

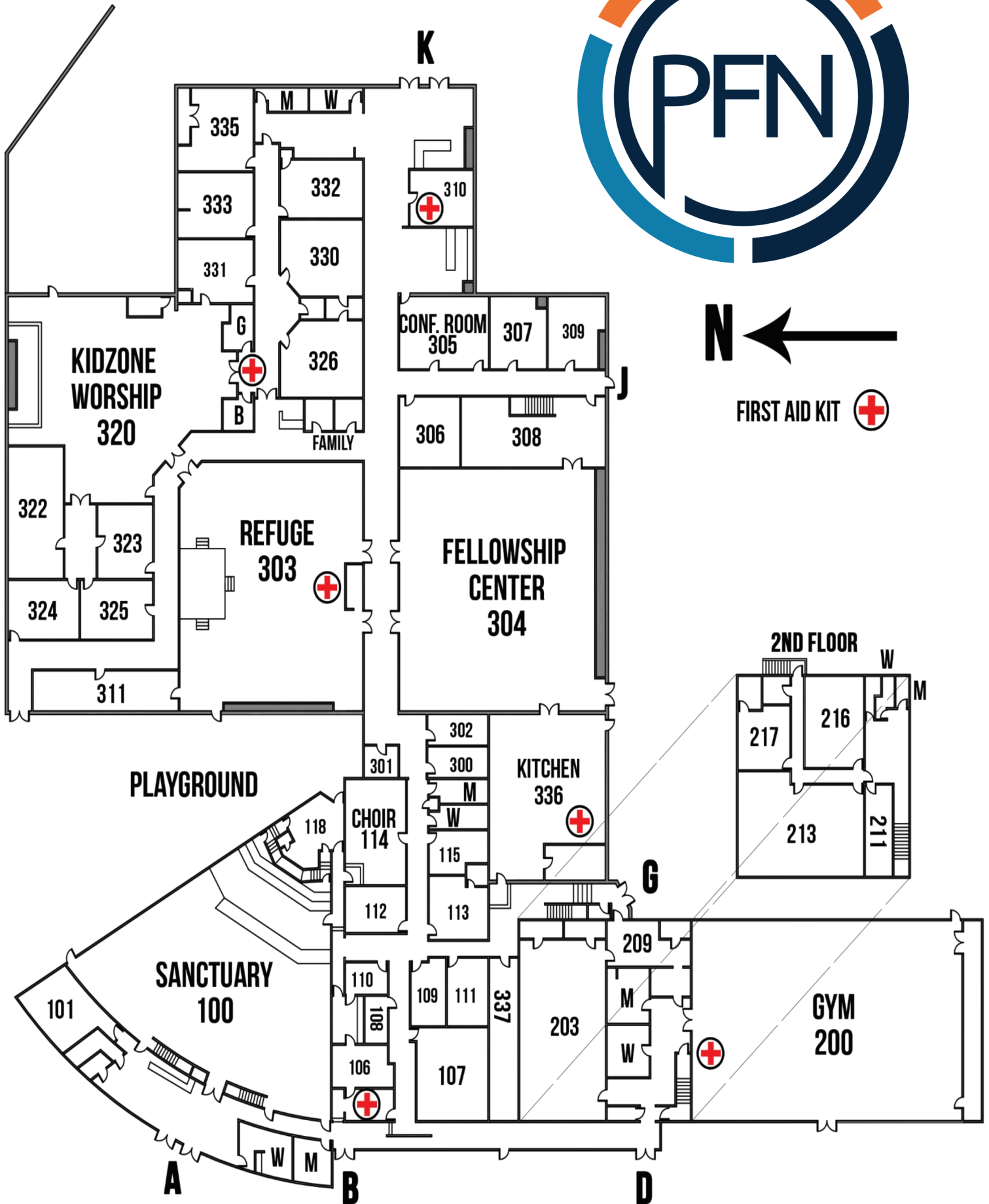
Preparing for the Harvest



Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."
Matthew 9:37-38



FIRST AID KIT 



TEAM DAY 2024

8:45am-10:00am.....	Plenary & Worship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:45am-9:00am Worship – Pekin First Praise Team • 9:00am-9:20am Opening - Rev. Lloyd Brock • 9:20am-10:00am – Rev. Dr. Olivia Metcalf 	
10:10am-11:10am.....	Workshop 1
11:20am-12:20pm.....	Workshop 2
12:30pm-1:00pm.....	(room 304) Lunch
<i>You can eat in the fellowship center or take lunch to your next workshop.</i>	
1:10pm-2:10pm.....	Workshop 3
2:20pm-3:00pm.....	Closing Rev. Dr. Olivia Metcalf

KIDS ROOM is available in Room 107

Parent must stay with the child. Coloring books, crayons & snacks are provided.

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TEAM DAY 2024 WORKSHOPS

NAZARENE DISCIPLESHIP INTERNATIONAL – NDI
CHILDREN’S MINISTRY – CM
NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL – NMI
NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL – NYI
NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT – NWIL
WORSHIP/TECH – W/T

10:10am-11:10am

NWIL –

Room: 304 Presenter: Dr. Olivia Metcalf

NDI – Blessing Our Communities

Room: 320 Presenter: Lyndsey Alvis, Ronda Hollars, Matthew Jones, Seth Major, Tammy Shane

In this panel led discussion, come discover the why and the how local NWIL churches of various sizes are forming Community Partnerships, establishing Relational Currency and finding New Opportunities for Discipleship outside of the traditional context of “church”. It can be messy, unscripted and at times chaotic – yet God is moving in ways we could not have predicted or planned on our own!

NDI/CM – Family Discipleship: Equipping Parents to be Spiritual Heroes for their Families

Room: 213 Presenter: Shawna Marsh

Discipleship starts in the home. As parents, grandparents & involved extended family members, our first ministry should be to our family. We will take a closer look at how raising Godly children is the process of making disciples who live out the story of God.

NMI – Beyond WEF: Exploring “Other” Ways to Give to Missions

Room: 203 Presenter: Denise Vroman

WEF (World Evangelism Fund) is the backbone of the financial support for Nazarene missions. Every church gives to WEF as a part of its district financial obligations—and on NWIL, we do WEF exceptionally well. However, there are additional ways to financially support missions. This workshop will present options to stretch your congregation’s mission giving beyond WEF through opportunities such as Alabaster, NCM, Child Sponsorship, and more. Come learn how to expand your church’s missions giving to the next LEVEL.

NYI - Exploring Identity

Room: 303 Presenter Zac Alvis

How do we handle the topic of identity in today's world? In this session we will explore what it means to live into the God-Authentic-Self and explore the intersection of the good news, the church, and the world.

W/T – The Purest Praise

Room: 100 Presenter: Kim Brock

Ever wanted to truly have a life of praise? This will be a learning and hands-on session.

11:20am-12:20pm

NDI – Mental Health and the Local Church: Practical Wisdom and Tools

Room: 320 Presenter: Rose Addo – Mental Health Awareness Consultant

Learn about the clues and warning signs that may be present when you or someone you love (of any age) is struggling with mental health

NDI - Developing Discipleship through Prayer

Room: 213 Presenter: Dennis Owens

“...The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” (James 5:16 NLT). Prayer is powerful and effective and can be used to disciple others. We will examine how to incorporate prayer in our discipleship process to change lives.

NMI – Answer the Call – Send Me! Is God calling me?

Room: 203 Presenters: Ron & Diana Jansen, Mary Beth

Am I called to missions?

Positions are available on every region with a variety of service lengths.

So, God has called you, you want to serve, come to this workshop and understand what your next steps are to fulfill that call to serve as a missionary.

Sendme@nazarene.org Opportunities@nazarene.org

NYI - Faith Beyond Youth Group- Fuller Youth Institute

Room: 303 Presenter: Ronda Hollars

Young people leaving the church is not a new heartbreak, so what are we doing wrong and how can we better serve them to grow closer to Jesus.

NWIL – Treasurer’s Round Table

Room: 305 Presenter: Ray Barker & Daniel Wierenga

We will review the Finance Committee Report from District Assembly and have a Church Treasurer’s Q&A.

W/T – God uses everything, even tech: The visual aspect of service

Room: 100 Presenter: Larry & Laura Blackaby

Description: Calling all technical artists (yes, that's you)! Join us for an interactive discussion as we talk slides, lighting, and sound and how they can help enhance the in-service experience.

1:10pm-2:10pm

NDI – Disciplined by the Word

Room: 320 Presenter: Scott Casto

Take a closer look at how we can grow from being "hearers of the Word" and knowers of the Word, to be living out the Word and becoming the embodiment of the Way. We will learn more about how to study, understand and apply biblical truth as a lifelong process of discipleship through scripture.

NDI/CM – Volunteers: Find Them, Equip Them, and Care for Them well

Room: 213 Presenter: Charlotte More

How to locate, screen, train and keep all-star volunteers. From the nursery to the nursing home fantastic volunteers are crucial in making amazing ministry happen.

NMI – Make a Big Splash with Work & Witness

Room: 203 Presenter: Matt Wilson

Learn how you can get involved with Work & Witness:

-What's involved in setting up a trip and leading a team?

-Examples of past trips.

-Types of ministries available.

Get involved and make a difference.

NYI - Young Adult Ministry

Room: 303 Presenters: Zac Alvis, Reagan Smith

Are you looking at starting a young adult ministry or you're a young adult and wished your church was! Come and hear about recent startups and ask the panel how a young adult ministry could work in your local setting.

W/T – Creative Expression

Room: 100 Presenter: Linsy Stockham

Creative Expression workshop - a workshop that takes a look at the different elements of worship of our Lord and Savior through - the arts - dance- painting- spoken word- and song!



Trisha Wilson, NDI Chairman
mattrishwilson93@mchsi.com

Blessing Our Communities – A Panel Discussion

In this panel led discussion, come discover the why and the how local NWIL churches of various sizes are forming Community Partnerships, establishing Relational Currency and finding New Opportunities for Discipleship outside of the traditional context of “church”. It can be messy, unscripted and at times chaotic – yet God is moving in ways we could not have predicted or planned on our own!

