

A photograph of a baseball field with a green grass infield and a brown dirt outfield. In the background, there is a dark green outfield fence and a line of trees under a clear blue sky.

Same Team

2 CORINTHIANS 7:1

**DISTRICT ASSEMBLY
JULY 11, 2026**

Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento , General Superintendent

Rev. Wendell D. Brown, District Superintendent

 **NCO** NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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2027
NCO
FAMILY CAMP
July 7-9



District Assembly
July 10

4 Ways To Give

online



www.ncodistrict.org/giving

text to give



text "GIVE" to
(740) 209-2547

mail



NCO
602 Martinsburg Rd.
Mt Vernon, OH 43050

in person



offering bucket
or drop box



NORTH CENTRAL OHIO REVITALIZATION FOUNDATION

Providing resources to assist local established churches in revitalizing ministry in their context and community.

Americans are choosing to go to church less and less. Adult church attendance in our communities has fallen from 34% to 31% in the last 7 years. (Gallup 2023). The local church is struggling financially as it attempts to minister to and connect with its communities. Meanwhile, we have a life-giving message that our communities need to hear!

What if there was a vehicle to provide resources for ministry growth and community engagement that could directly benefit our local churches?



The NCO Revitalization Foundation has been established to raise funds to assist our churches, with accountable resources so that ministries can flourish, and lives can be forever changed.

The Foundation was seeded with \$50,000 in 2023 and now has a fund of over \$500,000 in 2025 with a goal of raising \$1,000,000. Gains from these funds will be disbursed to assist churches in sharing Jesus in their local context and to help reinvigorate ministry. Because ministry happens in diverse ways, applications can be made based on specific needs to help the local church fulfill its mission and change lives. The Foundation will process applications and disburse funds annually at District Assembly.

Matthew 10:8 "...Freely you have received; freely give."



How can you help?

What would it look like for you to make an intentional commitment to help finance ministry in our local churches that could provide funding for the next 100 years? Your individual gift, when combined with others, could have a life-giving impact on ensuring our churches share the love of Jesus **both now** and in the future? Even \$25 per month when combined with 200 others becomes \$60,000 annually.

A unique opportunity....

For this calendar year, a \$50,000 or more individual donation can receive a 25% match. This means that your \$50,000 gift becomes \$62,500.

What can you give?

The gift may be cash, stocks, real estate, or any marketable item of value. Donating appreciated stocks or property can have a significant advantage in avoiding unnecessary taxes. Donating your required minimum distributions (RMDs) directly can have a huge impact and help you avoid paying taxes on those funds.

How can you give?

Scan the QR Code or go to: ncodistrict.org/giving.

You can give one time, annually, monthly, or any time.

For gifts less than \$50k—Make check payable to
"North Central Ohio Revitalization Foundation"

For gifts \$50k or larger call our office at 740-397-5740 or email us at nco.office@mvnu.edu to discuss the matching gifts.



**NORTH CENTRAL OHIO
REVITALIZATION
FOUNDATION**

602 Martinsburg Rd. Mt. Vernon, OH 43050



NORTH CENTRAL OHIO REVITALIZATION FOUNDATION

...helping churches find new life!



www.ncodistrict.org/foundation

EXODUS



DISTRICT QUIZZING REGISTRATION

Let's Follow The
Leader Together!

EXODUS

GOD'S WORD • TIMELESS TRUTHS •
HIDDEN TREASURE • ANCIENT
ARTIFACTS

REGISTER BEFORE
SEPTEMBER 25,
2026

SCAN ME!



FREE
WORKSHOP
DATE HERE

PHONE ED



**SPEAKER/FACILITATOR
NATE PORTER**



**PHONE
PERMIT
WORKSHOP**

9/12/26

10A-1P

**@ Mount Vernon
New Life**

**Cost \$20 per
Family**



Students Encouraged to Attend with Parent(s) - Contact Mindy Schemrich for any questions ncokidmin@gmail.com



NCO PRAYER WATCH

Nov 29-Dec 5

www.ncodistrict.org/prayer



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for Etsy

USE ETSY CODE:
NCOBIBLE FOR
50% OFF
RESOURCES



INTO THE BIBLE

Written by Pastor
Mindy Schemrich



Scan Me
for Amazon

AVAILABLE ON AMAZON
OR ETSY - STOP BY THE
NCO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
TABLE FOR DETAILS & SEE
A SAMPLE.

Help your Child Fall in Love with Reading God's
Word!

Printed Workbooks or Downloadable for EVERY
Chapter and Book of the Bible

Questions to Understand and Apply God's Word

Also Good Resource for New Believers Learning
to Read and Understand God's Word



NCO Kids

2026-2027 CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EVENTS

Finding ways to help kids meet Jesus and walk with them as they
grow in their faith

'26 Kids Camp

Primary Camp (gr. completed 1st - 3rd) 7/25-7/27

Preteen Camp (gr. completed 4th - 6th) 7/28-8/1

Deadline to Register July 19th. 2027 Dates Primary July 24th -
26th, Preteen July 25th - July 31st

Bible Quiz

The Book of Exodus - Grades 1st-6th

First Quiz September 26th/27th, Registration Open
General Assembly Kids Quiz in Kansas City July 2027

Family Training

Phone Ed Workshop - September 12th

Led by Nate Porter for parents and students - A technology
learners permit for students and parents in a digital age
Registration coming soon, cost \$20

Preteen Retreat

**Preteen Retreat - 5th /6th Graders - Jan. 15th -
18th**

Registration opens in October

Thrive Retreat

**Thrive Kidmin Leader Retreat - March 5th -
6th @ Newstart**

Weekend retreat for those serving with kids, teens or
families. A time to renew and rest with others.

**Additional Trainings for Churches and Leaders available upon
request - Trauma Training, Special Needs Training, etc.**

**Contact Pastor Mindy for details/requests -
ncokidmin@gmail.com**

Visit ncokidmin.org for Details and Links to Register

MOUNT VERNON
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Clergy Kids Retreat

February 13-15, 2027



NCO NDI presents:

DISCIPLESHIP

Training Day

FEBRUARY 27



ncodistrict.org/trainingday



SHARE THE TABLE

EXTENDING GENEROUS HOSPITALITY TO OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

Providing for expenses for delegates to
General Assembly and Conventions from
outside the host region.

A partnership between
NDI, NMI, NYI
& the General Secretary's office

PLEASE JOIN US!

SCAN the QR code or visit nazarene.org/sharethetable



31ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
& CONVENTIONS

IN
JESUS'
NAME

25 June – 2 July, 2027



ENCUENTRO MISSIONS

TORONTO

JULY 10-16, 2027

www.encuentromissions.org/toronto



Partnering with **Before It Begins**

BEFORE
IT BEGINS

The threats are real

Today's world is filled with sexual images, temptations, and unbiblical views of sex and gender that are actively shaping and often harming our leaders, children, and communities

The opportunities are greater

- ✓ To walk in greater depths of holiness
- ✓ To boldly evangelize a generation through the beauty of God's design for sex and gender
- ✓ And to disciple believers to walk in their God-given identity

Together, we can cultivate a culture of holiness and biblical sexuality in your church and community

- ✓ **Protect pastors** and ministry leaders from sexual temptation and sin
- ✓ **Rescue our children** and our people from pornography and false gender narratives
- ✓ **Equip the Church** to promote a movement!



**Scan to learn more
and access free resources**

The prevailing church culture has been too reactive in the face of these serious threats. We must go on the offensive Before It Begins.

And it begins with you, Pastor!



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
31st GENERAL ASSEMBLY
& CONVENTIONS

**25 June –
2 July 2027**

Kansas City, Missouri, USA



CHURCH OF THE
NAZARENE

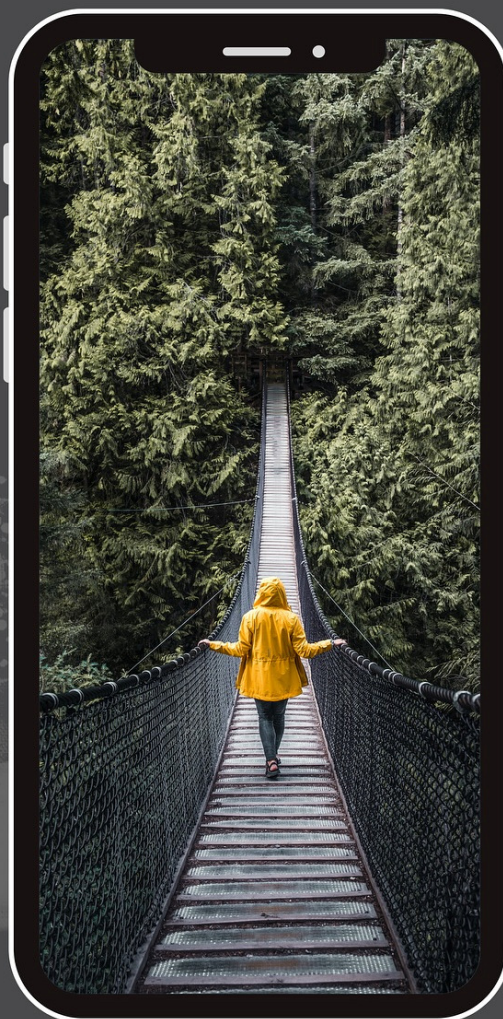
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USA / CANADA

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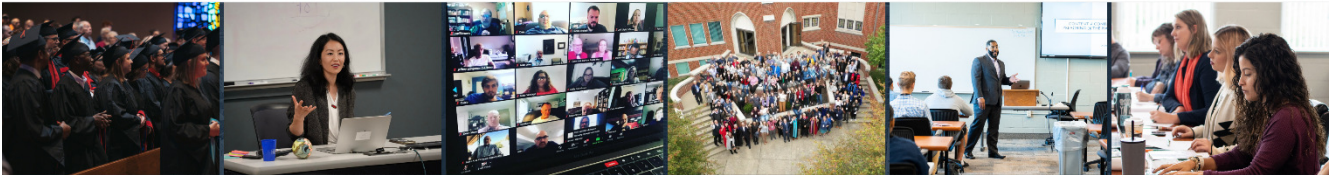
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Ministry Training. Anytime. Anywhere.

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With majors in **Pastoral Ministry, Bible & Theology, Leadership & Ethics, and Counseling for Christian Ministry**

Ministry Preparation Program



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nbc.edu



NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

July 12, 2026



Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God. 2 Corinthians 7:1

Did you know that we are all on the same team? If we are pursuing heart holiness, we are members of the same team. A team with a common goal. A team that assists each other to achieve our goal. A team that picks each other up. A team that serves together. A team that prays together and a team that sacrifices together. What is our goal? To make Christ-like disciples. As each of us focus individually on placing God on the throne of our hearts, teamwork starts to develop. I have never seen a team not achieve their goals when each individual has bought in to the sacrifice it takes to achieve the goal. You see, Teamwork really does make the dream work!

How about you? Are you bought in? Are you sacrificing self for a greater cause? Are you trusting God above preference, or opinion? Are you willing to give up your desires so that the team can achieve what God has called us to? Each one of us, as the Scripture says, should purify ourselves from anything that contaminates our lives, and work with all our hearts to perfect holiness before a holy God. I like the word "perfecting", because that means working at it and giving effort. In terms of sports, it means practicing over and over again.

May God always find in our churches that we are striving to perfect holiness of heart. That we are giving ourselves to this good work of the Spirit and that each one of us are taking our place as a part of the team to achieve the goal and help others find salvation in the name of Jesus! It is a privilege to be on the same team with each of you as we celebrate this year all that God is doing across North Central Ohio!

Welcome to Assembly!

Rev. Wendell D. Brown
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT



DISTRICT OFFICERS, STAFF, AND BOARDS

DISTRICT SECRETARY

Beth A. Heath

DISTRICT TREASURER

Patrick Rhoton

DISTRICT FINANCE CHAIR

Austin Swallow

DISTRICT CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Mindy K. Schemrich

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Crystal Browning

2025-2026 DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

Ministers

L. Andrew Bird

Ray LaSalle

Keith A. Martinez

Stephen M. Estep

Scott E. Sharpes

Lay

Art Cheney

Jessica Dawes

Kathleen Freeh

Bob Marcum

Dan Yost

2025-2026 NEW WORKS TEAM

Ministers

Zachary T. Carpenter

James Todd Gulley

Carolyn Ann Joseph

Rafie Sturgis

Kirsten Umphryes

Lay

Carly Casper

Michelle Edwards

Sharon Griner

Mike Pelley

Nesigh Say

2025-2029 DISTRICT PROPERTIES BOARD

Ministers

Scott Eastburn

James A. Lillo

Richard A. Meier

Max M. Rodas

Peter J. Ryder

Lay

Bruce Heinlen

Jim Mayes

Donald Sharp

Jason Stuyvesant

Denny Taylor

THANK YOU, DISTRICT OFFICERS, STAFF AND BOARDS!

To all of our District Officers, Staff and Boards...

Thank you! Your sacrifice and contributions help our district serve as a team! I have watched as you asked God for wisdom and allowed the Spirit to guide our conversations and direct our steps. Thank you for striving to live a holy life, and to use your skills, gifts, and abilities to honor God so that more people might know the overwhelming love that God has for the world!

It is an honor to serve with each of you, and we trust that our planning and preparations will allow this district to be used of God in even greater ways in the days ahead. Thank you for all the miles, all the phone calls, all the emails, conversations, and prayers. You each mean so much to me, and it is truly an honor for me to get the privilege of serving as your District Superintendent.

In Christ,
Rev. Wendell D. Brown
District Superintendent

MISSION STATEMENT

The North Central Ohio District exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ by:

- 1. Resourcing our Pastors**
- 2. Empowering our Churches**
- 3. Inspiring our People**

1. Resourcing Our Pastors to Fulfill the Great Commission.

This is realized through: Recruitment of passionate ministers.
Development of gifts and abilities.
Training in practical areas.

Our district believes that we are called to fulfill the Great Commission in our context. As such, we place a high premium on reaching people with the love of Christ. This is a worthy endeavor, as everything we do affects the eternal life of the residents in our communities. It is our intent that our ministers recognize the importance of the task and the limited time in which we have to complete the task for the glory of God.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

2. Empowering Our Churches for Cultural Engagement.

This is realized through: Seeking to understand our rapidly changing culture.
Being present in our communities.
Knowing who we are in Christ.
Loving because Christ loves us.

John 17:18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.

1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.

3. Inspiring Our People for Missional Living.

This is realized through: Recognizing individual responsibility to make disciples.
Learning how to make disciples where you live, work, and play.
Living each earthly moment with Spirit-filled eternal importance.

John 15:8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT IN JURISDICTION



The 30th General Assembly, held in June 2023, elected Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento as the 45th general superintendent in the Church of the Nazarene. At the time of his election, he had been the Director of the South America Region since September 2005.

Sarmiento was born in Bogotá, Colombia. Dr. Gerald Johnson ordained him in 1989. Dr. Sarmiento and his wife, Margit, were among the first members of the Church of the Nazarene, and he became the denomination's first pastor, in Colombia in 1976. Sarmiento also had pastorates in Ecuador and was instrumental in planting churches in Costa Rica, Colombia, and Guatemala. Dr. Sarmiento served as district superintendent of the Ecuador Sierra Norte District. He also served as Regional Education Coordinator in South America, the former MAC region (Mexico and Central America, now Mesoamerica), and the Caribbean Region. Sarmiento was the rector of the Bolivia Nazarene Seminary, the Cono Sur Nazarene Seminary in Argentina, and El Seminario Teológico Sudamericano in Quito, Ecuador, and taught

at several seminaries on these regions. Before being Regional Director in South America, Dr. Sarmiento also served as Regional Director for MAC, based in Guatemala City. The Sarmientos served as missionaries in Bolivia, Ecuador, and the Caribbean Regional Office, beginning in 1986. Dr. Sarmiento also served as Regional Youth Coordinator for South America and the Caribbean Region, and as Jesus Film Coordinator for the Caribbean Region.

Dr. Sarmiento received a Bachelor of Arts degree from MidAmerica Nazarene University in 1980 and a Master of Divinity at Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1984. MidAmerica Nazarene University conferred a Doctor of Divinity degree upon him in 2001. He earned a Doctor of Education in leadership and professional practice at Trevecca Nazarene University in 2019.

He was a member of the International Board of Education for several terms, and served on the steering committee of the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene in Global English. For three quadrennia, he served on the Commission of the International Church. Sarmiento presided over the translating of the Manual into Spanish. He also served as a committee member considering Article of Faith IV, on the Scriptures. Sarmiento was the president of the Spanish Literature Committee for over 30 years.

Sarmiento was the associate editor of the ten volume Spanish edition of the Beacon Bible Commentary, and other Spanish-language ministerial texts. He served as editor of the *Conquista Juvenil* (Spanish youth periodical), *El Sendero de la Verdad* (adult Spanish Sunday School periodical), and the *Spanish Preacher's Magazine*. He has also published numerous articles and book chapters, and authored several books: *Visitas Con Lucas*; *Training of Altar Workers*; *Devotionals in Luke*; *To Be Like Him*, *Devotionals in Philippians*; and *The Perspective of the Eagle*, *Devotionals in the Gospel of John* (4 vols.) Dr. Sarmiento's teaching and preaching are widely known, and he is a sought-after speaker for pastor's retreats and events throughout Latin America.

Christian and Margit have three children, Monica, Christina, and Steven, and five grandchildren, Elijah, Charly, Jonah, Gracyn, and Abigail.

ASSEMBLY ORGANIZATION



AGENDA

SATURDAY, July 11, 2026, 8:30 a.m.

Welcome	Rev. Wendell D. Brown
Devotional Message from General Superintendent	Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento
Call to Order of the 52nd Assembly	Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento
Organization of the Assembly	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Special Greetings	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Seating of Alternates	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Ministerial Credentials Board (full report)	Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento/Dr. Beth A. Heath
Acknowledge New Pastors	Rev. Wendell D. Brown
DS Report	Rev. Wendell D. Brown
Report of the Nominating Committee	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Voting	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Board and Committee Reports	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Advisory Board	
Ministerial Studies Board	
New Works Team	
Church Properties Board	
District Treasurer	
Assembly Finance Committee	
Report of District Children's Ministry Director	Mr. Patrick Rhoton
Before it Begins Presentation	Mr. Austin Swallow
NDI Discipleship Video Presentation	Rev. Mindy K. Schemrich
University Report	Mr. Ed Schutte
Super Simple Marketing Presentation	video
Election Results	Dr. Carson D. Castleman
Voting	Mr. Ed Oyama
Nazarene Foundation Video Presentation	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Memorial Presentation	Dr. Beth A. Heath
Election Results	video
Any other presentations/updates as called for by General Superintendent	Rev. Wendell D. Brown
Announcements/Closing Remarks	Dr. Beth A. Heath
	Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento
	Dr. Beth A. Heath

ASSEMBLY ASSISTANTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND COMMITTEES

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ASSISTANTS

Treasurer:	Patrick Rhoton
Page:	Philip A. Hurlbert
Election Co-Secretaries:	Christie Gulley, Danita Hurlbert
Recording Secretary:	Thomas A. Duncan

RECOMMENDED VOTING AREA

Electronically per Manual 204; delegates must be present to vote

RECOMMENDED TIME OF SESSION

Saturday, July 11, 2026, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

RECOMMENDED TIMES FOR SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

9:30 a.m.	District Superintendent Report
11:00 a.m.	University Report
11:30 a.m.	Memorial Service
2:30 p.m.	Ordination/Celebration of Ministry Service

COMMITTEES

Assembly Finance (2026): Wendell D. Brown, District Superintendent; Patrick L. Rhoton, District Treasurer; Austin Swallow, chair, Sean Hampton, Pete Ryder, Rob Skidmore and Linda Wasil.

