



Michigan District  
Church of the Nazarene

**2025**  
**DISTRICT ASSEMBLY**  
**INDIAN LAKE NAZARENE CAMP**  
**JULY 13-14, 2025**

# Section 1

General Information

2025

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## Greetings from Pastor Brad Dyrness

Welcome to **Indian Lake Nazarene Camp**, the Michigan District Assembly and MINaz Family Camp... I hope you can hang out and experience the blessings of being together. When we gather and share life – we'll hear some victories and hear about some loss, both are opportunities to be Jesus to one another. Sunday night 7 new elders were ordained into a new phase of their calling, 6 received their first district license and many others are in between - this is a sign of healthy ministry team. We also celebrate the impact our laypeople have in the ministry of our churches.



This handbook is filled with statistics, that may be your first stop as you look inside. It is also filled with stories of how our churches sought to be light in action and message to their communities. Take the time to look past the numbers to imagine the impact the stories reveal. There is nothing like the Local church when the local church is on mission – lets celebrate how our churches got to ***“carry the life-giving message into the night.”***

Grab a meal at the dining hall or snack bar, make space for a new friend at your table – we really are better when we do life together. Stay for a family camp service - **Rev. Billy Huddleson** will bring it!! Tuesday morning through Friday morning **Rev. Antonio Marshall** will be teaching about effective discipleship. Thursday night is always a kick to see the kids on the stage, singing and worshipping Jesus!

We welcome back **Dr. Carla Sunberg**, our JGS (Jurisdictional General Superintendent), and husband Chuck – they have been a gift to **THE Michigan District** this past 2 years. Look forward to what she will share about how the life-giving message is being shared all around the world. **Dr. Gregg and Tammy Chenoweth and the ONU team** will share the ONU story – always a highlight in our agenda.

Thanks for coming to District Assembly, Deb and I look forward to being with you!

Pastor Brad Dyrness  
MINaz District Superintendent



# MICHIGAN DISTRICT

**Rev. Brad Dyrness**

## DS Pastor's Report

### Michigan District Supplemental Combined Report

All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	15
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	701
Participation in Pension & Benefits	YES	Number of Baptisms	362
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	267
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	6,387
Raised for all Purposes	\$14,971,026	Average Morning Worship Attendance	6,694
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	1,153

### Michigan District Statistical Report

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Membership	8,873	8,648	8,511	8,162	7,949	7,844	7,636	7,442	6,829	6,387
SS Enrollment	15,202	16,329	22,555	16,062	17,009	11,315	12,791	11,629	15,682	13,311
SS Average	6,663	6,731	6,485	6,622	6,700	6,031	4,947	5,754	5,686	5,931
Worship Avg.	8,262	8,203	7,874	7,658	7,589	6,736	6,315	7,767	7,590	7,847
Conversions	612	577	577	448		270	402	440	581	701
Baptisms	270	240	298	241		176	212	216	310	362
New Nazarenes	264	262	311	349	351	190	185	312	267	267
Org. Churches	74	74	70	68	68	65	67	65	65	64
Org. This Year	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Church Plants	7	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Michigan District Financial Report

	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>
Total Church Income	\$14,480,734	\$14,971,026

### Total Given to District, Regional and Global Interests

*(Funding the Mission as of 6-26-25)*

	<u>Given in 2023-24</u>	<u>Given in 2024-25</u>
District	\$684,562	\$696,031
Olivet Nazarene University	\$268,190	\$313,233
NBUSA	\$274,694	\$254,922
World Evangelism Fund	\$669,234	\$703,543

# Michigan District Missional Areas

## NORTHEAST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Justin Hayes ([justin@midlandnaz.org](mailto:justin@midlandnaz.org))**

Churches: Alma, Bay City Faith, Bay City Living Hope, Midland Bethel, Midland Naz, Midland Nease Memorial, Mount Pleasant Faith Indian, Mount Pleasant First, New Lothrop, Saginaw First, Saginaw Journey of Grace, Saginaw Valley, Sumner Center

## NORTHWEST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Tyler Hubbell ([tyler@spartanaz.org](mailto:tyler@spartanaz.org))**

Churches: (Byron Center) High Pointe Community, Ebenezer, Elmdale, Grand Haven, Grand Rapids Clyde Park, Grand Rapids International Fellowship, Grand Rapids Northeast Community, Grand Rapids West International, Greenville, Hastings, Holland New Life, Lowell, Muskegon Breakwater, Muskegon Connection Point, Sparta

## SOUTHEAST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Gerhard Weigelt ([gerhard@masonnaz.org](mailto:gerhard@masonnaz.org))**

Churches: Albion, Charlotte New Faith, Eaton Rapids, Hillsdale, Jackson First, Jackson Found, Mason First, Spring Arbor

## SOUTHWEST MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leaders: Brian & Ashley Robbins**

**([brilawrob@gmail.com](mailto:brilawrob@gmail.com) & [ashleyelizabethrobbins@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyelizabethrobbins@gmail.com))**

Churches: Battle Creek First, Buchanan, Coldwater, Corey, Kalamazoo South Side, Nashville, Portage Cross Community, Sturgis, Three Rivers, Vicksburg Chapman Memorial, White Pigeon Lighthouse

## CAPITAL MISSIONAL AREA

**Missional Area Leader: Jesi Myers ([jmyers@southnaz.org](mailto:jmyers@southnaz.org))**

Churches: Corunna, Durand, Grand Ledge, Holt, Lansing First, Lansing International, Lansing South, Lansing Woodview, Okemos, Owosso City, Owosso First, Perry, Portland, St. Johns, Williamston

# Video Links

Global Mission Director



Holiness Today



NBC Inspirational Video with Dr. Bowling



Nazarene Foundation



NBUSA



NDI



NTS



NYC26



ONU



THE FOUNDRY SLIDE SHOW



USA-CANADA REGION



WEF-GLOBAL REACH



## Important Dates for Pastors—2025-26

**Fiscal Year—June 1, 2025—May 31, 2026**

**September 8-10, 2025—Fall Workshop—Indian Lake Nazarene Camp—Speaker: Pastor Michael LaVigne**

**December 1, 2025—Christmas Party—JaxNaz**

**March 14, 2026—Come to the Table—Lansing SouthNaz**

**April 22-24, 2026—Spring Retreat—Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville—Cost \$100/couple**

**May 2026—Church Elections—Refer to Manual 201.2 to determine how many LAY delegates you can send to District Assembly. Your NMI, NDI, NYI and any active clergy members are automatically delegates.**

### **LEAD PASTOR ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINES:**

1. **June 1, 2026—Handbook Written Report Due—Topic will be sent prior to deadline.**
2. **June 10, 2026—APR Due—General Church's report and deadline for any budget payments.**
3. **June 10, 2026—District Reports (including Directory, Certificate of Election for Delegates, Deceased Church Members Report, NMI Delegate Information)**

**Sunday, July 12, 2026—Ordination Service—Indian Lake Nazarene Camp—Dr. Filimão M. Chambo, GS Presiding**

**July 12-13, 2026—District Assembly—Indian Lake Nazarene Camp—Dr. Filimão M. Chambo**

**July 13-18, 2026—Family Camp—Indian Lake Nazarene Camp—Speakers Tim & Shawna Songer-Gaines**

## Michigan District Registered Compassionate Ministries Centers

### **Beacon of Hope**

166 S River Ave  
Holland, MI 49423  
Website: [www.beaconhope.net](http://www.beaconhope.net)  
Email: [beaconmail@beaconhope.net](mailto:beaconmail@beaconhope.net)  
Phone: 1 616-594-5380

### **Clothing INC**

1114 W High St  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858-2223  
Email: [info@clothinginc.org](mailto:info@clothinginc.org)  
Phone: 1 989-323-3332

### **CommunityLink (GRIF Community Resource Center)**

3765 Kalamazoo Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49508-5513  
Website: [CommunityLink \(GRIF Community Resource Center\)](http://CommunityLink (GRIF Community Resource Center))  
Email: [mdehollander@grifonline.org](mailto:mdehollander@grifonline.org)  
Phone: 1 616-245-2151

### **Compassionate Ministries of Jackson County**

3905 Clinton Rd  
Jackson, MI 49201-8270  
Website: [Compassionate Ministries of Jackson County](http://Compassionate Ministries of Jackson County)  
Email: [terry.williams@cmjackson.org](mailto:terry.williams@cmjackson.org)

### **Gratiot County Hope House**

1001 W Monroe Rd  
Saint Louis, MI 48880-9742  
Website: [Gratiot County Hope House](http://Gratiot County Hope House)  
Email: [housing@gchopehouse.org](mailto:housing@gchopehouse.org)  
Phone: 1 989-681-8486

### **His Hand Compassionate Ministry Center**

12866 Beadle Lake Rd  
Battle Creek, MI 49014-7505  
Website: [His Hand Compassionate Ministry Center](http://His Hand Compassionate Ministry Center)  
Email: [myfirstnaz@gmail.com](mailto:myfirstnaz@gmail.com)  
Phone: 1 269-979-4565

### **Nazarene Community Resource Center**

2270 S. Mill Iron Rd.  
Muskegon, MI 49442  
Email: [office@connectionpointmi.com](mailto:office@connectionpointmi.com)  
Phone: 1 231-773-2812

# Section 2

Assembly Organization & Elections

2025

# Electronic Ballot

<https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/iyu9Q>

Please register at the Information Booth in the Tabernacle  
Sunday, July 13th—4:00—5:30 PM or  
Monday, July 14th—8:00—9:00 AM

Please use the  
Voter ID and Voter Key  
provided on the back of your nametag that you will receive  
at registration.

**Voting hours:**  
**Sunday, July 13, 2025 after Ordination**  
**through**  
**Monday, July 14, 2025 at 11:30 AM**



## Board of Tellers

The board of tellers will be called upon in the event of a tie that may occur as a result of the electronic vote.

Marcia Bittenbender  
Karen Bontrager  
Linda Brown  
Hannah Colburn  
Tina Delbridge  
Jim Fay  
Cheryl Floyd  
Keith Gillhespy  
Keith Hurt  
Mark Mingus  
Tony Myers  
Erica Palmer  
Michelle Redman  
Steve Serra  
Carol VanSlyke  
Kami Whitten

# Nominee Profiles

## DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

### **District Advisory Board—Lay Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Greg Bontrager**  
OWOSSO FIRST  
Incumbent/Consultant/ Executive  
Coach



**Neil Turner**  
MIDLAND COMMUNITY  
Board Member/Dow Chemical

### **District Advisory Board Under 40—Clergy Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Pastor Andrew Jones**  
MIDLAND  
Youth Pastor



**Rev. Ashley Robbins**  
CHAPNAZ  
Co-Lead Pastor

### **District Advisory Board Under 40—Lay Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Christina Bowden**  
JAXNAZ  
Middle School Social Worker



**Bryan Chapman**  
MT. PLEASANT FIRST  
Executive Director, Clothing, Inc.

## CREDENTIALS BOARD

### **Ministerial Credentials Board Vote for 4 Four-year term; expires 2029**



**Rev. Bryce Gernand**  
JAXNAZ  
Lead Pastor



**Rev. Aaron Gregory**  
MUSKEGON CONNECTION POINT  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



**Rev. James Haldane**  
EATON RAPIDS  
Lead Pastor



**Dr. Justin Hayes**  
MIDLAND  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



**Rev. Dr. Aimee Mulder**  
MUSKEGON BREAKWATER  
Lead Pastor



**Rev. Brian Robbins**  
CHAPNAZ  
Co-Lead Pastor



**Rev. Arika Shea**  
BUCHANAN  
Children's/Family Pastor/Incumbent



**Rev. Mike Whitten**  
BATTLE CREEK FIRST  
Lead Pastor



# Nominee Profiles

## STUDIES BOARD

### Ministerial Studies Board—Clergy Vote for 1 Four-year term; expires 2029



Rev. Jesi Myers  
LANSING SOUTHNAZ  
Associate Pastor/Incumbent



Rev. Stacy Smith  
PERRY  
Administrative Pastor

## ILNC CAMP BOARD

### ILNC Camp Board—Clergy Non-leaseholder Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028



Rev. Richard Hand  
GRAND LEDGE  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



Rev. Rich Saunders  
THREE RIVERS  
Lead Pastor

### ILNC Camp Board—Lay Non-Leaseholder Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028



Steve Martzke  
GRAND LEDGE  
Incumbent/Discount Tire/Trustee



Kim Meiste  
GRIF  
Worship Arts Ministries Director

### ILNC Camp Board—Clergy Leaseholder Vote for 3 Three-year term; expires 2028



Rev. Harold DeMott  
CHAPNAZ  
Retired Elder



Rev. David Downs  
CHAPNAZ  
Retired Elder



Rev. Brandon Hird  
CHAPNAZ  
Associate Pastor



Rev. Rob Lash  
CHAPNAZ  
Associate Pastor



Rev. Mike Whitten  
BATTLE CREEK FIRST  
Lead Pastor



Rev. Lenny Wisehart  
CHAPNAZ  
Evangelist

# Nominee Profiles

## PROPERTIES

**Properties Board—Lay  
Vote for 2  
Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Kurt Hug**  
MT. PLEASANT FIRST  
Landlord/Handyman



**Keith Kelley**  
OWOSSO FIRST  
Construction Project Manager

## ONU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**ONU Board of Trustees—Clergy  
Vote for 1  
Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Rev. Aaron Gregory**  
MUSKEGON CONNECTION POINT  
Lead Pastor/Incumbent



**Rev. Justin Hayes**  
MIDLAND COMMUNITY  
Lead Pastor

## COURT OF APPEALS

**Court of Appeals—Lay  
Vote for 2  
Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Mark Baker**  
SPRING ARBOR  
Talent Acquisition Specialist—UofM



**Kate Connors**  
MT. PLEASANT FIRST  
President/CEO Faith-based Medical  
Pregnancy Resource Center



**Juanita Copley**  
MUSKEGON BREAKWATER  
Retired Professor/University of Houston



**Gary Swartzlander**  
JAXNAZ  
Program Director—David's Promise

**ONU Board of Trustees—Lay  
Vote for 1  
Three-year term; expires 2028**



**John Harris**  
GRAND LEDGE  
ONU Grad/State of MI/Incumbent



**Kim Meiste**  
GRIF  
Worship Arts

# Nominee Profiles

## NDI COUNCIL

### **NDI/SDMI Council—Clergy Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Rev. Sarah Bawks**

PERRY

Pastor to Families with Children/Incumbent



**Rev. Jesse Briles**

LANSING FIRST

Lead Pastor/Leader of Neurodivergent Clergy



**Rev. Joe Young**

GR NE COMMUNITY/DISTRICT

Co-Lead Pastor/Intercultural Ministries Dir.

### **NDI/SDMI Council—Lay Vote for 1 Three-year term; expires 2028**



**Kelsi Nichols**

OWOSSO FIRST

Children's Director



**Erin Roehm**

LANSING SOUTH

NYI Adult Leader/Praise Band/Incumbent

# Section 3

District Board & Committee Reports

2025

# Nominating Committee

## 4. Nominations

The Michigan District Nominating Committee, Rev. Brad Dyrness (chairman), Rebecca Graham (secretary), Marlene Webster, Ashley Robbins, TJ Tozer, Travis Myers, Deidre Marks, Richelle Martzke met at the District office on April 29. Chairman Dyrness called the meeting to order and opened in prayer.

The following is recommended:

1. That all elections be by plurality vote, and that all elections take place on one ballot, with the exception of those that require a separate ballot.
2. That Advisory Board members be elected to three-year terms, as provided by the *Manual* (paragraph 224).
3. That four ministerial and four lay members of the Advisory Board be elected as provided by the *Manual* (paragraph 224).
4. That no incumbent may be re-nominated for the Advisory Board if he/she will have served for eight consecutive years at the time of the election. Any non-incumbent may be nominated.
5. That the Nominating Committee will present at least four times the number of nominees as the number to be elected in each category on the regular ballot in order to have at least twice the number of nominees as the number elected on the ballot. Those receiving the most votes from the Nominating Committee will be presented on the ballot.
6. That nominees shall be chosen from churches who display a consistent pattern of giving to Eternal Investment Funds.
7. That the nominating ballot will reflect the intention to achieve a 50% balance of leaseholders and non-leaseholders on the ILNC board. In addition, the lay and clergy representation must be equal (50% each).
8. Each nominee is to be contacted, *and the nomination will be ratified upon acceptance of the nominee.*
9. Ballots will be prepared for district offices and a list of the names on these ballots, with their church membership, photo and bio shall be included in the district assembly handbook.
10. A draft ballot will be sent to delegates prior to assembly.
11. Ballots will be accepted as valid if the number of votes is equal to or less than the number of positions that are to be elected.
12. That the following be nominated:

District Advisory Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Clergy Under 40, elect one)

Rev. Andrew Jones

Rev. Ashley Robbins

District Advisory Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Lay under 40, elect one)

Brian Chapman

Christina Bowden

District Advisory Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Lay, elect one)

Greg Bontrager

Neil Turner

District Ministerial Credentials Board (four-year term; expires 2029; Clergy, elect four)

Rev. Bryce Gernand

Rev. Aaron Gregory

Rev. Justin Hayes

Rev. James Haldane

Rev. Arika Shea

Rev. Brian Robbins

Rev. Mike Whitten

Rev. Aimee Mulder

District Ministerial Studies Board (four-year term; expires 2029; Clergy, elect one)

Rev. Jesi Myers

Rev. Stacy Smith

ILNC Camp Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Clergy, Non-Lease Holder, elect one)

Rev. Richard Hand

Rev. Rich Saunders

## Nominating Committee Continued

ILNC Camp Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Clergy, Lease Holder, elect three)

Rev. Rob Lash

Rev. Mike Whitten

Rev. Brandon Hird

Rev. Dave Downs

Rev. Harold DeMott

Rev. Lenny Wisehart

ILNC Camp Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Lay, Non-Lease Holder, elect one)

Steve Martzke

Kimberly Meiste

Olivet Nazarene University Board of Trustees (three-year term; expires 2028; Clergy, elect one)

Rev. Aaron Gregory

Rev. Justin Hayes

Olivet Nazarene University Board of Trustees (three-year term; expires 2028; Lay, elect one)

Kimberly Meiste

John Harris

Properties Board (three-year term; expires 2028; Lay, elect two)

Kurt Hug

Keith Kelley

Court of Appeals (three-year term, expires 2028; Lay, elect two)

Kate Connors

Gary Swartzlander

Mark Baker

Juanita Copley

*Respectfully submitted,*

REV. BRAD DYRNESS, *Chairman*

REV. REBECCA L GRAHAM, *Secretary*

## Ministerial Studies Board

### 2024-25 Annual Report

Graduated from the course of study in 2024-25

From district elder's course of study - Titus Balkuty, Shelly Bos, Christina Bristow, Hanna George, Holly Hazekamp, Brad Julien, Jenna Ralston, Ashley Robbins, Gwen Steenhoven, Maddie Valentine

We recommend the following persons be:

Placed/continued in level one, elder's course of study:

Placed/continued in level two, elder's course of study: Zachariah Caruth, Isaiah Cole, Joy Guffey, Daniel Kasaggoma, Charissa Langstaff, Doris Orr, Tracey Saunders

Placed/continued in level three, elder's course of study: John T Ashby Jr, Teri Beadle, Corey Lewis, Bart Simpson, Chris Smith, Jonathan Verastegui

Placed/continued in level four, elder's course of study: Gabe Beelen, Tim Freed, Liz Hubbell, Sarah Klassen, Anna Murphy, Jonathan Young

*Respectfully submitted,*

REV. JIMMY GUFFEY, *Chairman*

REV. GERHARD F. WEIGELT, *Secretary*

# Ministerial Credentials Board

## Partial Report No. 1

### **We recommend that the following transfers be received:**

Gretchen M. Hand from Mid-Atlantic  
John Michael Whitten from Los Angeles  
Esther M. Sapp from Kentucky  
Michael B. Sapp from Kentucky

Makayla D. Johnson from MidSouth  
Jonathan D. Young from Kansas City (district licensed)  
Michael R. LaVigne from SW Oklahoma  
Caleb A. Johnson from MidSouth

### **We recommend that the following transfers be granted:**

Tabitha D. Fisher to New Mexico  
Samuel S. Evans to Central Gulf Coast  
F. Nathan Owens to Kansas City

Jesse Sibert to Northwestern Ohio (district licensed)  
Danny M. Quanstrom to Missouri  
Hannah Jones-Nelson to Eastern Michigan

### **We recommend the following be removed from the roll of ordained ministers, not by our desire but by having deceased:**

Todd P. Batzloff  
Dallas McFarland  
Frederick F. Wheeler

Gregory A. Freed  
Arthur R. Salisbury

### **We recommend retirement status be granted to:**

Michael B. Sapp  
Esther M. Sapp  
James M. York, Jr.

R. Mark Green  
Marjorie A. Hein

### **We recommend that the following first time District licenses be granted to the following:**

Doris A. Orr  
Tracey Lynn Saunders  
Christopher Thomas Smith

Joy Michelle Guffey  
Elizabeth Anne Hubbell  
Isaiah Duken Ray Cole

### **We recommend the following to the election of Elder's Orders:**

Ashley Elizabeth Robbins  
Bradley Kevin Julien  
Michael Steven Garza, Jr.  
Hanna Elizabeth George

Christina Munro Bristow  
Holly Jo Hazekamp  
Titus Sarki Balkuty

### **We recommend the following exchange of Deacon's Elder's Orders:**

Nanette Joan Evans

### **We recommend the following for Recognition of Elder's Orders from another denomination:**

Shelley Fawn Bos

Gwendol Lynn Steenhoven

Respectfully Submitted,

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, Chairman

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, Secretary



# Ministerial Credentials Board

## Partial Report No. 2

### We recommend the following for renewal of District Minister's License:

John T. Ashby Jr.	Andrew K. Jones	Jesse Sibert
Amy K. Barber	Daniel Kasaggoma	Larry Bart Simpson
Elizabeth R. Baxter	Sarah L. Klassen	Madison Laura Shae Valentine
Teri L. Beadle	Charissa B. Langstaff	Jonathan Verastegui
Gabriel Beelen	Corey D. Lewis	Taylor M. White
Zachariah Caruth	Anna J. Murphy	Jonathan D. Young
Thomas A. Dixon	Jenna G. Ralston	
Timothy Freed	Bikram Ranapheli	

We report on the following who did not apply: Faith Miller

The following credentials have been revoked: Benjamin Beck

The Credentials board submitted two request for removal of the divorce barrier for elder's orders to the Board of General Superintendents.

We recommend the evangelism certificates as follows:

Granted commissioned evangelist: Amanda Pettit, Benjamin Pettit

Granted registered evangelist: Michael Garza Jr.

We recommend tenured evangelist status granted: E.L. Wisehart, Joy Wisehart

We recommend the approval of Special Service (SPC) status for the following persons: Jacob Gregory, Paul R. "Bob" Evans, Gerald Greuling, Gloria Johnson, Timothy Johnson, Duane V. Rensberry, Steven Ray Turrell

We recommend the approval of Chaplain (CHP) status for the following persons: Jacob Abbey-Johnson, Gregory Boisture, William Dulworth, Jay Ott, Marzella Rasmussen, Ryan Wolford, Nathan Workman, Lori Harvey, Kyle Thompson

We recommend that all licensed ministers on the Michigan District have a background check completed. All newly licensed ministers on the Michigan District will have to pay the appropriate one-time fee so that a background check can be completed.

Respectfully Submitted,

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, Chairman

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, Secretary

# District Advisory Board—Page 1

The District Advisory Board (DAB) of the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene met 7 times during the 2024-2025 church year. The organizational meeting and board retreat were held at Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. Other meetings were held in person at the district office with the option for participants to attend remotely. District Superintendent Rev. Bradley Dyrness chaired the meetings. Each meeting opened with sharing of scripture and prayer.

The DAB carefully monitors the finances of the district under the leadership of Treasurer Tim Brenner, Business Manager Danielle Haldane and the District Finance Committee. Tim Brenner was re-elected as Treasurer and Marlene Webster re-elected as DAB Secretary.

