



# Southwestern Ohio District News

June 12, 2026

## DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

**YOUTH CAMP** begins on Monday at Higher Ground. Please pray for our campers, counselors, directors, and ministry team. Youth camp is where many of us built a firm footing that helps us through the tough times of growth.

**DISTRICT CONVENTIONS AND ASSEMBLY** are just a month from tomorrow. Please pray for these important times of information and leadership selection. Camp Meeting begins on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Instead of thinking about camp meeting as something you should do, please consider it as a time of spiritual growth and renewal for you and your church. Dr. David Busic is excellent! You could not hear a finer preacher.

### **PRAYER PROMPTS:**

--Pastor Chris Bean is our Campus Ministries Director for USA/Canada. Chris is battling a cancer diagnosis and needs our prayers.  
--Pastor Mark Stevens is our leader for Target Dayton. Please pray for Mark and Cindi as they seek healing for Mark's cancer.

**PASTORS' REPORTS** were due last Friday. Please pray for our pastors as they complete these required tasks.

**SWO NYI** came in third at MVNU Blast. We were excellent in athletics but could have done better with more participation in other areas. Thank to our youth for representing us in this eight-district event.

### **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Congratulations to our SWO churches—all but 6 have either completed their annual APR (Annual Pastor's Report) or are well underway! A good number (though not AS many) have finalized their District reporting as well. Haven't started, and not sure where to get your forms? Click on the link: <https://www.swonaz.org/resources#MinistersReporting>. Scroll down to: Year-End Reporting Forms. --Dave Crofford, District Secretary

### **BECOMING CHRISTLIKE DISCIPLES GRANT:**

Thanks to the continued generosity of a donor, we are grateful to offer additional funding and even more grant opportunities for Becoming Christlike Disciples ministries.

It is our prayer that these funds will go toward ministries focused on the Cycle of Resurgence: Bringing People to Jesus, Becoming Christlike Disciples, and Blessing Our Communities. As followers of Christ, we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus, serving and loving those around us in meaningful and transformative ways.

There are two types of grants:

- **A one-time \$500 non-matching grant** (geared toward but not limited to churches with 100 people or fewer)
- **A \$1,000 matching grant** (your church contributes \$1,000 and we match it with \$1,000)

It does not matter where the \$1,000 funds come from...church budget, donation, offering, etc.)

**Before applying, please carefully read the instructions and criteria below.**

The purpose of this grant is simple: **To support creative ministries that help people Become Christlike Disciples.** Funds may be used to launch or expand outreach efforts that engage your community and introduce people to the hope of the gospel.

Examples of ministries that qualify include **Alpha, Upward Sports, Ministry Designs, community gardens, Vacation Bible School**, and many others. We know every church reaches its community differently, so we encourage you to consider what opportunity would best help your church connect with those who may not yet know Christ.

Please note that **building-related expenses generally do not qualify**, unless they are directly tied to a ministry specifically designed to engage people outside the church community.

As you consider how your church might use this grant to Bring People to Jesus, here are a few ministry examples to explore (these are simply examples and are not required):

- [Alpha](#)  
Alpha creates space for honest conversations about life's biggest questions through a series of interactive sessions. Churches may use grant funds to help start Alpha and provide meals during the eight-week gathering.
- [Upward Sports](#)  
Upward Sports uses athletics as a powerful outreach tool, helping churches connect with families while sharing the message of Jesus. Upward also offers a **\$500 start-up grant**, which could be combined with this opportunity. Upward is also currently running a promotion where churches can receive two free soccer goals when starting a soccer league this fall!
- [Ministry Designs](#)  
Ministry Designs helps churches create and maintain professional websites. A strong online presence helps people in your community find your church and engage with your ministries. Grant funds could support the **\$25/month website hosting subscription**.

**When applying it is very important that you use as much detail as possible. Please only apply for ONE of the two grant opportunities per church, either the \$500 grant or the \$1,000 grant. [Applications are now open!](#)**

We are excited to see how God will use these resources to empower churches across our region to reach new people and help them Become Christlike Disciples.

For any additional questions please feel free to email Bailey Friberg ([bfriberg@usacanadaregion.org](mailto:bfriberg@usacanadaregion.org))

**NOTE:**

*\*If you do receive a grant, there will be a 10-week wait for the disbursement of funds.*

*\*If you have applied in the past but were not approved, please feel free to apply again! We receive hundreds of applications, and we would love the opportunity to reconsider your ministry idea in this new round.*

**\*Applications will close [June 15th](#)**

Grace and peace, USA/Canada Regional Team

**100% OF BUDGETS PAID?**

Thank you to those churches who have communicated to the district office about paying their budgets. If your church has not, please let us know if your church has given to the World Evangelism Fund, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Pensions and Benefits, and the District Budget. The tracking through the Annual Pastors Reporting sometimes lags behind in reporting, so the best way to list which church has met these obligations is to ask. Thank you!!!

**DISTRICT CALENDAR – June/July:**

06/15 – 06/19/26 – SWO Teen Camp @ Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center [CAMP SCHEDULE](#) [PACKING LIST](#)

06/21/26 – Happy Father's Day!