Nominating (2026): Wendell Brown, chair, Nancy Lain (Metro), Max Rodas (Metro), Brenda Skidmore (Mid Central), Pete Ryder (Mid Central), James Pomerich (Midwest), Bob Weaver (Midwest), Rob Utley (Northeast), Deb Henry (Northwest), Ron Keiser (Southeast), Tom Duncan (Southeast), Kirsten Umphryes (Southwest), Desiree Caluza (Southwest), Crystal Browning, Recording Secretary.

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY STATISTICAL GROWTH CHART

BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

2025-2026

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT

ATTENDANCE/MEMBERSHIP

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Conversions	683	721	737	673	532	764	766	872	936	827
Baptisms	272	247	235	222	199	306	375	400	401	481
NDI Enrollment	14121	12558	12693	11945	10865	12143	12981	13898	14138	14138
NDI Attendance	7474	7340	7214	6912	6704	6229	6769	8245	7189	7591
Morning Worship	9171	9030	9231	8596	8380	8889	10632	12233	14388	14524
Church Membership	11628	11541	11200	10917	10398	10448	10534	10209	10105	10250
New Nazarenes	281	291	277	266	235	358	334	280	335	327
Total # of Org Churches	65	63	61	56	56	57	58	55	55	55
New Churches Organized	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
Registered Churches	3	2	3	5	7	7	8	8	10	11
Total # of Churches	68	65	64	61	63	64	66	63	65	67

FINANCES

	<u>Goal Based on Income</u>	<u>Amount Paid 2025-2026</u>	<u>Percent of Goal Paid</u>
World Evangelism Fund	\$846,098	\$ 811,583	96.6%
Nazarene Benefits Fund	309,016	301,944	97.7%
Education Fund	386,281	358,744	92.9%
Fair Share Fund	708,916	697,546	98.4%
Total Church Income	\$ 17,028,244		
Total Adjusted Church Income	\$16,858,852		
Total Missions Specials	169,392		

HONORS/AWARDS

Fulfilling the Great Commission	49
All Allocations Paid in Full	31
World Evangelism Church	33
World Evangelism Church of Excellence	15
Ten Percent and Above Level Recognition	5

FULFILLING THE GREAT COMMISSION

Churches that reported one or more conversions.

Amherst The River	Crestline
Andover Cherry Valley	Delaware Newstart
Ashland	Eastlake Willo-Lake
Ashtabula Edgewood	Elyria Center
Ashtabula The Ridge	Fostoria First
Bedford	Fremont
Brunswick	Garfield Heights
Bucyrus First	Geneva Koinonia
Cardington	Grafton Living Word Fellowship
Cleveland Arabic	Jefferson
Cleveland Aviva	Kelloggsville
Cleveland Lighthouse, Inc./Heaventrain	Loudonville
Cleveland Victory	Mansfield Heart City
Clyde Cornerstone	Marion First
Marion Life Link Community	Shelby
Medina	Strongsville New Hope
Mount Gilead Fresh Faith Community	Sullivan
Mount Vernon First	Sunbury Freedom
Mount Vernon Lakeholm	Vermilion
Mount Vernon New Life	Wadsworth
N. Royalton State Road Community	West Lafayette Living Faith
Orrville	Willard
Orwell Resurrection Life	Wooster
Painesville	
Richmond Heights Hope United	
Sandusky Community	

ALL ALLOCATIONS PAID IN FULL 2025-2026

Amherst The River	Kelloggsville
Andover Cherry Valley	Loudonville
Ashland	Marion First
Ashtabula Edgewood	Medina
Ashtabula The Ridge	Mount Vernon First
Bedford	Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Brunswick	Mount Vernon New Life
Bucyrus First	Mount Vernon The Shepherd's House
Cardington	Orwell Resurrection Life
Cleveland Victory	Painesville
Clyde Cornerstone	Richmond Heights Hope United
Cooperdale	Sandusky Community
Coshocton	Sunbury Freedom
Crestline	Tiffin
Eastlake Willo-Lake	Wadsworth
Fremont	Warsaw
Galion	Westlake Parkside
Geneva Koinonia	Willard
Jefferson	Wooster

WORLD EVANGELISM CHURCH 2025-2026

Churches that give 5.5 percent of their income to WEF have met the base goal in their support of the global mission.

Amherst The River
Andover Cherry Valley
Ashland
Ashtabula Edgewood
Ashtabula The Ridge
Bedford
Brunswick
Bucyrus First
Cardington
Cleveland Victory
Clyde Cornerstone
Cooperdale
Coshocton
Crestline
Eastlake Willo-Lake
Fremont
Galion
Jefferson
Kelloggsville

Loudonville
Marion First
Medina
Mount Vernon First
Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Mount Vernon New Life
Mount Vernon The Shepherd's House
Orwell Resurrection Life
Painesville
Richmond Heights Hope United
Sandusky Community
Shelby
Sunbury Freedom
Tiffin
Wadsworth
Warsaw
Westlake Parkside
Willard
Wooster

WORLD EVANGELISM CHURCH OF EXCELLENCE 2025-2026

Churches that give at least 5.7 percent (or \$1,500 USD, whichever is less) to WEF.

WEF giving beyond 5.5 percent invests in new world areas and works.

Amherst The River
Andover Cherry Valley
Ashland
Ashtabula Edgewood
Bucyrus First
Cardington
Cleveland Victory
Clyde Cornerstone
Cooperdale

Crestline
Marion Life Link Community
Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Mount Vernon New Life
Painesville
Tiffin
Westlake Parkside
Willard

WORLD EVANGELISM TEN PERCENT AND ABOVE RECOGNITION 2025-2026

Churches that give at least 10.0 percent to WEF and approved mission specials.

Ashland
Bucyrus First
Cleveland Victory

Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Mount Vernon The Shepherd's House
Warsaw

NEW FACES ON THE DISTRICT

Delaney Brinkman – Wooster

Delaney recently graduated from Mount Vernon Nazarene University with a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry and Psychology. She is excited to serve as the new Kidz Pastor at the Wooster Church. She has a passion for helping children grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus.

Delaney is originally from Lima, Ohio. She enjoys going to the gym, playing pickleball, drinking coffee, reading, and spending time with family, friends, and boyfriend, Ashton.



Marsha Butler and Linda Zickefoose – Loudonville

Marsha and Linda are the co-lay pastors of Loudonville Church's new work: Home Connections Church. They have been having services for the past three years. Marsha and her husband John live in Loudonville with their two dogs. Linda lives in Loudonville and enjoys spending time with her daughters and their families. Both Linda and Marsha enjoy serving and connecting God and others

Ben Call – Marion First

Ben Call serves as the Worship Pastor at MarionNaz. He and his wife, Crystal, have been married since 2020. They have two wild boys, Delfino and Enzo, which bring a lot of joy to their home! After graduating from the University of the Cumberlands in 2018, Ben wasn't planning on entering ministry, but God had other plans! After serving as a part-time worship leader for a number of years, he was called into full-time ministry. Last year, Ben and his family moved from southwest Ohio to Marion and are super excited to be a part of the team at MarionNaz! As a family, they enjoy hiking, going to parks, and eating ice cream.



Jim Copenhaver – Mount Vernon First/Lexington Campus

Jim Copenhaver serves as Director of Discipleship at Mount Vernon First and is also the Launch Lead for Mount Vernon First Lexington Campus on the North Central Ohio District. With more than 25 years of ministry experience, Jim has served as lead pastor, associate pastor, church planter, and campus pastor. His ministry passion spans evangelistic outreach, worship ministry, camp ministry, and student ministry. He is currently focused on discipleship development and launching new ministry initiatives in Lexington while also writing a book on church revitalization.

In addition to his church leadership, Jim invests in the next generation as the Offensive Line Coach at Lexington High School. He enjoys fishing and football in his free time. Jim and his

wife Angela have been married for 19 years and are the proud parents of their son, Hutson.

Amie Gillespie

Amie currently lives in Painesville, Ohio, with her husband Joe and their four children Isaac, Eli, Evangeline, and Esben. She serves as the Youth Pastor at Koinonia Church of the Nazarene. She grew up at Koinonia Camp in Geneva where her father served as the executive director. Amie currently works at Koinonia Camp as the Public Relations Director and Event Coordinator. She loves camping ministry and couldn't imagine a life without children and teenagers all around. Amie is very excited to see the way God intends to use Koinonia Naz for his glory, and what part she is able to play in building His kingdom!



Trevor Johnston – Assistant District Superintendent

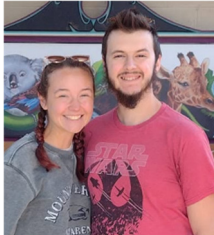
Trevor grew up in the UK and attended university there before moving to France to teach and subsequently to Kansas City USA to Nazarene Theological Seminary to pursue his call to missions. While at seminary, he met his future wife Mary, who is originally from Coshocton, Ohio, and who was there preparing to pursue her own missionary calling. Together, they served the church as global missionaries for 24 years in French-speaking countries until returning to Ohio in 2005. Trevor was elected as district superintendent of the South Central Ohio District and served there for 14 years before stepping aside to once again pursue Nazarene missions. He has been serving as a Volunteer Missionary to the UK for the past three years and in December 2025 accepted an

invitation by NCO to serve along Pastor Wendell in a part-time role as Assistant District Superintendent while continuing his ministry in the UK. Mary and Trevor have two sons and five grandchildren. On June 12th, they celebrated 44 years of marriage. The Johnstons live in Sunbury.

Terry Passmore – Orrville Now

Terry has spent most of his life in Ohio and Florida. He and his wife, Kelly, have been married for more than 22 years and are blessed with three children: Terry Jr. (20), a chef; Sara (18), a recent high school graduate; and Joshua (14), who is entering high school.

The Passmore family served in several churches across the East Ohio District for more than 20 years. In 2022, Terry became executive pastor of Now Church and was elected lead pastor in January 2026. He is passionate about ministry, serving the local church, and helping people grow in their relationship with Christ. In his free time, Terry enjoys fishing.

**Bella Sears**

Bella and her husband Bobby have been married for 4 years and have just recently moved to Geneva as part of the team of pastors who planted Koinonia Church of the Nazarene. In the church, Bella primarily works with the children, while also organizing and leading music for the corporate worship gathering. Bella enjoys reading and being outside, but her favorite use of her time is spent hanging out with her friends and all of her nieces and nephews.

Kassandra Spurrell – Mount Vernon SOUL

Kassandra grew up in Ashtabula on the NCO District, accepting the call to ministry at NYC '99. With a bachelor's degree in theology and an associate's degree in ASL Interpreting, it became evident that the Lord's call was upon her life, and it would include her work as an interpreter and love for the Deaf community. Kassandra is married to Jason Spurrell; together, they have 8 children. They are active at Lakeholm Church where Kassandra is developing and leading the new ministry God has graciously entrusted to her - SOUL (Signs of Unconditional Love) and Jason serves as a sound tech. The kids are active in Bible quizzing, district events, and youth group.

**Morgan Stith – Marion First**

Morgan is the preschool and nursery pastor at MarionNaz. She has been in this position full-time since accepting a call to ministry in 2024. Before that, she worked part-time at MarionNaz in various family ministry roles while attending the Ohio State University where she received a degree in Early Childhood Education. In addition to leading the preschool and nursery teams/areas at MarionNaz, she also serves in our youth ministry every Sunday evening as a middle school girls small group leader. When not at work or taking classes for ordination, Morgan enjoys hiking, reading, or spending time with my family.

Steb and Meagan Stott

Steb and Meagan serve together at Koinonia Church of the Nazarene in Geneva, Ohio. They have been in ministry, both para-church ministry and traditional church ministry, together for over 15 years. Last year, they started a new church and the challenges and growth that have come with that transition have been abundant; they are so grateful to God for the opportunity to serve the Church in this way.

Steb grew up in Dayton, Ohio, and Meagan was raised in Geneva, Ohio. They met while attending MVNU and were married in 2010. We have 4 children and are so grateful for the blessing of being able to raise them. Steb loves to smoke good food, play board games, and have conversations about all sorts of topics. Meagan loves to bake, read, and talk with people about things that they enjoy. They are excited to see what God has in store for us in this new place.



REPORTS TO THE ASSEMBLY



MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD

2025-2026

The Ministerial Credentials Board makes the following statement regarding the use of digital and social media platforms:

In accordance with the standards of a minister in the Church of the Nazarene serving on North Central Ohio District, all credentialed ministers are expected to model the holiness of Jesus Christ in every public sphere—including digital and social media platforms—by refraining from engaging in division or the airing of personal opinions that may undermine the unity of the Body of Christ or the dignity of the ministerial office. Reflecting the biblical mandate to be "quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1:19) and the wisdom that to "answer before listening— is folly and shame" (Proverbs 18:13), ministers are strongly encouraged to ensure they possess all pertinent facts before responding to conflict online. We remind ministers to speak with Grace and Truth in accordance with the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene, which requires a minister to maintain understanding, purity, and kindness. (§ 502.3). It is strongly encouraged that ministers follow the Matthew 18 principle for conflict resolution, and it should be noted that any public speech characterized by a condemning fashion or inflammatory rhetoric toward individuals or groups may be deemed conduct unbecoming a minister, potentially resulting in formal disciplinary proceedings or the removal of ministerial credentials (§ 606).

Manual References:

§ 502.3 (The Call and Qualifications of the Minister): Emphasizes that a minister must have a "peaceable spirit," "purity of life," and "discretion."

§ 21.2 (Covenant of Christian Character): Urges all members and ministers to avoid "quarreling, returning evil for evil, gossiping, slandering, injuring the name of others."

§ 606 (Ministerial Discipline): Defines the grounds for discipline, which include "conduct unbecoming a minister".

Scripture References:

James 1:19: "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

Proverbs 18:13: "To answer before listening—that is folly and shame."

We, the Board of Ministerial Credentials, respectfully submit the following reports.

Report No. 1

We recommend the following transfers be received:

Elders:

Judy Kay Davenport from Northwestern Illinois

E. Waitman Hager from East Ohio

Gene McBride from Northwestern Ohio

Johnathan C. Nicholas from Eastern Michigan

John D. Scott from Florida

Deacon:

Benjamin D. Windoffer from South Central Ohio

Licensed Minister:

Delaney Brinkman from Northwestern Ohio

Aidan I. Hamilton from South Central Ohio

Andrew Hemmans from Brazil North (waiting transfer document)

We recommend the following transfers be granted:

Elders:

Christina A. Jones to Maine

Douglas J. Van Nest to Mid Atlantic
J.L. Wright to Pittsburgh
Licensed Minister:
Elijah Arns to Northeastern Indiana
Jaret N. Gastin to West Virginia North

Report No. 2

We recommend the following be granted election to elder's orders:

Emily Marie Kauble
Erika Marie Snyder
Jacob Elishah Wilcox

We recommend the following be recognized to elder's orders:

Brian Curtis Hunt
Matthew Lee Williams

We recommend the following be granted a district minister's license:

Elder candidates:

Jadon Andrew Bird
Benjamin Thomas Call
Conner William Dappert
Richard Frederick Dible
Reid Shannon Gates
Scott E. Gifford
Amie Dannette Gillespie

Lucas Daniel Gray
William Hunter Hines
Monica Denise Hunt
Michael James King
Jack Elessar Longstreet
Morgan Renae Stith

We recommend the following be granted renewal of a district minister's license:

Elder candidates:

Carmen Rene Bolinger
Lanny Sean Bowman
Delaney Brinkman
Thomas Daniel Casper
Victor Manuel Cruz Perez
Thomas D. Eames
William Andrew Grimes II
Gary John Grosskopf
Aidan I. Hamilton
Andrew Ray Hemmans
Aubrey Danae Hurlbert
Emily Kauble
Kyll Louis Kiko
Kasey Ellen Kindle
Hannah Grace Leskey
Josiah D. Mahon
Bailey Chase McVay
Deacon candidates:
Janet Louise Grosskopf

Mark Norris Owen
Kathryn Ponsart
Cecilia Marie Quiñones
Benjamin Luke Radcliffe
Ricardo Reyes
Dylan Paul Rush
Bella Ann Sears
Benjamin Slater
Erika Marie Snyder
Kassandra Lynne Spurrell
Jessica D. Stauffer
Meagan Elizabeth Stott
Joshua W. Votaw
Colton Lance Walton
Jacob Elishah Wilcox
Jeffrey Robert Wilkin

Grace Suzanne Pelley

Report No. 3

We recommend the following be granted a certificate as commissioned minister of music (231.2):

Keith Showalter

We recommend the following be granted a certificate as registered song evangelist (231.2):

Rudy Cervantes

We recommend the following be granted certificates as registered evangelists (231.2):

Kenneth T. Eash, Lorraine Eash, George A. Small, Jr., Claude G. Nicholas

We recommend the following be granted chaplain status (not CHP role code):

Kenneth Lyle Artman, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement

John R. Cadwell, Chaplain, workplace endorsement

Lester R. Champer, Chaplain, public school endorsement

Mark J. Dettmer, Chaplain, law enforcement endorsement

Bernard J. Dickson, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement

Randy Lee Diller Jr., Chaplain, healthcare endorsement

Stephen M. Estep, Chaplain, law enforcement endorsement

Steven James Feazel, Chaplain, workplace endorsement

Richard R. Henry Jr., Chaplain, healthcare and fire department endorsement

Philip A. Hurlbert, Chaplain, law enforcement and fire department endorsement

William J. Jones, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement

Janice C. LaSalle, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement

Ray LaSalle, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement

Ronald Jon Seigman, Chaplain, educational endorsement

Ryan Stroop, Chaplain, educational endorsement

Daniel K. Vickey, Chaplain, law enforcement, EMS and fire department endorsement

Louis Woicinski, Chaplain, law enforcement endorsement

We recommend the following be granted chaplain status (CHP role code):

Joseph Lawrence Augello, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement CHP Status

Rebecca R. Belt, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement, CHP Status

James C. Carder, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement, CHP Status

Sean Hampton, Chaplain, military endorsement, PAS/CHP Status

Chris Robert Kissell, Chaplain, law enforcement endorsement, CHP Status

James A. Laker, Chaplain, military endorsement, CHP Status

Peter Michael Robinson, Chaplain, military endorsement, CHP Status

Kelli Simmons, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement, CHP Status

Erika Marie Snyder, Chaplain, healthcare endorsement, CHP Status

Rudy Cervantes, Chaplain, workplace endorsement, Registered Song Evangelist, SEC/CHP status

Report No. 4

We recommend the following be removed from the roster of ministers — deceased:

Elders:

James C. Haynes

Raymond A. Sharpes

We recommend the following be removed from the roster of ministers having voluntarily filed their credential according to 531.1:

Elder:

John Mark Ballenger

We recommend the following district licenses not be renewed:

Dakotah Hagen Cecil, Talina Judith Morales, James Russell Copenhaver, Steven Thomas Smith

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP A. HURLBERT, Secretary

BETH A. HEATH, District Secretary

WENDELL D. BROWN, Chair

DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2026

The Nominating Committee met via Zoom on April 9, 2025. Present: Wendell Brown, chair, Nancy Lain (Metro), Max Rodas (Metro), Brenda Skidmore (Mid Central), Pete Ryder (Mid Central), James Pomerich (Midwest), Bob Weaver (Midwest), Rob Utley (Northeast), Deb Henry (Northwest), Ron Keiser (Southeast), Tom Duncan (Southeast), Kirsten Umphryes (Southwest), Desiree Caluza (Southwest), Crystal Browning, Recording Secretary.

