

January | 2024

NORTHERN LIGHTS

Northern Michigan District Church of the Nazarene

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***Psalms 90:12 - So teach us to number our days,
That we may gain a heart of wisdom.***

***Ephesians 5:15-16 - See then that you walk
circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
redeeming the time, because the days are evil.***

As a new year begins I am reminded that the wisdom of Scripture and the wisdom of the ages teaches us to be diligent about using the precious time we have been given for eternal value. In Ephesians 5 the Scriptures give a few examples of how we can redeem the time. Two that stand out are living in an attitude of rejoicing (***singing and making melody in [our] heart to the Lord***, v.19) and an attitude of thanksgiving (***Giving thanks always for all things unto God***, v.20). Grace for the faithful walk includes the spirit of joy and thanksgiving.

The “perfect peace” of God is our supply when we walk in communion with Christ (*Isaiah 26:3 - **You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You***). And His word is the conduit of grace to walk in faithfulness to Christ (*Psalms 119:11 - **Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You***).

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us purpose together, in this new year, to be a worshiping people; praying faithfully with rejoicing and thanksgiving, and keeping God’s Word close in the secret place of the heart. ***The Joy of the Lord is our strength*** (*Nehemiah 8:10b*).

Happy New Year!

Dan Gilmore
District Superintendent

“Grace for the faithful walk includes the spirit of joy and thanksgiving.”



THE CYCLE TO RESURGENCE



The four-year Cycle to Resurgence includes: mobilizing all Nazarenes in unity in the midst of a polarized world, calling our churches to engage in blessing our community, bringing people to Jesus especially our younger generations, and embracing the transformation through becoming Christlike disciples. Though all points of the cycle should be our constant focus, the regional resource emphasis on these “heart cries” will target one component of the cycle each year. In 2023 the emphasis was on mobilizing all Nazarenes in unity. In 2024 our target will be blessing our community. As this cycle continues this revitalization vision within our USA/Canada Region will become reality.

[VIDEO](#)

Training Opportunity

District superintendents, lead and staff pastors, lay leaders, and everyone on your district is welcome to join us on January 17 from 12 to 1 p.m. Central Time for a dynamic webinar as we introduce the USA/Canada Region's Blessing Our Community Initiative.

During this webinar, you will:

- Uncover the profound impact of intentionally blessing your community and its biblical roots.
- Explore the USA/Canada Region's vision and strategic goals for Blessing Our Community
- Learn about the rich resources, training, and ongoing support to empower your church
- Gain insights from churches with successful community blessing initiatives
- Engage with regional leaders in a live Q&A

Please register and plan to join us for this conversation. Together, we can make a meaningful impact on the lives of those that God has placed in our lives and the well-being of our community. We will also have live giveaways!

Register [HERE](#)

Upcoming Events

2024

JAN 17 - WEBINAR - BLESSING OUR COMMUNITY INITIATIVE - REGISTER AT LINK ABOVE

JAN 27 - BOARD OF MINISTRY MEETING - TRAVERSE CITY COTN

FEB 2-4 WINTER WHITEOUT - CENTER LAKE BIBLE CAMP, TUSTIN, MI

MAR 2 - DISTRICT CELEBRATE LIFE - BEAVERTON COTN

MAR 4-7 - EXPONENTIAL - ORLANDO, FL

APRIL 19-20 - DISTRICT ASSEMBLY - CLARE COTN

MAY 16-18 REGIONAL CELEBRATE LIFE

JULY 29-AUG 2 - CHILDREN'S CAMP

AUGUST 2-4 - FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND

Northern Michigan District Online Giving

If you are interested in giving to the Northern Michigan District to help with the following ministries - District General Fund, PACE (Pastors and Churches Emergency) Fund, Benevolence Fund, Church Planting, District Camps, etc. Simply scan the QR code or click [here](#) to access the online giving site.



NYI Events

Winter Whiteout

WHEN: February 2-4, 2024

WHERE: Center Lake Bible Camp in Tustin, MI

WHO: youth grades 6-12

COST: \$120 per person - payment can be made at the event.

SPEAKER: Dave Scott

MUSIC: The Narrow- from Olivet Nazarene University

Please contact Rev. Gil Thibault at 989-2644753 or gilfthibault@gmail.com or Rebecca Komlassan at rkomlassan@outlook.com

CELEBRATE 2024 LIFE

God has given everyone of us gifts; these gifts are given not to make us look great, but to bring glory to Him. Celebrate Life is a youth event designed to help students find the gifts they have, develop those talents, and discover how God can use them to build His kingdom.

