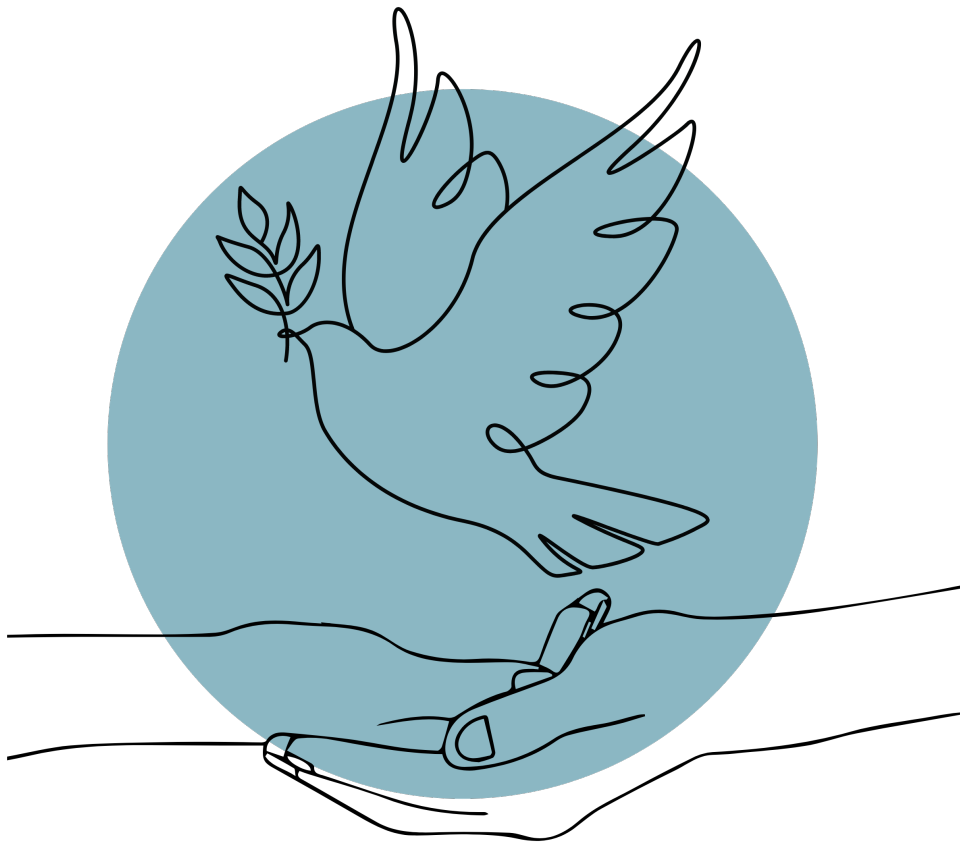




ONE BODY + ONE SPIRIT



87TH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY
MAY 9-11, 2024 + WATERTOWN, NY



Dr. Filimão Chambo
General Superintendent



Dr. Olivia Metcalf
District Superintendent

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Section ONE

General Information

Welcome! We are so glad you are here.

It is with joy that we welcome you to the 87th District Assembly of the Upstate New York District Church of the Nazarene! We are here to do the holy work of Christ's church, to worship and learn together, to fellowship, and to celebrate all that God has done in our churches this past year.

While we know there isn't any way to capture all of the stories of God's faithfulness, we hope this handbook will be a glimpse! Reading the reports of our pastors, looking at our financial documents, prayerfully considering the bios of those who are willing to run for an office on the district can all be reminders to us that God is working in amazing ways on our district.

It isn't just our district though! We are a part of a beautiful, diverse, global denomination. It is a special privilege to be members of the Church of the Nazarene. As we gather in Watertown, NY we can be mindful that there are women and men, boys and girls, all around the globe that claim the same church as their home. We are connected to one another through our great church! The way we describe ourselves as a church is connected to our founding: we are Christian, Holiness, and Missional people. These three words encapsulate the message the world so desperately needs. But it is more than a message, it is our faith in action in 45 missional outposts across Upstate NY. We must be people, who by the grace of God, authentically live the greatest command that Jesus gave us—Love God, love your neighbor. What a joy it is to be on this mission with you!

We are thankful to Life Church of the Nazarene in Watertown for hosting our assembly again this year. The Pastor Bob Tharp and the team here are a joy to work with. To the members of district boards, we are grateful for your service and dedication. Thanks to Rev. Ken Blish, our District Secretary, Bridget Beardsley and Pastor Janae Meyer for all your help in the District Office, we couldn't be here without the many hours of work you have given. Our speakers, workshop leaders, and guests have put time and energy into being here and using their gifts as a blessing—we are grateful! Finally, we want to say thank you to our ASL (American Sign Language) team for helping us to serve those who are non-hearing. Do you see how our team is already showing up? We really are One Body, united by One Spirit, thanks be to God. We are praying you will be blessed & God will be glorified as we are gathered.

Grace and Peace,

Olivia and Dustin Metcalf

Assembly Officers and Assistants

General Superintendent: Dr. Filimão Chambo
District Superintendent: Dr. Olivia Metcalf
District Secretary: Rev. Ken Blish

Recording Secretary: Rev. Paul Montague
Election Secretary: Rev. Dustin Metcalf
Assistant/Reader: Rev. Janae Meyer

Voting Area

The seating area is the sanctuary, platform, teller's rooms, and assembly office.

Times of Assembly

Thursday:	4:30 PM	Registration Opens
	7:00 PM	Celebration Service
Friday:	8:30 AM to 12:15 PM	Morning Session
	8:45 AM	Devotional, Rev. Teanna Sunberg
	9:30 AM	DS Report, Dr. Olivia Metcalf
	10:25 AM	Workshop #1
	11:35 AM	Business
	12:15-1:30 PM	Lunch Break (on your own)
	1:30 PM to 3:45 PM	Afternoon Session
	2:45 PM	Workshop #2
	4:00 to 5:45 PM	Dinner Break (on your own)
	6:00 PM	Ordination Service—Reception to follow
Saturday:	8:30 AM to 11:30 AM	Morning Session
	8:35 AM	Devotional, Rev. Teanna Sunberg
	9:00 AM	ENC Report, President Dr. Colleen Derr
	10:30 AM	Workshop #3
	11:30 to 12:30 PM	Lunch Break on Site (Catered)
	12:30 to 1:30 PM	Business
	1:30 PM to 2:30 PM	Workshop #4
	2:30 PM to 3:30 PM	Closing Service & Communion, Dr. Chambo

Board of Tellers

BOARD OF TELLERS #1

Joshua Cameron
Meghan Johnson
Virginia Heckman
Shennel Ward

JoJo Golden
Matt Belokur
Nancy Martin
Bridget Beardsley

BOARD OF TELLERS #2

Becky Dyke
Sue Brown
Mark Cooper
Tori McGrath

April Berrus
Wendy Barber
Danielle Groome
Megan Cole

Section TWO

District Boards & Committee Reports



District Superintendent's Report

Dr. Chambo, guests of the assembly, delegates, and friends. It is my honor and privilege to bring my third report to the Upstate NY District.

You'll hear the rest at Assembly!

(Printed copies of this report will be provided at Assembly)

Report of the District Advisory Board

This year the Upstate NY District Advisory Board met by Zoom Meetings and via email exchanges to conduct the business of the District. The board diligently sought the leading of the Holy Spirit in all that follows:

Ministerial:

The District Superintendent conducted two-year and four-year reviews of pastors throughout the church year and reported these to the District Advisory Board. The following were approved for appointment as pastors for 2024-2025:

- Thomas Calzone— Arcade Crossroads
- John Cramer II— Corning
- Jonathan Cramer— Syracuse Valley Worship Center
- Tim Cramer— LaFargeville
- David Drake— Vermontville Community
- Mark Fowler— Johnstown
- James Gamble— Parish Faith
- Dao Kamara— Buffalo Temple of God in Christ
- Aimee McCroskey— Penn Yan White Stone Chapel
- Patrick McNair— Rochester Cross of Christ Deliverance Temple
- Jonathan Nuñez— Bloomfield Roca de Salvacion
- Ramona Williams— Buffalo First

We recommend the following be granted Special Service designation (SPC) for 2024-2025: Amanda Cash; Christa Long-Jamison; Corey MacPherson

We recommend the following be granted District Assignment for 2024-2025: Heather Ardrey; Shane Ash; Chelsie Maynard

We recommend the following be granted Chaplain designation (CHP) for 2024-2025: Andrew Ames; Janice Lum; Eric Verbovszky

We approved the recommendation of the Board of Ministry (BOM) that the following be elected to the order of Elder: Janae Meyer; Jules Mukendi; Juan Ruiz

We approved the recommendation of the BOM that the following be elected to the order of Deacon: Pauline Carman

We approved the recommendation of the Board of Ministry (BOM) that retirement status be granted to: Gerald Harris (RA); Keith Fields (RU); Paul Montague (RU)

We approved the recommendation of the BOM that the following minister's credentials be filed: Keith Fields

We approved the recommendation of the BOM that the following minister's credentials be removed from the Roll of Ministers for joining with another denomination: Jack Connell; Jay Trainer

We approved the recommendation of the BOM that the following minister's credential be reinstated after being filed: Chad Clardie; Nik Davis.

We approved the recommendation of the BOM that the following minister's credential be reinstated after being dropped from the role of elders having joined another denomination: J. Dean McNamara

We approved the recommendation of the BOM for the following transfers off district: Chad Clardie, to Northwestern Illinois; Sarah Coleson-Derck, to Kansas City; Nik Davis, to Kansas City; Timothy Golden, to Pittsburgh; and for the following transfers on district: Jack Connell, from New England; Ramona Williams, from Southwest Native American.

We approved the recommendation of the BOM to receive the following transfers of District Licensed Minister: Madison Bechtold, from Missouri; Mark Cooper, from Pittsburgh

We approved the recommendation of the BOM for district license: Madison Bechtold, Benjamin Brown, Joshua Cameron, Mark Cooper, Abreana Mattice, John Mellinger, Jonathan Nunez, and Paul Riggall.

We approved the following be removed from the roster of licensed ministers for not being renewed: Robin Michelle Archer

We approved the recommendation the following elder be removed from the roll of ministers for being unassigned longer than 4 years: Bruce Noffsinger

Ministries:

We approved the name change of Rochester Spanish Church of the Nazarene to Centro Gosen Church of the Nazarene

We approved the name change of Penn Yan Whitestone Chapel Church of the Nazarene to Hope Community Church of the Nazarene

We approved the name change for the merged congregations of Northside Church of the Nazarene (CMT) and Community North Church of the Nazarene to Northside Community Church of the Nazarene

We created rental agreements and approved them for Amherst Church of the Nazarene and Ithaca South Hill Church of the Nazarene. Both are being rented by other churches.

Fiscal:

We approved partnering with local churches through Vision Partners. Each church contributes a portion of money toward the expense and the district has agreed to help fund the rest.

We approved a budget of \$75,000 to assist churches with building issues they cannot handle themselves. These may be loans or grants depending on circumstances.

We approved disbursement from the missional fund up to \$5000 for emergency/crisis care of pastors.

We approved the 2023-24 operating budget and report as presented by the Finance Committee.

We approved up to \$10,000 to help District Licensed and Ordained ministers to access AFLAC insurance.

We approved the following churches receiving support from the District Missional Fund:

- Amherst
- Auburn
- Buffalo Liberian
- Horseheads Grace
- Lake Placid
- Rochester Cross of Christ Deliverance
- Rochester Church Radiant
- Penn Yan
- South Hill

Other:

We elected Bob Tharp as the District Treasurer.

We approved the hiring of Bridget Beardsley and Janae Meyer to share the role of Administrative Assistant.

We approved the sale of the District Parsonage in Cicero, NY. It closed in February 2024.

We approved the sale of the Horseheads Grace Church of the Nazarene in Horseheads, NY. It is still under contract.

We approved the sale of the Ithaca South Hill parsonage in Ithaca, NY. It closed in December of 2023.

We designated the new physical district address to 4045 East Henrietta Road, Henrietta, NY 14467—This is the address of Calvary Community Church of the Nazarene. Our mailing address is now PO Box 573, Henrietta, NY 14667.

We changed our incorporation location from Onondaga County to Monroe County.

We listed the Watertown Property for sale.

All minutes, reports and attachments are kept on file at the Upstate New York district office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna MacPherson
Board Secretary
Dr. Olivia Metcalf
District Superintendent, Chair

District Nominating Committee Report

The Upstate NY District Advisory Board, under the direction of DS Olivia Metcalf, served as the nominating committee. We recommend election by plurality when applicable. We recommend these individuals for the following positions (bios provided):

District Advisory Board

Electing ONE Minister for a three year term. Electing ONE Lay Member for a three year term.

Ministers: Grace Govenettio (Wilmington), Sandy Hanson (Jamestown), Keith Hardy (Endicott), Emily McCulla (Rochester Calvary)

Lay Members: Marilyn Dominick (Auburn), Bill McGough (Rochester Calvary)

District Board of Ministry

Electing THREE for four year terms

Ministers: Amanda Cash (Special Assignment), Elizabeth Criscuolo (Schenectady), Noelle Eichenberger (Keeseville), Mark Hanson (Jamestown), Nate Patnode (Lowville), Ramona Williams (Buffalo First)

District Properties Board

Electing ONE Minister for a three year term. Electing ONE Lay Member for a three year term.

Ministers: Jay Geistdorfer (Owego), Clare Piętra (Northside Community)

Lay Members: Austin Meyer (Canastota), Mike Tallents (Wolcott)

Camps Board Nomination Report

District Camps Board

Electing ONE Minister for a three year term. Electing ONE Lay Member for a three year term

Ministers: Jay Geistdorfer (Owego), Chelsie Maynard (Elmira), Paul Riggall (Fulton)

Lay Member: Ryan Calhoun (Watertown), Josh Creager (Rochester Calvary), Ben Logsdon (Owego), Toni Ellen Strong (Owego), Abigail Riggall (Auburn)

District NMI Nomination Report

District NMI Board, Vice President

Electing ONE for a two year term. Vote YES/NO.

Nomination: Kim Sadowski (Northside Community)

District NMI Board, Secretary

Electing ONE for a two year term. Vote YES/NO.

Nomination: Meghan Johnson (Keeseville Good Shepherd)

District NMI Board, Advisor

Electing ONE for a two year term. Vote YES/NO.

Nomination: Ken Blish (Buffalo First)

District NMI Board, At-Large

Electing TWO for a one year term.

Nomination: Deb Dunn (Northside Community), Dan Lee (Plattsburgh), Abreanna Mattice (Lakeville: The Center)

District NMI Board, Work and Witness

Electing ONE for a two year term. Vote for One

Nomination: Eric Verbovszky (Sanborn Faith. Community)

District NDI Nomination Report

District NDI President

Electing ONE for a one year term.

Nomination: AJ Fry (Syracuse Shalom), Abreana Mattice (The Center)

District NDI Board

*Electing ONE Minister for a three year term. Electing ONE Minister for a two year term.
Electing ONE Lay Member for a three year term.*

Ministers: Polly Carman (Owego), Jon Mellinger (Buffalo First), Angela Nielson (Sanborn Faith Community), Juan Ruiz (Centro Gosen)

Lay Members: Duane Mattis (Auburn), Kent McCrosky (Penn Yan)

**The highest votes will be for a three year term and the second highest will be for a two year term.*

District NYI Nomination Report

District NYI President

Electing ONE for a one year term.

Nomination: Carey Dunlop (Rochester Calvary), Chelsea Fry (Syracuse Shalom)

District NYI Vice President

Electing ONE for a one year term.

Nomination: Tiffany Belokur (Owego), Juan Ruiz (Centro Gosen)

District NYI Young Adult Representative (18-35 years old)

Electing TWO for a one year term.

Nomination: Chelsie Maynard (Elmira), Timidera Mackintosh (Calvary Community), Violet Schuttak (Endicott Community), Kaleb Stanton (Plattsburgh), Grace Stiles (Calvary Community)

District NYI Sr. High Representatives (Grade 10-12)

Electing TWO for a one year term.

Nomination: Jewel Belokur (Owego), Sam Dunlop (Calvary Community), Bridget Gates (Calvary Community), Samantha Lum (Calvary Community), Campbell McCroskey (Penn Yan), Keith Poulin (Keeseville Good Shepherd), Daniel Ribbing (Calvary Community)

District NYI Jr. High Representatives (Grade 6-9)

Electing TWO for a one year term.

Nomination: Joram Belokur (Owego), Myles Cameron (Keeseville Good Shepherd), Cassie Groome (Binghamton First), Adelyn McCulla (Calvary Community)

Sample Ballot #1

Upstate NY District 2024 Sample Ballots

District Advisory Board

Ministerial: Vote for ONE (*3 year term*)

- Grace Govenettio
- Sandy Hanson
- Keith Hardy
- Emily McCulla

Lay Member: Vote for ONE (*3 year term*)

- Marilyn Dominick
- Bill McGough

District Board of Ministry

Ministerial: Vote for THREE (*4 year term*)

- Amanda Cash
- Elizabeth Criscuolo
- Noelle Eichenberger
- Mark Hanson
- Nate Patnode
- Ramona Williams

Sample Ballot #2

Upstate NY District 2024 Sample Ballots

District Properties Board

Ministerial: Vote for ONE (3 year term)

- Jay Geistdorfer
- Clare Pietra

Lay Member: Vote for ONE (3 year term)

- Austin Meyer
- Mike Tallents

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center Board

Ministerial: Vote for ONE (3 year term)

- Jay Geistdorfer
- Chelsie Maynard
- Paul Riggall

Lay Member: Vote for THREE (3 year term)

- Ryan Calhoun
- Josh Creager
- Ben Logsdon
- Toni Ellen Strong
- Abigail Riggall

Sample Ballot #3

Upstate NY District NMI Sample Ballots

District NMI Vice President

Vote YES or NO for Kim Sadowski (2 year term)

YES NO

District NMI Secretary

Vote YES or NO for Meg Johnson (2 year term)

YES NO

District NMI Advisor

Vote YES or NO for Ken Blish (2 year term)

YES NO

District NMI Work and Witness

Vote for ONE (1 year term)

Eric Verbovszky
_____ Write In

District NMI At-Large Board Members

Vote for TWO (1 year term)

Dan Lee
 Deb Dunn
 Abreanna Mattice

Sample Ballot #4

Upstate NY District NDI Sample Ballots

District NDI President

Vote for ONE (1 year term)

AJ Fry

Abreana Mattice

District NDI Board

Ministerial: Vote for TWO (3 year & 2 year term)

Polly Carman

Jon Mellinger

Angela Nielsen

Juan M. Ruiz

Lay Member: Vote for ONE (3 year term)

Duane Mattes

Kent McCroskey

Upstate NY District NYI Sample Ballots

Sample Ballot #5

District NYI President

Vote for ONE (1 year term)

- Carey Dunlop
- Chelsea Fry

District NYI Vice President

Vote for ONE (1 year term)

- Tiffany Belokur
- Juan Ruiz

Young Adult Representative (18-35 years old)

Vote for TWO (1 year term)

- Timidera Mackintosh
- Chelsie Maynard
- Violet Schuttak
- Kaleb Stanton
- Grace Stiles

Sr. High Representatives (Grade 10-12)

Vote for TWO (1 year term)

- Jewel Belokur
- Sam Dunlop
- Bridget Gates
- Samantha Lum
- Campbell McCroskey
- Keith Poulin
- Daniel Ribbing

Jr. High Representatives (Grade 6-9)

Vote for TWO (1 year term)

- Jorum Belokur
- Myles Cameron
- Cassie Groome
- Adelyn McCulla

District Advisory Board Nominee Profiles (Lay Members)



Marilyn Dominick (Lay Member)

Local Church: Auburn Nazarene

Years on the District: 51

Ministry Involvement: Church Leadership Team, Small Group Leader, Connectivity Team, NDI Board Member, Women's Ministries

Qualifications: I have served on the DAB for about 6 years and have encouraged Missional Efforts on the District. In my career, I have been an educator in public schools for over 4 decades and retired as Superintendent of Schools after serving in that role for 3 school districts.

What is God teaching you now?: Right now, I am focusing on John 15 and clinging to the Vine! I know that I can't do anything for Jesus if I am not abiding in Him. God is working in my life to help me say less and listen more, to be the voice of encouragement and love, and to bring every thought captive before voicing my thoughts. God is and has been so faithful to myself and my family! He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords - He has our best interest at heart and walks with me every day! His love is shown in his grace and mercy to us!



Bill McGough (Lay Member)

Local Church: Calvary Community

Years on the District: 20

Ministry Involvement: I have served on the church board in the past, and I have just been elected to serve again. In addition, for the past 17 years or so I have facilitated a Divorce Care and Recovery ministry at the church. I have been a mental health counselor for many years, and this has enabled me to be particularly sensitive to the needs of people in the church going through separation and divorce. God has used this healing ministry in a mighty way over the years.

Qualifications: I would say mostly a willingness to serve.

What is God teaching you now?: I am currently semi retired, and I'm in a position to get more involved in serving the Church. I think God is asking me to listen to him as he leads me into His service.

District Advisory Board Nominee Profiles (Ministerial)



Grace Govenettio (Ministerial)

Local Church: Wilmington

Years on the District: 21

Ministry Involvement: Serving in various contexts as Pastor

Qualifications: Prior to answering the call to pastor, I worked in education, nonprofit and community agencies, and in private practice as a marriage and family counselor. This unlikely patchwork of work has prepared me well for both the administrative and vision aspects of the work we do on our District Advisory Board. My experience the last 3 years as an active advisory board member has only enriched my skill set for that work we are called to do.

What is God teaching you now?: At this moment, God is revealing to me new ways He is being faithful in holding up His end of my calling to preach, teach, and serve His People. On my own, I can do nothing. In His strength, all things are possible. Thanks be to God!

District Board Nominee Profiles (continued...)



Sandy Hanson (Ministerial)

Local Church: Jamestown

Years on the District: 12

Ministry Involvement: I am an ordained elder serving as an associate pastor at Jamestown Church of the Nazarene. I also facilitate discipleship with children and youth.

Qualifications: God has provided me with many opportunities in the Church of the Nazarene through the local on to the general church. I have been a member in the Church of the Nazarene since I was 12 years old, local church board member starting as a teenager, served on the Upstate New York District as a young adult, employed by the General Church in various general offices. I would be privileged if this was another possibility through the Upstate New York District to serve.

What is God teaching you now?: Currently there is much that I do not understand so I am leaning on Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." The Holy Spirit is strengthening my trust in the midst of uncertainties and my lack of understanding.



Keith Hardy (Ministerial)

Local Church: Endicott Community

Years on the District: 25

Ministry Involvement: My local Church and reaching out to our community.

Qualifications: Since arriving on the district in June 1999, I have been privileged to serve our district on the district advisory board, District NDI & NMI boards. I have also served as a zone area coordinator.

What is God teaching you now?: God is in the process of refining me in all of the areas of life. He is challenging me to be a better husband, to be a better steward of my health, and a better pastor to my congregation.



Emily McCulla (Ministerial)

Local Church: Calvary Community

Years on the District: 7

Ministry Involvement: Associate Pastor

Qualifications: I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, and am pursuing a Master of Divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary. I was ordained in 2023. As a pastor and former educator, I am community-minded and maintain a deep love for the local church. I have served at Calvary Community since 2017 as Pastor of Children and their Families. During this time, I have organized and directed ministry to children, birth-grade 4, while also managing and equipping a team of leadership volunteers. My responsibilities include teaching and preaching, selecting appropriate curriculum, managing volunteer schedules, developing and maintaining ministry budgets, hosting workshops for parents and ministry leaders, planning and facilitating intergenerational worship, supporting family discipleship, and participating in a variety of outreach ministries. My strengths include team development and collaboration, communication, and organization.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me to further trust and abide as I cooperate with God's redemptive work in and through me, fostering an ever-deepening love for God and neighbor. God is showing me how to step out in faith, looking to God as my Source and Sustainer.

