



# Southwestern Ohio District News

December 5, 2025

## DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

### 24 HOURS OF PRAYER | TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH | DECEMBER 5 & 6, 2025

Dear Pastors,

We invite you and your congregations to join Nazarenes around the world on **December 5–6** for a powerful time of united prayer! From sunrise in Asia to sunset in the Americas, the global Church will gather on Zoom for 24 hours of continuous prayer. Let's believe together that God will move to the ends of the earth.

**Here's how it works:** You are free to join at any time! The prayer event runs from 1:00 PM CST on Dec 5 to 1:00 PM CST on Dec 6. The USA / Canada Regional Office (UCRO) will be hosting different time slots:

- **Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> | 5-6pm CST** | Prayer over the Cause – led by Stephen Sickel and Justin Pickard
- **Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> | 6-7pm CST** | Prayer over the USA/Canada Region – led by Dr. Crocker
- **Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> | 9-11am CST** | 2 hours of prayer over NMI – led by Debra Voelker

You can join for: One hour...Two hours...Or the full 24 hours! Everyone is welcome.

**Pastors:** We encourage you to share this with your congregations and help spread the word as we set out to pray worldwide. Mark your calendars! Join Zoom Meeting | [Zoom Link](#) | Meeting ID: 264 338 7715 | Passcode: NAZAActs1:8

**\*Please do not post link publicly on social media.** Your fan, Stan Reeder, USA/Canada Regional Director

### CHRISTMAS BANQUET DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>:

We hope you have reserved your place at the table for our District Christmas celebration. It should be a beautiful time at Higher Ground Conference and Retreat Center and great fellowship. **PLEASE NOTE: There is a road closure on Indiana St Rt 46. You will need to go one more exit to the St Leon Exit #164. You will turn right from the highway. Then you will turn right again onto St Rt 46. Higher Ground will be on the left approximately 4 ½ miles from the exit.**

### PRAYER PROMPTS:

--Pastor Clark Castle (Ripley) who is recovering in the hospital from a heart attack that he had last night.

--Andie Pullen (13) daughter of worship pastor Brad (West Chester) and Ashley Pullen. She had neck and spine surgery on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> to treat scoliosis. The surgery went well. She will have a second surgery on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

--Craig Adams wife, Deanna who fell and needs wrist surgery on Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

### NCM CHRISTMAS PROJECT:

The 2025 NCM Christmas Project, *Unboxing Hope: Give the Gift of Learning*, will focus on children in Jordan and Lebanon who attend Nazarene schools designed to nurture the whole child—mind, body, and spirit. Many of these students are refugees who have been displaced by war and violence, and school becomes their safe haven: a place to grow, heal, and thrive. For more information and to sign up, [CLICK HERE](#). **Have questions?** Email [Hayley](#) or [JP](#).

#### --Bonus Resource: Blog Post + ½-Sheet Printable

NCM first [Christmas Project Blog](#), featuring Amira, a student from Jordan, highlighting the impact the Nazarene school has made in her life. To make it easy to share, [download](#) the ½-sheet printable. It's perfect for info tables, welcome centers, bulletins, or small groups.

#### --Bonus Resource #2: The Giving Tree 🎄

Also released a new resource at the party: *The Giving Tree*

This is a simple and highly visual way for your church or community to engage in generosity throughout December.

Two versions are available:

- *The Growing Tree*: add ornaments as people give and watch generosity grow
- *Choose Your Gift Tree*: hang dollar-amount ornaments that people can select and give toward

Everything you need is in the file: ornaments to print and cut, instructions, and ideas for displaying your tree.

Download The Giving Tree resource [here](#).

## **ADVENT RESOURCES ARE NOW AVAILABLE:**

Journey with your faith community through this devotional book for all ages that offers discussion questions following each reflection as well as a space to journal a prayer each day. *Hope of all the Earth* provides resources for pastoral, youth, children's, and Spanish ministries that will bring all ages in your faith community on a journey together through Advent. [CLICK HERE](#) to reserve your copy.