Today is meant to encourage and inspire. You will learn about 5 unique churches in 5 unique communities. You’ll hear about what community needs were recognized, how each church got involved, what messes occurred along the way and how God has shown up!

Please feel free to reach out to any (or all) of our presenters for additional information. They are all excited to share how God is helping them Bless Our Communities.

Seth Major - seth@reachway.org

Reachway Church

Ronda Hollars - trhollars1987@gmail.com

Family Church

Matthew Jones - pastormattjones@gmail.com

Sandwich Church

Lindsey Alvis - Lkalvis17@gmail.com

Point of Change Church

Tammy Shane – Shanetl76@gmail.com

Wyoming Church

Resources:

- “You Found Me”, Rick Richardson;
- “Surprise the World”, Michael Frost
- “The Art of Neighboring”, Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon

BLESS OUR COMMUNITY RESOURCE LIST



BOOKS



- **You Found Me**; Rick Richardson (Use code IVPYFM40 at IVpress.com for 40% off)
- **BLESS**; Dave and Jon Ferguson
- **Loving Your Community**; Stephen Viars
- **The Hopeful Neighborhood**; Don Everts
- **The Hopeful Neighborhood Field Guide**; Don Everts
- **Everywhere You Look**; Tim Soerens
- **Toxic Charity**; Robert D. Lupton
- **When Helping Hurts**; Brian Fikkert and Steve Corbett
- **Growing Young**; Kara Powell
- **Cross-cultural Servanthood**; Duane Elmer
- **The New Parish**; Paul Sparks, Tim Soerens and Dwight J. Frie

PODCASTS



- **Revitalizing the Declining Church** - Dr. Desmond Barrett
- **The Senica Seven** - Sam and Kristi Senica; starting at Episode 18 - Blessing Our Community Stories
- **Breaking the Cycle of Poverty** - Jay Height, Shepherd Community Center



Grant Opportunity

Thanks to generous donors, the USA/Canada Region will be able to distribute grants for Nazarene churches to participate in the Blessing Our Community Initiative. These grants are available to churches of all sizes that are seeking to be a blessing to their community.

Use the QR code to visit the Blessing Our Community site or visit

<https://usacanadaregion.org/cycle-of-resurgence/blessing-our-community/grant-application>

Grant Guidelines

- The project will be used to build a bridge from the church to the community.
- The project will meet a specific need or challenge within your local community.
- The funds will not be used to make building improvements unless it is specifically for community use.

Types of Grants

- A \$500 non-matching grant for churches of 50 or fewer people.
- A \$1,000 matching grant for churches of any size.



SCAN ME

Equipping Parents to Be Spiritual Heroes for Their Families

Goal: Learn the Why and What behind Family Discipleship

Scripture Focus:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Proverbs 22:6

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

The best hope for a child to become a disciplined disciple-maker of Jesus is for his family to disciple him to do so.

- A person's moral foundation is either based upon God's Word or it is based on worldly perspectives.
- The spiritual health of a child is just as important, if not more, as physical, emotional, and mental health.
- Parents/Caregivers are the number one influencer in a child's spiritual development.
- Children need to have a good understanding of spiritual truths.
- The purpose of spiritual training is to instill a passion to love, obey, and serve God.

Helping children build a solid foundation on Jesus Christ:

4 Cornerstones:

- Understanding Scripture as a Trustworthy Source of Direction
- Having a Knowledge of Biblical Content
- Connecting God's Principles for Life Application
- Manifesting a Desire to Love and Obey God

Best practices of faith lived out in the home:

- Read the Bible together
- Pray together
- Participate in daily devotions
- Serve as a family together
- Have regular spiritual conversations

Our first disciple-making priority should be a small group called my family.

A parent connects with a child in order to connect the child with Jesus.

Resources:

- Experiencing God at Home – Tom and Richard Blackaby
- Grace Based Parenting – Tim Kimmel
- If Jesus Were a Parent – Hal Perkins
- Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions – George Barna

Developing Discipleship through Prayer

“...The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” (James 5:16 NLT)

Prayer is powerful and effective and can be used to disciple others. We will examine how to incorporate prayer in our discipleship process to change lives.

Discipleship is ... (How would you define it?)

A working definition of discipleship: Reflecting Christ’s character in how we live, participating in Christ’s mission and helping others do the same.

Weakness in discipleship and prayer lead to what Dave Buehring calls “spiritual thinness”. (*“The Great Opportunity”*) What is the evidence of “spiritual thinness”?

To live so that we reflect Christ’s character, we must be living a life saturated in prayer and discipleship. Because that’s how Jesus lived.

Luke 11:1 “Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’”

Jesus’ disciples asked him to teach them to pray. John taught his disciples to pray. Shouldn’t we teach those we disciple to pray? Grant Edwards calls prayer “the art of conversation with God”. (*“Conversations, First Steps Discipleship”*)

Who taught you to pray?

Who have you taught to pray?

I Thessalonians 5:17 tells us, “...pray without ceasing”.

Philippians 4:6 says, “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God.”

II Chronicles 7:14 admonishes us, “if my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

We need to pray ourselves and we need to teach those we disciple to pray like this ...

Pray _____ – I Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1-5

Pray _____ – Hebrews 4:16

Pray in _____ – Matthew 21:21-22

Pray in your _____ – Philemon 1:6

Pray _____ – James 4:2

Pray and _____ – John 10:27

Keep _____ of your prayers –

Practice praying –

START NOW!!!

Resources:

- “Conversations, First Steps Discipleship”, Grand Edwards;
- “The Great Opportunity”, Dave Buehring;
- “Circle Maker”, Mark Batterson;
- “Discipleship that Works”, Grant Edwards;
- “21 Days to Ignite your Life through Prayer”, Dennis Owens;
- “Something Needs to Change”, David Platt;
- “What Every Christian Should Know”, Leroy Eims

Mental Health and the Local Church: Practical wisdom and tools

Definitions: What do we mean when we are talking about mental health and mental health disorders?

Mental Health

Mental Health Challenge

Mental Health Disorder

Sometimes it's helpful to understand mental health as a spectrum

Health \longleftrightarrow Stressed \longleftrightarrow Struggling \longleftrightarrow Crisis

Why should the local church be involved and aware?

How many Americans experience a mental illness every year? _____

How many Americans experience a severe mental illness every year? _____

How many U.S youth (ages 6-17) experience a mental health disorder every year? _____

How many individuals will reach out to their pastor *first* when they're experiencing a mental health struggle? _____

The care of those who are experiencing mental health challenges, and their loved ones, is directly tied to one of the core values we have as Nazarenes, compassionate ministry.

How do mental health challenges and disorders happen?

Risk Factors

Protective Factors

What are the signs that someone is experiencing a mental health challenge or thinking about suicide?

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What are things I might notice when someone is experiencing a mental health challenge?

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How do we incorporate help, hope, and healing as the body of Christ?

What resources exist to help me support others or receive support for myself?

Crisis Services

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, call **9-8-8**

If you or someone you know is at risk of harm themselves or others, call **9-1-1**

If you are experiencing a mental health challenge, text 741741. Available 24/7

*Standard text messaging rates may apply

Behavioral Health Urgent Care Walk-In Clinic, Bloomington

520 N. Center St. (Under the tower), Bloomington, IL 61530

No phone calls, walk in only.

Monday-Friday - 9:00 am to 1:00 am, **Saturday** – 5:00 pm to 1:00 am, **Sunday** – 9:00 am to 1:00 am

CARES Line – DCFS Screening, Assessment and Support Services (SASS)

Mental Health crisis for children (under age 21) with Medicaid or DCFS involved

Statewide in Illinois, call 1-800-345-9049

Available 24/7

Mobile Crisis – The Center for Human Services, McLean County

Emergency crisis intervention services , call 309-827-5351

On-site evaluation and phone assistance

Available 24/7

Tazewell & Woodford County ERS (Emergency Response System)

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder related crisis: (309) 347-1148

Available 24/7

The Warm Line - Illinois (Non-Crisis)

Support line for mental health and / or substance use challenges, family, friends, and community members.

1-866-359-7953

Available **Monday – Friday** - 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Further Education

Bethere.org – a self-paced virtual training on how to support others who are experiencing mental health challenges.

Church of the Nazarene: The Discipleship Place video series “Mental Health in Discipling Communities” featuring Dr. Janet Dean:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIy7tslp18wNZ6JIGFe6OWsl-zpSC2pxJ&si=ui5AOOPH0ZRxTp6h>

Community Training: Mental Health First Aid for Adults or Youth, or QPR Suicide Prevention Training. These evidence-based trainings address mental health disorders, signs and symptoms, and what to do when someone you know is experiencing a mental health challenge or crisis as well as suicide prevention. This training is available for free through a grant from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Association, or SAMHSA. Training can be provided on-site. For more information, contact Rose Addo at addo@mcchs.org or 920-815-5710

Mental Health First Aid - Adult trainings: <https://mcchs.org/services/mental-health-first-aid-adult>

Mental Health First Aid - Youth trainings: <https://mcchs.org/services/mental-health-first-aid-youth>

QPR (Suicide Prevention) trainings: <https://mcchs.org/services/qpr-suicide-prevention-training>

Illinois Department of Human Services Recovery & Empowerment Handbook: https://sinnissippi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/10th-edition-RE-Handbook-English-FINAL_042318.pdf

Podcast: “The Best of You” with Dr. Alison Cook. Psychology from a faith-based perspective.

Professional Therapy Services

Psychology Today website: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us> - search for professional therapists, psychologists and psychiatrists by location, concerns, insurance, gender, types of therapy, age, ethnicity, language, faith and cost.

