



Southwestern Ohio District News

September 11, 2026

DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

Tracy and I thank God for the pastors and lay leaders across the Southwestern Ohio District. We are with 78 DS's and their spouses this week receiving training. As we listen to other DS's, we feel grateful to serve on a district that is unified with no serious conflict. This is not the case on several districts. Thank you for staying engaged in the mission of your local church. May God bless your weekend services and move in a significant way. This email is full of important information so please take the time to stay informed. Follow the district Facebook page (Southwestern Ohio Nazarene District) Blessings!!

Daryl

SWO QUICK LINKS:

District Website [CLICK HERE](#)

Facebook [CLICK HERE](#)

Newsletter Signup [CLICK HERE](#)

PRAYER PROMPT:

--Pastor Dave Crofford's (District Office) wife Cindy who is recovering at home from recent surgery.

--Remember those innocent lives that were lost on September 11, 2001, and keep their families in our hearts and prayers.

CAREY NIEUWHOF COMING TO MVNU!

Dear Pastors & Church Leaders,

We are thrilled to announce that Carey Nieuwhof will be joining us for our next Pastor's Leadership Day at Mount Vernon Nazarene University on **Tuesday, November 3!** This year, we are excited to partner with Tragedy into Triumph to make this special event possible. Carey Nieuwhof is a best-selling author, speaker, podcaster, leadership expert, former attorney, and church planter. He is the founder of The Art of Leadership Academy and host of the Carey Nieuwhof Leadership Podcast, which has been downloaded more than 30 million times and ranks among the top leadership podcasts in the world. This Pastor's Leadership Day will look a little different from previous years. Carey will begin the day with a special Pastor's Leadership Day session from 2:00–4:00 PM in R.R. Hodges Chapel & Auditorium, designed specifically to encourage and equip pastors and ministry leaders. Following the afternoon session, we'll gather for dinner on campus before returning to the chapel for a 7:00 PM worship service. During the evening, Carey will share his personal story of burnout and the season when, despite experiencing tremendous outward success in ministry, his inner world began to fall apart. His story is a powerful reminder of the importance of caring for our souls, recognizing our limits, and pursuing a healthy and sustainable life in ministry. We are incredibly excited to welcome Carey to MVNU and to spend this day investing in pastors and ministry leaders from across our region. **Save the date — Tuesday, November 3.** More details and registration link will open in 2 weeks. -Christa McNichols

MVNU HOMECOMING:

Reconnect with lifelong friends, mentors, and others on November 13 & 14, 2026. For additional information [CLICK HERE](#).

31st GENERAL ASSEMBLY & CONVENTIONS:

The Church of the Nazarene will gather for the 31st General Assembly & Conventions, taking place June 25 through July 2 in Kansas City, Missouri. This event brings together Nazarenes from around the world to worship, discern God's direction, and celebrate what He is doing in and through our global family. The decisions made in the business meetings will support and shape the future of our denomination--making your prayer and support for our elected delegates vitally important. This is not just for pastors and leaders, but for all Nazarenes! This gathering also aims to be family friendly. General Assembly Kids will provide dedicated, secure, and age-appropriate worship experiences for children ages 2 through 12 as well as host General Assembly Kids Quiz. NYI will hold conventions and host a National Quiz for USA/Canada teens. Individuals, families, and friends can participate in Love Your Neighbor '27, serving the local community. Each Nazarene University hosts alumni gatherings. Plus, the exhibit hall and amazing worship services will have something for everyone! [CLICK HERE](#) and sign up to receive updates. We encourage you to

stay connected, be in prayer, and consider how God may invite you to be part of this important moment in the life of our global church.