## CREDENTIAL MATTERS

We approved the following transfers of Licensed and Ordained Ministers:

### Transfers Received:

- Gretchen Hand (Chapman Memorial) from Mid-Atlantic
- Mike Whitten (Battle Creek First) from Los Angeles
- Mike & Esther Sapp from Kentucky
- Caleb Johnson (GRIF) from MidSouth
- Makayla Johnson (GRIF) MidSouth
- Shelley Bos from The Wesleyan Church
- Gwen Steenhoven from The Wesleyan Church
- Jonathan Young (District License) from Kansas City
- Michaele LaVigne from Southwest Oklahoma

### Transfers Granted:

- Tabitha Fisher to New Mexico
- Sam Evans to Central Gulf Coast
- Nathan Owens to Kansas City
- Hannah Jones-Nelson to Eastern Michigan
- Danny Quanstrom to Missouri
- Jesse Sibert to NW Ohio

### Tenured Evangelist Status Granted:

- E.L. Wisehart
- Joy Wisehart

### Granted Retirement Status:

- James York, Jr.
- R. Mark Green
- Mark Sapp
- Esther Sapp
- Marjorie Hein

### We approved the following District Licensed Ministers to serve as Lead Pastors:

- Zach Caruth—Holland New Life
- Ashley Robbins—Chap Naz (to be ordained at Assembly)
- Thomas Dixon—Alma
- Gabe Beelen—Saginaw First
- Teri Beedle—Bay City Living Hope

We recommend the approval of Special Service (SPC) status for the following persons: Jacob Gregory; Gerald Greuling, Gloria Johnson, Tim Johnson, Paul “Bob” Evans, Duane Rensberry, Steven Turrell

We revoked the following credential: Benjamin Beck

## District Advisory Board—Page 2

### PROPERTY & CHURCH MATTERS

The following churches received the 10% OTHERS GRANT: Corey, Spring Arbor, Cross Community, Grand Haven, Owosso City, GRIF, Connection Point

We approved 10% Mission/Point to Point Giving for: Hand to Hand, a ministry of Byron Center High Pointe; Yaya's Kitchen, a ministry of Kalamazoo South Side; Love Week, a ministry of Jackson First

We approved the listing and/or sale of the following properties: Greenville—7 acres of property; Mt. Pleasant First—parsonage; Sturgis—property and building; Found—Woodbridge Property; Saginaw Swan Valley—Church and parsonage

We approved the replacement of the Ionia parsonage roof with the funds from the Properties account.

We granted Rare Circumstance Adjustments to Owosso First and Midland Bethel.

We voted to supplement the salary of the ILNC Camp Program Director for \$10,000 per year.

We subsidized the cost of the Pastors' Retreat, allowing ministry couples to attend for \$100.

We approved a plan for St. Louis Restoration 58:12 to function as a compassionate ministry and to declare the church inactive.

We approved a loan for White Pigeon to make improvements to their HVAC and insulation.

We allocated \$10,000.00 to assist international pastors with obtaining religious workers' visas or green cards for the purpose of leading a church.

We approved the following pastoral appointments for a 2-year period: Gabe Beelen at Saginaw First and Teri Beadle at Bay City Living Hope.

We approved a name change for Bay City First Church to Bay City Living Hope.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, Chairman

REV. MARLENE WEBSTER, DAB Secretary

## Auditing Committee Report

In 2025, the independent accounting firm of Yeo & Yeo CPAs & Business Consultants has conducted a trial balance audit of all Michigan District finances for the church year of June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024. This audit has been completed in follow-up to previous consulting arrangements with Yeo & Yeo in preparation for this audit.

The District Advisory Board has adopted a policy of conducting an external audit every three years, with the next audit scheduled to occur during the 2026-2027 church year for the financials of 2025-2026.

## Church Properties Board

This year, the Properties Board consisted of Jon Croft, Chris Bristow, Eva Schoon, Ken McNulty and me. Earlier this year, Ken McNulty relocated to Tennessee, and I was subsequently appointed Chairman.

Please visit <https://www.minaz.org/resources> and navigate to District Forms>Property/Sale Forms. There you will find two important documents:

1. **District Property Board Policy**—This outlines the situations in which assistance and counsel from the District Properties Board are required.
2. **Project Request Form**—This form should be completed and submitted to me to initiate the process for obtaining proper district approval when you are considering a facilities-related project.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
DON PIERCE, *Chairman*

*Cell 517.676-9366*  
*don@piercecarter.com*

## Memoirs—2024-2025

<b>Alma</b>	Michael Bacon
<b>Battle Creek First</b>	Carl Conley
<b>Bay City Faith</b>	Jennifer Drzewicki, Frank Waibel, Charlie Houghtaling
<b>Bay City Living Hope</b>	Jon Burns
<b>Clyde Park</b>	Helen Chandler, David Oke
<b>Connection Point</b>	Gloria Hartsell
<b>Corey</b>	Judy Norton, Jackie Connelly, Brenda Dennis, Peggy Graham
<b>Corunna</b>	Toby Mudget
<b>Durand</b>	Bonnie Friend, Barb Aldrich
<b>Elmdale</b>	Marcia Weeks
<b>GRIF</b>	Sandra Anderson, Donna Miller
<b>Hastings</b>	Rene LeClear, Lucille Cione, Janice Conklin
<b>Hillsdale</b>	Dallas McFarland, Brenda Majerczyk
<b>Jackson First</b>	Dave Maynard
<b>Lansing First</b>	Lillian Harris
<b>Lansing South</b>	Paul Pence, Char Mosher, Sue Osbo, Bill Kundrat, Raymond Jenks, Bob Gianettino, Clayton Church
<b>Lansing Woodview</b>	Tommy Lopez, Paul Lee
<b>Lowell</b>	Dale Johnson
<b>Mason First</b>	Howard Sherwood
<b>Midland Community</b>	Virge Thornton, Marc Thurston, Chet Thornton, Del Lafavor, Karl Woods, Joe Hitchcock
<b>Mount Pleasant First</b>	Joann Solmes, Daniel Ingram, Jane Bufkin, Dick Stokes
<b>Nashville</b>	Todd Batzlof, Robert Herman, Margaret Ashcraft
<b>Owosso First</b>	Clara Vansickle, Esther Bott, Marie Schaar, Bev Collard, Floyd Lauria, Hugh Parker, Jerry Ordway, Joyce Stone, Rhonda Robinson
<b>Perry</b>	John Newman
<b>Saginaw Valley</b>	Lillian Merdler, V. Ruth Miller, Donald Ennis
<b>Spring Arbor</b>	Henry Ellen Lockhart, Tom Tucker
<b>St. Johns</b>	Dan Ritter
<b>Sturgis</b>	Sharon Olds, Kenneth Schaeffer
<b>Sumner Center</b>	Cathy Sherlock, Connie McGill
<b>Three Rivers</b>	Robert (Bob) Beachey
<b>Vicksburg Chapman Memorial</b>	Tom Bliss, Gerald Kurth, Greg Freed, Judy Lewis
<b>Williamston</b>	Dorothy Wroe

# Intercultural Ministries Director Report

To the District Assembly of the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene,

It has been an honor to serve you this last year as the Intercultural Ministries Director for the Michigan District. It has been a building year. I am grateful for the experiences this year that helped me better understand the intercultural context and needs of the district but also helped add value to your intercultural ministry efforts.

This year, I engaged local churches and ministries active in intercultural ministries in multiple ways. I visited various churches and ministries to better understand their intercultural ministry contexts. I taught workshops to help increase cultural understanding. I advised on curriculum choices for outreach ministries and consulted on church planting efforts and administrative best practices. I am pleased to report that God is building the intercultural ministry capacity of our district churches and ministries, with growth and new initiatives being seen in our Spanish and Haitian ethnic heritage ministries. I served as an administrative interim pastor for one of our churches while the pastor was on medical leave.

Additionally, I worked to build partnerships with outside organizations that could help our district in its intercultural ministry development. These included conversations to improve educational access for our diverse ministerial candidates, workshops and trainings to improve our capacity to support and advocate for our immigrant church family and communities, and networking with other Nazarene leaders about how intercultural ministry is done on their districts. On the district level, I taught workshops on radical hospitality, immigration, and culture. I participated as a cultural consultant and liaison during our District Assessment Weekend for ministerial candidates, as well as Cheryl and I serving as missionaries in residence at several district camps. I was also honored to participate in and contribute to our District Advisory Board Meetings.

As we look to the future, join me in the continued development of the intercultural ministry capacity of our district churches and ministries. Particularly, (1) greater educational access for our diverse ministerial candidates, (2) multilingual access at district ministries and events, (3) increased stability for and welcome to our immigrant communities and churches, (4) and for of our district churches and Nazarenes, regardless of ethnic or cultural background, to experience a greater sense of belonging, unity, and commitment to intercultural collaboration and growth.

May God be glorified as we build together and are enriched by the diverse, colorful, vibrant, and rich Kingdom of God.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Young

**Rev. Joe Young**  
**Director**  
(513)433-9032  
jyoung@minaz.org



# Ministerial Support

We, your Committee on Ministerial Support, recommend the following:

## *I. Ministering to Our Pastors and Ministerial Staff*

- A. That our church boards do all they can to relieve the pastor from financial worry and discomfort, as well as from the need of secular employment, by striving to supply the following compensations; and that the pastor make every effort to give full time to the work of the church, not engaging in secular work except where it is absolutely necessary:
1. Moving expenses for new pastor (i.e., van costs, family travel expenses, interim salary compensations, etc.).
  2. Adequate starting salary, not including fringe benefits (i.e., commensurate at least with starting teacher salaries in the community).
  3. Car reimbursement, in addition to the pastor's salary, be given.
  4. A Medical Plan, paying the premiums covering the pastor and family.
  5. Full self-employment tax reimbursement, computed on basic salary, fringe benefits, parsonage allowance and/or fair rental value of parsonage, paid at least quarterly.
  6. Vacations granted to all ministers on the church staff, with salary and pulpit supply paid by the church; that the dates are to be set at their discretion with the approval of the senior pastor and the church board, and the vacation time shall be based on the following formula:
    - a. at least two weeks for pastors serving the denomination 1-5 years
    - b. at least three weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 6-14 years
    - c. four weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 15-19 years
    - d. five weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 20-24 years
    - e. six weeks for pastors serving the denomination for 25 years and over
  7. That each local church give the week of Camp Meeting to their pastor to attend the District Camp Meeting, not counting this as part of the pastor's vacation (one week, including one Sunday).
  8. **That churches consider offering maternity or paternity leave to pastors and staff in addition to and separately from vacation time, per Manual 116.**
  9. That the church provide funds for mileage, baby-sitter, Housing, meals, etc., for all district and general church functions.
    - a. Official district church meetings (i.e., assembly, pastors' workshop, District Ministry Team Retreat, seminars, Camp Meeting, and pastors' revivals)
    - b. Official general church meetings (i.e., general assembly, Evangelism Conference)
  10. That the church provide funds for continuing pastoral education (i.e., book allowance, PALCON, Institute of Church Management, district continuing educational program, etc.).
  11. That all church-owned parsonages on the Michigan District be furnished with the heavy major appliances (refrigerator, range, washer and dryer, dishwasher, and such other appliances and conveniences as may be common to the local congregation).
  12. That the level of appreciation and respect for the ministry among the congregation be lifted by remembering the pastor, the pastor's spouse, and the parsonage children in special ways on birthdays, anniversaries, and Christmas.
  13. That our churches participate in Nazarene Retirement Program (tax-sheltered annuity) by contributing at least an amount equal to 5 percent of the pastor's salary; and that our pastors consider contributing additionally to the fund.



## Ministerial Support (con't)

14. That our church boards plan a Pastor/Staff Appreciation Day suggested in October or sometime during the year.
15. That pastor and all staff salaries and benefits be thoroughly reviewed annually. Salary increases in cash or benefits shall be at the discretion of the church board.
16. That each local church consider ways of guarding needed private time for their pastor and the pastor's family to maintain and enrich their relationships. They represent the church's most valuable resource. They deserve our love, our support, and our prayers. We recommend pastors take a day off each week.
17. That churches and pastors giving consideration to study leaves are asked to consult with the district superintendent for guidelines in planning.
18. That a sabbatical plan be considered for a pastor who has served a minimum of seven years in the same church. A sabbatical plan is available through the district office, or the Clergy Development office at the GMC.

### *II. Ministering to Our Evangelists*

(tenured, commissioned, registered, and song evangelists employed by the local church for ministerial services)

- A. That each church board agree on minimum compensation to a called evangelist. Realizing that he/she receives no paid vacation, receives no remuneration for time lost due to sickness or seasonal inactivity, we recommend that the church board be generous in paying evangelists (i.e., two times the pastor's salary, plus cash benefits, per week) when the evangelist provides his/her own housing during the meeting, he/she be compensated for the same or consider designating a portion of the compensation as housing allowance.
- B. That our churches plan some program to underwrite the major portion of the evangelist's compensation prior to the meeting, and that added consideration be given to husband/wife teams carrying the total program.
- C. That the local church board remember with a Christmas gift the evangelists and song evangelists that have served their local church during the past year; we suggest a gift equal to 5 percent of the compensation given them.
- D. That the local church with a commissioned evangelist or a commissioned song evangelist as a member pay one-half of the evangelist's district hospitalization and one half of the evangelist's Social Security tax.

### *III. Ministering to Our Retiring Pastors and Evangelists (those receiving basic pension)*

That the church board endeavor to express in a tangible way its love and appreciation to its retiring pastor or evangelist through ongoing assistance with medical insurance, farewell activities, paying moving expenses or a portion thereof, and a love gift of monetary value.

### *IV. Other Recommendations*

- A. That copies of this report be sent by the district secretary to the pastor and church board secretary of each local church, and that the local church board secretary present this report to the local church board at its September meeting.
- B. That following a salary review a report be sent to the district office by the church board secretary.

*Respectfully submitted,*

REV. BRADLEY DYRNESS, *Chairman*

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, *Secretary*

# Sabbatical Policy

## PURPOSE OF SABBATICAL

To provide long-term pastoral staff and their family the opportunity of a sabbatical leave for the purpose of professional development, personal and spiritual renewal, rest, and visioning. By means of a sabbatical leave, the congregation wishes to express gratitude and affirmation to our pastor and family.

At the same time, it is the intent that the church will be challenged to a special time of renewal as well as an enlarged vision of its ministry.

## SABBATICAL TIME FRAME FOR THE SENIOR PASTOR

A sabbatical leave of seven to thirteen weeks will be provided to the senior pastor after the completion of each seven years of consecutive full time employment.

It is preferred that the seven to thirteen week sabbatical be taken in consecutive weeks. However, a two session sabbatical could be considered, by each local church.

The scheduling of the sabbatical leave shall take into consideration the needs of the congregation, the scheduling needs from the pastor's proposal, and other pertinent concerns as may be established.

## SABBATICAL TIME FRAME FOR ASSOCIATE PASTORS

A sabbatical leave may be considered for full time associate pastors at the discretion of the senior pastor and church board. A sabbatical leave provided for an associate pastor shall follow the same guidelines as for the senior pastor and as set forth in this outline.

## SABBATICAL PLANNING

The use of the seven week sabbatical will be primarily planned by the pastor and shall require church board approval. It is recommended and preferred that the sabbatical include activities and events that will carry out the purpose of the sabbatical as stated above.

The church board shall appoint a Sabbatical Committee to receive and review the pastor's proposed plan of sabbatical leave. It shall help establish specific expectations of the sabbatical and present the plan to the church board for review and approval. It shall help develop a plan for implementing the sabbatical leave and carrying on the ministry of the church in the pastor's absence.

These specifics shall be followed:

1. It shall be the responsibility of the church board to initiate the planning by setting aside funds on a regularly scheduled basis to finance a sabbatical. A budget line item should be established to track the accumulation of funds.
2. At the end of the Pastor's sixth year of employment, the board shall appoint a committee of a minimum of three individuals from the board and the congregation. The committee will serve from the date of receipt of the pastor's sabbatical plan until the sabbatical evaluation is completed upon the pastor's return.
3. At the end of the pastor's sixth year of employment, the board shall ask the pastor to prepare a sabbatical leave itinerary to be presented to the church board. The pastor's proposed plan shall be received by the Sabbatical Committee six months prior to the planned date of commencement of the sabbatical. The proposed plan should focus on the specific objectives of the leave. The proposed plan shall also outline how the pastoral duties will be carried out in the pastor's absence.

# Sabbatical Policy (con't)

## PROCEDURE FOR CONTINUING THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH DURING THE PASTOR'S SABBATICAL LEAVE

The pastor will provide a proposed plan for the continuing ministry of the church during the sabbatical. The pastor will be responsible for appointing persons from the pastoral staff or arranging for interim leadership to carry out the administrative duties, congregational care ministries, and pulpit responsibilities.

It is recommended that only normal activities and regularly scheduled events in the ministry of the church (i.e. Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening service, regularly scheduled board meeting) are to be carried out.

During the sabbatical, contact with the senior pastor should be limited to the following:

1. Serious illness or death of a member of the congregation.
2. Any event that the Sabbatical Committee and the interim pastor jointly determine to be an emergency situation; and/or . . .
3. A specific prearranged request by the senior pastor.

## FINANCING OF SABBATICAL LEAVE

1. The church shall make the following financial commitment during the pastor's sabbatical leave:

The pastor's full salary and benefits will continue. There will be no reduction of salary or benefits during the duration of the sabbatical.

2. Seminar or educational expenses incurred by the pre-approved sabbatical plan will be supported by the church according to professional development policies.
3. A sabbatical budget will be established with the amount to be approved by the church board after consideration and approval of the sabbatical plan. The budget may assist with additional expenses (e.g. travel expense).

## THE PASTOR'S FAMILY DURING SABBATICAL LEAVE

The pastor and his or her spouse shall determine the role family members will take in the sabbatical leave. That role shall be included in the proposed plan for sabbatical that the pastor submits to the Sabbatical Committee for board approval.

The pastor's immediate family members may, but are not expected to, attend regularly scheduled services and/or activities. The pastor and family members shall be free to communicate with the church community as they desire.

However, to enable the sabbatical to accomplish the intended purpose, it will be requested of the congregation and the board that no direct communication be made with the pastor or the pastor's family members.

## RETURN FROM SABBATICAL

Upon return from sabbatical leave, the pastor shall first meet with the Sabbatical Committee and interim pastor before re-entering his duties of ministry. A date shall be scheduled for this meeting prior to the commencement of the sabbatical leave. The purpose of the meeting shall be twofold. First, the committee and interim pastor will inform the pastor of all issues that have arisen in his absence, bring him up to date on all activities, and discuss the effect the sabbatical has had on the church. Second, the pastor may in turn give a brief oral report to the Sabbatical Committee on his activities and what he feels transpired with regard to carrying out the goals of the sabbatical.

## Sabbatical Policy (con't)

The pastor and the Sabbatical Committee shall each prepare a written report at approximately one month following the pastor's return.

The first Sunday worship service following the pastor's return should be planned as a celebration of renewal for the pastor and congregation.

### STIPULATIONS

1. Sabbatical leave will not negate any of the pastor's earned vacation. Vacation days may not be used to extend the length of sabbatical leave.
2. Sabbatical leave will be in addition to board approved events or seminars throughout the sabbatical year.
3. No more than one member of the pastoral staff may be on sabbatical leave at any one time.
4. No personnel shall be hired or terminated while the senior pastor is on sabbatical, unless approval is given by the senior pastor.
5. It is advised that district responsibilities held by Pastor or Staff be suspended during the sabbatical time, except for "end-of-year" reports.
6. This sabbatical leave policy shall be reviewed periodically.
7. The purpose of this policy is for direction and is not intended to be all conclusive. Proposed changes or additions in the above policy may be submitted to the Sabbatical Committee and presented to the church board for approval.

Resources to check out:

[www.nazarene.org](http://www.nazarene.org)  
[www.nazarenepastor.org](http://www.nazarenepastor.org) (Clergy Resources)  
[www.pinmin.org](http://www.pinmin.org) (Pinnacle Ministries)  
[www.pastorsretreatnetwork.org](http://www.pastorsretreatnetwork.org) (various retreat locations)  
[www.lillyendowment.org/religion](http://www.lillyendowment.org/religion) (funding for sabbaticals)  
[www.louisville-institute.org](http://www.louisville-institute.org)

Reviewed 2021

## District NDI Report (formerly SDMI)

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ,

I include this every year and its timeless, “The Kingdom is advancing and breaking forth in new ways as we are returning to King Jesus’ call to make disciples, everywhere we go, in a changing world and culture.” To be your district NDI director is not something I feel I have to do out of obligation, I tell myself, “I get to do this, wow!” I love to see the impact and support we bring to our churches and discipleship leaders. We get to see a culture of discipleship take root in local churches and lives brought into the Kingdom and made holy and whole! There are many people who are a part of this beautiful movement on your Michigan District discipleship team. I could not do this without the unwavering commitment our District Superintendent, Pastor Brad Dyrness, has for discipleship in the local church. We have the best NDI Council in the denomination: Erin Roehm (Secretary), Ashley Robbins (Treasurer), Jimmy Guffey, Megan Staples, Sarah Bawks and Amy Wagner. We celebrated a wonderful transition of the Children’s Ministry Director role this year. We are thankful to Stef Grgurich for all she did and we welcome Gretchen Hand to this role. We are also grateful for Chris Pettitt’ (Quizzing Director) leadership this past year and recognize the hard work he is doing to bring quizzing forward. We are indebted to our “discipleship specialist” Devon Staples, Richelle Martzke and Danielle Haldane who do so much, Jeff Hodge and ILNC, Hannah Jones-Nelson and Stu Shattuck (NYI), Karla Hurt (NMI), so many incredible fellow pastors (who inspire us with how they allow the Holy Spirit to make disciples through them) and so many more whom I hope I have not forgotten. And with much love and gratitude, thank you Liz (who helps me immensely in this role!), Ethan and Aiden and Durand for giving of your pastor, husband and dad.

Some things do not change from year to year, I still believe true Holy Spirit led, biblical, kingdom-oriented discipleship can revitalize, rebirth and transform our churches and communities. This is still our focus and vision from King Jesus! We, the NDI Council, desire to see each local church on the Michigan district have a healthy and effective discipleship heart and culture (this is more than programs and bible studies). We realize the Holy Spirit will contextualize that in each community; however, we believe there must be shared ideas/practices, partnerships and resources established. Are we staying on the “information based” level or have we entered into the holy, transparent and transformational places of “formational and relational based” ways of living out our faith? This is how we can see Kingdom faithfulness in our local churches and fulfill our district themes (praying, connecting, strengthening and expanding). This still means large(r) and small(er) churches learning, sharing and growing from one another! I challenge you pastor and lay person, please do not be an island.

The NDI Council truly exists to serve our DS, camp, local churches, pastors, staff pastors and lay leaders! We are here to come alongside you. We are not looking for what you can do for the district, we are looking for how we can serve our local churches and communities together. There is no district without healthy local pastors, leaders and churches! Please feel free to reach out to myself or any NDI Council member throughout the year.

Our team has grown restless this past year, we love the ways we continue to follow Jesus and serve our district. And yet, we have sensed the Holy Spirit drawing us into other ways to fulfill the mission. We don’t want to solely exist for camps and Come to the Table. We are prayerfully stepping into more informal/relational ways of connecting with local churches. Please give us ways we can best do this! We understand not all churches and pastors are alike or have the same needs, help us help you.

Let’s jump into all the ministry over the past church year! A central part of district NDI is our partnership with Indian Lake. In collaboration with children’s and youth ministries, we witnessed transformational camp experiences. We also saw the need to make necessary changes to do our best for our kids and students. Thank you to everyone who is stepping into the roles of camp directors, counselors and volunteers, you’re amazing! Thank you pastors and churches for supporting camps, sending kids and teens. We know it’s a challenge with full summers and other choices, choosing ILNC matters. We are blessed to have ILNC, the staff/team and our Executive Director Jeff Hodge and his wife Tanett! Again this year we’ll have family activities to create opportunities for biblical community

## District NDI Report (formerly SDMI) cont...

between family and one another. Don't miss out on family camp, we are excited to welcome Antonio "Tone" Marshall as our morning class teacher. Can't wait to see you at the lake!

