



# Southwestern Ohio District News

February 20, 2026

## DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

### **FREE CHILDREN'S RESOURCES:**

USA/Canada Regional Team is thrilled to share **In the Kitchen**, our brand-new children's discipleship resources designed to engage kids and families in faith formation during the **Half-Million Mobilization**. These resources make learning about God interactive, fun, and memorable for your youngest members.

#### **What's included:**

- 8 Early Childhood Lessons – complete with activities and printables
- 8 Elementary Worship Services – includes printables, presentation slides, and instructional videos
- 8 Kids' Moments – designed to accompany the adult sermons
- Journey Jam: A Family Prayer Experience – interactive prayer for the whole family
- 50 Devotions for Kids and Families – for everyday engagement with God

These resources were thoughtfully created by a team of **Nazarenes serving in local churches**, in partnership with **Equip to Engage, USA/Canada Kids, and The Kidmin Creatives**. They are designed to be **easy for leaders and volunteers to use** while keeping kids actively involved in learning and worship. Let's equip the next generation to know, love, and serve God as we join in united prayer this season! [Download them today — completely FREE for your church](#)

### **PRAYING FOR CONVENTIONS AND ASSEMBLY:**

Saturday, July 11 will be Nazarene Missions International beginning at 9:00 AM and concluding at noon with a luncheon. This year we will elect a new NMI President as our great leader, Dr. Kurt Johnson hands off the baton of leadership of our missions thrust. Following lunch at 1:00 PM will be the start of Nazarene Discipleship International's "A Disciples' Gathering." Denominational President Dr. Sam Barber will begin the first session at 1:00 PM. It would be great if people from NMI would stay for NDI. These will conclude by 5:00 PM

Our ordination service will be Sunday night, July 12 at 6:00 PM. District Assembly will begin at 9:00 AM on Monday, July 13. This is a **HUGE** year as we will elect a new District Superintendent and delegates to General Conventions and Assembly which takes place in Kansas City, June 25 through July 2, 2027.

It would be **WONDERFUL** if you plan to attend these meetings to let us know so we can provide sufficient childcare.

### **PRAYER PROMPT:**

--Pastor Dave Young is home from the hospital following back surgery.

### **NEWS!**

--North Point Community Church has met for two Sundays at their new location! **CONGRATULATIONS** Pastor Bob Hussong and North Point church family!  
--Last Sunday, Lebanon Countryside voted to complete their transition period by having Pastor Nick McDowell as the new lead pastor. His installation will be March 1<sup>st</sup>. Pastor Lester Jones will complete his time with Countryside the last day of May.

### **MINISTER & SPOUSE DINNER & COMMUNION SERVICE:**

**Who:** Any pastor and their spouse

**When:** Monday, March 16, 2026

**Where:** Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center, 3820 Logan Creek Lane, West Harrison, IN 47060

**Dinner:** 6:15 PM | **Worship:** 7:15 PM

**Cost:** \$12.50 | **RSVP by:** **Thursday, February 26 – No late reservations will be accepted.**

**Register:** 812-637-3777 or email [highergroundservice@gmail.com](mailto:highergroundservice@gmail.com)

**For More Information:** Click on link [COMMUNION SERVICE](#)

## **\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*MEN'S MINISTRY EVENT:**

Attend in person, host the livestream, or encourage men to participate from home.

This July 17–18, 2026, the 1613 Men's Conference will gather thousands of men in Cincinnati, Ohio—or through a nationwide livestream—for two days of biblical teaching, courage, and clarity rooted in **1 Corinthians 16:13–14**. More than 1,400 men from 40 states and Canada are already registered to attend in Cincinnati, and nearly 100 churches have already signed up to **HOST** the livestream (Central, Mountain and Pacific friendly) as an **equipping and outreach** opportunity.

Your church can participate in three ways:

- **Attend in person** with your men in Cincinnati
- **Host the livestream** at your church as a men's event or outreach
- **Encourage individual men** to attend or stream from home

Every speaker will be **present in-person in Cincinnati**, bringing powerful, Christ-centered messages designed to challenge, encourage, and equip men to lead with strength and humility.

Featured speakers include Pastor Joby Martin, Wes Huff, Brian Dawkins, Anthony Muñoz, Joel Salatin, Nick Freitas, John Lovell, and more. If traveling isn't feasible, hosting the livestream allows your church to gather men locally while participating in a larger national movement—without the logistics of travel or overnight costs. You can learn more, explore hosting options, and to register [CLICK HERE](#).

