RE	New Mexico CHURCH OF THE	District NAZARENE
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Dr. Lawrence Lacher District Superintendent	November 2022	

## For All the Saints

I am writing this article on November 1—All Saints Day. Historically, in the Church, today has been a day to gather together to honor the Saints of the Ages—those men and women who had lived their lives as such clear witnesses to Christ that they were seen as examples to be remembered and honored (venerated). They were remembered as examples for us to pattern our lives after as we followed after Christ ourselves.

In Mexican tradition, this day morphed into a day to honor more than just the recognized saints of the church. The Mexican people began to recognize that each family had people in their own histories who were examples of faith and faithfulness who should also be honored and remembered and celebrated. All Saints Day became a celebration known as Día de los Muertos, the "day of the dead." It is a strange custom to some with the decorated skulls and dancing skeletons, but it is a wonderful tradition celebrating the lives of the honored members of one's family who have made the journey from this life to the place of glory in the presence of Jesus. It is a sort of Mexican Memorial Day.

Today, I am thinking about saints, great ones, and inconspicuous ones. I'm thinking about saints that I have read about in church history who have delivered the faith to us, often paying the ultimate sacrifice of torture and death. I am remembering how my eyes unwillingly filled with tears as I stood in the dungeons of the Tower of England, knowing that some of my "friends" from history had suffered so greatly there or had spent their last day on earth there before being led out to death by burning at the stake.

Today, I am also thinking of other saints—saints who showed great love for their pastors this last month. I am thinking of saints who reached out to their communities this weekend with open trunks, open arms of love, bags of candy, and all that went into each Fall Festival by whatever name. I'm thinking of nursery attendants, cooks, dish washers, board members, teachers, worship leaders, people who set up chairs and take them down, over and over again, AV techs, and janitors. I am thinking of ushers, and greeters, security teams, and decorators. I am thinking of those who sacrificially give of time, talent, and treasure, only to do so again, and again, and again. I am thinking of prayer warriors, cake bakers, funeral meal makers, and hospital visitors. I am even thinking of those set-aside saints who aren't able to help much anymore, or don't really fit into the way we do church these days, or can't get out to church anymore, but still love the Lord and pray for the Kingdom to be revealed every day.

We have a name for these saints. We call them laymon and laywomen. We call them the church—the very body of Christ, and that is what they have been for me.

No doubt it was a layperson who decided that we should set aside a month to express appreciation to our pastors. I absolutely agree that it is important to honor those who serve in the name of Jesus. Yet, I have always felt that the appreciation should really go the other way. No pastor can accomplish anything without a committed core of laymen and laywomen who will do the work and support the vision. So today, at least, and maybe it would be good for this month, I would like to celebrate ALL the Saints—the ones we read about in books, the ones whose names are on tombstones, and the ones who are part of the living body of Christ where we worship. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus and for faithfully delivering the Faith to the next generation!

Dr. Larry

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#### <u> 1908 - 2022</u>

From that memorable morning until today, the Church of the Nazarene has indeed encircled the globe. In its first 114 years, the people called Nazarenes have carried the message of Scriptural holiness across six continents and 164 world areas. By God's grace, the message will continue to encircle the globe as the Church of the Nazarene fulfills its mission to make Christlike disciples in the nations.

#### Church of the Nazarene (Official)





Church of the Nazarene (Official)

Make sure that you show your deep appreciation for those who cherish you and diligently work as ministers among you. 1 Thessalonians 5:12

Don't let Clergy Appreciation Month pass by without celebrating your pastor(s)!



Mark Your Calendars!

## **LEADERSHIP RETREAT NOV 10-12**

Registration Nov 10 at 3pm with Dinner at 5:30p.m.. Retreat ends Sat. Nov 12 with lunch

Who: All ministers (lead pastors, staff, chaplains, etc.), district licensed ministers in training, spouses, retired ministers, and select lay leaders

Dr. Carla Sundberg will be our speaker, La Vista Praise Team will be leading in worship

This will be a time for Refreshing, Renewing, Rewinding, Refocus and Retreating

Mark this a priority weekend for you and your spouse.

See you all Soon!

Cost: \$140 pp for the full retreat

\$75pp if you attend Friday night and Saturday only

Retired ministers are discounted to \$100 and \$50 respectively

Children are welcome at the same rates. Children 5 and under are free. Parents will have to share childcare responsibilities during services







#### Greetings, NM District!

I sent out a mid-year survey a couple of weeks ago. If you have not had a chance (either local NMI President or lead pastor if you do not have an NMI President) to fill one out, please take a few minutes to do so: <a href="https://forms.gle/Rrg93nm2t9HbEAsG9">https://forms.gle/Rrg93nm2t9HbEAsG9</a>

I have received 4 responses so far and they are VERY helpful to me in seeing the NMI Picture for our District! Thank you to those of you who have already filled yours out!

One of the themes I have already seen in the surveys is the confusion over Care and Connection. This is something that just newly changed this past year, so it is understandable it has been confusing. Care and Connection is the new name for one of our 5 Areas of Impact. It replaces the title "Links" but also includes Links. Links is now under the heading of Care and Connection. We also include in this category caring and connecting with other assigned missionaries in addition to Links assignments. It is a broader term to include how you are reaching out to and caring for many missionaries.

We also have a newly assigned Links family for the next year. This assignment is for our WHOLE district. We get to love this one family from our awesome district! We will get a new assignment next year, probably in December 2023.

