

JANUARY - 2022

# NORTHERN LIGHTS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT  
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



[NMD Website](#)

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## "I AM NOT WITH YOU, YOU ARE WITH ME."

**by Dan Gilmore**  
**District Superintendent**

The encounter between Joshua and the captain of the Lord's hosts, recorded in Joshua 5, is hope-filled for these uncertain days. This event took place just after the manna from heaven had ceased, a provision that had existed for 40 years and covered the life span of most of the Children of Israel. Joshua's fledgling band was encamped in the plains of Jericho and fortified cities and uncertain days lay ahead of them. The Scripture says: ***And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come... (Joshua 5:13-14a).***

I have always thought of the response of the angel as somewhat of a rebuke to Joshua. But recently I have begun to see it much differently, as none other than a glorious reminder of God's care and promise of heavenly attention. Joshua (probably with anxiety) wondered if this warrior was friend or foe, but he discovered that he was much more than friend, he was the leader of heaven's army. In a sense the angel told Joshua, "I am not with you, you are with me." Therefore, Israel was with the King of Glory, fighting alongside the hosts of heaven. What glory, what wonder. There are times in life when we feel isolated, abandoned, and vastly outnumbered by the enemy. God assures us by manifold encounters like this, that we are with Him! He not only knows but He cares and He works on our behalf! Praise His name!



HALF-MILLION  
MOBILIZATION

CALLED TO PRAYER

The half-million people of the Church of the Nazarene in USA and Canada are invited to devote ourselves to prayer in the "Half-Million Mobilization." On Sunday, May 1, we are issuing a call to every one of our 5,000 churches and 500,000 members to devote themselves to prayer, asking the Lord to bring revival and ultimately resurgence in his Church across USA and Canada.

<https://usacanadaregion.org/pray>



Scan the code to watch a promotional video about the Half-Million Mobilization.



Scan the code to watch a prayer montage video that can be used in your church service.

## A CALL TO PRAYER

by STAN REEDER - USA/Canada Regional Director

"Devote yourselves to prayer."

This was Paul's advice to the Colossian church (Colossians 4:2) as he wrote from his prison cell. Prayer was that important to him.

Someone once quipped: "Prayer is like flossing one's teeth-everyone agrees that we should do it, but only a few actually do."

Phillips Brooks, the great 19th century American pastor who wrote the lyrics to "O Little Town of Bethlehem," said: "If man is man and God is God, to live without prayer is not merely an awful thing, it is an infinitely foolish thing."

Karl Barth, the 20th century theologian, observed: "To clasp hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world."

Devote yourselves to prayer!

The late Dr. J. Edwin Orr, one of the greatest revival historians, wrote: "Whenever God is ready to do something new with His people, He always sets them to praying."

*Devote yourselves to prayer!*

We don't always understand the power of prayer. My father was a prototypical professional engineer-he had a pocket protector full of mechanical pencils. His tie-clip was a miniature slide-rule. As a kid, I was amazed at his engineering feats around the house.

We had a full-size tent trailer that my father suspended from the rafters of our little one-car garage. He developed a block and tackle series of pulleys and levers so that he could lift the one-ton trailer off the ground, all by himself. He would stand at the end of the driveway, pulling a series of ropes as that trailer would miraculously lift off the ground. He was using technology that had been invented by Archimedes, the Greek mathematician, over 200 years before Christ. Archimedes once arranged a series of pulleys and cogs that enabled him, by his own strength, to pull a great ship out of the water and onto the beach.

Archimedes boasted: "Give me a place to stand, and I will move the earth." As Christians, our corollary should be: *Give us a place to kneel, and the Lord can move the world!*

*Devote yourselves to prayer!*

[usacanadaregion.org/pray](https://usacanadaregion.org/pray)

Alfred Lord Tennyson, the national poet of Great Britain, a brilliant Cambridge scholar and bestowed with the title of Lord by Queen Victoria, penned the now famous line: "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

Peter Kreeft, professor of philosophy at Boston College, mused: "I strongly suspect that if we saw all the difference even the tiniest of our prayers make, and all the people those little prayers were destined to affect, and all the consequences of those prayers down through the centuries, we would be so paralyzed with awe at the power of prayer that we would be unable to get up off our knees for the rest of our lives."

*Devote yourselves to prayer!*

Oswald Chambers noted: "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work."