Board of Ministry Nominee Profiles



Amanda Cash (Ministerial)

Local Church: Adirondack Community

Years on the District: 20

Ministry Involvement: Discipleship & Preaching Pastor

Qualifications: I have served on the Board of Ministry for over 10 years. I have a heart for this work and experience with helping to affirm and name gifts and graces in my fellow ministers. I am a former youth pastor who has had the privilege of mentoring and encouraging young leaders as they grow in Christ and in ministry gifts and skills.

What is God teaching you now?: Now entering the second half of my pastoral journey, I am learning to find God in unexpected ways and in unexpected places. God is always up to new things and I just want to follow God's lead in new areas of ministry and life. I am a lifelong learner and I never have it all figured out, and God's grace is sufficient for all of these growth areas!



Elizabeth Criscuolo (Ministerial)

Local Church: Schenectady

Years on the District: 13

Ministry Involvement: I am currently serving as the lead pastor in Schenectady and have been here for just over 5 years. I have served as the District NDI President for the past 3 years.

Qualifications: After having served as both an associate pastor and a senior pastor I think it gives me a unique view of how to help other pastors in the process of ordination. I would like the opportunity to help those who are going through this process and journey with them as they discover what it means to be called to vocational ministry.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me that sometimes it is more about our faithfulness and willingness to step out in ministry than what the exact results will be. That God can work in ways that are far greater than our limited views of success.



Noelle Eichenberger (Ministerial)

Local Church: Keeseville Good Shepherd

Years on the District: 9

Ministry Involvement: Lead Pastor and District NYI President

Qualifications: I am an ordained elder in the church of the Nazarene and have served on the Upstate District since 2015. During that time, I have served on the NYI Council as Fall Retreat Director (8 years) and District NYI President (7 years). I have also served on the District Advisory Committee, the District NDI Council (6 years) and the Eastern Field NYI Council (7 years). I have served as an associate pastor, working with teens, children and families with a focus on discipleship and outreach. I am currently lead pastor of Keeseville Good Shepherd Nazarene (since February of 2020). My ministry has given me valuable experience, notably, learning how to do ministry in difficult situations (including death, grief and covid), experimenting with new ministry models, launching new ministries, building community partnerships and mentoring teens, young adults and other pastors.

What is God teaching you now?: In this season, God is teaching me not to get too far ahead of Him. I am someone who always wants to go, to move ahead and to rush through what God is doing. Just when I begin to feel frustrated that not enough is happening, God opens up a new door, reveals a new thing or reminds me that He is with me, even in the slow and the mundane. In this season, I feel God reminding me to stand firm, to be still and to watch what He is doing.

Board of Ministry Nominee Profiles (continued...)



Mark Hanson (Ministerial)

Local Church: Jamestown

Years on the District: 12

Ministry Involvement: Lead Pastor

Qualifications: 31 years of pastoring/ministry experience. Served as mentor to pastors. Served on Board of Ministry 4 years. Member of Pastor Restoration Team. Doctor of Ministry in Formational Counseling

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me to trust him even when it seems there is nothing going on. I am learning to wait patiently and trust what He is doing. He is always doing more than I often perceive. He is also teaching me to be available to Him and what He is doing.



Nate Patnode (Ministerial)

Local Church: Lowville Bethel

Years on the District: 5

Ministry Involvement: Pastor

Qualifications: While serving on four different districts over the last 20 years, I have served on many District leadership Teams; District Advisory Board, Board of Ministry as Assessment Coordinator, District NDI Board and speaking at youth camps. I also served one year as an ENC Trustee. Most recently, it was my pleasure to be a mentor at the Upstate NY Mentor Assess and Prepare weekend. I look forward to serving in future opportunities mentoring and supporting current and future pastors.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me to slow down, listen to His voice, and rest in his presence. I am learning the patience of God with my life, my family and in ministry.



Ramona Williams (Ministerial)

Local Church: Buffalo First

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: Lead Pastor

Qualifications: Served in SW Native District for 30 years with/ husband. Ordained summer '22. Currently in the process of obtaining MDiv, and currently serving in two full-time ministry contexts; 1) Buffalo 1st Church's Lead Pastor, and 2) FT Chaplain at Sisters of Mercy Hospital in Buffalo NY.

What is God teaching you now?: To always be open to the 'next thing' God has in store. Whatever it is- it's going to be phenomenal! God has done such great and wonderfully amazing things in my life: things that I would not believe possible if they were not true of my own experience. God holds me, His Church, and His ministry in the palm of His hand.

Properties Board Nominee Profiles



Austin Meyer (Lay Member)

Local Church: Canastota Discovery

Years on the District: 2

Ministry Involvement: Supporting the lead pastor and leading arts and crafts.

Qualifications: My wife and I have owned properties in Oregon and Ohio. I am a landlord, and I have done home maintenance and construction. I have built sheds, replaced roofs, installed flooring, and fixed minor plumbing issues. I have experience with both DIY projects and hiring licensed contractors.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me patience in my job working with kids at the local school. I am also learning to put myself out there and try new things.



Mike Tallents (Lay Member)

Local Church: NLCC

Years on the District: 5

Ministry Involvement: Trustee

Qualifications: Retired engineer, former landlord, major renovation of 3+ houses, plumbing, electrical experience

What is God teaching you now?: To continue asking God for wisdom and guidance in everything. To serve with humility at every possible opportunity. To pray for the needs of my family, my church, my community, my country and world issues.



Jay Geistdorfer (Ministerial)

Local Church: Owego

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: Senior Pastor at Owego

Qualifications: I have 18 years as an ordained elder, I have been the head of multiple building campaigns and two church mergers that required us to deal with existing property after the mergers. I understand the value of the buildings as a place to meet and grow the church.

What is God teaching you now?: Everything has a season, God will open and close churches based on their community engagement and ability to grow the kingdom. We have to be thinking ahead of what can be or could be not living in a reaction state. Hard decisions are called hard for a reason but good leaders make hard decisions.



Clare Pietra (Ministerial)

Local Church: Northside Community

Years on the District: 25

Ministry Involvement: Pastor

Qualifications: I am currently the Co-Lead Pastor of Northside Community Church of the Nazarene. I have served as lead pastor, associate pastor, and director of a CMC over my years of service on the Upstate New York District. I am passionate about building God's work and am gifted in administration, discipleship, and ministry and church planting. I am missional and have extensive experience ministering within culturally diverse populations. On our district, I have served on the Camp Board and Sunday School Ministries Board. I will bring my skills, passion, and history on the district to the District Properties Board. I will serve faithfully and obediently by the grace of God.

What is God teaching you now?: During this season of ministry at Northside, I am learning about God's sovereignty. As I study his word, I am better able to measure life's events through the lens of God's sovereignty. This understanding affects me personally and has impacted how I serve, and how I live. He is teaching me how to rely on his wisdom and guidance more completely. I have an overwhelming gratitude for his goodness towards me, and for granting me the ability to know him and be used by him in the lives of others. He is allowing me to invest in future leaders and pastors and empowering me to faithfully preach his word. I am humbled in this season of ministry to be surrounded by people with great faith.

Camp Board Nominee Profiles (Ministerial)



Chelsie Maynard (Ministerial)

Local Church: Victory Highway Wesleyan/Elmira First COTN

Years on the District: 2 this time around, 4 as a student

Ministry Involvement: Missional Community Planter

Qualifications: I'm an ordained elder in the COTN and a child/adolescent mental health therapist. I'm passionate about youth and children's ministry and helping to equip the church for creative approaches to evangelism. I've been part of teen camp at Brooktondale for many years and am helping plan Young Adult Retreat this year.

What is God teaching you now?: He's leading me into a season of greater spiritual discipline—particularly in the area of sabbath and contemplative prayer. I work in really dark situations and am constantly surrounded by pain and brokenness—God is teaching me to rely on him for strength and hope. I want people to encounter the truth of the resurrection when they look at my life.



Paul Riggall (Ministerial)

Local Church: Fulton Nazarene

Years on the District: 33

Ministry Involvement: Lead Pastor at Fulton Church of the Nazarene

Qualifications: I have served multiple terms on the District SDMI Board. I have served as SDMI chair at the Valley Worship Center. I have served as associate Pastor at the Auburn Church of the Nazarene. I am currently serving as Lead Pastor at the Fulton Church of the Nazarene. I have supported the Upstate District Camp through the years.

What is God teaching you now?: God has been teaching me dependence on His Grace, The Holy Spirit, and His authority. He is teaching me how to communicate His Word effectively while allowing the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of the hearers. I am learning about the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. I am learning the importance of personal spiritual life that enables spiritual overflow into people around me. I am getting a glimpse of His love for me and those around me. He is teaching and guiding me on how to love Him and others. I am forever grateful!

Camp Board Nominee Profiles (Lay Members)



Ryan Calhoun (Lay Member)

Local Church: Watertown Life Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 10

Ministry Involvement: Serving 2nd term on ENC Board of Trustees; formerly served on Church Board

Qualifications: Clinical psychologist; MBA; Currently runs a behavioral health clinic; Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP); former Army officer; experience serving on boards and committees; experience as a residential camp counselor and on ENC Summer Ministry team while in college.

What is God teaching you now?: Continuing to trust in the Lord and leaning not on my own understanding. This year has involved more travel than any time in my life, due to participation in an executive leadership development program, and it has been challenging to balance at times but the travel requirements will end for me this summer.

Camp Board Nominee Profiles (continued...)



Josh Creager (Lay Member)

Local Church: Calvary Community

Years on the District: 14 yrs

Ministry Involvement: "Yuts"

Qualifications: I'm very humble...maybe the humblest.

What is God teaching you now?: Patience & His timing....this may be a long, ongoing process.



Ben Logsdon (Lay Member)

Local Church: Owego Nazarene Church

Years on the District: 3 years as camp Caretaker 2 years as Owego Worship Director (Life long upstate)

Ministry Involvement: Worship Director at Owego Naz, Camp Caretaker

Qualifications: Bachelors degree in Theology and Christian ministry. I have lived as the caretaker and helped the previous caretaker for 7 years.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me that the highest honor and achievement I could ever pursue is his presence.



Toni Ellen Strong (Lay Member)

Local Church: Owego Nazarene

Years on the District: 4 Years

Ministry Involvement: Kid's ministry

Qualifications: My boys and I have come to Brooktondale Camp the last 2 years, and we love our time there. I would like to help keep the camp going for generations to come.

What is God teaching you now?: He is teaching me how to be comfortable being uncomfortable following what he wants in my life.



Abigail Riggall (Gould) (Lay Member)

Local Church: Auburn Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 36

Ministry Involvement: Kids ministry, Adult discipleship, Healing Journey leader, Worship Team, Kiddie Cabin Coordinator, Church board secretary, NDI/NMI committee member, missions trips.

Qualifications: I have been attending Brooktondale Naz Camp since I was 2 weeks old. My mom was the camp nurse for 20 yrs and I grew up on the campground and bring my children there now. I'm a strong believer in sometimes God needs to pull us out of our ordinary routines and lives to have an extraordinary encounter with Him. I want to see camp thrive for years to come to shake up the ordinary and bring out extraordinary!

What is God teaching you now?: "He makes all things beautiful in His time." Ecclesiastes 33:11 -I can't rush the process, speed it up, make it work my way, working on trusting that His ways are higher than my ways in every facet of life.

NMI Board Nominee Profiles

Vice President



Kimberly Sadowski

Local Church: Northside Community COTN

Years on the District: 18

Ministry Involvement: Local and District NMI; Local Church Worship Ministry; Local Church Children's Ministry

Qualifications: I have been blessed and humbled to serve on the District NMI Council for four years- first as an At-Large Member and for the past two years as the Vice President. I served as the Local NMI President at the former Amherst COTN for several years, and was newly elected to that position for the 2024-25 year at my current church. I was a delegate to the 2023 Global NMI Convention. I also most recently served on the Nazarene Mission Team to ANU in October 2023.

What is God teaching you now?: The Lord has been teaching me that I always have more to learn. He has also been teaching that I can trust Him with everything He requires of me because I don't walk the walk alone. I've also been reminded of the great responsibility and urgency believers carry at this time to share the Gospel, no matter the cost.

Secretary



Meghan Johnson

Local Church: Keeseville Good Shepherd

Years on the District: 13

Ministry Involvement: Missions and Children's ministries

Qualifications: I have been working with NMI for over a decade and even when not in a leadership position still fully involved and ready to help when and where I can.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me that there are phases in life and that quality of time is just as, if not more important, than the quality of devotion to aspects of life.

Advisor



Ken Blish

Local Church: Buffalo First Church

Years on the District: 10

Ministry Involvement: Associate pastor, NMI Council, District Secretary

Qualifications: Pastoral experience, 10 years as missionary in South America, 25 years as District Administrator and assistant district superintendent in Metro New York, continued ministry here in Upstate.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me to fully trust Him with every aspect of life. That we need to mobilize the Church to be a positive force in the world. That each follower of Jesus must be ready to share the reason for our hope with everyone we come in contact with. God working in and through us is the only hope for our nation and world.

NMI Board Nominee Profiles

At-Large



Deborah Dunn

Local Church: Northside Community

Years on the District: 40

Ministry Involvement: Local Treasurer

Qualifications: I have participated with the District NMI Board for 25-30 years in the past. It would be a pleasure to once gain so serve.

What is God teaching you now?: God is continues to teach PATIENCE and reliance upon Him.



Abreana Mattice

Local Church: Lakeville: The Center

Years on the District: I grew up on this district (24 years). I received my first local license in 2018 and my first district license in 2020.

Ministry Involvement: My main ministry involvement is serving as staff pastor of The Center Church, as well as serving as representative on the district NDI board.

Qualifications: I have been passionate about missions since I was a child. I have tried to read all of our missionary books and support missions work as best as I can. I've participated in missions dinners and fundraisers. As a staff pastor, I also make it my aim to inspire my congregation to get involved in sharing the Gospel with the world.

What is God teaching you now?: God is reminding me of his goodness and provision in all seasons of life. He guides us, directs us, and faithfully opens doors for us in order to fulfill his mission and will in us.

Work and Witness



Eric Verbovszky (Ministerial)

Local Church: Sanborn Faith Community Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 6

Ministry Involvement: Chaplain, U.S. Army Reserve

Qualifications: 2023 Nazarene Missions Team Leader to ANU (Nairobi, Kenya), Previous Pastor - Amherst, International Experience, Ordained Elder, M.Div. (NTS - 2014), Organizational and Leadership Experience

What is God teaching you now?: God is currently teaching me to follow after him in trust and faith to create new ministry opportunities, and to grow closer to him through the spiritual formation practices of reading through the Bible in a year, contemplative prayer, physical fitness, and daily learning.

NDI President Nominee Profiles



AJ Fry (Ministerial)

Local Church: Syracuse Shalom

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: NDI

Qualifications: I don't know what qualifies me other than I'm an ordained Elder, been on the NDI board for the past year, district church planter, missionary, youth pastor, passionate disciple of Christ.

What is God teaching you now?: I'm learning to let go of what I think is important and seek His Kingdom first and to see things differently. I'm learning that fear is what holds me (and others) back from really experiencing the love of God and His peace (shalom).



Abreana Mattice (Ministerial)

Local Church: Lakeville: The Center Church

Years on the District: I grew up on the district (Almost 24 years), received my first local license in 2018 and my first district license in 2020.

Ministry Involvement: Pastor

Qualifications: I have a degree in Biblical Studies from Roberts Wesleyan University and am completing my Master of Divinity this May. During my undergraduate work, I completed an extensive honors research project on the correlation between spiritual formation and the VARK learning types. Specifically, I explored whether the dominant learning types of believers impact our preferred ways to interact with Scripture and how. My intent was to find new ways to help people grow in their relationships with God and get excited about reading Scripture. I have always been incredibly passionate about encouraging others to fall deeper in love with Jesus and his Word. As a pastor, spiritual formation is my ministry passion, and I have served on both local and district NDI boards.

What is God teaching you now?: God has been reminding me that he is guiding my journey and will open and close doors according to his perfect will and love.

NDI Board Lay Member Nominee Profiles



Duane Mattes (Lay Member)

Local Church: Auburn

Years on the District: NA

Ministry Involvement: NDI Chairperson Auburn Nazarene

Qualifications: Griefshare, children's ministry, church leaders team/board

What is God teaching you now?: How to reach out and make disciples and bring them more knowledge of our Lord and Savior



Kent McCroskey (Lay Member)

Local Church: Hope Community (Penn Yan)

Years on the District: 1

Ministry Involvement: Sunday school teacher, pastor's spouse, and meager worship leader

Qualifications: I have 20 years of experience leading adult discipleship ministries, focused primarily on teaching core Christian doctrines as well as deep and hermeneutically sound biblical studies. I believe the most rewarding pursuit of one's intellect is to seek greater understanding of the divine, and my calling includes awakening this realization in believers. I also have years of youth and children education ministries, where we have focused on rich community experiences along with building a reasonable faith that has answers for the questions of the world. I have previously sat on local NDI and general church boards on the Florida district.

What is God teaching you now?: I have the privilege of serving in a supporting role as pastor's husband. While I am still able to perform the ministry I love best, teaching the adult class, I am discovering more deeply the power of relational discipleship. No articulate expression of sound doctrine will do as much to communicate the nature of God as a simple act of love.

NDI Board Ministerial Nominee Profiles



Polly Carman (Ministerial)

Local Church: Owego COTN

Years on the District: 20+

Ministry Involvement: discipleship and congregational care

Qualifications: I have always been passionate about growing in my knowledge and relationship with Christ and coming alongside others through teaching, encouragement and prayer. It is always my desire to help new believers fall in love with the Word of God, reading and discussing with others. I have served in many discipleship roles in my local congregation over the past 15 years. My ministry has included teaching classes and leading discipleship courses, serving as Sunday School Superintendent and on the NDI board, Alpha Director, and Discipleship Pastor. My current desire is to emphasize prayer more in discipleship ministries.

What is God teaching you now?: Currently God is teaching me again how faithful he is, that even when I am surprised or confused, he never is. As he asked Peter 3 times if he loved him, he seems to be asking me "Do you trust me?" As my trust grows so does my confidence in his leading and calling



Jon Mellinger (Ministerial)

Local Church: Buffalo First

Years on the District: 15

Ministry Involvement: Associate Pastor

Qualifications: I am a district licensed minister and I previously served as a missionary for 8 years. I have taught youth and adult Sunday School/Bible study/small group for a number of years. Additionally, I have a master's degree in Christian Ministry from Trevecca and I have just finished my education requirements for ordination.

What is God teaching you now?: Influenced by N.T. Wright, I believe God is teaching me about the Kingdom of God and how we are to be a part of that Kingdom here on earth. Jesus taught us to pray "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Jesus also said "the Kingdom of God is at hand." We are to do our best at helping bring Kingdom values and actions into the world. We are not to be like the world but set apart as agents for His Kingdom.



Angela Nielsen (Ministerial)

Local Church: Sanborn Faith Community

Years on the District: 4

Ministry Involvement: Lead Pastor

Qualifications: Before becoming the lead pastor at FCC, I was the Spiritual Formation Pastor at a church in the Florida District. In this role I was involved with many discipleship initiatives. This included a community women's Bible study that I co-taught with the pastor of the local Presbyterian Church. I was on the planning committee for Messy Church, a community program designed for those that did not have a church home. I am also a former teacher. Discipleship is something I have a passion for. I pursue and encourage group as well as individual discipleship opportunities at Faith Community Church. I am involved in small discipleship groups at church and prepare lessons for the kids' classes. I work with lay leaders discipling them to be able to disciple others. I presented at a Buffalo Region NDI conference on Gen Z.

What is God teaching you now?: God has been reminding me of the importance of pace in ministry. Intentional steps, no matter how slow, can be more effective than a sprint in the wrong direction. I find this true in relationship building and discipleship, which often go hand in hand. It takes time for people to learn to trust. Trust is necessary for vulnerability, change, and accepting new ideas. Reliance on the Spirit's leading is important when developing pace. We never want to outpace what God is doing.

NDI Board Ministerial Nominee Profiles (continued...)



Juan M Ruiz (Ministerial)

Local Church: Iglesia Evangélica del Nazareno

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: Pastoral Ministry

Qualifications: Coming from the youth ministry you have to innovate your self at all times. I believe my experience and innovated think can help other church and pastor develop new strategies.

What is God teaching you now?: God is allowing me to contextualize our congregation in the community we service. God is teaching us togetherness and work to grow his kingdom.

NYI President Nominee Profiles



Carey Dunlop

Local Church: Rochester Calvary

Years on the District: 8

Ministry Involvement: Predominantly involved in youth ministry including pastoring, directing teen camp, and directing Nazarene Youth Conference.

Qualifications: I've worked with students as a public school teacher or pastor for nearly 15 years and have been on the district NYI counsel in various capacities for 6 years. I have directed teen camps, virtual camps, and traveling camps on Upstate. Recently, I planned and led the Upstate trip to the Nazarene Youth Conference in Tampa Bay Florida. I currently pastor students in 5th-12th grade and their families. I love students and believe they are the heartbeat of the local church, paving the way for generations young and old to experience the love of Christ in new ways..

What is God teaching you now?: God has been showing me that He is always doing something new and that time spent in the waiting is not wasted.



Chelsea Fry

Local Church: Syracuse Shalom

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: Church Planting & Community Development

Qualifications: Teenagers are worthy of being invested in! My passion is to see them thrive and find hope in a good God. Over the past ten years I have served in youth ministry, missionary development of young adults, and college-age connections. Personally, I have mentored several middle and high school teens as well as young adults from a multitude of cultures. I am currently in a graduate program where I am learning to bridge the concepts of the Church and community. My dream job would be to work with teens and young adults to create authentic community where transformation is tangible and faith is rooted deep in the personhood of Jesus Christ.

What is God teaching you now?: The Lord has been teaching me a lot about hospitality and the radical nature of "welcome". Our culture tells us to be skeptical of the stranger in our life but Jesus invites the marginalized to the table and breaks bread with them. I see this in our young adult population so much. They are skeptical of the Church and feel like there is no room for them at the table. The Lord has been pushing me to figure out new ways to create more space and allow for vulnerable questions to be welcomed. Hospitality is more than a nice dinner party with fancy plates, it is the idea of laying down my life for someone else in hopes they would experience the grace of God in their story and go on to do the same for others.

NYI Vice President Nominee Profiles



Tiffany Belokur

Local Church: Owego

Years on the District: 31

Ministry Involvement: NYI

Qualifications: My qualifications for NYI vice president include strong leadership skills, a passion for youth development, and a deep and spiritual understanding of the Nazarene mission. I have played an integral role in taking teens to numerous events, such as NYC 2023, back to school bash, and fall retreat. I have also led several youth activities such as bible study, teen camp, Sunday school, and youth group. I feel I would be a valuable asset to the community by serving as the NYI vice president.

What is God teaching you now?: Currently God is at work in my life nurturing my spiritual growth and the ability to use the many gifts and blessings I possess to reach others, especially the Nazarene youth, drawing them closer to God.



Juan M. Ruiz (Ministerial)

Local Church: Centro Gosen Iglesia del Nazareno

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: Pastoral

Qualifications: I was youth Pastor for over 5 years. I believe the youth need to be ignited on the fire of the spirit to love God and his holiness.

What is God teaching you now?: To see through his eyes the need of my community.

NYI Board Nominee Profiles Young Adult Representative (18-35 years old)



Chelsie Maynard

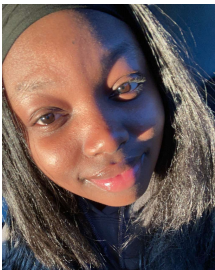
Local Church: Victory Highway Wesleyan/Elmira First COTN

Years on the District: 2 this time around, 4 as a student

Ministry Involvement: Missional Community Planter

Qualifications: I'm an ordained elder in the COTN and a child/adolescent mental health therapist. I'm passionate about youth and children's ministry and helping to equip the church for creative approaches to evangelism. I've been part of teen camp at Brooktondale for many years and am helping plan Young Adult Retreat this year.

What is God teaching you now?: He's leading me into a season of greater spiritual discipline—particularly in the area of sabbath and contemplative prayer. I work in really dark situations and am constantly surrounded by pain and brokenness—God is teaching me to rely on him for strength and hope. I want people to encounter the truth of the resurrection when they look at my life.