Additional Resources:

PATH Resources Line: Dial 2-1-1 *to locate local resources for a variety of needs.*

Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE (4673) or <https://hotline.rainn.org/online>

Substance Use Treatment: <https://findtreatment.gov/locator>

Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255 <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/> (Online Chat)

Suicide Survivors Support: <https://allianceofhope.org/>

Discipled by the Word

1. Goal of Discipleship

a. Spiritual Formation

- i. Being formed to the image of God through Jesus by the Spirit
- ii. **Two** types of formation

1. **InFormation**: going to school

- a. Education appealing to rationale, logic and understanding.
- b. Dependent on my effort.
- c. Makes me dependent on the Church/teacher.
 - i. High chair relationship
- d. Collection of facts about who, what, where, when, and how.
- e. Double-edged sword
 - i. Creates bible scholars
 - ii. How has knowing how much a shekel is worth in today's currency led you to follow Jesus, serve and love your neighbors or die to self?
 - iii. Makes you smart, does it make you useful?
 - iv. John 5:39-40 & Matthew 23:23-24
- f. Can lead to isms if it is the goal:
 - i. Pragmatism
 - ii. Legalism
 - iii. Measure-ism
- g. Learning should fuel the fire for the goal.

2. **TransFormation**: Residency

- a. Dependent on the Holy Spirit
- b. Surrender to the Way of Jesus
- c. Lean into God's process, not simply collecting answers:
 - i. Discovering applicable truths in God's Word
 - 1. "Why is this important?"
 - 2. "Do I feel convicted by this?"

- ii. Respond to revelation through application (Repent)
 - 1. “What am I going to do now that I know God’s truth?”
- iii. The goal is to become who God is leading and empowering you to be.
- iv. “According to Jesus, the point of the scriptures is that they reveal the source of truth and life.”

2. Definitions of Discipleship

- a. “Making disciples introduces people to God, who loves and understands them, helps them understand who they are and they can be, helps them apply God’s transforming truths, and releases them as prepared, confident, and skilled to live their best life ever on earth.” – Doug Burrier
- b. The goal of the process of discipleship is to move a believer from church-dependent to Holy Spirit-dependent.
- c. A disciple looks like a follower of Jesus, not simply a scholar. Their why for what they do is not duty or imitation, but because of who they are becoming in response to God’s revealed truth for life.

3. Steps towards discipleship

- a. Celebrate your goals
 - i. Option 1: attendance, participation, and course completion.
 - ii. Option 2: life change and multiplication
- b. Utilize one-on-one for effective discipleship.
 - i. Want efficiency? Invite 3-5 people to meet at the same time
 - 1. Have 1 leader. This is not a small group.
- c. Commit to weekly meetings for 12 months
 - i. Feast on the entire Bible for that time
 - ii. Homework: Read and highlight eternal, applicable truths
 - iii. Group time: Share highlights, answer “Why?” and “Now what?”

- d. What can we learn from Socrates?
 - i. A 5-step method.
 1. Wonder/Receive – listen to what they say
 2. Reflect – summarize what you understood them to say
 3. Refine & Examine – Ask for evidence to support and find assumptions, thoughts and facts. Discover “Why?”.
 4. Restate what they have discovered after examination.
 5. Repeat the process to drill down.
 - ii. Question-driven method, teaches thinking and listening to God, rather than just getting answers.
 - iii. Get to the “Why is this important?” to convict and compel.

Volunteers: Find Them, Equip Them, and Care for Them well

- 1. Life on Life Discipleship: Video from conference – Josh Denhart (30 minutes)**
 - a. This is the goal – how you recruit is how you will retain**
 - b. Success in ministry is NOT measured by what you do. Success in ministry is measured by what happened if you never returned
 - c. What is holding you back from multiplying?

- 2. Ministry Multiplication found in Scripture:**
 - a. Law - Moses and Jethro - Exodus 18:17-18
 - b. The early Church – Paul – Ephesians 4:11-12
 - c. Jesus – model

- 3. Where do I start to multiply myself?**
 - a. What area needs the most attention in your ministry?
 - b. What is the area you like the least? – Red light, yellow light, green light
 - c. Which area needs a gift set you lack?
 - d. Which area is the easiest to hand off?
 - e. Which of your faithful few is perfectly equipped in an area?

- 4. Equipping - What is your process? Do you have a process? – attached picture**
 - a. Joining a team
 - b. General Training
 - c. Equipping and discipleship

- 5. Caring for them Well – retaining volunteers**
 - a. Discipleship & Shepherding
 - b. Appreciation
 - c. Process of gaining input – volunteer retention framework

Resource: Lead Ministry @ leadministry.com

Kids Quizzing is GREAT for Kids!!!



Kids Quizzing is a Bible study for kids in 1st – 6th grade that helps children discover what the Bible teaches and helps them learn how to live out Biblical truth in everyday life.

Learning about God is exciting! In Kids Quizzing, every child has the opportunity to equally participate. Each child can choose for him or herself if fun, safe and friendly competition will be a part of their quizzing experience.

ACTS 2024 - 2025



Kids Quizzing can help your child:

- Desire to study the Bible.
- Get acquainted with basic Bible study.
- Grow in understanding of the overall chronology of the Bible.
- Learn that God is the central character and Hero of the Bible.
- Gain increased understanding of God as He is revealed in each study.
- Understand how people in the Bible interacted with God.
- Enjoy quizzing competition.
- Grow in the ability to reflect Christian attitudes and behaviors during competition

District Quizzing Director: Rosie Furston
rfurston@outlook.com

Order Supplies:
<https://www.thefoundrypublishing.com>

2024 – 2025 NWIL Kids Quizzing Schedule:
11/16/2024 North Pekin CON
02/15/2025 Pekin First CON
04/12/2025 Eureka Grace CON



Ron Jansen, NMI President
nmipresident@nwilnaz.org

NMI – Beyond WEF: Exploring “Other” Ways to Give to Missions

The Church of the Nazarene (COTN) is active in 165 world areas, divided among 6 regions, having 30,700+ churches and over 2.7 million members.

Ways to Support Nazarene Missions International (NMI):

1. **Praying:** ALL NMI giving presupposes prayer! It is the foundation for everything that we do for God. “You can do more than pray *after* you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray *until* you have prayed.”
2. **Learning:** Keep NMI before your church.
 - a. Bulletin
 - b. Slide in church announcements
 - c. Mission service
 - d. Mission Moment/Minute
 - e. Bulletin board/displays
 - f. Video clips
 - g. Missionary profiles
 - h. Links
3. **Financial Giving:** The funding model for missions in the COTN is centralized. This promotes consistency in mission funding.
 - a. **WEF:** funds half of all mission activity of COTN
 - i. 5.5% of each local church’s annual income (less giving to specials)
 - ii. Goes through General Treasurer’s office (via Funding the Mission.org)
 - iii. Forms and supports the infrastructure of NMI: legal, federal requirements; literature; missionary salaries; ministries; education; administration

CAUTION: None of the following should be substituted for WEF giving!

They are ADDITIONAL ways that we can support Nazarene efforts to reach the world with the gospel. Since all NWIL churches are meeting their WEF goals, challenge your church to support NMI in new ways. No church can do everything, but allow God to stretch your church’s giving into new areas.

- b. **Alabaster:** Purchases buildings and properties or rental facilities for ministry
**COTN recognizes that the people are the church, but a facility signals to the community permanence and an attitude of investment—“putting down roots”
- c. **Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM):** formed in 1984 from various compassion programs of the COTN
**Compassion has been at the heart of the COTN since its inception, domestically and internationally.
**NCM funds ministries focusing on 9 areas of ministry:
 - i. *Holistic child development*
 - ii. *Emergency relief*
 - iii. *Anti-trafficking*
 - iv. *Economic development*

- v. *Food security*
 - vi. *Clean water*
 - vii. *Health care*
 - viii. *Refugee & immigrant support*
 - ix. *Women & girls support*
 - d. **World Mission Broadcast (WMB):** begun in 1944
 - **Includes radio, TV, streaming, social media, apps, Bluetooth...and more as the technology develops
 - **Especially useful in creative access areas (CAA)
 - e. **Jesus Film Harvest Partners (JFHP)**
 - **Partnership began in 1997 with Campus Crusade for Christ (now Cru)
 - ** In the past 26 years, the Jesus Film has been shown in 141 countries leading to 93,737,028 contacts resulting in 19,268,473 decisions for Christ
 - **Every \$3 results in one conversion; one conversion every 43 seconds
 - **\$23 million raised in 2023 (95% to ministry; 2.5% to resource development; 2.5% administration)
 - f. **Missionary Health Care**
 - i. *Distinguished Service Award (\$125)*
 - ii. *Memorial Roll (\$75)*
 - iii. *Children's Memorial Roll (\$75)*
 - g. **Child Sponsorship** (through NCM)
 - **New feature: Sponsor Login to view "your" child's information & photo; download profile card; write a letter online; make payments
 - h. **Crisis Care Kits (CCK) & School Pal Paks**
 - i. **LEVEL, Work & Witness, Encuentro, Short-term Missionaries**
 - **It's not always an international trip!
 - **Look for details in NWIL Convention Booklets and in the eVoice.
 - j. **Deputation Offerings & "Direct" Missionary Support**
 - **Money should always go through church and General Treasurer for tax purposes.
 - **Every missionary has a page with brief history, picture, etc.
4. **Going:** Nurture the call
- a. In yourself and others, especially children and youth
 - b. Esteem missionaries

For further information, see the list of resources below. Also, you may contact me via phone, text, or email if you have questions.