Our annual equipping, encouraging and empowering event, Come to the Table, was perhaps the best it's ever been. Thank you, thank you again to Lansing South COTN for opening their building to us. I cannot name all the breakout class leaders and people that made this a reality, you know who you are, thank you! Our very own keynote speaker, Marlene Webster, did such an incredible job! Marlene, you beautifully articulated the holiness message and shared how this must be a lived out reality. I want to put the spotlight on the Come to the Table planning team. They are making vision into reality and God has blessed their efforts. Stay tuned to hear about next year's speaker. Please put March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, on your calendar, looking forward to seeing you there!

This was a formational and stretching year for NDI. We sent representatives to the Leadership Conference (quadrennial NDI event) in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Spirit spoke to our council members at this event and birthed dreams about future ministries to our district and churches. Pastor Gretchen Hand has begun galvanizing our children's pastors and leaders. We can't wait to see the future of district children's ministry! There are some other ideas in the prayerful/planning stage, keep your eyes open for district emails. M25 was also this past year, this has been one of the most influential events in the life of our church. Through M25, God continued to plant seeds and speak of future ways our team can be faithful to this work. The theme of Gospel: bringing people to Jesus is not separated or the work before discipleship, they are two sides of the same coin.

We are to view discipleship as the entire process of reaching people before salvation and intentionally walking with them to full surrender and onwards in the transformation of Christlikeness. Who are we intentionally building relationships with, praying for and taking risks from a place of love for them and Jesus? It's difficult and messy isn't? This must happen outside and within the church body. We must yield ourselves to be part of small communities/groups where we belong and are beloved, where we feel safe to be real, to confess, to repent, to be held in loving accountability, to be healed and made whole. We need to have those special relationships with our "inner circle" who know us better than ourselves. Then, we invite people to join this Jesus Way of life...go find it, start it, make it happen!

Thank you for your support and belief in district NDI! I wish to share these words from last year, "we welcome you all to come to the table, pull up a chair, and share your voice and heart as we listen to one another in this ongoing district conversation on how to faithfully make disciples in our day and context."

Grace and Peace,

Nate Gray

Michigan NDI Director

# District NYI Report

Hello members of the 2025 District Assembly!

I am beyond thrilled to serve as your District NYI President. Having been raised on this district, I have personally seen and benefited from the investment and sacrificial love of the incredible people who make up Michigan District NYI. As God continues to move in and through the lives of our students here on the Michigan District I would like to look back at this year, take a look forward to the future, and ways you can connect to MI NYI. I should warn you, this is my first official report, I'm nervous, please be gracious and kind.

## **A look back at this year together....**

Our council meetings continue to show me that the Michigan District has the best group of Youth Pastors, NYI Presidents, Youth Leaders, and Students. The biggest highlight for me was the continued inclusion and growth of involvement from our NYI student representatives. Their voices continue to be at the core of our why, here in MI NYI.

In October we gathered for our annual Lock-In event at 3mile project which continues to be a highlight for our students. We had 18 churches, 232 students, with 44 adults staying up all night eating a ridiculous amount of pizza, laughter, dodgeball, and loss of sanity. Please continue to pray that the Lord would end lock-ins as they cannot be good for my salvation.....just kidding.

In January we gathered at Lansing South for our District Celebrate Life event and again broke the record for highest attendance since before Covid which is a HUGE win for us! Jimmy Guffey continues to do an incredible job which is why he is never allowed to leave us and must continue to be Celebrate Life Coordinator till the end of time. We are happy to report that 24 churches, 156 students, 54 sponsors for a grand total of 210 were in attendance for District Celebrate Life. At the Regional Event in May, we had 21 churches, 130 students, 62 sponsors, and came in 7<sup>th</sup> place overall. Don't worry, I vow to bring home the gold during my time as your president!

NYI Leadership Conference was an incredible event this year as we spent the entire time prepping for NYC 2026 which will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah! Hannah Jones-Nelson, Stu Shattuck, Christina Garza, and Yolanda Oliver represented our district as we prayed and planned for Nazarene Youth Conference.

Come to the Table event (where we held our NYI convention) was another highlight of our year. We had nearly 50 students along with sponsors attend the event. Our students blow me away with their dedication and passion for learning God's word and living out the Gospel in their everyday lives. They encourage me to be more like Christ through their obedience and excitement for the Lord! It was also Hannah Jones-Nelson, our fearless leader and former NYI Presidents last event with the MI District....a sad day that will go down in history as the end of an incredible era. I have large shoes to fill and appreciate all that Hannah has done for this District and our students!

Earlier this summer we held our Middle School and High School Camps at Indian Lake Nazarene Campgrounds. The theme this year was Interrupted. We see that God all throughout scripture was interrupted by people. How do we live interruptible lives for God? What does it look like to allow God to interrupt our lives. Zac Caddy (Owosso), Andrew Jones (Midland), and Stu Shattuck (Mason) were our directors for Camp along with Bobby Garza (Program Director for ILNC), and while I will not add myself, I cannot express my unending gratitude for Zac, Andrew, and Bobby. Their leadership, wisdom, and love for students encourages me to be a better Youth Pastor. If you see them please tell them thank you, camp would not be possible without these incredible pastors!

## **A look forward to our future...**

**MI NYI Goals:** *Equip youth leaders and support existing youth ministries in the Michigan district through meaningful connections, intentional events, and resources that reflect our Nazarene tradition.*



## District NYI Report cont...

As we look to the future of NYI, I want to remind all of us that students are more than just the “future of the church.” Our students are current members of the body of Christ, they are active, they serve, they often teach our adults more than we realize. I believe in our students, and I am passionate about coming alongside them and the students leading youth ministries on our district. Thank you for loving our students!

The district is here to support the local church in whatever way your NYI needs. Maybe you need a place for your NYI president to find community or resources, our quarterly meetings and other events are a great place for this! Maybe you need a place for your students to meet others and feel supported, and our district has committed to supporting your students in this way!

One of my favorite parts of this Michigan district is how connected we are, it's something I never want to take for granted. We are better together! It can feel overwhelming, even lonely, to run a youth ministry by yourself. We never want our churches to experience this, and we hope that you know our district NYI is here to support you. In the coming year, I hope that we can continue to grow in our connections with one another, both for students and adults!

### **Get involved...**

As we look to the future, there are a lot of ways you can be involved in NYI! First and most importantly, you can commit to praying for our students, leaders, and district as we walk together. You can also get connected with your local NYI ministry - volunteer weekly, mentor a student, financially support students going to camp or NYC.

You can get involved with our district - volunteer at camp, check in with local youth pastors/leaders, donate snacks for the lock in! Finally, you can support NYI with the ways that you love the students around you. Our students are better because of you and the ways you show them Jesus's love lived out!

### **Upcoming events...**

ONU field students called to ministry conference (September 19-21 in Valparaiso, IN)

District youth pastor/NYI president retreat (Dates to Come, Starwood Ranch)

Lock in (Oct 24-25, 3 Mile Project)

In conclusion, I would like to personally thank my wife Mackenzie who I could not do this without her unwavering support, Hannah Jones-Nelson for giving me this opportunity, Zac Caddy my Vice President who was way better than the last VP, the many members of our District NYI Council for just being so awesome, as well as Brad Dyrness our Supreme Leader whom after writing this report I hold in the highest regards.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Reverend Loren Stuart Shattuck

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

Indian Lake Nazarene Camp  
Executive Director's Report  
District Assembly 2025

Dear Friends and Partners of Indian Lake Nazarene Camp,

As we reflect on the 2024–2025 ministry year, I am humbled and encouraged by all that God has accomplished here at Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. This year has not been without its challenges, but through it all, we have seen God's faithfulness, provision, and movement across our grounds and in the hearts of those we serve.

Here are the major highlights and developments from this ministry year:

## Facility Improvements

- **Family Unit Bathroom Remodels:** We successfully completed long-awaited renovations to the Family Unit bathrooms, providing a significant upgrade in comfort, cleanliness, and functionality for our guests and families.
- **Lake and River Clearing:** Through the funding of a generous donor, we undertook extensive clearing of overgrowth and brush along the lake and river. This project has not only enhanced the natural beauty of our campus but also increased usable space for activities and improved camper safety. We were also provided with a major piece of equipment to provide for future work to help take care of our beautiful camp.
- **Major Appliance Upgrades:** Our dining hall and snack bar received significant upgrades with the installation of new commercial-grade appliances. These improvements enhance our food service operations and allow us to better serve larger and more diverse groups.

## Staffing and Leadership Expansion

- **New Program Director – Bobby Garza:** We welcomed Bobby Garza to our leadership team as our new Program Director. Bobby brings a deep passion for ministry, creative vision for programming, and a commitment to helping campers grow spiritually while having fun.
- **Operations & Maintenance – Dave Boyce:** We are also excited to have Dave Boyce now overseeing Operations and Maintenance. His expertise, diligence, and heart for the camp have already resulted in more efficient operations and improved facility care across the board.

## Construction and Development

- **Nurses Cottage Construction:** We have broken ground on a brand-new nurses cottage to better meet the health and safety needs of our campers. This dedicated medical facility will support our growing summer programs and ensure professional, accessible care.
- **Project 100 Advancement:** Our long-range initiative, *Project 100*, continues to move forward. This vision encompasses the revitalization of aging infrastructure and the potential development of new, secure, and purpose-driven facilities to serve additional camps and ministry groups well into the future.

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp, cont.

## Camp Usage and Impact

- **Record Group Engagement:** Over the past year, **more than 58 groups** have used our facilities for retreats and camps. Our flagship events, **Family Camp and Family Fest**, were completely booked—evidence of the growing hunger for connection, rest, and spiritual renewal in our community.
- **Ongoing Mission Impact:** Even amid challenges, our mission remains clear and vital: *Creating a Sacred Space for Renewal, Relationships, and Recreation*. We continue to see lives changed, relationships deepened, and hearts renewed.

## Challenges and God's Faithfulness

- **Security Incident – Theft:** In January, we were impacted by a regional theft ring that targeted properties across the area. Unfortunately, our camp's plow truck was stolen during this time. While this incident created both operational and emotional setbacks, we are taking active steps to enhance campus security going forward.
- **God Still Moves Mountains:** Despite the trials we've faced—whether logistical, financial, or spiritual—we have witnessed firsthand that **God is still moving mountains** here at Indian Lake Nazarene Camp. His provision continues to sustain our ministry and make a way for us to serve guests with excellence and Christ-like hospitality.

## Looking Ahead

With gratitude in our hearts and vision in our steps, we move forward in faith. We remain committed to stewarding the land, resources, and relationships entrusted to us. As we pursue the next phases of *Project 100*, we anticipate even greater opportunities to serve and impact the lives of individuals and families for the Kingdom of God.

Thank you for your prayers, your encouragement, and your ongoing partnership. Together, we are building something that will echo for generations.

With gratitude and hope,

**Jeffrey Hodge**

Executive Director

Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

**Renewal-Relationships-Recreation**



# Section 4

District & ILNC Finance Reports

2025

# Treasurer's Annual Report

Dr. Sunberg, Pastor Brad, delegates, and friends of the Michigan District – Greetings

The 2024/25 fiscal year continued to experience steady growth and positive results. Total revenue showed a slight increase from the previous year while falling just short of the budget. Your new Business manager, Danielle Haldane has made great progress in learning her new role , and is doing a great job for the Michigan District Finance office.

## **2024/25 Budget**

The 2024/25 treasurer's report will show a slight deficit, which is commendable given the increased expenses related to the costs associated with District owned properties. These expenses are something we cannot always anticipate and build into the budget, but are necessary to protect their value. Our Properties fund balance has been very capable of handling these unexpected items.

The District did again provide some support for Indian Lake to assist with the cost of some deferred maintenance. The NMI, NDI, and NYI continue to support summer camps and encourage all churches to participate in them.

Just as all of our local church boards review their budgets every year, your Finance Committee and District Advisory Board reviewed last year's finances and considered the effect inflation has had with regard to future needs. Unfortunately, we were not able to make all the increases we thought would be beneficial. The Finance Committee and Advisory Board did however make allowance for some special non-recurring projects. These are to be underwritten from accumulated reserves from years when results exceeded budgets. We continue to pray that we will have 100% participation in supporting the ministries of the Michigan District and our International Church, in finances, prayers and action.

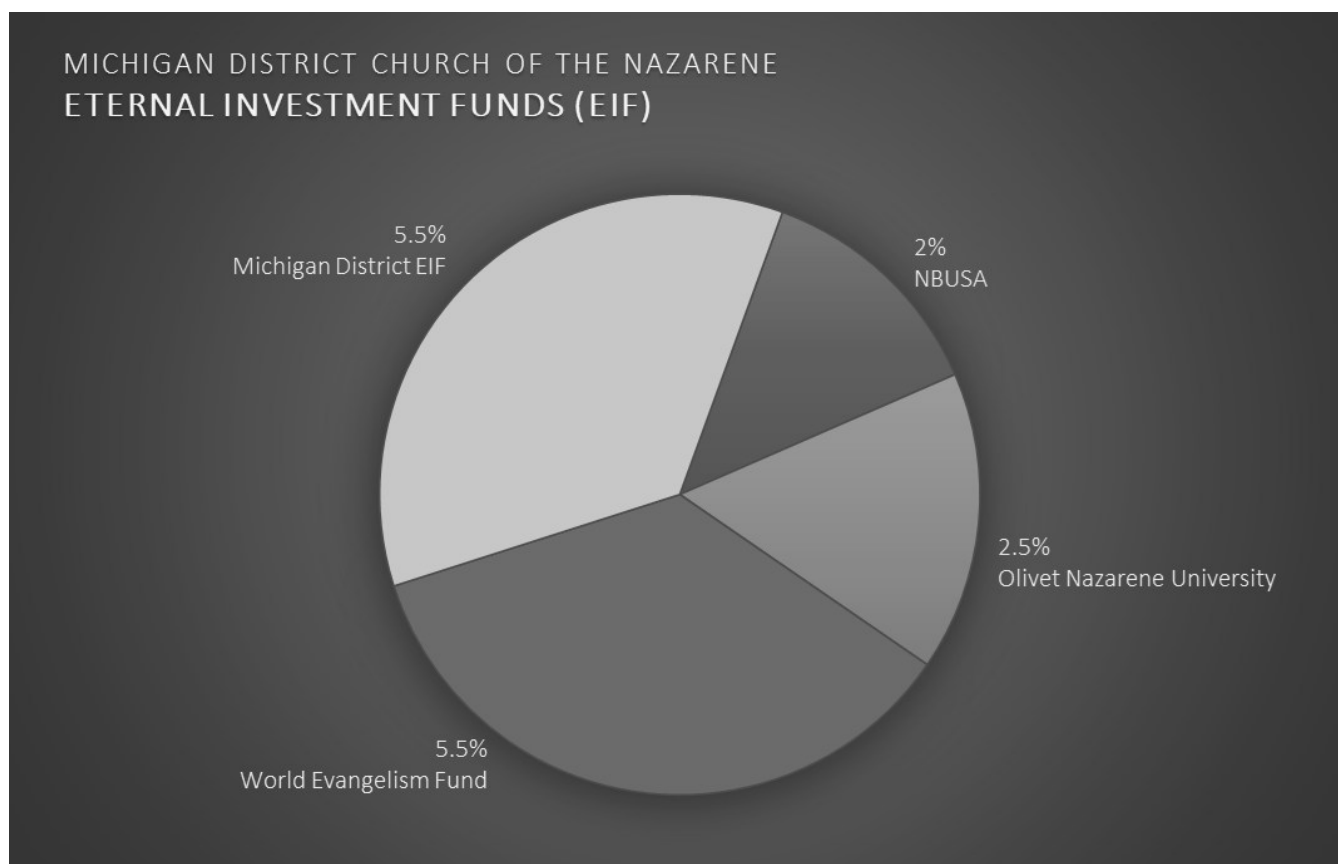
Respectfully submitted,

Timothy R. Brenner,  
Michigan District Treasurer

# MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

## ETERNAL INVESTEMENTS | WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

As your church prepares to budget for the coming year you may be asking where the money from your eternal investment allocations goes and how does it benefit my local church.



## EDUCATION FUND | OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



The funds received by churches support Olivet Nazarene University. Those funds are primarily used to provide scholarships for students from our Michigan District. Any student that is a member of the Michigan District can attend for half tuition. ONU offers opportunities for leadership training and is a pipeline for future pastors and pastoral staff. The funds also support the operation of the University. Learn more at <http://www.olivet.edu/>

## WORLD EVANGELISM FUND | WEF

There are currently more than 2.5 million members worshipping in more than 30,000 congregations in 165 areas around the world. WEF's purpose is to sustain valuable ministries through consistent mission funding.

Gifts given to the World Evangelism Fund is channeled through the General Treasurer's Office. Funds are distributed to six world regions, missionaries, and ministries globally. Learn more at <https://nazarene.org/wef>

### Fueling faith, forming leaders, and reaching nations—because of you.

When you contribute to the WEF, you're not just making a donation; you're actively participating in a global mission powered by faith and compassion.



#### New Churches and Ministry Outposts

Spreading the gospel to unreached areas, planting seeds of faith in fertile ground.



#### Support for Missionaries

Resourcing dedicated missionaries who serve communities worldwide.



#### Regional Ministries

Launching ministry in new world areas, and sharing the hope of Christ.



#### Christian Literature and Resources

Providing essential materials that nurture faith and understanding.



#### Holiness Education

Teaching and inspiring believers to live sanctified lives, reflecting God's holiness.

Your contributions also support partner ministries like JESUS Film Harvest Partners and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, amplifying the reach and impact of Christ's message.

## Nazarene Benefits USA | NBUSA

Nazarene Benefits USA (NBUSA) began in 1919 and is responsible for administration of the only denominationally approved benefit plans for employees of Nazarene churches and institutions in the US. Learn more and download resources at <http://www.nbusa.org>.

### Nazarene 403(b) Retirement Plan



The Nazarene 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan is a specially designed, IRS-qualified group plan for lay and ministerial employees of Nazarene churches and church agencies, evangelists, and registered Nazarene chaplains. It is designed to provide a solid financial future with tax advantages for participants.

### Insurance



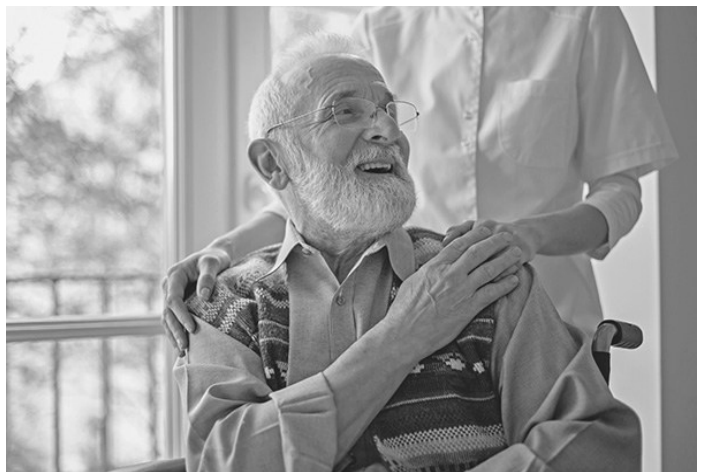
Nazarene Benefits USA (NBUSA) provides up to \$30,000 in basic life and \$500 a month in long-term disability insurance coverage to eligible U.S. pastors whose churches pay at least \$1 of their NBUSA Fund allocation. They also offer supplemental life and disability coverage at reasonable rates.

### Single Defined Benefit Plan



The Church of the Nazarene Single Defined Benefit Plan was created by the merger of the General Church Pension Plan with the Basic Pension Plan, effective January 1, 1996.

### Benevolence



Occasionally, ministers face instances of extreme financial need. In some of these cases, Nazarene Benefits USA can lighten the load.



## MICHIGAN DISTRICT | ETERNAL INVESTMENTS (EIF)



The MINaz District provides our pastors and staff support, accountability, leadership, and pastoral care.

A local church and pastor receive specific help with:

- Counsel and direction by the District Superintendent's Office including regular Pastoral Reviews, Properties Board, District Advisory Board, District Finance Team, Ministerial Studies, and Credentials Board along with a mentoring program.
- The District Mission Board (NMI) directs and encourages The Great Commission with opportunities in global missions, district projects, and local missions in many communities. NMI provides local church training & workshops and supports our missionaries-in-residence at summer camps and gives at Christmas time.
- The District Discipleship Board (NDI) provides Discipleship training, Bible Quizzing, Camping & Retreat Ministries, Family Camp, Workshops, etc.
- The District Youth Board (NYI) creates opportunities for students from all sized churches to participate in quality Retreats, Quizzing, Camping, and other Youth Ministries.
- All Pastors and Spouses are invited to participate in a Spring Retreat for a fraction of the actual cost, a Christmas Party is provided, and Training for Pastors at Fall Workshops including our retired pastor community.
- A District Attorney is available to local churches for legal counsel.
- The District Office is available for meetings spaces.
- The Reserve Army Fund helps pastors and churches in financial crisis.
- The **10% Others Grant** provides grants for local ministries reaching outside their church doors.
- The District Budget currently supports 5 employees.
- The District Advisory Board (DAB) is investing \$14,000 to support and create scholarships to students preparing for ministry.

Learn more and view upcoming events for the Michigan District at <http://www.minaz.org/>

Any Questions? Please contact us at the Michigan District Office at 517.622.8450 or email [districtbooks@minaz.org](mailto:districtbooks@minaz.org).

## District Assembly Finance Committee Report

It is expected that each local church pays its denominational budgets in full each year.

We, the Finance Committee, recommend the following:

- That Eternal Investment Funds (District, NDI, NYI, and NMI) be 5.5 percent of charitable donations received, excluding missions giving (W.E.F., 10 percent Approved Mission Specials, and New Church Starts). Capital Stewardship Campaigns (CSC) (see #3) need to have prior approval of the General Church of the Nazarene Exceptions Committee and the Michigan District Advisory Board. Funds for Eternal Investment Funds are to be sent to the Michigan District Office.
2. That the World Evangelism Fund for each local church is 5.5 percent, NBUSA 2.0 percent, and ONU 2.5 percent of all charitable donations received excluding missions giving (WEF and Approved Missions Giving). Each local church is encouraged to use the Global Ministries website, [www.FundingtheMission.org](http://www.FundingtheMission.org), to assist in calculating and paying the amounts due for all Eternal Investment Funds (EIF). WEF, Approved Missions Giving, and NBUSA, funds can be sent on the Funding the Mission website. ONU and District EIF funds can be given online through the district website, [www.minaz.org/donate](http://www.minaz.org/donate), or mailed to the Michigan District Office. Churches are encouraged to make EIF payments throughout the year (weekly, monthly, or quarterly).
  3. A Capital Stewardship Campaign is defined as a financial fundraising campaign to raise funds for the church that is over and above the tithe and regular offerings of the donor, lasts for a specific time (no longer than 36 months), is limited to facilities intended for worship or discipleship, and is targeted for at least one of the following:
    - Purchase of real estate for the expressed intent of worship or discipleship*
    - Construction of facilities for said purposes.*
    - Acceleration of debt reduction (beyond scheduled loan amortization) on facilities previously constructed for said purposes.*If a CSC exception is requested and approved, the first day of eligibility will be the first day in the District's fiscal year. A church whose CSC is qualified agrees that, for the duration of the CSC exception, the church will contribute the allocation percentages as prescribed in the Funding the Mission giving plan. In addition, the church agrees to a denominational allocation goal minimum equal to the average of the amount allocated over the previous three fiscal years prior to the start of the campaign. By using the previous three-year average of the local church's Funding the Mission goals, the church's goal would not be less than the three year average of these goals for the duration of the campaign, but the church could give more based on a non-CSC income growth that may occur during the CSC.
  4. May 31 is the close of the church fiscal year, and anything received at the District Office after June 10 will not be reflected in District Assembly materials.
  5. All churches give emphasis to our *Manual* (2023 edition), par. 32.1, which states,  
***"Storehouse Tithing. Storehouse tithing is a scriptural and practical performance of faithfully and regularly placing the tithe into that church to which the member belongs. Therefore, the financing of the church shall be based on the plan of storehouse tithing, and the local Church of the Nazarene shall be regarded by all of its people as the storehouse. All who are a part of the Church of the Nazarene are urged to contribute faithfully one-tenth of all their increase as a minimum financial obligation to the Lord and freewill offerings in addition as God has prospered them for the support of the whole church, local, district, educational, and general. The tithe, provided to the local Church of the Nazarene, shall be considered a priority over all other giving opportunities which God may lay upon the hearts of His faithful stewards, in support of the whole church."***
  6. The office of the District Treasurer shall communicate a progress report on payment of the District Unified Fund periodically to the churches.
  7. The District Business Manager shall send a monthly report to the President/Chairperson and Treasurer of NDI, NYI, and NMI.
  8. The ILNC Treasurer shall send a monthly report to the District Superintendent, District Treasurer, and District Finance Committee.

