

MICHIGAN DISTRICT 112TH ORDINATION SERVICE

July 13, 2025

INDIAN LAKE
NAZARENE CAMP



Michigan District
Church of the Nazarene

Dr. Carla D. Sunberg

Dr. Carla Sunberg was elected 43rd general superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene at the 29th General Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana, in June 2017. At the time of her election, Dr. Sunberg was president of Nazarene Theological Seminary, where she had been serving since January 2014.

She was ordained on the Russia North District, where she and her husband, Chuck, served the Church of the Nazarene for 13 years as pioneer missionaries to the former Soviet Union. In 2005, the Sunbergs returned to the United States and began pastoring at Grace Point Church of the Nazarene in Fort Wayne, Indiana. In 2011, she and her husband accepted a call to serve as co-district superintendents of the East Ohio District Church of the Nazarene.

Sunberg has a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree from MidAmerica Nazarene University, a Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) degree from Nazarene Theological Seminary (NTS), and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Historical Theology from Nazarene Theological College and the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. In May 2012, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity (DD) degree from Olivet Nazarene University.

Dr. Sunberg has a long record of service to the Church of the Nazarene on various boards and committees. In addition, Sunberg also served as president of Wesleyan-Holiness Women Clergy, and chair of the Wesleyan-Holiness Connection.

She is the author of articles for various church publications, as well numerous books. Her dissertation, *The Cappadocian Mothers* is published by Pickwick. Her latest works include *Color: God's Intention for Diversity*, written together with Dr. Daniel Gomis; editor of *Faithful to the Call: Women in Ministry*, and *Why Holiness*, as well as her latest release, *Teach Us to Pray*, all from the Foundry Publishing.



Carla was born in Germany, the daughter of missionaries. She loves to teach and train leaders for the future of the church and has served as adjunct faculty for a number of institutions. Her heartfelt passion is a life of holiness and service for the Lord. Carla and Chuck are proud parents of two adult daughters, Christa, who along with her husband, Iain Maciver, lives in England with their two children, Theodore and Alana; and Cara, who with her husband, Justin Shonamon, and children Mackenzie, Alice, and Halston lives in Kansas City, Kansas.

Rev. Bradley Dyrness

Rev. Brad Dyrness was appointed as District Superintendent of the Michigan District September 6, 2020. At the time Pastor Brad was serving as the Lead Pastor as Lansing South Church of the Nazarene.

Brad was born in Spokane, Washington and grew up in the Kansas City area, later graduating from high school in Billings, Montana. He was ordained in 1986 by Dr. Charles Strickland at the Michigan District Assembly, the same year Northern Michigan was launched as a pioneer district. Brad served as a youth pastor for 12 years in the following churches: St Louis, Michigan; Colorado Springs First in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Wichita First Church in Wichita Kansas. He also served 28 years as the lead pastor in West Branch, Michigan; Junction City, Kansas; Sparks, Nevada and Lansing, Michigan (SouthNaz).

Rev. Dyrness received his bachelor's degree in Christian Education from MidAmerica Nazarene University and his Master of Arts, Religion in Spiritual Formation, from Northwest Nazarene University in 2007. Brad has served the cities where the family lived as speaker in public schools for Pregnancy Centers, Faith Advisory member for the Mayor and a Fire and Police Chaplain.

Brad is married to Debbie. They have been married since college days and have three adult children and three grandchildren. Debbie is a Kindergarten teacher and a faithful partner in ministry alongside Brad. He volunteers in her class weekly.

Brad has always been involved in district ministries - in NYI, Credentials Board, DAB and W&W Director in Michigan. His passion for practical missions has taken him on dozens of mission trips around the world, North, Central and South America, including Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Columbia, and the Navajo Nation. He has also travelled to Africa and Cambodia.



