

Warmest Greetings to the wonderful Illinois Church of the Nazarene!

As I write this I am looking out my window at 8-10 inches of snow, the temperature is -9 and feels like -36. It is cold... So I am looking back to when we had nicer weather and could participate in more pleasant outdoor activities! Under the direction of Anita Shotts our kid's camp was a great success with increased attendance this past summer. After being canceled due to lack of participation last year Dave and Jody Askins and company did a great job with our Lay Retreat in September and plans are already being made for next September. Debbie Brewer and Cheryl Ice brought back the District Kids fun day. It was a great success and will be repeated next fall.

For future activities: your ladies ministries group have a Ladies Day planned with Kendra Smiley, March 1, 2014 at Salem Grace Church of the Nazarene. Your local pastors should be getting the information soon. Watch for it!

Men, we have not forgotten you. Our men's co-ministry directors; Rev. Bob Turner and Gary Townsend are working on a Men's Day for this Spring. Looking forward to it!

I recently was sharing with a friend that I was having a hard time getting to my daily devotions. He suggested that I use a tool for daily devotions our General Church offers. It is called "Engage the Word" a 40 day Bible study. Using your computers, search engine type in "Church of the Nazarene Engage the Word". This will take you to the Engage the Word web page. Follow the directions from there.

The current study is the book of Nehemiah. I am finding it very enlightening, encouraging, and uplifting. I encourage you to take advantage of this or any tools that will help you get to your devotions. In my case, I asked my friend to hold me accountable. He is going to do that via email and phone.

Please, do whatever you need to do to maintain your relationship with our Lord. If it is a new tool, an accountability partner, or whatever you need...do it.

In Christ,
 Jim German
 District SDMI Chairman

May you have a blessed new year in 2014 as you grow closer and more in love with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

I would like to encourage each of you to come to Team Day. Team Day North is February 15 in Decatur and South is March 8 in Salem. We are planning four workshops that we hope will be informative and helpful as you minister in missions. One of the workshops is a hands on. I would like to ask you to bring a small encouraging gift to be included in a care package to our District LINKS missionaries. Your pastor should have the information to get you registered.

I would also like to remind you we only have four more months to complete our goals for this church year. Do your best!

Sandy Stickler
 District NMI President

Monday, January 6, 2014
 Kansas City, Missouri

The Board of Trustees at Nazarene Theological Seminary elected Carla Sunberg (Class of 2004) as the next seminary president. She was elected Friday, January 3 on the first ballot. Sunberg accepted the election.



Sunberg's election came as the culmination of significant discussion by the Board about a re-invention of the seminary to create a new and sustainable ministry model and a much sharper focus on preparing pastors for the future of the Church.

She served as co-superintendent of the East Ohio District with her husband, Chuck. Chuck Sunberg will continue to serve the East Ohio District while Carla Sunberg will assume leadership of NTS immediately. The Sunbergs served the East Ohio District since 2011. Prior to this, they pastored Gracepoint Church of the Nazarene in Fort Wayne, Indiana, following 13 years as pioneer missionaries in the former Soviet Union.

The mission of Nazarene Theological Seminary, a graduate school of theology in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition, is to prepare women and men to be faithful and effective ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to offer itself as a theological resource in service to the Church of the Nazarene, its sponsoring denomination, and the wider Christian Church.

--Nazarene Theological Seminary



IT'S A NEW DAY

ILLINOIS DISTRICT TEAM DAYS

NORTH: Saturday, February 15th, 8:30am
Decatur First Church

SOUTH: Saturday, March 8th, 8:30am
Salem Grace Church

ATTENDANCES FOR December 1-31, 201					
Church	Sunday Morning	Sunday School	Church	Sunday Morning	Sunday School
Anna First	94	70	Jerseyville	39	34
Arcola First	33	20	Laclede	16	15
Arcola Spanish	27	19	Lincoln First	25	20
Auburn	45	35	Mahomet	39	30
Barry	NR	NR	Mansfield Community	NR	NR
Beardstown	69	59	Marion First	NR	NR
Beardstown Liberty Hispanic	42	15	Marshall	NR	NR
Belleville Emmanuel	57	45	Mattoon East Side	82	89
Belleville First	160	112	Mattoon Real Life Com.	31	13
Belleville Korean	8	3	Monticello	16	14
Benton First	36	19	Mount Carmel	25	12
Bethel Community	56	31	Mount Erie	NR	NR
Carbondale New Begin Com.	44	37	Mount Sterling	NR	NR
Carlinville First	37	21	Mount Vernon Faith	NR	NR
Carmi	69	45	Murphysboro	50	39
Casey	155	80	Nebo	66	28
Centralia	49	44	Oakwood	7	14
Champaign First	NR	NR	Ogden	58	50
Champaign New Day Com.	46	46	Olivet	75	48
Chrisman	70	25	Olney	116	42
Clinton First	83	46	Pana First	NR	NR
Collinsville Good Sam.	102	40	Paris First	NR	NR
Decatur First	773	522	Pittsfield	227	149
Decatur Oak Grove	40	21	Quincy Emmanuel	48	32
Decatur Parkway	NR	NR	Rantoul	70	38
Decatur Trinity	50	43	Roxana	142	141
Decatur West Side	79	43	Royalton First	111	99
Du Quoin	17	11	Salem Grace	485	261
Dupo Bluffview Christian Cntr.	NR	NR	Shelbyville	175	105
East St. Louis Rush Mem.	6	6	Sherman	NR	NR
Edgemont Grace	NR	NR	Sparta	NR	NR
Fairfield Fountain of Life	NR	NR	Springfield First	228	155
Fairview Hghts Parkview	43	34	Springfield Trinity	NR	NR
Flora	176	115	Taylorville First	NR	NR
Georgetown	NR	NR	Tuscola	43	9
Glenview	80	50	Urbana Lighthouse	56	54
Godfrey	20	15	Vandalia	NR	NR
Granite City CTM	NR	NR	Viriden	NR	NR
Griggsville	NR	NR	West Union	NR	NR
Harrisburg Oasis	NR	NR			
Highland Community	NR	NR	Total	4796	3161