Denise Vroman

(815) 257-2364

my3kids1mom2@yahoo.com

Resources

- COTN general website <https://nazarene.org>
- NMI: <https://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international> (913) 577-0500 or email at info@nazarene.org
- Page with many options for giving (170 specific projects/ministries/needs under “Support Nazarene Missions”). It gives links to WMB, JFHP, Compassion, and more <https://nazarene.org/give>
- PDF Downloadable booklet with QR codes for giving links to various ministries, including descriptions of the ministries:
<https://resources.nazarene.org/index.php/s/R6pwMxjeJLcTwkn>
- NCM <https://ncm.org> (800)310-6362 or email at info@ncm.org
- NCM workplace giving (e.g., United Way campaign) <https://ncm.org/workplace-giving>
- Specific NCM programs <https://give.ncm.org//category/global-programs>
- NCM featured projects <https://give.ncm.org/category/project-types/featured-projects>
- Child Sponsorship <https://cs.ncm.org>
- World Mission Broadcast <https://nazarene.org/wmb>
- NMI Central to subscribe to weekly prayer email for missions:
<https://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international/nmi-resources/nmi-central>
- Alabaster <https://nazarene.org/alabaster>
- WEF <https://nazarene.org/wef>
- Links page <https://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international/care-and-connection>
- Distinguished Service Awards <https://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international/nmi-distinguished-service-award>
- Memorial Roll <https://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international/nmi-memorial-roll>
- Children’s Memorial Roll <https://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international/nmi-memorial-roll>
- NCM Magazine <https://ncm.org/magazine>
- Jesus Film Harvest Partners <https://www.jfhp.org>
- Nazarene Missionary Profiles <https://give.nazarene.org/category/missionaries>



SENDME

NAZARENE  MISSIONS

nazarene.org/sendme
sendme@nazarene.org
(913) 577-2959



LISTEN: IS GOD CALLING ME?

AM I CALLED?

You have picked up this Send Me guide because you are asking the question: “Am I called to be a missionary?” This book is a resource for you to begin wrestling with the answer to that question. You’ve started in a great place!

Throughout these pages, you will find examples of what missions looks like in the Church of the Nazarene, ways you can actively prepare, and an overview of the process to serve as a Nazarene missionary.

As we begin, here are some things you can do today as you continue to discern the call of God in your life.

PRAY

Talking with God is the best place to start. Your conviction about your calling will come from time spent in prayer. Not only will this assure you as you move forward, but it will also help you through the challenging times of ministry in the future.

As you continue to pray, remember that your calling is dynamic like your relationship with God. It will likely change, develop, and expand throughout your lifetime. That is perfectly fine! You may feel that God is calling you to something very specific, or perhaps your sense of calling is rather general. God works in our lives in a variety of ways.

CONNECT

In the process of discernment, it is important to discuss what is going through your mind and heart with those who know you best. These often are trusted mentors, friends, and family members who know you, love you, and are willing to speak truth into your life. Have a conversation with your pastor or Nazarene Missions International (NMI) president at your local church. They will be able to provide you with wisdom and perspective that will shine light onto your calling, as well as walk beside you as you serve in ministry.

RESPOND

Be faithful wherever you find yourself. Continue to live into making Christlike disciples wherever you are. As you seek to discern your calling, God is working in your life to guide you. Hone the skills you will need on the field and discover the type of service you thrive in and enjoy. Since we carry habits with us, this is the perfect time to build healthy patterns and learn self-awareness.



3

GOD, REVEAL TO ME ANYTHING IN MY HEART THAT IS CAUSING ME TO HOLD BACK FROM YOUR CALL.

“Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.”

ISAIAH 64:8

“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

PSALM 139:23-24

4

GOD, GIVE ME WISDOM TO MAKE CHOICES THAT ARE PLEASING TO YOU.

“But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.”

JAMES 3:17

“For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.”

1 CORINTHIANS 1:25

5

GOD, TRANSFORM ME TO LIVE IN THE POWER OF YOUR HOLY SPIRIT IN EVERY ASPECT OF MY LIFE.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

ROMANS 12:2



WHERE THE CHURCH IS NOT YET

There are millions of people who have never experienced the hope of the gospel or the transformational power of a growing relationship with Christ. In the Church of the Nazarene, we believe that God wants everyone to encounter the message of the gospel in order to live transformed lives of holiness. That is why our goal is to engage communities of faith in going where the Church is not yet so that no one is without a holiness witness. But what do we mean by “where the Church is not yet?”

In Acts 1:8 Jesus tells us, as His disciples, “you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” For many of us, the call to make disciples is lived out through encounters with our neighbors in our communities. Other times the call means making an impact on the country in which we find ourselves. As a people, we are also called to “the ends of the earth.”

In our church, God continues to call people to full-time service “to the ends of the earth.” These missionaries are Christlike disciples who have been set apart by the Holy Spirit, prayerfully sent by the church, and affirmed by Nazarene Missions. They diligently carry out the missions work of our church to go where the Church is not yet by living among those who have not yet been engaged by the life-changing message of holiness.



HOW DOES NAZARENE MISSIONS “GO WHERE THE CHURCH IS NOT YET?”

Going to “the ends of the earth” is an overwhelming task, and as individuals we would be hopeless to do it alone. Together, as a part of Nazarene Missions, we are committed to going where the Church is not yet. We participate in this work by **PIONEERING**, **DEVELOPING**, and **RESOURCING** local, interdependent, and sustainable Nazarene churches.

1. WE PIONEER

Pioneering is joining God in His work. We acknowledge that God is already working in the hearts and lives of individuals everywhere we might go. As we follow the leading of His Spirit, we are going to places or people groups where there is little or no witness to the transforming message of holiness. This means that we not only go to see people come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ but we continue to stay to disciple and see them through a journey into God's sanctifying grace.

We cannot always use the same methods wherever we go. We trust the leading of the Holy Spirit and people immersed in the local culture to guide the way the church is started in that place. Sometimes traditional missionaries do this work. Other times we need to be creative in our approach as we navigate local restrictions. Sometimes a church starts through a building and services. Other times—especially in parts of the world where the environment may not be conducive to Christian outreach and church development—it begins with people living intentionally to build relationships and engage their neighbors in new ways. The purpose of pioneering is to prepare the way for the church to be established and grow in that setting.

2. WE DEVELOP

Once the Church of the Nazarene has an established presence in a new place, missionaries and local church leaders focus on developing the church. We do this by helping churches and districts mature through the fostering of emerging local leaders, guiding the community to engage in missions, establishing organizational systems, and intentionally cultivating indigenous theological expression. We are committed to walking alongside people and new churches to ensure that every person and church grows to the full potential God has in store for them.

NAZARENE MISSIONARIES ARE CHRISTLIKE DISCIPLES

They are sanctified wholly by His Spirit, set apart to do His work. They are called to go into the world and spread His transformative Gospel.

NAZARENE MISSIONARIES ARE PRAYERFULLY SENT OUT BY THE CHURCH

The Church is called to send missionaries where they are needed most. It is through prayer and connection with God's mission that we prepare and deploy those who are called to participate in the movement of the Holy Spirit around the world.

NAZARENE MISSIONARIES SPREAD SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS

As the Holy Spirit prepares the way for transformational holiness, Nazarene Missions sends its missionaries in partnership with local communities to join in God's movement of restoration and peace in hearts and lives.



GROW: HOW DO I PREPARE?

PREPARATION MATTERS

You have responded to God's call. You believe God is leading you to missions. What is the next step? We recognize the need for preparation because that is what we see in the living example of Jesus. Although Jesus' ministry was a mere three years, His 30 years of preparation and listening closely to the whispers of the Spirit increased the overall impact of His ministry.

You might be asking, "Why do I need to prepare? Won't God provide me with the skills I need?" Of course, God is in the business of equipping those who have been called to serve. Often God equips through diligent preparation. We believe that preparation is vital for the sustainability and impact of your ministry. Preparation helps us thrive in ministry by helping us maintain health, wellness, and longevity in ministry on the field or in our home country. When we go into an assignment ill-prepared, we may find ourselves burnt out and frustrated because we do not have the emotional, spiritual, and practical skills necessary to complete our ministry assignment.

We want to walk with you, strengthen you, and equip you to flourish in whatever assignment you find yourself. We want you to thrive, both in your walk with God and in the new culture that you will call home.

In the following pages, we will examine several ways you can begin preparing for missions service today.

THE EFFECTIVE MISSIONARY

Have you ever wondered what skills you will need to become an effective missionary? Nazarene pastors, missionaries, missiologists, and representatives from around the world wanted to create a tool that would help future missionaries to understand better how to prepare for the field. The resulting list is what we call the **Core Elements of Missionary Effectiveness**. We have repeatedly seen how these characteristics are key in the lives of faithful and effective missionaries. We encourage you to read each core element below and use the list on the corresponding page to keep track of your goals and practical ways you would like to grow in each area.

1 SPIRITUAL MATURITY

A missionary should have a mature and growing relationship with Christ and participate in personal spiritual disciplines.

You can practice this element today! In fact, it is essential that you do. Personal spiritual disciplines include prayer, Bible study, and fasting, as well as many others. We are all unique, so all of us will be drawn to different spiritual disciplines that speak to us and bring us life. Whatever it is, start the practice now. These habits will stick with you and strengthen your ministry once you begin your assignment.

2 CLARITY OF CALL

A missionary should be able to articulate his or her call to serve in ministry and how it relates to missions. They should demonstrate a strong call to serve others. This articulation may present itself as a known plan for the future or as a desire to follow God's leading in the immediate future.

Do you remember when you first felt God was leading you to missions? What was that like? Write down your experience(s), noting all the details you remember. Having a solid and confident understanding of your call will help you to continue pressing forward when difficulties arise.

3 RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

A missionary should demonstrate the ability to maintain healthy relationships and effectively resolve both personal and professional conflict. It is important to possess good interpersonal skills to demonstrate Christlike character in all interactions.

Whether at home or in our ministry assignments, conflict always seems to arise. This does not have to be negative when we know how to appropriately respond and handle conflict. Think about the different relationships you will develop as a missionary (local people, other missionaries and leaders, extended family, sending church, etc.). What types of conflict might arise in these relationships? How can you be prepared when it does?

4 HOLISTIC WELLNESS

A missionary should be in good physical health to handle the strain of living in another culture. Maintaining strong psycho-social health is also important in effectively handling stress.

Improvement for you in this area could be as simple as eating healthy and exercising. It also could include intentionally seeking out people in your life with whom you can process life's challenges in a healthy way or intentionally practicing Sabbath.

For those with a chronic condition, such illnesses may not prevent you from service if the ministry assignment allows you to continue any medication or health regimen required for your wellbeing. However, there are some health concerns that could hinder you from serving as a missionary.

CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY

A missionary should possess a flexible spirit and a willingness to be adaptable, recognizing the differences you will face living within another culture. It is important to have experienced significant time within another culture to recognize the need for flexibility, adaptability, and the ability to appreciate and value aspects of other cultures. Development of language skills is also key in contextualizing yourself to another culture.