Order of Service

Prelude Music	Instrumental
Welcome & Announcements	District Superintendent
Reception of Nominating Report.....	Rev. Marlene Webster
Reception of Credentials Report, Partial #1	Rev. Marlene Webster
Statement of Purpose and Invocation	General Superintendent
Processional	“Holiness unto the Lord”
Presentation of the Ordinands	District Secretary
Receiving of the Ordinands.....	General Superintendent
Examination of the Ordinands	General Superintendent
Scripture Reading	
1 Peter 5:1-5	Rev. Craig Dillman
Congregational Music	“Waymaker”
The Apostles’ Creed	District Superintendent & Congregation
Recognition of Retiring Ministers	District Superintendent
Challenge to Newly Licensed Ministers	District Superintendent
New Church Organization	District Superintendent
Congregational Music	“Goodness of God”
<i>Manual Reading Paragraphs 502-502.6.....</i>	Rev. Brent Norman,
.....	Rev. Edwin O’Connor, Rev. Arika Shea
Sermon.....	General Superintendent
Ordination Ritual.....	General Superintendent
Sending Forth.....	General Superintendent
“The Call” Statue Presentation	Dr. Gregg Chenoweth
Recessional.....	Elders Sing—“The Blessing”
Benediction	General Superintendent

Holiness Unto the Lord

1 "Called unto holiness," Church of our God,
Purchase of Jesus, redeemed by His blood;
Called from the world and its idols to flee,
Called from the bondage of sin to be free.

Chorus:

"Holiness unto the Lord" is our watchword and song,"
"Holiness unto the Lord" as we're marching along;
Sing it, shout it, loud and long,
"Holiness unto the Lord," now and forever.

2 "Called unto holiness," children of light,
Walking with Jesus in garments of white;
Raiment unsullied, untarnished with sin,
God's Holy Spirit abiding within. [Chorus]

3 "Called unto holiness," praise His dear name!
This blessed secret to faith now made plain,
Not our own righteousness, but Christ within,
Living and reigning and saving from sin. [Chorus]

4 "Called unto holiness," glorious thought!
Up from the wilderness wanderings brought,
Out from the shadows and darkness of night,
Into the Canaan of perfect delight. [Chorus]

5 "Called unto holiness," Bride of the Lamb,
Waiting the Bridegroom's returning again;
Lift up your heads, for the day draweth near
When in His beauty the King shall appear. [Chorus]

The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;

He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Manual Reading

Paragraphs 502-502.6

Theology of Ordination. While affirming the scriptural tenet of the universal priesthood and ministry of all believers, ordination reflects the biblical belief that God calls and gifts certain men and women for ministerial leadership in the church. Ordination is the authenticating, authorizing act of the Church, which recognizes and confirms God's call to ministerial leadership as stewards and proclaimers of the gospel and the Church of Jesus Christ. Consequently, ordination bears witness to the Church universal and the world at large that this candidate evidences an exemplary life of holiness, possesses gifts and graces for public ministry, and has a thirst for knowledge, especially for the Word of God, and has the capacity to communicate sound doctrine.

501.1. The Church of the Nazarene depends largely upon the spiritual qualifications, character, and manner of life of its ministers. (530.17)

502.2. The minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene must have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and be sanctified wholly by the baptism with or infilling of the Holy Spirit. The minister must have a deep love for unbelievers, believing they are perishing, and a call to proclaim salvation.

502.3. The minister is to be an example to the church: punctual, discreet, diligent, earnest, and in purity, understanding, patience, kindness, love, and truth by the power of God (2 Corinthians 6:6-7).

502.4. The minister must likewise have a deep sense of the necessity of believers going on to perfection and developing the Christian graces in practical living, that their "love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight" (Philippians 1:9). One who would minister in the Church of the Nazarene must have a strong appreciation of both salvation and Christian ethics.

502.5. The minister should respond to opportunities to mentor future ministers and to nurture the call to ministry.

502.6. The minister must have gifts and graces for the ministry. He or she will have a thirst for knowledge, especially of the Word of God, and must have sound judgment, good understanding, and clear views concerning salvation as revealed in the Scriptures. Saints will be edified and sinners converted through his or her ministry. Further, the minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene must be an example in prayer.

Granted Retirement Status

Rev. R. Mark Green



As I graduated from ONU in 1981, I felt the Lord calling me to pursue more training for ministry. My father had been a holiness pastor for 40 years, so I was familiar with the complexities of the role. Therefore, I decided to enroll at Nazarene Theological Seminary. The education I received at NTS had a profound impact on my spiritual life and future ministry. One course that stands out was Dr. Chic Shaver's class on personal evangelism. Through that class, I was able to lead a middle-aged man to the Lord! I visited the couple in their home, sharing the Kennedy Plan to the wife while the husband

listened in an adjoining room. When I reached the key moment and asked for a commitment to Christ, the wife said "No, I am not ready." But the husband unexpectedly said, "I sure am ready!" He prayed the prayer of repentance and they both began attending church to be discipled.

