



Southwestern Ohio District News

March 13, 2026

DISTRICT COMMUNICATION



CONGRATS to Pastor Nick (Laura and Declan) McDowell who was installed on Sunday March 1st as the pastor of Countryside. This completed the transition of Pastor Lester Jones.



CONGRATULATIONS GEORGETOWN CHURCH WITH NEW PASTOR MIKE JACKSON AND HIS WIFE, HOLLY!!! Georgetown had a GREAT crowd on Sunday to welcome and be part of the installation of their new pastor. Excitement and energy were evident in the worship service, along with the vision of great days ahead.



WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE celebrated the burning of their mortgage on March 1st. Pastors Dan Justice, Bob Highley, Deana Dupler, and Dan McLean were all a part of this special day!

ELEVATE FEATURES OVER 125 YOUTH SHARING THEIR TALENTS:

Last Friday Night at Kingdom Sports girls' volleyball and guys' basketball took place. Sportsmanship and friendship were displayed alongside heated competition. Parkview was the setting for musical talent, art displays, videography, table tennis, chess matches and math testing. [CLICK HERE](#) to view list of the top winners that will advance to Mount Vernon Nazarene University in June. Way to go! Our youth are WONDERFUL!!!

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS:

- Rev. Paul and Sharon Watkins (55th April 3) 128 Rankin Road / Tunnelton, WV 26444-9072
- Rev. Steve and Marsha Hurles (55th April 16) 1005 Burgoyne Drive / Cincinnati, OH 45245-1510
- Rev. Howard and Nancy Becker (65th May 6) 4038 Timber Creek Drive / Cincinnati, OH 45245-1937

THIS SUNDAY BETHEL CHURCH WILL CELEBRATE THE RENOVATION OF THEIR MAIN BUILDING.

Congratulations to Pastor Kyle Lanham and the Bethel Church Family!

PRAYER PROMPTS:

- Chris Bean (InterVarsity Ministry) is in treatment for Stage 4 Advanced Metastatic Melanoma in both lungs.
- Pastor Ray Grilliot Jr. (Oxford) wife Melinda will be having a surgery on April 8th.

-- Pastor Bob Vogelmann's wife Carolyn not feeling well.

FROM YOUR DISTRICT SECRETARY:

To:

- All Locally Licensed ministers who are applying for their first District License.
- All District Licensed ministers seeking renewal of their license.
- All District Licensed ministers who will apply for ordination this year.

Registration invites for this year's Ministerial Credentials Retreat at Higher Ground, April 24-25, went out recently.

Questions? Didn't receive an invite? Please contact me: swodistsec@swonaz.org

--Dave Crofford, District Secretary

FREE WEBINAR – BEING DISCIPLED BY JESUS:

What: Jesus calls us to make disciples who make disciples. While the mission is unmistakable, the strategy for fulfilling it is often less clearly defined. Nazarene Discipleship International, under the leadership of Dr. Sam Barber, defines discipleship as: "Making disciples by following Jesus and including others in our journey of grace."

Just as Jesus intentionally disciplined The Twelve, he continues to disciple us today—through his Word, his Body, and his indwelling Spirit. He does this through his people, inviting us to walk alongside others as they learn to follow him. In that process, they not only grow as disciples but are equipped to become disciple-makers themselves.

"Discipled by Jesus" keeps the focus where it belongs—on Jesus. It is about listening to him, trusting him, obeying him, and living in an accountable community as we follow him together.

For more than 50 years, [Rev. Dale Wine](#) has disciplined hundreds who have gone on to disciple hundreds more. Join this seasoned practitioner of disciple-making and gain the clarity, conviction, and practical guidance you need to faithfully live out the Great Commission.

When: March 26, 2026

Time: Noon (CTS)

Speaker: Rev. Dale Wine

Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

For More Information: Contact DiscipleshipPlace@nazarene.org

SWO ORDINATION SERVICE 2026:

Ordination Service – Sunday, July 12th at 6:00 PM (West Chester Ohio, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069)

SWO DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 2026:

District Assembly – Monday, July 13th at 9:00 AM (West Chester Ohio, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069)

CAMP MEETING 7/15 – 7/19/26:

What: District Camp Meeting starting Wednesday, July 15 at 7:30 PM, Dr. David Busic will be speaking.

