

# Pittsburgh District

## Church of the Nazarene

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October 2015

KNOWING THE BIBLE  
IS ONE THING  
KNOWING THE AUTHOR  
IS ANOTHER



Rev. J Bret Metcalfe  
District Superintendent

The summer has drifted by and now fall is setting in. Soon the leaves will begin to change and, well, you know the rest of the story. The seasons change, our bodies change, our economy changes, our world changes. Everything changes, whether we are ready for it or like it. We are constantly in a season of change, except for one thing, Jesus Christ. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. That is cause for us to celebrate, even in the midst of all of the changes that come.

I wonder what our churches and district would look like if we decided to let the Lord change our direction? I wonder what would happen if our churches and district decided to focus on kingdom activity instead of personal activity? I wonder. I wonder what would happen if we took seriously the call of Jesus to pray, “Your kingdom come, your will be done” (Matt. 6:10 ESV). I wonder what our churches would look like if every board meeting and every decision that was made was made in the context of that verse? Think of what the Lord might be able to do if we gave Him permission to act in our midst and we just followed instead of trying to lead.

One of the most disheartening things that has occurred way too often has been when the people of a church take their eyes off of the things of God and look at each other. God is not honored when His children are at each other. Let’s not focus on our faults, let’s focus on Christ. Let’s be the Church that is so strong that the “gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:18 ESV). When we allow the Church to be the church, the kingdom will grow because the Lord will use His Church to reach those who need to hear the Good News!

Let’s make this new season that we have entered into the best season we have ever been a part of and the start of the new norm. One of the best ways to have a kingdom mindset is by getting into your community and making connections. What are the needs of your community and how can you help address them? Many times, a church can reach into their community without a lot of expense (as a matter of fact, sharing Jesus is free and the gift He offers is free), though it will cause you to invest in the lives of those in your community. You may have to be creative, but that is okay. If there is something that I can do to help you, please feel free to ask. I am available to help you work through some ideas. There are those who do not know Christ, let’s do what we can to share Christ with them and see what the Lord will do as we live Christ in our community.

Co-laboring together, J Bret

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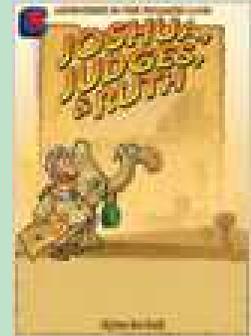
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## Anita Church says "Thank You" to local Work & Witness team



The Anita Church would like to show their appreciation to the Local Work & Witness team consisting of Pastor Gary Smith, Barry Mohny and others for the wonderful job they did repairing their ramp and hanging their new front door!  
Thanks to all!

## Children's Bible Quizzing



Our new season begins in September as we study Joshua, Judges and Ruth. Remember, churches, if you are starting a quizzing program for the very first time, I will purchase your Leader's Guide and Scripture portions for you!  
Our first invitational will be held on November 14. Contact me asap if you would like to host this event.

## Pittsburgh Promoter Mailing List?

If you want onto the Pittsburgh District Promoter E-Mail list, please contact: David Marker at [admarker@comcast.net](mailto:admarker@comcast.net).

The Promoter is published in the months of February, April, June, August, October and December of each year. Copies of all Promoter issues are also available on-line at the Pittsburgh District website at: [www.pghnazarene.org](http://www.pghnazarene.org).



**Rev. David Smith**  
SDMI Chair

## ***Sunday School Discipleship Ministries International***

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SUNDAY SCHOOL | DISCIPLESHIP  
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

***Find Us Faithful***

*I was reading an article out of the March SDMI magazine that was written by Dr. Linda G. Hardin, who is an SDMI consultant for Women's Ministries and Bridges singles ministry. It is called "Know the 3 B's". With her permission, I share her article with you in hopes that you will be able to draw something from this article to help your church and Sunday School grow and to connect with others.*

### ***Know the 3 B's***

By Dr. Linda G. Hardin

Some young and single adults will visit church during a life of transition. It might be a career change, job relocation, divorce, continuing education, or various other reasons. Here are some tips to help make your church their home.