Marcia and I were married in 1982 while I was in seminary, and we became actively involved at Shawnee Mission Church of the Nazarene. I served on the church board and volunteered as an outreach and assimilation director. Marcia played the piano, we taught an 8th grade Sunday School class and trained together in the new Nazarene Marriage Enrichment ministry.

My first position was Outreach and Discipleship Pastor in Manchester, CT, where we discipled new believers and young adults as well as training leaders in Marriage Enrichment. We also trained our members to spend the night in the community homeless shelter that was housed in the former Church of the Nazarene!

I've also served as senior pastor in Sciotoville, OH for 16 years where we started a Nazarene Compassion Ministry Center in one of the most low-income counties in America. I served 8 years as senior pastor in Belle, WV where we started a Child Evangelism Fellowship in the local elementary school. In Michigan I served as discipleship and administrative pastor at Owosso 1st and then as the Hospital Chaplain for Memorial Healthcare during Covid and beyond. In the last 3 years of my ministry, with the assistance of OFCN, we built a Community Prayer Walk of large Christ-art with Scripture signage for people to walk the mulched trails, hear the voice of God and find Jesus in the stresses of life.

God has blessed us abundantly through twin daughters. One has served as a missionary chaplain and teacher overseas while the other currently serves as professor and a chairperson at ONU.

I'm grateful for the faithfulness of God and the grace He has provided, inspiring and equipping Marcia and I for a lifetime of ministry. We give God all the glory, great things He has done!

Granted Retirement Status

Rev. Marjorie A. Hein



When I was six years old, my father died of a brain aneurism. Not having the comfort of my mom, who was with my dad at the time of his death, I turned to God. I had very little teaching, at that time, as to who God was, but instinctively turned to Him in my pain. It was the church, one block away, that stepped in to minister to a widow and her 5 kids.

In 9th grade, I was confirmed. Before the actual confirmation celebration, each child met with our pastor to see if they wanted to ask Jesus into their hearts. I know that I had made that commitment but did not really understand what that all meant. In high school, my best friend and I went to a Billy Graham movie at our local theater. At the end of the movie, counselors came forward asking those that wanted to "Make a Decision for Christ," to follow them into a room down the hall. Unable to find that room, we left. Two days later, we went into my friend's church chapel and prayed to have a relationship with Jesus.

We were sincere about our commitment but didn't know what to do next, so we did nothing.

When I was 18, I met Dave Hein whom I married 1 year later. He joined my church, and together, we got involved in ministry. In the early 70's, the "Jesus People," a group from Chicago, were invited to minister through music and give a short message. At the end there was an altar call. The speaker asked those that wanted to give their heart and life to Jesus to come forward so they could pray with them. For a long time, there was a void in my life, and I didn't know what that was. I kept searching for something but didn't know what I was searching for. Something was drawing me, but I didn't know what or to who. When I heard the invitation that morning, I felt like my heart was going to jump out of my chest. I started to go forward but my husband pulled me back down and asked me what I was doing, listing off all the areas of ministry we were involved in. It was as if someone had poured cold water on me, and I came back to my senses. God's prevenient grace had been working in my life since I was 6 yrs old, and the Holy Spirit knew that today was the day of my salvation. After the service was over, we got into our car and my husband Dave just sat in the driver's seat. He turned and said to me, "what do we do now? We need to go back inside and do something." But again, we missed it. We drove home, went inside, put our arms around each other and prayed. Together we asked Jesus into our hearts. We realized for the first time that we were sinners and needed God's forgiveness and grace. Something happened to me between the time I closed my eyes and opened them back up again. All I wanted to do was tell people about Jesus! Consequently, I lost all my friends. My church going family members tried to stay clear from me, they thought I was in some kind of a cult. But God gave me new friends, friends that loved Jesus too, friends that would walk alongside me and friends that mentored me. I am so thankful that God never gave up on me and kept pursuing me.

In 1996 our family began attending JaxNaz Church, I joined the worship team and became the drama director. In 2000 I left SAU, 1 yr. short of becoming a music/elementary teacher, and went back to school to become a pastor. I have been on staff at JaxNaz for 25 yrs and served as executive pastor; the Commons pastor; women's groups/ministries pastor; Connections pastor and the Care pastor.