Pastor Brown reminded the committee of the following policies of the District Advisory Board to be considered:

8/25/18 Motion: (Dennis) Amended policy from 5/13/06: To be considered for service on the District Advisory Board (Ministerial or Lay) all budgets must be paid, and the church must have at least 1 new conversion by profession of faith. Churches that have a history of paying budgets in full who have a single year of not paying will not be barred from nomination. However, two consecutive years does prohibit nomination to designated boards. Motion carried.

06/15/05 Motion: (Norris/Legg) Beginning with the 2006 nominations, a rotation system for the District Advisory Board will be implemented. No person will serve more than four consecutive years. Motion carried.

5/21/21 Motion: (Martinez/Swallow) Move to a three-year term with at least one year off prior to serving again. Motion carried.

DISTRICT BALLOT:

The Nominating Committee recommends the following names for the respective boards and committees to formulate the official ballot to the district assembly and that all positions be elected by plurality where necessary. Incumbents were listed as nominations by the district superintendent.

Advisory Board (Ministerial Representatives: vote for up to 1)

Hess, J. Robert-Mount Gilead Fresh Faith

James D. Pomerich-Willard

Rafie Sturgis-Grafton Living Word

Advisory Board (Lay Representatives: vote for up to 2)

Riffle, Doug-Mount Vernon First

Skidmore, Lee-Wadsworth

Stump, Jennifer-Mount Vernon New Life

New Works Team (Ministerial Representatives: vote for up to 1)

Eames, Thomas D.-Brunswick

Hampton, Sean M.-Ashtabula The Ridge

McCabe, Robert L.-Wadsworth

McNichols, R. Gregory-Delaware Newstart

New Works Team (Lay Representatives: vote for up to 1)

Blue, Bob-Sandusky Community – declined

Edwards, Michelle-Crestline

Hammons, Ricky-Clyde

Heller, Deb-Wooster – declined

Whisenhunt, Gary-Bedford

GENERAL ASSEMBLY NOMINATING BALLOT:

The Nominating Committee recommends the following as the General Assembly Delegate Nominating Ballot.

General Assembly Nominations (Ministerial Representatives: vote for up to 9)

Banks, Stephen M.-Richmond Hts. Hope

Bird, L. Andrew-Coshocton

Caluza, Desiree B.-Delaware Newstart

Cecil, Curtis A.-Jefferson

Duncan, Thomas A.-Mount Vernon New Life

Estep, Stephen M.-Marion First

Heath, Beth Ann-Loudonville

Hurlbert, Philip A.-N. Royalton State Road

Joseph, Carolyn L.-Cleveland Victory
LaSalle, Ray-Bucyrus First
McCabe, Robert L.-Wadsworth
Meier, Richard A.-Andover Cherry Valley
Nathaniel J. Porter-Delaware Newstart
Price, Ben-Bedford

Proudfoot, Joseph A.-Mount Vernon First
Ryder, Peter J.-Medina
Sharpes, Scott E.-Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Sturgis, Rafie-Grafton Living Word Fellowship
Weaver, Robert A.-Crestline

General Assembly Nominations (Lay Representatives: vote for up to 12)

Anderson, Paul-Bucyrus First
Anslow, Randy-Andover Cherry Valley
Butler, Marsha-Loudonville – declined
Cecil, Mandy-Jefferson
Cheney, Art-Marion First
Dawes, Jessica-Jefferson
Edwards, Michelle-Crestline
Freeh, Kathleen-Sandusky Community
Greenlee, Sandy-Kelloggsville
Henry, Matt-Bedford
Joseph, David-Cleveland Victory
Keiser, Karen-Mount Vernon New Life
Kimmey, Harold-Westlake Parkside
Maglott, Bert-Galion – declined

Marcum, Bob-Bucyrus
Mayes, Jim-Bucyrus First
Murphy, Joanne-Westlake Parkside
Pavlovic, Marie-Ashtabula The Ridge
Say, Nesigh-Garfield Heights
Scott, Jerry-Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Sergov, Anatoly (Zack)-Wadsworth
Skidmore, Tyler-Medina
Utle, Melody-Kelloggsville
Votaw, Brian-Sunbury Freedom
Waddell, Mike-Marion First
Westcott, Lindsay-Delaware Newstart
Yost, Dan-Mount Vernon New Life – declined

Motion passed that the names nominated for the respective positions formulate the official ballot recommended to the District Assembly.

Respectfully submitted,
CRYSTAL BROWNING, Recording Secretary
WENDELL D. BROWN, Chair

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Advisory Board (Ministerial Representatives: vote for up to 1)

(Continuing: Andrew Bird (2027), Ray LaSalle (2027), Steve Estep (2028), Scott Sharpes (2028))

Hess, J. Robert-Mount Gilead Fresh Faith



James D. Pomerich-Willard



Rafie Sturgis-Grafton Living Word



Advisory Board (Lay Representatives: vote for up to 2)

(Continuing: Kathleen Freeh (2027), Bob Marcum (2027), Jessica Dawes (2028))

Riffle, Doug-Mount Vernon First



Church Board/ Prayer Team, Choir/
Safety Team/Finance Committee.
Doctor of Chiropractic

Skidmore, Lee-Wadsworth



Church Board/SS teacher
District Advisory Board/
General Church Legislative Comm
Attorney, Skidmore & Hall, LPA

Stump, Jennifer-Mount Vernon New Life



Finance Team; KidLife Team
Financial Analyst, Ariel Corporation

New Works Team (Ministerial Representatives: vote for up to 1)

(Continuing: Zach Carpenter (2027), Carolyn A. Joseph (2027), Todd Gulley (2028), Kirsten Umphryes (2028))

Eames, Thomas D.
-Brunswick



Hampton, Sean M.
-Ashtabula The Ridge



McCabe, Robert L.
-Wadsworth



McNichols, R. Gregory
-Delaware Newstart



New Works Team (Lay Representatives: vote for up to 1)

(Continuing: Carly Casper (2027), Sharon Griner (2027), Mike Pelley (2028), Nesigh Say (2028))

Edwards, Michelle-Crestline



NMI President/NYI President
District NMI Council/New Works Team
Senior Specialist, Electronic Data
Submissions, Charles River

Ricky Hammons – Clyde Cornerstone



Ministry Leader, Clyde Church

Whisenhunt, Gary-Bedford



NDI Council/Church Board/Discipleship
Class Teacher
(Declined nomination: Bob Blue, Deb Heller)

General Assembly Nominations (Ministerial Representatives: vote for up to 9)

Banks, Stephen M.-Rich Hts Hope United



Hurlbert, Philip A.-N. Royalton State Road



Proudfoot, Joseph A.-Mount Vernon First



Bird, L. Andrew-Coshocton



Joseph, Carolyn L.-Cleveland Victory



Ryder, Peter J.-Medina



Caluza, Desiree B.-Delaware Newstart



LaSalle, Ray-Bucyrus First



Sharpes, Scott E.-Mount Vernon Lakeholm



Cecil, Curtis A.-Jefferson



McCabe, Robert L.-Wadsworth



Sturgis, Rafie-Grafton Living Word



Duncan, Thomas A.-Mount Vernon New Life



Meier, Richard A.-Andover Cherry Valley



Weaver, Robert A.-Crestline



Estep, Stephen M.-Marion First



Nathaniel J. Porter-Delaware Newstart



Heath, Beth Ann-Loudonville



Price, Ben-Bedford



General Assembly Nominations (Lay Representatives: vote for up to 12)

Anderson, Paul-Bucyrus First



NDI Pres./Missions Teams/Safety Team
Owner, Anderson's Home Improvement

Anslow, Randy-Andover Cherry Valley



Church Treas./Admin/Praise Team/Men's
Min. Dir./Fin. Chair/Safety Comm./Sound
Tech
Bridge Engineer, Ashtabula County

Cecil, Mandy-Jefferson



Life Group Leader/Website/
Social Media Manager
Children's Ministry Director, Jefferson

Cheney, Art-Marion First



Church Board Member, Head Usher,
Restoration Team Leader, Sports Ministries &
CR Ministries
Superintendent, Marion County Engineers

Dawes, Jessica-Jefferson



Church Board/NMI Comm/Children's Min
Volunteer/Praise Team
District Advisory Board/NMI Council
Assessment Consultant

Edwards, Michelle-Crestline



NMI President/NYI President
District NMI Council/New Works Team
Senior Specialist, Electronic Data Submissions,
Charles River
Freeh, Kathleen-Sandusky Community



Worship & Creative Arts Director
District Advisory Board/Impact Team
Leadership/Clergy Kids Retreat Leadership

Greenlee, Sandy-Kelloggsville



NMI President
Former Pittsburgh District NMI
President/Sun Valley Native American
Christian Academy Board President
Art Teacher, Wycliffe Bible Translators in
Peru

Henry, Matt-Bedford



Worship Leader/Church Board/Youth
Volunteer
Family Camp Housing
Account Manager, CUI Grounds Mgmt

Joseph, David-Cleveland Victory



Church Volunteer – all areas; Church Board
Retired, Construction OOE Local 18

Keiser, Karen-Mount Vernon New Life



Church Board/Teen Volunteer/Foster
Team/M Meal Train Comm
NCO NYI Council/Family Camp Teen
Director/NCO NYC Comm
Teacher, Retired

Kimme, Harold-Westlake Parkside



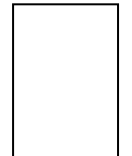
Church Board/Bible Quiz Coach
IT, Progressive Insurance

Marcum, Bob-Bucyrus



Church Board/ SS Supt/Head Usher
District Advisory Board
Owner, Chatfield Hardware

Mayes, Jim-Bucyrus First



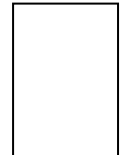
No information available

Murphy, Joanne-Westlake Parkside



Women's Min. Dir./Children's & Teen Min.
Volunteer
Admin. Asst., Cleveland Clinic

Pavlovic, Marie-Ashtabula The Ridge



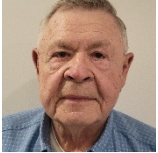
No information available

Say, Nesigh-Garfield Heights



Church Board, Treasurer
District New Works Team
Pharmacy Technician, University Hospitals
Home Care Services

Scott, Jerry-Mount Vernon Lakeholm



Church Board/Dare to Care
Chaplain, Mount Vernon Police Dept
Retired, Department of Natural
Resources/Deputy Sheriff/Auctioneer

Sergov, Anatoly (Zack)-Wadsworth



Church Treasurer/Sound & Tech
Team/Volunteer
Software Developer, Progressive

Skidmore, Tyler-Medina



Worship Leader/SS Teacher
Choir Director/Music Teacher, Medina High
School

Utle, Melody-Kelloggsville



Finance Comm/NYI Council/Tech
Team/Outreach Asst.
Church/Social Media Admin, Kelloggsville

Votaw, Brian-Sunbury Freedom



Church Board
Mental Health Crisis Director,
Delaware/Morrow County

Wadell, Mike-Marion First



Martin Goodwill Board of Directors
Vice President, Richwood Bank

Westcott, Lindsay-Delaware Newstart



Kids Church Director
NCO Preteen Retreat Volunteer/
NCO Kids Camp Staff and Counselor
Surgery Educator, ReVision Surgery

(Declined nomination: Marsha Butler, Bert Maglott,
Dan Yost)

ADVISORY BOARD

2025-2026

The District Advisory Board of the North Central Ohio District submits the following report to the fifty-second annual District Assembly.

The Advisory Board met in six regular sessions (Zoom and face-to-face) since being elected at the last assembly. District Superintendent Wendell D. Brown chaired all sessions of the board. I have served as recording secretary, recording, and keeping on file the proceedings of all meetings with the assistance of Crystal Browning at the North Central Ohio District Office. The record shows that at each meeting Rev. Brown shared reports on specific churches, pastors, and various district activities. A devotional was offered at each of the meetings. The District Advisory Board has received regular financial reports from our district treasurer, Patrick L. Rhoton, and deems the district to be financially sound.

The District Advisory Board previously approved Patrick L. Rhoton to serve as district treasurer for a term of three years, 2024-2027.

The District Advisory Board previously approved Beth A. Heath to serve as district secretary for a term of three years, 2024-2027.

The following church was organized:

Geneva Koinonia

The following organized churches will continue as inactive:

N. Ridgeville Starting Point Worship Center

Port Clinton

The following registered churches will continue as inactive:

Mount Vernon First Dios Es Suficiente

Rittman NOW

The District Advisory Board approved setting the dates for the statistical year as June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027.

The District Advisory Board approved the ballot for the upcoming district assembly.

The District Advisory Board approved that the District Finance Committee arrange for the auditing of the district financial records each church year and report those findings to each annual district assembly.

The District Advisory Board elected Crystal Browning, Patrick Rhoton and Mindy Schemrich as paid assistants of the district for the statistical year of June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027.

The District Advisory Board approved the appointment of the following pastors as listed:

Burton North East Community	Brian E. Westover
Cleveland Arabic	Asaad Wahba
Cleveland Nueva Luz	Felix Muniz
Cleveland Victory	Carolyn L. Joseph
Clyde Cornerstone	Ricky Hammons (supply as per Manual 212)
Fostoria First	Shane Curtis Sevy
Galion	Jason R. Wilson
Mansfield Heart City	Jacob Michael Booher
Mansfield Heart City	Madalyn Elis Booher
Marion Life Link	Rhonda Reese Purtee
Mount Vernon The Shepherd's House	Carrie Faith Taylor
Orwell Resurrection Life	Lester A. Bolen
Strongsville New Hope	Juan Joseph Loreda
Sullivan	Howard Russell (supply as per Manual 212)
Tiffin	Douglas Lillo (supply as per Manual 212)
Warsaw	Kenneth T. Eash and Lorraine Eash (supply as per Manual 212)

The district superintendent with the consent of the church board and the District Advisory Board appointed George Gribben III as interim pastor of Orrville Now for a portion of the year.

The District Advisory Board approved the transfer in of the following:

Elders:

Judy Kay Davenport from Northwestern Illinois

E. Waitman Hager from East Ohio

Gene McBride from Northwestern Ohio

Johnathan C. Nicholas from Eastern Michigan

John D. Scott from Florida

Deacon:

Benjamin D. Windoffer from South Central Ohio

Licensed Minister:

Delaney Brinkman from Northwestern Ohio

Aidan I. Hamilton from South Central Ohio

Andrew Hemmans from Brazil North (waiting transfer document)

The District Advisory Board approved the transfer out of the following:

Elders:

Christina A. Jones to Maine

Douglas J. Van Nest to Mid Atlantic

J.L. Wright to Pittsburgh

Licensed Minister:

Elijah Arns to Northeastern Indiana

Jaret N. Gastin to West Virginia North

The District Advisory Board approved the following district licensed minister recommendations for those serving as pastors or with special circumstances:

Richard Frederick Dible	Mansfield Freedom
Thomas D. Eames	Brunswick
Scott E. Gifford	Mansfield Freedom
Amie Dannette Gillespie	Geneva Koinonia
Kassandra Lynne Spurrell	Mount Vernon SOUL
Cecilia Marie Quiñones	Cleveland Aviva
Bella Ann Sears	Geneva Koinonia
Meagan Elizabeth Stott	Geneva Koinonia
Local license recommendation for candidate without local church board	
Jessica Ritchey	Geneva Koinonia

The District Advisory Board has granted permission to the following elders with membership on the North Central Ohio District to serve outside the denomination within the geological boundaries North Central Ohio District:

Elders:

Thomas E. Clark	SPC-Envoy, Salvation Army, Wooster, OH
Mark J. Dettmer	SPC-Pastor, Pleasant Grove Community Church, Bellville, OH
Thomas S. Fowler III	SPC-Pastor, Liberty Chapel/Beulah United Methodist Churches, Mount Vernon, OH
W. Andrew Grimes	SPC-Worship Pastor, Wesleyan Church, Marengo, OH
Christina Axa Jones	SPC-Advocate, Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio
William J. Jones	SPC-Pastor, United Church of Christ, New Bedford, OH
Wayne Joseph Pessia	SPC-Faculty, Indiana Wesleyan University and Ohio Christian University
Gary M. Sivewright	SPC-Interim Pastor, New Church Specialties as assigned
James William Smith	SPC-Executive Leadership Team, Encuentro Missions; Consultant, Gonser Gerber
Tracy J. Waal	SPC-Habitat for Humanity, Mount Vernon, OH

Deacons:

Victoria Lynn Clark

SPC-Envoy, Salvation Army, Wooster, OH

The District Advisory Board has granted permission to the following ministers with membership on the North Central Ohio District to serve outside the denomination within the geographical boundaries and with approval of the Northwestern Ohio District.

Elders:

Frederick L. Below

SPC-Pastor, Lighthouse Community Church, Findlay, OH

Michael W. Legg

RA/SPC-Associate Pastor, Findlay First Church of the Nazarene in Findlay, OH

The District Advisory Board has granted permission to the following minister with membership on the North Central Ohio District to serve outside the denomination within the geographical boundaries and with approval of the Southwestern Ohio District.

Elder:

David Marine Mabry

SPC-Executive Director, Encompass Connections Center, Springfield, OH

The District Advisory Board has granted permission to the following ministers with membership on the North Central Ohio District to serve outside the denomination within the geographical boundaries and with approval of the East Ohio District.

Elder:

Russell F. Gumm

SPC-Pastor, Evangelical Friends Church, Alliance, OH

Interim ministerial transfers have been processed and referred to the Ministerial Credentials Board in accordance with Manual paragraphs 226, 231.9, 231.10, and 529.

Respectfully submitted,

BETH A. HEATH, Recording Secretary

WENDELL D. BROWN, Chair

MINISTERIAL STUDIES BOARD

2025-2026

We, the Board of Ministerial Studies, have met once this year to evaluate NCO students' educational progress and submit this report.

