



James Spruce  
District Superintendent

VOL 65 NUMBER 3

P.O.BOX 1054 - 2916 GILBERT LN., ALTON, IL 62002 Web Site: <http://ilnazarenedist.org>

NOVEMBER 2011



#### November is Thanksgiving Offering - World Evangelism Fund

##### Why We Sustain the World Evangelism Fund

The World Evangelism Fund (WEF) is the essential foundation for all giving in Global Mission. In churches around the world, pastors, church boards, and NMI leaders network prayerfully and strategically to fulfill WEF giving goals.

Missional pastors model, "When our church gives WEF in full, we have the privilege to invest in Global Mission strategy and goals. Then beyond WEF, our church can designate additional giving to many mission needs and specific passions." Pastors are searching for ways to invest more in Global Mission, not less. They know WEF works.

Each church motivated to provide financial and human resources beyond WEF should complete WEF giving as a prerequisite. Without WEF, no other ministry provided by designated or Approved Mission Special giving will remain viable (including Alabaster, LINKS, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, JESUS Film Harvest Partners, Work & Witness, partnerships, etc.).

WEF provides baseline infrastructure: leadership for 7 regions, 36 fields, and 426 districts and national ministries. For missionary families, WEF provides equipping, salary, housing, utilities, medical insurance, moving costs, and travel to and from the field. The World Evangelism Fund was created to allow all missionaries to work effectively and to encourage all churches to support outreach efficiently.

No other church supports global mission more effectively than the Church of the Nazarene. No other funding plan invests more productively in life transformation than WEF giving. It is the most helpful way to invest in the Great Commission and Book-of-Acts holiness mission movements. WEF is a key in global strategy to evangelize and disciple people with the love of Christ and the Gospel.

Only **with** WEF can we evangelize and disciple millions of people each year, equip thousands of leaders each year, and organize hundreds of churches each year. We cannot accomplish these purposes **without** WEF. Global WEF giving multiplies through collective sacrifice, international generosity, and accountable distribution.

The global mission of the Church of the Nazarene is a massive venture. To accomplish the Great Commission—spreading Christ, the Gospel, and holiness around the world—requires money.

In "faith-based" missions, missionaries spend valuable time to raise financial support. They conduct services, receive pledges of support, and then pray the amount raised will cover living expenses. Sometimes when the money runs out, missionaries are forced to return home.

WEF invests directly to accomplish the mission of the Church of the Nazarene: to make Christlike disciples in the nations.

**How WEF Works** Full-time missionaries (excluding volunteers) in the Church of the Nazarene receive monthly compensation based on a modest standard amount plus a cost-of-living adjustment according to the world area in which they serve.

The World Evangelism Fund comes from the generosity of Nazarenes around the world. We challenge each church globally to contribute 5.5 percent of its current income. Many churches see the effectiveness of global mission and give well beyond that minimum.

To make Christlike disciples in the nations, WEF provides ministries of all nations and age groups in Global Mission, including the USA/Canada Region, NMI, Nazarene Youth International, Sunday School and Discipleship Ministry International, clergy development, education, and administration.

A major portion of administrative and support costs is for infrastructure essential to global ministries. Costs to deliver ministries such as global technology, global communication, and global travel increase annually.

**Benefits of WEF** Missionaries receive regular compensation, enabling them to concentrate on their calling and to help raise awareness for the entire mission. While missionaries correspond and offer home assignment/deputation services to inform people of their field of service, these activities do not demand a large portion of their time on the mission field.

Passion for giving is inspired by global mission, evangelism, and disciple-making. We raise WEF on the backs of missionaries, international leaders, and mission movements.

Each church, regardless of size, has an opportunity to participate in global mission. Just as individuals are blessed by God when they commit their resources for His kingdom, so churches are blessed when they give to help reach lost people around the world.

Daniel D. Ketchum, Ph.D.  
Global NMI Director



## NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

Bill Brandon, District President  
 18 Sandstone Ct., Troy, IL. 62294  
 618-667-0828 E-mail [csifsr30@sbcglobal.net](mailto:csifsr30@sbcglobal.net)  
 "That the world may know"



### A letter from the Board of General Superintendents:

Date: October 7, 2011

From the beginning of the economic downturn in 2008, the Board of General Superintendents (BGS) made a commitment to the Church of the Nazarene to keep the denomination updated regarding the financial situation affecting our global mission "to make Christ like disciples in the nations."