My husband Dave and I have been married 54 yrs; we have 1 bio son, 6 adopted kids, 15 grands and 2 great grands; and have been foster parents for 32 yrs.

I feel so blessed that God called me to pastor at JaxNaz church and work with the awesome staff that He gave us. Each one is truly a gift! I look forward to continue working in "Relational Evangelism" which is my passion. I am excited for what's to come!

Granted Retirement Status

Rev. Esther M. Sapp



My spiritual journey can best be described as "for such a time as this" (Esther 4:14). Looking back over 6 decades, God has surprised me again and again, redirecting, offering opportunities to serve God and God's people with a purpose and plan uniquely suited for my spiritual gifts and talents.

At age 8 during a tent meeting in Lewistown PA, the Holy Spirit convicted me of the need to repent. I walked forward, knelt at the altar and received Jesus as my Savior. God called me to ministry during a revival service in 1995. Later that year also during a revival service the Holy Spirit convicted me, following

a year of spiritual struggle, of the need for full surrender, dying to self, self-sufficiency, self-righteousness. I experienced a blessed work of grace and mercy!

The song *Hunger for Holiness* describes that year of spiritual struggle.
There's a silent war that's raging deep within me.
My lower nature fights to dominate
My spirit man (woman) is poised and locked in battle
With the carnal side of me, I've grown to hate.

Lord, I hunger for holiness
And I thirst for the righteousness that's Yours
That my mind would be cleansed and my spirit renewed
And this temple that You dwell in would be pure.

In 2001 I was ordained an elder in the Church of the Nazarene at Indian Lake Nazarene Campground. In 2011, I completed a 4-unit residency in Clinical Pastoral Education at Bronson Methodist Hospital. In 2014 I graduated with a M.Div from Nazarene Theological Seminary with certificates in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Counseling. The residency and M.Div. gave me the opportunity to serve as a hospice chaplain for Bluegrass Care Navigators in Lexington KY for nearly 10 years. Although I served the Lord as pastor's wife, lead pastor of Albion and Otsego churches, hospital chaplain, my most treasured memories and deepest fulfillment came from my years as hospice chaplain in Kentucky. I often referred to my role as hospice chaplain as 'my niche.'

My husband Mike, daughter Kendra (Vince) McVay, sons Bradley (Casey) and Paul have always supported God's call on my life. I thank God for my family and my 6 grandsons and granddaughter-in-law.

After retiring in May 2024, we moved back to Indian Lake Nazarene Campground where I enjoy volunteering, working on our home, playing with my grandsons, riding my bike, walking and visiting friends. God has blessed me and continues to overwhelm me with the honor and privilege of serving the King of Kings, my Risen Lord and Savior!

Granted Retirement Status

Rev. Michael B. Sapp



I felt my call into ministry during a revival at my home church, Fredericktown, Ohio. I was in the 11th grade. It was also there I met a young lady by the name of Esther Breon. We will celebrate 47 years of marriage this year.

I graduated from Mount Vernon Nazarene College (now University) in 1981. Esther and I, and our then, 16 month old daughter, Kendra moved to Kansas City, Missouri where I attended Nazarene Theological Seminary and received my M.Div. in 1984. It was in Kansas City in 1984 when Esther and I met and interviewed with Dr. C. Neil Strait, then Michigan District Superintendent. A short while later we interviewed and accepted the call to pastor Boyne City Church of the Nazarene. We moved there in June 1984.

In 1986 I was ordained along with our current District Superintendent. I served on staff at Kalamazoo First Church of the Nazarene, now Cross Community, as associate pastor with the late Rev. Jack Holcomb (1988-1991). We moved to pastor Midland Nease Memorial and were there for 10 years.

In 2001 I became a hospital chaplain at Bronson Methodist Hospital for 12 years. Esther and I moved to Georgetown, Kentucky in December 2014 to get closer to our now 6 grandsons. I retired from Baptist Healthcare in Lexington, Kentucky in September 2023. We moved back to Indian Lake Nazarene Camp in May 2024.

I am truly a very blessed man with my wife Esther and our three adult children: Kendra (Vince) McVay, Bradley (Casey) and Paul. What Rev. Brian Robbins, pastor at ChapNaz said recently goes through my mind almost daily... "If we die before we die, then we won't die when we die," Thank the Lord for His amazing grace.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Titus S. Balkuty



My name is Titus S Balkuty.

I am Nepalese. We are from a country called Nepal, which is in between China and India.