Timidera McIntosh

Local Church: Calvary Community Church

Years on the District: 1

Ministry Involvement: Youth ministry

Qualifications: I believe that I am qualified for this position because I have helped with delegating and coming up with activities for the youth and I have also in the past helped with the kids whether it be staff for events or helping with embrace grace when I have the time. College has helped me learn to be more organized and taught me how to keep moving forward.

What is God teaching you now?: Now, God is teaching me how to rest, he's teaching me that rest is something I deserve and not something I have to work extra hard for. He's teaching me to be easy and patient with myself because he is patient with me.

NYI Board Nominee Profiles

Young Adult Representative (18-35 years old)

(continued...)



Violet Schuttak

Local Church: Endicott Community Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 29 (since birth)

Ministry Involvement: Local church (Office Manager & Board Secretary)

Qualifications: Over the years, since graduating from college, I have worked alongside my local church's NYI leadership by supporting them, helping organize events, and teaching Sunday School. For many years I served as a NYI Bible Quizzing coach and official. I have also served as my local church's NDI & NMI Presidents and am currently serving as Church Board Secretary.

What is God teaching you now?: Change is inevitable. Especially working with youth and young adults you learn that the ways we each encounter God can be wildly different from person to person. But God can close any gap if we allow him to lead us. What serves as that bridge is our relationships with each other. Building real connections with one another and being open to God's direction is how we let God's light shine through us.



Kaleb Stanton

Local Church: Plattsburgh Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 1

Ministry Involvement: Youth and Worship Ministry

Qualifications: I've been serving as the Youth ministry leader as the Plattsburgh church of the Nazarene for a year and a half now.

What is God teaching you now?: I feel God is teaching me how to remain patient. This is something I've struggled with and I believe God will reveal how to manage this and prepare for great things to come in my ministry!



Grace Stiles

Local Church: Calvary Community Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 7

Ministry Involvement: NYI

Qualifications: I have been working with young adults and teens since I was in college at ENC. I was in NYI leadership at my home church as a teen, I served as the chaplain for teens for two consecutive summers at Windsor Hills Campground (New England District), and I led a young adult Sunday School class at my church in NH, and have been involved in young adult and teen ministry on the Upstate district since I arrived about 7 years ago. Recently, my husband Aaron Stiles and I are starting up a young adult ministry at our church, Calvary Community Church of the Nazarene. I have a heart for young adults, and am excited to continue in ministry.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me the importance of slowing down and being present. Our lives are so rushed and busy and flooded with distractions. So many things demand our attention. Just like any relationship in our lives, we have to be able to prioritize and carve out time in our day to be in God's presence. And that time allows God to be our anchor and foundation.

NYI Board Nominee Profiles Sr. High Representatives (Grade 10-12)



Jewel Belokur

Local Church: Owego

Years on the District: 14

Ministry Involvement: NYI

Qualifications: I am a hardworking student not only in but outside the youth group. I'm apart of the NYI council in my church and also sing in the praise team. I've gone to numerous events such as NYC, back to school bash, and many teen camps. I'm determined to make the youth group a better place for everyone.

What is God teaching you now?: God has been constantly working in my life and I couldn't more grateful. God has been working on my patience, and teaching me that good things sometimes take time. I often rush things but God gives me peace and helps me slow it down when needed. I wouldn't be able to live my life without him, and I'll forever be grateful for his unconditional love.



Samuel Dunlop

Local Church: Rochester Calvary Community

Years on the District: 8

Ministry Involvement: Local NYI, Local worship Tech/Arts department

Qualifications: I have served for 5 years on local NYI council, 3 years on the district NYI council, I was a global NYI delegate from our district, and I participated in NYC 2023.

What is God teaching you now?: To take more care in the way I treat people, and to take more care in who I surround myself with.



Campbell McCroskey

Local Church: Hope Community (Penn Yan)

Years on the District: 1.5

Ministry Involvement: Youth Dept., Music as needed, I am helping to design/decorate our new youth space.

Qualifications: I have served in various leadership positions since elementary school. I love music & theater, and have been in numerous shows, choirs and bands. I was awarded Student of the Year at my school in 8th grade. At our previous church I served on our worship team. As a PK, I step in as needed! I love using my gifts for creating and imagining what could be!

What is God teaching you now?: That love and faith can be found in even the smallest congregation.



Bridget Gates

Local Church: Calvary

Years on the District: 3

Ministry Involvement: Youth, NYI councils, volunteering (childcare and food pantry)

Qualifications: Attends youth group often, participates in district NYI events, local NYI board at calvary, attended NYC, was junior high rep for district board, Leader-In-Training at another church camp, volunteering at the food pantry and childcare at church, many years of student council, high honor roll student, varsity tennis, jv lacrosse, pit and symphonic orchestras.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me patience and how to deal with certain difficult situations but also how to love people and show others how to love each other. What really stuck with me from NYC was how we are placed in certain areas by God intentionally and i've been focusing on his intentions recently.

NYI Board Nominee Profiles

Sr. High Representatives (Grade 10-12)

(Continued...)



Samantha Lum

Local Church: Calvary Community Church

Years on the District: 9 Years

Ministry Involvement: Worship team, children's ministry, local NYI

Qualifications: I regularly attend youth group, and Sunday school, I am a leader among my peers (Senior Patrol Leader for Scouts), I love Jesus, I like to serve the community.

What is God teaching you now?: That I am called to be a leader in many ways. He is always here for me and knows my worries. We are all children of God no matter our background.



Keith Poulin

Local Church: Keesville Good Shepherd Church of Nazarene

Years on the District: 4

Ministry Involvement: Fall Retreat, ENC, NYC, Teen Camp

Qualifications: Worship team 4 year of going to retreats NYC etc.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me to be involved in the church and spread his word.



Daniel Ribbing

Local Church: Calvary Community Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: Whole life

Ministry Involvement: Youth member, participate in Sunday school and Church, example for kids at school, teammates and students come to me for prayer.

Qualifications: I have attended Calvary for my whole life and was grown up in a Christian household. Over the past few years I have dramatically seen how God has impacted my life through friends and family as well as my own actions. God has shown me to learn from past mistakes and grow to become a stronger and firm faith Christian..

What is God teaching you now?: Over the past couple months I have been sick and battling a few different colds I can say that I have seen God showed me to value him over earthly things more than anything. When I was in the hospital I saw how much worse people have it than me and God was telling me In that moment too focus on prayer life more and to help share the Gospel to as many people as possible.

NYI Board Nominee Profiles

Jr. High Representatives (Grade 6-9)



Joram Belokur

Local Church: Owego

Years on the District: 12

Ministry Involvement: NYI

Qualifications: I regularly attend church and youth group. I like to help out with teen takeover. I've gone to many teen camps and they have all impacted my life in many meaningful ways. I also serve on our local church youth leadership team.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me how to tell more people about God and getting more in depth with him and the Bible every day.



Myles Cameron

Local Church: Keeseville Good Shepherd Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 6

Ministry Involvement: NYI

Qualifications: Active in local church youth group and worship team. Active participation at district NYI events.

What is God teaching you now?: Our body and our abilities are gifts from God. We should use them to worship and serve him.



Cassie Groome

Local Church: Binghamton First Church of the Nazarene

Years on the District: 1 year as NYI junior high representative

Ministry Involvement: NYI

Qualifications: 1 year as junior high representative.

What is God teaching you now?: To refresh and to learn that things aren't always going to be perfect and you need God's direction to help you find your way.



Adelyn McCulla

Local Church: Rochester - Calvary Community

Years on the District: 12

Ministry Involvement: I am active in my local church and attend weekly Sunday School classes and worship. I served on my local NYI Council this past year and was just re-elected as a representative for the upcoming year.

Qualifications: I like to be involved and think of ideas to share. I am organized, responsible, and creative.

What is God teaching you now?: God is teaching me to be patient and kind like God.

District Board of Ministry Report

We recommend the following be elected to the order of Elder: Janae Meyer, Jules Mukendi, and Juan Ruiz.

We recommend the following be elected to the order of Deacon: Pauline Carman.

We recommend the following be issued a first-year district license: Scott MacPherson and Kaleb Stanton.

We recommend the following elder be granted Retired Assigned status: Gerald Harris.

We recommend the following elders be granted Retired Unassigned status: Keith Fields and Paul Montague.

We recommend the following elder credentials be reinstated, having previously been filed: Chad Clardie and Nik Davis.

We recommend the following elder credential be reinstated, having previously been dropped from the roll of elders having joined another denomination: J. Dean MacNamara.

We recommend the following elder credential be filed: Keith Fields.

We recommend the transfer of the following elders be received: Jack Connell, from New England; Ramona Williams, from Southwest Native American.

We recommend the following elders be granted transfer: Chad Clardie, to Northwestern Illinois; Sarah Coleson-Derck, to Kansas City; Nik Davis, to Kansas City; Timothy Golden, to Pittsburgh.

We recommend the transfer of the following district licensed ministers be received: Madison Bechtold, from Missouri; Mark Cooper, from Pittsburgh.

We recommend the following be granted a renewal of district license: Madison Bechtold, Benjamin Brown, Joshua Cameron, Mark Cooper, Abreana Mattice, John Mellinger, Jonathan Nunez, and Paul Riggall.

We recommend the following be removed from the roster of licensed ministers, having not been renewed: Robin Michelle Archer.

We recommend the following elders be removed from the roll of ministers, having united with another denomination: Jack Connell and Jay Trainer

We recommend the following elder be removed from the roll of ministers, having been unassigned longer than 4 years: Bruce Noffsinger.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Douglas Milne, Chair
Rev. Amanda Cash, Secretary
Dr. Olivia Metcalf, District Superintendent

2023 Lifelong Learning Report

Per the Manual 426.6, every year each district licensed and ordained minister is required to earn 20 hours of lifelong learning units. By setting this standard, the Church of the Nazarene encourages every minister to grow and improve their skills and better equip others to do the work of ministry. This report does not include retired pastors. Also, those who are enrolled in the Course of Study or in an approved educational institution are exempt from lifelong learning units.

Minister	Learning Hours	Minister	Learning Hours	Minister	Learning Hours
Andrew Ames	40	Noelle Eichenberger	Exempt	Olivia Metcalf	79
Heather Ardrey	20	Nathaniel Ferguson	73.5	John Mellinger	Exempt
Shane Ash	34.5	Mark Fowler	0	Janae Meyer	Exempt
Madison Bechtold	Exempt	AJ Fry	22	Douglas Milne	21
Benjamin Brown	50	Chelsea Fry	Exempt	Paul Montague	22.9
Heather Brown	32	James Gamble	Exempt	Jules Mukendi	Exempt
James Butler	0	Jarrood Geistdorfer	38	Abraham Nagamootoo	0
Thomas Calzone	20	Grace Govenettio	29	Angela Nielson	29
Josh Cameron	Exempt	Ron Graeflin	41.5	Jonathan Nunez	Exempt
Amanda Cash	20	Mark Hanson	53.5	Doug Parks	23.5
Pauline Carmen	Exempt	Sandra Hanson	35.1	Nathan Patnode	22
Paul Colgan	0	Keith Hardy	54.75	Raúl Perez	22.78
Mark Cooper	22	Christa Jamison	22.75	Clare Pietra	0
James Cox	20.5	Dao Kamara	0	Paul Riggall	Exempt
Jonathan Cramer	0	Duane "Bud" Leach	16	Jeff Rogers	70.5
John Cramer II	0	Janice Lum	211	Juan Ruiz	Exempt
Timothy Cramer	0	Corey MacPherson	Exempt	Robert Smith	0
Elizabeth Criscuolo	29.25	Michelle Matteson	10	Laura Swartzenberg	40.5
Chris Davies	24	Abreana Mattice	Exempt	Bob Tharp	72.8
Leslie Davies	23	Chelsie Maynard	32	James Trainham	68.95
Jennie Doane	60.5	Aimee McCroskey	63.75	Eric Verbovszky	218
David Drake	0	Emily McCulla	Exempt	Ramona Williams	Exempt
Sarah Drake	24	Patrick McNair	0		
Carey Dunlop	120	Dustin Metcalf	25		

District Properties Board Report

The following is a list of activities performed by the Upstate Nazarene District Properties Board in the year of 2023-2024.

June 2023—We met to discuss how we can support the local church in the care of their facility. In the new church year we will be working with the district and local church to distribute surveys, offer resources, and work projects. The main question we want to address is: “How can the District Properties Board support the local church?”

Report Submitted by

Micah Matteson
Chair of Properties Board

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center Report

Greetings from Brooktondale Nazarene Camp and Retreat Center. 2023 was a whirlwind of a first year directing, but there is much to be celebrated.

Our season kicked off on a high note when about 60 people flocked to Brooktondale for our inaugural "I Love My Camp". Folks helped us spring clean and prep the grounds for the camping season. Before we got into our own Nazarene camps, we had the privilege of re-hosting the Chinese Bible Study from Cornell University in May. They continue to love Brooktondale and are already rebooked for later this month. Then in late June, Prime Time Retreat gave us a solid 3 days to prepare specifically for Family Camp and closed with a special time of prayer on Friday night. This year PTR is June 26-28.

I experienced a baptism by fire (almost literally) at Family Camp last year. The Snack Shack flooded almost 3 times in 1 day. Then, we had high heat/smoke from a faulty electrical wire that was addressed early and prevented some literal flames but resulted in minimal A/C use during a very hot week. Aside from all those surprises, Pastor Leslie Davies directed a phenomenal Family Camp experience, and we know that things will just keep getting better. This year, Family Camp June 29 to July 7. At Teen Camp we saw 2 students give their lives to Jesus and a few dozen more laid down idols that were holding them back from a full life in Christ. When you add to all that a week full of fun (thanks to our co-directors, Christa Jamison and Aaron Stiles) it made for a memorable year. This year, Teen Camp is August 5-10. For Children's Discovery Camp, 30 adults and kids attended, and that was pretty great for our first year trying something new. Again, Pastor Leslie really lived up to the hype and directed a jam-packed, fun-filled camp that left kids (and their parents) wanting more, which is why this it is now a 4-day camp (July 17-20).

After our Nazarene camps we hosted a 4-day retreat for teens within the Christadelphian tradition where we had 40-50 teenagers from Colorado, Virginia, New Jersey, Canada, and New York of course—all at little old Brooktondale. We will be doing in again this fall. We also hosted the Cayuga Chamber Youth Orchestra for a 3-day retreat, and we are already re-booked with them this fall. Lastly, we hosted the Ithaca Nose Works (a dog training group) for 2 separate retreats, and they too will be returning. On top of all those returning camps and rebooked retreats, we're excited to partner with the Upstate NYI to bring back the Young Adult Retreat, happening Memorial Day weekend this year.

I won't lie, it was a challenging first year as interim director, but that was to be expected. Even with some personal challenges added to the mix, the position has proved to be a great fit for me, and I am excited to continue with it in the future. I can only do it because of all the folks who's focus all year-round is to be a good steward of God's awesome gift that is Brooktondale Nazarene Camp. I would need another page in my report to name them all, but from the bottom of my heart, thank you for your faithfulness. This is OUR camp and it's great to have the best people around to take that to heart and keep it so special. My hope is for more and more to see what all the hype is about as they join us for a camp this year or in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Chris Davies, Administrative Director

2023-2024 Upstate District NMI President's Report

Distinguished Service Awards

Name	Date	Church
Debby Leonard	June 18, 2023	Schenectady
Timothy Leonard	June 18, 2023	Schenectady
Raul Perez	July 14, 2023	District NMI
Bob and Grace Easton	December 2, 2023	Syracuse Christ Community
Martha Haskins	January 7, 2024	Carthage
Larry and Carolyn Warner	January 16, 2024	Owego
Bonnie Hall	March 3, 2024	Rochester Calvary Community

NMI Memorial Roll

Name	Church
Diane Wallace	Fulton
Emily Suzanne Cammer Goen	Syracuse Christ Community
Keith Willians	Auburn
Charles Ritchie	Syracuse Christ Community
Narda Bush	Owego
Jeremy D. Hess	Owego
Floyd Jayne, Jr.	Owego
Joe Kimball	Owego
Rhea Montague	Owego
Deborah Rude	Owego
Pamela Stanton	Owego
Jeanne Worden	Owego

2023-2024 Upstate District NDI President's Report

Greetings to Dr. Chambo, Dr. Metcalf, members and friends of the Upstate New York District!

It is an honor to deliver my third and final report to you as the District NDI President. I have enjoyed my time as NDI president for the past three years and look forward to another exciting project I will be taking on for the district. I have been grateful to serve alongside a dedicated board who have been an incredible help to encouraging and empowering the churches in Upstate New York for their NDI endeavors.

This past year I continued in holding local NDI president zoom connect nights. This was in an effort to give support to local presidents as they planned new discipleship classes and events along with a time for reflection. I have been grateful for the opportunity to get to know some of our local NDI presidents. Our churches have some incredible lay leaders who sacrifice much in order to commit themselves to the mission of making Christ-like disciples. This is something the local church and our district need to continue to celebrate as we witness the enthusiasm and love these lay leaders have for discipleship in so many varying creative capacities! Let's celebrate them and their ongoing commitment!

At this time I would like to thank our board members: Pastors Noelle Eichenberger, Sally Mellinger, Janae Meyer, Raul Perez, Eric Verbovsky, Nate Patnode, AJ Fry, Abreanna Mattice, Emily McCulla along with our lay leaders Marilyn Dominick, Tim Schmitt, and Gloria Lanning. This past year Gloria organized another successful lay leader retreat and will be directing it again next weekend at Camp of the Woods in Speculator, NY, May 17th-19th. Thank you to Gloria for her hard work and dedication to hosting this event for our district. This event continues to help with connectivity, discipleship, and restoration.

I would also like to take a moment to thank Pastor Leslie Davies for her outstanding work on directing the first Children's Discovery Camp this past year. If you recall, it had been several years since we had a children's camp due to a number of reasons, but we worked on introducing a 1 day camp-like experience in 2022 that was then able to help us transition back into a children's camp this past year. Pastor Leslie reports, "The goal was to provide events that would help parents and kids have fun and create memories together through this shared experience. Additionally, this year we wanted to not only offer amazing kid appropriate programming but also teach a parenting workshop for all parents that attended called, "It's just a phase." We had 16 children and 12 parents involved and we were happy with that enrollment for the first year. It didn't feel too small as we had feared, it felt just right with room to grow. Every child and parent at the end of the camp was committed to next year and plans on inviting friends and promoting in their home churches. There were 8 churches represented!" I am grateful for Pastors Leslie and Chris, along with all the other camp counselors and staff, for their hard work and dedication to Discovery Children's Camp!

The past few years we have been trying to figure out what was going to be the best way to present workshops and courses that would be valuable to pastors and laity. It seems that at this time the most well attended workshops have been through zoom meetings. So, this past year the NDI board asked Rev. Dr. Jeff Barker to share a couple workshops for our pastors and lay leaders. The workshop he shared through zoom this past winter was called, "Called to (Flourish in) Ministry: Discernment and Acceptance." This workshop focused on "thriving" (flourishing) as an expression of calling, meaning, and purpose. An exploration of the Scriptural call narrative structure served to guide participants in hearing/writing their call narratives dialogically, opening space for wider discernment and celebration. Particular attention was given to the process of naming perceived or actual inadequacies and to hearing (when necessary and appropriate) reassurance of help from God. Also included were strategies to confront and overcome named inadequacies. This workshop

had over 60 people sign up for it and approximately 45 attendees over the span of the 3 workshop days. Our district is excited about the call to ministry and our desire for the ability to flourish in that! The NDI board is also having Jeff present a workshop here at District Assembly that will be followed up with zoom after District Assembly. This workshop is called, "Cultivating Daily Wellbeing: Patterns and Practices." This workshop invites participants to learn both why a "Rule of Life" or "Plan to Flourish" is necessary and how to develop one. Participants will be introduced to the Flourishing in Ministry research findings with particular focus on daily wellbeing as viewed through the lenses of relationships, rhythms, responsibilities, and rest. A final piece will help participants take meaningful steps toward developing and implementing daily patterns and practices. Thank you to Jeff for helping our district to become better equipped with practices for our wellbeing and discovering how to flourish in our ministry settings.

Lastly I would like to share about the newer project I will be overseeing for our district. Last year Pastor Olivia introduced a Peace Initiative to our district. After having worked as a mediator for the New York State Court system, communications facilitator, and as a certified facilitator for restorative justice this seemed like a natural fit. We share a passion and vision for our churches to be able to see conflict, not as something we fear or as shameful, but as an opportunity to meet each other where we are and figure out how we will grow together. It is an opportunity to create a plan that moves everyone forward in a way that celebrates the purposeful and intentional work toward reconciliation and resolution. Oftentimes, we find people have a deep desire to be heard, they want to know someone understands them and that there is value found in their voice. I will be working with a local Conflict Resolution center in order to provide more opportunities for our pastors and lay people to be further equipped with handling conflict, not only in our churches but in our communities.

It has truly been a privilege to serve the Upstate New York District as the NDI president for the past 3 years. I have enjoyed getting to know more people on our district and look forward to serving in a new capacity through hopeful peace making opportunities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Elizabeth Criscuolo
District NDI Chairperson

2023-2024 Upstate District NYI President's Report

This is my final report as the Upstate NY District NYI President. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to serve in this role for the last seven years, to have seen the impact that praying for and ministering to our teens has had and to watch so many young people grow fully into their identity in Christ. As I transition out of this role, I am hopeful for the future of Upstate NYI! It's been a remarkable year. There is much to celebrate on both the local and the district level! My prayer for the days ahead is that we would continue to empower our students to lead and to live as disciples of Jesus!

On the local level, our students are leading the way! They are building youth groups from the ground up, inviting friends and their families to church services and youth group, and finding ways to serve at their church. They are serving on the worship team, volunteering in the children's department and finding time to volunteer in the food pantry or clothing closet. We are celebrating baptisms, new teen church members and our students discovering who they are in Christ! These teens are hungry to know and live like Christ! Thank you to our local youth pastors and youth workers for your commitment and love for your students. You may not see it, but you have an eternal impact on these teens and young adults! Keep going!

On the district level, we have seen an uptick in event participation and our students are excited to lead and help shape events! One of the highlights of the year was Nazarene Youth Conference! We were able to scholarship over \$10,000 to help as many students go as possible. Upstate NY sent 92 teens and leaders to Tampa, Florida! This time was filled with celebration, service to the city of Tampa, worship services, concerts, a contemplative prayer experience, getting caught in a torrential downpour and so much more! Of those 92 Upstate attendees, 16 of our students felt called to ministry! We celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit at NYC and we are excited to see what God has in store for us at NYC 26: Wonder, in Utah! Be on the lookout for more details!

After NYC, our teens headed to teen camp. Some of the highlights of camp were the activities, the nightly services and an opportunity for teens to ask difficult questions related to faith, mental health and more. This conversation with pastors and leaders opened up an important dialogue and allowed our students to dig deeper into what they believe. Post-camp, NYI gathered for fun and fellowship at Back to School Bash and then headed to Camp Lamoka for Fall Retreat where they explored the theme, "There is a Time." They looked at how we spend our time and learned some practical spiritual formation tools.

We are thrilled to return to Eastern Nazarene College for our field event, Encounter! This year's theme is "La Familia!" We are also very excited for the return of young adult retreat, which will be held at Brooktondale! Both of these events are at the end of May!

Looking ahead, we will continue to pray for our students, to raise up student leaders, empower youth pastors and leaders to try new things and to show our students the love of Christ. As I step away, I have no doubt that there are great things ahead for Upstate NYI! It has been a joy and an honor to serve as your president. Thank you all for your continued commitment to our students. I am so very grateful.

In Christ,
Pastor Noelle Eichenberger
Upstate NY District NYI President

Director of Chaplain Ministries

Have you ever been curious about what a chaplain does? My name is Rev. Janice Lum and I'm the manager of spiritual care at UR Thompson Hospital in Canandaigua NY. I am an ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene and have served in pastoral ministry for over 20 years. Up until two years ago, I was a pastor within the church setting and simultaneously worked in the hospital setting as a chaplain. I started my chaplaincy journey in Medstar Georgetown in Washington DC and it continues today here in NY. Today I'm assigned by our denomination as a chaplain full time and I am thankful for the pastoral ministry I am engaged in outside of our church walls daily.

