

March 1, 2010

WE BELIEVE



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As General Superintendent Emeritus Don Owens suggests, every movement of God has a binding address. We believe that the Church of the Nazarene was birthed in the heart of God and that she continues as an expression of the movement of God in our world.

In these days of theological experimentation and inquiry, it seems prudent to the Board of General Superintendents to lay special emphasis on some of these agreed beliefs.

We believe in God. Revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, He is holy love and light; eternally existent and infinite; Sovereign of the universe; holy in nature, attributes, and purpose, all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present.

We believe in the inspiration and authority of Scripture. We hold that the Word of God is the primary source of revelation for knowing God. Dr. H. Orton Wiley, who helped shape our theology in our formative years, wrote: "We conclude that the Scriptures were given by plenary inspiration...in the manner that and to the degree that the Bible becomes the infallible word of God, the authoritative Rule of Faith and Practice in the Church" (Christian Theology, Vol. 1, p. 170).

We believe in the uniqueness of Jesus Christ. "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'" (John 14:6). We believe that "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

We believe that, subsequent to regeneration, believers are to be entirely sanctified through the work of the Holy Spirit. We further believe that in the work of entire sanctification the believer's heart is cleansed from all sin and that the believer filled with the Holy Spirit is enabled to love God with the whole heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love others as oneself. We believe that growth in grace and the disciplines of holy living are a lifelong necessity for a life wholly sanctified to the will and purposes of God.

We believe in the Church. "the covenant people of God made new in Christ" (*Manual*, paragraph 15), as the visible expression of God's presence and mission in our world.

This is our binding address!

Ephesians 4:12-13 makes it clear that every effort should be made for believers to be "built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." This, the Bible declares, will prevent us from being unsettled by every wind of doctrinal experimentation that blows across the religious landscape.

We call upon our churches, our institutions of higher learning, and our people at large to hold fast to these agreed beliefs. Let us set aside anything and everything that distracts from our mission to make Christlike disciples in the nations.

--The board of General Superintendents
February 2010

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

PETOSKEY

I was at Petoskey this past Sunday February 28, 2010. Petoskey has been in revival with Rev. Ron Richmond and this was the closing service of the revival. Rev. Richmond preached from Revelation Chapter nineteen on the subject, "Our God is an Awesome God." The Spirit of the Lord was with us and the service closed with people gathered around the altar for prayer.

Rev. Jeremy Gomez has served as pastor at Petoskey for two years.

Rev. Ron Richmond also held a revival for the Boyne City Church of the Nazarene February 21-24. Rev. Chuck Fowler, Pastor, reports a great revival at Boyne City. Rev. Fowler has been pastor at Boyne City for thirteen and one-half years.

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

It is time to plan and conduct your Annual Church Meeting with reports and elections. Church of the Nazarene *Manual* 2009-2013 page 73 paragraph 113.7 states: An annual church meeting shall be held within 90 days prior to the meeting of the district assembly. Our assembly will be June 1 and 2, 2010 so the annual meeting can be held anytime after March 2, 2010. The *Manual* also states on page 75 paragraph 113.11, "We direct our local churches to elect as church officers active members of the local church who profess the experience of entire sanctification and whose lives bear public witness to the grace of God that calls us to a holy life, and practices of the Church of the Nazarene and who support the local church faithfully in attendance and with tithes and offerings."

M/M GATHERING

I need to know how many are attending the M/M Gathering this year. Please let me know by March 10, 2010. You can bring checks to the gathering if that will help, but I need a list of who will attend by March 10th. Thanks.

The cost of the gathering is \$285 per couple or \$245 for a single reservation. Registration is March 25 at 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. At 5:30 p.m. there will be a pizza party at the Traverse City First Church, located at 1023 S. Division Street.

Dress is casual. Brochures have been mailed to each pastor. If you have not received yours, please call the District Office.

HOLINESS SUMMIT

March 14-15, 2010
Saginaw Valley Church of the Nazarene
989-754-2000

The summit will include Eastern Michigan District, Michigan District, and Northern Michigan District. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday. There will be three services on Monday: two in the A.M. and one service in the P.M. closing the summit. The summit is free (a free will offering will be taken). Reservations not required. If you need more copies of the brochure on the summit, please call the district office.

Lodging Options for the Holiness Summit

Comfort Suites - (989) 797-8000 - Feb. 15 deadline for \$70 rate under "COTN" block
5180 Fashion Square Blvd, Saginaw, MI 48604
Fairfield Inn - (989) 797-6100 - Feb. 15 deadline for \$65 rate under "COTN" block
5200 Fashion Square Blvd, Saginaw, MI 48603
Four Points by Sheraton - (989) 790-5050 - Feb. 15 deadline for \$82 rate under "COTN" block
4960 Towne Centre Rd, Saginaw, MI 48604
Hampton Inn - (989) 792-7666 - Feb. 15 deadline for \$63 rate under "COTN" block
2222 Tittabawassee Rd, Saginaw, MI 48604
Holiday Inn Express Hotel/Suites - (989) 792-7500 - Feb. 15 deadline for \$71 rate under "COTN" block
2501 Tittabawassee Rd, Saginaw, MI 48604
Spring Hill Suites by Marriott - (989) 792-2800 - Feb. 15 deadline for \$79 rate under "COTN" block
5270 Fashion Square Blvd, Saginaw, MI 48604

2010 HOLINESS SUMMIT

To all the Ministries in Michigan:

In just a few days, on March 14-15, 2010, the three Michigan Districts will gather at the Saginaw Valley Church of the Nazarene in Saginaw, Michigan for the Holiness Summit. We are expecting a real outpouring of the Holy Spirit!

We are not wanting just another gathering, we want a fresh encounter with God! We need a fresh touch from God; a fresh wind of God's Spirit to blow in a revival all across Michigan.

I know you and your people will want to be a part of the all Michigan Holiness Summit. See you there!

Yours in Christ,

Wayne H. Brown
District Superintendent
Northern Michigan District

PALCON

*HOW TO REGISTER: Register online at www.PALCON2010.org.

*FEES AND LODGING: Standard Registration - \$179. Includes meals and breaks, Campus housing (Double occupancy) 3 nights lodging; Complimentary resource materials

*Bivocational Registration - \$49. *Due to space restrictions on many campuses, PALCON 2010 registration is limited exclusively to all clergy and those preparing for ministry.*

ATTENDANCE STATS FOR FEBRUARY

Attendance stats for February are due. Please call them into the district office by Tuesday if you have not already done so.. Thank you.

PRAYER REQUEST

Wynne Schott will have surgery on March 18. Please keep her in your prayers.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHEDULE

March 1	Kalkaska Board - 6:00 p.m.
March 3	Fremont Board - 5:30 p.m.
March 6	Celebrate Life - Clare
March 8	Beaverton Board - 7:00 p.m.
March 14-15	Holiness Summit - Saginaw Valley Church
March 21	Big Rapids Church - 11:00 a.m.
March 25, 26, 27	M/M Gathering - Holiday Inn, Traverse City

Wayne H. Brown