06/21 – 06/23/26 – Children's Camp (Grades 1-3), Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center [KIDS CAMP](#)

06/24 – 06/27/26 – Children's Camp (Grades 4-6), Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center [KIDS CAMP](#)

06/28 – 7/06/26 – NYC 2025, Salt Lake City, UT

**July**

07/03/26 – Independence Day Observed, District Office Closed

07/04/26 – Independence Day

07/11/26 – NMI Convention, 9:00 AM, West Chester Nazarene, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069

07/11/26 – NDI Disciples Gathering, 1:30 PM, WCN, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069 [FLYER](#) [SCHEDULE](#)

07/12/26 – District Ordination Service, 6:00 PM, West Chester Nazarene, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069

07/13/26 – District Assembly, 9:00 AM, West Chester Nazarene, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069

07/15 – 07/19/26 Camp Meeting, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center

07/16/26 – PrimeTime Day, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center

07/16/26 – Retired Pastor & Spouse Dinner, 5:15 PM, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center [PRIMETIME DAY](#)

07/17/26 – SWO NYI Worship Night, 7:00 PM, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center

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### **NDI QUICK LINKS:**

NDI Facebook [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Hub Newsletter Signup [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Upcoming Events: [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Website [CLICK HERE](#)

### **SWO NDI DISCIPLES GATHERING:**

**When:** Saturday, July 11, 2026

**Where:** West Chester Nazarene, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069

**Time:** 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM (*Registration begins at 12:00 PM*)

**Lunch:** 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (City Barbeque)

**Cost:** \$10 in advance by June 30th /\$12 if purchased on starting July 1st or after

**RSVP:** **Email Pastor Kalyn who is attending and if you are having lunch**

**Event Verse:** Therefore, go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). The Great Commission

**Speakers:** Dr. Sam Barber, Dr. Mike Benson, Dr. Scott Rainey, Rev. John Comstock, Pastor Emily Skillen, Pastor Darlene Franks, Pastor Teresa Bowden.

**Childcare:** Available (child discipleship services and teaching about discipleship for children)

**For more information:** Click on links [FLYER](#) or [SCHEDULE](#)

**Questions:** Contact Pastor Kalyn Vogelmann [kalynv73@gmail.com](mailto:kalynv73@gmail.com) or Eric Johnson, [eric.tothej@gmail.com](mailto:eric.tothej@gmail.com)



### **NMI CONVENTION:**

**When:** Saturday, July 11, 2026

**Where:** West Chester Nazarene, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069

**Time:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (*Registration begins at 8:30 AM*)

**Lunch:** 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM (City Barbeque) **Click on:** [Lunch Ticket Order Form](#)

**Cost:** \$10 in advance / \$12 after deadline

**RSVP:** [stephaniewagers24@yahoo.com](mailto:stephaniewagers24@yahoo.com)

**Special Speakers:** Kurt & Holly Johnson, missionaries to Poland

**Childcare:** Available

#### **Important Items:**

- Election of **delegates** for the 2027 General MI Convention
- Election of a **new NMI President** (Kurt Johnson retiring this year)

Please send nominations to: [kurt@kdconsulting.com](mailto:kurt@kdconsulting.com)

#### **What to Expect:**

- March of Flags
- Presentations on the district NMI ministry

- Celebration of local church mission involvement
- Collection of **Links funds**
- **Deputation offerings** for missionaries

Drawings will take place during lunch, including a Work & Witness (Teams) scholarship. Please send information about your church's mission trips, teams, or activities to: Donis Williams – [iliv2wrshp@gmail.com](mailto:iliv2wrshp@gmail.com)

**Schedule Change:** Based on last year's feedback, the missionary service will not be held on the same day. Instead, a district-wide missionary service will be scheduled this fall along with a deputation tour. More details to come.



### **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](#)

### **SWO NYI WORSHIP NIGHT:**

**When:** July 17, 2026

**Where:** Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center

**Details:** We will be gathering as a district at Camp meeting to celebrate what God has done this summer through events like NYC and Camp, as well as what is happening in the local church. This takes the place of our NYI Day at Higher Ground, but this is a way to still be connected and a part. Service starts at 7:00 PM in the Graves Center. Worship will be led by our district youth. We will have a special treat afterwards. Make plans to come!

## **CHURCH COMMUNICATION**

### **GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT:**

Be Hope Church is honored to host the Global Leadership Summit on August 6–7, 2026, and I'd love for you to join us for this impactful leadership experience because I see leadership in you.

You have influence, and that's exactly why I wanted to personally invite you. The Global Leadership Summit is a two-day event designed to inspire and equip leaders at every level through practical teaching, powerful storytelling, and insights from globally respected leaders.

#### **Event Details:**

- Dates: August 6–7, 2026
- Location: Be Hope Church, 1850 N. Fairfield Rd, Beavercreek, OH
- Registration Information: [www.behope.church/summit](http://www.behope.church/summit)

I'm confident this experience will encourage and equip you to lead with even greater clarity, confidence, and impact. Please let me know if you have any questions. We hope you'll join us!

JC Slone, Executive Administrator  
Be Hope Church, 937-426-3926

Have a great weekend!

SWO District Office

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