## **DISTRICT CALENDAR – February/March:**

02/24/26 – Prime Time Council Meeting, 10:30 AM, District Office

02/28/26 – Children's Quiz, 10:00 AM, North & South: Xenia Nazarene 1204 West Second Street Xenia, OH 45385

03/02 – 03/04/26 – NYI Leadership Conference (SLC)

03/03/26 – District Advisory Board, 7:00 PM, District Office

03/06/26 – SWO District Office Closed

03/06/26 – SWO District PrimeTime, 10:30 AM, La Comedia Dinner Theatre, Springboro, OH [LA COMEDIA](#)

03/06/26 – Elevate, 6:00 PM – Midnight, Kingdom Sports

03/07/26 – Elevate, 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM, Parkview

03/11/26 – Retired Pastor's & Spouse Lunch, 11:45 AM, Hawks Hall, West Chester Nazarene [LUNCHEON](#)

03/13 – 3/14/26 – THRiVE Women's Conference, West Chester Nazarene, [THRiVE 2026](#), [POSTCARD](#)

03/14/26 – SWO NYI Quiz Meet, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM, West Carrollton Nazarene

03/16 – 05/04/26 – (Mondays) NCOS (Previously NMDC), 6:00 PM, District Office, Mission, Ministry & Identity of the COTN [REGISTRATION](#)

03/16/26 – Minister & Spouse Dinner & Communion, 6:15 PM, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center [COMMUNION](#)

03/17/26 – Board of Ministry Meeting, 1:00 PM, District Office

03/19 – 05/07/26 – (Thursdays) NCOS (Previously NMDC), 6:00 PM, District Office, Celebration of Women in Ministry [REGISTRATION](#)

03/20/26 – **REPORTING DUE:** First Time District License

03/20/26 – **REPORTING DUE:** District License Renewal Forms

03/26/26 – Youth Leader Summit, MVNU

03/30/26 – NYI Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, District Office



## **NDI QUICK LINKS:**

NDI Facebook [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Hub Newsletter Signup [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Upcoming Events: [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Website [CLICK HERE](#)

## **NEXT QUIZ MEET – 2/28/26:**

Children's quizzing will be held at 10:00 AM, North & South at Xenia Nazarene

## **THRiVE 2026:**

**What:** THRiVE creates an atmosphere for ladies of all ages to gather in worship, prayer, and hearing from His word.

**Who:** All women including Teens and Girls grades K-6

**When:** Friday, March 13 Appetizers 6:30 PM, Saturday, March 14 Breakfast 9:00 AM

**Where:** West Chester Nazarene Church, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069

**Theme:** Where Your Treasure Is | Matthew 6:21

**Video:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Video:** [CLICK HERE](#) to hear how the how THRiVE Ministry began.

**Speakers:** [WEBSITE](#)

**Cost:** Adults, Littles, & Teens: \$17 online | \$20 at the door | \$45 Family

**Registration:** [CLICK HERE](#)

**THRiVE Teens:** [CLICK HERE](#) | **THRiVE Littles:** [CLICK HERE](#)

For More Information click on the following links: [THRiVE 2026](#), [POSTCARD](#), or email [thriveministrytowomen@gmail.com](mailto:thriveministrytowomen@gmail.com)



## **GLOBAL MISSIONS:**

### **ALABASTER OFFERING:**

During an NMI meeting in the late 1940s, as the world emerged from the shadows of war, Elizabeth Vennum placed an alabaster box on the table and asked, *“What could God do if we filled this with love for the world?”* Her gesture sparked a movement. Soon, churches everywhere were collecting spare change—nickels, pennies, folded bills—each gift offered with faith that God would multiply it. Over the years, those coins became cornerstones. Churches, schools, and clinics were rising where none had stood. Today, thousands worship, learn, heal, and missionaries live in spaces funded by Alabaster. Lives are being transformed around the world through this simple offering. Thank you for setting aside a Sunday or two to receive an Alabaster Offering—your generosity will bless the world. [Alabaster](#)