Elder's Course of Study:

We recommend that the following be graduated from the Elder's Course of Study: Jadon Andrew Bird, Conner William Dappert, Amie Dannette Gillespie, Aidan I. Hamilton, Emily Marie Kauble, Kasey Ellen Kindle, Jack Elessar Longstreet, Erika Marie Snyder

We recommend that the following be continued in Level Four: Carmen Rene Bolinger, Mark Norris Owen

We recommend that the following be placed in Level Four: Lanny Sean Bowman, Thomas D. Eames, Reid Shannon Gates, Gary John Grosskopf, Monica Denise Hunt, Michael James King

We recommend that the following be continued in Level Three: Grace Suzanne Pelley, Bella Ann Sears

We recommend that the following be placed in Level Three: Andrew Ray Hemmans, William Hunter Hines, Josiah D. Mahon

We recommend that the following be continued in Level Two: Thomas Daniel Casper, Victor Manuel Cruz Perez, William Andrew Grimes II, Kyall Louis Kiko, Jacob A. Kyer, Talina J. Morales Cecilia Marie Quiñones, Benjamin Luke Radcliffe, Ricardo Reyes, Dylan Paul Rush, Steven Thomas Smith, Jessica D. Stauffer, Meagan Elizabeth Stott, Joshua W. Votaw, Colton Lance Walton

We recommend that the following be placed in Level Two: Benjamin Thomas Call, Richard Frederick Dible, Scott E. Gifford, Craig Lewis, Morgan Renae Stith

We recommend that the following be dropped: Dakota H. Cecil, Alexes N. Church, James R. Copenhaver, Joshua P. Evans

We further recommend that senior pastors encourage their associates in their course of study and allow them time to complete their studies. Every Nazarene minister, assigned or unassigned, is to complete annually a minimum of twenty (20) Lifelong Learning Hours (Manual 529.6). The goal of this requirement is to establish and perpetuate a culture of learning fueled by a passion for effectiveness and excellence in making Christlike disciples in the nations. Lifelong Learning is an essential element of ministry in the Church of the Nazarene (Manual, 515.11, 529.6). Establishing a pattern of lifelong learning is necessary to understanding changes in the wider church and in society, and is foundational to furthering the spiritual, mental, and skill development of the minister. For this reason, each minister is accountable for pursuing a well-rounded lifelong learning plan aimed at increasing effectiveness in ministry and furthers personal growth. Ministers should create an account and track their lifelong learning hours at learning.nazarene.org.

Respectfully submitted,

LESTER R. CHAMPER, Secretary

JAMES TODD GULLEY, Chair

NEW WORKS TEAM

2025-2026

The North Central Ohio District New Works Team submits the following report to the fifty-second District Assembly.

The purpose of the New Works Team is to guide the NCO District in the formulation of missional strategies to carry the Gospel to under reached and under achieved areas of our district so that lives might be changed.

We seek to establish New Works in the following locations: Holmes County (we currently have no church presence there), Medina County, Geauga County, Cuyahoga County, Delaware County, and Lorain County. We are happy to report that Grafton Living Word Fellowship had their official launch in Spring of 2025.

The New Works Team plans to double the footprint of our churches in the next 25 years. This strategy will encompass great energy and greater focus on identifying leaders for new congregations so that the NCO District continues to grow and not decline. We believe that with current attrition and population changes, this strategy is needed in varying areas so that lives will come to know the love of Jesus!

We sent 8 individuals to Church Planting Assessment to become Church Planters.

We are happy to announce the formulation of two new works this year:

Hope United Cares (Richmond Heights PAC)

Home Connections Church (Loudonville PAC)

Additionally, 18 individuals from our district attended the Exponential Conference this year.

It is our goal that each church that is currently on our district will commit to planting a church or helping in a church plant every three years.

Respectfully submitted,

WENDELL D. BROWN, Chair

CHURCH PROPERTIES BOARD

2025-2026

The Church Properties Board handled the requests of the churches of our district for property sale, purchase, remodeling, and refinancing throughout the year.

The Church Properties Board has worked, in cooperation with the churches on the district, seeking to give advice and help where needed for the various projects presented to us. After careful consideration, permission was granted to move forward with the following projects:

Elyria Center Church to sell property and to enter a lease agreement

Sandusky Community to enter into rehabilitation construction on floors

Fostoria to enter into a lease agreement

Mount Vernon First to borrow funds

Respectfully submitted,

WENDELL D. BROWN, Chair

TREASURER'S REPORT

NCO District - Church of the Nazarene
Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
May 31, 2026

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 431,815.04
Prepaid Expense	<u>47,862.25</u>
Total Current Assets	479,677.29

Property and Equipment

Equipment	35,000.00
Vehicle	59,648.00
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(994.13)</u>
Total Property and Equipment	93,653.87

Other Assets

Investments - KnoxCountyFoundation	544,752.53
Investments - Nazarene Foundation	574,444.69
Loan Receivable - Ashtabula Edgewood	29,367.28
Real Estate	410,000.00
Real Estate for Transfer	<u>1,126,922.91</u>
Total Other Assets	2,685,487.41
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,258,818.57</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable - Credit Cards	\$ 38,068.24
Deferred Revenue - Registrations	<u>55,846.75</u>
Total Current Liabilities	93,914.99

Long-Term Liabilities

None	<u>0</u>
Total Liabilities	93,914.99

Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions	2,518,154.56
Board Designated - New Works	646,749.02
With Donor Restrictions	<u>0</u>
Total Net Assets	3,164,903.58
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 3,258,818.57</u>

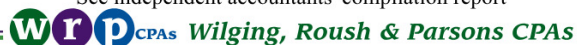
See independent accountants' compilation report



NCO District - Church of the Nazarene
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
For the Year Ended May 31, 2026

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<u>Changes in Net Assets</u>			
<u>Support and Revenue</u>			
Fair Share Revenue	\$ 702,046.62	\$ 0.00	\$ 702,046.62
NCO Non Budget Income	67,009.92	0.00	67,009.92
NMI Revenue	2,864.12	0.00	2,864.12
NYI Revenue	527,876.98	0.00	527,876.98
NDI Revenue	25,603.75	0.00	25,603.75
Children Revenue	60,736.33	0.00	60,736.33
MVNU Education Revenue	361,630.45	0.00	361,630.45
Interest and Dividend Income	24,772.31	0.00	24,772.31
Gain on Assets Held by Others	63,518.44	0.00	63,518.44
Realized Gain (Loss) on Sale of Investments	12,821.92	0.00	12,821.92
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	40,587.87	0.00	40,587.87
Gain (Loss) on Sale of Property	11,433.04	0.00	11,433.04
Miscellaneous Income	33,214.38	0.00	33,214.38
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Support and Revenue	1,934,116.13	0.00	1,934,116.13
<u>Expenses</u>			
NMI Expense	22,032.39	0.00	22,032.39
NYI Expense	479,076.90	0.00	479,076.90
NDI Expense	35,626.94	0.00	35,626.94
Children Expense	104,701.09	0.00	104,701.09
MVNU Education Expense	361,630.45	0.00	361,630.45
Ministerial Assessment	1,138.62	0.00	1,138.62
District Assembly Expense	60,127.30	0.00	60,127.30
District Administrative Expense	5,621.80	0.00	5,621.80
Salaries and Wages	299,208.43	0.00	299,208.43
Employee Benefits	49,912.00	0.00	49,912.00
Payroll Taxes	30,096.44	0.00	30,096.44
Retirement Expense	13,870.00	0.00	13,870.00
Liability Insurance	31,208.25	0.00	31,208.25
Maintenance and Repair	656.53	0.00	656.53
Printing and Postage	4,573.60	0.00	4,573.60
Rent	4,800.00	0.00	4,800.00
Utilities and Telephone	3,492.56	0.00	3,492.56
Depreciation Expense	12,829.40	0.00	12,829.40
Office Expenses	29,068.58	0.00	29,068.58
Fees and Charges	6,003.29	0.00	6,003.29
Professional Expense	10,546.53	0.00	10,546.53
Meetings and Conference Expense	10,265.19	0.00	10,265.19
Pastor Expenses	51,395.13	0.00	51,395.13
Travel, Meals and Mileage Reimbursement	17,178.91	0.00	17,178.91
Miscellaneous Expense	31,164.85	0.00	31,164.85
NCO Ministry Support	107,015.52	0.00	107,015.52
Total Expenses	1,783,240.70	0.00	1,783,240.70
Increase in Net Assets	150,875.43	0.00	150,875.43
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	3,014,028.15	0.00	3,014,028.15
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 3,164,903.58	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,164,903.58

See independent accountants' compilation report



NCO District - Church of the Nazarene
Schedule of Revenues and Expense - Modified Cash Basis
Children Ministries
For the Year Ended May 31, 2026

Schedule IV

	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Children Ministries Revenue</u>	
Fair Share Allocated Funds	\$ 49,000.00
Children's Quizzing Registration	4,254.71
Pre-Teen Camp	29,988.20
Pre-Teen Ministry	4,859.80
Primary Camp	15,475.00
Trauma Informed Care Registration	80.00
Thrive Leader Retreat	1,217.62
General Assembly	4,861.00
Total Children Ministries Revenue	<u>109,736.33</u>
<u>Children Ministries Expenses</u>	
Camp Meeting Program	1,945.92
Thrive - Leader Retreat	3,447.82
Trauma Informed Care	89.11
Children's Bible Quizzing	5,752.33
Pre-Teen Camp Expense	46,886.63
Pre-Teen Ministry Expense	4,959.85
Primary Camp Expense	26,875.40
Children Administration	3,780.07
Ministry Safe	6,398.45
Work & Witness	84.42
Designated Funds Transfer	
Children World Quiz	\$ 1,500.00
General Assembly	1,500.00
Total Designated Funds Transfer	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total Children Expenses	<u>103,220.00</u> \$
Net Children Ministries Revenue	<u><u>6,516.33</u></u>

See independent accountants' compilation report

NCO District - Church of the Nazarene
Schedule of Revenues and Expense - Modified Cash Basis
NDI
For the Year Ended May 31, 2026

Schedule III

NDI Revenue

Fair Share Allocated Funds	\$ 19,038.00
Prime Time Retreat Registration	25,057.30
Discipleship Dinner Registration	546.45
Total SDMI Revenue	<u>44,641.75</u>

NDI Expenses

Senior

Administration Expense	55.00
District Assembly	570.00
Prime Time Retreat Expenses	27,897.17
Total Senior Expenses	<u>28,522.17</u>

General Expenses

District NDI Convention Expense	1,393.19
Administration	429.87
NDI Day	5,906.68
Golf Scramble	(624.97)
Designated Funds Transfer	
Prime Time Retreat	\$ 2,160.13
General Assembly	3,150.00
Total Designated Funds Transfer	<u>5,310.13</u>
Total General Expenses	<u>12,414.90</u>
Total NDI Expenses	<u>40,937.07</u>
Net NDI Revenue	<u><u>\$ 3,704.68</u></u>

See independent accountants' compilation report

NCO District - Church of the Nazarene
Schedule of Revenues and Expense - Modified Cash Basis
NMI
For the Year Ended May 31, 2026

Schedule I

NMI Revenue

Fair Share Allocated Funds	\$ 29,300.00
NMI District Convention	2,564.12
Work and Witness	<u>300.00</u>
Total NMI Revenue	32,164.12

NMI Expenses

Deputation	4,738.90
District Council Meeting	506.98
District Leadership Conference	912.57
Conferences & Meetings	805.50
Honorarium	1,300.00
Missionary Care Fund	500.00
Missionary Christmas Gifts	1,300.00
Administrative Expenses	3,278.18
District Convention	4,869.14
Crisis Care Kits	1,920.57
Designated Funds Transfer	
Work & Witness	\$ 3,300.00
Missionary Care Fund	300.00
NMI General Convention	6,432.28
Work & Witness Coordinator	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Designated Funds Transfer	12,032.28
Total NMI Expenses	<u>32,164.12</u>
Net NMI Revenue	<u>\$ 0</u>

See independent accountants' compilation report

NCO District - Church of the Nazarene
Schedule of Revenues and Expense - Modified Cash Basis
NYI
For the Year Ended May 31, 2026

Schedule II

NYI Revenue

Fair Share Allocated Funds	\$ 52,100.00
BLAST Registrations	24,190.50
NYC Registrations	461,500.00
NYI Campmeeting Activities	3,210.00
Quizzing	2,617.50
Encuentro Registrations	1,930.00
Teen Camp Registrations	34,428.98
Total NYI Revenue	579,976.98

NYI Expenses

BLAST	31,817.97
Back to School Bash	1,928.79
Clergy Kids Retreat	1,510.00
Impact Team	20.00
Leadership Conference	8,000.61
NYC	361,355.98
Administrative Expenses	948.35
Camp meeting Activities	5,885.81
Regional Dues	500.00
Stipends	1,500.00
Quizzing Expense	6,753.65
Encuentro	6,720.11
Teen Camp	52,135.63

Designated Funds Transfer

NYC	\$ 100,143.41
Encuentro	(4,790.11)
General Assembly	1,500.00
Work & Witness	1,000.00
Impact Team	(3,949.30)
Total Designated Funds Transfer	93,904.00
Total NYI Expenses	572,980.90
NYI Revenue	6,996.08
Prior Year Over Budget	(5,474.19)
Net NYI Revenue	\$ 1,521.89

See independent accountants' compilation report

ASSEMBLY FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2026

The Assembly Finance Committee of North Central Ohio met via Zoom on May 7, 2026, with the following members participating: Wendell D. Brown, District Superintendent; Patrick L. Rhoton, District Treasurer; Austin Swallow, chair, Sean Hampton, Pete Ryder, Rob Skidmore and Linda Wasil.

After introductions and an opening prayer, chair Austin Swallow shared that the budget writing committee (composed of DS Wendell Brown, district treasurer Patrick Rhoton, and Swallow) were presenting the proposed 2026-27 district budget for this committee's review and approval. He then led the group through the proposal line by line. The allocation of 4.65% of each church's income base has been lowered to 4.50% for 2026-27 as a result of each church's hard work and participation in their fair share. The committee, after reviewing the proposal and asking appropriate questions, approved the budget writing committee's recommendations, and so passed the 2026-27 balanced budget proposal onto the Advisory Board at their May meeting.

The committee then discussed the addition of one policy to the Assembly Finance Committee assembly report related to transition in local church treasurer position. The following statement has been added to the District Policy section: If there is a transition in the local church's treasurer position after at least five years of service to the church by the previous treasurer, it is recommended the church hire an outside representative to conduct a 'look-in' or 'review' audit to ensure all proper accounting practices are being maintained.

Having no further edits to the notes, and no other business brought before the committee, Swallow adjourned the meeting.

We, your committee on finance, submit the following recommendations to the Annual District Assembly and go on record instructing the local churches to comply with the following:

Funding the Mission

The stewardship of the local church is a very sacred responsibility that requires administration. As part of the denominational organization, each local pastor and church embraces their responsibility of supporting the North Central Ohio District, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, and the global church and its missionaries. Just as individuals are instructed in the Word (Malachi 3:8-10) to bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so should a local church set aside a portion of the tithes and offerings they receive to share with others. Each pastor and congregation should make adequate provision in their yearly budget planning process for their assigned commitment to the district, the university and the general church. The Finance Committee recommends weekly or monthly support.

Each church should remit payment for all funds using the Funding the Mission link, located on the district website www.ncodistrict.org/treasurers or the denominational website www.fundingthemission.org. This interactive website offers a "track giving" tab which has been designed to help local churches monitor their progress towards full payment of their allocations as well as several other features that add value.

Each church, in accordance with the formula set out by the global church shall give at least:

- 5.50% of its income base to the World Evangelism Fund (WEF)
- 2.00% of its income base to Nazarene Benefits
- 2.50% of its income base to Mount Vernon Nazarene University
- 4.50% of its income base to the District Fair Share Fund

This covers all district operations, provides for district ministry support and the three departments (NYI, NMI and NDI).

Notes: Amounts given to WEF and approved mission specials are excluded from the income base and are NOT to be included when calculating total income. Church income is any donation received by the church that qualifies as a charitable contribution. All donations that qualify to appear on a charitable contribution receipt are included in church income. This includes all non-cash donations of \$5,000 or more.

Pastoral Support

A. The support of a pastor is a sacred honor and responsibility of the church board. Manual 32.3 states: **The church is obligated to support its ministers, who have been called of God, and who, under the direction of the church, have given themselves wholly to the work of the ministry.**

- B. As a district, we understand more than 40% of our pastors are considered bi-vocational. As such, we encourage congregations not to demand or even suggest that a person needing to work outside the church to provide for their families commit full-time service to the church. Furthermore, any spousal income should have NO bearing in determining financial compensation for the pastor.
- C. Therefore, we suggest each church board designate a committee (be it the Finance or Personnel Committee or a separate stand-alone committee) to oversee the care of the pastoral family(ies) shepherding their congregation.
- D. As part of the process of calling a new pastor, that a compensation agreement detailing the annual salary, benefits and reimbursements be drafted and signed to avoid misunderstanding by either party prior to the beginning of the relationship. Manual 117.4. Copies should be sent to the district office and entered into the official church board minutes.
- i. The district has provided a compensation worksheet to assist this process, located on the district website www.ncodistrict.org/treasurers.
- E. That annually, the church board reviews all pastoral staff compensation and adjusts in accordance with stated pastoral performance goals for the year and the income of the church. Manual 139.8
- i. When conducting said compensation review, church boards be reminded of the difference between a COLA (cost of living adjustment) and a salary increase. A COLA simply brings a pastoral salary up to last year's level. It is not an increase.
- ii. Employee benefits and reimbursement adjustments are handled differently by the IRS and are not considered salary increases. While appreciated, these adjustments generally have minimal impact on the financial welfare of the pastoral family.
- F. The general church has informative resources that are readily available as well. These may be found at pbusa.org/memos.

Compensation Package

Part 1: Cash Salary

Actual cash salary is but one part of a compensation package for a full-time pastor. Provisions for housing, appropriate benefits, plus reimbursements for applicable business and professional expenses, and providing for retirement equal the entire compensation package which are the church's responsibility.

Above all, we are reminded while there is no one definitive source a church board can look at to determine an equitable compensation for their leaders, we urge local church boards to consider the following resources:

- Our district superintendent
- The Nazarene Benefits office of the general church which has an annual compensation by size and location report posted under the resource tab www.nbusa.org/memos
- Local sources, such as the school board and/or hospital salary scales

Most importantly, the central objective of a church's compensation package should be to allow a pastor to effectively carry out his/her responsibility to the church and to God, both administratively and spiritually while not having to worry about providing for his/her family.

1. With the recent changes in tax law, it is important to remember each church board should attempt to structure compensation packages to help the pastor minimize their annual tax liability.
2. All employees, ministerial or lay, must be provided a W-2 each year which reflects cash salary paid as compensation, any bonus or love offering, social security/Medicare tax allowances and taxable fringe benefits.

Compensation Package

Part 2: Housing Allowance

Whether the local church still maintains a parsonage for their pastor(s) or provides rental or mortgage assistance, the federal tax code (Section 107) contains wording that creates a substantial tax benefit to pastors.

In the case of a minister of the gospel, gross income DOES NOT include:

1. *the rental value of a home furnished to him/her as part of their compensation OR*
2. *the rental allowance paid to him/her as part of their compensation, to the extent used by him/her to rent or provide a home and to the extent such allowance does not exceed the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the utilities and reasonable repair costs.*

Bi-vocational ministers may have a housing allowance, but only from their ministerial income. It can, however, be up to 100% of that compensation. It cannot exceed it.

Each church board must designate this amount in advance (with official action and recorded in the minutes). It is suggested church boards either make this declaration part of the agenda for the first meeting of each calendar year or make the wording open-ended enough upon hire to cover from that point forward.