**B Befriend** them. Engage them in conversations to learn about their needs, interests, and desires. Remember that conversation involves as much listening as talking – perhaps even more. This often requires us to restate what we hear to ensure understanding.

Share life with them by inviting them into your life. They want to see how others live, to learn how to integrate Christianity into all aspects of life, and to watch as you deal with the challenges, conflicts, and joys life brings. Remember, it isn't important to have all the answers. Actually, admitting that you don't have an answer and working together to find a solution is often appealing to young adults.

**B Find** places where young and single adults can **belong**. Based on the information you gained from conversations, identify programs and ministries that match needs and interests. Develop ways to communicate more effectively. Facebook and text messages will be among the prime communication tools.

Encourage leadership development and give leadership responsibilities to them. Remember how someone trusted you with leadership positions. Relive that experience as you invest in new members of your congregation.

**B Help** them discover what we **believe**. In Sunday School classes, small groups, and Bible studies, help them to discover how the Bible applies to their lives today. Even if they know basic Christian beliefs, they will also want to know why we believe as we do. As you teach our doctrine and beliefs, guide them to discover the foundational supports.

Bible studies provide a greater opportunity for the intergenerational ministry. Many are seeking to learn from the experiences and knowledge of those farther along life's journey; they also want many of their friends to be present. Offering Bible studies at various times, day and evening groups, allows people to select a time that fits into their schedules.

Our goal is to develop young and single adults to become the people and leaders God created them to be. Meet newcomers for coffee and listen as they share their passion and vision. To borrow words from a book title by Dr. D. Michael Henderson, we welcome new people "one conversation at a time."

A verse from the song, **He Giveth More Grace**,

“When we have exhausted our store of endurance,  
When our strength is failed ere the day is half done,  
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,  
Our Father’s full giving is only begun.”

Wow, let those words really sink in. **His full giving is only begun.**



I witnessed this at supper the other night. The lady was choking and could not breathe, her strength had failed, she was limp, there was nothing she could do. Her life in a few moments could have ended BUT the one stepped in, two stepped in and then we watched and prayed. Everything was on the line. God’s timing began and suddenly the blockage was relieved and she was breathing. When we have exhausted our store of endurance and our strength is gone, ALLOW our FATHER just to hold you and to say, “I am here.” The words, “She is breathing” were all we needed to hear. God is so faithful and alive.

So NMI, do not get discouraged.

**Fall news:** As I write this, I am packing to attend the Eastern Regional W&W Conference in Ellicott City MD this weekend. The excitement of going is mounting, but much work before leaving is exhausting. I know if I take one thing at a time, God will be and is already there.

Yes, we are planning another Fall Missionary Weekend. All details are not finalized but start planning, **November 6, 7, 8 and 9th.** We will be sending out more details soon. I know many things will be going on but we are giving you several places you can attend. Please start praying for the speakers as God is preparing for them to speak.

**Prayer requests:** pray for the countries recently hit by the storms, pray for the ones leaving their countries seeking safety and pray for the children around the world that see things at their age that they should never have to see or witness. What will the impact be?

But when we have exhausted our store, He giveth and giveth again.

Thank you for your support of NMI and keep on His path. I am here for you. Please call 814-756-3630 if you have any questions or ideas.

Serving you with love,

Sandy

*Growing in Grace,*

*The Greenlees 🙏*

## Family Camp 2015: A Review

Family Camp 2015 is done for this year. The Tabernacle has been swept clean and is being used by other camps who are proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ! The Lord continues to move at our Family Camp meetings. The people who take the time to drive in for services can feel His presence just as the people who stay the week can see His hand in their lives and the lives of their families. I do not have sufficient words to express my gratitude to the many who give of their time, talent and treasure to make Family Camp a success. Our speakers spend hours in prayer before they bring the Good News and it shows. Thank you, Susie Shellenberger and Michael Parenti, for bringing us God's word. Thank you, Devine Inspirations, for ministering to our children and Bob Kuether for keeping it real with our youth. The Lord moved as our kids, youth and adults yielded to God's will in their lives.