As our district engages in the theme of "One Body One Spirit", I am thrilled to be part of that journey with you. A chaplain has a unique opportunity to offer pastoral care outside of the walls of the church, the bounds of our denomination, and to those who hold beliefs opposite to ours. If you were to ask me what is one thing you want everybody to know about being a chaplain it would be that chaplaincy is a ministry of pastoral care that is at all times engaging with the "other". Regardless of the setting, chaplaincy opens doors to give care to those who often differ from us. It is a ministry that requires serving without proselytizing, being Jesus in ways that are stretching and humbling. This requires additional training and skills. To be a professional chaplain, whether that is in healthcare, military, corporate, or otherwise, you need to have Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). One unit of CPE is 400 hours, 300 hours of clinical work, and 100 hours of instructional work. In pursuit of board certification, you need a minimum of 4 units, 1600 hours. I am excited that our district is working to equip ministers who are interested in serving in this way. We hope to have scholarships to help pastors begin this process in the future.

Our district has appointed me the District Chaplain Director. This is a new role for me, it's something that the manual identifies as a role that supports our chaplains within each district. I am looking forward to the creative opportunities on how best to do this in Upstate New York. I recently served on our global chaplain task force, and we have developed five areas that will be points of support for our USA/Canada chaplains. Those areas are networking, mentoring, mutual resourcing, administration/logistics, and support. I will be using these same areas to develop our Upstate NY district chaplaincy support system. If you have any questions, are interested in chaplaincy, or are a minister serving as a chaplain currently, please reach out. This is a new beginning and I am thrilled to be part of it.



District Finance Committee Report

We, your Assembly Finance Committee, submit the following recommendations:

Explanation of Calculation of Funds

1. That the latest Fund Formula of the General Board and Board of General Superintendents be followed. We should prayerfully plan for and promote 100% payment of every Fund.
 - a. The World Evangelism Fund will be 5.5% of total monies raised based on current year income less approved Mission Specials.
 - b. The ENC Education Fund will be 2.5% of total monies raised based on current year income less WEF/approved Mission Specials.
 - c. The Pensions & Benefits Fund will be 2% of total monies raised based on current year income less WEF/approved Mission Specials.
 - d. The District Fund will be 6.75% of total monies raised based on current year income less WEF/approved Mission Specials. This includes the auxiliary budgets which are approximately .75% of this percentage.

Local

2. That each church be encouraged in the stewardship of its possession as this is related to wills and estate gifts on behalf of continuing generosity to the ministry of the local church. Further resources are available through stewardship ministry of the general church to provide guidance for members of each congregation.
3. That any church seeking to acquire a new mortgage, or refinance an existing mortgage must have written approval from the District Superintendent and the District Properties Board per *Manual* 103.
4. That our churches encourage members of their congregations who are employees of corporations with "Matching Funds" programs to consider giving to ENC, in keeping with corporate guidelines, in an effort to increase the revenue received by Eastern Nazarene College.
5. That each local church provides Medical/Hospitalization Insurance coverage and Long-term Disability Insurance for their pastor and family and staff. Each church is to consider including a Dental allowance as part of the benefits. We would caution pastors and churches in making unresearched changes in health insurance coverage for the parsonage family, based solely on premium cost, without comparison of coverage. Each local church should attempt to assume payment of their pastor's portion of this cost. If any situation develops threatening to cause cancellation of coverage, the district office is to be notified.
6. All churches must submit a written request for continuance of staff on a yearly basis through the District Superintendent. Approval from the DS is guided as it relates to the local church to meet all obligations.
7. A congregation should only request approval to go into debt or refinancing for any building or capital improvements, when it has shown its ability and willingness to pay all of its allocations in full, in harmony with the *Manual* of the Church of the Nazarene. (Further reference: *Manual* Para. 103, 104, 159-159.8, 211.13, 237)
8. That churches and church-type missions receiving district support may not increase expenditures for buildings, equipment, vehicles, annual salaries, or purchases of any

single item amounting to more than five percent of their annual income without the written approval of the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board. *Furthermore, all local churches that are supported financially by the District shall submit their financial report to the District Treasurer on a quarterly basis as well as an annual budget which shall be submitted by March 1 of each year. Churches receiving district support must have a budget that is reviewed annually, make allocation payments to the district, and strive to meet all other allocations.*

9. That, realizing the importance of the World Evangelism Fund, our churches do not undertake missions or Work and Witness trips until adequate plans have been implemented to assure the full payment of their World evangelism allocation, which is the lifeline of the Global Mission program.
10. That each church board adopts an annual budget for use as a tool in monitoring its finances on a monthly basis. (*Manual* Para. 129.6, 129.7) Each local church treasurer and/or auxiliary treasurer is to submit an itemized financial report to the monthly meeting of the local church board, and these reports be posted on a monthly basis for the church to review. The financial records should be reviewed annually by the finance committee. (*Manual* Para. 129.21, 129.22) The district treasurer stands ready with counsel or advice upon request. In addition, we recommend that each church have its books reviewed by an outside auditing firm at least every three years. (*Manual* Para. 129.23)
11. That each local church should make an annual contribution to the Nazarene Bible College and the Nazarene Theological Seminary.
12. A church Treasurer and Pastor can access up-to-date reports of their budget allocations on the Church of the Nazarene's Funding the Mission portal found at <https://fundingthemission.org>. If access needs to be gained reach out to the district office.

District

1. That the District Superintendent be granted five weeks vacation with pay to be taken at his/her discretion.
2. That the District Advisory Board evaluate the District Superintendent's need for a plan to provide a period of rest, renewal, and study; and that such a plan would be mutually agreed upon so that it would benefit both the District Superintendent and the District with regard to short and long term of their ministry objectives, and that financial arrangements for that period of time be mutually agreed upon. The District Advisory Board shall evaluate this plan during the 5th year of the District Superintendent's tenure to be taken no later than the 7th year of his/her tenure.
3. That district personnel, such as members of district boards and committees, be reimbursed at their request at the rate of \$.65 per mile while traveling on district business unless otherwise agreed upon.
4. That the District Superintendent, District Advisory Board, District Secretary, District Treasurer, and other such personnel as may be designated by the District Superintendent, who are not sent by their local church as a delegate, be granted partial assistance for expenses at the District Assembly and that these be determined by the District Advisory Board prior to the District Assembly.
5. That the District Treasurer has the books reviewed within 90 days from the close of the District Assembly by a public accountant every year. The District Treasurer presents a

certificate of review to the District Advisory Board; and the District Treasurer confers with the newly elected auxiliary treasurers concerning bookkeeping procedures.

6. That all money received from the sale of properties of disorganized churches, less encumbrances, and costs will be received by the District Advisory Board for the Missional Initiative fund.

Ministerial Support

The New Testament church recognized that the persons called to be pastors, associates, evangelists, and teachers should make that ministry their primary task and should give themselves to it fully. The local church will honor God with the determined and faithful financial support of the God-called minister!

We recommend the following:

Pastor's Cash Salary

- A. That each church endeavors to employ its pastor on a full-time basis. Churches with a bi-vocational pastor should review the circumstances that result in the need to supplement pastoral income as an opportunity to plan for the future growth of the church, including the goal of increased pastoral support to better enable the pastor to attend to the work of ministry in keeping with this sacred calling. Recognizing that some churches may be best served by a bi-vocational pastor, each should annually review steps to ensure the best care of their pastor as possible, coupled with the worthy goal of full support.
- B. That the church board of trustees and/or the finance committee initiate a salary review at least annually, within the budgetary process, and grant cost of living adjustments and cash salary adjustments in accordance with the spiritual and relational climate of the church.

Pastoral Benefits

- A. That each church reimburse all full-time pastors and associate(s) for their social security tax, with payments being made at least quarterly or proportionately with each salary check.
- B. That each church having a pastor and an associate or other paid staff shall provide worker's compensation and short-term disability coverage.
- C. That no pastor/full-time associate family be without health insurance and that the premiums are paid by the church unless satisfactory arrangements are made.
- D. That, when an active pastor or full-time associate becomes seriously ill, the church grants them a sick leave with full pay up to 90 days. If the illness continues longer, the termination of the leave is to be determined by the local church board in consultation with the district superintendent.
- E. That each church provides for all full-time pastors and associate(s) housing and utilities (including internet and phone expenses), except personal long-distance phone calls.
- F. That, since home equity cannot be earned by a pastor living in a church-owned parsonage, each church makes provision to offset this amount by investing an additional 5 percent above the pastor's salary in the pastor's name, toward the purchase of a home at retirement. Where possible, the above home equity is provided for full-time associate(s) as well.
- G. That all churches give full support to the Pensions and Benefits Fund, which benefits the pastor, full-time associate, retired pastors, and widowed spouses.

In addition, the local church boards are encouraged to consider additional contributions to the pastor's TSA.

- H. That all pastors and full-time associates of the church, for personal renewal, be granted paid vacations according to the following guidelines: (time devoted to district functions and denominational meetings should not be considered vacation time).
 - At least three weeks for pastors and full-time associates serving the denomination from 1 to 10 years.
 - At least four weeks for pastors and full-time associates serving the denomination from 11 to 15
 - Five weeks for pastors and full-time associates serving the denomination beyond 15 years.
- I. That each church considers a 5 percent tax-sheltered annuity for the full-time pastor and full-time associate(s) inasmuch as the retirement plan of the Department of Pensions and Benefits has thus recommended.
- J. That each church encourages the pastor and full-time associate(s) to enrich their ministerial training by providing funds and time for continuing education. This may include ministerial conventions, seminars, directed studies, special college and seminary courses, the purchase of professional development materials, and the payment of professional dues.
- K. That each local church pays the moving expenses of the incoming pastor and full-time associate(s). New IRS rules make moving expenses income, please be sure to plan accordingly.
- L. That each church give special consideration to their pastoral staff and families at Christmas and other appropriate times. We encourage a minimum of at least a week's salary be given to them through love offering or local church budget.
- M. Affirming the value of family and the importance of pastors modeling peaceful and integrated lives, local churches should consider providing a maternity or paternity leave for their pastor and associates. Such policy may contain the following provisions:
 - Timing and duration of maternity or paternity leave should be determined by the mutual agreement of the pastor and church board prior to anticipated childbirth or adoption placement.
 - Maternity or paternity leave should be considered in addition to and separately from vacation.
 - The local church should consult with the pastor and District Superintendent to arrange for a supply pastor during the period of maternity or paternity leave.
 - During maternity or paternity leave, the pastor's full salary and benefits continue. Any other arrangement shall be placed in writing and signed by the pastor, secretary of the church board and the District Superintendent.

Schedule A

A Pastor's Cash salary is defined by:

- Cash Compensation
- Employer Tax-Sheltered Annuity contribution

Schedule B

The following are cost of ministry expenses and should not be considered as a part of the Pastor's cash salary: Social Security Reimbursement, Worker's Compensation, Housing, Utilities, Travel Allowance, Entertainment Expenses, Continuing Education expenses, Insurance (Health, Long-Term Disability, Life, Dental, Disability)

Reimbursement for Local Church Expenses

- A. That each church is encouraged to pay the travel expenses for pastor and full-time associate pastor(s) while on official church business at the approved IRS mileage allowance.
- B. That each church provide travel, food, and lodging expenses for each pastor and full-time associate pastor attending official district meetings when such expenses are not paid by the district.
- C. That each church reimburse pastor and full-time associate pastor for any expenses involved in the entertainment of church guests such as evangelists, missionaries, special speakers, and other persons with whom they are working on church business as directed by the church board.
- D. That each church provides a comfortable and well-equipped office/study for the pastor and full-time associate pastor(s). This provision should include supplies, postage, telephone, computer, and secretarial help when needed.
- E. We recommend that church boards review staff compensation packages annually, as part of the church budget process prior to the start of each new church year.

Remuneration and Benefits for Evangelists

- A. That full-time evangelist's remuneration should be equal to an amount equal to twice the pastor's salary for number of Sundays of the meeting. He/She should be reimbursed for their travel expenses and receive proportional reimbursement for Social Security. The amount of the remuneration should be communicated to the evangelist before the meeting.
- B. That each full-time evangelist called by the local church be remembered at Christmas with a cash gift.

Pulpit-Supply Pastors

- A. That each local church set remuneration for pulpit supply pastors based on mileage distance and number of services held.
- B. That each local church take into consideration a hospitable provision of meals and resting place when the pulpit supply pastor is staying for more than one service, or has a long distance to return home after the service.

Other Recommendations

- A. That our churches remember the retired ministers, missionaries, and evangelist within their membership with special and appropriate acts of love and kindness.
- B. That each church board review the recommendations of this committee annually; and that the district office send a copy of this report to each local church board secretary, treasurer and pastor for their review.
- C. Out of a deep concern that our pastors avoid stress and burnout and maintain a clear continuing vision for their church, we make the following recommendations:
 - a. That every pastor and full-time associate take one day of rest every seven days. The congregation should make every effort possible to see that this day is free of unnecessary interruptions.
 - b. That the church board and the pastor bi-annually evaluate the pastor's need for a plan to provide a period of rest, renewal and study; and that such a plan would be mutually agreed upon so that it would benefit both the pastor and the church with regard to short and long term of their ministry objectives, and that financial arrangements for that period of time be mutually agreed upon. The church board shall evaluate this plan during the 5th year of the pastor's tenure to be implemented no later than the 7th year of his/her tenure.
 - c. That, if the pastor and the church board find it difficult to have a prolonged period for the pastor to have rest, reflection, and renewal, they give consideration to

providing one week for this purpose every seventh month in addition to the regular vacation time, possibly taken at the Brooktondale Nazarene Camp and Retreat Center.

- d. That each church set aside weekly an amount established by the church board for expenses of its pastoral staff and spouse(s) to attend PALCON and other general church conferences including General Assembly, such time to be considered in addition to vacation time.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Bob Tharp, Chair
Rev. Paul Montague, Secretary
Dr. Olivia Metcalf, District Superintendent

Where to Send Allocation Funds

District Funding the Mission (unified): checks made payable and mailed to Upstate New York District Church of the Nazarene, P.O. Box 573, Henrietta, NY 14467

Educational Fund: checks made payable and mailed to: Eastern Nazarene College; Development Office, Eastern Nazarene College, 23 East Elm Ave., Quincy, MA 02170

World Evangelism Fund: checks made payable and mailed to The Global Ministry Center, Attn: Donor Services, 17001 Prairie Star Parkway, Lenexa, KS 66220-7900, or online through your Nazarene account at ftm.nazarene.org

Brooktondale Camp and Retreat Center: checks made payable and mailed to Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Attn: Chris Davies, 120 White Church Road, Brooktondale, NY 14817

Nazarene Bible College: 17001 Praire Star Parkway, Suite #300, Lenexa, KS 66220

Nazarene Theological Seminary: 1700 East Meyer Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64131

Section THREE

Financial Reports

Statement of Financial Position

Current Assets		2024	2023
	Checking Account—Pathfinder	\$ 173,520	\$ 146,759
	Checking Account—BlueVine	\$ 813,445	\$ 60,262
	Long Term Investment	\$ 0	\$ 1,300,000
	Nazarene Foundation	\$ 4,146	\$ 1,507,021
	Investments—NY Life Annuity	\$ 2,334,371	\$ 0
	District Budget Payment	\$ 0	\$ 0
	Long Term Loan—Lockport	\$ 19,883	\$ 122,651
Total Current Assets		\$ 3,345,366	\$ 3,014,042
Fixed Assets—Land	Penn Yan Parsonage	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
	District Parsonage	\$ 0	\$ 10,000
	Liberian National Church	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
	Wolcott Parsonage	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
	Watertown Property	\$ 170,086	\$ 170,086
	Lake Placid Parsonage	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Total Land		\$ 218,586	\$ 228,586
Buildings and Improvements	District Parsonage	\$ 0	\$ 249,163
	District Parsonage Improvements	\$ 8,967	\$ 8,967
	Penn Yan Parsonage	\$ 156,726	\$ 156,726
	Wolcott Parsonage	\$ 71,500	\$ 71,500
	Liberian Church	\$ 117,589	\$ 117,589
	Lake Placid Parsonage	\$ 189,000	\$ 189,000
Total Building and Improvements		\$ 543,782	\$ 792,945
Other			
	Office Computers and Equipment	\$ 11,528	\$ 11,528
	District Auto	\$ 45,454	\$ 48,696
Total Fixed Assets—Other		\$ 56,982	\$ 60,224
Accumulated Depreciation		\$ (348,270)	\$ (397,872)
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 3,815,733	\$ 3,457,568

Church Allocations, Part 1

District Allocations	2023-2024	2022-2023	Difference from 2022/23 to 2023/2024
Amherst	\$ 2,308	\$ 2,308	\$ 0
Arcade Crossroads Community	\$ 3,100	\$ 4,733	\$ (1,633)
Auburn	\$ 8,813	\$ 10,496	\$ (1,683)
Binghamton	\$ 13,806	\$ 14,143	\$ (337)
Bloomfield Roca de Salvacion	\$ 2,079	\$ 1,690	\$ 389
Buffalo First Church	\$ 4,059	\$ 4,060	\$ (1)
Canastota Discovery	\$ 4,302	\$ 5,382	\$ (1,079)
Carthage	\$ 6,548	\$ 6,830	\$ (282)
Corning	\$ 4,949	\$ 2,302	\$ 2,647
Elmira First Church	\$ 3,031	\$ 2,523	\$ 508
Endicott Community	\$ 9,614	\$ 10,124	\$ (509)
Fulton	\$ 5,640	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,140
Horseheads Grace	\$ 758	\$ 2,345	\$ (1,587)
Ithaca South Hill	\$ 0	\$ 6,798	\$ (6,798)
Jamestown	\$ 7,468	\$ 6,898	\$ 570
Johnstown	\$ 260	\$ 0	\$ 260
Keeseville	\$ 4,841	\$ 4,712	\$ 129
LaFargeville	\$ 2,676	\$ 1,285	\$ 1,391
Liberian Temple of God in Christ	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ -
Clark Mills Living Hope	\$ 5,061	\$ 1,200	\$ 3,861
Lowville Bethel	\$ 7,600	\$ 8,402	\$ (802)
Message of God Buffalo	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ -
Owego	\$ 56,306	\$ 48,898	\$ 7,408
Parish Faith	\$ 2,314	\$ 0	\$ 2,314
Penn Yan Community Hope	\$ 1,937	\$ 1,914	\$ 23
Plattsburgh	\$ 17,340	\$ 22,366	\$ (5,026)
Potsdam	\$ 7,796	\$ 2,884	\$ 4,912

Church Allocations, Part 2

District Allocations, Con't	2023-2024	2022-2023	Difference from 2022/23 to 2023/2024
Rochester Calvary Community	\$ 31,670	\$ 29,390	\$ 2,280
Rochester Cross of Christ Deliverance	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ -
Rochester Grace	\$ 13,575	\$ 14,855	\$ (1,280)
Rochester Spanish—Centro Gosen	\$ 6,011	\$ 7,334	\$ (1,323)
Rochester Trinity	\$ 12,738	\$ 4,617	\$ 8,121
Sanborn Faith Community	\$ 5,821	\$ 4,316	\$ 1,505
Schenectady	\$ 6,444	\$ 7,109	\$ (664)
Springwater	\$ 13,728	\$ 13,039	\$ 689
Syracuse Christ Community	\$ 41,144	\$ 24,404	\$ 16,740
Syracuse Northside Community	\$ 5,012	\$ 3,841	\$ 1,170
Syracuse Shalom CTM	-	-	-
Syracuse Valley Worship Center	\$ 750	\$ 750	-
The Center Lakeville	\$ 2,490	\$ 586	\$ 1,904
Vermontville	\$ 250	\$ 200	\$ 50
Watertown Life Church	\$ 34,880	\$ 28,472	\$ 6,408
Wolcott New Life Community	\$ 4,875	\$ 4,149	\$ 726
Wilmington	\$ 5,010	\$ 4,995	\$ 15
Total Allocation Revenue	\$ 367,005	\$ 322,849	\$ 44,156

2023-2024 General Fund— Schedule A

General Fund Income		\$384,351	\$337,189
Expenditures		2024	2023
	District Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	\$ 132,275	\$ 132,752
	Employee Benefits	\$ 82,013	\$ 44,822
	District Parsonage	\$ 6,673	\$ 6,364
	Office Building Expenses	\$ (843)	\$ 12,021
	District Office Expenses	\$ 8,992	\$ 10,206
	District Activities	\$ 43,291	\$ 20,329
	DS Professional Expense	\$ 22,911	\$ 22,360
	Brooktondale Support	\$ 32,681	\$ 19,366
	NDI, NMI, NYI Budgets	\$ 52,675	\$ 34,501
	Bank Fees	\$ 149	-
	Uncategorized Expense	\$ (4,000)	-
Total Expenditures		\$ 378,000	\$ 302,721
Total Income/Loss to Fund Before Depreciation		\$ 6,351	\$ 34,368
Depreciation Expense			
	District Owned Properties	\$ 30,199	\$ 30,199
	District Automobile	\$ 10,090	\$ 10,090
		\$ 40,289	\$ 40,289
Total Change in General Fund Balance		\$ (33,938)	\$ (5,921)

2023-2024 Missional Fund—Schedule B

Income to Fund		2024	2023
Sale of Property/Closing		\$ 666,623	\$ 271,325
Investment Earnings		\$ 83,297	\$ (115,946)
Total Income to Fund		\$ 726,411.66	\$ 155,379
Expense Incurred From Fund Balance			
	Amherst	\$ 9,479	\$ 11,500
	Auburn	\$ 1,000	
	Canastota	\$ 0	\$ 7,103
	Centro Gosen	\$ 0	\$ 100,000
	Church Radiant	\$ 9,486	\$ 47,105
	Cross of Christ Deliverance Chapel	\$ 19,500	\$ 18,000
	Fulton	\$ 0	\$ 3,092
	Horseheads Grace	\$ 4,221	\$ 3,289
	Ithaca South Hill	\$ 14,942	\$ 1,806
	Lake Placid	\$ 442	\$ 6,792
	Lakeville—The Center	\$ (370)	\$ 9,000
	Liberian	\$ 10,000	\$ 27,087
	Other	\$ 3,041	\$ 4,142
	Penn Yan	\$ 1,084	\$ 4,980
	Plattsburgh	\$ 0	\$ 3,000
	Watertown Property	\$ 0	\$ 0
	Wolcott New Life	\$ 0	\$ 2,659
Total Church Support		\$ 72,826	\$ 249,703
District Training/ Development/Other			
	Church Planting/Conference/ Training		\$ 17,524
	ENC	\$ 2,750	\$ (815)
	Missional Grants	\$ 22,000	
	Church Revitalization—VP	\$ 20,500	
	Pastoral Care	\$ 13,373	
	Other	\$ 4,121	\$ 19,016
Total Training/ Development		\$ 59,994	\$ 35,726
Total Church/District Support Expense		\$ 132,820	\$ 285,429

2022-23 Urban and Missional Church Planting—Schedule C

Income in Fund		\$ 136,323	\$337,189
Income to Fund		2024	2023
	Grants	-	\$ 80,000
	Donations	-	\$ 33
	Syracuse Shalom	\$ 11,097	\$ 28,815
	Other Income—Sale of Property	-	\$ 45,000
	Rollover from Fund	\$ 136,323	-
Total Income		\$ 147,420	\$ 153,848
Expenses Incurred from Fund Balance			
	Syracuse Shalom	\$ 13,500	\$ 15,030
	Wolcott New Life—Spanish	\$ 5,000	-
	Other Expense	\$ 209	\$ 2,495
Total Expenditures		\$ 18,709	\$ 17,525
End of Year Church Plant Balance			
	Syracuse Shalom	\$ 11,382	\$ 13,785
	New Start	\$ 117,329	\$ 122,538
Total Church Plant Fund		\$ 128,711	\$ 136,323