While excluded from federal income tax, housing allowances must be included for Social Security and Medicare tax purposes (SECA) in those computations. Church treasurers are urged to work with their pastor(s) to ensure compliance with the tax code and reporting. Additional assistance is available from the district finance team and the general church benefits website www.nbusa.org/memos

Compensation Package

Part 3: Benefits

Self-Employment Tax:	(SECA) Most laity do not realize the Social Security rules for pastors are different and each pastor must pay this tax. It is currently 15.3% of reported cash income. Each church should budget for this amount when determining pastoral compensation.
Retirement:	Supporting pastors in retirement requires planning and saving, just like it does for laity. Beginning in 2024, the Nazarene 403(b) retirement benefit program has been substantially improved <i>'in a direct response to the lack of retirement readiness among so many of our active pastors'</i> . We urge all churches to budget annually for their pastor's retirement. Whether you utilize the denominational plan or work with your pastor on an individualized approach, it is important to care for their future while they are your shepherd. Our Manual calls it a 'moral obligation' (117.4).
Health Insurance:	No pastoral family should serve without health (including dental) insurance coverage. With the passage of the Affordable Care Act back in 2010, those who cannot find an available and applicable group policy, may purchase insurance through government-supported plans. The enrollment period is in the fall of each year. In the case of a bi-vocational pastor or a pastor whose spouse has an insurance option available, the church board should work to provide either the monthly premium or applicable spousal contribution amount.
Life and Disability:	If possible, policies are available at relatively low cost and should be considered as part of a compensation package. It is far better to plan ahead rather than have to face the issue of what to do if a pastor passes away or is disabled and unable to serve for an extended period of time.
Death Benefit:	The district provides a \$10,000 benefit to the designated beneficiary on file at the district office for any district lead pastor who passes while serving in that role. Please contact the district office for further details and beneficiary form.
Education:	The Nazarene church has long supported the educational aspirations of their pastors. Indeed, the creation of our Nazarene colleges and universities across the world have benefited our local congregations throughout the years. However, many pastors have significant educational debt and church boards should work to assist in the repayment of that debt AND/OR expenses should the pastor(s) wish to gain further education.
Vacation:	Each local church should provide for annual time away for their pastor(s). Our district recommendation is based on years of ministerial service: 1-5 years in the ministry 2 weeks (including 2 Sundays) 6-10 years in the ministry 3 weeks (including 3 Sundays) 10-15 years in the ministry 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays) over 15 years in the ministry 5 weeks (including 5 Sundays) That any pulpit supply be remunerated by the church. Furthermore, that each church should remember the pastor(s) and their family(ies) at Christmas with at least an additional week's salary.
Sabbatical:	Each church should establish a policy to respond to the need of pastors for withdrawal from the day-to-day rigors of an assignment for scholarly review and personal renewal. This policy should be planned for and included in the annual budgeting process. Within the fifth year of a ministry assignment, the pastor, be they serving in a senior pastorate or staff position, should develop and plan for his/her reflection and renewal. The suggested timing is a minimum of four weeks. It is strongly urged that the pastor's salary continue in full and that the church board provide for pulpit supply during the sabbatical period. The Pastor should present a plan for their sabbatical goals to both their church board and the District Superintendent. A follow-up discussion with "lessons learned" should also be presented to both the local church board and the District Superintendent. (Manual 139.10)
Maternity/Paternity: Leave	A maternity leave of six weeks and/or a paternity leave of two weeks is recommended upon the birth, adoption, or assumption of legal guardianship of a child. We recommend an additional two weeks be granted for a birth by Cesarean section or other birthing complication(s). We recommend pastors receive their full salary and benefits while on such leave. Should a church have either a long-term or temporary disability plan that could be utilized in such a situation, we recommend that such a plan be used to offset the pastor's salary and benefits provided by the church during the maternity and/or paternity leave.

Compensation Package

Part 4: Business and Professional Reimbursements

With the 2017 tax reform, it behooves a pastor and church board to examine their reimbursement agreements. Unless a structure is set up to reimburse the pastor (upon receiving receipts within thirty (30) days and/or detailed documentation as to use, that money MUST be added to the annual W-2 as TAXABLE income to the pastor. The District Finance Committee recommends that each church board formally adopt and record a reimbursement policy to include:

- Provisions for ministry use of an automobile (mileage at IRS standards). If a church provides a vehicle, the pastor must keep track (with detailed odometer readings) of miles used for personal use which includes driving to and from the church from home.
- Business-related entertainment

- Professional books and magazines
 - Professional membership dues
 - Stationery and stamps for ministry use
 - Cell phone
 - Educational expenses: to include seminars for ongoing learning (see benefits)
- Many of these expenses should be included in your annual budgeting process.

Furthermore, it is recommended each church budget for and pay all expenses for

- the pastoral family to attend district meetings such as district assembly, district family camp, district gatherings, and pastor and spouses' retreats.
- if at all possible, to allow the pastor (and family) to attend the General Assembly by providing for their expenses. Since this global church event is held once every four years, the church board is advised to set aside an amount in their annual budgets to offset these expenses. Time spent attending assemblies or gatherings should NOT be considered part of a pastor's vacation time.

The district has a compensation worksheet available on the district website www.ncodistrict.org/treasurers. It is strongly advised each church board annually use this form, which then should be forwarded to the district superintendent each year.

Local Church Procedures

- That a committee of two or more non-related individuals shall count and record all money received by the church. (Manual 129.22)
- That the church board arranges for an annual financial review of the treasurer's books and that each church that operates a daycare, elementary or secondary school additionally forward said financial review to the district superintendent within sixty (60) days of the close of the statistical year. (Manual 139.23)
- That the treasurer's book be open at all times to the pastor and the district superintendent or their designate.
- In no case should a person serve as treasurer of a local church who is not willing to conform to the position(s) of the Manual.
- All elected or appointed church officials, with the exemption of the pastor(s), shall serve without remuneration.
- That when payment of funds has been approved by the church board, that such payment should be made as expediently as possible and for the purpose(s) designated.
- In the handling of all funds for future expansion and development, that such funds be deposited in a separate account and that no withdrawals be made without two signatures.
- Each church shall implement a proper screening process for both volunteer and employed persons who work with children and teens as it pertains to sexual and physical abuse (Manual 139.30) including budgeting for appropriate background checks. We further recommend that insurance programs be reviewed periodically in this area.
- When calling an evangelist to conduct a meeting at a local church: that their remuneration be twice the weekly salary of the senior pastor, plus SECA expense and one-way travel.
- That in the annual budgeting process, a goal of at least 10 percent of all money received be paid to the World Evangelism Fund (WEF) and approved specials with priority being given to WEF.
- That the local church financially supports any student attending Mount Vernon Nazarene University with a minimum scholarship of \$1,000.

District Policies and Procedures

- It is the local church's responsibility to budget for and pay all general, district, and university allocations. Manual 140. The District Advisory Board will appoint a committee to assist any church unable to pay their annual budgets with setting a balanced budget for the upcoming district year.
- When a local church has not paid budgets in full for two (2) consecutive years or has not had at least one (1) conversion by profession of faith, no member of that church's congregation may be entered into nomination for an elected district office/board position. (District Advisory Board 8/2018)
- The District Advisory Board has adopted criteria for potentially closing a church per Manual 108. When 3 of the 4 criteria for consideration are present for two years, the church will be considered for closure at the first DAB meeting of the following assembly year. (District Advisory Board 10/2018)
- No congregation may undertake a building expansion and/or remodeling project that exceeds 10% of the annual amount raised for all purposes until such proposed expenditures are approved by the District Church Properties Board Manual 236.
- A district allocation exemption will be made available to congregations conducting a capital stewardship campaign which has been approved by the District Properties Board. To qualify, a project must equal or exceed the annual income of the church. The exemption will extend for three years and will only apply to giving designated for the approved project.
- Any district church or compassionate ministry receiving district support shall apply annually for renewal. Applications are due August 1st of each year with decisions being made to fund at the August District Advisory Board meeting. Successful applicants shall make a report to the following assembly.
- Pastors and church boards are reminded that before hiring pastoral staff members and/or during the annual rehiring process, approval of the district superintendent must be obtained per Manual 139.27.

H. When there is a pastoral change at a district church, the District Finance Committee will appoint a representative to conduct a review of the church's financial records, policies and procedures and present a report to the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board prior to the calling of a new pastor. (District Advisory Board 11/2019)

I. **If there is a transition in the local church's treasurer position after at least five years of service to the church by the previous treasurer, it is recommended the church hire an outside representative to conduct a 'look-in' or 'review' audit to ensure all proper accounting practices are being maintained.**

J. If a district ministry department (NMI, NDI, or NYI) should for any reason overspend its budget in one district year, that same amount will be reduced from the next budget cycle. (District Advisory Board 3/2018)

K. Any district sponsored group travel shall be coordinated through the approved travel agency on file at the district office. No individual arrangements are to be made. (District Advisory Board 8.18)

L. In the event of a merger between two churches, a property transference agreement should be completed, and a copy submitted to the district office. (District Advisory Board 10/2019)

M. Per IRS regulations, any self-employed individual or an unincorporated business receiving \$600 or more from a church or ministry during the calendar year must receive a Form 1099-MISC showing the compensation amount.

N. As part of his/her yearly responsibilities, the District Treasurer will contract with an accredited accounting firm to conduct a certified financial review of the district's finances for the fiscal year. Said review will be completed prior to and included in the printed assembly journal.

O. We recommend each church utilize the Church of the Nazarene Foundation to facilitate planned and deferred gifts from their members to any Nazarene ministry, including gifts to the local church, and to use the foundation to manage investment accounts, endowments or charitable trusts. Information can be found at cnf.NazareneFoundation.org or by calling 866-273-2549.

P. The Assembly Finance Committee Secretary shall be authorized to edit the Assembly Finance Committee Report as needed and appropriate.

IV. Finances

A. That a sub-committee of the Finance Committee be charged with creating a yearly budget to be presented to the full committee for their review and recommendation to the District Advisory Board.

B. That the Advisory Board be authorized, in their discretion, to make proper adjustments in the event of inequity in the application of the Benefits Fund for a deceased minister's family if the local church has not paid their budgets in full.

C. That the Fair Share district budget as recommended by the District Finance Committee and approved by the District Advisory Board is 4.50%.

2025-2026 Budget

A. District Activities

Clergy Excellence Initiative	4,000	
District Activity Administration	5,000	
District Assembly/Camp Meeting	52,000	
Mileage and Meals	5,000	
Ministerial Assessment	2,000	
NCO General Assembly	8,000	
Pastor & Spouse Retreat	25,000	
Pastor Counseling	3,500	
Pastor's Christmas Dinner	12,000	
Pastor's Life Insurance (Death Benefit)	3,400	
Subtotal		\$119,900

B. District Office Business/Professional

ADS Professional Expense	6,600	
CDM Professional Expense	2,000	
DS Auto Travel & Repairs	7,500	
Auto Trade-In	5,000	
DS Discretionary	2,000	
DS Meetings, Conferences, Cont. Ed	11,000	
DS Professional Expenses	5,000	
Subtotal		\$ 39,100

C. District Office Operations

Audit	1,000	
CDM+ Fees	2,000	
Equipment	2,000	
Insurance	22,500	
Maintenance and Repair	1,000	

Postage	2,500	
Printing	3,000	
Rent	4,800	
Supplies	10,000	
Utilities	4,000	
Web/Network/Software/Video Ops	10,000	
Subtotal		\$ 62,800

D. Staff Benefits
Subtotal \$100,128

E. Staff Salaries
(District Superintendent, District Secretary, District Treasurer,
District Children's Minister, Office Administrator, Support Personnel)
Subtotal \$325,171

Total District Expenditures \$647,099

F. Departments
CHILDREN 50,000
NDI 25,650
NMI 27,300
NYI 52,400
Subtotal \$155,350

Total Unified Budget \$802,449

V. Education

- A. That each church on the district welcomes representatives from Mount Vernon Nazarene University. We urge our churches to cooperate fully in supporting our Nazarene educational institutions, including Nazarene Theological Seminary and Nazarene Bible College by receiving a generous annual offering. We also urge our church attendees to support Mount Vernon Nazarene University by participating in their employer's matching fund program. (For a church's reporting purposes, the personal contribution portion may be applied to the assigned educational budget of the local church, but NOT the matching fund portion.)
- B. That the pastor's continuing education is important. The district has set aside funds to assist pastors who desire to pursue advanced degrees. A set amount will be placed in the yearly budget and distributed until depleted. Applications will be due by June 15th for the following Fall semester and grants awarded following the August District Advisory Board meeting.
- C. It is our desire to help build up a new generation of top talent for the district and the church in general. The district has adopted a policy for supporting such calls. Based on the model of investing in an individual's promise in return for a prescribed period of working to repay the investment, the district will identify such worthy individuals upon a pastor or professor's recommendation and application process. (District Advisory Board 8/2020)
- D. Per agreement with Mount Vernon Nazarene University, all funds given over 85% of the University's allocation in any given year will be directed to the district's endowed scholarships housed within the university's endowment.

Respectfully submitted,
AUSTIN SWALLOW, Chair

MEMORIAL SERVICE

July 11, 2026

We pause to remember those from the North Central Ohio District who have joined the Church Triumphant this past year.
May God bless the memory of each one as He gives comfort to their loved ones and friends.

<i>ELDERS</i>	<i>James C. Haynes, Raymond A. Sharpes</i>
<i>Amherst The River</i>	<i>Patricia Chaves, Peter Cline, Paula Fitzpatrick</i>
<i>Ashland</i>	<i>Patsy Briggs, Sherrie Dean, Phil Ison, Wynona Schwartzwalder</i>
<i>Ashtabula The Ridge</i>	<i>Carrie Kennedy, Jackie McBride, Sandy Maurer-Searles</i>
<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Michael Agler, Carolyn Lingenfield, Cindy Pusey, Rich Vranich</i>
<i>Bucyrus First</i>	<i>Rodney Auck, Mary Borer, Pamela Burgin, Juanita Gatchell, John Kelley, Mary Jane Kelley, Jerry Lilly, Doug Montgomery, Ella Myers, Kathi Rostash, Phyllis Walter</i>
<i>Burton North East Community</i>	<i>Esther Ricer</i>
<i>Cleveland Victory</i>	<i>Traci Collins</i>
<i>Coshocton</i>	<i>Jean Burchfield, Billie Jo Gross, Linda Miller</i>
<i>Delaware Newstart</i>	<i>Michael Jessup, Joanne Smith, Diana Welty,</i>
<i>Elyria Center</i>	<i>Irene Elkins, Ron Farhney, Cheryl France, Viola Huffman</i>
<i>Fremont</i>	<i>Margaret E. Alspaugh, Scharlene Faith Mansfield, Richard A. Nelsen</i>
<i>Galion</i>	<i>Sherrie Bowin, Dean Caldwell, Rose Candel</i>
<i>Garfield Heights</i>	<i>Peggy Carey</i>
<i>Jefferson</i>	<i>Charlotte Eldred, Betty Hough, George and Connie Kapferer, Joyce Ketola, Luanne Lister, Pauline Price</i>
<i>Kelloggsville</i>	<i>Dale Canter, Doris Hannold, Joseph Simak</i>
<i>Loudonville</i>	<i>Leona Irene Arnholt, Karen Bleadingheiser</i>
<i>Marion First</i>	<i>Barb Dickason, Chuck Dillsaver, Janet Detwiler, Helen Farrington, Lewis Kilzer, Steve Lemke, Nancy Riemar, Marjorie Ruth, Mary Thibaut, Evelyn White</i>
<i>Marion Life Link</i>	<i>Brad Gruber</i>
<i>Medina</i>	<i>Phyllis Tiffe</i>
<i>Mount Vernon First</i>	<i>Norma Gustin, Vivian McMillan, David Patterson, Tom Thalheim</i>
<i>Mount Vernon Lakeholm</i>	<i>Lora Donaho, Marilyn Hoffert, Raymond Sharpes, Roberta Simmons</i>
<i>Mount Vernon New Life</i>	<i>Mark Overton, Ben Sanders, Chester Woods</i>
<i>N. Royalton State Road Community</i>	<i>Joan Bane</i>
<i>Orwell Resurrection Life</i>	<i>Robbie Zakowski</i>
<i>Painesville</i>	<i>Mary Morris</i>
<i>Sandusky Community</i>	<i>Janet Dupont</i>
<i>Shelby</i>	<i>Alice Dietz</i>
<i>Sullivan</i>	<i>Carl Ankrom, Rebecca Dillion</i>
<i>Sunbury Freedom</i>	<i>Pete Walker</i>
<i>Tiffin</i>	<i>Ruth Johnson, Don Johnson</i>
<i>Westlake Parkside</i>	<i>Nancy Padgett, Scott Ward</i>
<i>Willard</i>	<i>Duane Frankart</i>
<i>Wooster</i>	<i>Judy Fry, Terry Herman, Ellen Hockenberry, Paul Lehman, Mike Thompson, Jim Shuman, Judie Westfall</i>

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY SERVICE

SATURDAY, July 11, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

Order of Service

Welcome and Invocation
Introduction to the Ordination Service
Statement of Purpose and Examination of Ordinands
Scripture Reading
Summary of Articles of Faith
Challenge to Newly Licensed Ministers
Manual 502 Reading
Recognition of Credential
Minister's Choir
Message
Ordination Ritual and Prayer
Presentation of Ordination Class
Presentation of gift from MVNU
Sending Forth and Benediction
(Reception Immediately Following – All Are Welcome)

Newly Licensed Ministers

Jadon Andrew Bird
Benjamin Thomas Call
Conner William Dappert
Richard Frederick Dible
Reid Shannon Gates
Scott E. Gifford
Amie Dannette Gillespie
Lucas Daniel Gray
William Hunter Hines
Monica Denise Hunt
Michael James King
Jack Elessar Longstreet
Morgan Renae Stith

Ordination Class of 2026

Emily Marie Kauble was born in Marion, Ohio. Emily was introduced to Jesus at the age of sixteen by friends who had invited her to church and accepted Christ as her savior at an altar of prayer when she was eighteen years old. Emily's decision to follow Christ carried her through a tough first year of college, after which, she transferred to Mount Vernon Nazarene University. She felt her call to ministry three weeks before her college graduation in 2018. She continued to pursue a life-long dream of becoming a wildlife officer only to have her dreams rerouted by a stroke in 2020. Emily was sanctified during this time as God used it to get ahold of her heart and make it clear that she needed to put Him, and His dreams for her, first. She received her first district minister's license in 2023 on the North Central Ohio District. Emily has a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Ministry from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and completed the course of study through the Nazarene Bible College.

A favorite scripture of Emily's is Colossians 3:23-24

Emily lives in Marion, Ohio, and is currently serving as the full-time Children's Pastor at Marion First Church of the Nazarene.

Erika Marie Snyder was born in Marion, Ohio. Erika prayed the prayer of salvation at the age of twelve. In 2017, Erika felt the call to ministry. Amid a health crisis in June 2024, at the age of twenty-six, she prayed again and was sanctified. Erika received her first district minister's license in 2021 on the North Central Ohio District. She has a Physical Therapy Associates from North Central State College and Bachelor of Arts in Health & Wellness from Purdue Global. Erika obtained her ordination classes through the Nazarene Bible College and Mount Vernon Nazarene University and her Master of Divinity through Liberty University.

A favorite scripture of Erika's is Esther 4:14.

Erika is currently serving as the Hospice Chaplain with Marion First Church of the Nazarene. She lives in Caldonia, Ohio, with her husband of eighteen years, Joshua and their fraternal twins, Hollis and Riley.