You don't have to wait until you become a missionary to practice cross-cultural adaptability. Are there people from other cultural groups with whom you might make friends? Perhaps you can join or volunteer in a multicultural ministry at your church. Participate in a Work & Witness trip to another country. The possibilities are endless!

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

A missionary candidate should be fully engaged in a local Church of the Nazarene. Having first-hand experience in understanding how the local church functions is important before working with churches in other world areas. It is also key in your development as a missionary to have ministry experience in the local church, in working with pastors, and in developing a heart for outreach through the local church.

Perhaps you are already involved in your local church. If not, a good place to start is with your pastor. He or she can connect you to a place where you can thrive. Be sure to express your passions and calling in ministry. They can help you grow in your call and possibly provide leadership opportunities that would give you experience.

7 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

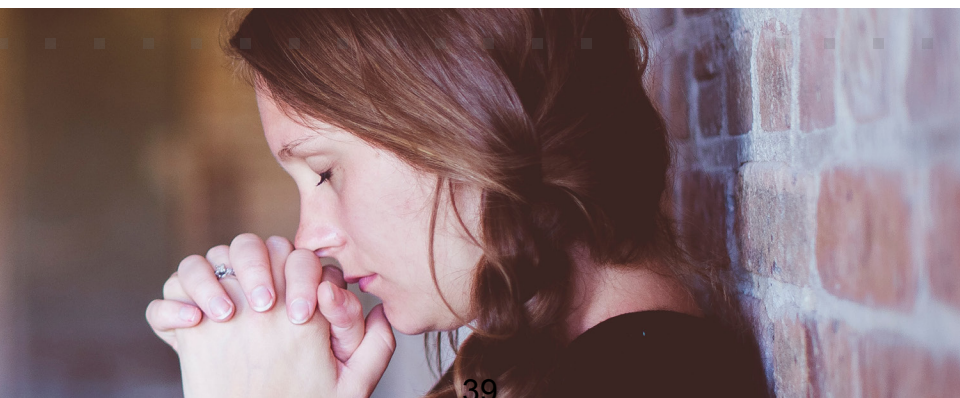
A missionary should have practical experience in the career field in which they sense a call to serve. It is important for the candidate to have the necessary training and experience to bring professional expertise to the field.

As a missionary, there are so many avenues of service. Whatever your particular skill or experience, it is likely that God can use it as you serve. Continue to develop those skills and seek discernment and creativity for how God might use them.

8 EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION

A missionary should have the necessary educational background to match the ministry in which he or she wants to serve. If a candidate is looking to serve in church development, it is also important to be ordained by the Church of the Nazarene. Likewise, you might research educational degrees or technical degrees corresponding to your call.

Educational preparation will look different for each missionary. Typically, educational preparation will include professional education as well as theological and missiological education. Your professional education will naturally correspond with your own skills and experience and desires for ministry. It should also include some theological and missiological training that will inform your service and broaden your worldview.



THEOLOGICAL COHERENCE

A missionary should be able to understand and articulate the biblical foundation of their Christian faith. They also should demonstrate an understanding and ability to live out and communicate the beliefs of the Church of the Nazarene.

There are many resources to help you dive deeper into the beliefs of the Church of the Nazarene. A great place to start is with *Nazarene Essentials*, available for free download at nazarene.org/essentials. Some other resources include *What is a Nazarene?* by Wes Tracy and Stan Ingersol and *Articles of Faith - a small group study: What Nazarenes Believe*, both of which are available at thefoundrypublishing.com.

MISSION-EVANGELISM FOUNDATION

A missionary should have a strong belief that every Christian has the responsibility to go and make disciples in the nations. This should be evident in the believer's current ministry and a natural part of every aspect of their lives.

Pray that God would renew your vision to see opportunities to share Christ with those around you. This disposition will become more and more your habit as you practice living a life of incarnational ministry and witness to those without Christ.



1 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

A missionary should have experiences in their lives that enable them to have a global perspective to contextualize what they see, hear, say, and do. They should be able to recognize the pitfalls of ethnocentrism and to balance the reality of their own biases within the culture where they serve.

Practice this perspective shift by reaching out to Christians you know around the world. Have conversations with them on a regular basis about what they believe are the greatest issues facing our church today and how we might approach them. Keep an open mind and remember to ask questions. Another exercise might be to explore options in your community for cross-cultural interactions. You would be surprised at the opportunities available once you start looking.

1 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

A missionary should demonstrate a practical ability to handle finances responsibly. It should be evident in their personal finances, as well as any business or ministry experience that involves handling money or budgets.

A great way to start practicing this is with a personal budget. There are many resources available to help you learn more about money management. Practice keeping track of where your money goes and saving instead of immediately spending. Another place to start is by engaging in the spiritual practice of tithing. If you have debts, try to pay them off as much as possible to be a good steward of God's resources.

YOUR SUPPORT NETWORK

When a Nazarene missionary moves to the field, they are not able to take all the people who they love with them, but that does not mean that their family, friends, and church do not continue to support them in ministry and life. Missionaries continue to build and develop relationships within a support network that encourages them through prayer, finances, and friendship throughout their time on the field.

As a Nazarene missionary, your support network consists of four primary groups.

LOCAL CHURCH

Your local church forms the basis of your support network. These are the people who know you and love you deeply. They are the people who have journeyed with you through the discovery of your call. In many cases, these are the people who have known you for years and are familiar with how God has been working in your life throughout that time.

A local church that sends a missionary is sending out one of their very own for the sake of the Kingdom. They want to partner with that missionary in any way they can. This includes helping the missionary prepare for the field mentally, spiritually, financially, and emotionally. It means supporting the missionary on the field through prayer, finances, encouragement, and love. It means engaging in the ministry of the missionary by supporting projects, serving through Work & Witness, and contributing to our missions foundation through World Evangelism giving.



HOME DISTRICT

We are all the Body of Christ. Your home district is a beautiful example of the network of churches that we benefit from as Nazarenes. The district is a multiplication of your local church support as churches from across your district are also excited to support you and engage in ministry with you. Just as you can expand your ministry by partnering with your district, churches across your district are multiplying their ministry through you.

PEOPLE ON THE FIELD

The people you meet on the field are wonderful resources to missionaries. Local people can offer support by helping you adapt to new surroundings and make relational connections. While you are on the field, you are not alone because your new neighbors, local pastors, and district leaders are excited to help you learn about their culture and become your onsite family. Take time to build relationships where you are. Every relationship starts person to person, family to family, community to community.

GLOBAL CHURCH

The global Church of the Nazarene is thrilled to partner with your local church and district to send and support you as you serve. Not only do we have the experience of serving hundreds of missionaries annually, but like you, we are passionate about bringing the gospel to those places where the Church is not yet. Throughout your time of service, we welcome questions, concerns, and feedback on any topic that arises in your missionary service. In addition to providing you with resources and tools that will help, we also want to connect you with missionaries and global leaders around the world.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW LONG DOES THE SENDING PROCESS TAKE?

The length of time it takes to send a missionary varies greatly from person to person. For some, the process takes less than a year; for others it takes much longer. There are several factors that go into sending an individual or couple as missionaries, including calling, gifts, development, experience, and training. The timeline can also be affected by the type of needs on the field and their urgency. For example, if a candidate's skills match an urgent need on the field, they may go through the process rather quickly. On the other hand, particularly for people called to long-term service, development and training may be a priority and can take several years.

IS THERE TRAINING TO BETTER EQUIP ME TO BECOME A MISSIONARY?

Nazarene Missions equips each missionary according to his or her specific needs. Training varies based on your desired length of service and given assignment. We require all missionaries, regardless of length of service, to attend an Explore event. This event provides you with cross-cultural insights, as well as an opportunity to meet our staff. Additional role-specific training will be provided once you are placed in an assignment and before you are deployed.

CAN I SERVE IF I HAVE DEBT?

While debt is certainly a concern, there is hope. We encourage you to do all that you can to reduce your debt before you are assigned. However, we also recognize that in many contexts, debt is a reality we face. We will help you consider solutions that will enable you to serve as soon as possible.

HOW OLD DO I HAVE TO BE TO BECOME A MISSIONARY?

While a Nazarene missionary must be 18 years of age to serve in their own assignment, there are many opportunities for service before that time, including Work & Witness and other group experiences.

AM I CALLED TO BE A MISSIONARY?

Nazarene Missions has many FREE digital resources to help you begin wrestling with the answer to that question. From examples of what missions look like in the Church of the Nazarene, to ways you can actively prepare as you continue to discern the call of God in your life.



Find a place to serve:
opportunities.nazarene.org



Send Me resources:
nazarene.org/sendme



Nazarene Resource Center:
nazarene.org/resource-center



SEND ME

NAZARENE  MISSIONS

PRAY FOR A NEW GENERATION OF MISSIONARIES!

SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Lord, we intercede for this generation and ask that they would have a warm relationship with you. We pray that you would give them a desire to study and apply the Word. Teach them the power of prayer. Shape them to be a generation of Christ-followers who are relentlessly faithful to you.

(Joshua 1:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:14-17)

CLARITY OF CALL

Father, we pray that you would teach our young people to clearly hear your voice. Reveal to them how you have equipped, gifted, and called them for the purpose of making disciples in every nation.

(1 Samuel 3:7-10; Isaiah 6:8)

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

Father, lead this generation to serve faithfully in their local churches. Develop a heart within them for Spirit-led ministry and outreach.

(Galatians 6:10; Ephesians 4:11-16)

MISSION-EVANGELISM FOUNDATION

Lord, cultivate within this generation a strong conviction that they too are called to make disciples in every nation.

(Mark 16:15; Acts 2:42-47)

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

Father, teach them how to maintain healthy relationships. Show them how to resolve conflict so they are able to foster unity and peace.

(Matthew 18:15-22; Ephesians 4:15-16)

HOLISTIC HEALTH

Lord, we pray that you would bless this generation with good physical, emotional, social, and spiritual health. Through finding wholeness in you, equip them for the stress that can come in missions.