2023-2024 Revenue

Revenue		2024	2023
	Missional Fund Income	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,470
	Nazarene Foundation	\$ 12,641	\$ (5,309)
	Long Term Investment	\$ (17,605)	\$ (105,381)
	Investments—NY Life Annuity	\$ 86,760	-
	Closure Transfers Income	\$ 666,623	\$ 2,500
Total Missional Fund Income		\$ 749,919	\$ (105,719)
Church Planting			
	Urban and Missional Church Plant	\$ 779	\$ 86,739
	Syracuse Shalom	\$ 10,318	\$ 4,584
Total Church Planting		\$ 11,097	\$ 91,323
District Budget Income Total		\$ 367,005	\$ 322,911
Rentals			
	Rental Income—District Office	-	\$ 1,500
	Rental Income—Amherst	\$ 2,400	\$ 0
	Rental Income—Lake Placid	\$ 13,200	\$ 12,300
Total Rental Income		\$ 15,600	\$ 13,800
Interest			
	Interest Income	\$ 1,173	-
	Interest Income Mortgages	\$ 471	\$ 224
Total Interest Income		\$ 1,644	\$ 224
Misc. Revenue			
	Other	\$ 102	\$ 316
	Vision Partners	\$ 7,083	-
Total Misc Revenue		\$ 7,185	\$ 316
Total Revenue		\$ 1,152,450	\$ 322,855

2024-2025 Projected Budget—District Budget

Projected Revenue	
Allocation Estimate	\$ 345,000
Rental Income	\$ 40,000
Interest Revenue	\$ 35,000
Transfer from Missional Fund	\$ 27,000
Total	\$ 442,000
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	
Total	\$ 138,945
Employee Benefits	
Total	\$ 92,625
District Parsonage	
Total	\$ 2,400
Rent for District Office	
Total	\$ 3,000
District Office Expense	
Total	\$ 28,530
District Activities	
Total	\$ 74,000
Business and Professional Expenses	
Total	\$ 33,000
Camp Operations	
Total	\$ 37,000
NDI, NMI, and NYI	
Total	\$ 37,500
Total Expenses	\$ 442,000

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center Financial Report

Statement of Financial Position

Assets		2024	2023
	Cash in Bank	\$ 96,286	\$ 146,759
	Other Assets--equipment	\$ 60,262	\$ 60,262
	Investment in Properties	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 1,300,000
Total Assets		\$ 1,456,548	\$ 1,507,021
Fund Balance			
	Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 69,237	\$ 122,651
	Equipment Fund	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,750
	Day Care Facility Fund	\$ 599	\$ 1,052
	John Bean Memorial Fund	\$ 500	\$ 1,000
	Playground Fund	\$ 1,261	\$ 1,535
	Keister Fund	\$ 0	\$ 450
	Basketball Area Fund	\$ 0	\$ 3,001
	Motel Fund	\$ 402	\$ 10,320
Ending Fund Balance		\$ 73,999	\$ 146,759

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center Financial Report, Con't

Statement of Activity

Revenue		2023	2022
	Family Camp	\$ 27,351	\$ 28,475
	Children's Camp	\$ 1,425	\$ 0
	789 Camp	\$ 400	\$ 0
	Senior High Camp	\$ 8,955	\$ 5,390
	Other Camp	\$ 8,350	\$ 740
	Snack Shack/Gathering Place	\$ 7,022	\$ 4,153
	District Support	\$ 2,479	\$ 23,207
	Capital Improvement Income	\$ 7,971	\$ 13,950
	Other Income	\$ 52	\$ 0
	Total Income	\$ 65,410	\$ 75,915
Expenses	Family Camp	\$ 3,619	\$ 7,593
	Children's Camp	\$ 935	\$ 0
	789 Camp	\$ 0	\$ 0
	Senior High Camp	\$ 5,800	\$ 762
	Other Camp	\$ 7,616	\$ 389
	Snack Shack/Gathering Place	\$ 5,489	\$ 6,248
	Office Administration	\$ 25,427	\$ 14,071
	Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 7,801	\$ 19,745
	Utilities	\$ 17,629	\$ 16,565
	Capital Improvement Expense	\$ (4,900)	\$ 1,671
	Total Expenditures	\$ 75,316	\$ 67,074
Net Operating Revenue		\$ (9,906)	\$ 8,841

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center Financial Report, Con't

2024-2025 Budget

Revenue		2024
	Family Camp	\$ 31,700
	Children's Camp	\$ 2,500
	789 Camp	\$ 0
	Senior High Camp	\$ 11,500
	Other Camp	\$ 9,000
	Snack Shack/Gathering Place	\$ 7,000
	District Support	\$ 12,775
	Capital Improvement Income	\$ 22,000
	Total Income	\$ 96,475
Expenses	Family Camp	\$ 11,000
	Children's Camp	\$ 1,750
	789 Camp	\$ 0
	Senior High Camp	\$ 6,750
	Other Camp	\$ 6,250
	Snack Shack/Gathering Place	\$ 6,000
	Office Administration	\$ 23,000
	Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 7,900
	Utilities	\$ 18,600
	Capital Improvement Expense	
	Total Expenditures	\$ 96,250
Net Operating Revenue		\$ 225

NDI Financial Report

2024-2025 Proposed Budget

Revenue		2024-2025
	District Budget	\$ 0
	Total Income	\$ 0
Expenses		
	Children's Ministries	\$ 2,000
	Adult Ministries	\$ 1,100
	District Events/Convention	\$ 2,695
	Council Expenses	\$ 2,450
	General Assembly Fund	\$ 3,755
Total District Ministries		\$ 12,000

NDI Financial Report

2023-2024 Assets and Statement of Activity

Financial Position		2023-2024
	Checking Account	\$ 28,691
	Savings Account	\$ 7,567
Total Financial Assets		\$ 38,786
Designated Saving		
	Chairperson Conference	\$ 1,400
	Transfer to Savings	\$ 3,755
	Additional Savings	\$ 2,412
Total Designated		\$ 7,567

Revenue		2024
	District Allocation	\$ 3,663
	General Assembly Reimbursements	\$ 245
	District Allocation	\$ 12,000
Total Income		\$ 15,868
Expenses		
	Administration	\$ 167
	Camp Scholarship	\$ 350
	Camp Director—Children’s Camp	\$ 200
	General Assembly Lodging	\$ 3,487
	District Events	\$ 1,750
	District Convention	\$ 945
	Children’s Ministry—DA/DC	\$ 1,000
	Travel	\$ 583
Total Expense		\$ 8,482
Net Income		\$ 7,386
Unspent \$ for 2023-2024		\$ 3,764

NMI Financial Report

2023-2024 Statement of Activity

Revenue		2023-2024
	District Budget	\$ 15,500
	Total Income	\$ 15,500
Expenses		
	Administration	\$ 2,029
	Education, Training, Global Convention	\$ 6,702
	Missions Support	\$ 1,135
	Total Expenses	\$ 9,866
Remainder		
	ANU NMT Workshop Needs	\$ 5,634
Restricted		
	Scholarships/Initiatives/Global Convention/NMT	\$ 35,331
	Total Restricted	\$ 40,965
Unrestricted		
	Savings not restricted	\$ 12,074
	Total Assets	\$ 53,039
	Budget Request of 2024-2025	
	Total Budget Request	\$ 15,500

NYI Financial Report

2024-2025 Proposed Budget

Revenue		2024
	District Budget	\$ 22,000
	Total Income	\$ 96,475
Expenses		
	Administrated Operations	\$ 5,850
Total Admin		\$ 5,850
District Ministry		
	Training	\$ 500
	Young Adult Retreat	\$ 1,400
	NYI Convention—District	\$ 1,400
	Teen Camp—798 and Sr. High	\$ 5,200
	Back to School Bash	\$ 250
	Fall Retreat	\$ 1,400
	Bible Quizzing	\$ 500
	District Ministry Scholarships	\$ 500
Total District Ministries		\$ 11,150
Field/Global Ministry		
	NYC	\$ 2,500
	Global NYI Convention	\$ 2,000
	ENC Scholarship Endowment	\$ 500
Total Field/Global Ministries		\$ 5,000
Total Expense		\$ 22,000

NYI Financial Report, Con't

Statement of Activity 2023-2024

NYI Finance Report 2023-2024					
	2023-2024	End 2022-23	2023-2024	2023-2024	
	Adopted Budget	Balance	YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD Balance
General Income					
District Budget 22-23	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
Interest			\$10.20		\$10.20
Administrative					
Bank/Office Supplies	\$100.00			\$47.60	
District Leadership Conference	\$1,700.00			\$1,981.14	-\$281.14
General Postage	\$50.00			\$13.20	
Honorarium - Camp Directors	\$400.00			\$400.00	
Honorarium - President	\$300.00			\$300.00	
President Expense Reimbursement	\$1,000.00			\$617.46	
Regional Dues	\$1,300.00			\$600.00	
Travel/Meetings	\$1,000.00			\$561.30	
District Ministry					
Leadership Training - QUEST	\$500.00			\$500.00	
Young Adult Retreat	\$1,400.00	\$100.00			\$100.00
NYI Convention - District	\$1,400.00	\$50.00		\$1,192.46	\$50.00
Family Camp					
Camp Scholarships (donation)		\$30.00			\$30.00
Camp 789/Sr High	\$2,200.00		\$10,250.00	\$13,034.46	
Camp 789 Scholarship		\$22.90			\$22.90
Camp 789 Certification Fee	\$150.00			\$150.00	
Sr High Camp	\$2,200.00				
Sr High Camp Scholarship		\$8.50			\$8.50
Sr High Camp Certification Fee	\$150.00			\$150.00	
Back to School Bash	\$250.00	\$348.34	\$546.40	\$115.77	\$778.97
Fall Retreat	\$1,400.00		\$8,535.03	\$11,059.49	-\$1,124.46
ENC Student Homecoming Treats					
Young Adult Ministry					
Bible Quizzing	\$500.00				
District Activities Scholarship	\$500.00				
President's Discretionary Fund		\$49.32			\$49.32
Work & Witness		\$1,311.52			\$1,311.52
Miscellaneous			\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	

NYI Financial Report, Con't

Statement of Activity 2023-2024

NYI Finance Report 2023-2024, con't					
	2023-2024	End 2022-23	2023-2024	2023-2024	
	Adopted Budget	Balance	YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD Balance
Global/Field Ministry					
Nazarene Youth Conference (NYC)	\$1,000.00	\$3,955.67	\$119,161.15	\$126,401.24	-\$2,284.42
NYC Scholarship Fund				\$10,000.00	
Global NYI Convention	\$2,000.00		\$2,091.96	\$4,091.96	
ENC Scholarship Endowment Fund	\$500.00			\$500.00	
TOTALS	\$20,000.00		\$164,594.74	\$175,716.08	
5/12/23 saving balance	\$20,313.80				
1/29/24 checking balance	\$7,402.43				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$27,716.23				
Savings Funds					
Designated:					
Nazarene Youth Conference	\$5,000.00				
NYC Scholarship Fund	\$0.00				
Brooktondale Teen Center Upgrade	\$2,256.86				
Leadership Training - QUEST	\$2,447.85				
Young Adult Ministry	\$2,933.74				
Young Adult Retreat	\$3,308.00				
Camp 789 Certification Fee	\$265.00				
Sr High Camp Certification Fee	\$225.00				
Global Convention	\$2,508.00				
Total Designated	\$18,945.29				
Non-Designated:					
General Savings Funds (NYC '15 excess)	\$530.00				
Other (undesignated) Funds	\$832.37				
Total Non-designated	\$1,362.37				
Total Savings Funds	\$20,307.66				

Section FOUR

District & Local Reports

Upstate NY District Totals

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/2024
Membership	4,381	4,250	4,156	3,985	3,807
Total Members Received	302	114	203	282	177
New Conversions	286	120	140	198	228
Baptisms	100	39	63	84	155
Avg. Worship Attendance	3,390	3,121	2,666	2,468	2,693
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	2,652	2,451	2,311	2,021	2,268
Total Church Income	\$5,771,323	\$5,475,570	\$5,669,436	\$5,755,860	\$5,890,370
Educational Fund	\$113,625	\$106,097	\$109,083	\$105,560	\$116,350
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$465,889	\$444,295	\$474,479	\$391,558	\$410,784
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$117,130	\$109,281	\$115,123	\$109,438	\$116,350
District Unified Fund	\$338,882	\$311,805	\$327,944	\$310,861	\$367,005
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.07%	8.11%	8.37%	6.8%	6.97%

Growth Chart

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/2024
Accountability Care List	5,544	5,467	4,962	5,219	5,856
Licensed Local Ministers	21	20	12	12	12
District Licensed Ministers	18	14	15	11	14
Ordained Ministers (Elders and Deacons)	69	84	83	85	81
New Nazarenes (Total Gains)	269	77	84	123	136
Total # of Organized Churches	45	44	43	45	44
Not yet Organized Churches	2	2	3	0	1

World Evangelism Fund (5.5%+)

Church	%
Auburn	13.2%
Binghamton	6.41%
Buffalo First	8.08%
Calvary Community	16.28%
Canastota	6.71%
Carthage	12.12%
Corning	6.06%
Elmira	16.57%
Jamestown	6.83%
Keeseville Good Shepherd	7.57%
Lowville Bethel	7.75%
Owego	8.16%
Penn Yan	6.91%
Plattsburgh	9.7%
Potsdam	7.59%
Sanborn Faith	11.78%
Springwater	8.10%
Syracuse Christ Community	6.16%
The Center	5.96%
Watertown	8.61%
Wilmington	5.99%

NDI Awards

Church	Award Level
Auburn	Exceptional
Binghamton	Superior
Canastota	Superior
Carthage	Superior
Fulton	Exceptional
Johnstown	Honor
LaFargeville	Honor
Northside Community	Exceptional
Owego	Superior
Parish Faith	Superior
Schenectady	Honor
The Center	Honor
Watertown	Honor

Arcade Crossroads

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	41	44	42
Total New Members	6	4	2
Baptisms	5	2	6
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	36	28	25
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	24	33	44
Total Church Income	\$88,609	\$75,837	\$48,590
Educational Fund	\$2,000	\$1,560	\$1,038
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,000	\$2,054	\$716
District Unified Fund	\$5,850	\$5,141	\$3,100
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$10,825	\$10,251	\$3,215
% Given to Nazarene Missions	13.92%	15.63%	7.12%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	No



Thomas (MaryBeth) Calzone
Start Date: 8/14/2022

Missional Area:
Buffalo

Community Population:
4,118 →

Church Address:
369 Route 39 W.
Arcade, NY 14009

August was the completion of the first full year here at Crossroads for MaryBeth and I. It has been one of learning, growing, excitement, joy filled, and acceptance into this faith family. We have seen many things take place at the church in this time.

Some of the things that have taken place were the feeding and ministering to the Pioneer High School Football team as we saw 20 players give their lives to Jesus with discipleship Sunday's following, starting a clothing closet (Lydia's Closet), Tent Revival (both for children and adults), new Bible studies, Christmas concert with Rick Strickland etc.

We also through our NMI president extraordinaire Jane Bates have continued to reach out at home and abroad in missions efforts. We not only meet our obligations to the Nazarene Church globally but we reach out to other ministries around the world as we had a missions week here at Crossroads where we heard from the Hauns that are serving in Bulgaria for the Nazarene Church, and from Pastor Eddis Kizito from the Nansanna Church and Day Spring High School in Uganda. We also reached out in mission locally as we gave gifts to 3 local fire departments, our police department, C.H.O.I.C.E.S. crisis pregnancy center, and other missions work that is being done by members of our congregation. We may be small but we know how to serve the Lord in many ways as He leads us.

We are looking forward to what ABBA Father is up to with this church in the coming days as we celebrate the Easter Season with a Jesus in Passover demonstration by Jews for Jesus on Palm Sunday and bringing the Needham's gospel group here for a concert on April 14th, and a focused outreach event over the summer. We are also exploring some other avenues to grow our church and present Jesus and His love to our community. No matter what the size of our church our faithfulness to our Lord will allow us to bring His love to the least, the lost, and the hurt in our community and around the world. Whatever our circumstances we rest on what Paul said in Philippians 4:13-14 13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. 14 Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction. Keep pressing onward for the Lord until His return.

Always Embrace Holy Living,
Pastor Tom Calzone

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	104	107	106
Total New Members	3	5	7
Baptisms	4	2	2
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	75	75	120
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	65	72	150
Total Church Income	\$145,512	\$162,559	\$139,001
Educational Fund	\$3,312	\$3,499	\$2,938
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$3,312	\$3,499	\$2,938
District Unified Fund	\$9,935	\$10,496	\$8,813
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$18,359	\$11,005	\$10,571
% Given to Nazarene Missions	13.51%	5.8%	13.11%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Leslie & Chris Davies
Start Date: 11/19/2023

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
26,601 →

Church Address:
3360 E. Genesee Street Rd.
Auburn, NY 13021

What a whirlwind this past year has been for our family. Chris became the Administrative Director of Brooktondale Nazarene Camp, and then we started new ministries in Wolcott thinking we would be there for another decade, but God had other plans. In July we were approached by our District Superintendent, Dr. Olivia Metcalf, and asked to consider allowing our names to be presented to the Board at Auburn Naz. Through the process we drew closer to the Lord and to each other. We learned to hear His voice speaking in ways different from what we had experienced in the past, and we trusted where He was leading. Ultimately, He led us to the amazing people of Auburn Naz, and we are so grateful that He did.

We took a whole month off between assignments which was so good for our family and for our souls, but that meant that when we started at Auburn Naz on November 19th, we were SO ready to go! We entered into our ministry rested, unpacked, filled up, excited, and ready. (We highly suggest sabbatical time!)


Since starting as the new Co-Lead Pastors, we made it our goal in our first 100 days to do 3 main things. We have wanted to: (1) Listen, (2) Learn, and (3) Love. We are continuing to listen to stories, learn the history, and hear what it is that first drew people to Auburn Naz and what made them stick around in this community. We are continuing to learn how things have been done, how things operate, and we are continuing to host people in our home each week to listen and learn from them. We are continuing to love the people of Auburn Naz into this new season.

On March 3rd, we hosted Vision Sunday where we co-preached and introduced Auburn Naz to our vision for the year as we move forward as a church. Our entire vision for all that will happen at Auburn Naz in this next year can be summed up into two words—MAKE ROOM. We want to Make Room at our church for God—in the way we grow closer to Him and promote ministries that draw people closer to Him. We want to Make Room for Others—Both those around us who have yet to breach the doors of the church, and those among us whom we fellowship with each week. And we want to Make Room for God to do amazing things amongst us as we continue to ride the wave of momentum that was happening long before we arrived. God has been on the move and He will continue to move and work in new and creative ways.

It has been a year of growth for us as pastors and for Auburn Naz and we are looking forward to what God has in store for the year ahead as we MAKE ROOM for Him and for others!

With Love in Christ—
Pastors Chris and Leslie Davies

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	142	143	143
Total New Members	0	4	0
Baptisms	0	0	9
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	80	75	82
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	42	47	68
Total Church Income	\$209,302	\$209,525	\$223,256
Educational Fund	\$4,722	\$6,076	\$4,438
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$4,710	\$4,564	\$4,474
District Unified Fund	\$13,919	\$14,142	\$13,314
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$17,071	\$13,388	\$11,686
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.83%	7.38%	6.41%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Interim Robert St. Clair

Missional Area:
Southern Tier

Community Population:
45,140 →

Church Address:
1282 Chenango St.
Binghamton, NY 13901

Members and guests of this assembly,

It has been a pleasure to serve as Interim Pastor of Binghamton First Church of the Nazarene this past year. Our year has been one of looking for a pastor, undertaking various repairs and upgrades to the building, and discovering new ways to reach out to our community.

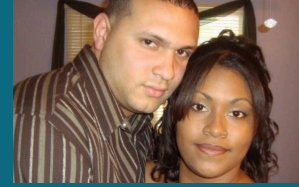
We have been seeking God's will as individuals and as a church. Our hope is to be faithful to God's leading during this interim period. We are trusting in God's future for the church. God will be with us. He will provide all the necessary resources to bring His plan about.

Just under a hundred years ago the Binghamton church came into existence due to the call of God. Through the years the church has sought to be faithful in sharing the love of God and proclaiming the Gospel message. On June 8-9, 2024 the church will celebrate their hundredth-year anniversary. We praise God for His presence and blessings through the years for His honor and glory!

Dr. Robert M. St. Clair
Interim Pastor

Bloomfield Roca de Salvacion

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	17	22	28
Total New Members	17	5	7
Baptisms	0	5	0
Avg. Worship Attendance	35	38	40
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	17	47	63
Total Church Income	18,631	\$26,912	\$28,,730
Educational Fund	\$565	\$672	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$0	\$653	\$651
District Unified Fund	\$1,257	\$1,818	\$4,950
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$0	\$1,517	\$1,441
% Given to Nazarene Missions	0%	5.97%	5.28%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	Yes	No



Jonathan (Maria) Nuñez
Start Date: 9/15/2019


Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
1,431 →

Church Address:
7466 US-20
Bloomfield, NY 14469

In this past year we have witness God's hand upon us. Guided by the Holy Spirit we have been directed to minister to our youth and children of our congregation and our communities. The goal has been to teach them to know and developed a relationship with the Only and Holy God that saves us and that goes above all else in this life. We have been able to see how slowly the work of the Spirit is bringing fruits and in that we rejoice. Not too seek our own will but His, even if it take us to uncomfortable and unknown territory.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	19	19	18
Total New Members	4	0	4
Baptisms	0	3	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	30	24	20
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	23	27	9
Total Church Income	\$77,894	\$66,615	\$63,694
Educational Fund	\$2,076	\$2,303	\$2,091
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,626	\$1,534	\$1,806
District Unified Fund	\$4,785	\$4,463	\$4,059
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$6,734	\$4,622	\$4,535
% Given to Nazarene Missions	9.41%	7.89%	8.08%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Ramona Williams
Start Date: 1/23/2022

Missional Area:
Buffalo

Community Population:
256,480 →

Church Address:
1270 Kenmore Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14216

This has been a year of change and continuity. We endeavor to honor those who have given their lives, energy, finances, and efforts to establish and keep this tiny church on Kenmore Ave open and afloat. While we honor the past, and those who hold the past dear to their hearts: we are also very excited about the future! This year we embarked on a Vision Partners collaboration where we explored where we feel God may want to lead us into the future. Meanwhile, we worked to establish and strengthen our presence in this local community through a food truck ministry and a few other endeavors like establishing relationships and fellowshiping with other congregations. We have rented our space to a Spanish speaking congregation that worships on hours we are not using the building, and we are attempting to maximize our parking lot possibilities in the midst of a busy city street. We are excited about what God has in store for Buff 1st and honored that He has chosen us, a small body of believers at 1270 Kenmore Ave to partner with Him to accomplish it.

Submitted by,
Ramona Williams

Buffalo Message of Life

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	95	95	95
Total New Members	5	0	
Baptisms	6	0	
Avg. Worship Attendance	70	70	
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	125	55	
Total Church Income	\$9,000	\$9,000	
Educational Fund	\$0	\$0	
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$0	\$0	
District Unified Fund	\$0	\$0	
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$0	\$0	
% Given to Nazarene Missions	0%	0%	
All Budgets Paid in Full?	No	No	



Jean-Pierre (Brunelle) Kabeya
Start Date: 4/28/2019

Missional Area:
Buffalo

Community Population:
256,480 →

Church Address:
25 Calumet Pl.
Buffalo, NY 14213

No report received.

Buffalo Temple of God in Christ

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	127	132	131
Total New Members	3	5	3
Baptisms	0	2	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	70	65	52
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	45	64	50
Total Church Income	\$25,000	\$19,220	\$18,000
Educational Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
District Unified Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
% Given to Nazarene Missions	4.17%	0%	0%
All Budgets Paid in Full?	No	No	No



Dao (Benetta) Kamara
Start Date: 4/25/2021

Missional Area:
Buffalo

Community Population:
256,480 →

Church Address:
25 Calumet Pl.
Buffalo, NY 14207

First of all, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the almighty God who give us the opportunity to lives and see another brand-new year for all of us to meet on this very important gathering called the District Assembly. The church is getting new visitors, and they are declaring to be member of the Temple of God in Christ. We conducted membership classes for those who are willing to be a new member of the Church of Nazarene.

