 20 | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Teen Winter Retreat | Jan 14-16 | W.I.M. Zoom |
| Womens Retreat | Mar 25-27 | Level Club Dues |
| Dist. Kid Quiz | Mar 5 | Ash Wednesday |
| Dist. Teen Quiz | Mar. 12 | NM Xtreme NYI |
| Dist. Kid Quiz Dist. Teen Quiz Palm Sunday | April 10 | Easter |
| Man Camp | April 22-24 | |
| | | |

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE DISTRICT 2022

Jan 29 2pm March Mar 2 (Lent Begins) Mar 18-19 April 17

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NYI All-Nighter!!!

When: Wednesday, December 29th @ 7:00pm-Thursday, December 30th @ 7:00am

What: 4 hours of unlimited bowling, laser tag, and gravity ropes plus a \$10 fun card, 2 slices of pizza and a drink at Main Event in Albuquerque! All of this followed by games, movies, and fun at Heights First Church.

Who: All teenagers, young adults, and sponsors of NYI on our district

Cost: \$25/person

Sponsors, please RSVP to Jordin with an approximate headcount by Wednesday, December 22nd. Thanks!



Leadership Zoom is returning!!!!



Welcoming all our Ministry Leaders

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

Be looking for the new zoom links!!

Women in Ministry Virtual Fellowship Zoom Returns!!!



<u>January 29, 2022 2—3pm</u>

Look for the new link in your emails

This Fellowship is for all our Women in Ministry– Ordained, Licensed, Pastors, Pastor's wives including Staff. See you soon! Lisa Lacher



Merry Christmas, NM District!

We are nearing the end of 2021 and anticipating the hope of our Savior this Advent season. I am praying for each of you as you minister in your local communities, around our district, and across the globe! I am incredibly thankful to be part of our missional global family of Nazarenes.

*****As you are reaching out to bless our Global Missionaries this season, please be mindful of how you send your funds. All gifts need to be sent in through the Global Ministry Center through Funding the Mission, or by check to the General Treasurer with Deputation in the Memo Line!

Sending funds in this way ensures they will reach your designee and protects them from paying unnecessary taxes. Thank you for reaching out and loving our missionaries, encouraging them in their calls, and participating in Kingdom work.

I look forward to seeing you all in 2022! From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Joyfully, Nicole Young

Trauma, violence, instability, hunger, illness—each of these are the repercussions of the crises impacting millions of children around the world. Each is also a factor that might make children feel as though they have been forgotten.

Through the NCM Christmas Project, you can tell children they matter.

This year the Christmas Project will...

- Provide food for children who are experiencing hunger in Venezuela
- Cover school fees and scholarships for students at Nazarene schools in Jordan and Lebanon
- Facilitate medical and mental health care in Lebanon and Bangladesh

Encourage children living as refugees in Bangladesh and throughout Europe

Learn more here: https://ncm.org/christmas







Rebuilding a wall of God's love around the City of El Paso.

Mission: El Paso! Last box of Free Candy Canes being given out! Thanks Iris, Patricia, Jayme, Rose. <u>32,450 total!</u>

God allowed us to talk to our neighbors and work alongside some of our community members!

Also today we called the 63 winners of free bicycles from our free drawing held last Saturday. They will be stoping by the Church to pick up their free bikes next





Well, I just finished my 13th NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) and this is the 13th time as a winner, completing a 50,000 word novel in 30 days! I have so much fun each November participating in this. It is something I do "just for me".

A CHILD HAS BEEN BORN FOR US, A SON IS GIVEN TO US; AUTHORITY RESTS UPON HIM HE IS NAMED JESUS