## District Finance Committee (con't)

9. That the District Operating Budget shall be established based on the projected amount of money that the District anticipates receiving (a.k.a. Zero-Based Budgeting). Additional non-reoccurring projects to be paid from funds accumulated over time have also been included in the 2025-2026 budget.
10. That any additional funds received above the projected amount will be directed to the District Account under the direction of the District Advisory Board in consultation with the District Finance Committee.
11. Pastors and members of churches who do not contribute to assigned allocations (WEF 5.5%, ONU 2.5%, NBUSA 2.0%, District 5.5%) are not eligible to be nominated or elected to serve on any District leadership committees or as a General Assembly delegate.
12. That each church be a 10 percent church for World Evangelism, which includes the World Evangelism Fund (WEF), Approved Mission Specials, and New Church Starts.
13. That all District auxiliary and/or boards make their request for their projected EIF budgets for the coming assembly year in writing no later than February 28 of the current fiscal year. These requests should be submitted to the District Office.
14. The total of honorariums for auxiliary officers may not exceed \$2,000 per auxiliary. The council of each auxiliary is to decide how to distribute this total among their officers.
15. That a uniform housing, travel, and per diem will be recommended for all General Assembly and General Conventions Delegates by the District Finance Committee.
16. That the standard reimbursement rate is based on the current IRS business use mileage rate for all authorized travel under District auspices (committees, boards, auxiliaries, etc.).
17. That the Reserve Army be continued with no more than four promotions made during the year.
18. That all monies received from the sale of property from officially inactive churches, less encumbrances, be turned over to the District Advisory Board to be used at their discretion in accordance with the 2023 *Manual* par.108.2 and 108.5.
19. That any group insurance plan and any necessary adjustments be left to the District Advisory Board.
20. That each church budget for the expenses of all their delegates including pastor and spouse, and pastoral staff, for all District conventions and activities.
21. That each church budget, or receive special offerings, for Nazarene Bible College and Nazarene Theological Seminary and that the money is remitted promptly to the appropriate office (see instruction in General Information section of this District journal).
22. That each local church treasurer submits an itemized written report to the monthly meeting of the local church board and disburses all money at the direction of the church board (see 2023 *Manual*, par.146 through 146.6, and par. 139.21).
23. That the local church is encouraged to invest funds in federally insured banking institutions, their equivalent, or through a licensed fiduciary broker.
24. Pastors shall not be a signatory on any church checking or savings account. That no member of the pastor's immediate family (spouse, children, siblings, parents) can serve as the local church treasurer without the approval of the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board (see 2023 *Manual*, par.127), and that, furthermore, no member of the pastor's immediate family should be involved in the counting or handling of local church funds without the same approval.
25. That an annual audit/compilation of the treasurer's books be conducted in accordance with the *Manual* (see 2023 *Manual*, par. 139.23).
26. That each local church should use some type of accounting system, such as QuickBooks, and in doing so be compatible with the District software.
27. Recognizing the full-time minister's responsibility at retirement, we recommend that each pastor and church participate in the 403(b) of the general church. (See Ministry Support Report)
28. That individuals are encouraged to remember the Michigan District and Indian Lake Nazarene Camp in their wills and estate planning.
29. That the following items be established in the District Operations apportionment:

## District Finance Committee (con't)

	2025-2026	2024-2025
a. Salaries, Wages, Benefits, Business, Professional Expenses and Honorariums	323,591	319,091
<b>People Total</b>	<b>323,591</b>	<b>319,091</b>
b. District Office		
(1) Building Insurance	7,000	6,000
(2) Maintenance/Repairs	3,500	3,500
(3) Utilities – Electric/Gas	4,100	4,100
(4) Office Equipment	9,900	11,700
(5) Internet	5,200	5,200
(6) Online Services	12,000	7,900
(7) IT/Development	2,500	4,000
(8) Postage	500	1,200
(9) Telephone (Cell/Office)	5,700	6,500
(10) Professional Fees (Legal, Bank, CPA, Audit)	28,250	28,250
(11) Kings Pointe Condo Fees	4,200	4,200
(12) Custodial Supplies	350	350
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,200</b>	<b>82,900</b>
c. District Expenses		
(1) Conferences/Seminars/Events	49,500	44,200
(2) District Assembly	8,000	10,000
(3) Global Assembly	0	0
(4) District Meetings	11,775	13,775
(5) Gifts/Flowers	2,500	1,500
(6) Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000
(7) District Cottage Managed Properties	3,000	3,000
(8) Family Camp Expenses	25,000	25,000
(9) ILNC Deferred Maintenance	15,000	15,000
(10) Pastor's Kids' Camp Scholarships	8,000	4,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,775</b>	<b>117,975</b>
<b>Operations Total</b>	<b>206,975</b>	<b>200,875</b>
<b>District People + Operations Total</b>	<b>530,566</b>	<b>519,966</b>
30. That the District EIF be:	530,566	519,966
31. That the Missional Area/Strengthening/Expanding EIF be:	70,900	44,500
32. That the NDI EIF be:	43,250	48,750
33. That the NYI EIF be:	41,150	44,500
34. That the NMI EIF be:	34,675	35,925
34. That the Nazarene Bible College Partners be:	7,000	14,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>727,541</b>	<b>707,641</b>

*Respectively submitted,*

REV. BRAD DYRNESS, *Chairman*

REV. REBECCA GRAHAM, *Secretary*

**MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
**End of the Year Report | June 2024 - May 2025 P&L**

	June 2024 - May 2025	Annual Budget
<b>Revenue</b>		
<b>4000 Income/Eternal Investment Funds</b>	696,432.95	706,000.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	696,432.95	706,000.00
<b>Gross Profit</b>	696,432.95	706,000.00
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>5000 District Superintendent</b>		
5010 Salary	111,344.87	111,242.50
5020 Health Insurance	1,000.00	1,000.00
5020.1 Life Insurance	564.00	564.00
5030 Housing Allowance	30,890.64	32,782.00
5050 Tax-Sheltered Annuity	11,115.00	11,115.00
5060 Gifts/Bonuses	1,500.00	1,500.00
<b>Total 5000 District Superintendent</b>	156,414.51	158,203.50
<b>5000.1 DS Business Expenses</b>		
5070 Auto & Travel	12,583.24	14,000.00
5080 Continuing Education	216.00	3,000.00
5090 Professional Expenses		
5090.1 Books & Resources	1,040.24	2,500.00
5090.2 Hospitality with Pastors	3,427.63	3,000.00
5090.3 Traveling Meal Expenses	603.20	2,500.00
<b>Total 5090 Professional Expenses</b>	5,071.07	8,000.00
5100 Conferences - DS/Missional	9,110.92	10,000.00
5110 Regional ONU	1,392.99	1,500.00
<b>Total 5000.1 DS Business Expenses</b>	28,374.22	36,500.00
<b>5200 Executive Assistant</b>		
5210 Salary	48,172.16	48,804.55
5220 Tax-Sheltered Annuity	1,352.99	1,353.00
5230 FICA Tax-Employer Portion	3,728.46	4,358.00
5240 Mileage	1,208.38	1,000.00
5250 Gifts/Bonuses	1,000.00	1,000.00
5260 Business Travel and CE Expenses	0.00	0.00
<b>Total 5200 Executive Assistant</b>	55,461.99	56,515.55
<b>5300 Business Manager</b>		
5310 Salary	20,507.76	20,744.20
5320 FICA Tax-Employer Portion	1,645.27	1,903.00
5330 Mileage	601.61	500.00
5340 Gifts/Bonuses	1,000.00	1,000.00
5350 Business Travel and CE Expenses	0.00	0.00
<b>Total 5300 Business Manager</b>	23,754.64	24,147.20
<b>5400 District Treasurer Honorarium</b>	6,250.00	6,250.00
<b>5410 District Secretary Honorarium</b>	6,250.00	6,250.00
<b>5420 Intercultural Director</b>		
5421 Salary	20,998.66	18,200.00
5422 FICA Tax-Employer Portion	1,660.80	2,458.30
5423 Mileage	572.18	0.00
5424 Expenses	1,203.90	0.00
<b>Total 5420 Intercultural Director</b>	24,435.54	20,658.30

5500 District Secretary	793.42	1,500.00
5700 District Insurance	6,311.91	6,625.00
5800 Bank Service Charges	67.25	0.00
6000 District Owned Properties	73,266.35	39,400.00
6060 Office Equipment	8,019.41	11,700.00
6080 Postage	349.23	1,200.00
6090 Telephone (Office/Cell)	5,494.33	6,500.00
6100 Professional Fees	33,556.63	28,250.00
6200 Depreciation Expense	23,169.63	0.00
6300 Custodial	2,274.89	2,622.68
6600 Payroll Expenses	174.52	169.00
7000 Misc Expenses	43,295.88	1,000.00
7010 Conferences/Seminars	7,565.33	14,000.00
7017 CONNECTING	47,557.73	40,200.00
7050 District Meetings	10,929.87	13,775.00
7120 District Managed Properties **	132,541.12	0.00
7130 ILNC District Activities	53,538.74	44,500.00
7140 NMI Fund Expenses	26,489.22	35,925.00
7300 NYI Fund Expenses	44,648.89	44,500.00
7500 NDI Fund Expenses	45,061.05	48,750.00
7600 STRENGTHENING & EXPANDING	71,226.95	109,500.00
Total Expenditures	937,323.25	758,641.23
Net Operating Revenue	-240,890.30	-52,641.23
Other Revenue		
4500 Investments	73,682.61	0.00
4505 Other Income - Designated In	617,198.63	0.00
Total Other Revenue	690,881.24	0.00
Other Expenditures		
4510 Other Expenses - Designated Out	456,780.64	14,000.00
Total Other Expenditures	456,780.64	14,000.00
Net Other Revenue	234,100.60	-14,000.00
Net Revenue	-6,789.70	-66,641.23
	<i>* Used from Designated Savings Funds</i>	81,920.30
	<i>*Less Property Contributions of 2 Closed Churches</i>	86,669.15
Final Net Income Less Savings/Church Property	-11,538.55	-66,641.23
<i>**Used from designated properties savings fund</i>		

# District Balance Sheet—May 31, 2025

ASSETS	May 31, 2025
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Fifth Third Bank Checking	\$1,152,465.34
1001 EFTPs Checking Account	1,000.00
1006 Wesleyan Investment - Reserves	185,165.09
1007 Morgan Stanley - Reserves	\$142.26
1008 CD - Reserves	\$310,153.45
Total Bank Accounts	\$1,648,926.14
Accounts Receivable	
1100 Accounts Receivable	65,435.46
Total Accounts Receivable	\$65,435.46
Other Current Assets	
1200 Undeposited Funds	55,718.93
2901 Loan for ILNC ExecDir Home	137,617.40
Total Other Current Assets	\$193,336.33
Total Current Assets	\$1,907,697.93
Fixed Assets	
1500 Building	\$729,500.55
1515 Land	100,000.00
1520 Furniture and Equipment	103,000.00
1525 Vehicle for DS	84,145.00
1530 Less Accumulated Depreciation	-499,711.09
Total Fixed Assets	\$516,934.46
Other Assets	
1150.19 Pledge Rec-East Jax-Church/Pars	557,000.00
1150.20 Pledge Rec-Ionia-Church/Pars	982,000.00
Total Other Assets	\$1,539,000.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$3,963,632.39</b>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 Accounts Payable	-997.80
Total Accounts Payable	-\$997.80
Other Current Liabilities	
2200 Payroll Liabilities	\$3,534.63
2300 General Assembly Designated	-328.25
2340 Delegates General Assembly	-2,701.93
Total 2300 General Assembly Designated	-\$3,030.18
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$504.45
Total Current Liabilities	-\$493.35
Total Liabilities	-\$493.35
Equity	
3010 Restricted Net Assets - Bushey	0.01
3020 Restricted Auxiliary Funds	92,139.12
3200 Unrestricted Net Assets	3,168,727.23
3202 Unrestricted - Reserve Army	638,558.09
3205 Unrestricted - Reserves	71,490.99
Net Revenue	-6,789.70
Total Equity	<b>\$3,964,125.74</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$3,963,632.39</b>

# Michigan District Funding The Mission 2024-2025

Michigan District | Funding  
the Mission 2024-2025  
Report as of 06.26.25

Church	YTD Income	WEF	NBUSA	ONU	District
Albion	\$26,720.00	\$1,910.28	\$561.58	\$640.28	\$1,423.80
Alma	\$18,964.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Battle Creek First	\$147,790.77	\$9,360.36	\$3,064.25	\$3,871.98	\$8,378.55
Bay City Faith	\$72,849.26	\$3,932.54	\$325.00	\$0.00	\$4,178.28
Bay City Living Hope	\$49,767.22	\$2,607.17	\$948.02	\$1,185.01	\$2,607.17
Buchanan	\$78,791.46	\$4,087.07	\$1,486.21	\$1,857.76	\$4,087.07
Chapman Memorial	\$593,376.41	\$30,704.73	\$11,165.36	\$13,956.70	\$30,704.73
Coldwater	\$119,808.70	\$6,239.43	\$2,295.93	\$2,869.92	\$6,313.82
Connection Point (Lakes Community)	\$361,371.42	\$18,839.27	\$6,883.95	\$8,236.74	\$18,118.62
Corey	\$120,436.10	\$5,109.80	\$1,839.91	\$2,797.52	\$6,154.49
Corunna	\$29,177.92	\$1,766.82	\$542.64	\$720.63	\$1,550.99
Cross Community	\$430,216.00	\$21,320.98	\$7,758.87	\$9,698.59	\$21,331.90
Durand	\$228,164.45	\$12,035.20	\$4,376.43	\$5,470.54	\$12,035.20
Eaton Rapids	\$129,972.88	\$6,676.02	\$2,427.64	\$3,034.56	\$6,676.02
Ebenezer	\$53,386.00	\$2,783.16	\$1,012.06	\$1,265.07	\$2,783.16
Elmdale	\$88,320.11	\$5,098.69	\$2,305.95	\$2,305.95	\$5,075.25
Found	\$267,905.40	\$13,966.63	\$5,078.78	\$6,348.47	\$13,966.63
Grand Haven	\$92,926.80	\$4,314.06	\$1,858.54	\$2,021.53	\$4,447.32
Grand Ledge	\$243,380.52	\$16,574.32	\$4,496.03	\$5,620.03	\$12,364.07
Grand Rapids Clyde Park	\$141,020.27	\$4,249.90	\$2,820.41	\$603.00	\$777.00
Grand Rapids International Fellowship	\$948,239.60	\$48,755.76	\$17,729.37	\$22,161.71	\$48,755.76
Grand Rapids Northeast Community	\$55,460.00	\$2,805.40	\$1,023.55	\$1,279.43	\$2,814.75
Grand Rapids West International	\$38,000.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$850.00
Greenville	\$29,247.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hastings	\$150,149.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,232.00	\$2,790.00	\$6,147.00
High Pointe Community	\$579,900.00	\$29,745.25	\$10,816.46	\$13,520.56	\$31,267.07
Hillsdale	\$75,032.43	\$4,061.00	\$1,491.00	\$1,825.00	\$4,051.00
Holt	\$62,538.77	\$400.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$200.00
Jackson First	\$1,847,529.38	\$94,903.82	\$34,535.35	\$43,279.24	\$95,252.74
Journey of Grace	\$30,268.60	\$1,577.98	\$573.81	\$717.27	\$1,577.98
Kalamazoo South Side	\$61,105.00	\$3,183.00	\$1,150.00	\$1,437.00	\$3,162.00
Lansing First	\$48,028.82	\$2,493.53	\$906.74	\$1,133.42	\$2,493.53
Lansing International	\$42,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Lansing South	\$801,966.37	\$42,059.83	\$15,170.47	\$18,963.08	\$41,718.78
Lansing Woodview	\$145,489.97	\$7,589.59	\$2,763.03	\$3,452.55	\$7,589.59
Lighthouse	\$28,739.27	\$1,580.66	\$587.44	\$734.29	\$1,615.43
Lowell	\$65,166.92	\$3,584.21	\$1,303.34	\$1,629.17	\$3,584.18
Mason First	\$574,854.00	\$30,089.00	\$10,943.00	\$13,927.00	\$30,512.00
Midland Bethel	\$81,923.58	\$2,265.22	\$823.49	\$1,017.39	\$2,265.22
Midland Community	\$590,178.71	\$31,244.29	\$11,361.55	\$13,968.36	\$31,043.29
Midland Nease Memorial	\$98,465.23	\$5,348.28	\$1,944.83	\$2,431.03	\$5,348.28
Mount Pleasant Faith Indian	\$70,584.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$500.00



# Michigan District Funding The Mission 2024-2025

## Michigan District | Funding the Mission 2024-2025

Report as of 06.26.25

Church	YTD Income	WEF	NBUSA	ONU	District
Mount Pleasant First	\$165,745.00	\$8,640.73	\$3,314.90	\$3,927.61	\$8,640.73
Muskegon Breakwater	\$142,174.01	\$7,411.92	\$2,732.49	\$3,369.05	\$7,411.91
Nashville	\$181,521.65	\$11,228.40	\$3,455.76	\$4,313.45	\$9,459.59
New Faith	\$95,683.41	\$5,386.80	\$1,913.67	\$2,392.09	\$5,362.59
New Life	\$45,465.79	\$2,522.00	\$797.36	\$996.70	\$2,192.74
New Lothrop	\$439,799.84	\$22,927.95	\$8,337.44	\$10,421.80	\$22,927.95
Okemos	\$49,144.24	\$3,058.65	\$910.41	\$1,138.00	\$2,503.67
Owosso City	\$50,135.00	\$3,275.73	\$1,340.07	\$1,340.07	\$2,757.39
Owosso First	\$692,849.74	\$32,775.14	\$11,518.23	\$14,397.79	\$31,675.14
Perry	\$524,823.14	\$27,183.09	\$9,884.76	\$12,355.95	\$27,183.09
Portland	\$104,175.00	\$5,372.27	\$2,188.02	\$2,647.53	\$5,824.56
Restoration 58:12	\$68,472.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Saginaw First	\$78,518.79	\$4,296.10	\$1,462.19	\$1,827.78	\$4,021.10
Saginaw Valley	\$190,563.39	\$9,869.67	\$3,815.62	\$4,750.13	\$10,481.01
Saint Johns	\$79,579.27	\$5,066.00	\$1,495.63	\$1,844.32	\$4,057.51
Sparta	\$403,621.49	\$22,379.98	\$8,899.14	\$11,123.92	\$24,472.64
Spring Arbor	\$178,090.63	\$9,259.06	\$3,366.93	\$4,208.66	\$9,259.06
Sturgis	\$280,257.06	\$15,511.50	\$5,204.85	\$6,473.56	\$14,241.84
Sumner Center	\$74,379.88	\$4,823.99	\$1,393.81	\$1,742.27	\$3,832.99
Three Rivers	\$281,210.00	\$15,931.68	\$5,667.79	\$6,681.78	\$14,692.68
Williamston	\$19,350.00	\$1,760.00	\$370.00	\$460.00	\$1,010.00

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

## Indian Lake Nazarene Camp Budget vs. Actuals: Budget\_FY24\_P&L - FY24 P&L January - December 2024 (AMENDED)

	Total			% of Budget
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	
<b>Income</b>				
4001 Contributions and Donations	137,282.95	131,500.00	5,782.95	104.40%
4101 Michigan District	28,839.32	28,000.00	839.32	103.00%
4301 Administrative/Misc	15,160.09	7,700.00	7,460.09	196.88%
4501 Leaseholder(LH) Quarterly Sewer (deleted)	439.93	0.00	439.93	
4512 Leaseholder (LH) Service Fees	181,521.98	177,235.18	4,286.80	102.42%
4601 Water Front Operations	80,295.10	87,618.00	-7,322.90	91.64%
4701 Rentals/Equipment	476,854.00	445,275.00	31,579.00	107.09%
4801 MI Nazarene Camp	20,837.00	147,375.00	-126,538.00	14.14%
4900 Food Service Income	283,018.38	209,580.00	53,438.38	125.50%
4950 Camp Store Merchandise	13,689.91	15,000.00	-1,310.09	91.27%
5000 Carryover	0.00	13,000.00	-13,000.00	0.00%
DO NOT USE Services	58.84	0.00	58.84	
Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue	1,624.64	0.00	1,624.64	
Uncategorized Revenue	16.56	0.00	16.56	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,219,638.70</b>	<b>\$1,262,283.18</b>	<b>-\$ 42,644.48</b>	<b>96.62%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$1,219,638.70</b>	<b>\$1,262,283.18</b>	<b>-\$ 42,644.48</b>	<b>96.62%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
6001 Camp Administrative Expense	161,881.21	173,078.00	-11,196.79	93.53%
6101 Professional Expenses	72,825.00	52,851.00	19,974.00	137.79%
6120 Camp Board Meeting Exp	317.58	1,250.00	-932.42	25.41%
6150 Payroll Expenses	11,784.72	5,198.00	6,586.72	226.72%
6151 Payroll Expense	3,366.70	1,970.00	1,396.70	170.90%
6153 Sales Tax Adjustment	34.10	0.00	34.10	
6155 Depreciation Expense	22,678.14	0.00	22,678.14	
6156 Loan Interest	7,854.19	0.00	7,854.19	
6201 Waterfront	8,806.46	3,500.00	5,306.46	251.61%
6301 Business/Office Services	58,113.65	56,800.00	1,313.65	102.31%
6401 Operations	259,806.14	217,108.59	42,697.55	119.67%
6501 Food Service Expenses	284,518.00	240,718.00	23,800.00	109.89%
6600 Bad Debt	0.64	0.00	0.64	
6701 Hospitality Services	57,268.57	43,908.00	13,360.57	130.43%
6801 Camp Programming	61,148.99	83,581.20	-22,432.21	73.16%
6852 Program Supplies	55.74	0.00	55.74	
6901 Camp Store Merchandise Expenses	19,104.23	8,500.00	10,604.23	224.76%
7001 ILNC Sponsored Event	868.03	2,000.00	-1,131.97	43.40%
7002 Leaseholder Assoc annual suppor	250.66	1,000.00	-749.34	25.07%
7101 Utilities Expense	51,930.90	81,249.00	-29,318.10	63.92%
7201 Township Taxes	7,416.98	6,550.00	866.98	113.24%

# Indian Lake Nazarene Camp

<b>7301 Quarterly Sewer Usage</b>	38,191.77	50,863.39	-12,671.62	75.09%
<b>7401 ILNC Water Supply Operating Exp</b>	25,587.32	18,372.00	7,215.32	139.27%
<b>7501 ILNC/MI District Insurance</b>	84,929.58	65,175.00	19,754.58	130.31%
<b>7601 Licenses/Permits/Dues/Fees</b>	5,388.83	5,200.00	188.83	103.63%
<b>7701 RV Operations</b>	1,541.42	15,500.00	-13,958.58	9.94%
<b>7802 Capital Outlay</b>	559.02	0.00	559.02	
<b>9001 Reconciliation Discrepancies</b>	1.47	0.00	1.47	
<b>Reimbursements</b>	1,023.53	0.00	1,023.53	
<b>Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expenditure</b>	2,474.64	0.00	2,474.64	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,229,728.21</b>	<b>\$1,134,372.18</b>	<b>\$ 95,356.03</b>	<b>108.41%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>-\$ 10,089.51</b>	<b>\$ 127,911.00</b>	<b>-\$ 138,000.51</b>	<b>-7.89%</b>
<b>Other Income</b>				
<b>Late/Service Fees</b>	68.91	0.00	68.91	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 68.91</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 68.91</b>	
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 68.91</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 68.91</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$ 10,020.60</b>	<b>\$ 127,911.00</b>	<b>-\$ 137,931.60</b>	<b>-7.83%</b>

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# Section 5

## Local Church Reports

### Pastor's Written Reports

This year, lead pastors were asked to answer the following question:

***How are the ministries and message of your church showing the presence of Christ's light, both within the church body and the community?***

*\*The Budget portion of each page reflects what has been received and processed at the time the handbook was sent for printing.*

# 2025



# ALBION

**Revs. Kevin & Rena Barrett (1/24)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	34
Raised for all Purposes	\$26,720	Average Morning Worship Attendance	10
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	60

When we look at how the ministries and message shows the presence of Christ light within the body of the church and our community, we have to look at our Celebrate Recovery, our new Men's group, and our Thursday Bible study. Consequently, as we look at the Celebrate Recovery, we see a relationship between our men and women within the community, their parole officers, and our church family. We have gone out of our way to love and respect the men and women coming in each week. I was told by one of our people that their favorite part of our meeting was the share time takes place {a time where personal issues are shared and prayed for}. We have seen people helped with their struggles and addictions. As we look at the new men's group, we are small however we are able to come together, talk, prayer and to deepen relationships within our people. Furthermore, as we look at our Bible study, we see a devoted group of people that set aside a devoted time every week to study and to pray for the needs of the church, our community, and our country.