(Philippians 4:7; 3 John 1:2)

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Jesus, we ask that you would guide the next generation of missionaries to be wise and faithful stewards. Give them a perspective of your Lordship of all resources and enable them to responsibly pursue your call.

(Romans 13:7-8; Philippians 4:19)

CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Lord, give our young people a great appreciation for different cultures, languages, and world-views. Open doors of friendship and ministry with people who need you.

(Mark 16:15; 1 Corinthians 9:20-22)

THEOLOGY

Oh God, give them a love for your Word. Put the right mentors, preaching, teaching, and resources in their path to shape their theological understanding.

(1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 2:15)

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Father, develop in young adults a heart to serve locally and globally. Use them to create a movement of servant-leaders in their local churches, home communities, and on the mission field.

(Matthew 25:35-40; Romans 12:1)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

God, we ask that you would clearly guide young adults as they select career fields. Use all of their professional experiences and training to equip them for making disciples in every nation.

(Acts 18:1-3; Colossians 3:23-24)

EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION

Lord, equip young people for every good work. Prepare them with education and experience to be effective ministers for Christ.

(2 Timothy 3:16-17; Colossians 2:6-7)



opportunities.nazarene.org | sendme@nazarene.org

(913) 577-2959

Find Your Missionary Opportunity!

opportunities.nazarene.org

The website makes it easy for you to explore potential missionary service with the Church of the Nazarene. It is designed to help you find positions that suit your interests and gifts. Positions are available on every region with a variety of service lengths.



Search by:

Service Length

Ministry Type

Region

World Area



Nazarene Missions is making it possible to mobilize Nazarenes from every country!

Have you ever wondered if you are called to missions?

God calls us to service in missions through various *people* and *ways*!

Missionaries

- Pastors
- Parents
- Mentors
- Scripture
- Prayer
- Sermons

God calls all of us differently!



CERTAINTY

When God speaks directly to you or through His Word, a sermon, or a testimony.



AVAILABILITY

When you are willing to do anything and go anywhere to share Christ with others and make a difference in the world.



INTEREST

When God confirms that missions is for you through experiences with other cultures or through personal interests.



OPPORTUNITY

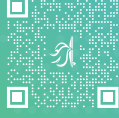
When God shows you an opportunity that can be filled with your God-given gifts and abilities, and others see it too!

All these paths may lead you to serve for:

- Days, months, years, a lifetime!
- For a sabbatical
- To complete a project
- Until leaders are developed

Contact us with questions at

sendme@nazarene.org



opportunities.nazarene.org

Making a splash with Nazarene Missions Teams

What are Missions Teams?

Can be: Work & Witness(Construction), Compassionate Ministries, Medical, Evangelism, Sports Programs, Technology, Education, or Emergency Response.

What the mission trip experience can be: The good, the bad, the amazing!

What does mission trip planning require?

Acknowledge your call to missions and get started.

It will require some time and effort.

Fund raising. Both project costs and travel funds.

Building your team. Remember, this is a group effort.

How do you plan a trip at the local church level?

Start at **Nazarene.org**

At the menu (top left) select get involved, then click on mission teams.

This page has links to many resources for any type of team you want to lead.

General flow of planning:

→Identify a project: Use the 'Find a project' link. Set dates and trip length.

→Assemble your team: Get the word out to your church or district family to join this amazing opportunity. Don't forget to also build a team of prayer warriors who will support you from home.

→Raise project funds: Funds must be sent by specific times before the trip.

→Travel plans finalized: Can be done by the team leader(s) or utilize a travel agent.

→Insurance: Specific insurance is purchased through the Nazarene Missions.

→Prepare spiritually: Spend time in The Word; Pray; Fast... Do all you can do to prepare for this experience. Devotionals are available from Nazarene Missions.

→GO: Have an adventure. Make friends. Share your love of Jesus.

→Share: Come back and share your stories. Bless those who have supported your team. Inspire others to step out of their comfort zone.



NAZARENE YOUTH
INTERNATIONAL

Ronda Hollars, NYI President
trhollars1987@gmail.com

Faith Beyond Youth Group

Character

We have to help student develop good character

We have to talk with students not at students

What teenagers need is a relationship with Jesus that changes not just ninety minutes of their week but 100 percent of their lives, because if a teenager's faith is just a youth group faith, it's too small to captivate their entire week.

So, character from scripture matters when we define character as: "Living out Jesus' goodness every day by loving God and our neighbors.

If faith is what is believed, then character is faith lived out in real time.

The goal of Christian formation isn't just to make good kids. It's to form disciples with the character of Christ.

Two of the primary differences between good kids and teenagers with Christlike character are action and motivation.

When it comes to students' faith, we get what we are. Likewise, when it comes to character, we get what we are.

How people view God is one of the strongest predictors of a range of social and moral attitudes.

We focus our youth ministry around information transfer. The issue we find with young people is that the longing of their hearts is not to know more but to belong more.

Identity = Who am I?

Belonging = Where do I fit?

Purpose = What difference can I make?

Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass

The five points of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass are Cultivate Trust, Model Faith, Teach for Transformation, Practice Together and Make Meaning.

And they are constantly assessing whether they can trust you to be there for them when-not if, but when they make a mistake, or their life unravels.

We can never go faster in building faith and character than the speed of students; trust in us.

Trust is built in very small gestures.

Remember Jesus built trust through consistency and closeness.

Character is caught before it is taught

Many youth group graduates leave church knowing what they're supposed to believe but not why it matters or how to live out their faith in their daily lives.

Let them lead

Equip teenagers to teach

Practicing together builds muscle memory

Practicing together equips you as a discipler of teenagers

What we don't want to do is communicate an idealized Christianity to young people by overfocusing on Jesus' perfect example and shaming or pressuring them into behavior modification. Rather, we want to communicate that throughout the disbelief, mistakes, and failures of his disciples, Jesus never abandoned them.

But remember we are not just hanging out with teenagers. In order to consistently Make Meaning we must be intentional

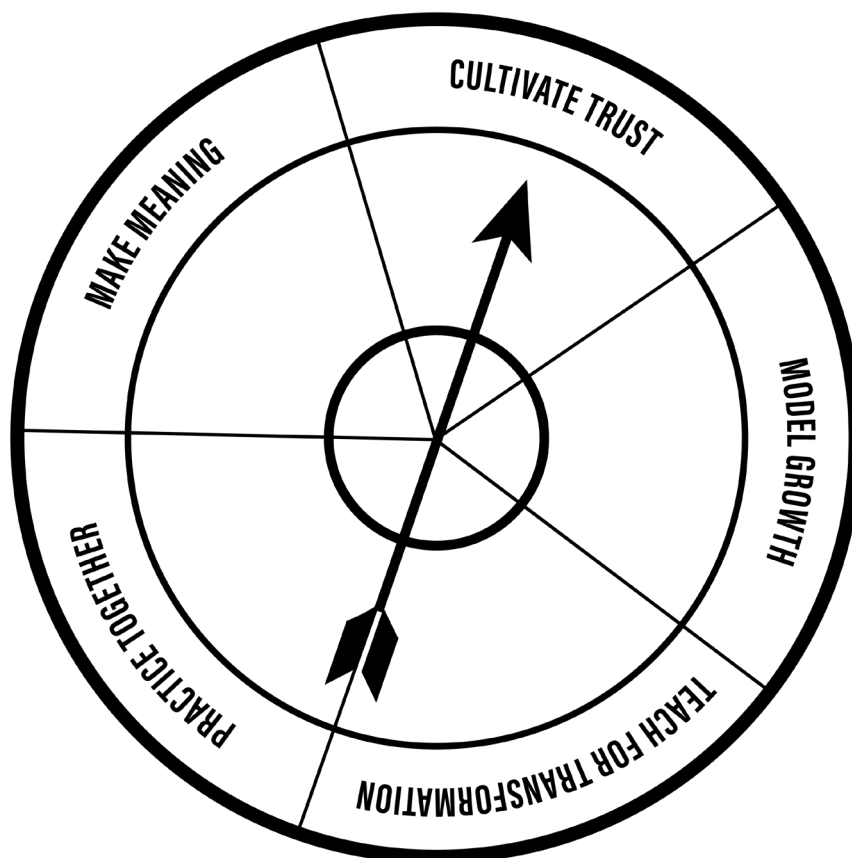
Know the purpose behind your ministry's work.

FAITH BEYOND YOUTH GROUP

MINISTRY ASSESSMENT

A good plan starts with knowing where you are. As researchers and leaders, we've noticed that what matters most in assessing youth ministry reality isn't what we as adults think but what teenagers think. So before creating your map, below are thirty questions to measure your ministry's progress on each of the five points of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass through the lens of your students.

You can score your ministry by yourself. But it is probably much better if you ask a few teenagers, youth group graduates, parents, and/or youth ministry volunteers for their input. In fact, ideally you would ask a diverse cross section of your students to answer these questions to unearth any gaps between your perceptions and their actual experiences.



QUESTIONS TO MEASURE YOUR PROGRESS USING THE FAITH BEYOND YOUTH GROUP COMPASS

Cultivate Trust

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *cultivating trust*:

_____ We can share our significant feelings and experiences at youth group.

_____ When we share significant feelings and experiences in youth group, we can trust the adults to act in our best interest.

_____ We feel relationally close to others in our youth ministry.

_____ Our relationships in our youth ministry have been consistent over time.

_____ Adults in our ministry empathize with what we’re experiencing, meaning they notice and care.

_____ Adults in our ministry show us who they authentically are—instead of trying to be somebody they aren’t.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Model Growth

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *modeling growth*:

_____ We are around adults whose character inspires us to imitate them.

_____ Adults in our ministry model personal growth.

_____ Adults in our ministry model spiritual growth.

_____ Introverts feel seen and valued in our ministry as much as extroverts.

_____ We’re regularly encouraged to model our lives after Jesus’ example.

_____ It’s natural in our ministry to talk about changing and growing over time.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Teach for Transformation

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *teaching for transformation*:

_____ We can identify rituals and practices that are used in both our youth ministry and larger faith community.

_____ Adults and teens regularly share our stories with each other in our youth ministry.

_____ Adults in our youth ministry know what topics and issues we care about most.

_____ Our leaders regularly use questions to teach.

_____ My peers and I regularly teach in our youth ministry.

_____ Adult leaders in our youth ministry willingly share their authority with us.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Practice Together

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *practicing together*:

_____ Our youth ministry gives us regular opportunities to practice loving each other and our world.

_____ When we practice loving others, we do so in community—with others.

_____ Our ministry helps us not just think about character with our minds but actually gives us opportunities to feel and act lovingly.