The Lord have also blessed our ministry with children, teens and youth and we are seeing the power of God moving among them. Our children are eager to learn the word of God; our children, youth and teen are participating in Bible study, small group meeting and prayer line as well to grow and get closer to God. As we all know that our children are the future leaders for us, therefore we must teach them how to fish so if the grow up they will not depart from the words of God.

Temple of God in Christ host Bible study and prayer meeting every Wednesday's. We started with few members in our prayer meetings and but with the power of God our number continued to grow. The church is more gear toward fasting, tarrying and praying for members, our neighbor, the lost souls, the sick, the poor, and the broken hearted. We will continue to be grateful to the Upstate New York District Churches for sponsoring our children tutoring program over the years through the coordination of the district, but we are now taking our own responsibility with little resources that God is giving us.

The church continues to experience increased in spiritual growth in term of more people receiving Christ through transformation and the Lord also soften their hearts to come to alter calls and participating in the Lord super. Most of our members are seeking Biblical understanding and prayers with pastors and clergy after church service and also on a one-on-one section as well. Our church continues to partner with the Buffalo Immigrants and Refugee Coalition because we want to be involved in the process where we need to help those who are seeking refuge and encourage them with the words of God. We are blessed that we and our brethren in Christ (Message of Life) are now living in Peace and continues to build our God given relationship. We continue to ask God to foster and strengthen our relationship.

God must continue to bless our district and all the local churches that we all will accomplish God mission by making Christ known to the whole world. We as Nazarene believed that we are a sent people by God to reach, teach, and preach the Gospel to every part of this world but without the Holy Spirit we cannot accomplished God plan. We believed that we are guided Holy Spirit on a Day-to-Day basis and there were we draw our strength from to lead His people. We ask that all churches should please remember our country Liberia and Africa at large in your daily prayer for God to continue to bring healing to our land and our host country (United States) America as well. As I closed there is no place like home.

Canastota Discovery Church

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/43
Membership	169	55	57
Total New Members	3	4	2
Baptisms	4	0	6
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	24	36	40
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	15	13	20
Total Church Income	\$65,049	\$66,793	\$65,875
Educational Fund	\$1,400	\$1,503	\$1,434
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,110	\$1,794	\$1,469
District Unified Fund	\$4,381	\$4,509	\$4,302
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$2,774	\$4,386	\$4,119
% Given to Nazarene Missions	4.45%	7.03%	6.71%
All Budgets Paid in Full?	No	Yes	Yes



Janae (Austin) Meyer
Start Date: 9/12/2022

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
4,586 →

Church Address:
3640 Seneca Turnpike
Canastota, NY 13032

Friends and members of the Upstate NY District,


I am happy to bring you my second report as the pastor of Discovery Church in Canastota. This year has been full of surprises! The Lord's steadfast love and grace has been present here. I am thankful for the church board, our ministry teams, and volunteers who serve the church and our community. They have shown me what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

One of the biggest blessings of the past year has been witnessing the growth and energy from our sewing ministry, Sewing Seems for a Cause. In September, they were granted a \$4,000 missional grant, and since then they have expanded their outreach. They provide comfort care items for local infusion centers. They make blankets, pillows, and drain tube bags, and they hand deliver these items with care. Their monthly gathering has expanded to include sewers of all skill levels, including those with special needs. They are passionate about passing on skills to the next generation. They have taught two Youth Sewing Seminars, the first to middle schoolers and the second to elementary age kids. They are teaching these kids not only valuable life skills but also about creative ways to serve our community. It has been a blessing watching this ministry blossom right before my eyes. We are all very grateful for the grant money we have received through the district's missional grants.

We are a missional church, passionate about outreach. In addition to the sewing ministry, we have continued to collect clothes, toys, bedding, and food for those in need. We have started partnering with our local schools to meet their food, clothing, and supply needs. Looking back over the last year, I am reminded of God's grace and presence here in Canastota.

Respectfully,
Janae Meyer

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	79	76	76
Total New Members	4	0	0
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	30	29	32
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	16	16	45
Total Church Income	\$101,742	\$98,746	\$93,516
Educational Fund	\$2,116	\$2,816	\$2,594
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,116	\$2,266	\$2,183
District Unified Fund	\$6,348	\$6,318	\$7,548
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$9,261	\$8,065	\$9,840
% Given to Nazarene Missions	9.91%	9.64%	12.12%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Rob (Karen) Smith
Start Date: 6/5/2022

Missional Area:
North Central

Community Population:
3,405 →

Church Address:
960 State St.
Carthage, NY 13619


This has been an excellent year for the church, with several new families beginning to attend, and several senior members of the congregations stepping up in leadership roles. We recognized a member for her assistance with our clothing donation program, handling more than 100,000 pounds of donated items. We have supported our local community by providing meals, under the auspices of the local ministerium. We entered a float glorifying the love of God in our community's parade, and we will join with local churches to present a gospel music festival again this summer.

We have been excited to bring on a new NMI President, and her energy and joy have impacted the giving to missions project, both locally and worldwide. She presents insightful and entertaining "Mission Moments" to keep our focus on the needs of others around the world. With her enthusiastic effort, we even won an award for food and cash donations to our local food pantry!

We have seen strong attendance at Bible studies, with a hunger across the congregation to know the God who has impacted human lives for so many generations. Our leaders are leading with integrity and humility, and we have a team spirit of accomplishment and purpose – we seek to share the love of God with everyone we contact!

We are excited to see what God will do in the coming year!

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	65	64	68
Total New Members	0	0	4
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	17	20	21
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	16	20	12
Total Church Income	\$43,903	\$34,105	\$39,218
Educational Fund	\$987	\$767	\$882
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$988	\$768	\$883
District Unified Fund	\$2,963	\$2,302	\$2,647
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$2,625	\$2,376	\$2,242
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.35%	7.46%	6.06%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



John (JoLynn) Cramer II
Start Date: 5/5/1996

Missional Area:
Southern Tier

Community Population:
10,696 →

Church Address:
10242 Hamilton Rd.
Corning, NY 14830

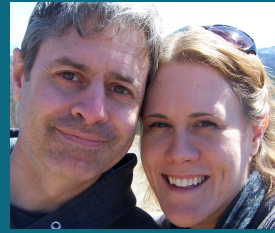
This is my 29th report for the Corning Church of the Nazarene my 39th year as full time minister in the service of the Nazarene Church. Once I was young, now I am old. Yet the call and the passion for ministry is still as fresh as the first day of the call. So many things were unforeseen as a young man. 2020 and the covid virus took its toll on the church as it did in so many places noy that so many people lost their lives but many who were nominal took this as an opportunity to cease attendance and not return. We are beginning in this past year to regain some of the lost momentum. We have added to the church over the past year quality people and we were able to take into membership four new people by profession of faith. with a second membership class being formed for 3 more prospective members. We are currently running two prayer groups with prayer being the central focus of our ministry.

There is a good spirit of unity and love and acceptance in our church and I expect that 2024 will be a year of increase and restoral for the Corning Church.... when you have done all else to stand... stand firm... I am honored to stand with the good people of the corning First Church of the Nazarene

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Cramer II

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	99	104	105
Total New Members	0	5	2
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	21	18	26
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	6	15	14
Total Church Income	\$62,300	\$51,723	\$57,971
Educational Fund	\$856	\$947	\$1,146
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$793	\$1,025	\$1,045
District Unified Fund	\$2,655	\$2,523	\$3,031
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$4,379	\$3,371	\$4,059
% Given to Nazarene Missions	7.56%	11.3%	16.57%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	Yes	Yes



Heather (Eric) Brown
Start Date: 1/1/2023

Missional Area:
Southern Tier

Community Population:
27,402 →

Church Address:
1136 Broadway St.
Elmira, NY 14904

Greetings beloved Brothers and Sisters,

Great is God's faithfulness! God has been faithful in the past, is faithful in the present and will continue to be faithful till the end of the age. With God's help we have seen some growth with new people becoming regulars on Sunday morning, our clothing program being refined and fortified to meet more people's needs in our community, and we have experienced increased community connections. There are some really good things happening! God is faithfully with us and worthy of our praise.

Highlights from the concluding year:

- Sunday messages followed main characters in the line of Abraham to Jesus, looked at the psalms for advent and the book of Mark leading to Jesus' resurrection. There is an excitement for the word of God.
- Our Worship team grew! Eight individuals committed to serving as the worship team. The song selections and leadership is being shared by three of them in collaboration and in unity.
- We enjoyed having the Corning Church join us a Seder Service. It was a great time in worship together.
- Our weekly Community giveaway saw increased community impact. We hosted extra giveaways for back to school and winter coats. We collaborated with 12:01 Post-Prison Ministry and The Social Connection (Mental Health Advocates) to meet the clothing needs of those that they serve. Our volunteer base is solid and is growing.
- The Boces job training program assists our church with cleaning and helps with other task as assigned.
- The Childhood Character Education Bible lessons continue to be held weekly in our fellowship hall with 14 elementary students enrolled. Many have never heard about Jesus and have now accepted him as their savior. We were able to give each student and the four teachers a Christmas gift this year.
- At the end of the school year we showed our appreciation to all staff at the nearby elementary school by gifting each of them a Dunkins gift cards.
- Our church was represented with a soft ball team in the church league. Attending games and hosting an end of the season picnic for the players and their families was a lot of fun!
- Out of the thirty six floats entries in the Southport Christmas Parade, we entered the only Christ-centered float. Our live nativity scene contained Mary, Joseph, a real baby Jesus, an angel, three shepherds, a sheep, and donkey. There were 5 other participating adults assisting with vehicle operation, animal management and clean up duties. It was an absolute JOY to be a part of this experience.

Monumental Joys and Sorrows:

- It has been a joy to have celebrate with the Travis Family in welcoming their beautiful baby girl; Riley on July 3rd
- This year has brought deep unexpected heartache with the passing of our beloved friend and faithful sister Sue VanDusen, who passed January 15th. She is dearly missed and her absence is greatly felt. She was a faithful servant and a pillar of stability for this church for decades.

I am thankful for each congregant's commitment to Christ, faithfulness in attendance, giving of resource, time, and for caring for each other well. EVERY person matters in our church and plays a role in its life, health and effectiveness. Together we are the church. Thank you to my husband, Eric for being a consistent support and encouragement. You are a blessing to me.

I give God thanks for his faithfulness to each of us, Jesus for his redeeming and refining work in us, and the presence and empowerment of the Holy Spirit who is our help and hope. May we seek be God's people for such a time as this; to be a people who believe in and experience Christ so deeply that we live as a people who have been called out by God.

Respectfully Submitted, Pastor Heather Brown

Endicott Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	106	107	108
Total New Members	4	3	3
Baptisms	3	2	2
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	66	66	59
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	26	99	23
Total Church Income	\$142,106	\$149,980	\$142,432
Educational Fund	\$3,318	\$3,375	\$3,205
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$3,319	\$3,392	\$2,855
District Unified Fund	\$9,955	\$10,124	\$9,614
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$9,883	\$13,127	\$8,697
% Given to Nazarene Missions	7.46%	9.59%	6.53%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	No



Keith (Robin) Hardy, Jr.
Start Date: 11/4/2018

Missional Area:
Southern Tier

Community Population:
12,771 ➔

Church Address:
1381 Union Center Maine Hwy.
Endicott, NY 13760

This past year was a significant year in the life of Endicott Community Church of the Nazarene. This past year we began our focus on reaching out to our community in very concrete and visible ways. We started our outreach to a trailer park near the church. On the fifth Sunday in July, we challenged our people to join us in a workday at the park. We then invited those that we ministered to, to join us for our worship service and fellowship meal under our tent. God is moving. We also hosted a community Easter Egg hunt that was a great success. I heard one lady say as she walked by me, "we needed something like this in our community." This year we also hosted our first time in a long time a community Trunk or Treat. We had 350-400 from our area attend the event. I could also mention the ways that we connected with an Elementary school close to the church. What is most exciting about all of this is that this is just the beginning of our church truly becoming a community church. I can't wait to see the lives that are touched and changed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Keith Hardy

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	76	77	49
Total New Members	3	5	0
Baptisms	0	4	2
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	55	38	41
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	26	27	60
Total Church Income	\$93,667	\$76,191	\$87,786
Educational Fund	\$400	\$1,714	\$2,754
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$600	\$1,715	\$1,890
District Unified Fund	\$1,935	\$2,900	\$5,640
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$4,655	\$4,022	\$4,487
% Given to Nazarene Missions	5.23%	5.57%	5.39%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



Paul (Karol) Riggall
Start Date: 06/18/2023

Missional Area:
North Central

Community Population:
11,300 →

Church Address:
910 Utica St.
Fulton, NY 13069

“God is up to something” at the Fulton Nazarene Church!! That has been our motto over the past year as we continually see GREAT things happen through His grace and love!! There has been an inward, as well as an outward, movement of the Spirit’s encouraging, empowering, and eternal inspiration. This rookie lead pastor has been overwhelmed by God’s transforming power! Revival broke out during a morning service. The Holy Spirit prompted sincere and genuine confessions and repentance. It poured out into the Sunday night prayer service where we had over half the church in attendance. Fulton has been extremely united ever since.

Fulton Naz had a successful “Tent Revival” service. There were multiple area churches represented. We held a “Block Party” outreach where we gave out over 75 backpacks fully equipped with school supplies, 75 bags of groceries, and 50 bags of personal care items. There were over 200 in attendance from the community. I call this a big win because some returned the next day for church. The community is starting to see that we care for them, and our love is genuine! This is just the beginning!

There seems to be a growing need for basic items in the Fulton community. We started the year serving 12-15 families from our food pantry/clothing closet. We are currently, as of February, serving 71 families. The whole church has embraced this ministry as a team effort. Somehow, each month, our shelves are restocked from donations from the congregation, the community, and other churches. Our priority and motivation are to “feed the hungry, cloth the naked, and to show the Fulton community the love of Jesus” This ministry opens an opportunity to hand out Bibles, pray with people, and lead some to Jesus!!

As we move ahead into the new church year, my vision rests on Loving God, Loving thy neighbor, and the Great Commission. While the Fulton Naz loves on the community, we will strive to move the non-believer towards a Christ-centered life!! I serve a BIG GOD and have BIG faith that believes He is going to do BIG things in Fulton!

God has blessed me beyond measure by giving me the opportunity to minister alongside a loving family of Christ followers that are passionately serving and seeking more of Him! God is indeed up to something at the Fulton Naz.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Riggall

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	60	51	50
Total New Members	2	0	2
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	48	38	45
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	30	44	27
Total Church Income	\$105,222	\$107,566	\$116,399
Educational Fund	\$2,242	\$2,299	\$2,490
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,242	\$2,300	\$2,490
District Unified Fund	\$7,097	\$6,898	\$7,468
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$5,834	\$5,861	\$6,829
% Given to Nazarene Missions	5.80%	6.57%	6.83%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Mark (Sandra) Hanson
Start Date: 5/17/2013

Missional Area:
Buffalo

Community Population:
29,504 ➔

Church Address:
405 Howard Ave.
Jamestown, NY 14701

The relationship between Pastor and congregation was affirmed and extended by four years in May at the Church/Pastor review. It is my, Pastor Mark's, privilege to continue to shepherd this faith community for four more years.

This is especially true as we have partnered with Vision Partners to discover the unique vision/mission that God has for this church: Journeying Together Toward Hope. Three weekends with our Coach have resulted in clarity of vision and having an initial plan to move forward. Our appreciation to Pastor Olivia and Jarrod Spaulding for their help in this adventure.

The partnership with Christian Counseling Associates of Western New York continues to provide opportunities for ministry around mental health. Christian Counseling Associates of Western New York continues to provide and much needed resource to our community and financial support to our church.

Things have brightened up at the church...literally. A grant was secured though National Grid that provided new light fixtures in the lobby and upgrades to existing lighting throughout the church and parking lot. A \$10,000 project was reduced significantly through this grant.

The youth program at the church has gone through a revision to include more input from the youth. We are seeing our youth grow spiritually and the creation of community among them. We have a good core group of children who will eventually be infused into the youth group as well. We have a small but committed group of children and youth workers who continue to invest in our youth.

Several outreach efforts were undertaken this year. A Christmas card campaign was implemented, and the participation and enthusiasm of the congregation was encouraging. We have also added a gazebo on our playground as we have many individuals who utilize our facilities from the neighboring apartments. A picnic at a local park allowed for interaction with the community.

Several new families have begun attending and are finding their place in the church. We are excited about what God is doing and is going to do.

Submitted by,
Mark Hanson

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	12	15	16
Total New Members	0	3	1
Baptisms	3	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	35	32	38
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	0	32	38
Total Church Income	\$67,433	\$68,831	\$85,749
Educational Fund	\$735	0	\$260
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,375	0	\$260
District Unified Fund	\$735	0	\$260
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$1,450	\$1,154	\$393
% Given to Nazarene Missions	2.20%	1.71%	0.57%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



Mark (Michelle) Fowler
Start Date: 10/23/2011

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
8,277 →

Church Address:
3316 State Hwy 29 W.
Johnstown, NY 12095

We have had a very Powerful, Encouraging, Uplifting, and Rewarding year. Many lives have been strengthened and much spiritual growth has been seen. God truly is moving among us. We are continuing to focus, not only on the Lord but within our community. Ministry outside the walls of the church, including two Bible studies is going strong. With this coming year, we anticipate a increase in membership and attendance as we look unto Jesus; the author and finisher of our faith.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Fowler – Pastor

Keeseville Good Shepherd

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	36	45	45
Total New Members	0	9	0
Baptisms	0	0	5
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	27	32	35
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	27	42	37
Total Church Income	\$96,502	\$74,693	\$76,690
Educational Fund	\$2,025	\$1,545	\$1,614
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,025	\$1,545	\$1,614
District Unified Fund	\$6,277	\$4,712	\$4,419
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$7,373	\$6,121	\$5,393
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.24%	9.84%	7.57%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Noelle (Ben) Eichenberger
Start Date: 2/2/2020

Missional Area:
North Country

Community Population:
2,932 ➔

Church Address:
124 Hill St.
Keeseville, NY 12944

God is on the move at Keeseville Church! Our prayer for the last year has been for clear direction, a holy boldness and to not get too far ahead of God. He has been so faithful!

This has been the year of renovations and capital improvements! We continue to update and refresh our building so we can offer it as a resource to the community. We have made major repairs, refreshed our classrooms and hallway, let go of items that no longer serve us and more. A big thank you to Rochester Calvary for gifting us tables and chairs for our children's department!

A container vegetable garden was planted by our children and Judy Lahue for all to enjoy and three apple trees were planted for future fruit. Trees were cut down on the property and from that, a gaga pit was built for our children and teens. We also added 9-Square, a fire pit and a volleyball net for outdoor activities.

We dedicated a lot of time and money to the church building and property, and I feel that this is a reflection of what is happening in our church body. New life is being breathed into our community! We are preparing to open our doors wide and expecting God to do a new thing in Keeseville!

Pastor Josh and I had the pleasure of dedicating one child and baptizing five people on Easter Sunday 2023. We have seen new faces in our congregation, new professions of faith and a renewed desire to dig into God's Word! We are making space for our children and youth to serve, reminding them that they are a big part of our church NOW! We continue to pray for open doors and new faces who are looking for Christ!

We continue to partner with our local food shelf, help local families, collect items to make crisis care kits, collect change for alabaster offering and support special Nazarene Missions projects. This year, we put together reverse advent boxes and were able to support three local organizations who meet needs throughout the North Country. We collected multiple car loads of food, clothing, winter gear, baby formula, diapers, wipes and hygiene products. We plan to make this an annual tradition!

In August of 2023, we applied for the Upstate District Missional Grant for the Hope Kitchen and were awarded \$20,000. The first half was received in October and we were able to order our fridge, warmer and hood. A huge thank you to Tim Johnson, Jim Hammaker, Beth Spaugh and many others for all of your hard work! We will be ready for inspection very soon! We continue to pray for God's direction and provision in the Hope Kitchen.

Looking ahead, we desire to be intentionally involved in our community, taking part in local events and building relationships with our neighbors. We plan to launch our weekly Hope Kitchen meals in the coming months and offer opportunities for partnership and events. Several local non-profits will be using our facility and offering learning and volunteer opportunities

As I look back on this year, I am humbled to see how God is moving. As I look ahead, I am filled with hope! Moving into the new church year, we welcome new members and new opportunities to co-labor with God in bringing the Kingdom to Keeseville! We celebrate what God is doing but we cannot stay here! We press on and ask Christ to lead the way into new territory!

We are a small church but we have a very big God!

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Noelle Eichenberger

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	49	51	45
Total New Members	0	2	0
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	30	33	36
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	18	14	20
Total Church Income	\$53,610	\$61,273	\$70,292
Educational Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,126	\$1,387	\$1,483
District Unified Fund	\$1,190	\$1,285	\$2,488
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$4,180	\$4,979	\$4,566
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.29%	9.29%	7.06%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



Timothy (Patricia) Cramer
Start Date: 7/20/2008

Missional Area:
North Central

Community Population:
854 ↗

Church Address:
36758 NYS Rte. 180
LaFargeville, NY 13656

It is my privilege to serve the Lord here among, and with, the good people of the Lafargeville Church of the Nazarene. Through faithful ministry and outreach God has drawn together a very generous, committed, and loving assembly of believers in this place. Our group has been faithful in all areas of ministry as envisioned in our mission statement in: Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Partnership in missional activity, and in the Stewardship of the Gospel purpose with all our resources. There has been progress and good growth in most areas of ministry. However, we continue to struggle with producing the fruit of new converts to the faith. Though together we sow faithfully in many outreach ministries, and many of our people reach out to others through personal invitation and witness, we are unable to report any success in producing new believers...or even the addition of any formally un-churched attenders. This is of great concern to us as even though completely committed, invested, and engaged, we are largely an aging congregation. Though we are glad to say that we have a handful of young families from whom a new crop of church leadership has sprung, we know that if we do not succeed in reaching new people (in particular young people/families) to renew our strength, then we are destined to failure in our calling, purpose, and mission. We have felt challenged to continue to sow the Gospel liberally wherever and whenever we can. Additionally, we also feel that right now we must make children, where the soil is most likely to be receptive and fertile, one of our main focuses. We will dedicate ourselves to this as we go forward. Our hope and intention is that through ministry to children, we may reach the connected families. We realize that it may require sacrifices in some of the usual preferred ministries to adults. We must therefore be careful and thoughtful in how we proceed. We will try to do this without stifling ministry that is vital for adult spiritual growth. We have been, and will continue to be, faithful in serving those who are disciples of the Lord. We must go beyond the maintenance, preservation, or even improvement of the status quo. We have collected and connected disciples, ministered to disciples, and are making more mature disciples, but may God help us as we seek to be more effective in our calling and mission to "Go and make NEW disciples."

Pastor Tim Cramer

Lakeville: The Center

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	16	16	23
Total New Members	0	0	7
Baptisms	0	0	1
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	10	15	15
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	10	10	19
Total Church Income	\$27,345	\$36,995	\$35,127
Educational Fund	\$544	\$555	\$765
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$906	\$795	\$773
District Unified Fund	\$884	\$902	\$2,942
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$1,056	\$1,056	\$1,848
% Given to Nazarene Missions	4.02%	3.4%	5.96%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	Yes



Staff Pastor Abreana Mattice

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
800 →

Church Address:
5604 Big Tree Rd.
Lakeville, NY 14480

The Center Church's theme verse is 1 John 4:11: "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." I am pleased and proud to report that over the last year, we have done just that. Last spring, we had a wonderful time observing Passover, commemorating Good Friday, and celebrating Easter together. The following week, we celebrated a baptism! In June, enjoyed our first Sundae Sunday, and we met as a congregation this summer to share lunch together and dream and discern where God was leading us to outreach in the fall.

Indeed, our fall was a busy season! During September, we participated in Livonia's Autumn in the Village. We set up a booth and had a great time meeting people in our community and giving out water and small trinkets. In October, we hosted our first Trunk or Treat and were pleased to welcome over one hundred members of our community for some fun after church. We were happy to welcome Springwater Church of the Nazarene's Choir that day, too, and we donated our leftover candy to the crew of the USS North Dakota. We also completed and launched our new website. In November, we hosted Trivia Weekend. That Saturday, we logged online for a community game of Kahoot! trivia. The next day, instead of a usual sermon, we had an "ask the pastor," session where all questions and topics were welcome for discussion.