**Esdras and Scarlett Jimenez** are serving in Ecuador in the South American Region. They speak English and Spanish. They have actually been on home assignment so we do not have a current mailing address for them. In the link, you can give financial gifts for Christmas, etc. Please add them to your prayer lists at church!

You can find their Online Missionary Profile here: https://give.nazarene.org/pledge/jimenez

# Care and Connection is the new name for one of our 5 Areas of Impact! Which includes "LINKS".

NMI Five Areas of Impact: Prayer Alabaster World Evangelism Fund Care and Connection (includes Links!) Engaging Children and Youth nazarene.org/nmi





#### The Promised Land Series! You can

You can follow them on facebook!!!!

\*\*Did you know a film crew was here in New Mexico to shoot a new series around Moses? It was filmed in southern New Mexico and many of our Nazarenes were used as extras throughout the filming! Carlsbad Church Street took the New Mexico District into the movies!



And that's a wrap!!

What an incredible 5 days - from the blazing hot sun to the freezing cold rain, this crew has worked through it all & we could not be more grateful! Be sure to sign up with your email on our website to keep up to date on all the things, such as merch and the pilot release date!

#thepromisedland #thepromisedlandseries #pilot #newmexico #thatsawrap



Greg Van Soest:

It's been incredible to be a part of this production the past several days. Never thought something like this would want to come to our little corner of the world. Top notch production crew for this project. Very impressed and eager to see the final product!









NEW! Zoom Small Group! We are excited to announce a new weekly small group for anyone and everyone starting Thursday, November 17th, from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.

**Trinity CON** 



David Reed, Had an awesome time meeting Ben & Erin Napier this past weekend. So grateful to be a part of the @jfmaddoxfoundation !!!







**Roswell 1st CON** 



Mountain View CON



Sandia CON



HE LION FILTER



Free



Portales Teens. **Portales CON** 

Trunk or Treat



Stephanie Bemis Yocum;s dad!!! WHAT an amazing tour of Carlsbad Caverns! The legendary Tom Bemis spent his 69th birthday walking us through this national treasure for 4 hours! Tom has been at the Caverns for over 50 years!!!

#### **Outreach Activities of our Church families**

## **Children's District Quiz Dates and Locations 2022–2023**



## Everyone Please Read Ministry Safe III

Just a reminder that all licensed and ordained pastors are required by the BGS to be current on the sexual awareness training as well as a background check.

The New Mexico District has a current account with Ministry Safe that is maintained by Pastor Ken Weisheit. If you need to take the training or need a new background check, you can email him at <u>districtsecretary@nmnaz.com</u>. If you are unaware if you are current, please email Pastor Ken and he can check your status. Be advised that each link is time sensitive so please complete the training in a timely manner.

The current cost of the Awareness training is \$3.00 per training. A level 4 background check is \$22.00 and a level 5 background check is \$54.00. Checks, made out to "Ministry Safe," can be sent to Larry Fry at the district office.

Pastor Ken Weisheit

Up Coming Important Dates for the New Mexico District				
NovemberBoard of MinistryNov 9Leadership Retreat (Ministers and spouses)DecemberW&W Trip to AfricaDec 27—J				

THE 30<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY a CONVENTIONS DECEMBER A CONVENTIONS DECEMBER A CONVENTIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023 Come join your global family as we celebrate that:

JESUS IS LORD 9-16 JUNE 2023

Use this General Assembly address to keep up to date with all information for:

Reservations, Registrations, workshops, worship times etc. This is your 1 stop place for everything

General Assembly 2023

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Homepage | General Assembly 2023 (nazarene.org)





### NYC 23 - Nazarene Youth Conference.com

#### July 5-9, 2023 Tampa, FL

Keep up to date with all NYC information!!

Facebook page and website.

Talk with your Youth pastor regarding any questions you and your parents may have. This is a Life changing event in your walk with Christ!!



Keep up to date on our district happenings!!!!

Don't say "I didn't Know that!"

## www.nmnaz.com

Calendar, Department events, The Mission etc.



The Amazing Journey of a Shoebox Gift Begins with You and Results

in Evangelism, Discipleship, and Multiplication.



## Imagine CON:

Tonight at Church, the congregation honored Pastor Chuck and Renee for pastor appreciation month. We love our Church family and we know we are loved in return!

## NATIONAL COLLECTION WEEK

<u>NOV 14 –21, 2022</u>

## Central CON

The congregation is collecting money for Pastor Randy Elftman to recognized him and thank him for his years of service to Central Church of the Nazarene. They want to help him off set his expenses for travel and gas for his hyperbaric treatments, his medical bills that are adding up and help him come to Leadership Retreat if he is feeling up to it.



Pastor Appreciation for <u>Aztec CON</u> Pastor Ken, Pastor Denver, Pastor John



Thanks for appreciating us and loving us for Pastor Appreciation day & month...

but we are thankful and blessed to be able to say

we are well loved ALL year round!!! Tickets to the OU vs Texas Tech game in Lubbock!!

Church Street CON





Great time of worship, fellowship and celebrating those with a servants heart, ministering to others as God has gifted and directed. "Ministry Appreciation" day. Thank you 26:16 for being the Hands,

Feet, and Words of Jesus 🙏 🐸

<u>26:16 CON</u>

We, the pastors, cannot express our gratitude for our Trinity community.

Today, we received an abundance from them in honor of **Pastor Appre**<u>ciation</u> month.

**Trinity CON** 





Portales area friends! Buy a pie and support some awesome teenagers!!