

January 18, 2010



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**"I can do all things through Christ, who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:13)**

As a pastor, I love to hear God's people say: "I can!" It is so easy to find people who know how to say, "I can't." They are usually well versed in it, and you have heard them speak these words often. "I can't tithe my income." "I can't work in the nursery." "I can't live a holy life." "I can't make a commitment to pray and fast." "I can't live a victorious Christian life." The list is almost endless. The refrain is at times monotonous - "I can't! I can't! I can't!"

The way out of this is not to try a little harder, but to draw closer in your relationship to One who is adequate in all things. Jesus is always available to us and for us in everything that we face. We Christians must not live in defeat, with no ray of hope, because it is here that we find ourselves saying; "I can't." We must practice and proclaim what Paul stated, "I can do all things through Christ..." We must not be filled with sin's bondage and bitterness, but we must light up the world around us with the love and mercy of Christ and say, "I can!"

"Thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph procession in Christ..."  
(2 Corinthians 2:14)

David Brantley, Pastor  
Alanson Church of the Nazarene

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Nazarene Michigan Districts Working Together  
To Equip, Inform & Inspire  
**TEAM DAY 2010**

Saturday - February 20, 2010  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Perry High and Middle Schools

Early Registration: postmarked by January 25  
Adults and teens: \$25  
Final Registration Deadline: postmarked by February 1  
Adults and teens: \$35  
Late Registrations Not Accepted

The SDM Board is planning to offer a scholarship to every district church to pay the registration fee for their Sunday School Superintendent or their representative.

For more information, forms, and to register online, visit [www.minaz.org](http://www.minaz.org).

**HOLINESS SUMMIT**  
March 14-15, 2010  
Saginaw Valley Church of the Nazarene  
989-754-2000

The Summit will include Eastern Michigan District, Michigan District, and Northern Michigan District. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. There will be three services on Monday: two in the A.M. and one service in the P.M. closing the summit. The keynote speakers will be Dan Bohi, Mark Quanstrom, Brett Rickey, Susie Shellenberger, and the worship leader will be John Mathias. The Summit is free (a free will offering will be taken) Reservations not required. Brochures were passed out to the pastors at the Christmas gathering. If you need more copies of the brochure, please contact the district office.

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SABBATICAL**

The District Advisory Board will be extending a sabbatical leave to the District Superintendent from December 25, 2009 until February 5, 2010. Member Elders on the District Advisory Board will cover for the District Superintendent by Zones. Following is your contact person during the District Superintendent sabbatical leave:

**Dr. Richard Rice - Central Zone**

Cadillac Cherry Grove  
Cadillac Church of Discovery  
Cadillac First  
Frankfort Family of Faith

**Dr. Richard Rice - Lake Michigan Zone**

Big Rapids  
Fremont  
Reed City

**Rev. Christopher DeMott, Grand Traverse Zone**

Buckley  
Glen Lake  
Kalkaska  
Mancelona  
Traverse City

**Rev. David Brantley - Soo Zone**

Pickford  
Sault Ste. Marie Mackety Memorial

**Rev. Jerry Batterbee - South Zone**

Beaverton  
Clare  
Gladwin  
Harrison Temple  
Weidman

**Rev. Jerry Batterbee - Lake Huron Zone**

East Tawas  
Oscoda  
Trinity

**Rev. Christopher DeMott - Mackinaw Straits Zone**

Alanson  
Boyne City  
Charlevoix  
Cheboygan  
Petoskey  
Gaylord

**Rev. David Brantley - Lake Superior Zone**

Escanaba Lighthouse  
Grace Community  
Houghton/Hancock  
Iron River

Please contact these men if you have any questions or concerns during this time. In case of emergency you can reach the District Superintendent.

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE**

December 25 - February 5  
February 3-10  
February 16  
February 17

Sabbatical Leave  
DSLDP/DS Conferences, St. Augustine, Florida  
Kalkaska  
Fremont