During Advent, we celebrated with our annual Center Church Christmas Party. We shared food, music, stories, and Scriptures, and then filled out cards for local nursing home residents. A few days later, we went caroling to spread God's love and cheer. Additionally, we welcomed seven new members in December.

We continue to have a fantastic relationship with the Lakeville Fire Department, and they are allowing us to rent their building indefinitely. We have also formed deeper connections with Geneseo's Young Life group and plan to assist them in future events as much as we are able.

In the coming year, we pray that we will continue to grow and be a light for Christ in our community. I am delighted and touched beyond words to see the deep love and spirit of service the members of my congregation have for each other, for our church, and for our community. We are exceedingly faithful in prayer, fervent in service, and abundant in love. I reflect back on this last year with joy and gratitude and am excited to see what God has in store for us in the coming year. There are no words more fitting to close this report than those penned by Paul to the Ephesians: "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." – Ephesians 3:20-21

Respectfully,
Abreana Mattice

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	88	86	83
Total New Members	0	0	0
Baptisms	0	0	5
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	55	45	44
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	29	28	29
Total Church Income	\$109,628	\$126,367	\$105,102
Educational Fund	\$2,473	\$2,582	\$2,375
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,472	\$2,411	\$2,614
District Unified Fund	\$7,295	\$7,747	\$9,386
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$7,928	\$7,779	\$7,289
% Given to Nazarene Missions	7.80%	7.45%	7.75%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Nate (Miranda) Patnode
Start Date: 6/16/2019

Missional Area:
North Central

Community Population:
3,233 →

Church Address:
7476 State Route 12
Lowville, NY 13367

Sisters and Brothers of the Upstate NY District Church of the Nazarene,

This year Bethel embarked on a new journey. We are committed to seeking and finding opportunities to engage our community with life, hope, and service. We recognize that when we move at “full steam ahead”, we tend to lose sight of why we are doing what we are doing. While living in the “doing” mentality we sometimes forget to ask, “is this where God is leading us?” We needed to evaluate where we are and who we are. Over this past year, we entered into conversation with Vision Partners led by Pastor Jarrod Spaulding and began a three year journey with Vision Partners to see where God is leading Bethel.

The church board commissioned a diverse group of individuals from Bethel to pursue and engage in conversation with Vision Partners to discern and discover where God is leading His church at Bethel. The team met in October, November and January. Over these three weekends we Clarified our Mission, Designed our Plan, and were set on a path to Pursue our Future. These were not short conversations, but we all began to lean into the lesson to “Trust the Process”. All conversations were about our specific situation and community. We spent time discussing and discovering what makes Lewis County and Lowville unique. Then we asked, “What is unique about Bethel? What type of people, and gifts make up Bethel?” The team began building a plan that will engage Bethel and our community on a journey to wholeness in Christ.

We are excited about the plan, and the direction God is leading us. Like any new endeavors, there are challenges, and there will be many more challenges, along the way. We are trusting God along this process as we make disciples. We believe this process will guide us to opportunities to engage our community with life, hope, and service and renew our faith community's passion to be who God has called us to be.

Respectively Submitted,
Pastor Nate Patnode

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	410	422	450
Total New Members	8	18	34
Baptisms	7	39	65
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	345	382	448
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	412	382	516
Total Church Income	\$629,107	\$783,247	\$890,137
Educational Fund	\$13,500	\$16,300	\$21,949
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$12,895	\$16,300	\$18,769
District Unified Fund	\$38,685	\$48,898	\$56,306
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$84,193	\$59,007	\$63,691
% Given to Nazarene Missions	14.73%	8.71%	8.16%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Jarrod (Dorie) Geistdorfer
Start Date: 8/1/2021

Missional Area:
Southern Tier

Community Population:
18,843 →

Church Address:
3732 Waverly Rd.
Owego, NY 13827

This year we have launched into 2024 with the theme: It's all about Jesus. This past week we celebrated the closing of Upward with 1,050 people attending over our three services and online service. It was a great indicator of the direction God has taken the church. We finished our second year and headed into our third year with an 11% increase in giving and a nearly 23% in attendance. Our staff is growing relationally and spiritually to new heights and the increase in work will have us looking to add additional staff over 2024. My wife and I feel as though we were planted in Owego for such a time as this. We look forward to seeing our expanding ministries and community connections turn into something that glorifies God and builds the kingdom. Thank you for the privilege to Pastor this congregation.

Respectfully,
Pastor Jay and Dorie Geistdorfer

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	92	93	94
Total New Members	1	4	1
Baptisms	1	1	6
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	25	30	28
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	31	20	29
Total Church Income	\$49,656	\$65,623	\$58,739
Educational Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
District Unified Fund	\$0	\$0	\$2,314
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$1,344	\$1,197	\$932
% Given to Nazarene Missions	2.78%	2.09%	2.09%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



James (Laurel) Gamble
Start Date: 1/14//2020

Missional Area:
North Central

Community Population:
488 →

Church Address:
2813 St. Rte. 69
Parish, NY 13131

Greetings friends,

It is with great honor and privilege to be giving my fifth report on behalf of the Faith Church in Parish NY. Last year's theme was "A Year of New Beginnings" and this year's theme is "A Year of Celebration and Encouragement." The three primary scriptures for our church vision and mission are true reminders of God's purpose and plans for his children in Faith church: "If the root is strong, the branches will be healthy" (Romans 11:16)." This is a reminder that we always need to keep the reputation of Christ at the forefront of our ministry in Parish so that the root and the foundation of our ministry remain healthy for the sake of being fruitful within our community. The next two scriptures are combined as one: " Take possession of the land God has given you, and God will heal your land (Numbers 33:53; II Chronicles 7:14).

Since 1980, God designed a purpose and a plan for the Faith Church, He began to create a firm foundation for a fruitful ministry, so that many will come to saving knowledge of salvation through his son Jesus Christ. There have been years marked with trials and tragedy for the church; however, through patience and perseverance God has been given honor and glory, Amen. Through taking possession of the land God has given us, God has healed our land and our roots are healthy.

It is with great humiliation that I can proclaim that the Faith church is living up to the scripture of biblical teaching and hospitality. We are serving God by loving others (I Peter 4:7). Education is the foundation of our church. Every Sunday we have children's and adult Sunday school hours as well as a children's church and Vacation Bible School camp. We also have a children's bible camp in which many children are led to the lord. Once a month we have our "lunch bunch" ministry prepare food for the staff at our public school, and this year we are helping stomp out hunger by preparing meals for children during school break (The commercial kitchen that God blessed us with is truly being used for community outreach). Our homeschool coop group is in its third year and we have grown to 65 kids in attendance! We have a karate camp led by myself (Pastor James and instructor Ed), which has grown tremendously, We started an official worship team this year, We have a very fruitful women's ministry and the men are coming along nicely as well, We have an active teen/young adult group, a restorative DMV group meets at church 2 times a week, The local girl scout troop meets at the church to cook and bake, We are volunteering at the local food pantry, and we are working on being an emergency shelter, and God blessed us with 6 baptisms in our small community. God has brought healing to our land because we remain obedient to him.

In His Service,
Pastor James E Gamble Jr

Penn Yan Hope Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	12	11	11
Total New Members	0	2	0
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	9	10	11
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	11	15	12
Total Church Income	\$21,170	\$30,139	\$30,509
Educational Fund	\$412	\$554	\$646
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$438	\$638	\$646
District Unified Fund	\$1,313	\$2,119	\$1,937
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$2,824	\$2,257	\$1,971
% Given to Nazarene Missions	15.39%	8.45%	6.91%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	No	Yes



Aimee (Kent) McCroskey
Start Date: 11/27/2022

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
4,949 ➔

Church Address:
1373 Brown St Ext
Penn Yan, NY 14527

2023 has been a year full of excitement, anticipation, dreaming, lots of learning, moments of discouragement, and most of all patient waiting and anticipation asking, “Where is it that God is at work here in Penn Yan? And how can we join into this work?”. We’ve been asking as a congregation- “What are our dreams? What are our capabilities? What is realistic? And how do we go beyond the scope of all we have ever dreamed or imagined?”

I am constantly reminding my people that I am in no rush to just “get things done”, and have been very intentional about taking this year slowly in order to get to know each of them and our community better. Relationships take lots of time and trust to build. Having been through all four seasons now, I’m beginning to have a better sense for the ebb and flow- what works and what doesn’t and what changes we need to implement in the coming year. Lack of funds and able-bodied people make this difficult, but not impossible. And so, as a local church, we must constantly refer back to God, who calls us to this specific work and place. Part of reminding us to keep this focus, is to constantly pray for our community. I implemented a weekly community prayer time. A prayer list is provided, and participants are encouraged to pray in the sanctuary, or walk the property- taking as much time as they need to lift up our neighbors to the Lord.

During ordinary time we learned all about Neighboring and Community. We created block maps of our own specific communities and exegeted the Village of Penn Yan.

We also examined what the Kingdom of God looks like now, here on earth through a long series entitled, The Kingdom Is...

I have been intentional to meet other local pastors, participate in ecumenical services and begin relationships with local agencies.

We hosted Keuka College students who shared about the Spring Break Alternative trip that many donated towards. We plan to participate again this year!

Despite the rain and cold weather, we participated in Penn Yan’s holiday event, Starshine, and estimate making ornaments with 150 kids! The congregation also showed up big time when I asked them to bake, wrap, and deliver dozens of cookies to our neighbors along Brown Street.

This year I attended various events- District Assembly, General Assembly & NYC. I participated in a coaching cohort funded by the Wynkoop Center and PLNU.

We established the Community Initiative Fund, and were awarded a district Community Missional Grant for \$20,000 that we are using towards a community gathering space on our property- which will include a natural sensory play space, a prayer and meditation garden, a fire pit, and improvements to our current pavilion space. Progress has been slow and delayed, but we press on. We are weeks away from a new sign and a website is not far behind.

This year we made the decision to change our church name. There is a general sense that the community does not know who we are, or if we are even still open. In the fall the congregation voted that our new name would be Hope Community Church of the Nazarene. Our name now embodies our mission to seek the flourishing of Penn Yan and reminds us that we are indeed a people of hope! My prayer for us is that we will fully embody our new name, and that we will actively live out being a people of hope in our own lives, while offering hope to those around us.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	186	122	131
Total New Members	4	8	15
Baptisms	0	0	3
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	336	126	135
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	283	72	132
Total Church Income	\$382,309	\$331,352	\$295,350
Educational Fund	\$8,608	\$7,456	\$5,780
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$8,077	\$7,456	\$5,781
District Unified Fund	\$25,806	\$22,367	\$17,340
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$26,260	\$24,637	\$24,149
% Given to Nazarene Missions	7.37%	8.11%	9.70%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Douglas (Kristen) Milne

Start Date: 8/27/2023

Missional Area:
North Country

Community Population:
19,465 →

Church Address:
187 Broad St.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

What a privilege it is for me to offer my first report to the Upstate New York District Assembly as the Senior Pastor of the Nazarene Church in Plattsburgh! As Dr. Crocker preached “Go North” in his Ordination Service sermon last year, little did Kristen and I know that by the end of the summer we would be going north to start our new assignment in the Champlain Valley snuggled between the Green Mountains of Vermont and the Adirondack Mountains of New York! We have enjoyed a smooth transition to our new home, and I am so honored to be pastoring a church with a 103-year legacy in the community!

I am grateful for the dedicated work of our church board over the course of this past year. Board members worked diligently during the pastoral transition, and made every effort to hold the church together as they awaited their new pastor. Thanks be to God for the prayers of board and church members alike who obediently waited on the Lord. I am thankful for Kaleb Stanton and the leadership he provides for our teenagers and their families. We celebrate with Kaleb as he receives his first District License this year!

These days have been exciting in the north country! Our congregation is excited to see new faces in attendance each and every Sunday. There is a sense of joy and rejoicing, a renewed interest in Sunday school and small groups, our Recreation ministry is expanding, individuals are wanting to grow with the Lord, fellowship and friendship are increasing, and people are just happy to worship and be part of a community together. We have great volunteers who are happy to serve the church and our neighboring community.

This year, we baptized two individuals, had hundreds of neighbors come through our Trunk-or-Treat event, took in six new members by profession of faith, and welcomed back some familiar faces who had wandered away for a while. We were able to complete a great deal of capital improvements including repairs to the church facility, some renovations to our parsonage, and upgrades to our sound system. We assisted our local Salvation Army with their community thanksgiving dinner and the holiday kettle drive. We also continued to collect food and tangible items for the food pantry at SUNY Plattsburgh, and out of all their donors, our church remains the most consistent! Plattsburgh Nazarene remains committed to God’s mission to reach those in our zip code.

Since my September arrival, the following three phrases have continually run through my mind: Embrace the past ... Live in the present ... Look to the future. Our church has been through a great deal over the past eight to nine years, and we have a long history in the community. Regardless of what has happened in the past, we are determined to embrace it, but not at the expense of the present and the future. We are so looking forward to what God has in store for us!

We are excited and encouraged, and our attendance is on the rise. While there remains a great deal of work to do, we continue to grow, mature, and flourish!

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Milne

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	96	94	94
Total New Members	0	0	1
Baptisms	5	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	73	71	53
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	73	35	55
Total Church Income	\$132,635	\$121,171	\$119,930
Educational Fund	\$2,988	\$202	\$2,703
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,985	\$1,730	\$2,703
District Unified Fund	\$8,405	\$2,885	\$7,796
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$8,145	\$2,320	\$8,458
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.54%	1.95%	7.59%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	No	Yes



Duane (Cindy) Leach
Start Date: 7/1/2015

Missional Area:
North Country

Community Population:
15,322 →

Church Address:
11 State Hwy. 72
Potsdam, NY 13676

To the District Assembly of Upstate New York:

This is my ninth report as Pastor of the Potsdam Church of the Nazarene. Serving Jesus Christ in Potsdam and the UpState District is the most incredible privilege of my lifetime. I do not deserve the goodness God has shown me and my family.

As we all know, post-pandemic ministry has been a challenge, to put it mildly. But I am beginning to see more clearly the opportunities it has presented to be agents of Spirit-led transformation of searching hearts if we just stay the course.

Hebrews 12:1-2 encourages us: Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him, he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

At Potsdam, we stay the course by praying harder and being faithful to walk through the doors God has opened. We continue to lean into the call to shelter people without housing. We now have a two-room structure on sight and are raising funds to complete the interior for temporary living space. The Lord has also provided a fifth-wheel camper to help with the shelter ministry, and we are working now on how to use that resource best. We continue to have quarterly blood drives that have helped save the lives of two hundred and forty people in the past year.

As ministers of the Gospel, we dream of packed sanctuaries and weekly testimonies of saved and sanctified lives. But things are different now. God has a plan.

The prophet Amos says: "The days are coming, declares the Lord, when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman" - 9:13.

By staying the course each day we may sow the seed so that one day we will be able to reap its harvest. May we always remember that God is in charge, not us, his laborers.

May we go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Respectively Submitted:
Pastor Bud Leach

Rochester Calvary Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	347	347	274
Total New Members	6	5	19
Baptisms	1	7	6
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	108	131	161
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	80	92	114
Total Church Income	\$869,381	\$507,388	\$536,967
Educational Fund	\$17,440	\$9,797	\$10,454
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$17,440	\$9,797	\$10,557
District Unified Fund	\$52,320	\$29,390	\$31,670
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$99,760	\$73,861	\$72,596
% Given to Nazarene Missions	12.92%	17.72%	16.26%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Dustin (Olivia) Metcalf
Start Date: 2/5/2023

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
43,557 →

Church Address:
4045 E. Henrietta Rd.
Henrietta, NY 14467

Friends of the Upstate NY District,

In some ways, it is best to think of our year in two movements. The first half was challenging in many ways. We had staff go through significant life challenges, we were struggling financially, and we were still trying to stabilize from the disruptions of the last several years (COVID and an unexpected pastoral transition). Yet, despite the struggles and worries, there were signs of growth! Our worship attendance continued to increase, we were receiving new members, we had baptisms, we sent 26 from our church to NYC, and we were seeing steady growth in our outreach ministry through Venture Compassionate Ministries.

So we kept praying and walking by faith, hoping some of the challenges would settle and we would see a turn in our finances. And I am grateful to report the second half of our year was amazing in many ways! We ended our year receiving more than we budgeted and we spent less than we budgeted; so we find ourselves in the unexpected place of having a surplus of money that is freeing us up to dream new dreams. This is not the place Calvary Community has been for several years. It is exciting and maybe a little scary... was that a blip? Will it continue this year? We don't know but we are committed to putting more resources into growing our existing ministries and we want to do new things this coming year.

What we are already doing in our church is meaningful. It is helping people know Jesus and be like Jesus. The problem is we have some missing generations in our church. Mostly the Millennial generation is underrepresented, which is having an impact on our children's ministry. Now that we are feeling more stability in the general life of our church we are looking at this year being a year where we try new approaches and develop new ministries. We hope to find our niche when it comes to helping college-age and young adults see our church as a place that could be their spiritual home.

The shifts in our culture and churches are challenging but it is also exciting because it is offering us a chance to step out in faith. We, no doubt, will be stretched this year. But we are very much trusting that God will help us if we continually seek his will and are in tune with his Spirit.

Our hope and prayer is that next year we will report to you we have younger families in our church, new children and teens in our ministries, and young adults investing their time, energy, and passions in Calvary Community Church of the Nazarene.

I am grateful for God blessing me with a community of faith that is hungry for knowing God more deeply and flexible with my family as Liv (oops, I mean DS Metcalf) and I navigate co-ministering— each doing our own thing for God's Church!

Grace and peace to you all,
Dustin Metcalf

Rochester Cross of Christ Deliverance Temple

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	170	175	30
Total New Members	10	10	0
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	15	20	25
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	28	3	0
Total Church Income	\$22,500	\$15,700	\$40,500
Educational Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
District Unified Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$200	\$0	\$0
% Given to Nazarene Missions	0.90%	0%	\$0
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



Patrick (Regina) McNair
Start Date: 4/23/2006


Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
206,848 →

Church Address:
597 N. Goodman St.
Rochester, NY 14609

God has been sending in new people to serve in the ministry. A mother and daughter who work in carpentry we restored the front and back porch, fixed all the cabinets in the kitchen, working on putting new front doors on the church. We are looking forward to our summer block party out reach it will be a event to serve to connect the community with the church. Please keep us in your prayers.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	210	211	215
Total New Members	4	4	11
Baptisms	0	3	5
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	70	82	94
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	69	95	29
Total Church Income	\$223,459	\$259,337	\$242,800
Educational Fund	\$4,762	\$4,952	\$5,040
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$4,763	\$4,952	\$4,525
District Unified Fund	\$14,286	\$14,855	\$14,400
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$15,110	\$12,727	\$12,736
% Given to Nazarene Missions	7.15%	5.95%	5.68%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	No



Open Pastorate

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
206,848 →

Church Address:
2924 S. Union St.
Rochester, NY 14624

I have been at Grace Church for about 2 years and became Associate Pastor in December of 2022. Shari and I continue to host a small group in our home.

Since Pastor Doug Milne left this year I have been assisting our interim pastor (Pastor Jack Connelly) with anything he needs, which includes preaching, serving communion, and attending staff meetings. It has been a joy to work with Pastor Jack, Pastor Laura Swartzenberg, and Pastor Mark Cooper.

Since Pastor Jack ended his interim at the end of December, I have been serving in the position interim along with Pastor Laura and Pastor Mark. We make a great team and work well together. We have been alternating preaching and having staff meetings every Wednesday. We split the duties and each have responsibilities for certain areas of the church. I can't say enough nice things about Pastor Laura and Pastor Mark. They have been great to work with.

Since I retired a few years ago God had other plans for me. I know people have apologized and felt bad about putting me in this position but they should not. Because I serve an awesome God that loves me and I am happy to serve Him in whatever way I can. I continually am amazed that God can continually use me with all my faults and imperfections, but He does. This is the awesome God we serve.

My vision for Grace is to help people grow and mature in Christ. I desire to help others to discover their full potential in Christ. This may take the form of leadership training. This word "leadership" may be misleading because it denotes taking charge of a particular area or ministry. But it basically means discovering your full potential in Christ and answers the question, "how do I model Christ to others?"

I will continue to serve at Grace and as called to do so. I am so glad God led us to Grace and to be a part of the family here.

Submitted by,
Tom Allston

Rochester Spanish

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	91	96	102
Total New Members	0	7	6
Baptisms	4	0	9
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	80	102	112
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	93	49	43
Total Church Income	\$92,205	\$105,339	\$106,175
Educational Fund	\$2,253	\$2,625	\$2,038
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,421	\$2,899	\$2,003
District Unified Fund	\$6,085	\$7,089	\$6,011
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$6,615	\$6,381	\$5,245
% Given to Nazarene Missions	7.73%	6.45%	5.2%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	No



Juan (Vilmarie) Ruiz
Start Date: 5/30/2021

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
206,848 →

Church Address:
99 Stonewood Ave.
Rochester, NY 14616

In 2023 it was a tremendous year. We were able to overcome difficulties as well to enjoy great moments of great joy. The most important is that we did it together as the church. We had live come to Christ and other take the step of baptism. Our focus was on Repentance, Restoration and Redemption. We broke the years into three section each focusing on one of the concepts. We when out to the city and give out first need item to the homeless. We celebrated 71 year's anniversary of the church that was significant for many of the members that were here since day or were second and third generation. We are also working to repair some areas of the building and well making esthetic changes. We introduced the Vision and Mission for our church and the way we want to connect with the community around us.

We are working with our kids and youth to develop a strong program and create continuity in the church with our younger generation. Our focus is to continue working with the families to strengthen the church. We take the words from the prophet Isaiah that says:

Joy of the Redeemed

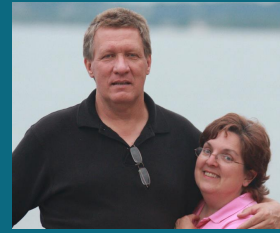
35 The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, 2 it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the Lord,
the splendor of our God.

Respectfully,
Rev. Juan M. Ruiz

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	32	29	32
Total New Members	0	0	5
Baptisms	2	3	3
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	45	55	61
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	48	84	84
Total Church Income	\$118,306	\$128,474	\$180, 548
Educational Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,535	\$3,123	\$4,247
District Unified Fund	\$0	\$4,617	\$9,799
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$6,558	\$8,203	\$11,471
% Given to Nazarene Missions	5.85%	7.42%	6.76%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



James (Paula) Cox
Start Date: 6/1/2007

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
206,848 →

Church Address:
855 Long Pond Rd.
Rochester, NY 14612

This has been a good year at Trinity. Our midweek Kids' Zone ran as high as 23 and averages in the upper teens. We have seen new young couples start to attend and request a Bible Study which we were holding on Friday evenings in our newly renovated area we call the cafe.

Looking to the future we are hoping to begin to educate our young couples to the area of Nazarene Missions and all that that means and involves.

We are looking to restart a small group Bible study.

We are hoping that our Wednesday Night Kids' Zone will continue to grow.

We are looking for ways to reach out into the community and get involved more ways than we currently are.

We have a tumbling group that meets in our gymnasium and we are hoping to open the cafe for parents to wait till their child's class(es) are over.

We have been helping families in the church and the community providing food and gift cards donated by members.

We are growing again thanks to our new young couples inviting friends to worship with us.

We have finally caught up almost all of the deferred maintenance from many years past. The future looks bright for Trinity Nazarene as God continues to bless and guide.

Sanborn Faith Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	70	55	37
Total New Members	4	0	3
Baptisms	0	0	1
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	35	35	35
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	40	12	13
Total Church Income	\$83,654	\$125,914	\$78,455
Educational Fund	\$1,883	\$1,956	\$1,765
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,816	\$1,439	\$1,944
District Unified Fund	\$5,646	\$4,317	\$5,295
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$5,410	\$5,411	\$7,609
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.88%	9.72%	11.78%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	Yes	Yes



Angela (Tor) Nielsen
Start Date: 3/29/2021

Missional Area:
Buffalo

Community Population:
987 →

Church Address:
3520 Saunders Settlement Rd.
Sanborn, NY 14132

One of the words that best describe the people of Faith Community Church of the Nazarene is generous. The family and friends of FCC are generous with their time and resources. In addition to their Alabaster giving, they raised over \$1000 for the annual Christmas Offering. FCC has paid off its mortgage and has made improvements to the property such as new secure front doors. All budgets are either paid in full or over-paid.