## **DISTRICT CALENDAR – December/January:**

12/08/25 – SWO District Leaders' Christmas Banquet, 5:45 PM, Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center [MENU](#)

12/13/25 – SWO NYI Holiday Quiz , 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

12/24, 12/25, 12/26/25 – **District Office Closed**

12/31/25 – 01/03/26 – NYI SWO Young Adult Retreat, Cross Oak Camp, St. Mary's Ohio

### **January**

01/01 – 01/02/26 – **District Office Closed Happy New Year!**

01/06/26 – District Advisory Board, 7:00 PM, District Office

01/10/26 – Children's Quiz, 10:00 AM

01/17/26 – SWO NYI Quiz Meet, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM



## **NDI QUICK LINKS:**

NDI Facebook [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Hub Newsletter Signup [CLICK HERE](#)

NDI Website [CLICK HERE](#)

## **THE DISCIPLESHIP PLACE:**

Tell Us About Your Faith and Vocation! The work we are called to matters deeply in the kingdom of God. The 20, 30, 40, or even 50 hours we invest each week carry real significance in God's economy. We want to understand how people think about their faith in connection to their daily work. As we learn, our desire is to prayerfully discern how best to support people in their vocations—whether through networking, community, or vocation-specific discipleship resources. Would you help us by answering a few brief questions? You're welcome to remain anonymous, or you can choose to opt in if you'd like to be notified as we begin new discipleship initiatives designed to help us follow Jesus and include others within our respective fields of work. If you're a pastor, we'd also love for you to share this survey with members of your congregation. Take the survey and share it with others by [clicking here!](#)

## **USA CANADA KIDS:**

**Behind the Scenes of BRING Curriculum!!**

Have you heard? USA/Canada Kids has partnered with Equip to Engage to create another FREE Child Discipleship Resource with graphics designed by The Kidmin Creatives. BRING invites kids to discover clues and be detectives as they work together to find "Where in the world is Paul?" The kids will learn that they are not too young and God wants to use them to bring people to Jesus. This is a 6-week curriculum for Early Childhood and Elementary that includes special needs accommodations. To download BRING, visit [USA/Canada Region](#). For a recording of the BRING Pop-Up Training, email [trey@equiptoengage.org](mailto:trey@equiptoengage.org). For more information about USA/Canada Kids, contact Rev. Trey or Candice Brooks, Regional Child Discipleship Advocate, at [kids@usacanadaregion.org](mailto:kids@usacanadaregion.org)

## **\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE \*\*\*PRIMETIME EVENT - LA COMEDIA DINNER THEATER:**

**When:** Friday, March 6, 2026

**Where:** La Comedia Dinner Theater, 765 W. Central Avenue, Springboro, OH 45066

**Play:** "Singin in the Rain"

**Arrival:** 10:30 AM

**Cost:** \$53.00 (includes lunch buffet) **NOTE: Tickets do not go on sale until 1/6/26**

**For More Information:** Click on link: [LA COMEDIA](#)



**24-HOUR PRAYER EVENT: "To the Ends of the Earth"** See the opening section of this newsletter.

### **MISSIONARY TRANSPORTATION:**

Mary Johnson, DP, Oklahoma, shared this information, which could be tremendously helpful to our missionaries on deputation and our districts. *As a church with a heart for missions, you understand the challenges overseas missionaries face when returning to the US — especially when it comes to reliable transportation for their "Home Assignment" or furlough. At Righteous Rides, we exist to help meet that need. We're a Christ-centered nonprofit dedicated to serving international evangelical missionaries by providing care and cars, ensuring they have a stress-free stateside journey. We've seen God move powerfully through this work — in fact, over 64 missionary families from Oklahoma have used one of our vehicles while serving or reconnecting with their supporters back home. Each mile represents more opportunities for missionaries to share stories, strengthen relationships, and advance the Gospel. But we don't just hand over the keys. We give them a lift to travel where God leads, we give them a gift to lift their spirits, and we lift them up in prayer every step of the way. We'd love to partner with your church — whether by offering this resource to the missionaries you already support, collaborate with you in prayer, or giving your congregation opportunities to engage in Great Commission hospitality. Together, we can make sure every missionary returning home is cared for, encouraged, and equipped to keep spreading the Good News. You can learn more about Righteous Rides and how your church can get involved at [Righteous Rides - Hassle Free Transportation for Missionaries](#)*

### **SUMMER MISSION INTERNSHIPS (A Life-Changing Opportunity for Young Adults)**

#### **Global Missions Needs Your Help**

We're excited to announce the launch of Mission Internships through Mission Mobilization—a 10-week summer missions experience for young adults serving right here in the USA/Canada Region. This isn't your typical summer mission trip. It's a comprehensive program that combines in-depth pre-deployment training, hands-on ministry experience, and ongoing mentorship. We need NMI's help spreading the word to young adults on your district who are exploring how God is calling them.