I think my favorite part of camp is the Baptism Service. We had a great group of people come and be baptized into the faith. It is wonderful to see how God is working. We had a 5-year old little one ask his dad to help him ask Jesus into his heart and he was baptized into the faith. All to the glory of God! Next year our baptism service will be more accessible to all as we are planning to make sure that fewer activities will be planned during this holy sacrament. Many ask "How did Family Camp go this year?" Often times they are asking about the offering but to me Family Camp is about the lives that are yielded to the Lord. It is about families coming together and hearing the good news of Jesus Christ. Relationships are being strengthened here on Earth and for an eternity. That can only happen when we put our focus on God, not on ourselves. Sometimes we need to put the iPhone, tablet, computer and every other distraction away and focus on what matters: to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength in order to gain a closer walk with Him. We need to be working out our salvation making it a priority in our lives and not just something that we get around to doing. Future generations are watching us. Let them find us faithful!

I would like to thank each and every one who gave sacrificially towards the offering at Family Camp. It takes approximately \$35,000.00 to have Family Camp each year. That money comes from the offerings of churches and people who attend and support Family Camp. This year our cash offering including pledges that have been paid so far is \$34,499.74. We have outstanding pledges of \$4,785.00 which if all are (continued on Page 7)

### **Thanking God...**

**For a wonderful week at Pittsburgh Family Camp**

**For healing and deliverance for so many**

**For the filling of the Holy Spirit**

**For hearing chains fall off**

**For lives being saved**

**For new friends**

**Received from Michael Parenti following Family Camp!**

## ***2016 Domestic Work & Witness Trip to Fairbanks, Alaska!***

This information is for those who are already planning on going or are interested in going but have not made up your mind yet. Here is what I know so far:

- We will be leaving on August 13th and returning August 20, 2016.
- The cost of the trip will be at least \$3000.00 and will not exceed \$3500.00.
- The cost will be set once I have a quote from the airline. I have the airfare for everyone budgeted at \$1500.00 round trip including money set aside for your luggage. If I can get the cost closer to \$1000.00 then the total cost will reflect that amount. The airlines will not give me a quote this far in advance.

- We will be staying at the Twin Bears Campground. You can check them out at <http://twinbearscamp.org>. I have already put a deposit on the campground to secure our stay.

- We will be working in the community for part of our stay. This is a requirement for us to go to any church/ministry.

- God will provide the work and the workers!

- We now have a NMI Memorial Scholarship that is open to everyone whether they have been on a Work & Witness trip in the past or not. Please message me for a copy of the scholarship. We also have an additional NMI scholarship and an NYI scholarship. If you would like the NYI scholarship, please contact Rev. Colleen Baker.

- We will be working at the most northern church of the Nazarene in the world!

### **Here is some very important information:**

\* All checks need to be made out to the Pittsburgh District NMI and mailed to: Rev. Peter Roy. If you do not have my address please email me at [teracecn@yahoo.com](mailto:teracecn@yahoo.com).

\* As soon as possible if you have not sent in your deposit for the trip you need to do so. Without the deposit I do not know if you are going. Your spot will not be held without the deposit of \$500.00. So please send that in ASAP!

\* **A payment of \$500.00 is due on or before November 1, 2015.** This is so that I can pay the deposit on the airline tickets. Please do not be late with this payment as I do not have the funds to pay everyone's airline deposit. **PLEASE NOTE:** Once the airline tickets are paid for it becomes nonrefundable. I am unable to get that money back and you are committed to going. If for some reason you are unable to go and can find someone to take your place there is a charge to change the names on the tickets but you and that other person will be responsible for that charge. There is nothing I am able to do about the charge. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

\* **A payment of \$1500.00 is due on or before February 15, 2016.** I will have to start making deposits on transportation for us while we are in Alaska and need the money to make those deposits. I may also by this time be required to pay for everyone's airline tickets. So please be on time or even be early with your payments.

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**\* A final payment is due on or before May 1, 2016.** As you already know I do not know the final cost but you will know way before May 1st. It will be somewhere between \$500.00 and \$1000.00. As soon as I know the final amount, I will let you know.

Here is some of what I do not know as of today.

1. I do not know what we will be doing. Please understand that we are a year away from going on this trip and that the projects will change as we get closer to our departure. It all depends on the needs of the church and the needs of the community.