They have given of their time toward ministries such as the Adult Sunday School, Women's Bible Study which includes many non-church members, blood drives, craft events, a crochet club that was popular with the youth, and a NYEve game night. Pastor Angela has partnered with the SPCA and provides pastoral services to them including speaking at their annual memory night when they honor the people and pets that have died in the past year.

FCC shares their building with St. Pauly's, Heritage Christian Services, Northstar Impaired Driving Initiative, and Niagara County Early Intervention Group Physical Therapy.

Pastor Angela is pleased to see an increased unity among the attenders and a desire to continue to learn and grow. FCC is looking forward to a larger role in the community, perhaps with a special needs church service. Pastor Angela and Pastor Eric Verbovszky are also planning a week-long event featuring worship and preaching during the summer similar to revival services of the past.

Thank you for praying for Faith Community Church. We appreciate you.

Submitted by,
Angela Nielsen

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/34
Membership	62	61	25
Total New Members	3	2	1
Baptisms	2	1	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	23	21	21
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	16	8	16
Total Church Income	\$100,357	\$112,764	\$101,118
Educational Fund	\$2,136	\$2,370	\$2,148
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,954	\$2,599	\$2,148
District Unified Fund	\$6,406	\$7,109	\$6,444
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$6,021	\$6,998	\$5,775
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.38%	6.88%	6.09
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	Yes	No



Elizabeth (Gabe) Criscuolo
Start Date: 11/5/2018

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
65,334 →

Church Address:
2535 Consaul Rd.
Schenectady, NY 12304

This is my 6th annual report to make for Schenectady Church of the Nazarene. One of the most profound privileges of serving the church as a clergy member is becoming a fiber that is ingrained into the fabric of a community and being able to witness an evolution of faith. Faith that cannot be summed up numerically but one that is evident through the blossoming of a church body that thirsts to discover God in ways that challenges and compels us forward in our call.

We have continued a partnership with two community members over the past year, Paige Elementary School and Northern Rivers Facility. We hosted a cookout last summer for the kids and staff at Northern Rivers, as well as, faculty and staff from Paige Elementary School. We also partnered with the school and facility for our Trunk or Treat event. The children/teens who currently live at the facility are not able to do traditional trick or treating like other kids their age for a variety of reasons, so having the church host them at this event has provided fun, safety, and inclusion. We also had the incredible experience of spending time with 25 children/teens and staff from Northern Rivers this past Christmas when we had them join us for Christmas Caroling in our neighborhood (with cookies and hot cocoa to follow, of course). Prior to us taking over the rainy streets of the Woodlawn community the kids wanted to try and practice a song. I figured they would want to try Jingle Bells or Frosty the Snowman, but to my surprise multiple voices proclaimed they wanted to sing Joy to the World! And that we did. I held back tears of joy witnessing a sanctuary filled with kids, who have had very difficult lives, sing Joy to the World, knowing it was a moment of affirmation from God to the people of this church! At this event, several kids asked me if our church would have other activities for them to come to. And so, our relationship continues with Northern Rivers as we will host them for a "Pizza and Trivia" night in late March and continue to be open to all the ways God is shaping our relationship with them.

We have encountered God through some imaginative and creative ministry opportunities and we know that God is moving in our church and community. With that being said, we have decided to host a VBS this coming summer. This will be a huge step of faith for us because we do not have any children attending our church that are of VBS age. Numerical results will not be what dictates the success of this event. I believe it is already successful due to the church body's willingness to be faithful to the call even when we aren't sure what the outcome will be. They are a mighty group who cares deeply about this community. I have been learning throughout my time as a pastor that not everything is about the metrics, that there are a lot of the times when it is really about our willingness to be faithful and surrender to what God is calling us into. God will use it for His glory!

Submitted by,
Pastor Liz

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	137	134	138
Total New Members	3	2	9
Baptisms	5	0	9
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	97	100	116
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	96	103	112
Total Church Income	\$219,256	\$204,537	\$213,334
Educational Fund	\$4,648	\$4,421	\$4,508
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$4,648	\$4,421	\$4,577
District Unified Fund	\$13,941	\$13,039	\$13,728
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$17,865	\$12,389	\$15,151
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.87%	6.99%	8.10%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Nathaniel (Laura) Ferguson
Start Date: 9/4/2016

Missional Area:
Rochester

Community Population:
2,261 →

Church Address:
8498 Indian Valley Rd.
Springwater, NY 14560

This past summer we celebrated our 40th anniversary of being an organized church in Springwater! The week before the celebration, we had a successful Vacation Bible School that resulted in families starting to attend our Sunday morning service and other gatherings. We have seen attendance in Caravan more than double, along with increased attendance in our Sunday morning children’s church and nursery ministries.

Looking ahead, we continue to have many opportunities to connect with the Lord and with one another in prayer meetings, Bible studies, a weekly nursing home service, a choir, book club, a scrapbooking club, a quilting ministry, a GriefShare group, and an extremely active youth group.

The highlight of the year was Christmas Eve, when 9 people were baptized during the Sunday morning worship service!

There are a couple of closely linked new initiatives that will allow us to bless our communities. The first is that we are set to assume administrative duties for the Springwater Food Pantry. We already have volunteers regularly participating in that community program, but now we have a volunteer who will begin overseeing how that ministry is implemented in our community.

We are also launching a new ministry from the church where people give their time as part of a “Care Crew” that will connect with church members, as well as others in the community, who may be lonely and in need of encouragement and/or companionship.

In short, we continue to move forward with excitement and anticipation for all that the Lord is doing in and through His church in Springwater!

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Nathaniel Ferguson

Syracuse Christ Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	178	180	181
Total New Members	4	12	12
Baptisms	0	6	4
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	111	125	116
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	137	63	66
Total Church Income	\$340,158	\$343,179	\$623,129
Educational Fund	\$7,216	\$7,327	\$13,172
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$7,230	\$7,327	\$13,172
District Unified Fund	\$20,467	\$21,980	\$41,144
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$20,248	\$19,350	\$34,508
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.31%	6.45%	6.16%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	Yes	Yes



Jeff (Kristine) Rogers
Start Date: 2/28/2022

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
142,874 →

Church Address:
3644 Warners Rd.
Syracuse, NY 13209

Leonard Ravenhill once said, "I want to see the glory of God invade this generation." This is the prayer of Christ Community Church. Toward this aim, we humbly submit the following numbers:

Conversions/ Discipleship

- We led 4 people to Christ and baptized a total of 7!
- We brought in 12 new members! Many of them are now on ministry teams.
- We offered 10 small groups in the Spring and Fall of 2023.

Outreach/Service Efforts

- Pastor Jennie developed a Community Outreach Team of 11 volunteers
- We had 22 new people at our Harvest Fun Day in October! 18 volunteers helped.
- We averaged 25-30 in our VBS program this summer!
- We had 48 people come to our Easter Egg Hunt and 20 volunteers serving.
- We had 50 people at our Community Christmas Party and 12 volunteers serving!
- Through the West Genesee School Power Pack program we have provided 314 Power Pack meals this year.

Financial Progress

- We have paid \$139,325.00 total on our church mortgage!
- We have paid all our obligatory budgets in full!

Other:

We partnered with Vision Partners to develop our new mission statement: Inspiring hope. to our community through the love of Christ.

Goals for 2023-2024

- Build connections with our community
We feel like it is imperative to move beyond our four walls and build stronger connections with the people in our community.
- Empower more leaders
We have a leadership vacuum right now. Therefore, we must pray for, recruit, and trainup new leaders who can lead the charge!
- Improve our Financial Health
We are praying and researching ways to improve our financial health to better position ourselves to make a greater impact in our community.

Syracuse Northside Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	49	157	156
Total New Members	0	111*	0
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	20	23	122
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	15	13	99
Total Church Income	\$49,317	\$322,958	\$95,519
Educational Fund	\$827	\$1,258	\$1,670
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,234	\$1,258	\$1,677
District Unified Fund	\$3,248	\$3,842	\$5,012
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$3,778	\$3,585	\$5,565
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.30%	7.52%	8.26%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	Yes	Yes



Clare (Chuck) Pietra
Start Date: 5/1/2022

& Jules (Josephine) Mukendi
Start Date: 9/4/2022

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
60,527 →

Church Address:
1700 Butternut Street
Syracuse, NY 13208

Northside Community Church of the Nazarene Report of the Pastors

This is our second report as Northside Community Church of the Nazarene. We are currently worshipping at 1700 Butternut Street where our brothers and sisters at Gethsemane United Methodist Church have graciously opened their hearts and building to us.

Our ministries are being strengthened over this season where we once again embrace another step in our journey and settle into our season here. We continue to pray for and look forward to a time when the Lord will plant us in our permanent location. For now, we wait and work.


Our church is made up of Swahili speaking members, English speaking members, deaf members, young members, old members, long time members, and returning members. This past year we moved from our location at 206 Butternut Street to 1700 Butternut Street where we are renting a shared space at Gethsemane United Methodist Church. This move has allowed us to have a larger gathering area. Attendance in our weekly Sunday Services for the Swahili speaking service has increased as we are able to seat the full congregation at one service time. Additionally, we have a room available where we can hold children's church weekly. Our deaf community has begun an additional meeting time on Saturday evenings where they study the Word of God together. They are growing in the Lord spiritually and in number. We have a large population of deaf Americans and deaf refugees who we hope to reach for Christ. Our English-speaking members meet weekly for worship. Additionally, the English-speaking church members are challenged to participate weekly in one small group. We come together for Sunday school, life group, ladies' tea, and men's bible study. We partner with Christian Community Ministries on Sunday evenings to provide an alternate meeting for evangelism specifically targeted to Christians who no longer are connected to a believing community. We hope to reach the many individuals who have had an experience with Jesus but are not connected to the church. Lastly, while we are renting at Gethsemane church, we want to be a blessing to them and infuse support in their compassionate ministries to our Northside community.

It is our hope to one day have our own building. We are currently preparing financially and united in vision for that possibility. As we wait, we have embraced a season of discipleship and evangelism. We are called to go deeper in our walk with Christ and understanding of his Word as we intentionally focus on spiritual growth and discipleship. The Swahili choir continues to develop in preparation for evangelism. We are focusing on reaching and strengthening believers who have fallen away from Christ and are not connected to a believing body of believers. We are called in this season to intentionally build his church, so we are able to walk faithfully as Christ followers in our world. We are allowing God to prepare us spiritually, so that when he plants us, we will be able to be his tool in building his kingdom.

This year we will celebrate Pastor Jules Mukendi's ordination, and we have two locally licensed ministers preparing for pastoral leadership. Our church is challenged to continue to walk faithfully as we entrust ourselves to God's future for us, to God be the glory.

Syracuse Valley Worship Center

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	47	44	45
Total New Members	2	0	1
Baptisms	0	1	1
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	20	23	26
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	0	5	7
Total Church Income	\$68,468	\$61,507	\$61,100
Educational Fund	\$324	\$300	\$300
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$135	\$746	\$462
District Unified Fund	\$969	\$750	\$750
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$2,007	\$2,408	\$1,844
% Given to Nazarene Missions	3.02%	4.07%	3.11%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



Jonathan (Dianne) Cramer
Start Date: 5/1/1991

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
142,874 →

Church Address:
2929 Midland Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13205

Dear friends and co-laborers with Christ,

It is my distinct honor to offer this report on behalf of my wonderful brothers and sisters at the Syracuse Valley Worship Center Church of the Nazarene. I am so grateful to God for the privilege of serving such fervent followers of Jesus Christ in such a wonderful field of mission. I am truly blessed to be part of this congregation. We have become the church that I always wanted to be part of. We are a culturally diverse group of Christians who truly love God, one another and honestly everyone who comes into contact with us. When I invite people from my other jobs to come and join us, I am happy to say that we may be small, but you will be loved and accepted in our congregation. And it's true.

Some ministry highlights this year are the salvation of souls, the return home of some who had wandered away from the faith, the entire sanctification of believers, the sharing of the love of God with our community by feeding the hungry and the distribution of clothing and household goods. Also, for our community we continue to be a place to gather and celebrate birthdays and weddings, to mourn the loss of loved ones and a safe place for children to play.


This year the Lord willing, we would like to return to an emphasis on prayer both as a congregation and with our community. This would include prayer walks in our community in the warmer weather and a prayer and counseling option for those who would be interested at the time of our food distributions.

God has called us as a congregation to win our community to Jesus Christ. It's a big calling, but we serve a great big, almighty God. Faithful is He who called us and He will do it.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Cramer

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	28	27	24
Total New Members	0	0	0
Baptisms	1	1	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	10	10	10
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	5	12	12
Total Church Income	\$38,554	\$34,860	\$44,378
Educational Fund	\$81	\$200	\$250
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$854	\$352	\$294
District Unified Fund	\$1000	\$200	\$250
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$1,787	\$1,714	\$1,769
% Given to Nazarene Missions	4.86%	5.17%	4.15%
Allocations Paid in Full?	No	No	No



David (Kathy) Drake
Start Date: 12/1/2002

Missional Area:
North Country

Community Population:
934 →

Church Address:
8065 State Rte. 3
Vermontville, NY 12989

We at the Vermontville Community Church of the Nazarene have been blessed again this year to witness the faithfulness of God's people. Our small congregation has enjoyed inspiring services and meaningful opportunities to worship together. This year our beloved church board member John Burcume went to be with his Lord and Savior. We celebrate his life and ministry and we aim to continue to follow in his footsteps as faithful servant hearted believers. As a church, we continue to look forward to growth and ways to continue to reach out to our community.

Submitted by,
David Drake Sr.

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	246	249	232
Total New Members	6	8	11
Baptisms	6	0	5
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	209	195	225
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	96	106	141
Total Church Income	\$382,596	\$421,765	\$516,532
Educational Fund	\$8,730	\$9,496	\$11,622
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$8,730	\$9,496	\$11,622
District Unified Fund	\$26,180	\$28,472	\$34,880
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$29,290	\$34,038	\$40,336
% Given to Nazarene Missions	8.28%	9.04%	8.61%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Bob (Julie) Tharp
Start Date: 1/16/2017

Missional Area:
North Central

Community Population:
25,622 →

Church Address:
535 Thompson Blvd.
Watertown, NY 13601

Dear District Family,

Life Church has enjoyed a tremendous year. God has blessed and enriched the congregation through inhabiting our worship, empowering ministry and transforming lives.

Our pastors and leaders have made a concerted effort to encourage every regular attender to join a Grow Group, and we are pleased to see the spiritual growth that comes from learning and serving together on a regular basis through these small groups. We praise God that 70% of our regular attenders are also actively involved in our Grow Groups, and we continue to encourage the rest to further their journey with Christ by belonging to a small group.

We worked this year to make the ministries of the church more open and accessible to the community, and several of our events are designed specifically to bless the community. The Easter Eggstravaganza, July 4th fireworks viewing night, Fall Fun Fest, Kids Day Camp/VBS, and Soccer Camp events and ministries are all well-known to our neighbors, and we enjoy hosting community families who attend, but we realized something is missing. What about the people in our community who have never come to one of our events or programs here at Life Church? The rest of our neighbors need to see the love of Christ working through the people of Life Church, and we have been praying for and looking for more ways to serve together to meet the needs of people away from the church campus.

We are currently working with Vision Partners to prayerfully identify areas of need in the community that are not currently being met in any other way. Our goal is to become even more outwardly focused and share the love of Jesus Christ off-campus in tangible ways.

Life Church celebrated its 85th anniversary in October with a celebration service. It was a great day to look back at God's faithfulness, and we also peeked into the future on that day.

We praise God for the people He has redeemed and healed during these years, and we are praying for God's direction and leadership into a bright, bright future.

We sadly lost two young men to accidents this year. Chas and Michael were deeply embedded in the church family, and they are missed. Our loss- Heaven's gain. These tragedies have brought Life Church together to serve, comfort each other and help the families of these two wonderful young men. God has been faithful even in the midst of heartbreak.

God has been faithful every day, through the highs and through the lows. We look forward to living for Him faithfully in the new church year, and celebrating every good thing that comes from His hand.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Robert Tharp
Watertown Life Church of the Nazarene

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	58	57	57
Total New Members	1	2	1
Baptisms	1	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	42	39	32
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	36	6	32
Total Church Income	\$71,976	\$78,558	\$77,071
Educational Fund	\$1,527	\$1,665	\$1,644
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$1,549	\$1,711	\$1,670
District Unified Fund	\$4,580	\$4,995	\$5,010
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$4,132	\$4,570	\$4,018
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.09%	6.66%	5.99%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	Yes	Yes



Grace (Ken) Govenettio
Start Date: 11/26/2017

Missional Area:
North Country

Community Population:
775 ↘

Church Address:
5784 NYS Rte. 86
Wilmington, NY 12997

Little is Much When God is in it - the Fellowship of Believers

God continues to prove Himself faithful in multiplying even our smallest efforts and scantest of resources when invested according to His purposes. This past year, we in Wilmington have focused our efforts into loving one another and our community through the Fellowship of Believers. At least once a month we host a meal where we break bread with friends, family, and community members who do not yet know Jesus. A couple of times this past year, the meal was held at a local establishment. Over the summer, we met at a local park or grilled outside on the lawn. Whatever form it takes, it is our hope that the warmth of our fellowship will be a part of God’s prevenient grace that is always working to draw people to Jesus.

We have continued to offer warmth to our community through our “Mitten Tree” that holds free hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves for people to help themselves to as they have need. This year we have added a “Blessing Box” that makes available nonperishable food and toiletry items, again, free for the taking. All of this has been well-received. I am pleased to share that after several years of providing workers for our local Ecumenical Food Pantry, one of our church board Stewards is now the Director of that program, and our church continues to support that effort with both workers and money.


While engaged in this shared mission of loving our neighbors well, we have also been intentional in our own discipleship efforts, using classic Christian literature and allowing the Scriptures themselves to remind us of what we believe, and why. This is helping us learn to not be afraid of engaging in meaningful spiritual conversations, while we work together to live out our faith in such a way that others might find themselves drawn in to our circle of love - our Fellowship of Believers.

Thanks be to God!

Submitted by,
Grace Govenettio

Wolcott New Life Community

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Membership	64	64	67
Total New Members	0	0	3
Baptisms	0	0	0
Avg. Worship Attendance, In-Person	20	30	15
Avg. NDI Attendance (formerly SDMI)	21	18	15
Total Church Income	\$92,292	\$83,803	\$80,651
Educational Fund	\$2,077	\$1,397	\$0
Pension & Benefits Fund	\$2,138	\$1,491	\$0
District Unified Fund	\$6,230	\$4,149	\$4,875
World Evangelism Fund + Specials	\$5,828	\$4,442	\$0
% Given to Nazarene Missions	6.74%	5.6%	0%
Allocations Paid in Full?	Yes	No	No



Interim Raul Perez

Missional Area:
Central

Community Population:
4,085 →

Church Address:
13206 Ridge Rd.
Wolcott, NY 14590

Greetings in the powerful name of Jesus.

After only a few months as interim pastor in Wolcott New Life Community Nazarene church, we are already seeing the blessing of the Lord working through the Holy Spirit, building his Kingdom and edifying the church of Jesus Christ. Sunday Morning attendance has doubled, two people made a profession of faith, the church received three new members -one of them a new Nazarene-, and new families are now consistently attending the church, one of them with four children...what a blessing!!! Sunday Morning services are one of the reasons for the spiritual renewal of the church, as some of the people attending have testified about the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon their lives and during the services. An atmosphere, a spirit of unity and cooperation is prevalent, widespread within the church's members at this moment. The people and leaders at Wolcott New Life Community are awesome, great people of God.

Following up on previous administration excellent efforts, the church's financial recovery is underway. Thanks to the District for helping, thanks to the people of the church for their faithfulness, and thanks to our God because he is faithful. In addition, the church has a Spanish ministry, working with farm migrant workers, teaching them ESL and conducting a Bible study in Spanish. This, we admit, poses many challenges, especially because they don't have transportation and their working schedule is very difficult. We ask for your prayer support for this ministry.

Members, leaders of the church and I, we are very positive about the future of the church. God is good!!! Lord, thank you for the Church of the Nazarene!!!

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Raul Perez

Section FIVE

Upcoming Events

Stay up-to-date by going to our website: www.upstatedistrict.org or our district auxiliary social media pages.

May



Lay Retreat

May 17-19

Camp-of-the-Woods



District Wide Prayer Zoom

Tuesday, May 28th, 7:00pm

Registration will be sent after assembly to churches/ be posted to website

June



Prime Time Retreat

June 26 - 28

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center



District Wide Book Club

Every Monday in June, 6:30pm

Zoom Registration will be in the Newsletter

July



Family Camp

June 29 - July 7

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center



PALCON

July 17 - 19

Eastern Nazarene College



Children's Discovery Camp

July 17 - 22

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center

August



Teen Camp

August 5-10

Brooktondale Camp & Retreat Center



Mission Area Gatherings—Locations TBA

Rochester, August 4, 6:00 PM
Syracuse, August 11, 6:00 PM
North Country, August 18, 6:00 PM
North Central, August 25, 6:00 PM



District Wide Prayer Zoom

Tuesday, August 27th, 7:00pm
Registration will be sent after assembly to churches/ be posted to website

September



Mission Area Gatherings—Locations TBA

Buffalo, September 1st, 6:00 PM
Southern Tier, September 8th, 6:00 PM



NYI Back to School Bash

September 6
TBA



MAP Weekend

September 13-15
Plattsburgh, NY



District Wide Prayer Zoom

Saturday, September 24th, 7 PM
Registration will be sent after assembly to churches/ be posted to website



ENC Homecoming

September 28- October 1
Eastern Nazarene University

October



NYI Fall Retreat

October 11-14
Camp Lamoka

November



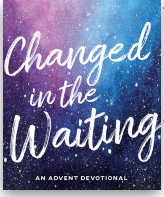
Leadership Team Retreat

November 8-9
Penn Yan



District Wide Prayer Zoom

Tuesday, November 26th, 7:00pm
Registration will be sent after assembly to churches/ be posted to website



December

Advent

December 1-24

Join churches across the district as we celebrate Advent with *Changed in the Waiting* devotional book

January



Missional Grant Applications Open

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Applications will be sent in the newsletter

February

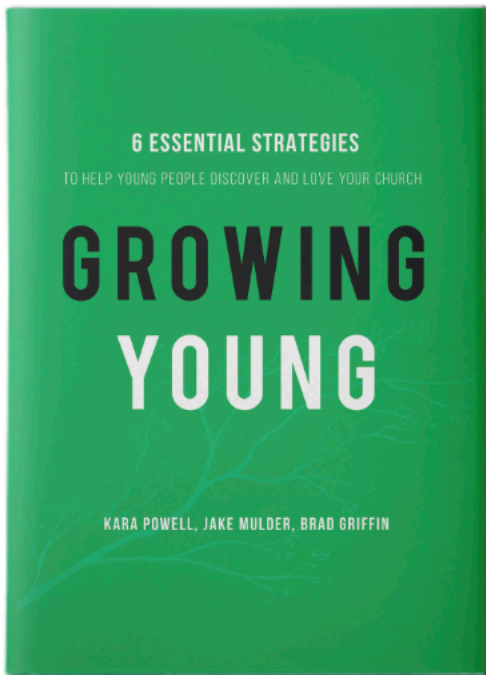


Missional Grant Applications Due

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Growing Young District Book Club

Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church



“Churches are both shrinking and aging as more young people disengage. Based on groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation’s leading congregations, *Growing Young* provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain young people. It profiles innovative churches engaging 15- to 29-year-olds that are growing—spiritually, emotionally, missionally, and numerically. Packed with ideas, *Growing Young* shows ministry leaders how to position their churches to reach younger generations in a way that breathes life into the whole church.”

Everyone is invited to join! Every pastor has received a copy of the book to get us started. We will meet via Zoom every Monday in June at 6:30pm. Registration information will be in the Newsletter!