There are 2 Celebrate Life events: District Celebrate Life and Regional Celebrate Life.

District Celebrate Life, March 2nd, 2024

- **Location:** Beaverton Church of the Nazarene
- **Details:** Meet youth from across the Northern Michigan District (NMD), share talents, develop teams, and create friendships.
- **Time:** 9:00am - 3:00pm

Regional Celebrate Life, May 16th - 18th, 2024

- **Location:** On the beautiful campus of Olivet Nazarene University (ONU) in Bourbonnais, Illinois.
- **Details:** Youth from across 4 states and 11 districts gather at ONU to experience college life, share talents through individual and team events, create friendships, and worship together.
- **To REGISTER:** scan the QR code



⇒ **Participants** (students in 6th—12th grade)

- \$160.00
- Register via the QR code

⇒ **Sponsors**

- \$140.00
- Register via the QR code
- Background check form will be sent via email
- Ministry Safe training required by sponsors

★ **Talent Events:** ★
★ • Volleyball ★
★ • Basketball ★
★ • Soccer ★
★ • 5K Run ★
★ • Dodge ball ★
★ • Singing ★
★ • Instruments ★
★ • Dancing ★
★ • Drama ★
★ • Photography/ Art ★
★ • Bible Quizzing ★
★ • Chess ★
★ • Tennis ★
★ • Table Tennis ★
★ • Corn Hole ★
★ • And More!! ★
★ *****



Celebrate Life Event Information:

<https://celebratelife.olivet.edu/>

For more information contact:

Kristen Lucke, NMD Celebrate Life Director

Phone: (231) 357-1651
kristen.lucke78@gmail.com

582 N. Wilderness Dr.
Midland, MI 48640

<https://www.nmdnyi.com/celebrate-life.html>



District Celebrate will be held at Beaverton Church of the Nazarene. Regional Celebrate Life is held at Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois. Forms must be completed and turned in by March 31st, 2024. To register use the QR code at the left or click the link below. For more information contact: Kristen Lucke, Northern Michigan District Celebrate Life Director
Phone: (231) 357-1651
Email: kristen.lucke78@gmail.com
Click [here](#) for more information.
Click [here](#) to register.
Watch video [here](#)

OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY EARLY SCHOLARS

**ENROLL NOW FOR
SPRING, SUMMER, FALL**



ONU Early Scholars is an affordable, valuable way for students to gain valuable college credit while still in high school! Juniors and seniors choose from Cybersecurity, Calculus, Psychology, Spanish, Music, Literature, Management, Art, Physics, or from more than 40 Early Scholar Courses.



Offered both on-campus and online, students enroll alongside current undergraduate students, providing an engaging online community and university-level experience.

The Olivet Nazarene University team works with homeschool students to choose those courses most valuable to each student's experience.

DISCOUNTED RATES AVAILABLE!

For more information,
click or call the ONU
Office of Admissions
at 1-800-648-1463.



OLIVET.EDU



OLIVET Grad Programs

1



Master of Arts in Pastoral Leadership

The Master of Arts in Pastoral Leadership is designed for pastors currently serving in a local church context. This 2-year, cohort model program equips leaders to reflect theologically on the work of ministry and provides enhanced practical competencies.

2



Master of Arts in Missional Multiplication

The Master of Arts in Missional Multiplication is designed to address the changing landscape of mission, evangelism, discipleship, and leadership development in the 21st Century. This program cultivates a missional imagination and challenges leaders to engage their community.

3



Master of Arts in Urban Ministry

The Master of Arts in Urban Ministry is designed to address the unique demands, issues, and opportunities present within urban contexts. It seeks a holistic approach to reaching urban populations and provides the tools for both community assessment and development.

4



Master of Arts in Family Ministry

The Master of Arts in Family Ministry is designed to equip both clergy and volunteers to provide informed, holistic, and relevant spiritual formation for children, youth, and families.



Your Road to Growth Begins Here!
(815) 928-5726 | stcmgrad@olivet.edu

Dr. Jeff Stark - Let's talk soon!

CAMPUS VISITS

Do you have a high school junior or senior in your congregation? Visiting Olivet is the best way for high school students, transfer students and their families to experience the future at Olivet. Choose from our expertly planned Special Visit Days for undergraduate programs or plan your personalized campus visit today. Visit [THIS LINK](#) for more information.

We also offer custom appointments to discuss our master's, doctoral and certificate programs with Graduate Enrollment specialists.