While the economy has posed significant challenges, as you well know, God is blessing the church in many ways. For this we are humbled and grateful. Perhaps you read in NCN News, Nazarene Missions International updates, or other sources about World Evangelism Fund (WEF) giving beyond the 5.5 percent base (overpayment) from districts in the USA/Canada Region. (Information from other regions will be available soon). According to the 2011 General Treasurer's Report, WEF overpayment from the USA/Canada Region is approximately \$4.4 million, while overpayment has averaged less than \$1.5 million during the past ten years. Generous Nazarenes continue to put God first with prayer and financial support for the cause of Jesus Christ. Your sacrificial giving will make it possible for the 2012 General Board Session of the Church of the Nazarene to consider a recommendation that would deploy 16 global missionaries and to enter two new world areas.

Praise the Lord!

### The Opportunity

For nearly 20 years many churches have given beyond their WEF goal, thus enabling the denomination to enter and sustain work in new areas. This year a desire to give above and beyond the new WEF funding plan presents a new challenge for the church—to sustain the work in existing fields while entering new areas as the Lord leads. It is also worth noting that the number of USA/Canada districts that have reached or exceeded 100 percent of their WEF allocation is greater than for any year in decades—up from 15 districts in 2010 to 57 districts in 2011. Even so, the decline in regular WEF giving is a very critical matter that affects 2011 and 2012 budgeting for general mission interests. In 2010, \$41.8 million from the World Evangelism Fund was available for denominational ministries, including missionaries. We projected that amount to go down to \$35.5 million in 2011, but current receipts project this number to be \$36.2 million. However, without an adjustment to the elevated 2011 WEF Overpayment, the amount will be down to \$33.1 million, a decrease of \$8.7 million in just one year. In order to address this development, the BGS, with the support of the Global NMI Council, is proposing that the total amount of WEF overpayment be sent directly to each of the six regions in order to:

- Open new mission work.
- Sustain mission works opened in recent years.
- Help keep missionaries on the fields to which God called them.
- Help send new missionaries whom God is calling.

General Superintendent emeriti and former NMI general director, Dr. Nina Gunter, who launched the overpayment initiative, offers this insight for expanding WEF overpayment: With the changing dynamics of global finances today, the God-blessed overpayment plan of the World Evangelism Fund needs to be expanded. From the "overpayment" inception almost two decades ago, this plan has supported the opening of new mission fields and areas.

It now seems expedient to extend this designation to include ongoing and growing mission work in the regions and fields. This extension is crucial for the ministry of our missionaries and national leaders. It is also essential for new approaches to opening additional areas "in such a time as this." Timing, location, and expenditures for entering new mission fields come to the BGS as a recommendation from the director of Global Mission. These plans are ultimately approved by the General Board. All initiatives from Global Mission are reviewed annually to ensure that the church makes the best use of WEF overpayments and that we continue to enter new world areas.

### The Process

We have prayerfully sought God's guidance each step of the way. Nothing has been done without first asking Him for wisdom and spiritual strength as difficult decisions were made.

A careful examination of income, expenses, and budgets began with the 2011 General Board in Louisville, Kentucky, USA, and continued through the spring and summer of this year. Departments, ministry directors, and regional directors were given the opportunity to make recommendations for their respective areas of service. The process has also included further consultations with the Executive and Finance Committees of the General Board. The denominational challenge during this collaborative effort was the urgent need to reduce expenses in one year's time (to match the dramatic drop of \$8.7 million in 2011 WEF revenue) while at the same time advancing the church's global mission.

### The Response

We are providing the latest information so you will be up to date about the mission of the Church of the Nazarene. The general superintendents are asking for your prayers and support as we transition to new economic realities.

### In Closing

The present moment is filled with evangelistic and disciple-making opportunities for the Church of the Nazarene around the world. We are committed to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and spreading scriptural holiness under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Your support makes this possible.

Please accept our gratitude for your vital role in "making Christ like disciples in the nations."  
 If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact us. Our e-mail address is [bgs@nazarene.org](mailto:bgs@nazarene.org).

