

NORTHERN LIGHTS

Northern Michigan District Church of the Nazarene

[NMD Website](#)

[Global Ministry Center](#)

[Holiness Today Magazine](#)

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*

I Corinthians 1:18



SPRING TRAINING FOR THE CHRISTIAN

By Rev. Dan Gilmore

February already! Is time actually speeding up? Ash Wednesday falls on February 17th this year and that day marks the beginning of the season of Lent. For many (including me), Lent traditionally has not been a significant part of Church experience. Certainly, I am not trying to change any traditions here, but I would say that in the last several years I have begun to appreciate this time of the year to refocus on the core principles of our redemption.

I heard a pastor describe the Lenten Season as, “Spring Training for the Christian.” Baseball fans will appreciate the metaphor. For me it has been a time as a pastor that I can examine and commit anew to the core command of my call to preach; that is, “To Preach Christ, Crucified.” It is interesting to me that God did not specifically command us to preach Christ, resurrected, or Christ, incarnated, or Christ, glorified, etc. We must, of course, preach about all those great themes of our redemption. But, surely, the specific command to preach the crucifixion is mainly due to the flesh-displeasing nature of crucifixion. It is the theme of our redemption that could easily be abandoned.

We are called to live the crucified life and to preach the crucified Christ. Count as precious whatever helps to center and strengthen you in that holy calling.

Since I now have the whole of Spring to focus on the cross (indeed, it is my focus the whole year through, but I speak of retooling), I don’t get anxious about sandwiching the crucifixion between Palm Sunday and Easter anymore.

Two common beatitudes which are focused upon through Lent are humility and repentance. May we be refreshed in the command: ***Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up (James 4:10)***. In humility we turn from (repent of) our pride. Wondrously, we are then in a place to be lifted up by His mighty, sin-destroying, grace. Glory to His name!

UPCOMING VIRTUAL NMI EVENTS



Nazarene Missions
INTERNATIONAL

NMI Leaders' Training Day



Sunday, February 28, 2021
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Including Mini-Sessions on:
Prayer, Alabaster,
World Evangelism Fund,
Children & Youth,
LINKS, Mission Projects,
Deputation, Child Sponsorship,
NMI Book Review,
Questions/Answers with
our District NMI Treasurer, and
Update on Vanuatu

VIA ZOOM
Go to: Zoom.us
Meeting ID: 828 4172 6783
Passcode: NMI!

Special Guests:

Our Creative Access LINKS Missionaries
and Missionaries Joel and Sara Mullen,
Field Strategy Coordinators for South Asia

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit, *teaching them* to observe all that I have commanded you" Matthew 28:19-20

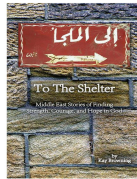
Please call or text Jill Rice at (231) 218-1134 to register for the training.



Nazarene Missions
INTERNATIONAL

Interview with Missionary Kay Browning

Author of the 2020 NMI Mission Book:
To the Shelter



Sunday, March 21, 2021
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

VIA ZOOM

Go to: Zoom.us
Meeting ID: 856 3516 3770
Passcode: NMI!

The Brownings and their young family served as missionaries in the Middle East during a time of war and strife. They learned how important it was to find a place of shelter during difficult times. Join us as we learn first hand from Kay what it was like to serve as a missionary during the Gulf War and to hear her testimony of the strength and courage that she and others found from Christ in those stressful times. He will encourage us, guide us, help us and protect us. He is our shelter and rock of strength. (Psalm 27:5)

Please call or text Jill Rice at (231) 218-1134 to register for the Zoom Call.
You won't want to miss this exciting interview!