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

When: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 – service begins at 7:30 PM (dinner available from 5:15 PM - 6:30 PM)

Registration: Begins January 5, 2026

Registrations for Camp Meeting must include a deposit of \$55 if staying in the lodge, \$40 if staying in the dorm, and \$30 if staying in the RV/Camping area.

If you have any questions, please contact Higher Ground Conference and Retreat Center (812) 637-3777.

OUT OF THE OFFICE:

Pastor Bob will be out of the office March 19th through March 27th. If this is an urgent matter, please contact the District Office at 513-777-5600 or Pastor Dave Crofford at 513-429-8535.

DISTRICT CALENDAR – March/April :

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

April

04/03/26 – Good Friday, District Office Closed

04/05/26 – Easter

04/06/26 – Easter Monday, District Office Closed

04/07/26 – Nominating Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM, District Office

04/11/26 – Children's Quiz, 10:00 AM, TBA

04/16/26 – NDI Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, District Office

04/17 – 04/18/26 – Middle School Only, MVNU

04/18/26 – NMI Council Meeting, 9:00 AM, District Office

04/24 - 04/25/26 – Credentials Retreat, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center

04/24/26 – REPORT DUE: Annual Reporting Forms (Non-Sr. Pastors)

04/24/26 – REPORT DUE: All Other Minister's Reports (For those not filing a Sr. Pastor's Report)

04/28/26 – District PrimeTime Council Meeting, 10:30 AM, District Office



NDI QUICK LINKS:

NDI Facebook [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Hub Newsletter Signup [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Upcoming Events: [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Website [CLICK HERE](#)

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 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

SWO DISTRICT PRIMETIME RETREAT:

When: May 11-13, 2026, begins Monday with dinner at 5:00 PM

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

Cost: \$225 per couple (double occupancy)

\$115 per person (double occupancy)

\$150 per person (single occupancy)

\$100 for Retired or Active Ministry Couples

One meal & service \$15 / Two meals & service \$25

RSVP: 812-637-3777

Music: Pastor John Stone

Speakers: Dr. J.K. Warrick, Revs. Paige Graves, Gary Morgan, Jared Horne, and Dr. Mark Lail

Questions?? Contact Rev. Gary Morgan at pastorg.journeynaz@gmail.com or click on link [PRIMETIME RETREAT](#)



2026 SWO JUNIOR PROJECT:

This year's Junior project for 2025-26 will be Playgrounds for Venezuela. We are going to help get into action where churches can have a welcoming space for families in the community. This will help remove barriers, allowing churches to develop deeper relationships with the families they serve and reach their souls for Jesus! This year's goal will fund the construction of two playgrounds. **Goal:** \$5,000, **Submit Offerings to:** SWO NMI, Vickie Rocheleau, 316 Macready Avenue, Monroe, OH 45050
Children's NMI Coordinator: Elizabeth Bennington ebennington2004@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](#)

NEXT TEEN QUIZ MEET – 03/14/26:

The next quiz will be 9:30 AM at West Carrollton Nazarene, 550 South Elm Street, West Carrollton, OH 45449
For More Information: Contact Greg Kindle at gkindle90@gmail.com.

CHURCH COMMUNICATION

MESSIANIC JEW EVANGELIST SPEAKER:

Germantown Nazarene will be hosting Messianic Jew Evangelist Doug Carmel on March 29th at 6:00 PM. He will be presenting "Christ in the Passover – An Interactive Seder". The ceremonial teaching includes Passover, songs and ceremonial foods. Mr. Carmel is an amazing speaker and you are guaranteed an exciting and educational evening. **Please RSVP to** rtaulbee@nmsu.edu by March 25th.

CHAIRS NEEDED:

Norwood Church is in need of 40-50 chairs for their sanctuary. If you have any you can donate that are in good shape similar to the photo [CLICK HERE](#), please contact Pastor Cody McNichols at cmcnicholas@snclife.org or by phone at 740-485-4201.

Have a great weekend!

SWO District Office

To unsubscribe, please call 513-777-5600 or email swonaz@swonaz.org