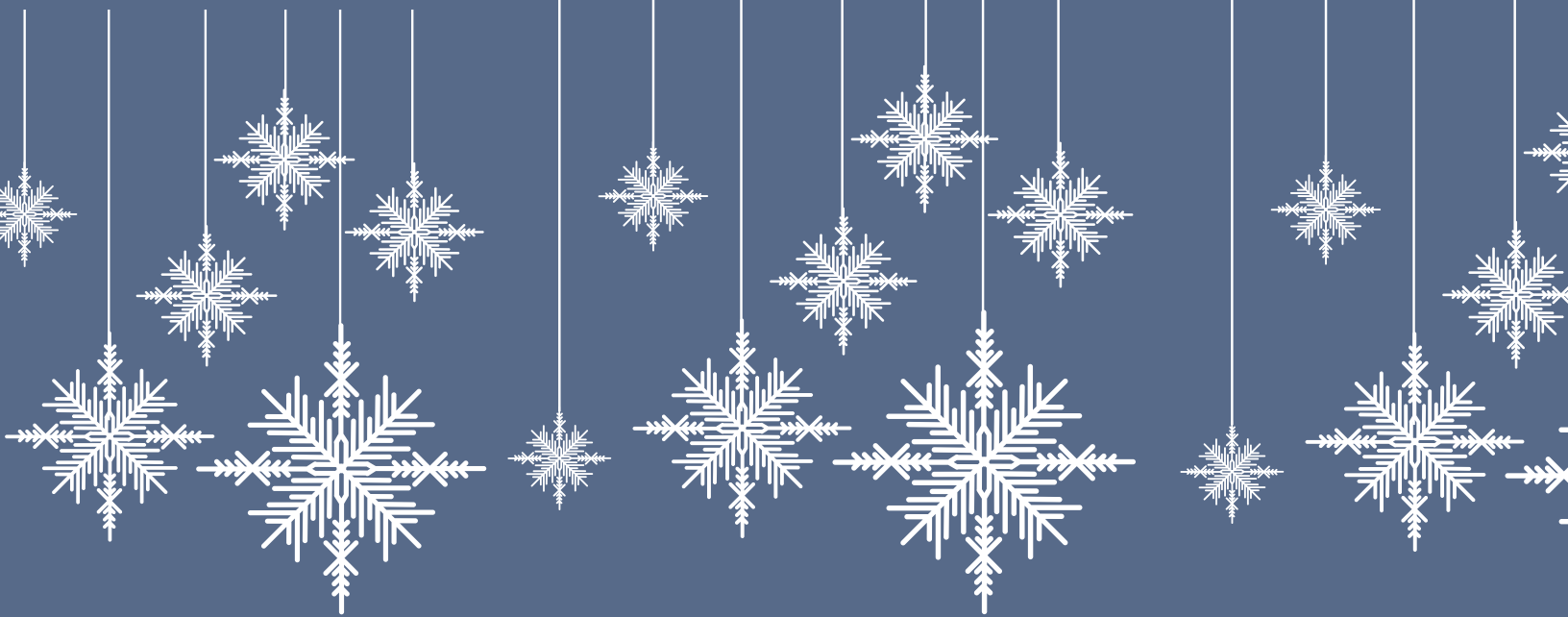
*Devote yourselves to prayer!*

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Will you answer the call?

The Lord can bring revival and resurgence.

*Devote yourselves to prayer!*



# Winter Whiteout

Winter Whiteout will be held at Center Lake Bible Camp in Tustin, Michigan. The dates are Friday, Feb. 25 - Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022. This event is for all youth in grades 7-12. Cost is \$100 per person. Please contact Rev. Gil Thibault (989.264.4753) [gilfthibault@gmail.com](mailto:gilfthibault@gmail.com) to register or for more information.

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## DISTRICT CELEBRATE LIFE

District Celebrate Life will be held on March 19, 2022, at Beaverton Church of the Nazarene - 540 Lang Road, Beaverton, MI. Registration starts at 9:30. Please contact Rev. Gil Thibault (989.264.4753) [gilfthibault@gmail.com](mailto:gilfthibault@gmail.com) for more information.





# Upcoming Events

## 2022

Jan. 29 - District Board of Ministry - Traverse City First COTN  
Feb. 3 - District Advisory Board - Traverse City First COTN  
Feb. 25-27 - NYI Winter Whiteout- Center Lake Bible Camp, Tustin, MI  
March 11-13 - Pastor and Spouse Retreat - Delamar Resort, Traverse City  
March 19 - District Celebrate Life - Beaverton COTN  
April 22-23 - District Assembly - Clare COTN  
May 21 - NMI Convention - New Horizons COTN, Pickford  
August 1-5 - Kid's Camp - Manton Christian Camp

## 2023

June 9-16 - General Assembly - Indianapolis, Indiana  
July 5-9 - Nazarene Youth Conference (NYC) - Tampa Bay, Florida

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*Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.  
Proverbs 19:21 ESV*



SAVE  
THESE  
DATES