### **SWORD OPPORTUNITY TO JAMAICA:**

SWORD has been asked, by Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, to bring our disaster team to Jamaica to assist with the cleanup and restoration after Hurricane Melitta delivered a devastating blow to the island on October 28, 2025. Much of the island is in tremendous need of repair. We are looking for skilled laborers that are willing to join our team as we travel to show Christ’s love through our hard work to help restore the church and bring hope to the people. There are at least 10 Nazarene churches that are in need of major repairs with three being a total loss. If you have an interest in joining our team on March 9-14, please contact Ed Dyer at 513-615-4659 [edyer927@gmail.com](mailto:edyer927@gmail.com)



### **NYI QUICK LINKS:**

Calendar: [CLICK HERE](#)

Communication: [CLICK HERE](#)

Facebook Page: [CLICK HERE](#)

Instagram: [CLICK HERE](#)

Nazarene Youth Conference 2026 Facebook: [CLICK HERE](#)

Website: [CLICK HERE](#)

## **ELEVATE 2026:**

**What:** What is Elevate? It is a district-wide talent competition, designed to share talents God has given to us! Get ready to compete against each other at **Elevate 2026!** Join us for an exciting weekend of competition, worship, and unity with students from across the area.

**Who:** Teens (grades 7-12) or if you like to play sports, sing, and compete!

**Date:** March 6-7, 2026

**Location-March 6<sup>th</sup>:** Kingdom Sports Center, 440 Watkins Glen Drive, Franklin, OH 45005

Guys & Girls Volleyball & Some Basketball, Doors Open 5:00 PM, Coaches Meeting 6:00 PM, Events 6:15-Midnight

**Location-March 7<sup>th</sup>:** Parkview Nazarene, 4701 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton, OH 45429

Talent Competition, Basketball, Hot Shot, Doors Open 8:00 AM, Service begins 9:00 AM

### **New This Year!**

Mixed Team Competitions designed to build unity

Camp Scholarship prizes awarded to winners

**Cost:** \$35 (February 12<sup>th</sup> - March 4<sup>th</sup>)

**Note:** Students must be registered by February 25<sup>th</sup> to receive an event shirt.

**Lunch Option:** \$10 Cane's 3-finger combo (includes toast & drink – no need to leave!)

**Registration:** Pay by Credit Card: [CLICK HERE](#)

Pay by Check: [CLICK HERE](#)

**Questions:** Contact Cedric Hart at [cedric@daytonnaz.com](mailto:cedric@daytonnaz.com)

## **SWO NYC 2026:**

Details are unfolding regarding NYC, and they are exciting! From flying in our own plane, to our Field Event being held at East High (think High School Musical...) this trip will be one to remember! We are in constant prayer for each adult and student who will be attending NYC! God is going to do amazing things in their lives! Stay tuned for more details!

### Payment Deadlines:

--March 1, 2026: \$825 SWO NYI Payment Deadline

--May 1, 2026: \$900 FINAL PAYMENT DUE

### Payment Instructions:

To minimize processing fees and to save you money, we'll be collecting payments via **check**.

**How it works:** Students turn in payments to their **local church, made payable to your local church**. Youth pastors/leaders will write **one check payable to SWO NYI**, including a list of students receiving credit. Our treasurer will be updating payments as they are received into your students registration account.

### Communication Channels:

Stay up to date with all things NYC 2026 through:

- **District Email**
- **Facebook Group: [SWO NYC 2026](#)** - Encourage parents to join!

**Texting System:** Launching soon as we receive phone numbers from registration!

- Stay tuned for a **parent meeting in May** to go over finalized details for our trip

**Questions:** Ross Frank – SWO NYC Coordinator: [ross@wcnaz.church](mailto:ross@wcnaz.church)

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## **CHURCH COMMUNICATION**

### **RISE AND SHINE 5K RUN/WALK:**

Middletown Naz is having a 5K Run/Walk on, April 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 10AM until Noon. All ages, all paces! Everyone's invited to our church 5K and kids fun run! Run or walk, together we're raising funds for critical building repairs so our church can continue serving for years to come. Participants get a T-shirt, key chain and celebratory meal! For more information [CLICK HERE](#), or email Leslie at [leslie@middnaz.org](mailto:leslie@middnaz.org).

Have a great weekend!

SWO District Office

To unsubscribe, please call 513-777-5600 or email [swonaz@swonaz.org](mailto:swonaz@swonaz.org)