Jacob Elishah Wilcox was born in Gallipolis, Ohio. Jacob accepted Christ as his savior at the tender age of seven when he was led in prayer by his mom. At fifteen years of age, he rekindled his relationship with Christ and accepted what he felt was a call to evangelistic ministry. While attending basic combat training at the age of nineteen with the U.S. Army, he encountered a deeper, more meaningful presence of God and was sanctified during this time and called into youth ministry. Jacob received his first district minister's license in 2022 on the North Central Ohio District. He has obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry from Mount Vernon Nazarene University.

A favorite verse of Jacob's is 1 Timothy 4:12.

Jacob has served on the staff of Lakeholm Church of the Nazarene as the Youth Pastor since 2023. He and his wife, Marissa, have been married for five years and live in Mount Vernon, Ohio.

Recognition as an Elder

Brian Curtis Hunt accepted Christ as a young child led by his mother and felt the call to ministry soon after. He received his first local minister's license in 2008. Brian has a Bachelor of Arts in Christian ministry from Ohio Christian University. He received his first district minister's license in 2014 on the Indianapolis Church of the Nazarene district. Brian became an ordained Elder in the Church of Christ in Christian Union in 2016. Brian also has a Master of Business Administration in organizational leadership from Eastern University. Brian has served on the Church Board and as Treasurer for Mansfield Heart City Church. He and his wife, Monica, have been married 12 years and have one daughter.

Matthew Lee Williams accepted Christ at the age of five and during a revival service in 1985, rededicated his life to the Lord. Through the years, he felt a call to ministry. Matt has a Bachelor of Arts in Christian education from Anderson University, a Master of Arts in clinical counseling from Ashland Theological Seminary and Doctor of Ministry in pastoral counseling from Liberty University. He was ordained in the Church of God in 1991. Matt currently serves as executive director for Moriah Counseling & Consulting. He attends North Royalton State Road Community Church. He and his wife, Sheri, have been married for 35 years and have four children.

CHURCH REPORTS

ALPHABETICAL LISTING



Amherst The River

Richard R. Henry Jr., Elder

Organized: 1967

Pastor Began: 3/21/1988

Address: 210 Cooper Foster Park Rd., Amherst, OH 44001

Pastor Email: racquetwarrior@gmail.com

Phone: 440-988-9014



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	29	28	29			
Online Worship	5	4	5			
Total Worship Average	34	32	34			
Conversions	6	2	1	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$6488	Yes
NDI Average	27	27	45	Pensions Benefits	\$2204	Yes
New Nazarenes	1	0	4	MVNU	\$2504	Yes
Membership	74	72	71	District	\$5508	Yes
Total Raised	\$100654	\$99102	\$117,018	10% Missions Giving	6.27%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

The River has been engaged in disciple making through formal and informal ways, but the most specific and direct way has been through the method of Discipled By Jesus (DBJ). Each September, we have people attend a DBJ Training Summit in Pennsylvania hosted by founder Hal Perkins. Through DBJ, monthly lady's ministry meetings, home groups, and a weekly Bible class each Sunday we seek to train people toward outreach and discipleship, leading to the practice of holiness in our everyday affairs. Over this past year we have continued our weekly volunteer program with Lorain City Schools, specifically Frank Jacinto Elementary School. We also continue to host three AA meetings each week at the church building.



Andover Cherry Valley

Richard A. Meier, Elder

Organized: 1922

Pastor Began: 8/1/2010

Address: 3410 US Highway 6, Andover, OH 44003

Pastor Email: pastorrich@centurylink.net

Phone: 440-293-7937



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	69	50	52			
Online Worship	107	206	130			
Total Worship Average	176	256	182			
Conversions	8	6	3	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	3	6	0	World Evangelism	\$9303	Yes
NDI Average	61	40	49	Pensions Benefits	\$3270	Yes
New Nazarenes	2	8	2	MVNU	\$4090	Yes
Membership	52	55	57	District	\$7596	Yes
Total Raised	\$167586	\$171294	\$173390	10% Missions Giving	6.36%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

How do we put into words what only the Lord can do? This I ponder on a daily basis. While on the same team, we find that God has made us peculiar individuals as well. Does that mean we are not one or not on the same team? Absolutely not. We can and are on the same team with different strengths and weaknesses, all working together for the Lord. So what have we done? We have partnered with two different ministries to accomplish things we could not otherwise do on our own. We partnered with County Seat Reclaimed ministries and hit the streets of Ashtabula with a plan of praying with the homeless or anyone we found. We were able to pray on the streets and in a few businesses. Some wanted to be free of addiction, but some weren't sure they were ready. We prayed with both. It was an uncomfortable kind of ministry yet more impactful than staying inside the church building. We also partnered with Mya's Ministries which helps many young women with a number of things. One of their main focuses is when the women come in and are pregnant they are given a 3d ultrasound which allows the mother to see and hear their baby. Because of this, many babies are born and not aborted.

We here at Cherry Valley decided to have a free community event outside of the church doors. We rented the high school auditorium and worked with God's Comic Ministries to bring Brad Stine for a Christian comedy show. He made us laugh for sure, but he also gave the gospel and presented the question "If Jesus came today would you be ready?". I've never been at a comedy show with an altar call, but that's the way it ended. We didn't have a great outpouring of people storming the platform for prayer, but we had a lot of people that heard the gospel that came to a comedy show not knowing they would hear the gospel too.

To conclude, I can remember so many different folks that we have discipled through our Men's breakfast, Men's Bible sharing and relationship building on Mondays, and Women's Monday morning and evening study and relationship building. Of course one of our largest ministries in the summer is our Car Cruise-In where we have found that ministry can be fun, yet still relational. With so many different ministries in the church we have had to realize we are on the same team, Team Jesus!

Pastors family visits for Easter



Local Pastor Hugh and Comedian Brad Stine right before the outreach show

VBS



Ashland

Organized: 1926

Address: 1196 Milton Township Rd. 1506, Ashland, OH 44805

Phone: 419-289-2664

David E. Langdon, Elder

Pastor Began: 11/9/2014

Pastor Email: pastordlangdon@gmail.com



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	56	56	59			
Online Worship	30	25	25			
Total Worship Average	86	81	84			
Conversions	4	5	10	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	5	0	6	World Evangelism	\$8272	Yes
NDI Average	58	54	50	Pensions Benefits	\$2908	Yes
New Nazarenes	4	0	13	MVNU	\$3635	Yes
Membership	133	131	141	District	\$6761	Yes
Total Raised	\$169183	\$169525	\$168369	10% Missions Giving	21.09%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

At Ashland, our discipleship journey aims to guide individuals through next steps to know God, find freedom, discover purpose, and make a difference. From Easter to Pentecost our sermon series followed the theme of Becoming Christlike Disciples. For several quarters, we changed our adult Sunday school classes to a Nazarene catechism-type approach. These efforts have led to significant growth in our understanding of sanctification and living the holy life.

In the summer, we launched a new outreach called Praise in the Plaza. In partnership with two other churches, we participated in two concerts at Foundation Plaza in downtown Ashland. Our worship team also participated in Gospel Fest at the Brookside Park Bandshell. These events were well received, and we are planning to expand this ministry this summer.

We are celebrating our church's 100th anniversary this year! To commemorate, we participated in the first annual Christmas light display at the Ashland County Fairgrounds. Our display theme was The Light Who Saves the World. In March, we hosted an elegant dinner and concert event called Meal and Melodies. Pastor Dave and three other songwriters performed their original songs. The theme for our 100th anniversary is Honoring the Past and Embracing the Future. Part of that emphasis is raising funds for church improvement projects. Our main celebration will be on Sunday, October 4 with many special guests joining us.

This year, we welcomed 14 new members and celebrated 6 baptisms! Cam Sweet was saved, baptized and became a new member of our church this year. God has called him into ministry, and he will be attending MVNU in the fall to pursue his calling. Cam and 5 other teens in our youth group will be attending NYC this summer. We are grateful for Pastor Darrel Leibolt's leadership with our youth, and our congregation's heroic fundraising efforts and sacrificial giving to help send these youth to NYC.

We praise God for the many ways He is at work among us, drawing people to Himself, deepening discipleship, and transforming lives through the power of the gospel.



Ashtabula Edgewood

Kevin D. Ellis, Elder

Organized: 1955

Pastor Began: 1/22/1996

Address: 3025 N. Ridge E., Ashtabula, OH 44004

Pastor Email: revkevinellis@icloud.com

Phone: 440-997-5645



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	18	16	16			
Online Worship	3	2	2			
Total Worship Average	21	18	18			
Conversions	3	2	3	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$2767	Yes
NDI Average	3	17	17	Pensions Benefits	\$1007	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	0	0	MVNU	\$1203	Yes
Membership	123	123	141	District	\$2240	Yes
Total Raised	\$45664	\$46682	\$50306	10% Missions Giving	6.05%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

2 Corinthians 7:1 (NIV) "Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God".

I am pastor Kevin Ellis of the Edgewood Church of the Nazarene, now in my 30th year in Ashtabula. God's global call to His Church is that we would be united, one body under one Lord, Jesus Christ who is our head. We are working together. teammates on the same team, striving together to win against the enemy and bring along all that we can into faith in Jesus Christ.

Amidst the challenges that we face, the people of the Edgewood Church continue to press on towards Christlikeness and holiness of heart and life. We have supported one another in times of difficulty with prayer, encouragement, and support. As 16-year-old Frankie had surgery to straighten a severely curved spine, we loved with prayer, encouragement, and support. When Viola, a founding member of Edgewood transitioned to the nursing home, we faithfully prayed, encouraged, and supported her.

After all, we are on the same team. We are cheering one another on as we make this journey of faith towards our eternal glory. God continues to be faithful as He leads this team to certain victory. And we shall continue pressing on until the "game" is finished. We praise the Name of the Lord for He is good and His love is enduring until our journey is done.

Ashtabula The Ridge

Sean M. Hampton, Elder

Organized: 1921

Address: 1820 S. Ridge W., Ashtabula, OH 44004

Phone: 440-992-0246

Pastor Began: 11/25/2018

Pastor Email: pastorsean.ridge@gmail.com



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	114	107	144			
Online Worship	45	50	58			
Total Worship Average	159	157	202			
Conversions	15	4	11	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	4	3	14	World Evangelism	\$14325	Yes
NDI Average	150	54	190	Pensions Benefits	\$5209	Yes
New Nazarenes	11	9	16	MVNU	\$6511	Yes
Membership	195	168	161	District	\$12111	Yes
Total Raised	\$279601	\$275416	\$276653	10% Missions Giving	6.23%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

The past 12 months have been a season of new discipleship in our church. We changed service times between campuses to create serving opportunities, worked toward greater unity in our worship and production teams, increased men's and women's ministries, added various age specific classes to bring us to 13 discipleship groups, developed a robust midweek program, added preschool church, and most recently introduced a fitness based small group.

Our Upward soccer program encouraged the church to connect with the community and bore fruit in families seeking the Lord. A men's and a women's retreat created a greater sense of community and growth. We hosted a second annual marriage conference that resulted in stronger, more godly relationships. God also blessed us with the funds to finish improvements to the Geneva Campus that included paving the parking lot, remodeling the fellowship hall, and adding A/C to parts of the building. All of this is a part of creating space in that community to make disciples.

The next 12 months will certainly hold both blessings and challenges, but we will continue to listen to God as we grow to be more like Jesus in Ashtabula, Geneva, and online. We will work to see every ministry, class, song, and sermon create an environment for God's Spirit to sanctify.



Bedford

Organized: 1937

Address: 365 Center Rd., Bedford, OH 44146

Phone: 440-232-7440

Ben Price Jr., Elder

Pastor Began: 7/6/2025

Pastor Email: bprice@bcn.org



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	203	178	208			
Online Worship	77	62	59			
Total Worship Average	280	240	267			
Conversions	2	10	13	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	13	13	World Evangelism	\$30812	Yes
NDI Average	240	173	186	Pensions Benefits	\$11619	Yes
New Nazarenes	4	8	1	MVNU	\$14523	Yes
Membership	455	444	443	District	\$27013	Yes
Total Raised	\$565102	\$557293	\$610010	10% Missions Giving	6.71%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Over the past year, one of the goals of our church has been to become intentional about helping people take their next steps in discipleship as they grow in Christlikeness. Spiritual formation is not accidental. As we have prayed, planned, and become more intentional in discipleship, we have seen God at work in the lives of people of all ages, drawing them toward faithfulness, spiritual maturity, and holiness.

In the fall, we launched MomCo, creating a space where mothers could gather for encouragement and authentic relationships. We have watched women build meaningful connections with one another while growing deeper in their relationship with Christ. During October and November, we also celebrated one of the most visible fruits of discipleship as 13 individuals were baptized. We have followed these professions of faith with more intentional one-on-one mentorship opportunities, helping new believers establish a strong spiritual foundation.

One significant area of focus has been equipping volunteers to view their roles as disciplemakers rather than simply filling ministry positions. Through intentional volunteer training, we have emphasized that every interaction, whether serving children, students, guests, or adults, is an opportunity to influence someone's spiritual journey.

As the year has progressed, we have become more focused on creating a clear discipleship pathway for those who call our church home. Our discipleship team has evaluated and strengthened existing classes and opportunities, seeking to ensure that people could clearly identify their next step, whether they were exploring faith, growing in biblical knowledge or serving in ministry.

In the spring, we relaunched our young adult ministry and began a Spanish Bible study. We have been encouraged by the response to both ministries and grateful to see our church family grow in diversity while strengthening relationships across generations.

We also held two youth-led worship services, which served as powerful reminders that discipleship is not limited by age. It has been a joy to watch our students use their gifts to lead and serve.

We have new Wednesday night ministries and have begun offering New Friends Luncheons. These gatherings have provided important entry points for people seeking connection, community, and growth. We continue to see individuals move from being visitors to becoming engaged participants in the life of the church.

As we reflect on this season, God is helping us cultivate a culture of discipleship where people are known, encouraged, equipped, and challenged to take their next steps with Jesus.



Brunswick

Thomas D. Eames, Ministry Leader

Organized: 1958

Address: 3965 Center Rd., Brunswick, OH 44212

Phone: 330-225-6957

Pastor Began: 9/10/2026

Pastor Email: teames@brunsnaz.org



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	62	61	63			
Online Worship	23	136	27			
Total Worship Average	85	197	90			
Conversions	2	5	6	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	2	3	World Evangelism	\$6220	Yes
NDI Average	48	70	53	Pensions Benefits	\$2265	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	4	6	MVNU	\$2830	Yes
Membership	117	121	127	District	\$5275	Yes
Total Raised	\$105813	\$117401	\$119504	10% Missions Giving	6.93%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

At Brunswick Nazarene Church, we have been bold in communicating our mission of Belong, Belief, and Bless this year. We have seen many people find belonging in our midst, while deepening their belief, as well as blessing others, not only personally, but through ministries of our church as well. One awesome thing that God has done in the past year is the addition of a Youth and Family Pastor, Bailey McVay. This has definitely rallied our students to connect on a deeper level. This all started last year at family camp. We had an organization break their lease with a house owned by the church right before they were to move in; leaving us with a vacant house. Bailey's dad said to me in a casual conversation that Bailey really just needs a house. Well, I'm excited to share that Bailey and Taylor (his wife) are now in the house and God has graciously provided to rehab things on the house without a penny having to come out of the church finances.



Another powerful moment for our church this year was a moment in our Sunday service where we asked our people to step up financially. Since pastoring here, we have consistently finished the year in the red financially. With two months left in the fiscal year, we gave a challenge around the legacy of our church and what God has in store for our future. We asked people to pledge a minimum of \$500 extra over the next two months and our people certainly obeyed God's call for them! Our church went from almost 14k in the hole going into April, to now closing the year with a surplus of almost 10K! This moment was ultimately more about God receiving our whole hearts more than just our money. I propelled many to surrender not only their finances, but also their lives to Him.

Along with seeing people from our community come to various events, visitors coming to our Sunday services, and new members joining our church, we have also launched adult small groups (B Groups). We have seen some of our less connected people jump into community this way as we meet in homes. God has used these times for us to sharpen and encourage each other. It has been awesome to see our Church grow even more in their focus and love for the sojourner or stranger among us.



Bucyrus First

Organized: 1933

Address: 2165 State Route 4, Bucyrus, OH 44820

Phone: 419-562-0256

Ray LaSalle, Elder

Pastor Began: 12/27/1992

Pastor Email: rl@rrohio.com



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	904	918	924			
Online Worship	186	674	720			
Total Worship Average	1090	1592	1644			
Conversions	51	47	29	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	26	11	18	World Evangelism	\$73211	Yes
NDI Average	277	291	302	Pensions Benefits	\$25158	Yes
New Nazarenes	15	25	16	MVNU	\$31447	Yes
Membership	843	862	870	District	\$58492	Yes
Total Raised	\$1420101	\$1429205	\$1390408	10% Missions Giving	10.62%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

“Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer.” Acts 3:1-12. They were on the SAME TEAM and things began to happen. Pentecost had taken place in the prior chapter. The Wind of Heaven was blowing and the Fire was glowing. That chapter ended saying that “All that believed were together” on the SAME TEAM.

That’s holiness and the name it wears. That’s holiness and the unity it declares. That’s holiness and the joy it shares. Peter declared that the miracle of the lame man walking was not through their own “power or holiness” but God’s.

And that is what we’re endeavoring to do in four different locations; beginning in Bucyrus. If it’s not heart perfection, at least it’s heart direction. With all our hearts we are opting to reach everyone for Jesus. Rather than close Upper or Carey, we allowed them to join us on the SAME TEAM. They are healthy and growing with campus pastors and music ministers.

Freedom Church in Northeast Mansfield is the result of a burden to get the message out in that city. It’s a joint effort between the Nazarenes and a sister denomination and the Bucyrus campus. That is an enlargement of the TEAM. Two DS’s and a pastor with a goal of making a difference. A church building sat empty. Uniting together, the torch is relit and the parking lot is covered in cars and more than 100 people fill the sanctuary weekly.

The lame man in Acts 3, “Looked at Peter and John expecting to receive something from them.” And the world around us is expecting something life changing. We are on the SAME TEAM called the North Central Ohio District and together God can use us to make something happen.



Burton North East Community

Brian E. Westover, Elder

Organized: 2013

Pastor Began: 7/8/2003

Address: 13925 Stanley Dr., Burton, OH 44021

Pastor Email: april4brian@gmail.com

Phone: 440-636-2836



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	70	75	79			
Online Worship	7	7	8			
Total Worship Average	77	82	87			
Conversions	0	1	0	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	4	0	5	World Evangelism	\$5523	No
NDI Average	40	48	23	Pensions Benefits	\$2762	Yes
New Nazarenes	10	2	5	MVNU	\$513	No
Membership	31	33	37	District	\$4619	Yes
Total Raised	\$99473	\$98100	\$112405	10% Missions Giving	5.17%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

North East Community continues to emphasize our life groups as a specific way to build relationships and help each other live faithfully in Christ. We have launched two new groups this year and are looking for ways to build more. We are developing a team to minister to youth in our church and in our area with Friday night groups and an apologetic outreach to the local schools in the fall. We have a young lady and three of her friends that are hosting summer volleyball on Sunday evenings to play volleyball and have "God conversations". We are looking forward to seeing how God changes lives in these initiatives as we all strive to build the Kingdom on the same team.