DISTRICT CALENDAR – September/October:

09/12/26 – NYI Teen Quiz Meet, 9:30 AM, West Carrollton, 550 South Elm Street, West Carrollton, OH 45449
09/14/26 – NYI Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, District Office
09/15/26 – PrimeTime Council Meeting, 10:30 AM, District Office
09/20/26 – SWO NMI Missions Council Meeting, 4:00 PM, Fairfield Nazarene, 12190 E. Miami River Road, Cincinnati, OH 45252
09/20/26 – NMI President's Meeting, 4:30 PM, Fairfield Nazarene, 12190 E. Miami River Road, Cincinnati, OH 45252
09/20/26 – SWO NMI Rally, 6:00 PM, Fairfield Nazarene, 12190 E. Miami River Road, Cincinnati, OH 45252 [RALLY](#)
09/24/26 – NDI Council Meeting, 6:30 PM, District Office
09/27/26 – THRiVE Leadership Meeting, 5:00 PM

October

10/01/26 – Camp Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, District Office
10/03/26 – NYI Teen Quiz Meet, 9:30 AM, Amelia Nazarene, 1295 West Ohio Pike, Amelia, OH 45102
10/03/26 – NDI Children's Quiz, 10:00 AM, Monroe, 400 Macready Avenue, Monroe, OH 45050
10/03/26 – Munch N Music, 12:00 PM, Xenia Nazarene, 1204 W 2nd Street, Xenia, OH 45385 [MUNCH N MUSIC](#)
10/18/26 – SWO NYI Night Out, Doors Open @ 4:45 PM, Starts @ 6:00 PM, 4701 Far Hills Ave, Dayton, OH 45429
10/21/26 – Retired Pastor's & Spouse Lunch, 11:45 AM, Hawks Hall, West Chester Nazarene [LUNCHEON](#)



NDI QUICK LINKS:

NDI Facebook [CLICK HERE](#)
NDI Calendar [CLICK HERE](#)
NDI Hub Newsletter Signup [CLICK HERE](#)
NDI Website [CLICK HERE](#)

SWO CHILDREN'S BIBLE QUIZZING 2026/27:

What: SWO Children's Quiz

Who: Two levels - **Red Level grades 1-3**, **Blue Level grades 4-6**

Time: 10:00 AM

Quizzing Dates (subject to change)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LESSONS</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
10/03/26 Quiz 1 – Dig Sites 1-5		Monroe
11/14/26 Quiz 2 – Dig Sites 1-10		Xenia
01/09/27 Quiz 3 – Dig Sites 1-15		TBD
02/20/27 Quiz 4 – Zone Quiz Dig Sites 1-20		TBD
03/13/27 Quiz 5 – District Final- Sites 1-20		Living Hope
June 2026	World Quiz	Kansas City

For More Information: Contact Rick Current at rickyc4866@gmail.com or rickcurrent@acresecurity.com. Text or call 937-545-9058

Registration Fees: \$15 per quizzier *****DEADLINE: Must be Received by 9/20/26***** One check per church please.

Payable to: NDI District Board of SS Ministries

Mail to: Rick Current, 1175 Hollowcreek Drive, Miamisburg, OH 45342

[CLICK HERE](#) to be directed to the SWONAZ website to download the SWO Quiz Registration Form in Word or PDF and the SWO Children's Quiz Church Registration Form in Excel.



2026/27 SWO JR. PROJECT: SWEET SURRENDER CAFE – POZNAN, POLAND:

This year's Junior Project supports the Sweet Surrender Cafe in Poznan, Poland - the coffee-house ministry led by Nazarene missionaries Kurt and Holly Johnson. Sweet Surrender is a real, working coffee house that serves as a non-threatening entry point into the community, where people who might never walk into a traditional church find a warm welcome, genuine friendship, and the love of Christ. The first Sweet Surrender opened in Gdansk in 2008, and the Poznan cafe followed in 2010.

When war came to Ukraine, the Poznan cafe became a refuge. Sweet Surrender has served Ukrainian families fleeing the conflict - offering Polish-language classes, art therapy, women's fellowship groups, children's programs, and a place of trauma recovery and hope.