_____ We use current events as springboards to cultivate character.

_____ We have opportunities to lead and use our gifts to cultivate character in ourselves and others.

_____ The adults who serve in our youth ministry practice loving others even when they are not with us.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Make Meaning

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *making meaning*:

_____ Our ministry intentionally gives time and space to process and make meaning from experiences.

_____ Adults in our ministry ask good questions to help us find meaning from significant events in our lives.

_____ We use symbols, stories, and everyday objects to make spiritual meaning and explore faith in our ministry.

_____ We have clarity on what our church believes about current issues that matter to us.

_____ Our ministry makes spiritual meaning in the midst of tragedy and loss.

_____ We regularly process how we are learning and growing from our service and mission experiences

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Charting Your Map Forward

Now compare your scores on all five points of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass (with 30 points being the highest possible score for any one compass point).

Given your scores, which one or two points do you want to focus on first? You may want to select the areas where your scores—or those of your students—are lowest. Or you may want to choose the one or two points that most resonated with you throughout this book.

Congratulations! You have now identified your focus on the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass.

*Adapted with permission from **Faith Beyond Youth Group**: 5 Ways to Form Character and Cultivate Lifelong Discipleship, by Kara Powell, Jen Bradbury, and Brad M. Griffin. Published by Baker Books, 2023.*

MINISTRY ASSESSMENT

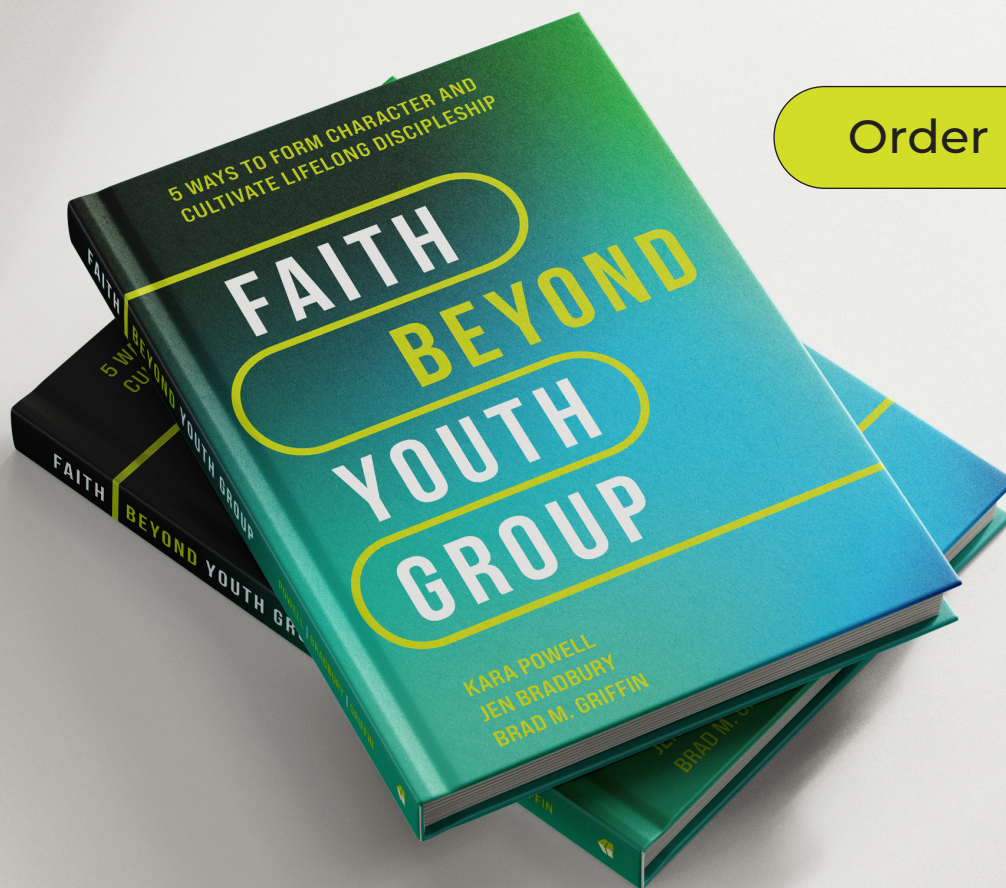
Student

How is our ministry doing? Please help measure our youth ministry's progress by answering the questions. On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being "very strongly," how strongly would you agree to the following:

- _____ We can share our significant feelings and experiences at youth group.
- _____ When we share significant feelings and experiences in youth group, we can trust the adults to act in our best interest.
- _____ We feel relationally close to others in our youth ministry.
- _____ Our relationships in our youth ministry have been consistent over time.
- _____ Adults in our ministry empathize with what we're experiencing, meaning they notice and care.
- _____ Adults in our ministry show us who they authentically are—instead of trying to be somebody they aren't.
- _____ We are around adults whose character inspires us to imitate them.
- _____ Adults in our ministry model personal growth.
- _____ Adults in our ministry model spiritual growth.
- _____ Introverts feel seen and valued in our ministry as much as extroverts.
- _____ We're regularly encouraged to model our lives after Jesus' example.
- _____ It's natural in our ministry to talk about changing and growing over time.
- _____ We can identify rituals and practices that are used in both our youth ministry and larger faith community.
- _____ Adults and teens regularly share our stories with each other in our youth ministry.
- _____ Adults in our youth ministry know what topics and issues we care about most.
- _____ Our leaders regularly use questions to teach.
- _____ My peers and I regularly teach in our youth ministry.
- _____ Adult leaders in our youth ministry willingly share their authority with us.
- _____ Our youth ministry gives us regular opportunities to practice loving each other and our world.
- _____ When we practice loving others, we do so in community—with others.
- _____ Our ministry helps us not just think about character with our minds but actually gives us opportunities to feel and act lovingly.
- _____ We use current events as springboards to cultivate character.
- _____ We have opportunities to lead and use our gifts to cultivate character in ourselves and others.
- _____ The adults who serve in our youth ministry practice loving others even when they are not with us.
- _____ Our ministry intentionally gives time and space to process and make meaning from experiences.
- _____ Adults in our ministry ask good questions to help us find meaning from significant events in our lives.
- _____ We use symbols, stories, and everyday objects to make spiritual meaning and explore faith in our ministry.
- _____ We have clarity on what our church believes about current issues that matter to us.
- _____ Our ministry makes spiritual meaning in the midst of tragedy and loss.others.
- _____ We regularly process how we are learning and growing from our service and mission experiences.

RESHAPE YOUR MINISTRY FOR REAL IMPACT—

**NOT JUST IN YOUR YOUTH ROOM,
BUT EVERYWHERE STUDENTS GO**



Order Now

Building on two decades of the Fuller Youth Institute's work and incorporating extensive new research and interviews, *Faith Beyond Youth Group* identifies the reasons it feels like you're working so hard but having so little impact, and offers five ways adult youth leaders can cultivate character for a lifetime of growing closer to Jesus rather than drifting away. With practical insight and tips, you'll find out how to cultivate trust, model growth, teach for transformation, practice together, and make meaning so that teenagers can become adults who hold fast to Jesus and boldly live out a robust faith in the world around them.

FAITHBEYONDYOUTHGROUP.COM



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FRIDAY, AUGUST 16
6:00PM-9:00PM
COST: \$5

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TREMONT, IL

High School graduates to early 30's
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NAZARENE YOUTH CONFERENCE

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH | JULY 1-5, 2026

Website: <https://nazareneyouthconference.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NazareneYouthConference>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/nazarene_youth_conference/

Hosted by the Church of the Nazarene, Nazarene Youth Conference is a powerful youth event that has been held in different locations over the past six decades. NYC takes place every few years and provides an opportunity for high school students from the USA and Canada to be united in a time of worship, teaching, and community service.

Students participate in sessions featuring powerful worship, engaging speakers, creative arts, and also attend nightly live concerts featuring top Christian artists. They serve together with Ministry With Others service projects throughout Salt Lake City. Students also experience interactive discipleship environments, and a Recreation Hall filled with individual and group activities, games, and exhibits. **WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!**



God is so much bigger than we give Him credit for. Even bigger than we can imagine. Think about the mountains and valleys, the oceans, the sky, the entire universe – the go bigger, and you still haven't reached God-sized. Yet it all works perfectly, exactly as it should. There are countless displays of the precision of wonder in which the earth and mankind work in one with each other. His fingerprints are evident in all the natural wonders we see. But it's easy to lose that, isn't it? It's easy to lose our sense of wonder. That outward wonder becomes an inward wonder – who am I? Where do I belong? Why am I here? Let's remember who we are and who we belong to and lose ourselves not in the world, but in the wonder of God.



"The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy." Psalm 65:8



The ENGAGING YOUTH Series

A team of 18 writers, representing the six regions of the Church of the Nazarene, share stories, ideas, and strategies for engaging youth in the key missional areas of evangelism, discipleship and leadership development.

HAVE YOU
HEARD ABOUT
OUR **ENGAGING**
YOUTH
BOOK SERIES?



This series is available free for download in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French at both **NAZARENE.ORG/BEDOGO** and on our online NYI Resource Library, **NYI.WHDLORG**. They are also available on Amazon for print-on-demand in select locations!

CALLING OUR
GENERATION TO
A DYNAMIC LIFE
IN CHRIST!



“How do I guide youth to be confident in evangelism?”

“What should I be thinking about to make sure my youth are growing in their faith?”

