



Dr. Lawrence Lacher



January 2024

2024. Isn't it hard to believe that we have arrived at this year? Most of my life I have lived with expectations that the world would not be around to see 2024 due to the Rapture, the Second Coming, World War III, nuclear annihilation, or some other apocalyptic cataclysm taking place by now. Lisa and I like to listen to radio classics on our radio as we travel. One of the shows that we listen to is a science fiction show that imagines what the world will be like way into the future like 1990. In a recent episode, people were traveling back and forth to the moon by the 1990's. I recall one episode in which people were making regular trips to Mars by the year 2020 and encountering Martians who lived there.

Well, we made it to 2024 and the world is still here, and we are still here. Some science fiction has become fact like flip phone communicators and video phones and the ability to shoot missiles out of the sky. We can see the universe in intimate detail and can accomplish surgery on the nano scale. People are beginning to take leisure flights to space and we are beginning to plan to have a habitable place on the moon in preparation for a human mission to Mars.

Another thing that has changed from the time of those radio classic programs is that we no longer hear on our public airways urgings to pray together as families and to attend church. We no longer are invited to faith in Jesus from popular programming, nor are we taught about who Jesus is or what he has done at Christmas and at Easter on radio or on TV as was common in the 40s and 50s. If there has been an apocalyptic disaster come upon us in 2024 it is the fact that more than 50% of people who live in the US and Canada have no basic knowledge of who Jesus is or what he has done for us, nor do they care. The Christian faith has gone from being held in great esteem in our country to being sneered at as being simple-minded, bigoted, and judgmental. In many ways, our culture is more like the world that the message of salvation first entered into in the first century than it was in the 1940s and 50s.

**How do we address the cataclysmic change in our culture with our faith?**

We have been asking this question in our region under the leadership of our regional director, Dr. Stan Reeder for the past three years. We began by asking God for direction. Since then, we have developed a strategy that was directed by the Spirit to begin reaching our culture with God's love and good news through some systematic surges. We are convinced that the mandate to pray must never be laid aside, so there is a call to pray together every year. Yet, there will be a new emphasis to "do" every year as well.

This year, the emphasis to "do" is to **Bless our Communities**. I am convinced that this call to bless others is exactly the way that Jesus worked. You have heard me say it. Jesus gave away the blessings of the Kingdom freely to everyone, then, to those who asked, he shared the message of the Kingdom, then, to those who were interested, he invited them into the life of the Kingdom.

Within this newsletter, you will find information on how to access materials for the Cycle of Resurgence. I have also sent these materials directly to your pastor. It is the beginning of a new year, but our task is as old as time itself. Let us continue the work of telling others about God's amazing love for them so that they can be delivered from the destructiveness of sin and self and delivered into the Kingdom of God's love. (Eph 2:1-6)

You are loved!

Dr. Larry



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NM District  
website: [www.nmnaz.com](http://www.nmnaz.com)

District Office:  
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Capitan, NM 88316

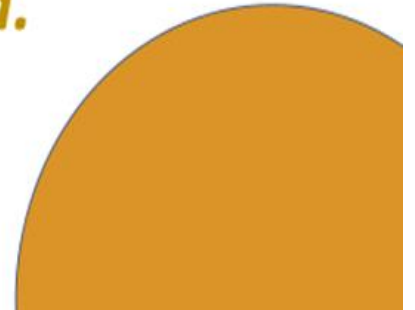
District Phone:  
575-626-1116



# 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).**

### CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE GLOBAL WEEK OF PRAYER

FEB 25—MAR 2 2024

As the 2024 Global Week of Prayer approaches, NMI would like to invite the church to pray for the needs of our global churches and districts with requests from the regions. This is the 28th year of the Global Week of Prayer, and we have some new and exciting resources to share with you!

<https://nazarene.org/nmigwp?fbclid=IwAR0MYm778RoKFAM92yVfSENVebur-S1wfxGTc7BWONDCrKwCOyUwSjXKQk0>



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

**2024**

#### January

Creating a Culture of Calling (see info flyer on the prior page)

Heights 1st Jan 13 10:00—4:00

Childrens Quiz Meet at Roswell 1st Jan 13  
NYI Winter Retreat at Bonita Park Jan 12—14  
Clovis Bridge Teen Quiz Jan 20

#### FEBRUARY

Teen Quiz at Tuscon Gal—Phil Feb 3  
Childrens Quiz at Sandia Valley Feb 10  
ASH Wednesday Feb 14

#### March

District Childrens Quiz at Heights 1st Mar 2  
District Teen Quiz at Rio Communities Mar 9  
SPARK—Bonita Park Children' Workers workshop Thurs 3/21— 3/24

