

# eUpdate

## Northwest Indiana District Church of the Nazarene

November 7, 2008

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“Providing a climate for dynamic holiness ministry through the Church of the Nazarene in Northwest Indiana”

[www.nwinazarene.org](http://www.nwinazarene.org)

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**CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
CENTENNIAL  
OCTOBER 5, 2008**



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***“WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THE CHURCH GOD HAS GIVEN YOU”?***

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### **DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD APPROVES DISTRICT ASSEMBLY DATE CHANGE**

We have been considering for some time the possibility of changing the dates of our District Assembly to a time earlier in the summer. After researching a number of issues regarding that possibility, the decision has been made. The District Assembly/NMI schedule is as follows:

**Sunday Evening**, June 7, 6:00 p.m.: Mission USA Celebration Service

**NMI Convention**: Monday, June 8, 8:30—Noon:

**District Assembly Session 1**: Monday, June 8, 1:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

**Ordination Service**: Monday evening, June 8, 7:00 p.m.

**District Assembly Session 2**: Tuesday, June 9, 8:30 a.m.—Noon

Detailed calendar changes, financial/budget adjustments and other information will be coming to you early next week.

### **HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE GENERAL CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL MINISRIES WEBSITE RECENTLY?**

It's worth a visit to: <http://www.nazarene.org/ministries/ssm/display.aspx> for:

- Important information
- Relevant resources
- Discipleship Summit Training, specifically, at:  
[http://web.nazarene.org/site/PageServer?pagename=DisSum\\_Lang](http://web.nazarene.org/site/PageServer?pagename=DisSum_Lang)

**The Fresh Encounter Getaway**  
**Northwest Indiana Pastors and Staff**  
**January 19-21, 2009**  
**Lindenwood Retreat Center, Donaldson, Indiana**  
**<http://www.lindenwood.org/>**  
**Resource Persons: Steve Weber and Gary White**  
**Detailed registration, schedule and cost information**  
**coming next week!**

Pastors and Staff Persons...Please make this event top priority on  
your schedule!

**NMI MISSIONS EVENTS REPORT FROM NMI PRESIDENT SHAWN EVANS**

The following is a edit of an email I received from Shawn Evans reviewing our  
recent Missions Tour Events:

(These gatherings) were TRUE generational events...I am excited because of the investment we have made with our children & youth (to include them in NMI). When we combine the North & South attendance, the total was 573. Last year if you total the two events & (children's missions ) jamboree there were 227 participating. There is a positive difference of 346 people. We have raised over \$4500. . . . with a half dozen churches still to pay. This money is going to send 15 delegates from Haiti to the General Convention for the first time ever as well as 3-5 delegates from CUBA for the first time ever. These delegates will all be going to the satellite site in the Dominican Republic. One of the pastors in CUBA was actually granted a visa to travel to the United States and be in Orlando. We are responsible for raising the funds to make that happen.

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE INCLUDING BOTH EVENTS 573**

Children 162  
Students 125  
Adults 286

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS**

Alice, her sister Anne Fairbanks and brother, David James want to express sincere appreciation for all the expressions of kindness received at the passing of their mother, Elizabeth James, a couple of months ago. The many cards and expressions of condolences were a source of great encouragement. We want to thank the district family as well for the beautiful floral display. The contributions of memorial monetary gifts from the district and other sources have made \$1000 available to assist in the transportation of an overseas delegate to the General Assembly. Elizabeth was a

wonderful Christian wife and mother with a great interest and commitment to missions. We are blessed to be part of the Northwest Indiana District Family.