Respectfully submitted  
Pastors Kevin, Rena Barrett



# ALMA

**Pastor Tom & Karina Dixon (6/24)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	NO	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	NO	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	NO	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	NO	Membership Total	19
Raised for all Purposes	\$27,297	Average Morning Worship Attendance	13
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	3

Greetings Michigan District,

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. It has been exactly one year since my appointment as Pastor of Alma Nazarene. What a blessed year it has been. Though we have not seen much growth in our numbers, we have seen tremendous growth in our people. Our focus this year has been on solidifying our identity as a church and finding our place in the community. We developed a new "vision statement" for lack of a better term.

### A Community After King Jesus.

For us this means, we are unique individuals who collectively make up one united body. We seek Jesus in all we do. We follow Jesus' lead. We recognize His Kingship and we participate in the world as citizens of His Kingdom.

This year has been a full one. We had our annual warming station for Halloween, and served over 240 members of the community to hotdogs, hot chocolate, and a place to get out of the wind (it wasn't actually that cold this year). We utilized the Others Grant to provide a Thanksgiving meal for 27 people. It was a blessed day with many things to be thankful for. We said goodbye to our dear friend Mike Bacon, who went to be with the Lord in November. I still miss our Wednesday visits and long phone calls. We welcomed 3 new members in covenant with Alma Nazarene. And just recently, we held our annual rummage sale, making \$693 for our kid's and teen's camp scholarship fund.

We spent much of this year exploring new options for Sunday school as most of the curriculum we have available to us required either too many volunteers or anticipated more kids than we had. I am really enjoying what we have landed on even though it is much more work for me. We have two classes. One for our kids and one we call our All-Age class. The subject for both is the same, and that subject sets the context for that week's sermon. Truly any age is welcome in the All-Age class. Our teens and older elementary kiddos have really enjoyed this and often choose to listen to me geek out about original languages, theology, and historical context. While the younger kiddos go to another classroom and learn the same topic, but at their level, and with more snacks.

Our biggest concern remains our financial situation. Our people give with tremendous faith, but they are not like the wealthy who give some of what they have, they are like the widow who gives everything. Even still, God has blessed us with amazing opportunities to provide for our people and our community, and we look forward to continuing these things and many more next year.

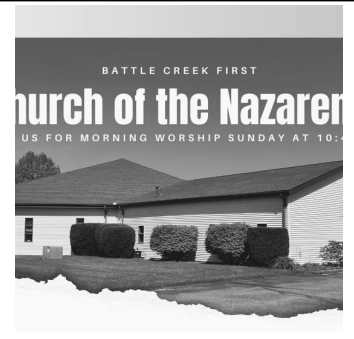
Shalom,  
Pastor Tom Dixon  
Alma Church of the Nazarene



# BATTLE CREEK FIRST

**Rev. Mike & Kami Whitten (6/24)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	1
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	9
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	73
Raised for all Purposes	\$149,456	Average Monthly Worship Attendance	60
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

Battle Creek First has had a GREAT year!

Our Daycare F.K.L.C Ministry has served our 170 kids

Through this, 7 kids have accepted to be followers of Jesus

We have received 5 new members this year!

For the First time in Many years, we now have Discipleship opportunities for ALL ages!

How you can Pray for Battle Creek First:

"...pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you (**Battle Creek First**) with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you (**Battle Creek First**), being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you (**Battle Creek First**) may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:16 - 21



# BAY CITY FAITH

**Rev. Dwight & Karen Kingsbury (11/98)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	NO	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	85
Raised for all Purposes	\$72,849	Average Morning Worship Attendance	60
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

As I sit and reflect, I'm reminded of the Apostle Paul in II Corinthians 7:1;- to cleanse the flesh and any bad spirit, perfecting holiness unto the Lord. We stress this at Faith Church because it is the only thing that will impact our community for Christ.

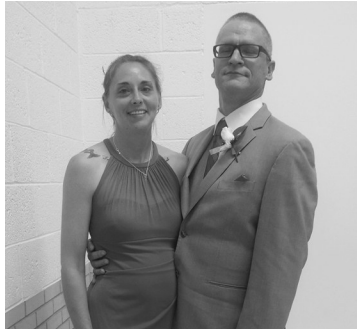
We have a group that meets on Wednesday night in our fellowship hall called "Around The Table." This is a very comfortable and informal time of fellowship and Bible study for our church and community. We also have our 'Spares and Pairs' that meet regularly at a local restaurant for breakfast, fellowship, and devotions, which are open to family, friends, and anyone who would like to come.

We have just received a beautiful plaque representing 40 years of preaching every month to those of the Saginaw Rescue Mission, where many have given their lives to Christ throughout the years.

At Faith Church of the Nazarene, everybody is somebody and Jesus is Lord!! My message is to be holy in thought, talk, and walk! It is my privilege to serve the Lord of Lords and the King of Kings as we all work together to bring God's word to anyone who walks through our doors.

Rev. Dwight W. Kingsbury





# BAY CITY LIVING HOPE

**Pastor Teri & Alan Beadle (6/25)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	3
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	36
Raised for all Purposes	\$55,244	Average Morning Worship Attendance	20
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

Since January 2021, I have been blessed to serve as pastor of Bay City 1st Church of the Nazarene during a season of difficult transitions, including the sale of our building and relocation to the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission chapel. I am profoundly thankful for this wonderful congregation—their resilience, faith, and love have been a joy to witness. Though I will deeply miss them, I step down knowing they are in capable hands with Pastor Teri Beadle, who now leads as Senior Pastor with wisdom and dedication. This healthy transition marks a new chapter of promise for the congregation.

"Scripture in the City," a ministry I founded in partnership with Pastor Jay "Stitch" Nelson of Narrow Path Christian Church BC, remains a cornerstone of our outreach. Each year, 40-50 participants, including community members, read the Bible aloud 24/7 for about 96 hours, with pauses only for daily revival services. Last year, young boys from the community joined us, drawn by curiosity. Over days, they read scripture, and one, not yet a teen, shared a bold testimony of faithfulness to Christ during a service—moving all who heard. Pastor Teri and Pastor Stitch will carry this ministry forward, ensuring its continued blessing to our community.

Under Pastor Teri's guidance, the congregation has spent the past year regrouping and crafting a ministry plan. While outreach was limited, we assessed our resources—finances, members, volunteers, and partnerships—to build a strong foundation. Upcoming initiatives include three mini vacation bible schools in a park near the rescue mission for community and mission children, plus family parties and meals at the mission. We're also expanding support for women transitioning from incarceration through Pastor Teri's jail ministry, offering spiritual guidance and community reconnection.

Financially, we've thrived by releasing traditional views of church as a building and embracing a vision of a people united in worship and kingdom service. This focus on Christ's mission ensures stability for our new ministries.

Through "Scripture in the City," intentional planning, and this smooth transition, Bay City 1st Church of the Nazarene shines Christ's light. Despite past difficulties, your potential as a powerful force for Kingdom work is brighter than ever.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Bledsoe  
Bay City 1st Church of the Nazarene



# BUCHANAN

**Revs. Brendan & Arika Shea (7/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	8
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	4
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	5
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	56
Raised for all Purposes	\$79,291	Average Morning Worship Attendance	51
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	17

Over the past year, our church has taken meaningful steps to shine the light of Christ more brightly—both within our congregation and throughout our community. One of the most impactful ways we've done this is by equipping others in our church to step into leadership, service, discipleship, and teaching. Like many churches, we once mirrored the common statistic where 20% of the people were doing 80% of the work. But this past year, we've made intentional efforts to change that. As more people have become involved, we've begun to more fully reflect the body of Christ—diverse, united, and active.

Another exciting way we're reaching out is through the BLESS App, a tool that's helping us intentionally pray for, serve, and connect with our neighbors. One upcoming initiative involves using the app's features to send welcome packages to new residents of Buchanan. We plan to partner with local businesses to include coupons, discounts, and free items, offering a warm and tangible welcome to those new in town.

We were also honored to receive the Michigan District's "Others Grant," which we used to purchase a commercial donut machine. This has become a fun and unexpected way to build bridges in our community. At local events, we've handed out free donuts, which has opened the door to great conversations—especially with people who might not otherwise step foot in a church.

Lastly, we've seen the light of Christ grow through the formation of new small groups. Our Financial Literacy Group has helped individuals in our lower-income community gain essential money management skills. We've also started a Community Garden Group, where fresh produce will be grown and shared with those in need.

Through each of these efforts, our prayer remains the same: that the light of Christ would transform our community and beyond



# BYRON CENTER HIGH POINTE

**Rev. Tim & Mary Nelson (9/17)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	1
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	5
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	141
Raised for all Purposes	\$606,475	Average Morning Worship Attendance	196
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	45

High Pointe Community Church of the Nazarene has been thoroughly blessed of the Lord throughout this year. The light of Christ has shone brightly in the lives of the Christ-followers who comprise the church. From our exploding infant/nursery babies all the way through to our seasoned saints, every level and age group has grown in the grace of God. In Sunday morning Kidz classes and Ministries, Awana, Vacation Bible School, Student Ministries, various adult small groups and classes, meaningful worship experiences and more, the light of Christ shines bright. He is mightily at work, and it is a joy to partner with Him in all that He is doing.

Consequently, the light of Christ shines through us to our community, nation and world. High Pointe sponsors the only Celebrate Recovery site in the Grand Rapids area, where people find help for the hurts, hang-ups and habits. By partnering with Hand-To-Hand, High Pointe provides meals for three hundred and forty-six children in two area schools. Several of our men serve meals at Degage Ministries and Renucci House (Corewell Health). Financial Freedom classes are frequently offered to anyone in our area. And a Nazarene family in Juarez, Mexico, was provided a home by a team from High Pointe in partnership with Casa Por Christo.

It is the nature of light to shine. We are happy to let everyone know that the light of Christ glows within High Pointe, and radiates to all with warmth, grace and redemption.



# CHARLOTTE NEW FAITH

**Rev. Tom & Jackie Surdenik (7/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	7
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	45
Raised for all Purposes	\$95,683	Average Morning Worship Attendance	42
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	30

Each year when asked to report on the condition of our effectiveness within our community I ask the question presented by the district to our congregation and many outside of our congregation within our community in which we live. If you are really want to know how you are doing the first thing you should do is ask the people. After complying this group of responses I firmly believe that I could do no better than quoting one of the responses directly.

Here is that response to the question:

**How are the ministries and message of your church showing the presence of Christ's light both within the church body and the community?**

"Our portion of God's church, though is small in number of people, contain a strong group of prayer warriors. They have lifted people of our church family up to God, as well as our schools' children and teacher. God's grace has been seen in the answers to these faithful and dedicated prayers. Our family genuinely welcomes visitors and takes time to get to know them and pray with them whenever possible.

The pastor encourages, empowers and leads the charge in our efforts to spread the promise of Jesus to the community. With his guidance, all who are willing are able apply their gifts to serving food to those in need, helping fix and/or build on community baseball fields, encourage and support the fire department and police, and create a positive presence every Halloween to light up the night with the Love of Jesus. Pastor Tom has ministered to the Charlotte High School football teams by working with, and offering preseason sermons, wisdom and mentorship. Our church family has backed that up with supporting them with smiles, kindness, and conversations during a yearly served meal for them.

Our Sunday services are thought provoking and meaningful. Our musical worship is real and heartfelt. It would appear that most everyone who comes feels welcome, and free to be who ever they are as they come before the Lord, not before us. We are a smallish group of people, but we are filled with the Holy Spirit and dedicated to giving our all to our Savior. With all that being said, and the evidence of the blessings that God has given us, I believe God is pleased with our efforts and hearts. I pray our hearts will grow bigger as we welcome more family into the fold." (Annette Jones)

**Belong, Believe, Behave, Become**

In Christ's Love,

Tom Surdenik (Lead Pastor, New Faith Church of the Nazarene)



# COLDWATER

**TBD**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	6
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	1
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	1
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	109
Raised for all Purposes	\$119,808	Average Morning Worship Attendance	84
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

Greetings to the awesome kingdom building family of the Michigan District.

If there is one word that could sum up this past year for Coldwater it is relationship. Relationships worked in two specific areas of identified need. One need was a co-op for home school families. Pastor Stefanie Grgurich began this ministry and it flourished because the church provided a place to meet and also opened up to relationship building. The result is a growing number of children and parents to minister to. Some with no home church. It is a joy to minister to these families.

The other need was ministering to the Haitian community. First with a Haitian Creole worship service on Sunday afternoon. This started well but was paused due to several complicated issues. An English class was offered on Saturday evenings taught by members of the church who do not speak Haitian Creole. The focus was on hospitality and relationships. People not teaching prepared a light dinner as most of the students came right from work. It was amazing to watch as the dynamic bond began to form between students and teacher. Last Sunday the teacher said, "We have Spanish speaking people that want to come."

Relationships take time and are not easily recorded statistically, however, they often result in meaningful and lasting kingdom growth.

Respectfully submitted.

Rob Lewis

Coldwater Church of the Nazarene





# COREY

**Rev. PJ & Abbi Horn (4/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	6
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	5
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	6
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	83
Raised for all Purposes	\$127,991	Average Morning Worship Attendance	41
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

### Corey Church of the Nazarene

We are living in days of answered prayer. For several years now God has burdened our church with two primary things. First, we are working to develop authentic community within our church. And secondly, we are seeking to be unified. We have been working toward and praying hard for these two characteristics to become foundational to the culture of our church. Over the course of this last church year we have seen evidence that this is truly taking place. Let me share two short stories that are prominent examples in my mind.

A man in our congregation walked into the building one Sunday morning and my wife greeted him at the door. She asked him that all too common question we all hear, "How are you doing?" Without much thought he simply responded with the all too common response of, "I'm doing fine." As he started to make his way to get a coffee he stopped and turned back to my wife and said, "Actually, I'm not doing fine. I have a surgery coming up next week and I'm a bit nervous about it." My wife and several others who were present were able to minister and pray for him right there on the spot. We set up a schedule for people to bring meals to him after his surgery and this was something he had never really experienced before. But it was all because he made the effort to be authentic with his fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. And our people responded to his authenticity.

From the time that I write this report, this next story I share just happened last week. We recently had our annual church voting and our church Board was elected for the new church year. After our service was over that day one of our board members, who had not been reelected to the new board, approached me specifically to tell me something. She told me that she was a bit sad to not be reelected because she will miss serving on our board and miss attending our board meetings. You read that correctly. She actually said that she will miss attending our board meetings! Who misses board meetings? This individual has attended our church for a long time and has served on our board on and off over the years. And this past church year that she served, she was amazed at the unity among our church leadership. It was inspiring to her. And she wanted me to know how encouraged she was.

Authentic community and unity. Jesus put these two things on the hearts of our leadership several years ago. We have been praying hard for these things to become our culture. And now Corey Church is living in days of answered prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Pastor PJ Horn  
Corey Church of the Nazarene



# CORUNNA

**Rev. Doug & Diane Corwin (3/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	37
Raised for all Purposes	\$29,449	Average Morning Worship Attendance	10
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

We, at Corunna Church of the Nazarene, are in a rebuilding process at this time. We have a strong faithful core group of people who are actively seeking the direction and will of God. As pastor, I am encouraging our church to make connections with people and show them who Christ is through their actions.

We share the testimonies of the blessings and miracles of Christ we have witnessed in our lives. We have shared the miracle healings and cancer free reports from members families who we have lifted in prayer. Our church has been blessed by the many miracles that we have witnessed and been a participant.

Christ has been teaching me to get out of my comfort zone. He has been leading me to participate in community functions and events. These activities help me to grow in Christ and help me to demonstrate to the people I meet that I/We, as a church, can be the salt and light of Christ by reflecting Him in all we do and say. By building relationships with others, we can build the Kingdom of God.

Pastor Doug Corwin  
Corunna Church of the Nazarene



# DURAND

**Rev. Nate & Liz Gray (8/22)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	14
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	9
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	124
Raised for all Purposes	\$228,165	Average Morning Worship Attendance	123
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	12

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ,

In this past year, the kingdom of God has come in Durand as it is in heaven! Through the ministries and messages of all our pastors, lay ministry leaders and beautiful church family we have seen a strengthening, redeeming and expanding work in and through our church. The foundational work of this next chapter in Durand's story is taking shape and the Spirit is doing a unifying work among us. God is awakening and enlivening the hearts of long time attenders and leaders. He is also raising up new, and many younger, passionate leaders. There is hope and a future!

This hope and reimagined future, God's rebirth, looks like several powerful expressions of the Spirit at work. The hard work of creating a healthy, biblical and kingdom shaped culture is beginning to produce fruit in the lives of our leaders and church. We are choosing to confess, to be repentant and obedient. We are listening to the Spirit and one another about God's direction for our church. All the conversations, late meetings, prayer together, serving together and loving well is drawing us into the heart and will of God. This is miraculous work if you've been down this road!

This translates into true success in and through our church family. We faced financial difficulties head on and responded faithfully as a church. We have birthed new life groups and older, newer and growing Christ followers are transparently becoming holy and whole in Christ. We birthed a men's ministry which saw around 25 guys attend a weekend launch then about the same attend a spring retreat. The vulnerability, confession and breakthroughs were incredible. We saw our women's ministry rebirth and become more unified. We've experienced baptisms and spontaneous salvations. One lady, came to Jesus in a profoundly powerful manner on a Tuesday night pastoral visit, she said the next day, "I feel like a ton of weight has been lifted off from me. I know I have a long way to go, I actually do not know where I am going, but I am trusting God! I feel like a child and have cried a lot, hopefully this is all normal!" This internal renewal has led to revitalized and genuine care for our surrounding communities. We look for needs in our community and work to meet them. We held a community Easter egg hunt with the police and fire department at the park. We have more and more people naturally sharing the good news where they work, live and play. The discipleship stories are encouraging! Thanks be to Jesus our Lord!

Grace and Peace,  
Nate Gray





# EATON RAPIDS

**Rev. James & Danielle Haldane (7/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	2
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	101
Raised for all Purposes	\$129,973	Average Morning Worship Attendance	51
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	28

We are in the early stages of building a reaching ministry in Eaton Rapids. With help from the District Others Grant, we are allocating 5% of our total operating budget to reaching outside the walls of our church. We are becoming a staple at city events, which is helping us build a relationship with the city officials and the residents of Eaton Rapids.

We also planned a city-wide Good Friday service this year, bringing 234 people together in the spirit of unity and the bond of peace. The pastors from the five participating churches are already talking about other ways to reach Eaton Rapids with the Gospel *together*.

Following this year's Come to the Table event, we researched low-income housing communities in our city and decided to adopt an apartment complex near the parsonage. We have plans to host free dinners in a park across the street from the complex, host a back-to-school event, invite them to our annual Thanksgiving dinner, and more.

The congregation completed a survey in preparation for our annual meeting in May. Who doesn't love a good survey, right? Our church family provided incredible insights into how Jesus is lighting up their lives.

Forty-one percent of our church invited five or more people to church this year, resulting in 76 first-time guests. Additionally, fifty-five percent of our church is reading their Bible more than they were at the same time last year. Sixty-seven percent are praying more now than they were a year ago. Sixty-seven percent have also identified their "one," inspired by a challenge present by Daryl Cripe from Amplio. That means two-thirds of our church has at least one person with whom they are listening, engaging, abiding, and discipling. Many in our church found their "one" through the BLESS series we did several months ago.

Our board studied church revitalization over the entire 2024/25 church year and is putting a plan together this summer that will include a spiritual growth process centering on our mission, focusing on moving people forward in their faith, and equipping them to go make disciples who make disciples.



# EBENEZER

**Rev. Pascal & Esther Mugigi (7/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	12
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	198
Raised for all Purposes	\$71,136	Average Morning Worship Attendance	92
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

*How are the ministries and message of your church showing the presence of Christ's light, both within the church body and the community?*

### Within the church body:

We have three big and strong pillars:

- Men's ministry (34 members)
- Women's ministry (43 members)
- Youth ministry (53 members)

Each group has his own contribution, money, or some items to help and visit someone who is in need or celebration like sickness, welcoming new comers (refugees), baby showers, bride shower, wedding.

- Transportation group

We have group of people who make a schedule to ride members in their own cars to church whenever we have service for those who don't have cars yet or who can't drive like new comers, or older people.

### Within the community:

We have signed an agreement with an organization which receive refugees to assist them for integration,

Each year during Christmas we share the meal with orphans and widows back in Africa, our church, we raise some money and send it to celebrate or enjoy with us at Christmas.

We train new comers to drive, apply for jobs, give them rides for different appointments.



# ELMDALE

**Rev. Bradley & Amy Ashcraft (10/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	4
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	37
Raised for all Purposes	\$95,880	Average Morning Worship Attendance	41
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	36

### How your church's ministries and message are showing the presence of Christ's light

At Elmdale Church of the Nazarene, our goal is to reflect the light of Christ in every relationship, ministry, and outreach—both within our church body and in the surrounding community. We are intentionally leaning into where God is calling, even as some ministries are still taking root.

#### Within the Church Body

- We are building a strong discipleship foundation through sermon series like “Created to Communicate” designed to be biblically deep and practical.
- We are looking at a 12-step recovery and a grief program to serve those in our church that are facing grief as well as within the community.
- The Connect. Engage. Go. Grow. framework provides clear, relational steps for people to move from attending to becoming disciple-making disciples, and Our Wednesday prayer meeting intersects with 3 and sometimes 4 other churches as they come to pray with a focus on revival.

#### Within the Community

- We are reaching beyond our walls to serve and bless our neighbors with intentionality and joy.
- We partnering to serve a meal to honor and encourage our local fire department, letting them know they are seen and appreciated.
- We are partnering with Clarksville Bible Church for the upcoming Ox Roast by planning to serve ice cream, demonstrating unity in Christ and joy in serving our town together.
- Events like Vacation Bible School and our Little Disciples children's ministry are being crafted with unchurched families in mind, making the gospel accessible, engaging, and full of hope.

While many of these efforts are just beginning or still in formation, we believe we are following the Holy Spirit's call to be a light in dark places. We are committed to growing as a church in our worship, our witness, and our willingness to reach and serve people for Christ.



# FOUND

**Rev. Chris & Melissa Heydenburg (9/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	8
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	22
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	19
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	105
Raised for all Purposes	\$267,905	Average Morning Worship Attendance	170
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	10

We are very grateful and yet still graciously expectant of God's movement and glory at Found Church. This last year has been a whirlwind of God's grace for where we are and for what He is calling us into. Even while I write this update, we are eagerly anticipating many baptisms, salvations, and miraculous healings on Pentecost Sunday. More and more Sundays challenge and point us to the necessity of making more space for our kids, more space for our growing congregation, and more space for discipleship and evangelism. With this in mind, we have recently renovated and expanded our Rooted Ministries kid wing so that we can accommodate more kids as they continue to grow in numbers and faith. We have also recently renovated and expanded our Upper Room for community, eventual overflow, and of course, food! This space is large enough to host us for a short transitional period, where we will worship while we expand and renovate our sanctuary. We gotta knock down some walls to make more space! So here we go!