Jerry D. Porter Jesse C. Middendorf J. K. Warrick  
 Eugénio R. Duarte David W. Graves Stan A. Toler





**NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL**

Jay Bush, District President  
53 Partridge, Chatham, IL 62629  
Phone: Church: 217-529-6771; Home: 217-483-2480  
E-mail: jayrbush@aol.com



## SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT 2012 JAN. 13-15

GATEWAY RETREAT CENTER - Greenville IL  
Cost: \$70

SPEAKER: ONU PROFESSOR JASON ROBERTSON  
WORSHIP BAND: BEFORE TOMORROW

### UPCOMING DATES:

DISTRICT CELEBRATE LIFE: MARCH 23-24 (ROXANA)

REGIONAL CELEBRATE LIFE: MAY 17-19 (ONU)

CAMP: JUNE 18-22 (CAMP TABLE ROCK)



**DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL &  
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**

**JIM GERMAN**, District Chairman  
4672 White Oak Lane, Decatur, IL 62521  
217-422-1458 E-mail: [jgerman48@yahoo.com](mailto:jgerman48@yahoo.com)



*SUNDAY SCHOOL & DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL*

## Teaching Everyone About the Mission

Teach 2012...a teacher training and  
leadership development experience.

Explore best practices for making  
Christlike disciples by...

- Teaching Sunday School
- Developing small groups
- Building intergenerational ministries
- Serving your neighbor
- Reaching the world in your backyard
- Helping friends follow Jesus more closely
- Training for Nazarene Safe and church security



OVER

Coming to an area near you...

February 4	Sacramento
February 11	Oklahoma
March 3	Tennessee
March 17	Los Angeles
March 24	Arizona
March 31	Chicago Central
April 28	Dallas
May 5	Canada Central
June 2	Central Ohio
August 11	Philadelphia
August 25	Maine
September 15	Indianapolis
September 22	Northwest
October 6	Kansas City
October 20	West Texas
October 27	Southern Florida
November 3	Eastern Michigan
November 10	North Carolina
December 1	Hawaii Pacific

SDMI

[www.teach12.nazarene.org](http://www.teach12.nazarene.org)

[maketheconnection@nazarene.org](mailto:maketheconnection@nazarene.org)  
913-577-2800 / 800-221-6317



The Discipleship Summit will be held at the First Church of the Nazarene in Bloomington, IL on Wednesday, November 9th, through Saturday, November 12th, which includes participating in an Encounter on the Friday and Saturday.

### LEARN IT - Great Commission Discipleship Training

First, learn secrets between the daily presence of God and multiplication. Then, learn how the Great Commission Model of discipleship is transforming believers around the world.

### EXPERIENCE IT - Encounter Weekend

One of the key components of the Great Commission model of discipleship is an intense spiritual retreat called the Encounter. You will experience this for yourself, not as a pastor or leader, but as a believer. We believe that the Encounter is beneficial for any believer at any stage of their journey. See for yourself why so many believers are saying this is something they wish they had experienced years ago.

### DETAILS

- **ADDRESS:** 2207 N. Towanda-Barnes Road, Bloomington, IL 61705
- **PHONE:** 309-662-1915
- **REGISTRATION FEES:** \$150 if registered by Tuesday, November 1.  
\$200 if registered *after* Tuesday, November 1.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2011