In 1684, the Nepal king, Malla, gave a few hundred Nepalese to the Bhutan king as a gift to maintain good relations. So, my forefathers went to Bhutan in those days.

A problem arose when the king came up with a motto called One nation - uniform/ Bhutanese dress. One people - one language, the Bhutanese language. One religion - Buddhist, no other religions.

So, we lost our culture, language, main script, and so on....

In 1989, agitation took place due to a lack of experience. The Nepalese lost the battle. So, almost all the girls and women were raped because men and youth ran away from villages due to fear of the police as well as unbearable torture.

In 1991, 70% of Nepalese left the country and came to Nepal to settle down as refugees for 25 years. After that, our Great God opened the door for us, and we are here in America.

I have been staying in the USA for 10 years.

In 1989, I accepted Christ as my personal Lord and Savior, and in 1991, I took full immersion water baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

I had to go through severe persecution due to my faith, but now all of my family members are in Christ.

I have completed my theological education, B. Th. M. Div and M.Th - 2 semesters to complete.

I have been pastoring since 1995. 25,000 people have heard the Gospel. 500 saved and took water Baptism. 17 churches have been established; India, Nepal, Bhutan, and in America.

I performed 35 weddings and 45 engagements.

I have written 70 gospel songs and printed a songbook.

At present, I am a full-time company employee and a full-time pastor at Namuna Nepali church.

In the end, I am keeping on encouraging believers and not stopping spreading the Gospel. I am teaching through Zoom.

Recognition of Elder's Orders

Rev. Shelley F. Bos



My amazing spouse and I live in Muskegon, Michigan. We were married in 2013 in Las Vegas! We have 5 adult children and 7 grandchildren, which I call #mybobbins. We are a blended family, two of our grandchildren are girls ages 7 and 13, and five are boys ranging in ages from 2 to 11. I have a 6-year-old Pug/Min Pin dog that is a "by my side companion." I enjoy a host of activities, including crafting, sewing, biking, beaches, cooking, and socializing.

I have been pursued and surrounded by the mercy of the Lord my entire life. Jesus became my Lord when I was a child, baptized as a teen, and called to ministry in my young adult years. I heard the call of God to ministry, although the church I attended frowned heavily on women ministers. I was confused. So, that was on the back burner for a lot of what eventually became dark years, I became discouraged and wayward.

Prior to 2012, I was addicted to alcohol and drugs and had been for many years, I thought I was hopeless. I repented and the Lord showered mercy on me and brought me back to his heart. His mercy and kindness are astounding to me. God delivered me from addiction, corrected my thinking and my heart, placed me with a church that ordains women called to ministry and I finally answered the call with my life as a service to Christ. Jesus reinvented me and my future.

I was licensed in 2019 and ordained and appointed in the Wesleyan Church as of 2020. In 2022 Jeff and I began to worship with the Connection Point Church (formerly known as the Lakes Community Church of the Nazarene), I began the transfer process last year for the Church of the Nazarene. In addition, I serve as the state of Michigan elder for the National Association of Christian Ministers; and to the Michigan Department of Corrections -Employee Chaplain.

I am Co-Founder/Senior Pastor at All Things Possible Christian Ministry, a non-profit and creative access missionary/evangelical outreach and social media ministry. My husband and I began this ministry in 2014. ATPCM reaches approximately 70,000 people in more than 70 countries. I have 7 pastor partners located around the world that help me spread the gospel in their traditional social circles, e.g., basic supplies for poor and homeless, regular church gatherings for discipleship, baptizing, Jungle ministry church planting, Bibles, growing crops, and so much more. Jeff and I solely support this ATPCM. We are both excited about our journey with The Church of the Nazarene. I look forward to growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord with you.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Christina M. Bristow



I was dedicated in a Nazarene church and later raised in a different denomination. While I understood from a young age that I needed to accept Jesus as my Savior to get to heaven, it wasn't until I returned to the Church of the Nazarene in 1998 that I truly began to understand how deeply God loves me and how much He desires to be part of my everyday life.

As I became more involved, I started volunteering and soon found myself serving in nearly every ministry of the church. In 2012, I felt a surprising call from God to lead a small group. I was hesitant and nervous, but obeyed, and through that experience, my love for ministry grew even more. I began praying about how to create more space in my week to serve.