### **HELPFUL RESOURCES FROM PENSIONS AND BENEFITS USA**

I've mentioned this before but I want to once again remind you that there are a number of Pensions and Benefits memos on their website [www.pbusa.org](http://www.pbusa.org) Topics include:

- [Memo #1 - Housing for Your Pastor: Parsonage or Housing Allowance?](#)
- [Memo #2 - Church Employees or Independent Contractors?](#)
- [Memo #3 - Tax and Reporting Procedures](#)
- [Memo #4 - Strategies for Structuring Ministerial Compensation](#)
- [Memo #5 - Minimizing Income Taxes for Church Employees](#)
- [Memo #8 - The Annual Church Audit](#)
- [Memo #9 - Workers' Compensation Laws and the Local Church](#)
- [Memo #10 - Can Ministers Opt Out of Social Security?](#)
- [Memo #11 - Auto and Other Business Expense Reimbursements](#)
- [Memo #12 - Who is a Minister for Tax Purposes?](#)
- [Memo #13 - The Minister's Housing Allowance](#)

### **PASTORAL RESIGNATION**

Dan Ventling has announced his resignation as pastor at Tipton. Dan and Jeri have served the Tipton congregation since April, 2007. Dan has accepted an invitation to oversee the combined North/South Alabama Campgrounds in the areas physical plant and program development. This opportunity is the culmination of a life long dream of Dan and Jeri. We will miss the Ventlings, but congratulate them on this new venture!

### **WE WELCOME NEW PASTORS**

Congratulations to **Bob Trafford** on his new assignment as senior pastor at **West Lebanon**. Bob and Linda have been a part of Frankfort First Nazarene for the past five years. He is a district license minister nearing completion of the course of study. Bob's first Sunday was October 26. Welcome Bob and Linda to the Northwest Indiana District Family!

We also welcome **Greg and Gretchen Arthur** to **Duneland Community (Chesterton)**. Greg has been Associate Pastor at Christ United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill, NC the past five years. He is an ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene. Greg's first Sunday was November 2. We are delighted to welcome Greg and Gretchen to the Northwest Indiana District Family!

How about an email welcome to Bob and Greg?

Greg: [pastorgreg@dunelandchurch.org](mailto:pastorgreg@dunelandchurch.org)

blog: [www.holinessreeducation.com](http://www.holinessreeducation.com)

Bob: [robtwt@hotmail.com](mailto:robtwt@hotmail.com)

## CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Friday, December 5

5:45 p.m. – Meet and Greet Fellowship Time

6:30 p.m. Dinner

**TIMES ARE EASTERN STANDARD TIME!!**

**Location: Winamac Church of the Nazarene**

**Directions: [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)**

**Enter your departure information**

**Enter Winamac destination information:**

**516 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Winamac, IN 46996**

Alice and I look forward to being with you for our annual banquet in just a few weeks. Denny and Annette Wilson will be hosting us at the Winamac Church this year. You have received reservation information and your earliest response will help us in planning for the banquet.

## NEWS FROM CHURCHES

**Tom Hunter (Covington):** This is from an email I received from Tom this week:

Last Wednesday night we had our area Youth Rally. There were 1,057 students registered. We had about 400 workers and parents. There were 800 decision cards filled out and about 200 of those decisions were "first time!" Our youth club attendance was 60 on Sunday night and there were 20 of the regulars that were absent. Tonight we start our discipleship training and we are so excited, challenged, and praying that we have enough room to get the job done well.

It was so good to work with Mike McCollum and Greg McDonald on this effort. I wished that we had Nazarene ministries in Attica, Williamsport and West Lebanon areas present. There was only one church (Church of Christ) from that area working with us and there were approx. 220 decision cards out that way. Pray that these teens have someone to follow up on them.

**Frankfort:** Congratulations to **Gregg Davis** on an excellent two year review held last week.

**Hobart:** Congratulations to **Jerry and Jean Walworth** on the occasion of Jerry's retirement from pastoral ministry. The Walworths pastored the Hobart church for 37 years. A beautiful retirement reception was held Saturday, October 25. Jerry and Jean will stay in Hobart where they have purchased their own home.

## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A MISSIONARY SPEAKER

This communication comes from Rod Reed (wife: Sarah, and three daughters), Nazarene missionaries in Kenya.

"I am the Chair of the Department of Religion at Africa Nazarene University and Sarah is the Children's Ministry Coordinator for the East Africa Field. A couple of years ago or so, we were Northwest Indiana LINKS missionaries and we have fond memories of the care your people expressed toward us. We are preparing ourselves for our next home assignment in the US and scheduling deputation services for while we are there and I thought I would write to see if there

are any possibilities of speaking in some of the churches on your district. Since my family hails from Huntington, Indiana, we always value scheduling services close to them. Our next home assignment is next summer, 2009. Most of it is already booked but most of the month of May, is still open. We would be delighted to hear from you or from your NMI team.