Church	Morning Worship	Sunday School	Church	Morning Worship	Sunday School
Anna First Church of the Nazarene	100	77	Jerseyville Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Arcola First Church of the Nazarene	40	31	Laclede Church of the Nazarene	23	19
Arcola Spanish Church of the Nazarene	37	18	Lincoln First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Auburn Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Mahomet Church of the Nazarene	40	22
Barry Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Mansfield Community Church of the Nazarene	28	NR
Beardstown Church of the Nazarene	79	69	Marion First Church of the Nazarene	43	34
Beardstown Liberty Hispanic	NR	NR	Marshall Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Belleville Emmanuel Church of the Nazarene	50	48	Mattoon East Side Church of the Nazarene	89	85
Belleville First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Mattoon Real Life Community COTN	NR	NR
Belleville Korean Church of the Nazarene	27	1	Monticello Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Benton First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Mount Carmel Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Bethel Church of the Nazarene	45	26	Mount Erie Church of the Nazarene	33	24
Carbondale New Beginnings Community COTN	NR	NR	Mount Sterling Church of the Nazarene	27	19
Carlinville First Church of the Nazarene	45	40	Mount Vernon Faith Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Carmi Church of the Nazarene	47	38	Murphysboro Church of the Nazarene	62	32
Casey Church of the Nazarene	178	99	Nebo Church of the Nazarene	59	35
Centralia Church of the Nazarene	59	55	Oakwood Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Champaign First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Ogden Church of the Nazarene	69	52
Champaign New Day Church of the Nazarene	39	39	Olivet Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Chrisman Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Olney Church of the Nazarene	74	60
Clinton First Church of the Nazarene	72	53	Pana First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Collinsville Good Samaritan COTN	127	64	Paris First Church of the Nazarene	48	34
Decatur First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Pittsfield Church of the Nazarene	250	155
Decatur Oak Grove Church of the Nazarene	53	25	Quincy Emmanuel Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Decatur Parkway Church of the Nazarene	66	55	Rantoul Church of the Nazarene	62	33
Decatur Trinity Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Roxana Church of the Nazarene	154	156
Decatur West Side Church of the Nazarene	74	56	Royalton First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Du Quoin Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Salem Grace Church of the Nazarene	420	250
Dupo Bluffview Christian Center COTN	NR	NR	Shelbyville Church of the Nazarene	206	119
East St. Louis Rush Memorial COTN	5	5	Sherman Church of the Nazarene	92	69
Edgemont Grace Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Sparta Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Fairfield Fountain of Life COTN	NR	NR	Springfield First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Fairview Heights Parkview COTN	52	57	Springfield Trinity Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Flora Church of the Nazarene	168	125	Taylorville First Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Georgetown Church of the Nazarene	44	38	Tuscola Church of the Nazarene	36	8
Glenview Church of the Nazarene	85	72	Urbana Lighthouse Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Godfrey Church of the Nazarene	40	35	Vandalia Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Granite City CTM Church of the Nazarene	NA	NA	Virden Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Griggsville Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	West Union Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR
Harrisburg Oasis Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR	Totals	3343	2328
Highland Church of the Nazarene	NR	NR			