When I learned about an opening for a Church Administrator at my church, I immediately sensed God calling me to a career change. I was thrilled! Looking back, I can clearly see how my previous work and ministry experiences had been preparing me for that role.

Soon after I started, one of our pastors asked me, "Have you ever thought about becoming a pastor? You have a pastor's heart." That question sparked a new journey. After prayerful consideration, I entered the Course of Study to prepare for wherever God might lead next.

Today, I feel fully equipped to serve and lead in many areas of church ministry. I am continually amazed, humbled, and deeply grateful to be called to serve God and His people full time. In addition to my current role as Administrative Pastor at JaxNaz Church, I also lead Bible study groups and have the joy of sharing Jesus' love with our Food Pantry guests.

Exchange of Deacon to Elder's Orders

Rev. Nanette J. Evans



I accepted Jesus as my Savior in third grade and from that time on I have always felt the hand of God on my life. In ninth grade, my family began attending a Nazarene church because it was close to our home. I was sanctified during my senior year of high school. Jesus Christ not only saved me from my sins but walked with me through the pains of living

in an alcoholic household.

I received a call to ministry while attending Mid-America Nazarene College, now University, and earned a degree in Christian Education. I did not know where God would lead me at the time, but I was willing to follow him anywhere. During January of my last year at Mid-America, I met Paul Robert (Bob) Evans, a seminary student, and we got married the following November.

For 45 years, my husband and I have served the COTN, he as an elder and I as his support. We have two children, both beautiful boys, and while they were 1 & 4, my husband had cancer. It was a difficult time in our life, but God provided. Bob's dad filled in for him when he was not able to stand up. I worked in the public school system to help support our family and continued to do so for 31 years. Never letting go of my call to ministry, I entered the course of study and was ordained as a Deacon in the Church of the Nazarene in 1994.

In 2000 we began attending Grand Rapids International Fellowship. I became a volunteer staff member at GRIF, and eventually the Pastor to Families with Children. My calling has expanded to include preaching and I am seeking ordination as an elder. My husband and I hope to support pastors on the Michigan district by filling in for them when they need a break or have an emergency. God provided for us, and now it is our turn to be that support for others.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Michael S. Garza, Jr.



I was raised in the Church of the Nazarene getting saved as a child at Lansing South. However, as I got older, sin became a problem. I'd go to the altar and tried at times to reform my life, but I struggled and things got worse.

After my freshman year at Olivet Nazarene University, I went headlong into sin, spending several years in "wild living" like the prodigal son. Thankfully, people were praying for me. During that time, I began to tire of the life I was living and God used Rev. Brad Julien to reach out, telling me about entire sanctification and holiness. That Jesus died to do more than just forgive us of our sins but

also to cleanse us from all sin, even the inward desire for it, giving us complete victory through His Spirit.

Over the next two years, God was drawing me. In April 2014, I attended a Revival service in Bradley, Illinois and was born again. It was the first time that I knew I would go to heaven if I died. I started trying to have a prayer life, but it wasn't long until I experienced that back and forth pull between God's will and my own. I had moments of high where my devotional life was better than ever. There were also times of inward struggle, ultimately leading me to an instance that showed me the depth of my need.

On Oct. 28th, 2014, as I was praying about it, God gave me the briefest glimpse of heaven and said that, no matter what happens -good, bad, happy or sad- whether the world falls down around you, if you're in the center of My will, in the end, it'll all be alright because you'll be in heaven with me. It was in that moment that I said, "Lord, I'll do whatever you want, whenever you want, wherever you want, however you want. I want to be in the center of your will." In that moment a peace came over me. It was the moment that God entirely sanctified me! I'd given myself completely over to the Lord and he cleansed my heart! I'll never get over what happened that day! All of those things that used to master me along with that up-and-down way of living are still completely gone only because of Jesus!

When God sanctified me, He put a fire in my heart and called me to teach and preach holiness. To be an evangelist. I've ministered in multiple states, preaching camp meetings, revivals, retreats, and special services also doing personal evangelism with Elaine Pettit Ministries. It's my desire to see everyone come into the experience of heart holiness and this freedom that is only found through Jesus Christ.

My wife Malory and I currently live in Kalamazoo, and have four wonderful children; Riley Kay, Hudson, Natalie and Isaiah.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Hanna E. George



I was raised in a Christian home in Indianapolis, Indiana. I accepted Christ as my Savior around age five during a Sunday School class at Trinity Wesleyan Church. As soon as I understood who Jesus was, I gave my life to Him and have continued to walk with Him ever since. My four year old brother heard the same lesson that day with me, and I remember praying with my baby sister that same day to receive Christ as her Lord and Savior, since she was too young to understand.