“Sometimes I don’t feel like I know what I’m doing as a leader. How am I going to help my youth develop their own leadership skills?”

We frequently hear questions like these from youth leaders all around the world. For this reason, we wanted to collaboratively discuss the answers to these questions by gathering a diverse voices together, each bringing a unique perspective to the global conversation. To accomplish this, we needed a global team of writers, and the result was the series **BE DO GO**. We believe this series is a true expression of what it means to be a global church. Therefore, our writing team was made up of 18 writers, equally representing each of the six regions of the Church of the Nazarene.

You will be challenged by their creativity, insight, and missional focus as you learn from leaders whose ministry context might be dramatically different than yours, but whose passion for engaging youth in the things of God is very much the same!

ABOUT
bedo go

MEET THE AUTHORS

Andrea Sawtelle (USA/Canada)

Bakhoh Jatmiko (Asia-Pacific)

Cameron Batkin (Asia-Pacific)

Christiano Malta (South America)

Daniel Latu (Asia-Pacific)

Dario Richards (Mesoamerica)

Denise Holland (USA/Canada)

Jaime Román Araya (South America)

Kat Wood (Eurasia)

Lesego Shibambo (Africa)

Milton Gay (Mesoamerica)

Nabil Habiby (Eurasia)

Nicholas Barasa (Africa)

Odily Díaz (Mesoamerica)

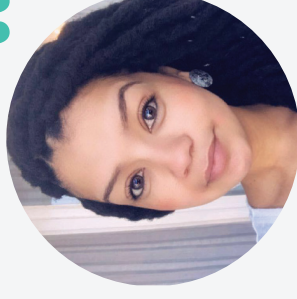
Phil Starr (USA/Canada)

Thiago Nieman Ambrósio (South America)

Wesley Parry (Africa)

Wouter van der Zeijden (Eurasia)

“What I appreciate about the **BE DO GO** series is getting to read and understand the concepts of evangelism, discipleship and leadership development through the eyes of leaders across the globe. The relevance of the content makes it easy and enjoyable to understand, making it a good tool for engaging youth.”



LoReal Burton

“The **BE DO GO** book series serves as a great example of the way our Nazarene family shares in ministry together to the youth of our world. This is an excellent resource for working with young people in many local settings.”



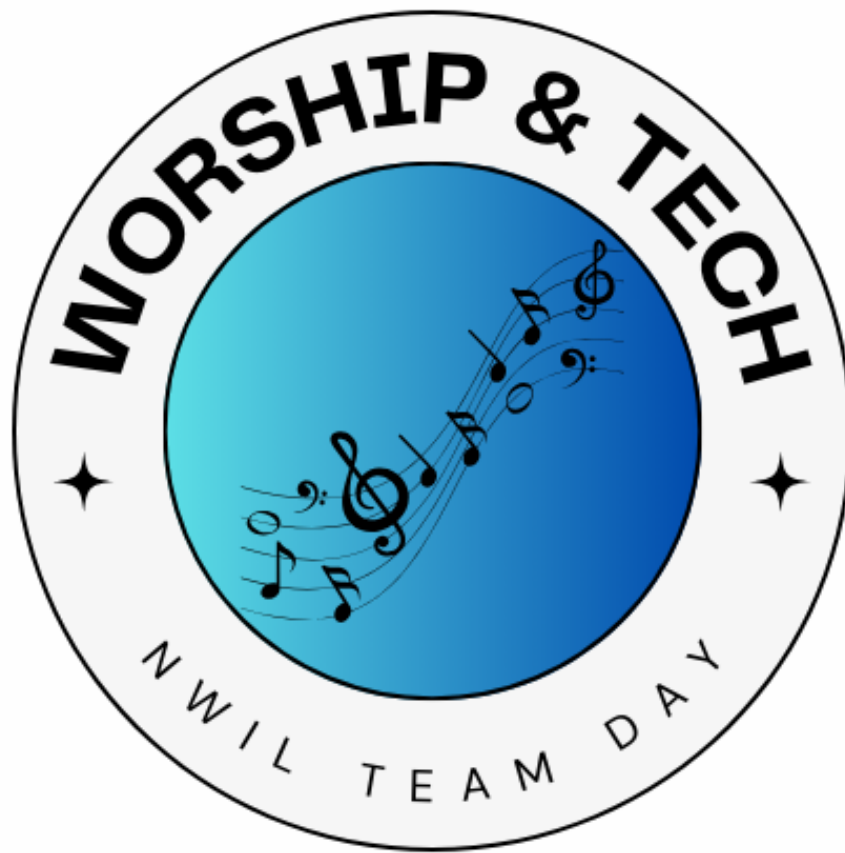
Frank Moore

“These books are a great blessing to me and have helped me see youth ministry in deeper and more dynamic ways. They have also helped me expand my understanding of **BE DO GO** [evangelism, discipleship, and leadership development] and how to incorporate them at every opportunity in my ministry.”



Wendi Pasaribu

WHAT
PEOPLE
ARE SAYING



The Purest Praise

I. INTRODUCTION

II. WORSHIP IS A LIFESTYLE

-The foundation of our worship is this: WE ARE Created to praise.

1. Sometimes situations call for undignified praise.
2. Sometimes it calls for unpredictable praise.
3. At all times it calls for unstoppable praise regardless of the circumstance.
4. At all times it calls for unnoticed praise.
5. At all times it calls for undivided worship with eyes fixed on Jesus.

-Worship in all directions—

1. Inward
2. Outward
3. Upward

-True worship changes us.

-The priority of praise

1. Praise is prevalent.
2. Praise is inevitable.

-Perfect praise

1. Praise is direct & deliberate adoration.
2. Praise is a choice.
3. Requirements for perfect praise:
 - a. Perfect praise emerges from a worshipful and passionate heart
 - b. Approach Him as little children
 - c. Approach Him with total dependence
4. Ways to praise

-The motivation

1. The God we worship
2. Transcendent God
3. Relational God
4. Personal God
5. By-Products of knowing God
6. Life-Because life changes and God does not

-Hearing God's Voice

1. Our Most Necessary Ability
 - a. Ways God speaks today
 - 1) The Bible
 - 2) Through other Christians
 - 3) Through circumstances
2. Can I hear God speak? YES!
3. Crisis
4. Recognizing God's Voice
5. Fine-Tuning our ears—3 disciplines for fine-tuning

III. PRAYER IS WORSHIP

IV. CONCLUSION

Let's keep our worship pleasing to the Father, centered around the Son, and led by the Spirit, not the flesh. -Matt Redman

God uses everything, even tech: The visual aspect of service

presented by Larry and Laura Blackaby

Todd Elliott, author of *I love Jesus But I Hate Christmas*, says that “production well done is an art form,” meaning that those who practice the technical arts are artists. This means YOU are an artist, and you bring something unique to the table that no one else can bring.

Notes ... Ideas ... Random Thoughts ... Doodles ...

“Electronic media can project colors, images and videos that can move congregations to deep worship.” Dr. William Dyrness, professor of theology, in *Worship Leader Magazine*

“It’s a visual world and people respond to visuals.” Joe Sacco, cartoonist and journalist

“The combined forces of music, drama, visuals and production done well can be unstoppable.” Todd Elliott, author

Resources

Bravingbird
Church Visuals
Igniter Media
Open Life Church
ShareFaith

“But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.” 1 Corinthians 12:18-20 (NIV)

Creative Expression:

Genesis 1:27

So, God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God, he created them; male and female he created them.

Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

What is a creative expression?

Creative expression in worship can include various forms of art, music, literature, and other activities that help people focus on prayer and worship.

Creative expression can deepen worship and enhance praise. Throughout the word of God, we can see creative gifts are a powerful way to honor the Lord and present the gospel.

We are created to create!

Creativity is a divine gift that enhances our relationship with God. We can be empowered by the Holy Spirit to build up the church – allowing unique expressions of faith that inspire both ourselves and others. Artistic expressions in worship, including visual arts, music, dance, and writing, bring new dimensions to our spiritual practice, and make our faith tangible. Creative expression is ministering in a holistic way, the way the Holy Spirit ministers to us.

Examples of Creative Expression include:

Visual Arts

Music And Songwriting

Dance And Movement

And Creative Expression can bring about -

Emotional Healing

Art has allowed me to express feelings I cannot always put into words.

It's a God-given outlet for my deepest emotions.

**“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds”
Psalm 147:3**

Through painting, spoken word, dance and movement - even playing music inspired by the Holy Spirit - I experience that healing firsthand.

TEAM DAY 2024

Lined writing area consisting of 20 horizontal lines.

NWIL CONTACT INFORMATION

nwilnaz.org

M25 Conference	February 10-12, 2025	Kansas City, MO
Celebrate Life (NYI)	March 1, 2025	Pekin First
Convention	March 22, 2025	Peoria Nazarene
District Assembly	April 25-26, 2025	Pekin First
Celebrate Life (NYI)	May 8-10, 2025	Olivet
Team Day	August 2, 2025	Pekin First

NWIL District Office
4224 N. Brandywine Dr.
Suite 300
Peoria, IL 61614
309-682-6945

Lloyd Brock
District Superintendent
309-267-3324
districtpastor@nwilnaz.org

Kim Brock
DS Executive Assistant
309-231-5875
kbrock@nwilnaz.org

Pamela Smith
District Office Manager
309-208-7595
office@nwilnaz.org

Karin Orwig
District Secretary
karin@poc.church

Ray Barker
District Treasurer
DCPI Coordinator
309-645-7716
dcpi@nwilnaz.org

Trisha Wilson
NDI Chair
mattrishwilson.93@mchsi.com

Ron Jansen
NMI President
rev.ronjansen@yahoo.com

Ronda Hollars
NYI President
trhollars1987@gmail.com

Bill Clark
Board of Ministry
bclark@mtco.com

Cali Lindenfelser
Course of Study
clindenfelser@pekinfirstnaz.org





BRINGING PEOPLE TO JESUS

District Assembly

April 25-26, 2025

Pekin First | 3514 Broadway St. | Pekin, IL