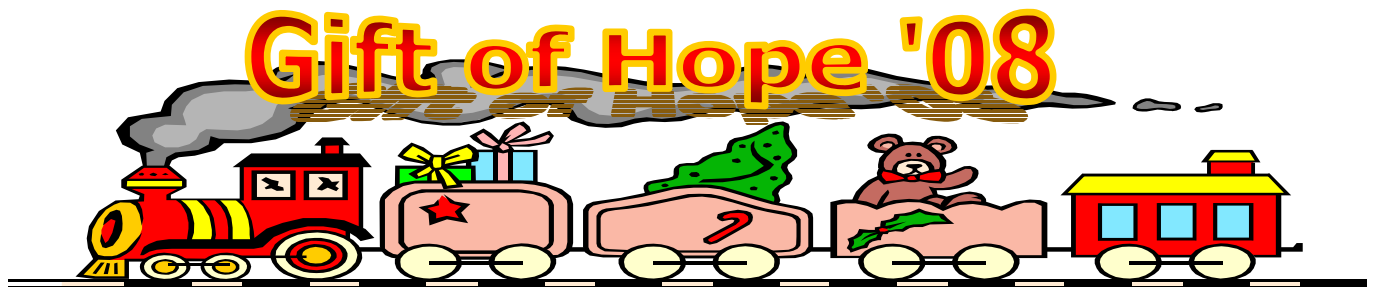
If you would like some references for us as missionary speakers:

Pastor Kevin Dunlop--Huntington First

Pastor Ron Blake--Detroit First

Luanne Frank--District NMI Pres. Northeastern Indiana

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE TO A GREAT CAUSE THIS CHRISTMAS!**



October 27, 2008

Dear Church Leader,

Our Family Center would like to invite you, and your employees, to participate in our 4th annual "Gift of Hope" Christmas event. Our Family Center's mission is to strengthen families in the Hammond areas through education, guidance and compassion. The "Gift of Hope" event will bring Christmas to families who might otherwise have none. This program is set for the families in need in the Hammond and East Chicago area, however, this year it will also assist flood victims living in Munster. The more donations we receive, the more people we can help. Last year we were able to supply gifts of hope to 82 families that's almost 300 children and adults. **Our goal this year is to help 75 families. Please join us in reaching out with compassion to those who need Christ.**

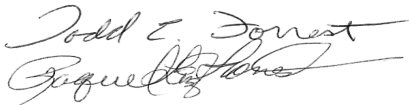
We are asking you to participate by donating any amount, or combination, of the following:

Note: *For those churches that are far away an offering or gift cards will do.*

- ☺ Toys/ Games/ Small Electronics for children 0 – 18 year old
  - ☺ Gifts for parents or guardians, (household, health & beauty, wallets, belts, etc)
  - ☺ \$20 Grocery Store Gift Certificates or Cards (gift certificates not valid for cigarette or alcohol purchase)
  - ☺ \$10 Gas Cards
- Please do not spend more than \$30 on any Child's gift or more than \$18 on adult's.

We have met many families looking for assistance, and will partner with other agencies in the area, to insure we bring Christmas to those who really need it this year. With this in mind, we have planned this much needed event.

**All donations will need to be brought to Our Family Center by December 15<sup>th</sup>.** We will be distributing the gifts on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. **If you**, or someone you know, **would like to volunteer** to help distribute gifts on the 20<sup>th</sup> or set up on the 19<sup>th</sup>, please contact us. Distribution will take place at Our Family Center, we just need people to help oversee the “shopping” and gift wrapping. If you would like to join us in “Gift of Hope” or for more information, please call us at 852-4067. ***Please remember to keep record of your churches donation and offering. This can be applied to your NMI 10% giving.***



Revs. Todd & Raquel Forrest (Co-directors)



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