Cardington

Christopher Umphryes, Elder

Kirsten Marie Umphryes, Elder

Organized: 1926

Co-Pastors Began: 10/31/2021

Address: 328 Water St., Cardington, OH 43315

Pastor Email: christopherumphryes@gmail.com; kmumphryes@gmail.com

Phone: 419-864-6801



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	49	59	69			
Online Worship	6	5	6			
Total Worship Average	55	64	75			
Conversions	1	29	12	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	3	1	11	World Evangelism	\$6991	Yes
NDI Average	55	53	65	Pensions Benefits	\$2543	Yes
New Nazarenes	1	1	1	MVNU	\$3178	Yes
Membership	59	58	60	District	\$5911	Yes
Total Raised	\$90298	\$102910	\$132671	10% Missions Giving	6.68%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

The mission of Cardington Church of the Nazarene is to love God and love your village to the ends of the earth. We are accomplishing this by intentionally helping people take their next steps in discipleship and deeper surrender to Christ. Week after week, we have centered our preaching on holiness, encouraging people to fully surrender every area of their lives to the Lord and allow Him to transform them from the inside out. We are seeing people respond in tangible ways, committing to daily Bible reading, stepping into ministry opportunities for the first time, and growing in obedience and faithfulness. We have had 11 people respond to the Lord's grace through baptism this year! Glory to God.

One highlight this year has been our renewed emphasis on discipleship through Sunday School. We have experienced the highest Sunday School attendance our church has seen in years, with people of all ages gathering consistently to study God's Word and grow together in community.

Another highlight has been our outreach efforts within the community. Through simple acts of service like free lemonade stands at the local park, handing out free after school snacks, and volunteering for town events, our church has been able to build relationships, show the love of Christ in practical ways, and create opportunities for meaningful conversations with families in our village.

A third highlight has been our Community VBS, where more than 100 children attended and learned that Jesus is the path to peace. It was incredible to see children worshipping, learning Scripture, and hearing the Gospel in a joyful and welcoming environment.

Additionally, Pastor Josh Votaw continues to oversee ministry at the Multi-County Correctional Center, where lives are being radically changed by Jesus. Men and women are encountering Christ, many for the very first time, and we are witnessing genuine transformation through the power of the Gospel.

Jesus is moving in our church and community, and we are grateful to be serving together on the same team for His Kingdom.



Cleveland Arabic

Asaad Wahba, Elder

Organized: 2011

Pastor Began: 4/19/2009

Address: 12534 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, OH 44111

Pastor Email: pastorasaad_wahba@hotmail.com

Phone: 216-600-7920

Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	8	12	12			
Online Worship	300	160	0			
Total Worship Average	308	172	12			
Conversions	2	2	2	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	12	12	16	Pensions Benefits	\$0	No
New Nazarenes	1	1	1	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	21	21	21	District	\$210	No
Total Raised	\$7200	\$7200	\$7200	10% Missions Giving	0.00%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*



Cleveland Aviva

Cecilia Marie Quiñones, Licensed Minister

Organized: New Start

Pastor Began: 4/14/2024

Address: 23600 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, OH 44145

Pastor Email: cecilia.quinones@avivacleveland.org

Phone: 440-269-9490



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	75	52	51			
Online Worship	0	0	0			
Total Worship Average	75	52	51			
Conversions	3	17	6	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$1000	No
NDI Average	96	32	55	Pensions Benefits	\$0	No
New Nazarenes	6	17	6	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	112	113	119	District	\$0	No
Total Raised	\$127338	\$84885	\$36268	10% Missions Giving	2.84%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Ministry Focus: Pursuing Holiness Together

Throughout this year, our church has remained committed to the biblical call to sanctification and spiritual growth. We have witnessed a growing hunger for God's presence, a deeper reverence for His Word, and a renewed commitment among believers to pursue lives that honor Christ.

Through preaching, discipleship, Bible studies, and intentional pastoral care, the Holy Spirit has continued to transform lives and draw people into a closer relationship with God. A sermon series focused on building our lives as an altar of holiness before the Lord has particularly impacted our congregation, producing visible fruit in the areas of repentance, spiritual maturity, and personal devotion.

Several recurring testimonies from both new and existing members can be summarized in three simple statements:

"I feel safe," "I have learned so much," and "God's Word has confronted me in my sin."

These testimonies reflect the spiritual environment God is cultivating within our church family.

Life Transformation Through Community and Care:

One of the most encouraging testimonies this year comes from a young woman who experienced a life-threatening medical emergency following surgery. When her family reached out to the church for prayer, members immediately mobilized in intercession on her behalf.

By God's grace, she recovered and later shared how deeply impacted she was by both the prayers and the support she received from the church community. Since then, she has continued growing in her faith through Bible studies, discipleship, and meaningful relationships within the congregation. She frequently expresses gratitude for finding a church family where she feels spiritually safe, loved, and encouraged. Even more encouraging, her husband recently surrendered his life to Christ and has begun witnessing the transformative work of the Holy Spirit within his own family. This testimony serves as a powerful reminder that ministry extends beyond the walls of the church and into the everyday challenges people face.

Spiritual Growth Through Biblical Teaching:

Another significant testimony comes from a man who has faithfully attended church with his wife for nearly a year.

Coming from a religious background where biblical teaching was not always clearly understood, he shared that he has gained more practical understanding of Scripture during his time with our church than at any previous point in his spiritual journey.

Through consistent exposure to God's Word, he has experienced genuine conviction and transformation. He has made significant life changes, including overcoming long-standing habits, while developing a growing understanding of God's love, grace, and desire to sanctify His people.

Both he and his wife report increased consistency in prayer, personal Bible study, and spiritual disciplines. Their testimony highlights the importance of clear biblical teaching and intentional discipleship in fostering lasting spiritual growth.



Cleveland Nueva Luz

Organized: 1975

Address: 2226 W. 89th St., Cleveland, OH 44111

Phone: 216-651-8236

Felix Muniz, Elder

Pastor Began: 6/5/2005

Pastor Email: Munizfel7@gmail.com

Cleveland Nueva Luz Grafton La Cosecha

Organized: New Start

Address: 37425 Royalton Rd., Grafton, OH 44044

Felix Muniz, Elder

Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	40	42	35			
Online Worship	0	0	0			
Total Worship Average	40	42	35			
Conversions	3	3	0	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	38	48	33	Pensions Benefits	\$0	No
New Nazarenes	3	3	1	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	100	102	103	District	\$500	No
Total Raised	\$34032	\$43739	\$46281	10% Missions Giving	0.00%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

As Nueva Luz continues to strive for holiness, church members have been called to revisit Wesleyan Heritage with the focus on three fundamental beliefs: Salvation, Justification, and Sanctification. Church members and newcomers were reminded that salvation is not simply about going to heaven. By salvation, we mean more than the promise of eternal life, but a present deliverance from sin, a restoration of the soul to its original purity, a recovery of the divine nature in righteousness and true holiness, in justice, mercy, and truth. Salvation encompasses the whole ongoing work of God. It began the hour I first believed and is a process that continues until mortal life shall cease. We are renewed in God's image and empowered by the Holy Spirit to love and serve God and neighbor in true holiness and righteousness all the remaining days of our lives. God's work of salvation is ultimately brought to completion when we stand in eternity in the presence of God and the company of all the redeemed. But it involves both justification and sanctification. By justification we are saved from the guilt of sin and restored to the favor of God. By sanctification we are saved from the power and the root of sin and restored to the image of God. The good news is that God has taken the initiative to make a way forward for us where we could not make headway on our own. First, in reaching out to us in reconciling love in the person of the Son. Secondly, in gifting us with the Holy Spirit to guide us into and empower us for living righteous and holy lives pleasing to God.

So, "Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God". 2 Corinthians 7:1



Cleveland Victory

Carolyn L. Joseph, Elder

Organized: 1983

Pastor Began: 6/1/2013

Address: 1632 E. 55th St., Cleveland, OH 44103

Pastor Email: cityofhope4him@aol.com

Phone: 216-881-3115



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	45	48	35			
Online Worship	7	7	7			
Total Worship Average	52	53	42			
Conversions	7	4	3	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	3	2	World Evangelism	\$3760	Yes
NDI Average	57	57	46	Pensions Benefits	\$1385	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	1	0	MVNU	\$1710	Yes
Membership	18	13	13	District	\$3180	Yes
Total Raised	\$49934	\$58952	\$62254	10% Missions Giving	12.48%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Praying for our ONE



Lunch after church with our family



Facing challenges is a constant struggle within the City of Cleveland. Facing challenges with the power of the Holy Spirit slays the evil one!

We at Cleveland Victory face challenges every day. Addiction, anger, violence, immorality, and other types of brokenness are but a few issues that we face in serving the beautiful people of Cleveland. It is hard work. The demand is great. The finances are limited and yet God continues to supply the needs of the faithful at Victory.

Yet, we are always reminded that as long as "There is One More Broken Heart, One more crying Soul"

We will go!!!!

We will tell them that Jesus loves them!

If we don't, who will?

We have heard the CALL "Come over into Cleveland and share the Gospel!"

Clyde Cornerstone

Ricky Hammons, Ministry Leader

Organized: 1938

Pastor Began: 3/1/2022

Address: 148 White St., Clyde, OH 43410

Pastor Email: ricky_cd_88@yahoo.com

Phone: 567-855-5002



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	39	38	38			
Online Worship	0	0	16			
Total Worship Average	39	38	54			
Conversions	3	6	2	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	17	7	7	World Evangelism	\$825	Yes
NDI Average	39	35	24	Pensions Benefits	\$325	Yes
New Nazarenes	3	10	2	MVNU	\$390	Yes
Membership	35	38	22	District	\$800	Yes
Total Raised	\$12425	\$14177	\$15260	10% Missions Giving	5.72%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This year our church has embraced the theme “Same Team” by intentionally helping people grow together in their walk with Christ and take meaningful next steps in discipleship leading toward holiness and sanctification. We believe spiritual growth happens best in community, through biblical teaching, authentic relationships, prayer, and opportunities to serve.

One of the ways we are helping people grow is through intentional teaching centered on Kingdom living and practical discipleship. Through sermons, Bible studies, and small group discussions, we are encouraging people not only to know God’s Word but to live it daily. We have seen individuals take steps toward deeper surrender, reconciliation, and obedience to Christ.

Another highlight has been our focus on children and families. Through Kid’s Club and family-centered events, we are creating a safe and welcoming environment where children can learn about Jesus while building relationships with caring adults and peers. We continue to see families become more connected to the church and engaged in spiritual conversations at home.

A third highlight has been strengthening fellowship and service within the church body. Whether through outreach events, community meals, prayer gatherings, or serving together during church activities, our people are learning that discipleship is not just personal—it is lived out as one body working together for God’s Kingdom. The spirit of unity and encouragement has helped people feel supported as they take their next steps of faith.

As we move forward, our desire is to continue building a church culture where people encounter Jesus, grow in holiness, and understand that we truly are on the “Same Team” as we pursue Christ together.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our church and district family.



Cooperdale

William David Phillips, Elder

Organized: 1924

Pastor Began: 9/26/2021

Address: 17816 State Route 60, Dresden, OH 43821

Pastor Email: wmdavidp@gmail.com

Phone: 740-454-7105



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	38	39	43			
Online Worship	6	7	9			
Total Worship Average	44	46	52			
Conversions	5	10	0	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	6	0	2	World Evangelism	\$7702	Yes
NDI Average	50	44	57	Pensions Benefits	\$3182	Yes
New Nazarenes	2	0	3	MVNU	\$3180	Yes
Membership	41	41	44	District	\$6392	Yes
Total Raised	\$105857	\$113048	\$129576	10% Missions Giving	9.49%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

This has been an event filled year. We received 3 new members, held 2 baptisms and set record attendance for Christmas (130) and the Mother's Day Banquet (94). Jamie Starnier overcame her sickness to implement VBS and we ministered to dozens of children. Bonnie Billman and Connie Picket have been a dynamic duo to help plan for and implement Christmas and Mother's Day events, as well as many other small events throughout the year. Mike Cox, George Roberts, Brent McPhillen, Tim Billman, Mark Donaker, Chuck Schaben, Elie Holbrook, and Ben Rayburn all pitched in to help renovate the interior of the fellowship hall. Tim and Bonnie hosted a 24-hour camp out at their home last summer. Jamie Donaker helped coordinate meals for Wednesday and was a substitute Adult teacher from time to time. Linae Cox, Sam Burris and Naomi Phillips helped teach children on Sundays and Wednesday.

We are growing spiritually with people dedicating their lives to Christ and the work of the Kingdom.

What we do every day

Talking to Jesus about people

Talking to People about Jesus

Walking with Christ and his Body

Our Mission

Make Christ-like Disciples in the Nations

Teaching them to obey all I have commanded you
(Matthew 28:16 – 20)

Our Vision

Every person in Coshocton County free from all sin.



Coshocton

Andrew Bird, Elder

Organized: 1919

Pastor Began: 11/1/2020

Address: 1058 Orange St., Coshocton, OH 43812

Pastor Email: pastorandy@coshnaz.org

Phone: 740-622-1912



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	114	145	143			
Online Worship	19	15	29			
Total Worship Average	133	160	172			
Conversions	3	6	0	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	12	7	7	World Evangelism	\$16736	Yes
NDI Average	220	219	100	Pensions Benefits	\$6141	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	7	1	MVNU	\$8044	Yes
Membership	520	419	420	District	\$13714	Yes
Total Raised	\$303000	\$316759	\$324428	10% Missions Giving	6.97%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

We are helping people take their next step of faith with Christ through connecting, growing, and serving. This year has been fun. God has called us into the lives of students, teachers, and staff at our local schools. We provided meals for several sports teams and drama and music groups.

We lead a Huddle, with FCA, at the High School. It was a blessing to serve as the Chaplain for Coshocton High School's football team this year. We also adopted several Special Education classes at the elementary schools to help provide items that bless the students and teachers. I love connecting with God and our people during worship and our monthly Coffee and Connections event.

We baptized 7 this year and added 4 new members. We celebrated the arrival of baby Melody Jane Woiciniski. She is the beautiful daughter of Youth Pastor Louis and his wife, Dasha. We provide a monthly Community Meal for anyone in need. We continue to seek His will. We continue to "practice" ministry and learn as we move forward. God continues to do something great in Coshocton.



Crestline

Robert A. Weaver, Elder

Organized: 1936

Address: 500 E. Main St., Crestline, OH 44827

Phone: 419-683-1700

Pastor Began: 8/1/2021

Pastor Email: b.c.weaver@citynet.net



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	51	54	55			
Online Worship	200	200	200			
Total Worship Average	251	254	255			
Conversions	6	4	4	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	5	2	0	World Evangelism	\$8200	Yes
NDI Average	32	34	37	Pensions Benefits	\$2715	Yes
New Nazarenes	5	0	1	MVNU	\$3515	Yes
Membership	58	55	55	District	\$6210	Yes
Total Raised	\$129964	\$141121	\$146014	10% Missions Giving	9.64%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This is my fifth report for the Crestline Church of the Nazarene. It has been another good year for our local congregation. In the last five years, our attendance has doubled, and God has blessed our church family with some new faces, as well as old friends coming back either to visit or stick around.

We are happy to report that our congregation paid all the registration fees for 11 children and youth to attend our district summer camps; quite an accomplishment for our small congregation!

In October, the church recognized mine and Cindy's 50 years of pastoral ministry with special guests, and a proclamation presented to us by Mayor Linda Horning-Pitt, followed by a catered meal in the fellowship hall.

In the fall, we participated in an outreach event at our Crestline Harvest Festival and several from our church participated in the festival parade and 5K walk/run.

Our congregation put together 120 Crisis Care Kits and delivered them to the district office. We also participated in inspecting the kits that were put together by all our district churches.

The senior adults enjoy monthly fellowships, game nights and trips. Our fall and spring ladies Bible study has been well attended and our men's group has become quite active these past few months and is planning a men's Bible study this fall.

As a church, we are looking forward to celebrating the 250th anniversary of our country with special activities on July 5th and plans are being made to celebrate Crestline Nazarene's 90th birthday this October. We are anticipating a great year for our church.



Delaware Newstart

R. Gregory McNichols, Elder

Co-Pastor Began: 9/1/1999

Pastor Email: gregm@NewStart4U.org

Nathaniel Joseph Porter, Elder

Organized: 2004

Address: 795 Pollock Rd., Delaware, OH 43015

Phone: 614-785-9908

Co-Pastor Began: 6/1/2022

Pastor Email: natep@newstart4u.org



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	242	242	242			
Online Worship	312	702	1409			
Total Worship Average	554	944	1651			
Conversions	11	4	13	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	13	10	13	World Evangelism	\$7164	No
NDI Average	94	142	155	Pensions Benefits	\$6960	No
New Nazarenes	1	1	0	MVNU	\$4014	No
Membership	197	204	178	District	\$20491	No
Total Raised	\$633017	\$644896	\$687168	10% Missions Giving	2.60%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Holiness isn't a solo sport; it's a team pursuit where we run together, purify our hearts, and push each other toward Christ. This year, our theme "Same Team" perfectly captured how God calls us to live in holiness together. As Ecclesiastes 4:12 reminds us, "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." As we strive to bring God's Kingdom to our backyards and cul-de-sacs, we celebrate His goodness by reflecting on life changes sparked by the grace of Jesus.

This collective sprint toward discipleship catalyzed three incredible highlights this past year:

Highlight 1: Uniting for the Kingdom. We partnered with another local church to host the Tim Tebow Foundation's Night to Shine. Talk about a "Same Team" moment! It was electric watching multiple congregations and unchurched volunteers unite to shower our Guests of Honor with Christ's love. It beautifully displayed 1 John 3:18: "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." Lives were changed, and we can't wait to see the lasting fruit from these individuals and the friendships that were formed.

Highlight 2: A Wild God-Story of Legacy. Talk about full-circle sanctification! Jay had walked away from his faith but was drawn back by the foundation Newstart laid years ago. Meanwhile, his son went to college and joined a Christian campus small group. In a mind-blowing twist of divine providence, the group leader turned out to be the exact same man who saved Jay's life decades ago when Jay was in the foster system and had lost hope. Jay is back with the Lord, leading his family, and fully surrendering his future to God.

Highlight 3: Leaving the Old Self Behind. Our baptisms have been a thrilling celebration of radical transformation. Kay grew up surrounded by addiction and brokenness, even sleeping in bar booths as a little girl. As a mom, she became overwhelmed by anxiety. But on Easter Sunday, she tuned into Newstart online, heard the gospel, and surrendered to Jesus. Kay was baptized this year, declaring

she no longer lives in that brokenness. She is building a brand-new, holy foundation for her family, and her daughter is even attending NCO teen camp this summer!

We are living out Hebrews 10:24, "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." We are on the same team, chasing holiness, and the best is yet to come!