**BUDGET REPORT SEPTEMBER 31, 2011**

Church Name	District	Olivet	NMI	SDMI	NYI	WEF	P & B
Anna First	\$3,351.82	\$1,768.57	\$298.59	\$151.49	\$195.05	\$2,835.00	\$1,916.76
Arcola First	\$923.02	\$500.87	\$82.22	\$41.71	\$53.71	\$1,033.66	\$439.82
Arcola Spanish	\$514.29	\$143.50	\$45.80	\$23.24	\$29.92	\$589.50	\$178.00
Auburn	\$1,069.20	\$300.00	\$95.25	\$48.33	\$62.22	\$1,150.00	\$450.00
Barry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Beardstown	\$2,784.82	\$1,013.28	\$248.09	\$125.89	\$162.05	\$2,874.25	\$1,209.70
Beardstown Liberty Hispanic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Belleville Emmanuel	\$343.92	\$794.08	\$30.64	\$15.55	\$20.02	\$407.94	\$154.58
Belleville First	\$3,540.37	\$1,284.95	\$315.36	\$160.00	\$206.01	\$1,000.00	\$1,509.44
Belleville Korean	\$1,723.32	\$100.00	\$153.52	\$77.89	\$100.27	\$400.00	\$350.00
Benton	\$580.56	\$306.08	\$51.71	\$26.24	\$33.78	\$898.92	\$249.72
Bethel	\$2,028.57	\$1,027.00	\$180.70	\$91.68	\$118.05	\$2,380.00	\$821.00
Bluff View Christian Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Carbondale New Beginnings	\$497.83	\$0.00	\$44.35	\$22.50	\$28.97	\$577.89	\$210.14
Carlinville First	\$943.54	\$352.10	\$84.04	\$42.65	\$54.91	\$545.00	\$343.49
Carmi	\$686.82	\$514.00	\$61.17	\$31.04	\$39.97	\$1,805.00	\$638.00
Casey	\$4,901.81	\$2,690.38	\$436.63	\$221.53	\$285.25	\$9,153.00	\$2,456.49
Centralia	\$1,159.46	\$612.00	\$103.28	\$52.40	\$67.47	\$1,657.00	\$609.00
Champaign First	\$2,880.71	\$1,231.82	\$256.61	\$130.19	\$167.64	\$3,337.41	\$1,213.62
Champaign New Day	\$41.92	\$37.00	\$3.74	\$1.90	\$2.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chrisman	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clinton First	\$3,438.26	\$1,850.00	\$306.27	\$155.39	\$200.08	\$4,310.00	\$1,540.00
Collinsville Good Samaritan	\$684.49	\$361.16	\$60.97	\$30.94	\$39.83	\$915.31	\$288.93
Decatur First	\$12,097.54	\$9,159.45	\$1,077.62	\$546.73	\$703.98	\$23,711.48	\$5,106.51
Decatur Oak Grove	\$832.45	\$371.00	\$74.16	\$37.62	\$48.45	\$978.00	\$357.00
Decatur Parkway	\$3,311.86	\$1,691.51	\$295.00	\$149.65	\$192.72	\$4,291.46	\$1,569.62
Decatur Trinity	\$1,185.64	\$706.93	\$105.62	\$53.59	\$69.00	\$1,881.54	\$683.80
Decatur West Side	\$2,955.37	\$1,223.71	\$263.26	\$133.57	\$171.99	\$3,318.95	\$1,219.01
Du Quoin	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
East St. Louis Rush Mem.	\$183.67	\$58.00	\$16.37	\$8.31	\$10.70	\$213.00	\$79.00
Edgemont Grace	\$730.30	\$0.00	\$65.06	\$33.00	\$42.50	\$129.73	\$49.77
Fairfield Fountain of Life	\$167.72	\$0.00	\$14.94	\$7.58	\$9.76	\$1,014.57	\$623.56
Fairview Heights Parkview	\$1,882.30	\$644.71	\$167.67	\$85.06	\$109.53	\$1,752.00	\$886.63
Flora	\$3,036.02	\$1,488.00	\$270.44	\$137.22	\$176.67	\$5,467.67	\$1,468.40
Georgetown	\$4,757.88	\$100.00	\$423.82	\$215.03	\$276.87	\$0.00	\$407.18
Glenview	\$2,579.22	\$1,061.32	\$229.75	\$116.57	\$150.08	\$3,298.00	\$1,003.04
Godfrey	\$757.90	\$160.41	\$67.52	\$34.26	\$44.10	\$307.37	\$323.76
Granite City CTM	\$45.46	\$25.00	\$4.05	\$2.05	\$2.64	\$52.14	\$20.00
Griggsville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Harrisburg Oasis Community	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Highland	\$31.35	\$0.00	\$2.79	\$1.42	\$1.83	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jerseyville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Laclede	\$400.72	\$183.30	\$35.69	\$18.12	\$23.31	\$476.61	\$174.88
Lincoln	\$1,328.70	\$600.00	\$118.35	\$60.05	\$77.32	\$1,705.00	\$630.00
Mahomet	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mansfield Community	\$2,052.05	\$702.00	\$182.79	\$92.74	\$119.42	\$1,515.00	\$562.00
Marion First	\$340.45	\$300.00	\$30.34	\$15.40	\$19.81	\$530.00	\$250.00
Marshall	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mattoon East Side	\$1,995.85	\$800.13	\$177.79	\$90.20	\$116.14	\$2,693.68	\$988.82
Mattoon Real Life Community	\$1,499.60	\$791.00	\$133.58	\$67.77	\$87.26	\$1,728.72	\$636.29
Monticello	\$1,005.78	\$429.00	\$89.59	\$45.45	\$58.54	\$814.00	\$286.00
Mount Carmel	\$589.83	\$0.00	\$52.54	\$26.66	\$34.32	\$364.38	\$308.48
Mount Erie	\$855.80	\$387.10	\$76.23	\$38.67	\$49.80	\$938.66	\$343.26
Mount Sterling	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mount Vernon	\$103.99	\$0.00	\$9.26	\$4.70	\$6.05	\$0.00	\$0.00
Murphysboro	\$2,042.17	\$0.00	\$181.93	\$92.32	\$118.85	\$0.00	\$821.83
Nebo	\$1,154.36	\$462.53	\$102.83	\$52.17	\$67.17	\$1,339.55	\$493.74
Oakwood	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Ogden	\$1,718.29	\$515.19	\$153.06	\$77.64	\$99.99	\$2,825.93	\$1,040.13
Olivet	\$1,470.06	\$379.00	\$130.95	\$66.44	\$85.55	\$0.00	\$379.00
Olney	\$1,740.33	\$772.94	\$155.02	\$78.65	\$101.25	\$1,265.37	\$734.61
Pana First	\$1,179.80	\$1,108.31	\$105.09	\$53.32	\$68.65	\$2,499.22	\$908.83
Paris First	\$1,230.20	\$514.62	\$109.59	\$55.60	\$71.58	\$2,627.10	\$604.78
Pittsfield	\$6,673.00	\$3,520.94	\$594.41	\$301.59	\$388.31	\$8,878.83	\$3,232.20
Quincy Emmanuel	\$1,202.19	\$110.93	\$107.09	\$54.34	\$69.96	\$1,781.75	\$501.80
Rantoul	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$222.23
Roxana	\$7,096.12	\$3,496.15	\$632.11	\$320.72	\$412.94	\$8,916.15	\$3,256.86
Royalton First	\$1,657.91	\$454.00	\$147.68	\$74.93	\$96.48	\$0.00	\$363.00
Salem Grace	\$9,361.70	\$4,939.60	\$833.90	\$423.11	\$544.78	\$12,532.69	\$4,568.35
Shelbyville	\$5,807.47	\$2,384.78	\$517.31	\$262.47	\$337.95	\$5,184.93	\$1,907.83
Sherman	\$2,469.19	\$1,369.26	\$219.95	\$111.60	\$143.68	\$3,092.30	\$1,080.16
Sparta	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Springfield First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,897.00	\$3,822.01
Springfield Trinity	\$1,389.29	\$791.12	\$123.76	\$62.79	\$80.84	\$2,822.00	\$1,400.27
Taylorville First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuscola	\$1,083.13	\$0.00	\$96.49	\$48.95	\$63.03	\$1,990.00	\$0.00
Urbana Lighthouse	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$159.17	\$61.06
Vandalia	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Virden	\$350.26	\$44.43	\$31.20	\$15.83	\$20.38	\$372.75	\$44.43
West Union	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$124,447.65	\$56,633.16	\$11,085.54	\$5,624.45	\$7,241.82	\$154,266.58	\$57,998.82

