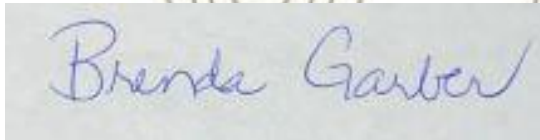
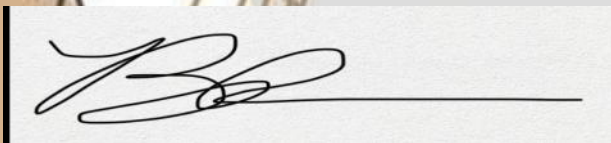




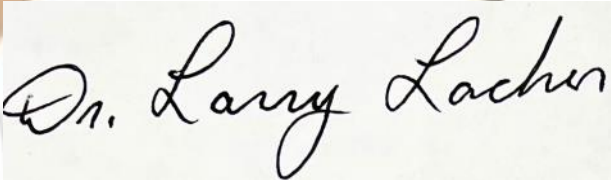
Dr. Lawrence Lacher



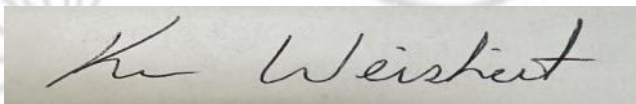
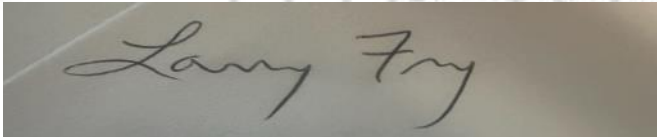
December 2023



Jordin West



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS



**FROM YOUR NEW MEXICO  
DISTRICT LEADERS,  
  
MAY GOD'S LOVE  
ENCIRCLE YOU AND  
ENRICH YOU MORE  
THAN EVER THIS YEAR!**

# Welcoming our New NDI Chairperson on the NM District!



My name is Bianca Rivas and I've been at Sandia Church of the Nazarene for over 22 years. God has given me a calling when I was attending the youth group. I started out as a youth leader and from there I became the youth pastor. Through the help of the lead pastors, I finished my course work locally and at NBC(Nazarene Bible College). I was ordained as a deacon in July 2017. Throughout the years at Sandia, God has called me deeper and given me many opportunities. I am now the Family Ministry Pastor and love working with families in the church and community. I became a foster parent in 2019 and I have 5 beautiful children that God has brought into my life. Nathaniel 16, Jeminye 14, Jeminiz 14, Leon 12, Katarina 10. I am the Co-Director at Kingdom Builders Preschool and Daycare, which is an extension ministry of Sandia Church of the Nazarene. I am blessed to have this opportunity to be a part of a great district and ministry

## New position for Rev. Ryan Nelson



After much prayer and many interviews with many excellent candidates, Nazarene Discipleship International welcomes Rev. Ryan Nelson as our new disability ministry coordinator! This new five-year position, fully funded by a generous gift from the Lily Endowment, will bless local Nazarene churches with resources and training for this greatly needed ministry to families and their children who struggle with disabilities.

I am excited to participate in what God is doing to reach individuals with disabilities. I pray that we are able to generate awareness, resources, and trainings to equip leaders and churches to reach this important population within our communities. I understand that not every leader or church can do everything, but it is my belief that we can all do something. I ask that you pray for the disability ministry team as we work to make the gospel more accessible for all.

In his service, Rev. Ryan Nelson

Ryan has stepped down from the NDI Chairperson for our district. Rev. Bianca Rivas has accepted the appointment to take over that position.



RIO VISTA  
HANGING OF THE GREEN!



LOS LUNAS  
CORNERSTONE



AZTEC

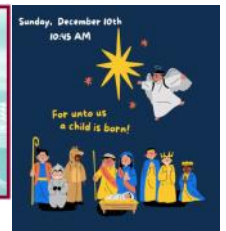
What a GREAT evening joining ladies from several different churches to celebrate the reason for the Christmas season!



Portales Hanging of the Green!



Roswell 1st  
12/15 & 12/16



RosNaz Kids Present Jesus Means Christmas to Me!



Lillenas Music premieres Christmas musical at Carnegie Hall



LAS CRUCES



26:16 ADVENT SEASON



NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL



December is the last month we will have Scarlet and Esdras as our District Links Assignment. Take a moment to send them a Christmas gift through their deputation link and a note of encouragement and prayer. Thank you for supporting and loving this family as they serve the kingdom of God. We will be sharing our new Links assignment at the beginning of January.

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



This year the 2023 NCM Christmas Project funds church-led food security initiatives around the world.

Hunger impacts hundreds of millions of people every single day. When people are hungry, the daily tasks of life are deeply complicated; children struggle to grow and stay focused in school, and adults lack the energy needed to work and care for children or elderly family members.

If you haven't yet supported the 2023 Christmas Project, tomorrow is a perfect time to donate! Your support will make a difference.



**Up Coming Important Dates for the New Mexico District**

**December**

**BeONE, most recently known as COM2TEX/ COM2MEX Dec 27**

**2024**

**January**

**Creating a Culture of Calling (see info flyer on last page)**

**Heights 1st Church-Albuq. Jan 13 10:00—4:00**

**Quiz Meet at Sandia Valley Jan 13**

**NYI Winter Retreat at Bonita Park Jan 12—14**

**March**

**SPARK—Bonita Park Children’ Workers workshop Thurs 3/21– 3/24**



# Creating a Culture of Calling

***Engaging the whole people of God into the whole mission of God.***

*Creating a Culture of Calling*

**A training designed to teach: Pastors, leaders and laity how to identify, develop and send leaders to places of ministry in the church and beyond.**

**This training will help local and district leaders build up their leadership pipeline.**

**Dale Schaeffer, District Superintendent of the Florida District said,**

*“Three years ago, we recognized a need to provide resourcing to pastors and congregations. Creating a Culture of Calling has helped us train over 300 leaders across the district on how to equip leaders across the district on how to apprentice leaders and equip them for the work of God. Since launching the CCC training we have seen a 170% increase in applications for local and district ministers’ licenses.”*

**Date: January 13, 2023**

**Times: 10am to 4pm**

**Location: Heights First Church of the Nazarene, Albuquerque, NM**

**Registration information: Register at [www.nmnaz.com](http://www.nmnaz.com) under the events tab.**

**Cost: \$15 per person (includes lunch).**