In middle school, it was at Vacation Bible School where the speaker challenged us to live life fully for God, wherever and however He would lead. It was there that I gave God all of myself, a commitment to serve Him with my whole life wherever He would call me.

During my teenage years, I became a member of Indianapolis First Church of the Nazarene. It was there, surrounded and encouraged by faithful mentors and spiritual leaders, that I began to serve in ministry—as a custodian, a violinist on the worship team, a VBS volunteer, and a children's Sunday School co-teacher. It was also there that I first sensed God calling me to full-time ministry.

I attended Indiana Wesleyan University and graduated in 2013. After graduation, God opened the door for me to begin full-time worship ministry at Battle Creek First Church of the Nazarene. My husband, Bryan, and I met while attending IWU, and were married at Battle Creek First in 2014. We've since welcomed our son Lucas in 2016 and our daughter Aurora in 2019.

God has called us at Battle Creek First for over 11 years now serving alongside our church and community. I've had the continued joy of serving alongside our worship team, preaching, supporting our youth group, our daycare First Kids Learning Center, partnering in our local community with Habitat for Humanity, and partnering with local churches. I've also had joy serving our Michigan district through Impact Team, NMI counsel, and a summer here at Indian Lake Nazarene Camp as a counselor. The call to ministry hasn't always looked like what I thought it would. I am in awe of where the Lord has led me, and stretched me in ways I couldn't have imagined. The Lord is my strength and song, and He continues to be my salvation. I look forward to continuing to serve the Lord, and alongside His people, in His will and His ways.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Holly J. Hazekamp



I was raised in a loving, faith-filled home as the youngest of three daughters. My mom introduced me to church, and from an early age, it became a central part of my life. I attended every Sunday and Wednesday service, VBS, and special event. When I was five and a half, I gave my heart to Jesus outside the sanctuary doors during VBS. That very doorway is now the entrance to my office—proof of God's full-circle faithfulness.

I always knew I wanted to teach and eventually graduated from Cornerstone University with a degree in English/Elementary Education. I spent nearly 10 years teaching in my hometown district and loved every moment. I thought I'd retire as a teacher—but God had a different plan.

In 2016, our church's children's pastor resigned, and I was asked to step in "temporarily." Soon after, I was asked to pray about taking the role permanently. Though reluctant at first, God clearly confirmed the calling. I eventually surrendered and stepped fully into ministry at Connection Point.

My sanctification and call into ministry were closely linked. At family camp that summer, I walked to the altar and surrendered my life completely to God. I knew that step of obedience would change everything—and it did. Ordination was certainly not on my radar, but serves as a testimony to God's grace and guidance.

I've been married to my high school sweetheart, Dan, since 2007. Together, we have the privilege of raising our four amazing sons: Hudson, Brydan, Treyton, and Daxton. Life is busy, loud, and joy-filled. In every season—through teaching, parenting, and ministry—God has proven faithful. I continue to say "yes" to His calling, trusting that His plans are always better than mine.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Bradley K. Julien



I was raised, for the most part, in a holiness tradition, regularly attending church. From 7th or 8th grade we attended Chapman Memorial Church of the Nazarene. During this time, I lived a double life: devout at church, but different at school. Halfway through my junior year, my family relocated to Vicksburg, where I finished high school. After graduation, I openly rebelled against God, no longer hiding my defiance. I lived far from faith, and was unashamedly unconcerned. A few years later, God began stirring my heart with conviction. After many days

of intense spiritual struggle, I faced a choice: continue my way or humble myself before Christ. On Mother's Day 2006, in a church pew at Kalamazoo South Side Church of the Nazarene I chose repentance, and God saved me from my sins.

For years afterward, I wrestled with my purpose and battled a persistent urge to return to sin. This cycle of temptation and failure was maddening. When I met my future wife Cristi, the struggle persisted, and it haunted me. Cristi and I got married and then moved to Florida for her to attend a prestigious physical therapy school in St. Augustine. While she poured herself into her studies, my selfishness dragged us both down, fueling conflicts. A mentor, Rev. Benjamin Pettit, suggested I read *Holiness and Power* by A.M. Hills. Skeptical but desperate, I bought the book. From the first pages, I realized Hills described a spiritual state I hadn't yet experienced.