# Reflections from Pastor's Retreat 2011

## CHURCH NEWS

Andrea and I had a fantastic time at retreat. It was great to relax together, be encouraged by the ministry of Mark Murphy, and maybe most importantly, be connected with other pastors on the district. It is always inspiring to hear what the Lord is doing in our churches. We will definitely be back next year and would encourage all other pastors to do so as well. Thanks to the district for putting together a nice retreat.  
--- Pastor Tim Young, Granite City CTM

One of the best inspirational retreats we've attended in 31 years of pastoral ministry. --- Pastor Jim Frye, Murphysboro

We truly enjoyed Mark Murphy. He was so relaxed but so in tune to the Holy Spirit. He truly spoke the truth in what we needed to hear. His style and talent kept us not wanting to miss a word he said. We are listening to him as we travel now. He would be good to have back.  
--- Pastor Rick and Pat Unger, Glenview

I don't know if I have anything special for you but here is what I thought....

Conversations flourished, laughter abounded, tears flowed and the Holy Spirit moved thanks to Mark Murphy's unique story songs. And God gave peace, joy, rest, encouragement, and renewal.  
--- Pastor Janice Forgach, Roxana

I really enjoyed Retreat. The setting is excellent for relaxing and getting away from the hustle and bustle of life in the parsonage. Phil and I always enjoy the chance to hike the trails, play tennis, ride bikes, and browse through the shops in Grafton, but most of all just to take time to spend together. Frequently we come stressed out and this time really helps us refocus, both on God and each other.

This year's Retreat was also a fun time to reconnect with friends, as well as to make new ones, and to find out how things are going around the district. It's nice to spend time with others who can relate to the ministry, share ideas, and just fellowship. It's a great time to be encouraged or be an encourager, to find a listening and sympathetic ear or to be one.

The services with Mark Murphy were great times of worship and encouragement, an uplift to my spirit. I so enjoy singing with all the other pastors and spouses, especially in 4-part harmony! Worship is amazing when everyone truly wants to be there!

Thanks so much to the district and our church for making it possible for us to attend. We look forward to it every year!  
--- Janet Alvord, Flora

I would just like to say that it was a wonderful privilege to attend this year's Pastor and Spouse Retreat. Thanks so much for the opportunity to give God praise and worship through music. We truly were blessed by the robust singing and shouting that went on as we ministered through music. And we are so grateful for the wonderful room and meals provided for us. May the Lord continue to bless and keep us all as we love and serve Him.

In love with Jesus and others, Pastor John Barker, Monticello.

Karen and I are enjoying the variety of speakers. Mark's spirit, talent and humor helped us a lot.  
--- Jim Spruce, District Superintendent

**Thank You**

Your kind expression of sympathy is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated.

