

NOVEMBER | 2020

Northern Lights



NORTHERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



*Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!
For His mercy endures forever. Psalm 107:1*

GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

Daniel Gllmore
District Superintendent



1 Chronicles 16:8-12 - Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD. Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually. Remember his marvelous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth.

Perhaps our most important task as children of light is to maintain a heart of worship and gratitude to our God and Savior. I remember the warning in Romans 1 that as a race man begins his decline into reprobation by "Not glorifying God nor being thankful unto Him." (See Romans 1:21.) Thanksgiving is the vital component in prayer and service. Thanksgiving is the attitude of heart that sustains us in trial and persecution. Thanksgiving is the just and holy response of the redeemed for the inestimable gift of eternal salvation. And Thanksgiving is the key to being an effective witness for Christ!

We can often begin and end our thanksgiving on temporal circumstances. Though we should ever rejoice and be thankful for the good gifts from above which are new every morning, we should also remember that thanksgiving transcends human circumstance. Corrie Ten Boom testified that she learned what thanksgiving really was only when she was deprived of virtually all temporal blessings. In the horror of Ravensbrück, she learned to rejoice in and give thanks for the immutable character and eternal salvation of our God and King, Jesus Christ! "Life in Ravensbrück took place on two separate levels, mutually impossible. One, the observable, external life, grew every day more horrible. The other, the life we lived with God, grew daily better, truth upon truth, glory upon glory." - Corrie ten Boom, The Hiding Place

As we celebrate the good holiday of Thanksgiving may we be renewed in our purpose to be God's holy and thankful people every day! "Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

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BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

GLOBAL SERVICE OF THANKS

*A worship service broadcast every hour on
Sunday, 22 November*

The Board of General Superintendents would like to invite the global Nazarene family to join in a virtual worship service featuring music from around the world and a BGS message on Sunday 22 November 2020. The one-hour service will be available in five languages — English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Korean. Nazarenes from all corners of the globe will be able to watch the

service at a time that works best for them as it will play at the top of each hour for 24 hours beginning at 10 p.m. UTC on Saturday 21 November. Viewers will also be able to connect with each other through a live chat. For resources and to learn more about how to watch in each language, [click here](#).

Mark your calendar for our...

**District Zoom Training Event
for pastor's and lay leaders
with Dr. Mark Bane**

The ABC's of Discipleship

Wednesday Mornings 9:00-10:30 am
November 18 and December 2, 9, 16

Your pastor will have more information about this event in the coming days

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



1 Student



5 Students



15 Students



25 Students



50 Students



100 Students

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

Click: [RECOMMEND A STUDENT](#)

Announcement from the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) \$250 gift card for your Senior Pastor

Although October Pastor Appreciation month is over, churches can still use these free 1-2-3 materials over Thanksgiving or Christmas. Churches can receive an appreciation offering **OR** the board can approve a year-end bonus or Christmas gift for the pastor, so the Senior Pastor can receive the \$250 gift card! So far, 250 Nazarene churches have participated. The deadline for the \$250 senior pastor gift card requests is **January 31, 2021**

Pastor Appreciation Month – Easy as 1-2-3. The National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) has put together a Bless Your Pastor program for churches in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

Step 1: Distribute the Bless Your Pastor list within your congregation.

Step 2: Receive a pastor appreciation offering.

Step 3: Complete an online form for your pastor to receive a \$250 Amazon gift card from the NAE.

Go to BlessYourPastor.org for all the details and resources (also available in Spanish).

The text of Lincoln's 1863 Thanksgiving proclamation follows:

October 3, 1863

By the President of the United States

A Proclamation

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

-Abraham Lincoln



DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Rev. Daniel Gilmore, District Superintendent, 231.675.7787

danieltgilmore@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

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Rev. Chris DeMott

Rev. Tim Fall

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