# Welcoming our new links district Missionary Family!

**New Mexico District NMI would like to introduce to you our district's new links missionaries for the 2024 calendar year! Meet Chad and Lindsey Dickerson!** Chad and Lindsey currently serve on the Eurasia Region in Madrid, Spain, where Chad is the Eurasia NCM Program Facilitator. Chad studied Spanish and Criminal Justice through the University of Delaware, received his Juris Doctor degree from Delaware Law School and is currently enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Lindsey received her bachelor's degree in Intercultural Studies and went on to receive her master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Mid-America Nazarene University. They have both received their own unique call as missionaries and are passionate about the roles that God is allowing them to work within currently. They welcomed their first child in November 2023



## **Our own Pastor Kymburly Odell!!! Crossroads Cowboy CON**

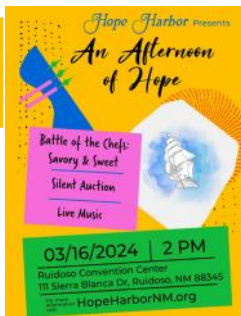
"On behalf of the NM State Senate and as a guest of my dear friends Sen. Pat and Mrs. Woods I am pleased to invite you to participate with me as a guest "Chaplain of the Day" for the upcoming 30 Day State Legislative Session. Commencing on January 16th and concluding February 15th 2024. **I am honored to have you open the Senate Floor session on Friday, February 9th 11am"**

**NM State Senate Chaplin**



Gallup First Church of the Nazarene and Mt Taylor Church of the Nazarene: Welcomes, Mike Brooks, Paul McGrady, Terry Potter from Bethany First Church of the Nazarene and the McGrady Foundation. Day 1: we took a load of wood to retired good friends Linda n Ed K. Day: 2. We took wood out the Baca Reserva-tion, Prewitt, NM. Wood was given out to the seniors that need the wood for heat and cooking. Day 2: We took a load of wood to Gallup Church to pass out on Sundays to needy people from the Reservation. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!** Pastor Chris

Save the Date!!!



Portales Pastor Vito



Monster beets and carrots in December!  
**Sandia Valley** Pastor James

**Roswell 1st Church**



**Clovis Living Stones**

**575**  
prayer

I'll be posting an informational video soon that you can use to share with others, but basically the challenge is to pray for 5 people, 7 days a week, for 5 minutes (1 minute each) all year long. One of these should be for salvation, but otherwise, they can be whoever, and for whatever. If the need to pray for a particular person ends, substitute them with another. **Pastor Rusty**



HALF-MILLION  
MOBILIZATION



### Half Million Mobilization 2024

Half Million Mobilization (HMM) Call to Pray. [Click here](#) for the video of the HMM Call to Prayer for 2024.

HMM 2024 Prayer Journals. [Click here for HMM Prayer Journals](#) from the Foundry. Currently, preorders of the Prayer Journals are being accepted.

[2024 Blessing Our Community Sermon Series](#) is available in English now with other translations coming soon. The Blessing Our Community Sermons are intentionally integrated with the day-to-day devotionals of the Prayer Journal

Children's Resources. These resources will also coincide with the sermon series that runs from Easter to Pentecost.\

### Cycle of Resurgence / Blessing Our Community 2024

The Blessing Our Community Website is live. This is the place to find all available resources, links and everything Blessing Our Community. Please visit <https://usacanadaregion.org/cycle-of-resurgence/blessing-our-community> for all available resources.

Intro to Blessing Our Community Webinar. Please keep sharing the link to the Webinar being held January 17th from 12 Noon to 1pm Central Standard Time. [Register Here](#). We currently have over 130 people registered! Thanks for participating and sharing!

### INTERNATIONAL Food Festival 2024!! The New Mexico District is Invited to Participate!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! I am reaching out to each of the Nazarene Churches here in the New Mexico/El Paso District. The International Food Festival of 2024 is approaching soon, so I would like to remind everyone that it will be on **February 25, 2024**, 6pm-8pm at the Mission Training Center in Albuquerque. Sandia Valley will be hosting this event and we would like to invite your Church/Fellowship to join us. We can provide sleeping quarters for those who would like to stay the night also.

There will be three (3) categories for each region that must be met; food that your group would make of that region, research page of missions in that area, and overall presentation. We will also have guest speakers, experiences from missionaries, music from around the world and door prizes. Please join us for an evening of fun and food.

#### **The regions you can choose from are:**

Africa	Asia-Pacific
Eurasia	Meso-America
South America	USA/Canada

New Mexico District Mission Area Coordinators and Pastors, Please get this information to your church's NMI President or let me know how to contact them so that I may give them this information also.

Please Contact Pam at 505-362-5844 or email: [bipdragonlady@gmail.com](mailto:bipdragonlady@gmail.com) with the country your Church/Fellowship is planning to represent no later than February 1, 2024

I look forward to seeing you all at the Festival.

Sincerely,

Pamela Gonzalez

Sandia Church NMI President