2. I do not know everyone who will be traveling with us. I do have several names of people interested in going and several have already given me deposits but the final team is yet to be assembled. We still have room for more team members so if you know anyone who would like to go with you please have them get in touch with me and have them send in the \$500.00 deposit as soon as possible.

My hope is that as you prepare to raise money for this trip that you also start to prepare your heart for this trip. It is amazing who God shows up in new and exciting ways when we are prepared with an open heart. So please start to pray that God will prepare your heart and the hearts of your team members.

Rev. Peter S. Roy  
Domestic Work & Witness Coordinator  
Pittsburgh District

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(continued from Page 5)

paid would bring out total up to \$39,284.74! This would be a great offering and testament to the generosity of His people. The fear that I have is that people will see the total that we have and not fulfill their pledge. They will think that the campground does not need any extra money to help make it better. Yet without the extra money, making improvements like the handicapped restrooms and repairing the siding on the tabernacle could not be done. Our camp still needs several physical improvements. We need to upgrade the inside of the tabernacle. The walls have water damage from years of leaking walls, many of the dorms need remodeling especially dorm #1 plus many other upgrades. So if you are one of the ones who have made a pledge, would you please honor that pledge? Would you continue to make Family Camp a priority for you and your family? You can now give on-line through Tithe.ly. All you need to do is download the app or go to their website. Sign up as a user and search for the Pittsburgh District Church of the Nazarene and you can give towards Family Camp. You can make a onetime donation or a monthly donation to fulfill your pledge.

We are already working on making next year's Family Camp even more family orientated. We are looking at making a difference in the community of Butler as an outreach to the community and to let them know that your Family Camp is open to them and that it can be their Family Camp, too. So would you please be in prayer for the Family Camp leaders as we work together to make the 2016 Family Camp a camp to remember!

Rev. Peter Roy  
Family Camp Director

## District Events Schedule \* 2015

- October 3:** District Children's Council Meeting
- October 9-11:** Victims to Victors Retreat
- October 16-17:** Prime Time Trip to "Joseph" (Lancaster PA)
- October 24: Pastor's Prayer Day
- November 12-14:** District Assessment
- November 12:** 1st 2015-2016 Children's Quizzing Tournament (Butler Faith Fellowship Alliance and Waynesburg)
- November 21:** NYI Festival of Life Day
- December 5:** Annual Snowflake Craft and Gift Show
- December 12:** Dan Schall Concert (District Center Dining Hall)

## 2016

- January 9:** District Children's Council Meeting
- February 6:** 2nd 2015-2016 Children's Quizzing Invitational (TBD)
- February 28:** Last day for Children's Talent Competition/Local
- March 11-12:** District Ladies' Retreat
- March 12:** Children's Talent Competitions/Zone (Locations TBA)
- March 17-20:** District Scrapbook Retreat
- March 26:** District Children's Council Meeting
- April 9:** Children's Quizzing District Finals (District Center MPB)
- April 15-16:** Women in Ministry Retreat
- April 23:** District Children's Council Meeting
- April 23:** Pastor's Prayer Day
- May 7:** Children's Talent/District Finals (District Center MPB)

\* Dates are subject to change.

## DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS:

**Thank you** for your faithful giving to the District Ministry Fund and the other allocations. Please remember to send your district allocations into the District, SDMI, NMI and NYI. If you haven't started giving, it's never too late!

**Payments can be made to the following:**

### District Ministry Fund:

Henry Twentier, District Treasurer  
177 North Road, Butler PA 16001

Make checks payable to:

*Pittsburgh District  
Church of the Nazarene*

### NMI:

Debra Shutak

428 Great Belt Road

Butler PA 16002

Make checks payable to:

*Pittsburgh District NMI*

### SDMI:

Rev. Ronald Schaeffer

141 Tressler Drive

Confluence PA 15424

Make checks payable to:

*Pittsburgh District SDMI*

### NYI:

Tom Aaron

141 Supervisor Drive

West Newton PA 15089

Make checks payable to:

*Pittsburgh District NYI*

### ENC:

23 E Elm Avenue

Quincy MA 02170