



March 2024

Rehearsing the Faith

This March finds us in the middle of the season that Christians have traditionally observed as Lent. Lent is a season of preparation for the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus, which we will do at Easter on March 31. During the forty days preceding Easter, Christians are invited to remember everything that draws us to the cross, before we leap over it to the celebration of the Resurrection.

My own heart resonates with the way The Passion Translation renders Paul’s testimony in 1 Timothy 1:13-17:

Mercy kissed me, even though I used to be a blasphemer, a persecutor of believers, and a scorner of what turned out to be true. I was ignorant and didn’t know what I was doing. I was flooded with such incredible grace, like a river overflowing its banks, until I was full of faith and love for Jesus the Anointed One! I can testify that the Word is true and deserves to be received by all, for Jesus Christ came into the world to bring sinners back to life—even me, the worst of all! Yet I was captured by grace so that Jesus Christ could display through me the outpouring of his Spirit as a pattern to be seen for all those who would believe in him for eternal life. Because of this my praises rise to the King for all the universe who is indestructible, invisible, and full of glory, the only God who is worthy of the highest honors throughout all of time and throughout the eternity of eternities! Amen!

In these words, Paul invites us all to remember where we came from before we met Jesus and where we might be had we not encountered Jesus’ love, grace, and mercy along the way.

Often, during Lent, I am struck with the idea that I have tended to take my benefits in Jesus for granted. And, if I take my benefits for granted, I can easily take the cost of those benefits for granted as well. In the same way that we who have inherited beautiful churches in which to worship can forget the sacrifices of those who gave so much in order to build those churches in the first place, those of us who have an inheritance in Christ can forget the sacrifice that was made in order for us to gain that inheritance in the first place.

Lent invites us to slow down and to reflect again as Paul was doing with Timothy. It invites us to remember the trajectory of our lives before we intersected with Jesus and where that was leading us. It invites us to reflect upon the magnificence of the grace that reached into our unworthy lives and chose to “overflow its banks” on us.

Might you, in these weeks of March, simply take time to pause in the absolute miracle of grace that has reached out from eternity to include you in its clutches? In the midst of all the busy that clamors for your attention, could you find a moment to look again at what God has done for you and simply marvel? When you have appreciated your journey, *then* you will be ready to celebrate on Resurrection Morning.

In His Love

Dr. Larry



Volume 87 Number 3

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NM District
 website: www.nmnaz.com

District Office:
 300 Bonita Park Rd
 Capitan, NM 88316

District Phone:
 575-626-1116



Man Camp is on its way at Bonita Park, April 25-27, 2024. The cost is \$140.

Please talk to your men’s group, friends, and grab your sons and grandsons. As well as all those who might be interested and make plans to attend this year’s Man Camp.

Registration information NOW available on nmnaz.com.

Our speaker this year, Rev. Dave Myers, who is a pastor at Christ Community Church of the Nazarene in Concord, CA and a pastoral coach.

If you have any furthering questions, please email me at wade.elftman@yahoo.com or call 575-522-7120.

IMPORTANT PALCON INFORMATION!



PALCON Theme: One Heart.

This is the prayer of Jesus for us. It’s also an invitation—an invitation into the love of God, **One Heart**...summons us to live into and from the promise of Jesus to accompany us as, together,

Here is the **conference website** (www.palcon.org) and the dates and location for the PALCON on your field.

JULY 22-24, 2024





E2024 CONFERENCE

WESLEYAN HOLINESS
— WOMEN CLERGY —

Livestream

MARCH 7-9, 2024

COST: FREE

https://womenclergyconference.com/livestream/?fbclid=IwAR0avnvbsLiU-o8FFJBRpT8-Heug2jNjEA0vDIiQE6JLK_mbQ4HF-HcHETA

Click the LINK above for all your information needs.

Up Coming Important Dates for the New Mexico District 2024

March

District Teen Quiz at Rio Communities Mar 9

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

Palm Sunday March 24

Good Friday March 29

Easter Sunday March 31

April

Teen Quiz Heights 1st Apr 8

Bonita Park Pause for Improvement Days Apr 1-14

Ordinands Retreat Apr 10

Year End Meetings Apr 11-13

Man Camp Apr 25-27

NM District Year ends Apr 30

May

Pastor's Report Due ! May 15

Always check the district Calendar online: www.nmnaz.com

NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL



Testimony:

My name is Nazia. I am 25 years old.

My testimony is about my complexion. I was born in a brown family and my skin tone is quite dark. I was always insecure about my skin color. I was teased in school and ladies in my neighborhood made fun of me. I was very disturbed because of this.

Though I was educated, I was held back because of my skin tone. I gave up hope. My uncle found me distraught. He asked me why I was upset? I shared everything with him. Then he took me to watch the Jesus Film. He said, "God will guide you."

During the movie, I realized Jesus never sees us as rich or poor, dark or light. He puts everybody on the same level. He paid with his worthy blood for everyone. He loves us all equally and never will leave us alone. That day, I realized this complexion of mine is nothing. I decided I will love myself because Jesus loves me as I am!

We are all dealing with something.

