

# eUpdate

Northwest Indiana District Church of the Nazarene

November 28, 2011

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

**“Making Christlike Disciples in the Nations”**

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Greetings, friends! There's lots of great news and information in this eUpdate. Please give it your careful attention. Alice and I will be on vacation beginning this Thursday, September 29 through Sunday, October 9. Sharon Hostetler is on vacation the rest of this week and will be back in the office Monday, October 3. I can be reached at 219.241.3069 if necessary.

### Ministry Equipping Day 2011

You have received detailed information about this year's Ministry Equipping Day, November 5, 2011. I hope to see all of you there for this important learning experience. This year's event is a combined effort between Sunday School Adult and Children's Ministries, NMI and NYI. Please give Ministry Equipping Day top priority on your calendar for Saturday, November 5! You can access all MED information on the district web site:

<http://www.nwinazarene.org/page.aspx?id=669473>

### ONU Pastor's Appreciation Days

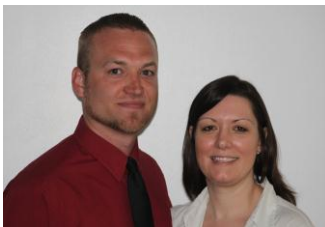
This annual event is a great time of worship, inspiration, learning and the opportunity to network with other pastors across the region. You have received detailed information from ONU. For a quick reminder copy the following url in your browser!

<http://www.olivet.edu/events/eventDetails.aspx?Channel=/Channels/Alumni/EventChannel&WorkflowItemID=ab5994fa-bb9c-42af-aa4a-8574dbaf7a3a&choose=1>

### Christmas Banquet December 2, Valpo

This year's annual Pastoral Team Christmas banquet will be Friday, December 2 at Valpo Naz. Informal fellowship begins at 5:30 p.m. CST, 6:30 p.m. EST with Dinner at 6:00 p.m. CST, 7:00 p.m. EST. This year's program features Jerry Nelson, formerly Minister of Music and Worship Pastor at Denver First Church. Jerry has developed a wonderful music/multi-media Christmas Concert that he will be presenting to us. Please make plans now to be part of this inspirational evening!

### Welcome New Pastors and Staff Persons



**Rich Stadler** is now pastoring Covington. Rich and Vanessa come to us from the Southwest Indiana District where he was Youth Pastor at Crossroads Nazarene in Ladoga. The Stadlers have two boys, Severin, 5 years old and Sullivan, 3 years old. It's great to welcome Rich and Vanessa to N.W. Indiana!

**Jeff Beckett** is our new pastor at Fairmeadow Community. Jeff and Hope come to us from the West Virginia District, where he pastored the Princeton, W.V. Church of the Nazarene for nine years. The Becketts have one son, Levi, who was recruited by Indiana University football program and is currently a red shirt freshman at IU. A warm welcome to Jeff and Hope! And...Go IU! Note: Equal time will be given any child of any pastor recruited by Purdue or Notre Dame 😊



**Andy Hardy** has just joined the staff at Southlake as Children's Pastor. Andy's wife is Ellen, and they have three children, Luke (college age), Lane, a senior in high school, and 10 year old Laura. The Hardys come to us from Grove City Church of the Nazarene where Andy served Associate Children's Pastor, Kids Matter Ministries Kindergarten – Fourth Grade. It's a joy to welcome the Hardy's to Southlake and the district!

**Lloyd Moore** is serving Kokomo Bon Air as our TIPS (Transitional Interim Pastor Services) pastor. Lloyd and his wife, Rhonda, will be serving in this special assignment for at least 9 months. The TIPS process is being used in certain situations to help congregations prepare for a new pastor. The TIPS process has been used with great success on the N.W. Indiana District at Real Life Community and Fairmeadow Community. We welcome Lloyd and Rhonda to the Northwest Indiana District.

**Ron Richmond** has announced the addition of **John Vogel** to the staff at Highland as part-time Pastor of Assimilation. John comes to Highland from Joliet, Illinois First Church of the Nazarene, Joliet, Illinois where he has been serving as Associate Pastor. The Vogels will continue living in Joliet.

#### **John Leitzel Announces Retirement**



John Leitzel has announced his retirement from active pastoral ministry. John and Debbie have been an important part of the district for a number of years. John pastored Hillsboro, Noblesville and most recently Kokomo Pathway of Hope since January of 2005. John's ministry has also included time as an itinerant evangelist. The Leitzel's final Sunday at Pathway will be October 10. John and Debbie will continue to live in their home in Cicero. I

know you join me in extending congratulations, prayers and best wishes to John and Debbie at this important time in their lives!

#### **Important Coming Dates**

##### **2011**

November 5: Ministry Equipping Day, Southlake

Information at <http://www.nwinazarene.org/page.aspx?id=669473>

December 2: District Team Christmas Banquet, Valparaiso Nazarene

##### **2012**

January 20-22: NYI Winter Retreat

February 25: End of year interviews for licensed ministers

February 29: End of Assembly Year

**Note: Remember this is an 11 month year because of the change in the way the General Superintendents have structured their jurisdictional assignments.**

March 3: District NYI Celebrate Life  
March 8: Interviews for Candidates for Ordination  
March 13: District Assembly Nominating Committee  
March 29: District Finance Committee  
April 10-12: Annual District Pastor/Spouse Team Retreat  
April 29 (Sunday Evening) District Assembly Celebration Service  
April 30 (Monday morning) NMI Convention  
April 30 (Monday afternoon) Session 1, District Assembly  
May 1 (Tuesday morning) Session2, District Assembly

**Note: District Assembly will be at Real Life Community, Portage Indiana, this year. Our presiding General Superintendent will be Dr. J.K. Warrick. Dr. Warrick will be convening all assemblies on the Central Region as a result of the recent restructuring of General Superintendents assignments.**

### Bits and Pieces

**From Don Meyer (Rochester):** “At last year’s baptism for the unchurched at the Moose beach we had nine make commitments who did not attend church. This year, last Sunday, fifteen unchurched showed up to make commitments and be baptized! Also, nine Rochester churches got together for a 10:00 A.M. SUNDAY MORNING worship and remembrance 9/11 service last Sunday. Over 1,350 gathered in the High School gym. It was an awesome gathering and service. It was the CHURCH!”

**From Alberto Guang:** Alberto has informed me that he and Lilliam successfully completed their final interview with immigration and will officially become citizens of the US at a ceremony in the near future. This has been a long and arduous journey. I know you join me in congratulating Alberto and Lilliam on this very significant accomplishment!

**Gene Tanner (Valpo)** recently hosted a group of pastors and staff persons of the COK (churches of 1000 or more) group. It was a valuable time of worship, communication, interaction and networking. General Superintendent David Graves was the special speaker for the event. Tom Nees (former Director of USA/Canada Mission/Evangelism Department) was also present as a special guest.

**Greg Arthur (Duneland Community)** has shared with me that Duneland Community has committed to the 3DM Discipleship process [www.weare3dm.com](http://www.weare3dm.com) Greg and a selected laypersons will be attending their first Learning Community event at Lima Community in Lima, Ohio in October. Congratulations to Greg and his team on their decision to commit to this exciting initiative!

**Lenny Wisheart (Southlake)** has informed me that Susie Shellenberger will be in revival at Southlake Sunday, October 9 through Wednesday, October 12. Sunday evening service will be 6:00 p.m., and week-night services will be at 7:00 p.m. A meal will be available at 6:00 p.m. before the week-night services. You are cordially invited to attend!