God has moved on the faith of many at Found. Our men engaged in a continuous 72-hour full read-through (out loud) of the bible from beginning to end. One man would read while another prayed over our church and community in one-hour increments. IT WAS POWERFUL! We have an incredible ministry to women, and they have engaged with powerful retreats, leadership cohorts, and Intercession. Last year, we reported a new ministry in the works. This year, I am really excited to announce that we are officially launching Celebrate Recovery at the end of June and expect this to be highly attended, as we will be the only Celebrate Recovery chapter in the urban square of Jackson.

Along with the excitement of growth also comes the process of growing. They call it growing pains for a reason. We are recognizing and making strong strides toward much more robust discipleship methods that will equip our saints for the life of holiness, ministry, and mission as we collectively take up the mantle of making disciples of the nations. We hope to let you know what that looks like for next year's report. What we are discovering is that effective discipleship not only looks to personal discipline and relationship with God, but also to an intentional, sacrificial commitment to making disciples. Without the last piece as a key objective, the cycle is broken because the focus often remains on "self." We must graduate from self to selflessness.

We are consistently clothing and feeding the poor, embracing the lost and broken, striving toward unity in the Body of Christ, and championing and reaching our community around us, as they all need to know where they can come to be loved. And, "You Will Be Loved!" at Found Church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chris Heydenburg



# GRAND HAVEN

**Rev. Ron & Robyn Heiler (3/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	1
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	2
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	155
Raised for all Purposes	\$96,470	Average Morning Worship Attendance	34
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

Handbook Report 2025—MI District

How are the ministries and message of your church showing the presence of Christ's light, both within the church body and the community?

At Grand Haven Church of the Nazarene our mission is to "Living the Mission of Jesus." It's all about fulfilling the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment. We strive to do that by helping people BELONG, helping people BELIEVE, and people BECOME more like Jesus.

This is how it's being done within the church walls...

- We encourage people to attend Sunday worship gatherings regularly
- We encourage everyone to join a Life Group
- We encourage everyone to find a place of service

This is how it's being done in our community...

- We encourage personal evangelism and invites to church
- We encourage everyone to have a ONE
  - Someone they are praying for to come to Christ
  - Someone they are investing in spiritually
  - Someone they are inviting into relationship with Jesus
- We provide a Community Glow Party around Halloween
- We partner with a local elementary school to try and provide for special needs
- We open up our facilities for community use
- We host REC FEST events throughout the winter months for community connection
- We will provide a VBS this summer with the help of Child Evangelism Fellowship
- We partner with a local family funeral home in serving those who are grieving

Ron Heiler  
Pastor  
Grand Haven Nazarene





# GRAND LEDGE

**Rev. Richard & Brenda Hand (6/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	3
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	1
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	67
Raised for all Purposes	\$244,112	Average Morning Worship Attendance	65
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	7

### Grand Ledge Church of the Nazarene

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." [Matthew 5:16 ESV]

This teaching from Jesus is a beautiful theology of ministry for us. The light we have in us is the Light of Life, Christ himself. The ministry we are called to do is to *let it shine before others*. That's as simple as it gets. The word "let" is freeing and permissive. We are called to "let" Christ wholly dwell within us in such a way that what we do and how we behave will bear witness to our Lord and compel others to glorify Him too.

During the past church year, our church family has been striving to creatively and organically display Christ to our community by continuing to be present and serving as a reminder of God's love. We have done this through acts of community service, community events for children and families, partnering with Convoy of Hope, and utilizing free resources to bless others. We offer pop-up free, fresh-made donut events. Most recently, we manned a booth at the Grand Ledge Business Expo, held at a city park, where we greeted community families and "let our light shine" through donuts and free items. These outreach events are excellent ways for our church family to listen, observe, and prayerfully respond to the Lord's prompting on how we can bless Him and others more effectively moving forward.

As we strive to connect to our community, our church family has been challenged to grow. We are positioning for future ministry by completing a major upgrade of our children's ministry space for safety, aesthetics, and better utilization. We are expanding and exploring new small-group and fellowship opportunities that build community among our people. Our Church Board continues to ask, "Where do you see God at work?" And, we try not to be limited by *our* ideas or *our* resources so that we will pursue the Lord's will for his people in these days. He is helping us to be a multi-generational church family who partners with Him. A volunteer appreciation event we held encouraged others to use their gifts and talents to serve God in creative ways that have benefited the church family.

The Lord has blessed us and continues to guide us. We have had good participation from our church family members, as many have stepped up to serve, give, and grow so that we can truly *let* His light shine and then *let* the Lord do what He does through us.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard W. Hand, Pastor



# GRAND RAPIDS CLYDE PARK

**Rev. Ryan & Emily Quanstrom (10/15)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	7
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	2
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	9
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	53
Raised for all Purposes	\$203,989	Average Morning Worship Attendance	66
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	2

Pastor did not submit a written report.



# GRIF

**Dr. Craig & Lynne Dillman (8/14)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	1
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	5
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	14
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	175
Raised for all Purposes	\$986,136	Average Morning Worship Attendance	202
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	14

I am privileged to bring my **eleventh** report on behalf of Grand Rapids International Fellowship COTN (GRIF).

### The Light of Christ in Our Ministries:

1. Our children's ministry is consistently reaching new families in our multicultural community. We have seen significant growth in our nursery and toddler's ministry. **Pastor Nan Evans** and **Sydney Johnson** lead these ministries.
2. We received **20** new members who reflect our commitment to be a multigenerational and multicultural congregation. Our Growth Track is led by **Pastor Becca Graham**.
3. We launched a Francophone congregation for our French-speaking community.
4. Our Nepali congregation will officially become a part of the Church of the Nazarene.
5. We have emphasized the "Way of Salvation" in our preaching and teaching which has increased our discipleship efforts and resulted in 5 baptisms.

### The Light of Christ in our Community:

1. Our non-profit, Community Link, added a "Link to Health" ministry.
2. **Eva Schoon** is the Director for Community Link with several outreach ministries - Cradles of Grace, ELL classes, Kids' Hope, and other community partnerships.
3. GRIF's "I Love My City" event is growing in partnerships and participation.

I am grateful for an excellent leadership team - **Eva Schoon** (Church Adm. / Community Link Dir.) **Becca Graham** (Connections Pastor) **Beth White** (Adm Asst.), **Nan Evans** (Family Children's Pastor), **Kimberly Meiste** (Worship Arts), **Daniel Kasaggoma** (Family Youth Pastor), and **Kevin Webster** (AVL).

In Christ's Service,  
Craig Dillman





# GRAND RAPIDS NE COMMUNITY

**Revs. Joe & Cheryl Young (4/24)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	25
Raised for all Purposes	\$56,029	Average Morning Worship Attendance	21
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

Our church is showing the presence of Christ's light in our church and our community through our weekly community dinner. We shed Christ's light as we share the gospel, feed our neighbors, and provide a safe community gathering place and genuine fellowship. Many people who have come to our meal have needs that only God can help. Addiction, food insecurity, medical issues, and many others. We have seen God change and help lives through the ministry people receive during our meals. Conversations around the tables have opened opportunities for our church family to share the gospel and pray with their neighbors. Our church family has been blessed as they are being a blessing to others. We are becoming a loving community that does not just share food but lives as well. God is blessing the Northeast Community Church of the Nazarene through this time of food and fellowship.



# GRAND RAPIDS WEST INTL

**Rev. Joas & Marie Yasmine Occes  
(4/14)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	NO	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	NO	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	69
Raised for all Purposes	\$62,000	Average Morning Worship Attendance	100
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

### Christ's Light in the Church: A Testament of Faith and Resilience

The year 2024-2025 has been a time of trial for the Grand Rapids West Int. Church of the Nazarene, but the presence of Christ's light shines most clearly through His followers' unwavering faith and commitment. My current illness (Prostate cancer) as the church pastor has deeply impacted the congregation, yet it has also revealed the strength and resilience of the church body. Despite the challenges, the church board and Pastor Joe Young have stepped forward with unwavering dedication, ensuring that the ministries continue to thrive and the message of Christ remains steadfast.

Within the church, ministries such as prayers and worship services have been sustained with renewed vigor. Multiple preachers have stepped in to deliver powerful sermons, each carrying forth the light of Christ through messages of hope, perseverance, and unity. Their collective contributions have ensured that the spiritual needs of the congregation are met and that the faith community remains encouraged.

Despite adversity such as immigration that brings fear and uncertainty to multiple of our congregants, the ministries and message of the church continue to radiate Christ's light. The unity in prayer displayed in times of hardship serves as a testimony of His presence, showing that faith is not merely spoken but lived. Through the dedication of the church leadership, the contributions of multiple preachers, and the unwavering commitment of the congregation, the love and light of Christ remain ever-present, guiding the church and its community toward strength, hope, and renewal.

Respectively submitted!  
Pastor Joas Occes



# GREENVILLE

**Rev. Sarah & Kyle Coppernoll (11/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	NO	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	NO	Number of Baptisms	1
Participation in ONU Allocation	NO	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	NO	Membership Total	39
Raised for all Purposes	\$30,039	Average Morning Worship Attendance	24
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	12

At Greenville Church of the Nazarene we seek to Build up the Body of Christ and be a blessing to the community.

We share the light of Christ with the community by helping meet their physical needs through Food Pantry ministry and partnership with Alpha Family Services. As well as the need for connection through Girl Scout and Nursing mothers group.

We are blessed to partner with other local congregations to increase our community impact through community events like trunk n treat and Easter egg hunts in the buildings the churches use. As well as taking the church into the community through mobile coffee ministry (TOV cafe) and local community projects.

Serving a faithful God  
 Pastor Sarah Coppernoll  
 Lead Pastor—Greenville Nazarene



# HASTINGS

**TBD**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	1
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	2
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	1
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	95
Raised for all Purposes	\$188,497	Average Morning Worship Attendance	93
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	4



# HILLSDALE

**Rev. Mike & Kris Prince (9/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	1
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	12
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	52
Raised for all Purposes	\$75,033	Average Morning Worship Attendance	40
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	12

Pastors Report for the Michigan District

This is the Seventh District annual report as pastor for the Hillsdale Community Church.

We concentrated on maintaining unity within our church family and continued to provide prayer and encouragement to many individuals in our community. In the upcoming year, our goals include continuing to preach the Gospel with boldness and guidance from the Holy Spirit. We aim to enhance our preaching, teaching, worship, and relationships within our Church and Community.

In the past year:

- Seven individuals were baptized, and many were added to our church membership.
- Our Hillsdale congregation effectively met the challenges of the past two years by adapting, adjusting plans, shifting gears, and progressing forward.

# Notable events from this last year:

- Sunday School attendance increased from four to an average of eighteen people.
- The building facilitated various community activities, including bereavement classes, movie nights, weddings, funerals, and baby showers.
- The praise team exhibited strong leadership.
- Several laymen and church board members provided motivational and encouraging support.

The Church continues to grow in numbers and remains dedicated to trusting God for future success. Our commitment is reflected in our belief that while God must increase, we must decrease. As a church, we strive to become a healthy congregation in numerous ways. I love my Wife, Kris, who is my Gift from God, and Our church and Community.

Mike Prince, Pastor



# HOLLAND NEW LIFE

**Pastor Zach & Molly Caruth (7/19)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	3
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	6
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	45
Raised for all Purposes	\$48,328	Average Morning Worship Attendance	30
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

Holland's, New Life Nazarene Church, gets to show Christ's light regularly both within the church body and the community.

Within the church body, you can see the light of Christ in countless ways. From our worship and the hope found in the Gospel, to the hope and encouragement found during difficult times, or the share table where others stock and share food.

Recently I saw the church show Christ's love through the most simple way. We had a new visitor who looked and acted differently. He smelt heavily of cigarette smoke. Yet the body of Christ welcomed him with open arms. They showed Christ's light by offering a simple cup of coffee and donuts. They smiled, gave hugs, and prayed with him. What a simple way to demonstrate Christ's light.

In addition, over the past year, our church has been able to get involved in a community garden. The community garden has offered several encounters with neighbors and has opened opportunities to meet our neighbors, serve them, pray with them, meet physical needs, and build relationships. Growing veggies has been a great way for us to shine Christ's light but we have also served in various places across Holland by volunteering and serving our community.

We have seen that showing Christ's light doesn't take a large budget or a lot of people. We have neither. It takes surrendered individuals shining Christ's light all around us. We get to shine Christ's light into the greater Holland community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Zachariah Caruth





# HOLT

**Rev. Debra Mulder (6/07)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	4
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	4
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	19
Raised for all Purposes	\$62,639	Average Morning Worship Attendance	23
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

Dr. Carla Sunberg, Pastor Brad Dyrness, ex-officio members and delegates, it is with great pleasure that I present my 19<sup>th</sup> report to the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene Assembly.

Holt Church of the Nazarene has been the presence of Christ's light in the community of Holt and the surrounding area as we have continued to bless our community through: our work with the Police and Fire Department to present a fun and interactive event at National Night Out; opening our church for "PLAY" where caregivers and little ones can connect and play in a free and safe environment; providing a four day long Adventure Camp for our Elementary schools in the balanced calendar; providing encouragement and support for Sycamore Elementary students and staff; and providing basic essentials through our Basic Blessings Pantry.

One of the ways we have seen the Light of Christ's presence is through the PLAY group. This group has fostered wonderful friendships and care. They have supported one another in times of crisis, checked in on each other, and encouraged each other. They don't hesitate to reach out for prayer, ask for advice or questions about the Bible and Christianity and have attended and helped at our events.

Another way the light of Christ's presence has shown is through our connection with Sycamore Elementary, where we have made a concerted effort to support the teachers by providing them with beginning-of-the-year supplies, assisting with events that enable us to connect and learn more about them personally, and addressing their needs through prayer and care. This year, several teachers had babies, and a church member created individual gift baskets to bless them. Recently one of those momma's reached out to ask for specific prayer, saying "I know your church is a praying church" sharing her need.

Within the body of believers who call Holt Naz home, our focus is to be a place where everyone feels they belong and can grow in God's wisdom, grace and knowledge. In our table discussions each week we get to hear how God's presence, his light in them, is forming and shaping them. Further, the light of Christ has been evidenced as members reach out to check in on one another and genuinely care for one another – sharing their very lives. What a privileged to serve at Holt Naz and watch God's amazing grace and love being poured into the people of Holt Naz and poured out into the world.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Debra A. Mulder



# JACKSON FIRST

**Rev. Bryce & Mandy Gernand (10/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	76
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	72
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	5
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	460
Raised for all Purposes	\$2,413,863	Average Morning Worship Attendance	1276
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

### District Report

2025

We began the Fall with our Becoming More Weekend. This is a weekend dedicated to growth and formation into Christlikeness. We were fortunate enough to have LaMorris Crawford as our speaker. God used his words powerfully! The weekend was preceded by 72 hours of prayer. We were inspired by the story in Luke 10 where Jesus sent 72 of his followers from town to town sharing the good news that the kingdom of God had come near because of him. As they went, miraculous things took place. They returned with joy and said, *"Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."* They were surprised, but Jesus wasn't. He had given them the authority to do these things, and so much more, because he was greater than the enemy. They were fighting a battle that he'd already won.

Our goal was for our congregation to fill 30-minute time slots until 72 hours were filled, and they did! It was reassuring to realize that when your time was over, you were merely passing the baton to the next intercessor. As we offered ourselves to God in surrender, we didn't want to be surprised when he did what only he could do.

As the year has progressed, we have seen an uptick in our Sunday services since adding a third. We are continuing to find new ways to lean into our High-Five Partnerships in order to bless our community and world. We have also quietly been implementing strategies from Carey Nieuwhof's *The Art of Building a Generous Congregation*. We want to become more generous; more like Jesus. We also recently participated in a visioning retreat through Amplio. We are excited to see those plans come to fruition!

We say that JaxNaz Church exists to lead people into life with Jesus, so they can live like Jesus; becoming more faithful, complete, and generous. We are trying to staff and lead in a way that will fulfill that mission. God is moving! I have really been asking the question, *"Am I/are we really leading people into life with Jesus?"* There are so many battles that people are facing these days, and I believe that Jesus has an answer for every single one. There is still so much work to be done in his name, and we want to be serious about getting after it. *Lord, help us.*





# KALAMAZOO SOUTH SIDE

**Revs. Chris & Sara Pettit (5/06)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	225
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	15
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	1
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	42
Raised for all Purposes	\$61,105	Average Morning Worship Attendance	97
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	7

This is our 19th year at Kalamazoo South Side and it has had a glorious and fruitful year!

We partner with and house Elaine Pettit Ministries, which is the ministry of Yaya's Kitchen. The Lord has opened the door for us to reach and impact our community. To date through Yaya's Kitchen, we have seen 225 people saved, 67 sanctified, and 15 baptized; totaling 307 lives changed for God's glory!

We have now fed 3,555 free meals to our community through the Yaya's Kitchen Food Trailer. We have also held Revival services, the Rick Pettit Memorial Campmeeting, three Waiting School Conferences, weekly Relentless Pursuit of God preaching and teaching services, and in-home prayer meetings. We thank Jesus for everything He has done!

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Pettit



# LANSING FIRST

**Rev. Jesse Briles (11/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	1
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	64
Raised for all Purposes	\$48,029	Average Morning Worship Attendance	22
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	12

Over the past year, our church has been seeking the Lord's direction on how to be a blessing to our community—both inside and outside the church walls. This has been a long and thoughtful discernment process, but the Lord has provided many opportunities along the way to continue showing His light.

This past year, we've hosted a couple of successful community outreach events, as well as meaningful Bible studies. Several people have attended our church during this time without receiving a formal invitation (including two who recently immigrated and speak minimal English), simply because they said they sensed the presence of Christ and His light at our church.

This discernment process has led me to challenge our church to be the L.I.G.H.T. to our community in the coming church year. We will seek to do this by:

- Loving authentically
- Investing in people
- Growing as God leads
- Helping where needed
- Telling others the Good News

While we don't yet fully understand what this will look like for our congregation this year, we do know that God is specifically calling us to reach out to the neurodivergent adult demographic. This is an area of personal passion for me. After conducting a survey and a community assessment, we have identified both a need and a lack of outreach and gathering opportunities for this group and their families.

We are planning to invest in this group of people, as we have seen that this is a community where the light of Christ is desperately needed but too often not shown. Our hope is to host one or two monthly gatherings with rotating activities tailored to the interests and needs of this community. We believe these opportunities—and others like them—will not only help us shine the light of Christ beyond our church walls, but also help us to grow and shine within them.



# LANSING INTERNATIONAL

**Rev. Joas & Yasmine Marie Occes**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	NO	Number of New Believers	5
Participation in NBUSA	NO	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	NO	Number of New Nazarenes	28
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	65
Raised for all Purposes	\$42,300	Average Morning Worship Attendance	72
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

In times of uncertainty, Christ's light shines brightest through the unwavering faith and unity of His people. The recent illness of our beloved pastor Joas has brought challenges, yet it has also strengthened the church's resolve to continue its mission of service and spiritual growth. Through the leadership of the church board with Pastor Ambeau and the dedication of the members, the church has remained a beacon of hope for both the congregation and the larger community.

One of the most profound demonstrations of Christ's presence has been the creation of both the women's and men's groups. These ministries offer support, guidance, and fellowship, allowing individuals to deepen their faith while providing encouragement to one another. The women's group fosters a nurturing environment for spiritual discussions and community outreach, while the men's group strengthens bonds through shared faith and service projects.

Beyond spiritual ministries, the church has also undertaken practical efforts to serve the community, such as the repair of the local soccer field. This initiative not only enhances recreational opportunities but also reflects Christ's love through collective action and care for communal spaces. The restoration of the field provides a place for children and families to gather, reinforcing the church's commitment to uplifting the community.

Additionally, with immigration uncertainty affecting many members, the church has become a refuge of compassion and support. Through prayer, advocacy, and direct assistance, the congregation ensures that those facing instability find solace in God's presence. The church's message of love and inclusion underscores its unwavering commitment to helping all who seek comfort and guidance.

Despite hardship, the ministries and mission of the church continue to radiate the light of Christ. Through unwavering faith, collective resilience, and a dedication to service, the church stands as a testament to God's enduring love and presence, offering hope and renewal to all who enter its doors.

In Christ,  
Pastor Joas Occes  
Pastor Ambeau Jean-Berniste



# LANSING SOUTH

**Revs. Travis & Jesi Myers (1/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	30
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	24
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	13
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	329
Raised for all Purposes	\$803,629	Average Morning Worship Attendance	291
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	50

SouthNaz has continued to show the presence of Christ's light within the church body and the community this past year. This has happened within the church body in many ways. We hosted a Grandparents Day in January, and from that a grandparent's Sunday school class was formed. We had a women's retreat at ILNC, which has not happened in over a decade. Our young adults group is experiencing growth through a Sunday school class and planned events like going out to dinner and attending a Lansing Lugnuts baseball game together. We continue to see new visitors each week, and our goal is to warmly greet them by being a friendly, welcoming church. We continued this year to see growth in church membership and baptisms, which to God be the glory!

We also have showed the presence of Christ's light within the community. This past fall we started a Community Café where we are hosting a monthly dinner on Wednesday nights for the community and our church members. After dinner, there are discipleship groups for all ages. One month, we had the boys basketball team from our neighboring high school join us for dinner. This fall we also started back up our weekly Open Gym. About 50 high school kids walk over to our building after school on Thursdays to hang out, play basketball, and make cookies. Our children's ministry hosted Trunk or Treat and Spring Spectacular, which were both well attended by our neighbors and community. Lastly, our annual I Love My City event has experienced growth by adding a new worksite at a Lansing elementary school, making this the third school we serve at.

We thank God for the work He is continuing to do in and through SouthNaz so we can continue to show the presence of Christ's light within the church body and community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Travis Myers



# LANSING WOODVIEW

**Rev. Devon & Megan Staples (3/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	1
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	76
Raised for all Purposes	\$163,815	Average Morning Worship Attendance	39
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	4

It is a privilege to bring my third report on behalf of Lansing Woodview Church of the Nazarene.

“In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,” has become a common refrain in our church. It was something that happened organically over the last couple of years and now nearly every prayer in our church culminates with a chorus of people invoking the names of the person of our amazing triune God. Prayers gathered around those seeking anointing for healing, prayers for our community before outreach events, prayers in discipleship gatherings and in our worship service. “In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,” reminds us of the relational nature of our Triune God and informs all that we do. We are a community seeking deeper relationship with God, one another, and our Valley Farms community.

At Woodview, our mission is to Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World. Consequently, we seek to be the kind of community that embodies the love of our triune God. A Spirit empowered love for God and neighbor. This love for God and neighbor is evident in our vibrant worship, our earnest communal prayer, our dedication to innovative discipleship, our commitment to working with our ecumenical partners from Christ the King Anglican church, and our consistent engagement with our community through our outreach events and clothes closet. It has been particularly exciting to see our community embrace our clothes closet. A team of dedicated volunteers works weekly to keep our small closet organized and our community not only utilizes this resource at our outreach events but also invests in its ongoing success through their generous donations.

As our relational God sought relationship with us through the Father sending the Son to reveal God's love for us and to set us free from sin and death, so we, empowered by God's Holy Spirit, are seeking relationship with each other and with our Valley Farms community. We are a community dedicated to discerning what God is up to in our neighborhood and co-operating with God's redeeming activity. We are a community dedicated to being with Jesus, becoming like Jesus, and doing as Jesus did. We are a community dedicated equipping ourselves to make disciples and journey alongside family, friends, and neighbors as they seek Christ for themselves. We are a community dedicated to loving God, love others, and serving the world as God gives us the resources to do so beginning first with our Valley Farms community. And finally, we are a community dedicated to continuing to pray “In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,” as we center our lives around Jesus and invite others to join us on the journey.