Please pray for Nazia as she carries the scars of discrimination. Ask the Lord to cover her with a veil of protection from hurtful people and to open the minds of those around her to see the value of who she is in God's eyes.

PRAYER POINTS –

- Diane celebrated her 60th birthday this year. Evidently, her body decided it was time for some upgrades. She has hip replacement surgery scheduled for March 22nd! And within the next 16 months, she is looking at having both knees replaced. Some of you know she's been in pain for several years. She is excited about the surgeries - obviously, she needs a great deal of prayer. :-)

-Ask the Lord to help Rusty **balance** his time as he takes on the additional role of Field Finance Coordinator.

-Pray for the hundreds of JESUS Film team members and their families to **experience God's protection** and favor as they share about Christ.

- Please continue to pray for **peace** as many countries on our region are at war and/or believers are facing persecution.

- We **thank you** for your partnership. May the Lord bless you in all He has called you to complete!

Gratefully,
Diane and 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!



We are excited to announce that Belgium has been recognized as the 165th world area of the Church of the Nazarene! They officially joined the Northern Europe Field on the Eurasia Region during the 100th session of the General Board today.

Feb 23, 2024



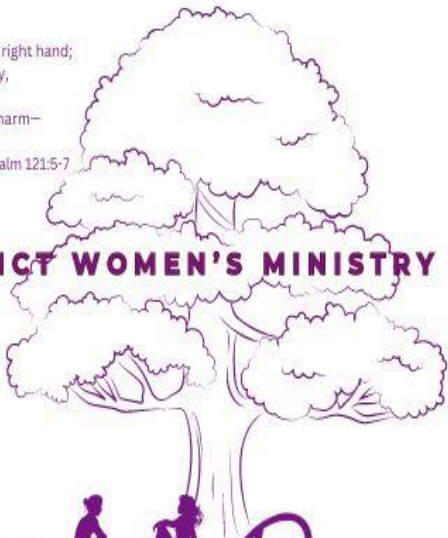
International Food Festival!! Sandia Valley

This is my favorite church activity ❤️. If you know me you know I am very competitive, sorry....so proud of my Bible Study Group!! We worked hard and...we won 1st place!!!! But we also love learning about what the Nazarene missions are doing in other countries and how missionaries are working hard to spread the gospel...we love that part too!!

If you want to know more about missionaries in Singapore, contact us we would love to share with you



The Lord watches over you—
 the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
 the sun will not harm you by day,
 nor the moon by night.
 The Lord will keep you from all harm—
 he will watch over your life;
 Psalm 121:5-7



NM DISTRICT WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Rest and Renew
 Weekend

In the Shade of the Father

Womens Retreat 2024!!

The women's Ministry Council
 Has been working hard
 To create a Retreat to
 Give our women Rest and Renewal!

Save the Date!!!

Aug 24—26

Come and bring your friends
 To sit in our Father's SHADE to-
 gether this weekend. New format
 through out our weekend in

His SHADE.



A 3 day/2 night retreat for children's teachers.
 A time of learning, resourcing, and equipping
 as well as connecting with children's leaders.

SPARK::New Mexico

Who: Children's Directors, Children's Pastors, Children's Teachers,
 Children's Team Members, and Pastors

When: Thursday, March 21 – Saturday, March 23, 2024

Where: Bonita Park in Angus, NM

Early Bird Registration: By February 15, 2024 - PRICE BELOW

Regular Registration: By February 28, 2024 - ADDITIONAL \$30

Late Registration: After February 28, 2024 - ADDITIONAL \$60

Lodging:

- Option 1: Dorm - \$160 per person
- Option 2: Double Occupancy - \$170 per person
- Option 3: Single Occupancy - \$180 per person
- Option 4: No Lodging - \$145 per person

Includes: 6 meals and 2 nights of lodging

To Register or For More Information:
equiptoengage.org/spark

**We Are One Team From Different Cities and On Different Districts,
 But All Called to Serve God, Children and Their Families.**



SPARK Schedule

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3:00	Check-In Opens	7:00 Coffee & Fellowship	7:00 Coffee & Fellowship
6:00	Dinner	8:00 Breakfast	8:00 Breakfast
7:00	Ugly Sweater Party	9:00 Worship	8:45 Breakout Session 4
8:30	Fellowship	10:30 Breakout Session 1	10:00 Breakout Session 5
		12:00 Lunch	11:15 Worship
		1:00 Breakout Session 2	12:30 Lunch
		2:30 Breakout Session 3	1:00 See You Next Year!
		4:00 Free Time	
		6:00 Dinner	
		7:00 Team Building	
		8:30 Fellowship	

ACCOMMODATIONS

Dorms
 Linens & Towels not Provided

Double & Single Occupancy
 Linens & Towels not Provided

MORE INFORMATION

Beth Bidle Rush
 SPARK Director
 Trey and Candice Brooks
 Equip to Engage Directors
info@equiptoengage.org
 or 260.632.7855

UGLY SWEATER PARTY

Night One...
 You are encouraged to
 dress up for our theme.
 Come in your ugly sweater
 or anything Christmas!