

Update

Northwest Indiana District Church of the Nazarene

April 4, 2009

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

www.nwinazarene.org



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



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

NEW DISTRICT CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Brian Leach, children’s pastor at Real Life Community (Portage) has accepted the position of District Children’s Ministries Director. Brian joined the staff at Real Life Community in July of 2006. Previously he served the Xenia, Ohio Church of the Nazarene from 2001-2006.

I want to express my appreciation to Cari Estes for her excellent leadership of Children’s Ministries over the past few years. I know you join me in praying for Brian as he leads us in our children’s ministries going forward.

INVITATION FROM NORTHEASTERN INDIANA

As previously announced, we have been given a great opportunity to participate in the Northeastern Indiana Skill School coming April 20. The featured presenter will be Dr. Bob Whitesel. Dr. Whitesel is Associate Professor of Graduate Studies and Ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University. He is a highly sought after writer, consultant and speaker on the emerging organic church, church management and church growth. He has authored five books and is currently completing a second Doctorate in post-modern outreach and church change.

The Details

Title of Presentation: “The Multi-Gen Church: How To Reach Young People Without Alienating Your Older Members.”

Time: Monday, April 20, 9 a.m. – 3 .pm. ESST

Location: Northeastern Indiana District Campground, Marion, IN

For Map Quest Directions: 1734 S. 350 E., Marion IN 46953

Cost: \$7 for lunch. No additional fee

To Register

Call the NE Indiana District Office – 765-664-8950 or you may e-mail neisecretary1@aol.com

Focus of Presentation: The subject area is very pertinent to many issues faced in local churches these days. I plan to attend this seminar and urge you to give serious consideration to attending as well.

KOKOMO FIRST ANNOUNCES GRAND OPENING OF NEW FACILITY

Celebration and Worship Service
Saturday, April 11
6:00 p.m.
2734 South Washington Street
Kokomo, Indiana 46902

Congratulations to Pastor David Leeder, the Staff and Congregation at Kokomo First at this historic moment in the life of this congregation!

GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER MAY 31

I strongly encourage each pastor to lead your congregation in the Global Day of Prayer, May 31, 2009. Resources to assist you in planning and observing this important day can be found at www.globaldayofprayer.com. This is a great opportunity to join with believers around the world in focusing our attention on our desperate need for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit, around the world, in our nation and in every local church.

THIS CHURCH/STATISTICAL YEAR HAS ENDED!

Our abbreviated church year ended March 31. Here are important dates for you to be aware of are:

April 15 - Pastors' Annual Report Due

April 15 - Local NMI President's Report Due

April 18- Year End Meeting with Ministerial Students (South Lake Nazarene)

April 30 - District Assembly Finance Committee (District Office)

June 6 - NYI Convention (Kokomo First)

June 7 - Opening Service of Assembly/NMI Convention (Kokomo First)

June 8 - NMI Convention (8 :30 a.m. to noon)

June 8 - District Assembly (1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

June 8 - Ordination Service (7 p.m.)

June 9 – District Assembly (8:30 a.m. to noon)

Dr. MICHAEL ROSS ACCEPTS PASTORATE AT NOBLESVILLE

After serving as Interim Pastor for the past five months, Dr. Michael Ross has accepted the invitation of the Noblesville congregation to become senior pastor. Dr. Ross is no stranger to this the district. Over the past several years he has led two Pastoral Team retreats and has served as a resource person on several occasions for our district licensed minister's gatherings. He is the founder of a non-profit organization, "The Pastor's Institute", www.pastorsinstitute.org I know you join me in welcoming Michael and Diana Ross to the Northwest Indiana District family. Pastor Mike's first official Sunday as senior pastor will be Easter Sunday, April 12.

HOLINESS TODAY ANNOUNCES NEW SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

Holiness Today has announced that subscription renewals will no longer be processed through the local church. Instead, renewal notices will be mailed to each subscriber.

Here is additional information:

Pastor, you can provide important help by doing the following:

1. Pass this information along to your congregation and encourage them to renew.
2. Please return all renewal confirmations to *Holiness Today* by April 30.

We need your help finding new subscribers.

By e-mailing goldarm@sbcglobal.net you can request the following:

1. Free *Holiness Today* subscription cards to be distributed through your bulletins and church events.
2. Free *Holiness Today* posters.
3. Free *Holiness Today* bulletin artwork which can be used weekly.

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Mark Ward-Bopp as he continues to recover from treatment for throat cancer.

Tom Hunter in the loss of his father.

Sheila Burdett in the loss of her mother.

CREDENTIALS BOARD CONFIRMS ORDINANDS

I'm delighted to announce that on the basis of interviews of those having applied for ordination, at a recent Credentials Board meeting the following individuals were approved for ordination at our coming District Assembly:

Elder:

Ben Norton, Senior Pastor, New Beginnings Community (South Bend)
Amber Karkosky-Litten, Senior Pastor, Living Stone (Rensselaer)
Brian Leach, Children's Pastor, Real Life Community (Portage)
Eric Wood, Youth Pastor, Valparaiso Nazarene

Deacon:

Lu Ann Hostetler, Christian Ed. Minister, Portage Grace
Connie Vandersteen, Staff Person, Fairmeadow Community
Shaun McClellan, Arts in Worship Pastor, Valparaiso Nazarene

Congratulations to these individuals at this very significant time in their lives and ministry.

HILLSBORO ANNOUNCES BUILDING PLANS

At a recent meeting of the District Advisory Board, Pastor Greg McDonald presented plans for an addition to the Hillsboro Church of the Nazarene. The new structure will add 7000 square feet of important classroom, gathering and storage space. The congregation voted unanimously in favor of this project. Congratulations to Pastor Greg and the Hillsboro congregation!

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES FROM FEBRUARY PASTOR'S REPORTS

Valparaiso Nazarene—Valpo is in the final two months of the construction of their new facility. Plans call for the first Sunday in the new facility to be June 6.

Portage Grace – 30 different persons have now served at least one meal at the Gary Rescue Mission.

Faith Community Outreach (Gary) – Church members have rallied together to send a love gift to assist with the Hobart First Nazarene restart effort.

Kokomo Bon Air –“Upward” Basketball program has been a great success as a number of parents and grandparents are attending practices and games. Several families are visiting as a result of “Upward.”

Fairmeadow Community – The Wherehouse, our new outreach to middle school students in Munster, is averaging 80 non-churched kids per week.

Laporte – At a recent church board meeting with Zion Builders, good progress was made toward the start of our Family Life Center that has been planned for some time.

Rochester – Mike McFarland has been added to the staff as associate pastor.

West Lebanon – A monthly prayer service has recently been initiated that takes place the second Sunday evening of each month. This is specifically designed as a means of encountering God on a more intimate level. This vigil is a work in progress and will be key to everything we do in the way of ministry throughout our church.

Living Stone (Rensselaer) – We received 9 new members, all by profession of faith, this month. Also for the first time in 10 years, we have had a month where we have averaged 50 or more in worship each week.

Duneland Community – This month we had an emphasis on stewardship and commitment to ministry for the first time and it was well received. There were numerous stories of answers to prayer, deeper commitment and excitement about stepping out in faith to respond to God's call. The Spirit is on the move!