As I read, God clarified my problem: I needed cleansing from the sinful nature. Hills' book explained that entire sanctification is a second definite work of grace that instantly purifies the heart fully to God. The concept gripped me. I reached a section detailing how to seek this grace, and urgency overwhelmed me. On August 21, 2011, I knelt by my bed—my "altar"—and surrendered everything to Christ: dreams, marriage, ambitions, selfishness, my entire self. With fervent prayer, I asked God to sanctify me entirely. As promised in 1 Thessalonians 5:24, God was and is faithful and He did it. He sanctified me through and through, removing the "old man" of sin. Since that day, I've lived free from sin's dominion, and have been kept by His grace and have pursued a call to preach the wonderful message of entire sanctification. To God be the glory.

Election to Elder's Orders

Rev. Ashley E. Robbins



As a pastor's kid, I quite literally grew up in the Church of the Nazarene. From Maryland, to Ohio, and eventually to Michigan; I have always felt at home in the church. My parents were not only exceptional parents, but incredible role models for me to follow in ministry. Their team approach to service in the church is a significant part of the foundation for my own current understanding of shared leadership. In fact, a team approach to ministry is how my own call began to surface.

It was during my time in St. Joseph, MI, where my husband served as a lead pastor, that I felt the Lord really begin to nudge me towards pastoral ministry for the first time. Since my professional background was in social work, with a BSW from Olivet Nazarene University and an MSW from the University of Illinois, all of my specialized training was in counseling and mental health. I knew that following the path towards ministry meant more school for me, but I was excited to embark upon the journey.

It has been over nine years since I experienced that first nudge. I'm so happy to report that I answered God's call and allowed Him to unfold my next steps progressively over time. Looking back now at God's faithfulness along the way, I am filled with humility and gratitude for all that God has done and all that He has allowed me to do. Presently, I serve as Co-Lead Pastor for ChapNaz right here in Vicksburg, along with my husband of 18 years, Brian. We were both energized to answer the co-pastorate call together, discerning this is exactly where and how God desired us to lead. Handing what I thought were great plans for my life over to God was no easy task, but I have been blessed all along the journey in allowing him to take the lead.

Recognition of Elder's Orders

Rev. Gwendol L. Steenhoven



John and I met during my senior year of college. We married in 1982. Years later we found ourselves with 3 children, a recently well-paid lost job and in a financial crisis. John grew up Catholic and decided that we needed to go to church. Our oldest daughter had a WWJD bracelet given by a bowling buddy and this is how our family was introduced to the Free Methodist church. John was quickly saved but I had no interest. I believed that we were good people and could not understand why God, if there really is a God, would allow us to be in this situation. Clearly, He had no interest in us, so why go to church? As an

RN, I frequently worked the weekends which made for a good excuse to not being able to go. As John and the children grew in Christ, I could see the separation that existed between me and them. John asked that I start attending, which I resisted but eventually gave in. The first Sunday I attended my oldest was saved over a weekend get away for teens. Their response had me thinking that my family had joined a cult. I was incredibly uncomfortable.

Eventually I was mentored by my pastor. He challenged me to read the bible. Weekly I would meet with pastor. I would come thinking I was challenging him as I asked questions like "Why would your God allow babies to be sacrificed? Why would you ever worship such a 'God'?" I was challenged to pray and ask for this God to show himself and every week I never saw Him. I was ready to give up but then was impressed to go on a weekend of fasting and prayer. Pokagon State Park is where I had a Saul/Paul conversion and came home a changed person. 9 months later I was called to another prayer and fasting weekend where I received my call to go into ministry. I graduated with my M-Div from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2007 having never been appointed. So, I took my ministry on the road by working as an RN in ICU, counseling families, praying with them, guiding them as they make hard life decisions. For several years I taught at Spring Arbor University teaching Spiritual Dimensions of Healthcare, Biblical perspectives and Music appreciation. I lectured on death and dying to churches and ministers and spoke at women's retreat.

What's next? Transferring my ordination from the FMC to the Nazarene church is the first order of business. I have been appointed at pastor of visitation at my church. Just a week ago I retired from full time nursing. The rest is yet to be revealed.



Michigan District
Church of the Nazarene

New District Ministers Licensees

2025

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