#### **What Makes This Special?**

This internship goes deep. Participants receive spiritual formation, engage in real ministry, and are mentored throughout the experience. It's designed to shape not just their summer, but their lifetime of service—teaching them to understand culture deeply, build authentic relationships across differences, and recognize God's image in all people.

#### **How You Can Help:**

- **Spread the word** with young adults in your district who are exploring God's calling
- **Pray** for these future missionaries as they prepare for this life-changing experience

[See the attached flyer for full details and application information.](#)

Have questions? Email Kristi Senica, [ksenica@usacanadaregion.org](mailto:kсенica@usacanadaregion.org)

*Together, let's raise up the next generation of mission-minded leaders!*

### **INTRODUCING STRIKE TEAMS – Ready to Serve, Ready to Go**

**Who are Strike Teams?** These aren't long-term planners waiting for next year's calendar. Strike Teams are people who say, "I'm available—and I'm ready to go!" Within just one to two months, they're prepared to assist with urgent needs or strategic projects in USA/Canada. They're flexible, fast, and focused, always responding where help is needed most in our own backyard.

#### **Who is this for?**

- Churches without the resources to launch traditional mission trips
- Individuals ready to serve now, not later
- Districts needing short-term support or rapid response teams

**Ready to Learn More?** If you're interested in exploring how Strike Teams can strengthen mission engagement in your district, contact Camilo Gonzalez at [cgonzalez@usacanadaregion.org](mailto:cgonzalez@usacanadaregion.org).

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### **NYI QUICK LINKS:**

Calendar: [CLICK HERE](#)

Communication: [CLICK HERE](#)

Facebook Page: [CLICK HERE](#)

Instagram: [CLICK HERE](#)

Link Tree: [CLICK HERE](#)

NYC 2026: [CLICK HERE](#)

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

Website: [CLICK HERE](#)

### **NEXT TEEN HOLIDAY QUIZ – 12/13/25:**

The Youth Holiday quizzing will be 9:30 AM at Amelia Nazarene, 1295 West Ohio Pike, Amelia, OH 45102

**For More Information:** Contact Greg Kindle at [gkindle90@gmail.com](mailto:gkindle90@gmail.com).

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## **CHURCH COMMUNICATION**

### **NEW RICHMOND PRAYER MEETING 12/05/25:**

Dinner is at 6:00 PM, Church at 7:00 PM, and Nightwatch begins at 8:00 PM until 1:00 AM. Come and go as you need to. We are praying for the lost and the nation. We always meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month at New Richmond Nazarene 200 Hamilton Street, New Richmond, OH 45157. For more information, call 513-520-7454.

### **NAZ JAZZ CHRISTMAS CONCERT:**

If you enjoy "big band" music, mark your calendar for one of the Christmas concerts by NAZ JAZZ, an ensemble of talented musicians from area Nazarene congregations. The director of this great group is Gary Davis. Performances are **FREE**, and will be held in the following locations:

- West Chester Church of the Nazarene, Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM
- Monroe Church of the Nazarene, Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 4:30 PM

### **LIVE NATIVITY:**

Wilmington Nazarene located at 2193 Wayne Road, Wilmington OH 45177 will have a LIVE nativity on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>. Narrated Performances will be at 6:30 PM, 7:00 PM, 7:30 PM, and 8:00 PM. Each evening there will be refreshments available in the Family Life Center. If you have any questions, feel free to call the church at 937-382-8007.

### **CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS IN SONG!**

**Who:** Rev. Michael Hancock leading music and Becky Hancock accompanying on the piano.

**What:** Christmas Hymn Sing, Come as you are for a wonderful time of music and songs of the Season.

**Where:** Brookville Church of the Nazarene, 11511 Upper Lewisburg-Salem Road, Brookville, OH 45309

**When:** Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00

**Questions:** Contact Ginny Cable at 941-705-1227

### **COMMUNION SETS:**

Hillsboro Church has two communion sets available for a donation. One is silver and the other is brass (gold finish). Both are in good condition. If you are interested, call 937-393-3545.

Have a great weekend!

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