Grace & Peace,  
Rev. Devon Staples  
Woodview Church of the Nazarene





# LOWELL

**Rev. Ed & Laura O'Connor (7/23)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	64
Raised for all Purposes	\$83,510	Average Morning Worship Attendance	30
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	4

Our overarching theme at Lowell Naz is: "We love being the church". As we continue to mold and shape this reality, we see the majority of attenders tending to stay longer and visit informally after the Sunday service concludes. It is beautiful to occasionally take a step back and see growing depth in relationships from both long time attenders and newer ones as well.

Over the previous year we have seen one lifegroup run its course in an encouraging sign of what to look forward to this fall. We have also seen our men's group begin meeting every other Saturday morning as well as a crafting group that appeals to both women *and* men. In addition, the willingness of people to assist with campus work projects has grown.

In regard to the community, our Kidmin group continues to prayerfully explore ways to directly minister to more local kids. We believe the table is set and in due time, God's time, He will entrust us with more children.

Our community garden remains a very positive touch point with our community. Throughout the summer many people stop by our free vegetable table in front of the church and more recently we have even seen some neighbors adding their own vegetables! Along these lines, Nazcafe will also be running through the summer and into the fall. This monthly community meal is intended to connect with the community in general and open the way to personal connections to our church family and ultimately towards Christ.

In our most recent board meeting we took action to begin rebranding our fellowship hall as "Nazlife Center", a more contemporary name that we hope will better identify our ministry and location. Along these lines, we continue to be involved with the implementation of Lifewise Academy, a release time program within our public school that should lead to a bus bringing kids from the elementary school to our church for "religious instruction", as allowed via the Supreme Court. In short, this program will teach children Bible sourced character qualities as well as the Gospel message of Jesus Christ to public school students *during school hours in our church!* This represents a major evangelism and discipleship opportunity for our church—and every church—and we believe the Lowell community will be transformed through this ministry!

There is much more that could be mentioned as we continue to seek the Holy Spirit's leading and follow through. We truly love being the church, and we know it is the Lord's desire that we be His church—and we believe we are journeying together in this direction one step at a time. The potential ministry through the Holy Spirit has no limit in Lowell Naz... Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Ed O'Connor



# MASON FIRST

**Rev. Gerhard & Diane Weigelt (7/10)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	33
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	22
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	2
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	240
Raised for all Purposes	\$574,854	Average Morning Worship Attendance	199
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	15

Mason First Church of the Nazarene continues to Bless Our community by shining Christ's light brightly where He has placed us in our community. We seek creative ways to Follow Christ, Connect Hearts and Love One Another.

We continue to host a quarterly Feed the Community drive through free meal event, this year we served 890 free meals, Praise the Lord! We love the opportunities that our Connect Sports program brings the community to our facility. 400 kids in our Basketball and Cheerleading program throughout the winter months, 100 kids in our Flag Football league in the fall and 60 kids participating in Archery in the fall. Each of these kids had weekly devotions celebrating the good news of the gospel, and we had the opportunity to invest in relationships with these kids and their families.

We have also had great opportunities sharing hope with many through the hosting of weekly AA meetings in our facility, hosting Healing of the Wounded Heart Class in the Spring, Hosting 13 weeks of Grief Share in the fall as well as many Funeral Dinners serving those who are facing challenging times in their lives.

We continue to offer Weekly Children and Youth Ministries always looking for creative ways to connect hearts with the church of today. We celebrated ministering to 100 different children throughout the week of VBS.

We give praise to God for the way he provides opportunities to shine His light in the darkness, and we are excited to look for new ways to do that in the days to come!



# MIDLAND BETHEL

**Rev. Norman & Brenda Eddy (4/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	68
Raised for all Purposes	\$81,924	Average Morning Worship Attendance	31
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

As I look back on the year, I am reminded of the goodness of God. He has demonstrated His love to us by helping us to continue in the process of discipling within the body of Christ. The mission of our congregation is to be a sanctuary, where people feel safe to share what is going on in their life. The mission continues where we are also a hospital for the hurting and broken to help them heal. We open our arms to love on people without judgement and we come alongside to help them navigate the storms of life. Through our in-depth bible studies twice a week we are gaining more knowledge and deeper understanding of the application of God's word to our everyday lives. In so doing, we are being disciplined so we can then disciple others as we journey through this life. We have been learning and being challenged to go into our community to make disciples, as Jesus commissioned us. We are beginning an outreach program in conjunction with Convoy of Hope that we are truly excited about; and we can share with you next year the fruit of that ministry.





# MIDLAND NAZ

**Rev. Justin & Heather Hayes (8/21)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	24
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	24
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	21
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	201
Raised for all Purposes	\$590,179	Average Morning Worship Attendance	265
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	15

Brothers and Sisters of the Michigan District Church of the Nazarene, greetings. It is my privilege to submit to you my report report as pastor of Midland Nazarene.

The past year has been devoted to developing a strong, strategic ministry plan for the next few years. Beginning in early 2024, our staff and board began studying our mission field in depth to better understand the cultural landscape in which we serve. When evaluated our overall congregational culture to determine whether or not we were adequately equipped to communicate the Gospel effectively in 2025 Midland. We then committed to adjusting our church to overcome our missional deficiencies. With the information we gathered from the local community, our self analysis, and our renewed commitment, we then compiled all of this work into a comprehensive ministry plan and then began communicating that plan tour leaders, volunteers, and congregation.

The first step in implementing our ministry plan was to create a theological baseline. The growth of Midland Nazarene over the past decade create a theological "hodge podge" as people from differing church backgrounds joined the church. We decided to go far more rudimentary than the Nazarene Articles of Faith. So, we committed to the "Just Jesus" year. For 52 weeks, we preached Jesus and sought to detangle ourselves from some of the theological and traditional baggage that can hinder church growth and development. Since September when the Just Jesus season began, we have baptized 24 new believers, observed the Lord's Supper 27 times, averaged 6 guests per week, and averaged over 500 individuals attending worship services each month.

Our launch date for our ministry plan is September 1, 2025. We are excited about new outreach, assimilation, and discipleship strategies. We have committed to training our leaders and volunteers to the best of our ability in order to create a confident and inspired volunteer base. We anticipate a movement of the Holy Spirit in the life of our congregation through our desire to follow Jesus and help others follow Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Justin L. Hayes  
Pastor



# MIDLAND NEASE MEMORIAL

**Rev. Beth & John Hanson (4/14)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	40
Raised for all Purposes	\$98,465	Average Morning Worship Attendance	31
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

Over this year we have had many opportunities to shine the light of Christ.

Missions, local and around the world: we participated in 'Operation Christmas Child'; cared for our Connect and Care missionaries; filled banana boxes with food items in a reverse Advent calendar to give to those in need in our community; we helped a local woman with finances to fix her water line issues in her home.

Nease ministries: times of fellowship given through game and dinner nights, the church body met and invited others to come and join in; the church and community were invited to come and have dinner with Santa and for Easter all were invited to come and participate in an Easter Egg hunt with lunch and the telling of the Easter Story; at Easter time Jesus figurines were purchased with the intent of church members taking them out and leaving them in public places...the kids of Nease love it, 7 figurines are hidden around the church for Sunday morning, the kids find them and then take them and place them in the community (they have left them at Costco, school, Target, etc.). The adults have placed them in visible places and have had others ask for them...something simple has become a profound message to participate in. The message "We come to church to meet together with Jesus Christ, when we find Him, we take Him with us and leave Him so others can find Him too."

Many at Nease are using their gifts and talents to minister to those in the church and outside; they are sharing the Gospel and are giving out tracks, others are helping those in need, and others are visiting.

Our light has shined more than stated above. There isn't enough room to continue to share. Our hope is that our Lord has been glorified and seen in all that has been done.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Beth Hanson



# MT PLEASANT FAITH INDIAN

**Rev. Doyle & Darlene Perry (11/02)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	NO	Number of New Believers	7
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	29
Participation in ONU Allocation	NO	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	37
Raised for all Purposes	\$70,584	Average Morning Worship Attendance	69
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	15

Our community Blanket Dog and Soup Fund Raisers have always been a bridge for the Church and the Tribe. At these events we see people we never seen anywhere else. Community, Leaders, Dept. Heads Tribal Federal Judges, come and I get the chance to sit with them and talk. This has also brought new ones to help serve and cook. They replace the older ones who have health issues. At our new Bible Study, we see new ones growing in the Lord this past year. We have a new piano player who was a student at Central Michigan University and he and his family are beginning to attend and support him. May 25th is a baptizing service. We also baptized many others and took in new members to the church. It has been wonderful watching the new converts grow in the knowledge of Christ!

From Rev. Doyle Perry  
Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene



# MT PLEASANT FIRST

**Rev. Jon & Annie Croft (10/20)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	55
Raised for all Purposes	\$165,745	Average Morning Worship Attendance	70
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	31

These are very good days at MPNazarene Church. We are seeing new families attending worship services, new people getting involved in ministry, new friends joining in membership, people being baptized. There is small incremental growth everywhere, and we are celebrating the good work of God in our midst.

We are not a fast growing, high energy, hyped up congregation, but God is moving us slowly and steadily in the right direction. Our church is a family that loves one another with more than words - they show up for one another - they pray for one another - they have shown up and prayed for me, their pastor, as well. I am grateful for their ministry to me.

We have maintained a very strong connection to Clothing INC, the Nazarene Compassionate Ministry Center that was launched in our church basement 13 years ago. "Providing free clothing for anyone in need" has been our ministry in the community. If you ever visit Clothing INC, you will be greeted by the volunteers who make that ministry happen - most of them are part of our congregation. To date, we have served over 50,000 people and distributed over 800,000 articles of clothing. It is a joy to serve our community in the name of our Lord in this way, and it is a joy to pastor a congregation that has a strong desire to embody His Kingdom here and now.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jon Croft



# MUSKEGON BREAKWATER

**Revs. Devin & Aimee Mulder (10/10)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	5
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	63
Raised for all Purposes	\$142,174	Average Morning Worship Attendance	34
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	10

Breakwater Church of the Nazarene  
Aimee and Devin Mulder

Breakwater Church of the Nazarene is practicing the presence of God as we strive to shine the light of Christ in our community. We want our church to be a campfire that people gather around to grow in unity and faith. Our campfire brought families to our church during our annual backpack giveaway where we gave away over 260 backpacks filled with school supplies. We hosted Wednesday night dinners to help families with rising food costs and our families in leadership took turn preparing the meals. Breakwater's unique location directly across from Mona Shores High School also allowed us to open up our facility for the High School Soccer Banquet and the cast party for Mona Shores Middle School's production of *Into the Woods*. As numerous high school students park in our parking lot every morning we pray that God will continue to show us how to shine Christ's love as an answer to the loneliness epidemic.

People also gather around campfires to rest in the presence of those around them. This year, our church stepped up in leadership that has continued past Pastor Aimee and Pastor Devin's sabbatical. We learned more about scripture and life together with classes on Emotionally Healthy Relationships and a research class on How to Read the Bible from the Bible Project. We baptized 3 people this year declaring their faithfulness to Christ and received members that immediately lead ministries. Breakwater is also excited that a new Haitian church has been planted in our building and we support this new congregation while looking for ways to integrate into a diverse body of Christ. May God continue to guide our church how to keep our campfire warm for all to experience a faith community and the transformative light of Jesus!



# MUSKEGON CONNECTION POINT

**Rev. Aaron & Katie Gregory (8/13)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	NO	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	22
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	24
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	17
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	184
Raised for all Purposes	\$361,371	Average Morning Worship Attendance	307
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	52

This past year has been one filled with incredible moments where there was no question that the light of Christ was seen. We could talk about the community garden in which a few thousand people came through its produce stand. We could mention the boys and girls camp that we hosted where 2/3 of the children who were a part have no church they call home. The light of Christ was seen in those that received free clothing through our kids' clothes closet.

We continued to partner with Bridge Builders a Nazarene Compassionate Ministry, and host play and learns through the local school district. Our MomCo group continued to grow and reach new moms, some of whom decided that their family would make our church home. In one of the highlights of our year, we hosted a Night to Shine, in partnership with the Tim Tebow Foundation. It was an incredible evening in which our special needs friends in the community were able to have their own prom. It was the epitome of recognizing the light of Christ shines in places that society often overlooks.

There were some other things that are worth mentioning this year. We baptized 24 people, 7 in Lake Michigan (that water was cold!). Our Sunday morning attendance increased by over 25% and this has created space issues. This is the kind of problem we want to solve. We are looking to the next year asking God to open our eyes to where he is already at work and where we need to partner with him.

Aaron Gregory





# NASHVILLE

**Rev. Justin & Heather Schultz (1/24)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	10
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	10
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	74
Raised for all Purposes	\$193,674	Average Morning Worship Attendance	70
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	15

Nashville Church of the Nazarene is seeing the light of Christ at work in our church and in our community. We have freshly launched Community Groups, which are now up and running. These small groups are serving to build bridges between different life stages in our church. You might think of it as a bridge-building mission to the achievement of meaningful discipleship and connection across life stages.

We've placed special emphasis on reaching out to our community through intentional gatherings such as neighborhood cookouts, a Fall Family Festival (that we had over 200 attendees at), we held a Community Thanksgiving Dinner serving 215+ people from around our area, and we invited the community to come and celebrate Easter with us through an Easter Brunch (apparently we like to eat!). These gatherings have allowed us to connect with others and establish genuine relationships that extend beyond the church. Being present at schools, community functions, and during significant personal life events has really enabled us to reflect the heart of Christ in the way we do pastoral and community care.

This summer we are working on ways to better serve our community. One way we are being intentional with this is by hosting a Deaf Ministries Training. This will introduce our congregation and ministry volunteers to the needs of our surrounding deaf and hearing impaired communities who do not have a church to call home, within a 40 mile radius, and who can not only participate in worship with us but also find ways to serve and grow in their faith. This will be our first step toward becoming more inclusive and accessible to the Deaf and hearing-impaired community. This is an expression of our call to reach people in all kinds of situations, especially those on the margins. We are also in the final stages of a process to hire a Youth Pastor. This person will help us serve and disciple our teens. Candidate visits and interviews are taking place now.

Through all this, we strive to manifest Christ's love, receiving, discipling, and revealing His light to both our church community and to Nashville at large.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Justin Schultz  
Nashville Nazarene



# NEW LOTHROP

**Rev. Paul & Jan Brashaw (10/94)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	10
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	7
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	144
Raised for all Purposes	\$439,800	Average Morning Worship Attendance	308
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	18

Gathered or scattered, there is nothing on the planet like the Church.

The New Lothrop Church is one expression of a growing list of convincing proofs written about in Acts 1:3. Jesus is alive and He's building His Church. It is a thrill to be part of His work.

The light of life (John 1:4) has ignited the desire in New Lothrop to: Make Disciples, Build Families, Celebrate Next Steps, and Impact Generations.

Expressions include:

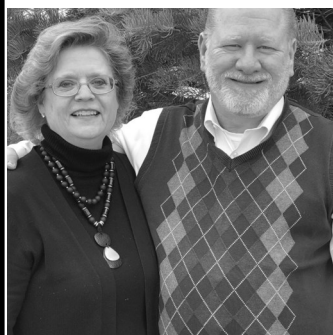
- 52 Sundays making a big deal about Jesus.
- 170 weekday Bible Studies during school hours for elementary students.
- 29 Family Fun nights that bring community and Church together.
- Discipling a Next-Gen Ministry Team (ages 14 to 21).
- Serving 22 area zip codes.
- Events like Camp Discovery, Easter Extravaganza, and Trunk and Treat have given NLNC the opportunity to share the light to hundreds of families in 2024-2025.

It is an honor to give our 31<sup>st</sup> report for the followers of Jesus who gather in New Lothrop. Jan and I continue to be thrilled with God's call into full time ministry, the commissioning of the Holy Spirit, and share in the huge faith – hard work partnership with God's people who make up NLNC.

We are as excited as ever to be part of Jesus' work to build His Church in 2025 and beyond.

Pastor Paul and Jan Brashaw





# OKEMOS

**Rev. Stephen & Marcia Murphy (1/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	1
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	66
Raised for all Purposes	\$49,144	Average Morning Worship Attendance	26
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	60

### Handbook Report

Submitted by Rev. Stephen R. Murphy  
Okemos Church of the Nazarene

Okemos Church of the Nazarene is continuing its focus on making OCN a place of worship and community. We have expanded our post-worship fellowship time to now include birthdays, anniversaries, and other special life events. Our weekly outreach to adult foster care homes has grown and several more adults are now attending worship services. We are continuing our children's ministries, and they are excited each week to study the lessons and to learn more about the Bible. The children also presented a short Christmas play as well as a short Easter presentation that was enthusiastically received. Pastor Mario Silva has been very faithful in translating my sermons into Spanish, in real-time, each week. We are continuing to broadcast on a Spanish YouTube channel as well as Facebook, an English YouTube channel, and also our FreeOnline.com channel. Okemos Church of the Nazarene has also become an international congregation with four languages being spoken each and every week including: English, Spanish, Hindi and Indonesian. A spirit of love and acceptance pervades each and every gathering and I can say, with complete honesty, that Okemos Church of the Nazarene is a thriving, God-centered, loving congregation. We celebrated the gift of an audio/visual L-shaped work center that allowed us to consolidate all of our technology into a much more professional looking and functional space. Finally, we will be having a baptism service this summer as several members have requested to be baptized.

So as I said last year, I echo again: The Lord is certainly working at Okemos Church of the Nazarene, and I feel humbled to lead these wonderful people on their journeys of faith and trust in the Lord, Jesus Christ. And we rejoice and celebrate all that God has done and all that He is going to do in the next year.

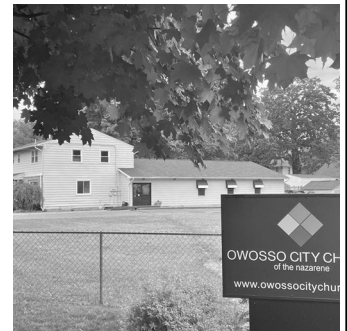
Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Stephen R. Murphy  
Okemos Church of the Nazarene



# OWOSSO CITY

**Rev. Marlene & Ted Webster (4/12)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	2
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	45
Raised for all Purposes	\$50,135	Average Morning Worship Attendance	41
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	7

“Becoming an authentic expression of the way of Jesus in our city.” That’s the mission of Owosso City Church. We believe that the best witness the church can be is to look like Jesus. We pray, learn, and work together so that the life of Jesus becomes clearer to us and through us.

Inside the walls of the church, we are learning to become like Jesus. For the past few years, we have prayed for the right person to lead our children’s ministry. City Church is about half children and half adults. This year, our prayers were answered as Ashley Squires, a dynamic young woman, stepped up to lead children’s ministry and to receive her first local minister’s license. It has been exciting to watch our children grow in their faith. Our children have also grown up chronologically and so this year, City Church formed our first youth group in the 13-year history of our church.

We have several people attending City Church who are new to faith and they have participated in mid-week Bible studies as we have learned together how to read the scriptures in life-giving ways. A spirit of freedom and discovery has been present in these gatherings.

This year, we welcomed 50 first-time guests and 19 of them returned on subsequent Sundays. Our Sunday morning worship attendance grew from an average of 34 to 41. The largest gathering in the history of City Church happened on Easter 2025 with 90 in attendance.

In our city, we continue to provide a weekly meal and ministry at Pleasant Valley Trailer Park. We stepped up to fill a void for emergency shelter in the bitter cold weeks of the winter. We hosted “We Believe You: A faith community response to domestic violence” for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row. We’ve held multiple baby showers for families in need including a shower for a non-English speaking couple who then asked that we dedicate their new baby. We host a community-wide co-pay Christmas store and serve as a neighborhood rest stop on Halloween. We also held our first ever neighborhood Easter event this year.

“Becoming an authentic expression of the way of Jesus in our city” means we are always a work in progress. The best is yet to come.



# OWOSSO FIRST

**Rev. Jerry & Darlene Walden (5/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	7
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	8
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	12
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	247
Raised for all Purposes	\$755,144	Average Morning Worship Attendance	256
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	24

The 2024–2025 year was an exciting and fruitful season for Owosso First Church as we continued to grow in our mission to develop committed Christ-followers and strengthen our connection with the Owosso community. Spiritually and numerically, our church family has grown through intentional efforts to integrate weekly visitors into the life of the church. This past fall, our Discipleship Team launched a “Discipleship Boot Camp,” studying *Real-Life Discipleship Training Manual: Equipping Disciples Who Make Disciples*. This initiative was so successful that we offered a second study in the spring. Additionally, in partnership with “Reach the Forgotten” ministry, we began a Bible study that has steadily grown over the past few months and has been an avenue for leading people to Christ.

We also introduced “Pizza with the Pastors” events, which have served as valuable opportunities to build personal relationships with many of our new attendees. In February, we focused on fostering deeper connections through a “Friendship” emphasis, encouraging everyone to wear nametags as we continue to grow and get to know one another. These simple efforts have been a blessing as we pursue a stronger sense of community. God continues to draw people to Christ and to carry out His sanctifying work through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We have remained intentional in reaching out to our broader community. Our Compassion Ministry continues to meet local needs, and we’ve partnered with the “Angel Hands” ministry to provide resources and support to individuals and families. Our weekly Community Prayer Walk remains a meaningful outreach opportunity, drawing regular visitors. This year, we were pleased to host two well-attended community concerts featuring Ben Fuller and Colton Dixon. These events not only blessed attendees but also drew new visitors to our church services. Our annual Fall Festival was once again a vibrant outreach effort, serving as both a community event and a meaningful opportunity for church-wide fellowship and service.

We also experienced positive transitions in our church leadership. Pastor Zac Caddy was advanced to Associate Pastor after serving four years as Pastor of Student Ministries. Pastor Matthew Bair will be joining us as our Worship Arts Pastor beginning in June. Kelsi Messer continues to serve faithfully as our Children’s Director, growing and thriving in her ministry.

Looking ahead, we believe God still has much for us to do as we continue to point people to the Cross.

To God be the glory for all He has done and all He will continue to do through Owosso First Church of the Nazarene.

Jerry D. Walden, Senior Pastor



# PERRY

**Rev. Tim & Sandy Harmon (9/00)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	12
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	13
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	2
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	200
Raised for all Purposes	\$524,832	Average Morning Worship Attendance	176
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	81

This is my twenty-fourth report as Pastor of the Perry Church of the Nazarene. I am incredibly grateful to be a part of such a beautiful community of believers and to serve alongside fellow pastors who love the Lord and His church. It is a blessing to witness Perry Nazarenes serving both within the church and in their world. The Lord is speaking, and His people are responding to the call of God.

This year has been marked by amazing stories of God's grace. We held three separate baptisms this year where we baptized thirteen individuals. Our 11 AM Easter service overflowed into the narthex, three rows deep. On a recent Sunday, a man who would never walk into a church before was now waiting by the front door for a friend he had invited. Another Sunday, two women and their husbands started attending after we cared for them during their mother's funeral. There are new faces in church nearly every Sunday.

Perry Nazarenes traveled to Ecuador and Japan to serve and witness to Jesus Christ. Our Kids Hope program expanded to five mentors in Perry Elementary, meeting with students weekly throughout the school year. We held our first ever Bethlehem market for the city of Perry where gifts were given and the drama of Christmas was shared. We marched in homecoming parades and hosted a table at the Perry School showcase, greeting students and their parents with a friendly smile and information about the church. Over 120 high school students met throughout the school year where they were taught how to "Think, Believe and Hope" over pizza during lunch hour. Perry Nazarenes serve in our local food pantry.

This past year was a year we will never forget, as we celebrated the successful lung transplant surgery of my wife Sandy. Diagnosed in 2021, an auto-immune disease slowly attacked her lungs until even all the oxygen we could provide was barely enough. But in July 2024 she received two lungs that have functioned beautifully. Sandy and I will never be able to repay the debt of love we owe to our church and to our district for the love and prayers we have received. May God be glorified.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pastor Tim Harmon



# PORTAGE CROSS COMMUNITY

**Rev. Jeff & Lori McVay (11/08)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	74
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	7
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	6
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	183
Raised for all Purposes	\$430,216	Average Morning Worship Attendance	145
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	56

Cross Community Church exists to help people find and follow Jesus, by seeking and serving others. This is our mission statement and I believe that C3Naz is living into this calling. Firstly, we help people. We began our year by helping our school district prepare for breakfast with their students, but gathering and distributing cereal for our elementary schools. We were also able to help several families with groceries from our food pantry throughout the year.