The Family of Jesse Black

Dear Dr. Spruce, Karen and District Family,

Thank you for your prayerful support during this difficult time. Dad was a wonderful man who was ready to meet God, and we have the hope of seeing him again.

The flowers were beautiful and we appreciate the expression of love.

Thanks again,  
Ron, Marilyn & Family

Thank you so much.

The flowers are very beautiful. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. You are loved.

Sincerely,  
Ed Sprinkle Family

Nellie Pearl Williams died Sept. 24, 2011 in Kankakee, IL. She was married to Rev. George Williams who pastored on the Illinois District a number of years ago, and she was a long-time member of the NMI Council during that time.



**Missional Strategy**  
MARK COPLEY, District Missionary  
P.O. Box 373, Casey, IL 62420  
Office: 217-932-4522; Cell:  
E-mail: m.copley@mchsi.com



## The Lord of the Living Room

***But if all of you are prophesying, and unbelievers or people who don't understand these things come into your meeting, they will be convicted of sin and judged by what you say. As they listen, their secret thoughts will be exposed, and they will fall to their knees and worship God, declaring, "God is truly here among you."-- 1 Corinthians 14:24-25***

The vision that drives the organic church movement is primal and powerful. It is a vision born upon a Pentecostal morning when the presence of God, having exploded out of the Holy of Holies, now invaded a common upstairs room, filling not just a place, but a people with power. Out of that holy invasion the Church was born, and continues to witness to the very Spirit of Christ poured out upon his people, who bear his witness everywhere they go, and wherever they meet. The implications are astounding and revolutionary, but have been dulled by the institutional rebuilding of holy places, services, and offices. These means, unintentionally to be sure, have falsely domesticated and sought to captivate a God whose Spirit cannot be tamed.

This is not to say that God does not and will not powerfully visit your sanctuary in the midst of this Sunday morning's worship (let it be, O Lord), but instead it is to assert that he can and should be free to fill other, less expected places. What if he did? What if we gave the Holy Spirit such spaces to meet us and to meet our unbelieving friends? Listen to Felicity Dale, author of *Simply Church*, who answers this question with another: ***"Can you imagine a situation where, in gatherings in homes (offices, restaurants, etc.) throughout the country, unbelievers walked in and were overwhelmed by the presence of God..?"***

I was reminded of this powerful vision recently as Tim Young, pastor of our Granite City house church, shared this story with me:

Gary is one of the men involved in our house church here in Granite City. One day, as Gary sat down at his eye doctor's desk (in the vision center at Wal-Mart), the Lord said to him, "I want to talk to this woman." For the next 30 minutes, they talked and he was able to share the glorious riches found in Christ.

Gary and his eye doctor, Erin, continued to stay in contact for the next several weeks. A couple of weeks ago, she came to our house church meeting for the first time and brought her mother who happened to be in town. Things were going pretty much as they always do: We ate. We prayed. We began to share what Christ was doing in our lives. All of a sudden something happened. Sitting on my couch, Erin had begun to weep, almost uncontrollably. All she could seem to say was, "Can't you feel it?! Can't you feel the presence of God among these people?!" I should add that this was the first night we took time at the beginning of our meeting to proclaim and acknowledge the real presence of Christ in our midst. Indeed, he was there in a real way.

Before we finished for the night, Erin asked if we would pray for a physical issue she was experiencing. We gathered around and laid hands on her, each spending a few minutes praying aloud for the situation. The last person to pray was Anna, a new believer whose story some of you may have already heard. I would find out the next day that Anna's prayer impacted Erin in a deep way. She could not believe that a young lady like Anna would pray such a caring and generous prayer for her. Here she was, a well-educated, cultured, professional woman being prayed for by a young lady who, in the eyes of many, might be considered "the least of these."

I don't know what will happen with Erin moving forward. I do know, though, that on that night, she encountered the real presence of Christ and the real power of his church.

The Illinois District has just begun to open the door to the possibilities of the organic movement with four churches now meeting across the state (Greenup, Vandalia, Highland, and Granite City). Such churches are inexpensive, as far as money is concerned, but require much in the way of prayer and personal investment in the mission of Christ. Perhaps God is calling you to make your home, workplace, or local hangout a place where his presence and his Church can be found. Please join us in praying for a church multiplication movement on our District.

**Mark Copley**  
Mission Strategy Director