Give: Sweet Surrender Cafe - Approved Mission Special #154046

Online: give.nazarene.org/donate/154046

District Junior Project goal: \$3,000

Coordinator: Elizabeth Bennington - ebennington2004@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER IS ALABASTER OFFERING:

What is Alabaster? The Alabaster Offering provides funds for property and buildings around the world. While we understand the church consists of the people of God and not a building, buildings erected for the purpose of ministry help provide a sense of permanence, functionally enhance ministry efforts, and convey an attitude that the Church of the Nazarene intends to "put down roots." Alabaster funds help provide land for many Work & Witness projects, and the entire Alabaster Offering goes toward the purchase of land or construction of churches, schools, medical facilities and homes for missionaries and national workers. [CLICK HERE](#) to hear Joel Tuche's alabaster story. For further information [CLICK HERE](#).

SWO MISSIONS RALLY:

When: September 20, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

Where: Fairfield Nazarene Church, 12190 East Miami River Road, Cincinnati, OH 45252

Speakers: The Wheatley's

For More Information: [CLICK HERE](#)

NOTE: Bring your Crisis Care Kits for drop off at the SWORD trailer!

CRISIS CARE KITS AND PAL PACKS:

When collecting kits, churches should follow the exact current packing list and shipping instructions. Deviating from the approved list can cause shipments to be rejected. Use only current-year instructions [CLICK HERE](#) from Nazarene Compassionate Ministries or the district coordinator.

ADDITIONAL PICKUP DATES, LOCATIONS, TIMES:

09/25 - Sardinia - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, 133 Sardinia-Mowrystown Road, Sardinia, OH 45171

09/26 - West Chester - 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM, 7951 Tylersville Road, West Chester, OH 45069

09/26 - Xenia - 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM, 1204 West 2nd Street, Xenia, OH 45385

COORDINATORS:

--Sarah Crouch – smkeeton86@gmail.com

--Carol Webster – csw Webster@hotmail.com



NYI QUICK LINKS:

Calendar: [CLICK HERE](#)
Communication: [CLICK HERE](#)
Facebook Page: [CLICK HERE](#)
Instagram: [CLICK HERE](#)
Website: [CLICK HERE](#)

SWO TEEN QUIZ MEET:

When: September 12, 2026

Where: West Carrollton Nazarene, 550 South Elm St., West Carrollton, OH 45449

Time: 9:30 AM

For More Information: Contact Greg Kindle at gkindle90@gmail.com

SONFEST 2026:

When: Saturday, September 19, 2026

Where: R.R. Hodges Chapel Auditorium, 800 Martinsburg Road, Mt. Vernon, OH 43050

Time: Doors open at 1:00 PM

Artist: Chris Renzema & Rock City Worship

Costs: Varies

Tickets: [CLICK HERE](#)

For more information: [CLICK HERE](#) or contact Ben Slater at Benjamin.slater@mvnue.edu

CHURCH COMMUNICATION

GOD & GOVERNMENT COURSE:

Bethel Nazarene is having a video session on God & Government Course 5B "A Biblical Worldview of Government" on Sunday, September 13th from 6-7:30 PM. There will be a Special Commentary and Q&A by Tim Throckmorton / Ordained Elder, former Sr. Pastor in the COTN and current National Director for Church Engagement at Family Research Council. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#) or contact the church at 513-734-4204.

MEN'S CONFERENCE:

West Chester Nazarene will be hosting "The Lion Within" a **FREE** Men's Conference on November 7, 2026, from 10:00 AM until Noon. This conference is open to all churches and is designed to encourage, challenge, and strengthen men in every season of life. Through powerful worship and practical, biblical teaching from **Chris Grainger** and **Pastor Daryl Blank**, you'll be reminded of the courage, purpose, and calling God has placed inside you. Invite a friend—especially someone who's exploring faith or hasn't yet experienced the hope of Jesus. This could be the day that changes everything. Your investment to this moment is your time—and we believe it'll be one of the best investments you'll make this year. Come expecting God to move! To register [CLICK HERE](#). Questions or for more information, contact Pastor Shahne Stone (513) 777-6300, [CLICK HERE](#).

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS:

The holidays are challenging when you are grieving a loss. West Chester Nazarene is holding a 2-hour seminar on Monday, November 16th from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Surviving the Holidays provides encouragement, support, and valuable tools to navigate the season. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#), or call 513-777-5600.

Have a great weekend!

SWO District Office

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