*Registration is
required for each
event*

NYI VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



NEW
USA/CANADA
REAL
ITIES
LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE
NEW REALITIES IN
YOUTH MINISTRY

*Registration is
required for this
event*

NYI Virtual Leadership Conference, March 1 & 2 - That's right, the NYI Leadership Conference has gone virtual this year, so you can attend from the comfort of your own home. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate if you've never been able to get away and attend in the past! The cost is \$25 if you register by February 1st and \$35 after that. Registration closes on February 18th. This event is open to all NYI leaders. The schedule, speakers, and registration information can be found [here](#)

OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



Olivet Nazarene University is pleased to announce Gregg Chenoweth, Ph.D. as the 13th president of Olivet. On Wednesday, January 13, 2021, Dr. Chenoweth was elected by the Board of Trustees after a 15-month, national search selection process. He will take leadership on June 1, 2021. For the full story, [click here](#).

Join us as we celebrate 30 years of University leadership by Drs. John and Jill Bowling. Featuring Orpheus Choir, Proclamation Gospel Choir, the University Orchestra and Bands, and Special Musical Guests. This black tie optional gala will be a wonderful event to honor our longest-serving president. All proceeds will benefit student scholarship initiatives. Tickets are available [here](#)



Great People Know Great People

Do you know a high school student who might be interested in information about Olivet? Olivet Nazarene University is excited to present the "Great People Know Great People" advocacy partnership. They are asking for people to recommend high school students in your circle of influence to attend Olivet. Not only will you be moving forward the mission of Olivet, "Education with a Christian Purpose," but you will also have opportunities to get free Olivet swag! Check out the different items and recommend your first student.



Receive Olivet gifts when you recommend high school students to Olivet



Click for complete details: [ADVOCACY PARTNERSHIP](#)
Click: [RECOMMEND A STUDENT](#)



Olivet announces new tuition-free course

Olivet Nazarene University's School of Graduate and Continuing Studies announced Your Way, a groundbreaking initiative that features tuition-free general education courses that will provide adult students with a pathway to earn a bachelor's degree.

[Read more](#)



The latest issue of NCM Magazine is now online! We are excited to share stories of Nazarene churches who are serving with Christ's compassion around the world.

[See how churches are spreading hope.](#)

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Feb. 18 - District Advisory Board Meeting @ Traverse City COTN
 Feb. 28 - NMI Leaders Training Event - Virtual
 Mar. 1-2 - NYI Leadership Conference - Virtual
 Mar. 21 NMI Virtual Event with Kay Browning
 March 28 - PALM SUNDAY
 April 4 - EASTER SUNDAY
 April 17 - Ladies' Day at Olivet Nazarene University
 April 23 & 24 - District Assembly @ Clare COTN
 May 8 - ONU Commencement
 May 15 - NMI Convention, SDMI & NYI Mini Conventions
 Oct. 7 - Prime Time & Grandparents Day @ ONU
 October 8-9 - District Women's Retreat - Lakeside Resort in Houghton Lake
 October 22-24 - Homecoming @ ONU
 Dec. 11 - Pastor's Family Christmas Gathering - West Bay Beach Resort, Traverse City

Note: COVID restrictions may change some of these events.

Camp events and dates are still being determined.

District Personnel

Rev. Daniel Gilmore, District Superintendent
 231.675.7787 danielgilmore@gmail.com
 Rev. Mark Hoult, District Secretary
 989.619.9138 mwhoult@hotmail.com
 Ms. Jan Crockett, District Treasurer
 231.883.6354 jan.crocketttccntres@gmail.com
 Mrs. Jackie Gilmore, Office Administrator
 231.675.7786 jackienmdnaz@gmail.com
 Mrs. Jill Rice, NMI President
 231.947.4115 nmdoffice@nmdnaz.org
 Rev. Gil Thibault, NYI President
 989.264.4753 gilfthibault@gmail.com
 Mrs. Lisa Burgess, SDMI President
 989.205.9379 lisarburgess@yahoo.com

Advisory Board Members

Rev. Chris DeMott
 Rev. Tim Fall
 Rev. Martin Hodge
 Mr. Jeff Ek
 Mr. Doug Field
 Mr. Gary Pullen

Northern Michigan District
 Church of the Nazarene
 PO Box 1006
 Traverse City, MI 49684
 231.947.7707