Next, we are helping people find and follow Jesus. Our daycare center, led by our wonderful director Jen Harding, continues to impact lives for Jesus. The daycare continues to be the doorway to C3Naz for many families. As we continue to have Chapel with the kids each week, we have seen many of them give their lives to Christ. Jen also leads our Children's Church where kids encounter the Light of Christ each Sunday.

Our services have been a place where the light of Christ is shown in all aspects of the worship service. I so appreciate all who participate in these services from the tech crew to the musicians, to those who read the Scriptures and those who prepare the Lord's supper for us.

We also show the light of Christ through our small groups and both the Women's and Men's retreat. This year we have had an amazing team of small group leaders and I believe this will continue to help people find and follow Jesus.

Lastly, we believe that our call is to seek and serve others. Last year we sent a team of people to the Nazarene School in Sun Valley Arizona to serve those who attend school there and this year we are sending a team to the Azores to help among the people there.

This is my 16th and final report as Pastor of C3Naz. It has been my honor to serve along such great church boards throughout my tenure. I want to close by thanking my incredible staff. Deidre Marks has been a gift to me as a pastor. If I look organized in any way it is because of her. Thank you for using your gifts here. Pastor Kyle Fellows is an incredible pastor and friend. I have enjoyed watching you minister to our students (including my own). You are an amazing man of God and I am looking forward to hearing how God continues to use you. Thanks also to my partner Lori. You have been a constant support during this wonderful season of ministry.

Finally, Thank you Jesus for this opportunity. What a difference you have made in my life. I cannot thank you enough for bringing us to the Michigan District and to Cross Community Church.

Greater things are yet to come,  
Pastor Jeff McVay





# PORTLAND

**Rev. Jimmy & Pastor Joy Guffey (3/17)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



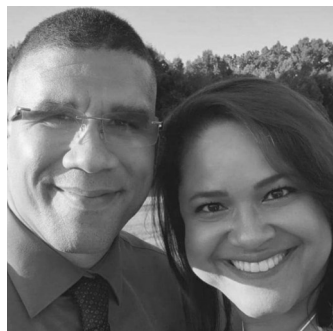
All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	5
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	6
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	68
Raised for all Purposes	\$124,225	Average Morning Worship Attendance	107
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

The heart of our message at Portland Church of the Nazarene is the very vision God has entrusted to us: to become a community of **loving, growing, and serving** followers of Christ in which “not-yet” followers of Christ want to participate—so *that by participating in the life of our community, not-yet followers might encounter the Christ of our community, experience his gracious salvation, and accept his generous invitation to become loving, growing, and serving followers themselves.* Our every move is driven by a sincere desire and deliberate work to make this vision a reality. Of course, this becomes possible only when the gospel of Christ’s life and light is being proclaimed and embodied.

Over the past year, our church has been blessed with countless opportunities for people to grow in their love for Jesus and for one another. In Children’s Ministry, these moments have come through Kid’s Worship, Growth Groups, and special events like Vacation Bible School, Movie Nights, and Nerf & Nachos. In Youth Ministry, students have connected and grown through Growth Groups, Lock-Ins, Live-Ins, Night Ins, Progressive Dinners, Bonfires, and more. Adults have deepened relationships through dedicated men’s and women’s events, along with monthly Adult Activities. And across our entire church family, shared experiences like Date Nights, Monthly Potlucks, Midweek Gatherings, and meaningful Lenten and Holy Week services—including our first Ash Wednesday service and second Maundy Thursday Supper—have helped us grow together in faith and fellowship.

In this next year, we sense the Holy Spirit prompting us to take a closer look at how we’re serving those in our local community. While it is right and important to serve within our church family and to reach out globally—as a missional church, that’s part of who we are—we must remember that our mission starts right here at home. We cannot afford to overlook our neighbors while focusing on our congregation or the world beyond. Instead, we are being called to grow in our ability to serve all three—our church, our community, and the world—together and with equal intention.

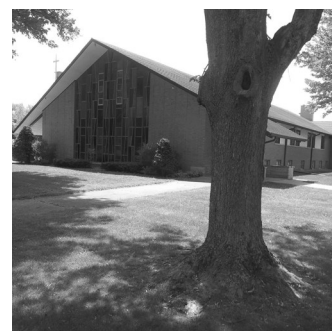
Jimmy Guffey



# SAGINAW FIRST

**Pastor Gabe & Teresa Beelen (5/25)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	28
Raised for all Purposes	\$78,519	Average Morning Worship Attendance	25
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

We are within the first thirty days of a new position leading the Saginaw First Church of the Nazarene. It has been like drinking water from a firehose of information with a church that has a rich history and a strong lineage within the district. We have already participated in one funeral. The focus right now is to get to know the congregation and all the intricacy functions of the church. They have not been without consistent leadership for a while, so the people that attend are long standing members who are fully dedicated to the church and its mission. The members and existing leadership are the backbone of the church that has held things together and doing the best that they could in an aging and shrinking congregation.

The act of service and hospitality is strong in this congregation with a willingness to want to serve the community and to be loving to those whom they encounter. This includes our neighbor, the Kempton Elementary School, in which we not only hope, but need to establish a working relationship with due to the existing usage of our parking lot and property. It is good to see that the church is there to serve our community. However, it is coming to a point in which we are praying that God will come to assist our church community in regards to parking lot wear and tear and an aging facility. We are placed in a community that has changed culturally from the church congregation. Out reach will be very important in connecting with those around us.

The church has an existing organization, called Narcotics Anonymous that uses the facility spaces for two recovery programs, one on Tuesday and another group meets on Wednesday. As we move into the year, we would like to move in Life Recovery groups including Marriage Enrichment and Men's and Women's ministries. We also have talked about bringing in Ground Works BISCMI program that is faith based and works with the city of Saginaw and their Domestic Violence Shelters. Our Vision is to purposefully engage the community and strengthen our congregation.



# SAGINAW JOURNEY OF GRACE

**Revs. Brent & Sharon Norman (10/20)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	1
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	1
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	22
Raised for all Purposes	\$30,922	Average Morning Worship Attendance	29
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	5

At Journey of Grace, now four years into God's mission in Saginaw Township and the surrounding communities, we are witnessing the faithful presence of Christ's light through both our spiritual growth and our outward ministry. Within our church body, our discipleship class has seen encouraging growth, with more individuals committed to deepening their relationship with Christ and living out their faith daily. This growth has fostered a spirit of unity, love, and intentional discipleship that reflects the light of Christ within our fellowship. As we grow spiritually, we are continually reminded that our mission extends beyond the church walls into the heart of the community God has called us to serve.

One powerful example of Christ's light shining through our church is our "Journey to Westdale" initiative. Through this ministry, we have supported and encouraged the staff of Westdale Elementary School with handwritten cards, thoughtful gifts, and faithful prayer, reminding them they are not alone in their work. Recognizing that many Westdale students live in the Camelot Apartments just across the street, we are extending our reach by partnering with local organizations to host a family fun day and resource event directly in the complex. This event will provide both joy and support to the children and families in the neighborhood, building bridges of hope and trust. These efforts reflect our desire to embody the heart of Christ—to see, serve, and love our neighbors in tangible and transformative ways.





# SAGINAW VALLEY

**Rev. Nathan & Amy Miller (11/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	2
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	5
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	183
Raised for all Purposes	\$338,091	Average Morning Worship Attendance	83
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	12

Walking by faith is hard when the cost is great and the outcome is uncertain. This year SVCNaz had the opportunity to meet the needs of the communities young children. For the last year we have been host to 1/3 of the counties preschoolers. We went from having 35-40 children and staff to having over 260. Every room, both kitchens and our gym were being filled with the activities of kids 6 months to 4 years old.

The events that led up to this happening were definitely providential, and the shortest summary is that two HeadStart locations were unexpectedly closed down and the county was scrambling to find a place for 16 classrooms. No one would take them in the entire county. There is always a concern with any Headstart location being closed for more that a couple of weeks. It puts the actual lives of some of the children at risk due to shelter, food, medical scarcity coupled with guardian neglect.

We have been building a rapport with the county and when they had nowhere else to turn, the director who knew us called and asked if we would be willing to let them come and essentially take over the entire campus minus the sanctuary and two offices: and that is literally, not figurative. Within 24 hours our Board said yes and Headstart drew up the plans and four days later our building was filled with children.

We did not know how this was going to go, or what all the pros and cons would be, but the community asked for our help specifically and we said yes. It has been so smooth and free of issues that only God gets the credit. Many things broke and many toilets replaced, but God was in all of it.

We still don't know what the full ramifications of this are going to be, or what God's blessing will look like from this, and He has already been pouring out His presence and power in our body of believers. We have a multiple families come and make our church their home and they weren't even aware of Headstart or their presence in our building. God is at work and we are grateful. It has been work and there are inconveniences, but God has provided in every way needed.

I will end this report with this last piece of data that ends up being just a number on a page at the end of the year for the County: because of SVCNaz opening our doors to Saginaw County, the Headstart program only missed 3 days of class. With the buildings not being habitable or ready for the entire school year unexpectedly, and being that the Headstart program provides food, shelter and accountability for the children's welfare, in the Michigan winter when there is more than a couple of weeks without the program running, the country loses at least one child to death from exposure and malnutrition. We were told that what we did for the County saved at least two children's lives.

God is at work, we are grateful, and He is still doing miracles in our midst; we see it everyday.

Rev. Nathan L Miller



# ST JOHNS

**Pastor Chris & Cassidy Miller (6/25)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	1
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	5
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	40
Raised for all Purposes	\$80,530	Average Morning Worship Attendance	32
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	0

Pastor Chris Miller and his wife, Cassidy were installed as Pastor of the St. Johns church on June 22nd, 2025.

Pastor Chris Miller is a student in the Ministry Preparation Program at Nazarene Bible College. He recently accepted his first senior pastorate at St. John's Church of the Nazarene, where he is honored to lead and serve the congregation. Chris received his District Minister's License in April 2025. In addition to his pastoral role, he is employed as a Route Supervisor at GFL Environmental and is committed to bi-vocational ministry as he continues his journey toward ordination. Chris and his wife, Cassidy, are deeply involved in a wide range of church ministries, including worship, teaching, outreach, impact, and missions. Together with their children— Jace, Harley, Abel, and Eliana—they enjoy spending time in fellowship, playing golf, attending christian concerts and movies, and reading Scripture as a family. Their home life is rooted in faith, music, and community. They are passionate about raising their children to know and follow Christ.



# SPARTA

**Rev. Tyler & Pastor Liz Hubbell  
(9/20)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	5
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	5
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	5
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	142
Raised for all Purposes	\$403,621	Average Morning Worship Attendance	169
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	30

The light of Christ is shining in Sparta! As we continue to follow the Lord's leading, we are learning what it means to partner with God's grace within our local congregation and in our community. The Lord has led us to continue serving meals to those in our community with food insecurity through our partnership with Hand2Hand. The light of Christ is shining brightly in a reliable bag of food for the weekend. Mentors met weekly throughout the year with elementary-aged kids through our partnership with Kids Hope USA. The light of Christ is shining brightly in these consistent one-on-one relationships. Many homes in our community were repaired at no cost to the homeowner as members of our congregation put their skills to work for our community. The light of Christ is shining brightly in gifts and time freely given.

Those examples are three examples of the light of Christ shining brightly outside of the walls of our church building. Inside the walls of our church building, we see much the same through the services and programs we offer. It shines through our drama program for school-aged kids. It shines through our gatherings for worship. It shines through our hospitality and through the grace and mercy extended to one another. The light of Christ is shining brightly as we are growing in grace.

Lest one might think that everything is smooth sailing in Sparta based on the examples above, I will say that we have our difficult scenarios too. Participation is not nearly as regular or predictable as we would like it to be. Getting volunteers is a regular struggle. We don't have as many baptisms as we would like. Because of the resurrection, however, even the darkest spots are not impossible to illuminate. The light of Christ will prevail as His Kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. And we will continue to do our best at seeing it break in while we love God and others well.

Tyler Hubbell  
Pastor  
Sparta Naz



# SPRING ARBOR

**Rev. Lonny Bumgardner (11/18)**

## **Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	2
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	80
Raised for all Purposes	\$178,091	Average Morning Worship Attendance	55
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	2

Spring Arbor Nazarene has had a great year of showing and sharing the light of Jesus within the church and to our community.

We have loved each other through the joys and messy realities of life. We have seen our children grow in wisdom and stature and been intentional in having family worship gatherings.

We have engaged in discipleship by studying the book of Hebrews and reviewing the series The Chosen in small group settings.

A major change for us was to shift our small group ministries to Sunday evenings from Wednesdays. We are now able to reach those who are busy during the week.

This presents a huge opportunity for us in the coming year to be present and engaging our community during the week at events and activities.

We have been the light to our community by having events focused on sharing the good news of Jesus with love, food and fun. Our Fall Glow Fest continues to grow and we shared the salvation message with all those in attendance. Our Easter weekend featured a pancake breakfast and then they heard the message of Jesus' resurrection in the Easter Jam program.

We have also continued to be a light to our community with our Helping Hands Pantry. Reaching 60+ families every month with food and personal needs items creates many opportunities to build and continue relationships outside our church walls.

In Spring Arbor we are creating a church that is known by how we love with the love of Jesus. We will "Be Love, Do Love, Go Love"

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Lonny Bumgardner



# STURGIS

**Rev. Bill & Rhonda Couchenour (9/22)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	4
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	1
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	3
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	261
Raised for all Purposes	\$280,257	Average Morning Worship Attendance	82
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	155

Greetings from your Sturgis Church of the Nazarene:

We belong together.

Galatians 6:9 "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." – To help us stay the course being true to His Word and Truth.

We have had a great year. We placed our building up for sale in January and are praying for a miracle. We had a youth retreat in April with several pastors from our district preaching. We have also had a revival with Rev. Mark Murphy preaching and ministering to us in song. We have had one baptism and taken in 3 new members. We participated in our Sturgis festival again and had a VBS.

We enjoyed having Rob North as a missionary speaker. He was headed to the outback of Australia! Another highlight of the year is our associate pastor Jesse graduated from NBC and for his graduation Dr. Scott Sherwood spoke. In April Pastor Jesse Sibert, his wife Liz and daughter answered the call to pastor the Ft. Recovery, Church of the Nazarene in Ft. Recovery, Ohio.

We celebrated 100 years of ministry in Sturgis, on November 10th. We gave out five DSA's that day. The celebration was awesome with a former pastor, attenders, members, evangelists, and pastors who were called while attending Sturgis COTN. We also had special music and two pastors who preached for us, Pastor/D.S. Dale Shaeffer from Florida and our own Pastor/D.S. Brad Dyrness.

God has blessed us. We belong to Him!

Pastor Bill Couchenour, Sturgis Church of the Nazarene





# SUMNER CENTER

**Rev. John & Deb Wright**  
**Lead Pastor's Report**



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	0
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	0
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	4
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	25
Raised for all Purposes	\$74,380	Average Morning Worship Attendance	27
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	4

As we near the completion of our first year of transition at Sumner Center, we reflect on a year marked by healing, love, and preparation. Through intentional efforts to strengthen relationships within the church body, implement systems for organization, and refine our plans for growth, we've created a foundation that fosters deeper connections with Christ and one another.

Our mission statement—*"Connecting with and serving others through Christ's love in the church and community"*—has guided our work and vision. Central to this focus has been the launch of key initiatives such as *Life Track*, designed to engage members in discipleship and church involvement, and the creation of *Life Groups*, which will provide space for further spiritual growth and community building. We are excited to soon celebrate baptisms, marking the fruits of this year's dedication to discipleship.

We have also prioritized community engagement, offering funeral dinners to families in need and hosting an impactful all-church meeting that gathered insights on our future vision. In preparation for ongoing outreach, we are readying our Hall to host weekly "Open Gym" nights, providing a safe and welcoming space for the broader community.

Throughout this year, we've seen a notable increase in participation in our weekly Bible Study and are anticipating the start of meaningful relationships within the Life Groups. Our church family has also grown through new membership, and the Spirit of Christ's love has been evident in the healing of relationships, the active prayer chain, and the various ways we have supported needs both within and outside of the church.

As we move forward, we do so with hope and anticipation for the next chapter, knowing that God is moving powerfully within our church and our community. This year has been one of growth and connection, and we look forward to continuing to be a beacon of Christ's light in all we do.



# THREE RIVERS

**Rev. Rich & Pastor Tracey Saunders  
(6/18)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	6
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	12
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	265
Raised for all Purposes	\$359,839	Average Morning Worship Attendance	136
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	40

TRNaz has been focused on our "Onward IN" calling since the first of the year. This calling comes in light of the Advent season, because Jesus' birth wasn't a once and done moment, but a once and always event. We've been working through what is our call to going "Onward IN" hope, joy, peace, love, humility, Lent, Resurrection, and now, The Spirit.

The impact of these messages as well as the extra ways we've sought to connect with one another, through YouVersion Bible Studies, Men's/Women's Studies, and to our Learning Hour connections, has helped to facilitate a deeper growth of relationship IN God, through Christ, empowered and invigorated by the Holy Spirit, and a deeper relationship with those inside AND outside the church body.

We've found ways to SERVE the community in an on-going basis through our partnership with other churches and the Three Rivers Community Kitchen, through our Foster Care Closet, Ellie's Closet, and through our partnering with Social/Case Workers and parents/children in the Foster Care system desiring to reconnect and reestablish familial connections, while also planning and executing bigger, "I Love My City – SERVE", events, which make a big splash impact on the physical community we're blessed to be among.

Three Rivers Church of the Nazarene, TRNaz for short, seeks to connect both inside and outside the walls of the church, while also opening our doors to ANY to come, providing our community with access for a variety of reasons, all in the hopes of making, through the Spirit, Christ-like disciples who make, by the Spirit, Christ-like disciples. To know Jesus is to know Truth and freedom unlike anything this world can offer and we take our call to know Him and make Him known to heart. Our mission statement, "Consistently sharing the love of Jesus," is an ever present call of the Holy Spirit that, while making things messy at times when life does what life does, connects us and binds us to God and to each other as we abide IN Him.

Pastor Rich Saunders, Lead Pastor, TRNaz



# VICKSBURG CHAPNAZ

**Revs. Brian & Ashley Robbins (1/24)**

## Co-Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	15
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	9
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	207
Raised for all Purposes	\$593,376	Average Morning Worship Attendance	300
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	50

Greetings Michigan District Family!

As we begin this annual report on behalf of our shared leadership team here at ChapNaz, we are once again overwhelmed with gratitude and thankfulness for our faith community. As Jesus declared in the gospel of John, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." Over the past year, our continued narrative beat has been to follow Jesus, become like Jesus, and do the things that Jesus does – walking in the light as he is in the light. Concluding our walk through the gospel of Mark in 2024, we began working through Paul's letter to the church in Rome at the beginning of 2025. This has been quite edifying for many in our community and we are so excited to see where Paul takes us next as we reimagine our own stories, weaving them into the broader narrative of God's story.

As a local church body, we remain faithfully committed to showering Christ's light within our immediate context. Last October, we began a fellowship initiative called 100 parties in 100 days. We challenged our community to connect outside of the Sunday morning worship hour in creative ways with NEW people. We offered our people the chance to practice hospitality, generosity, sharing, and cultivate Christian community. For a party to count, it had to include at least three households. Our community embraced the challenge and by the end of December, I am pleased to confirm that we indeed had over 100 parties in 100 days along with a much closer and connected family of faith.

Additionally, our ChapNaz Clothes Closet volunteers once again collected, washed, and organized thousands of donations this past year in order to clothe hundreds of families and children within the surrounding Vicksburg area. Our participation in Kid's HOPE at Indian Lake Elementary School continues to foster meaningful relationships with students, teachers, and families. We have also continued to support our local Generous Hands and South County Community Services in many different ways including food donations, monetary support, and sponsoring local families during the Christmas season.

Finally, we are looking forward to celebrating 75 years of ministry in our local context this coming fall! It will be a blessed time of remembering and anticipating what has been, currently is, and will soon be.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastors Ashley and Brian Robbins





# WHITE PIGEON LIGHTHOUSE

**Rev. Dan Griffes (11/16)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



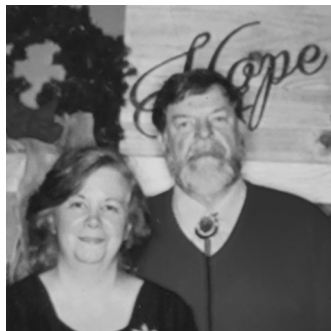
All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	3
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	2
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	10
Raised for all Purposes	\$28,739	Average Morning Worship Attendance	20
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	40

Lighthouse COTN: A Spirit Led Kingdom Franchise Ministry.

By the Power of the Holy Spirit, we support and facilitate multiple Kingdom ministries (franchises). Our Free Store, is a source of free: clothing, household items and non perishable food. It is also a meeting place for fellowship, spiritual counseling, and prayer for many people who do not attend Sunday morning. Our Saturday night free popcorn and movie ministry in the 1940's era theater building ministers to many people who do not attend Sunday morning. Our congregation encourages and supports the leadership of a very active Christian motorcycle ministry. This local CMA group reaches many people outside our church walls. We are in negotiations with a newly formed 501c recovery ministry regarding the use of our facilities for counseling/education/discipleship for residents of their addiction recovery shelter homes. We have a public prayer box on the main street where people can submit prayer requests. Two of our leaders provide Bible study and spiritual counsel by means of the internet and telephone to people across the US and Canada, as well several overseas countries. We proactively look for opportunities to individually share Jesus in our day to day lives. Several members of other congregations partner with us and our core group is growing in number. However, the most important growth is in our capacity for surrendered Kingdom ministry under the leadership and power of the Holy Spirit.

Approximately 10 months ago we had serious financial challenges with high utility bills for our 3 old buildings. We had an annual income of only \$25,000 with about \$26,000 indebtedness. Today, by obedience to the Spirit, we have: insulation upgrades to the ceilings and 4 walls of all three buildings, two new furnaces, and one new complete HVAC system. We are in the process of installing new siding on all three buildings. An \$85,000 renovation project is nearing completion with only \$21,000 additional debt. God has given us three energy efficient buildings, soon to look like new, ready for service in multiple Kingdom franchise ministries in White Pigeon.

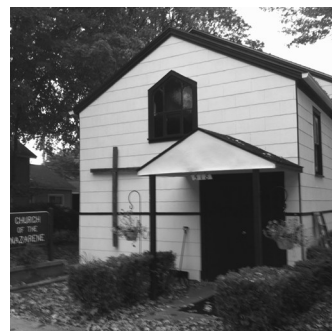
It is not by human might, power, or ingenuity that we minister in the Kingdom. It is by the Spirit that this project has been accomplished, and it is by the Spirit that we continue in a Kingdom focused, Holy Spirit surrendered, ministry in White Pigeon.



# WILLIAMSTON

**Rev. Sam & Anna Stone (8/96)**

## Lead Pastor's Report



All Budgets Paid In Full	YES	Number Called to Ministry (this year)	0
Participation in World Evang. Fund	YES	Number of New Believers	2
Participation in NBUSA	YES	Number of Baptisms	3
Participation in ONU Allocation	YES	Number of New Nazarenes	0
Participation in Dist. Fund Allocations	YES	Membership Total	12
Raised for all Purposes	\$19,350	Average Morning Worship Attendance	12
Participated in Compassionate Ministries	YES	Average Online Attendance	12

Dr. Carla Sunberg, Pastor Brad Dyrness, and members of this assembly,

It is my pleasure to give a report from Williamston Church of the Nazarene.

This past church year we as a church, disciplined those seeking Him, fed the hungry, housed the homeless, helped those who were helpless, and ministered to the sick.

We continued to minister to our small churches and their youth through Lansing Area and Zone Youth. We baptized 3 here at Indian Lake.

We continue our satellite ministry that was started in 2007 at a facility in Haslett.

God has been very good to us.

Pastor Sam Stone



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