Eastlake Willo-Lake

James Todd Gulley, Elder

Organized: 1958

Address: 34950 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake, OH 44095

Phone: 440-946-7712

Pastor Began: 1/1/2009

Pastor Email: pastortoddg@hotmail.com



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	41	42	27			
Online Worship	6	6	10			
Total Worship Average	47	48	37			
Conversions	2	1	1	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	3	0	0	World Evangelism	\$5457	Yes
NDI Average	37	39	27	Pensions Benefits	\$1989	Yes
New Nazarenes	3	0	0	MVNU	\$2486	Yes
Membership	113	115	115	District	\$4613	Yes
Total Raised	\$88219	\$91004	\$105718	10% Missions Giving	7.45%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Dr. Sarmiento, Pastor Wendell, delegates and guests, this is my 18th report as Pastor of Willo-Lake Church of the Nazarene. It has been a challenging year, both personally and professionally. My wife, Christie, survived a serious car accident in January and is thankfully on the way to a full recovery. God has provided for us in too many ways to count, from Pastor Wendell finding pulpit supply at the last minute, to our church family, Christie's work family, and our blood family all providing support. We continue to rely on God for courage and strength to keep pressing on.

Our church family has been serving the community in many ways, from assisting a local community garden by transporting and laying river rocks and mulch, to assisting local food distributions, and continuing our partnership with Cleveland Victory in providing lunches every month to assist them in their ministry. For Mothers' and Fathers' Day, we contribute on their behalf to the local ministry/non-profit of their choice. Through this, we have contributed to many organizations, including our local homeless shelter, our county's humane society, and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, among others.

My role on Eastlake city council has provided many opportunities to integrate our faith with the daily struggles of city administration. We pray that God would continue to give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart that understands what He is doing in our community and that we would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's transformational work in our lives as well as in our community.



Elyria Center

Scott Timothy Eastburn, Elder

Organized: 1930

Pastor Began: 8/2/2021

Address: 1107 Clemens Ave., Elyria, OH 44035

Pastor Email: scotte@elyrianaz.org

Phone: 440-324-5700



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	71	56	65			
Online Worship	84	41	45			
Total Worship Average	155	97	110			
Conversions	17	7	8	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	5	4	6	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	42	50	81	Pensions Benefits	\$1	No
New Nazarenes	0	0	0	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	143	131	127	District	\$0	No
Total Raised	\$161722	\$150876	\$163897	10% Missions Giving	2.33%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

At Center Church Elyria, God has been doing a lot of remodeling, some physical, with progress being made on our new Welcome Center. I would say, however, that much of the work that The Lord is doing at Center Church is of a spiritual nature. After having given us the name Center Church, He is giving us the tools to be able to build back with a strong foundation. At the Center of this project—Teamwork. God has been teaching us how to pull together to create something new and beautiful. Not long ago, 3 of our Center Church ladies felt a call from the Lord to lead the Youth Group. It began last October and kicked off with an all-night lock-in. Many activities and Sunday School classes later, the group has grown and bonded. Adult leaders and youth alike have been motivated to give and to receive what has been given, in a way that can only be described as contagious. Many in the youth group have musical talent and wanted to share their gifts with the rest of Center Church. This began Youth- led Worship 5th Sundays. This was so successful that Center Church has now added 3rd Sundays as well. Center Church members have also engaged in teamwork faithfully to work on deferred maintenance projects, expand the mowing team, create a fun children's church environment, and to work with our community partners Weight Watchers and Svetta Signers to donate 57 Thanksgiving food bags to those in need. Center Church looks forward to seeing how God works to build our team in the future.

Fostoria First

Shane Sevy, Elder

Organized: 1930

Pastor Began: 8/7/2022

Address: 339 Sandusky St., Fostoria, OH 44830

Pastor Email: ssevy1987@gmail.com

Phone: 419-435-6262



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	45	56	53			
Online Worship	165	305	330			
Total Worship Average	210	361	383			
Conversions	30	15	9	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	25	11	11	World Evangelism	\$3721	Yes
NDI Average	57	49	55	Pensions Benefits	\$1398	Yes
New Nazarenes	2	4	5	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	79	81	86	District	\$2427	No
Total Raised	\$58651	\$61750	\$71367	10% Missions Giving	7.01%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

As we look back over this last year at the ways that God has moved at Fostoria Nazarene, we are so incredibly thankful for the way that God has blessed us as we have worked together on the Same Team. We strive to be a family; welcoming, loving, uplifting, and correcting each other to encourage growth in our relationship with God. Our goal is to be faithful to what God has called us to, and to be His hands and feet. As we considered how our church was taking the next steps leading to holiness and sanctification, we see that it all begins with planting seeds of faith and sharing Jesus. This begins with each of us, but God has opened the doors for us to share in our community through various programs that we have added and hosted this year. God has shared a vision and through His guidance, He has brought various agencies in our community onto our Same Team to make an impact for Jesus in our Community and we are so thankful to work with the United Way, Habitat For Humanity, St Vincent de Paul, Findlay Community Foundation, Pantry Plus, Hope In Fostoria, and other local businesses, resources, agencies, and individuals in our community. Through working together on the Same Team, we have been able to accomplish and add so many things this year to share Jesus, reach others for Him, and disciple others including:

- Let's Build- Building Children's Beds and delivering them.
- Grab and Go Lunches For children through the summer.
- Restoration of the Community Center building as well as our church.
- Helping at the homes of individuals in our community.
- Handicap Ramp for our Community Building (Fully funded through grants and donations outside the church.)
- Fall Festival and Resource Fair (Adding to our family each year.)
- Community Food Giveaway
- ARO Mission Trip to Kentucky
- Grand Opening of the FNC Hope Community Center and the beginning of Community Dinners
- Community Cleanup
- Free Laundry Service
- Thanksgiving Community Dinner and 200 turkey giveaway
- Christmas Community Dinner and 150 ham giveaway
- Christmas Gifts for residents of Independence House
- Celebrate Recovery Bible Study
- Men's Breakfast
- Sisters in Christ
- Baptisms and New Members added
- Caregivers Cafe
- Family Fun Night
- National Day of Prayer
- Men's and Women's Bible Studies
- District Adult Retreat
- Veterans and First Responders Resource Fair and Lunch
- Community Garden Project

We are so blessed to be on the Same Team, and to be able to work with others to reach our Community for Jesus, and we cannot wait to see what He has in store for this next year!



Fremont

Daniel K. Vickey, Elder

Organized: 1933

Pastor Began: 2/1/2010

Address: 1925 N. 5th St., Fremont, OH 43420

Pastor Email: d789_77sun@yahoo.com

Phone: 419-332-6427



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	54	58	59			
Online Worship	12	8	8			
Total Worship Average	66	66	67			
Conversions	6	5	4	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	2	1	3	World Evangelism	\$7299	Yes
NDI Average	62	53	57	Pensions Benefits	\$2667	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	5	0	MVNU	\$3333	Yes
Membership	80	82	69	District	\$6199	Yes
Total Raised	\$132398	\$137393	\$141704	10% Missions Giving	9.63%	

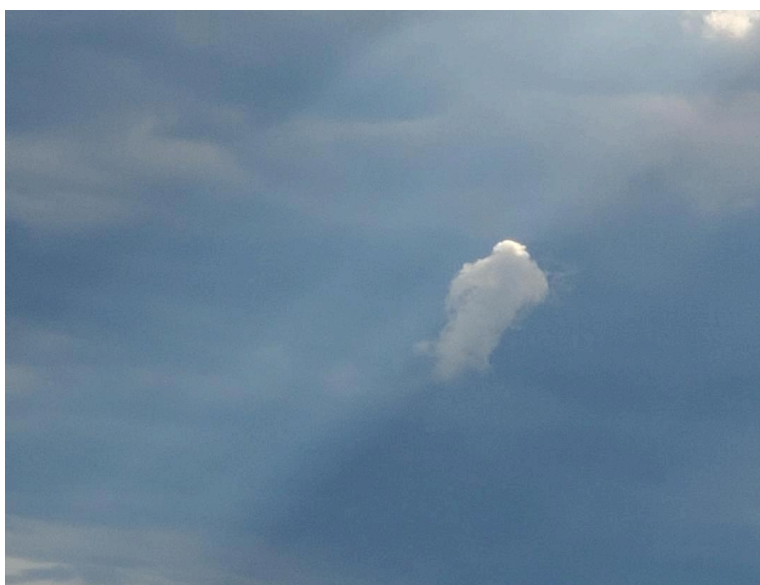
Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This year for FNC has been challenging and interesting. One big highlight has been our Women's Ministry/Bible study on Wednesday mornings. Several ladies gather for fellowship and Bible study.

We have also started a prayer ministry on Wednesday evenings. God has been so faithful to the prayers of His people. We have had numerous guests each week since the initial Wednesday prayer meeting.

Our Chaplain Ministry continues to expand with the help of Mike and Chris. It is amazing to see God working in our community through the faithfulness of His obedient people. Praise the Lord.

Baptism is a huge part of the "Next Step" in the faith journey and our walk with God. It has been a great opportunity to share in this together with our folks. God is so good!



Galion Real Life

Jason R. Wilson, Elder

Organized: 1926

Address: 777 Fairview Ave., Galion, OH 44833

Phone: 419-468-1262

Pastor Began: 6/2/2025

Pastor Email: conholiness@hotmail.com



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	75	57	40			
Online Worship	37	94	26			
Total Worship Average	112	151	66			
Conversions	17	1	0	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$3900	Yes
NDI Average	159	94	54	Pensions Benefits	\$1495	Yes
New Nazarenes	11	0	5	MVNU	\$1870	Yes
Membership	78	66	61	District	\$3476	Yes
Total Raised	\$106437	\$95460	\$75026	10% Missions Giving	6.55%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

This has been a year of return for the Galion Church of the Nazarene — return to identity, return to prayer, and return to the kind of faithful, ordinary discipleship that has always been the heartbeat of our movement.

Under a one-year appointment from District Superintendent Rev. Wendell Brown, Pastor Jason Wilson began serving as lead pastor in the late spring of 2025. Together with the board, we retired our previous identity as "Real Life" and stepped forward again, plainly and proudly, as the Galion Church of the Nazarene. New signage (with the District Office's gracious support), a new logo by Will Bowin, and a new church email all reflect that return. We are on the same team — "let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God" (2 Corinthians 7:1) — same team with our District, our denomination, and our community. A new vision has taken shape around three words: Prayer, Passion, Purpose. On February 11, 2026, we launched a Midweek Prayer Gathering and Bible Study, now averaging seven faithful attenders. Prayer is no longer one program among many — it is becoming the rhythm we plan around.

The year held quiet faithfulness and real joy. We welcomed a new family into membership and blessed two beloved members as they transferred to a sister Nazarene congregation in Willard. We hosted a Gingerbread House Building event, a Family Dinner, a Valentine's Day children's celebration, a March Nerf event, a Good Friday service, and our first Alabaster Offering as a renewed congregation. We hosted missionaries Cosmas and Andronica Mutowa from South Africa. Our children's church now runs three weeks a month, with each child receiving a kid-sized version of Sunday's sermon. A seven-member security team keeps a Sunday rotation. Finally, quiet improvements — furnace servicing, a refreshed ProPresenter setup, a stronger livestream — keep our building serving the community.

By the numbers: Sunday worship averages 34 to 42, the livestream draws about 26 weekly views, and December income outpaced the prior December. We finished the year ahead of where we started.

Looking ahead: deepening prayer, restarting men's ministry, pursuing an MVNU worship intern, growing our children's ministry, and walking through Pastor Jason's appointment review with the District.

Same team (2 Corinthians 7:1). Prayer, passion, purpose. By God's grace, Galion continues as we go.



Garfield Heights

Max M. Rodas, Elder

Organized: 1953

Pastor Began: 7/11/2012

Address: 5711 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, OH 44125

Pastor Email: mrodas@nlurc.org

Phone: 216-587-2660



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	35	35	38			
Online Worship	18	20	20			
Total Worship Average	53	55	58			
Conversions	2	1	1	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	1	0	0	World Evangelism	\$2815	No
NDI Average	51	53	53	Pensions Benefits	\$1025	No
New Nazarenes	2	3	1	MVNU	\$2380	No
Membership	106	109	109	District	\$1280	No
Total Raised	\$73580	\$73580	\$75000	10% Missions Giving	3.90%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Although we have struggled in some cases in “closing the back door” to fleeting visitors and people who live in constant mobility, we also have had the joy of watching others find a place of holy fellowship and family - right in our midst.

With the latter group we have taken the opportunity to connect them with Christ in a deep and transforming way. Many of these folks only attend church on Sundays so we make sure our Sundays are the best experience people can have. We greet people warmly, the music & teaching is anointed and we linger in fellowship in the sanctuary making sure people connect among themselves. We have noticed that some of our folks live in vulnerable situations and have socio-economic challenges so we like to elongate the church experience and provide a place for peace and joy. Every first Sunday, all of our people also know that this is the Sunday when we grow together by partaking in Holy Communion and eating our Agape Meal.

In some cases, individuals might have come because of the advertised meal but after years of attending, these folks still continue to attend because this is home and those around them are their brothers and sisters. I know for a fact that some of these wonderful folks can no longer drive and people in this fellowship pick them up to buy groceries and go to church together. It is great for me to testify that the fellowship that has developed among the Garfield Nazarenes is not Christian consumerism or prosperity but is a therapeutic alliance that creates accountability and holds people to higher spiritual standards. Thank you Jesus and John Wesley for Social Holiness!

Geneva Koinonia

Steven “Steb” D. Stott, Elder

Organized: 2026

Pastor Began: 6/17/2025

Address: 6810 Cork Cold Springs Rd., Geneva, OH 44041

Pastor Email: stveen52@hotmail.com

Phone: 740-390-2015

Statistics:	2026			
In person Worship	55			
Online Worship	55			
Total Worship Average	110			
Conversions	4	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	4	World Evangelism	\$3062	No
NDI Average	68	Pensions Benefits	\$1114	No
New Nazarenes	4	MVNU	\$1392	No
Membership	28	District	\$2879	Yes
Total Raised	\$72000	10% Missions Giving	5.37%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

As I think about this last year, it has been quite a roller coaster. We have been through some difficult times this year but we realized that it was actually an invitation to move deeper in holiness and deeper in trust. We have been invited by God to depend upon him for everything, for our food, for our church, for our growth, all from his provision. He has responded by being sweetly present with us, his people, and has blessed us in so many ways. If I was going to identify one word for the whole year, I would say gratitude. God is good to His people and He provides generously to His children. We were given a building that we can worship in for free. We were given a bus at such a low price it was also basically free. We were able to have four baptisms this last year. We walked through two deeply broken relationships within our church, moving through confession and forgiveness and reconciliation. We saw two new families that were completely unchurched come into our community and are on their way to baptism as we speak. We received 4 brand new little babies to our existing church. Of course, there have been countless stories of growth and holiness, both as individuals but also as a church. We've learned to depend upon his presence and upon his grace. We are very needy people, and God is a generous provider. We as a church want to champion Holiness and the Unity of the church both locally and universally. What are we if we don't grow in Holiness and live as one people unified by the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit? Towards this end, we have primarily focused on teaching and engaging our people in the 4 Rhythms of Worship; Corporate, Personal, Family, and Small group worship. We work with each member of our church to engage them in and equip them to participate in each of the rhythms. The varied and essential means of grace are the practices that fill in each of these rhythms.



Grafton Living Word Fellowship

Rafie Sturgis, Elder

Organized: New Start

Pastor Began: 5/1/2024

Address: 37425 Royalton Rd., Grafton, OH 44044

Pastor Email: rafiesturgis@hotmail.com

Phone: 216-618-2454

Statistics:	2025	2026			
In person Worship	45	90			
Online Worship	20	0			
Total Worship Average	65	90			
Conversions	30	38	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	26	8	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	50	112	Pensions Benefits	\$0	No
New Nazarenes	40	38	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	40	78	District	\$0	No
Total Raised	\$15650	\$77941	10% Missions Giving	0.00%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

As a young church plant, this past year focused on strengthening the foundations necessary for healthy discipleship and sustainable growth. Our primary objective was to establish and refine the structures, systems, and processes that support effective communication, accountability, and ministry development. These efforts have helped create an environment where people can take meaningful next steps in their relationship with Christ through biblical community, prayer, worship, and service.

A significant development was the hiring of a part-time Office Administrator. This addition greatly improved the coordination of day-to-day ministry operations, allowing me to devote more time to shepherding, discipleship, and equipping leaders for ministry.

Throughout the year, we continued to emphasize spiritual formation through corporate worship, Bible study, prayer, and relational discipleship. Members were encouraged to grow in their understanding of Scripture, serve one another, and cultivate Christ-centered relationships that foster accountability and spiritual maturity.

One of the highlights of the year was celebrating eight individuals who publicly declared their faith in Christ through baptism. Their inspiring testimonies and enthusiasm for the Lord encouraged our entire church family. We are also excited that several others have already committed to participating in our next baptism celebration.

Several new ministries were launched to support discipleship across different stages of life. Our Moms in Prayer Ministry began meeting monthly to provide encouragement, fellowship, and focused prayer for families. We also established a Seniors Ministry, creating opportunities for older adults to build meaningful relationships, receive spiritual support, and remain actively engaged in church life.

Additional opportunities for growth were provided through Wednesday Night Bible Studies, which offered consistent biblical teaching and discussion. The series concluded with a seminar titled The Process of Calling and Separation for Ministry, helping participants explore biblical principles related to calling, preparation, faithful service, and unity within the body of Christ.

Intentional ministry training and mentoring continued throughout the year for individuals sensing a call to ministry. Through discipleship, theological instruction, and hands-on ministry experience, emerging leaders were challenged to grow in biblical knowledge, spiritual maturity, and ministry effectiveness.

Another significant milestone was the completion of our church website which is scheduled for publication in late June. Looking ahead, we are excited to expand our outreach through digital platforms and social media, using these tools to connect with our community, share the gospel, and provide resources for discipleship.

We thank the Lord for all He has done and all He will do throughout our second year. To Him be the glory!



Jefferson

Curtis Andrew Cecil, Elder

Organized: 1932

Address: 55 E. Satin St., Jefferson, OH 44047

Phone: 440-536-8575

Pastor Began: 4/8/2019

Pastor Email: pastorcurtis@jeffnaz.org



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	221	216	214			
Online Worship	94	118	152			
Total Worship Average	315	334	366			
Conversions	32	30	27	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	9	6	6	World Evangelism	\$32788	Yes
NDI Average	175	218	204	Pensions Benefits	\$11924	Yes
New Nazarenes	2	4	5	MVNU	\$14905	Yes
Membership	316	320	318	District	\$27721	Yes
Total Raised	\$479999	\$580932	\$630554	10% Missions Giving	5.78%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Jefferson Nazarene is a church that lives out a simple but powerful truth: we are on the **same team** for the kingdom. From community outreach to compassionate care, each ministry shows that the mission is bigger than any one event, ministry leader, or volunteer role. Jefferson Nazarene's purpose is to help people discover Jesus, grow as disciples, and deploy together to make a difference.

Kingdom teamwork

That shared mission becomes visible in ministries like Night to Shine, which celebrates and honors people with special needs through a prom-style experience centered on God's love. It is also seen in the Amazing Grace 5K, a race that raises funds for local ministries through bringing people together around fellowship, fitness, and purpose. These events are not just activities; they are kingdom moments where we work side by side with other churches for one goal: reflecting Christ to others.

Compassion in action

The same spirit shows up in practical service. Produce Pickup meets a real need by putting fresh food into the hands of families in the community. Beds to Bags makes plastic-bag sleeping mats for the homeless. Bags of Hope likewise communicates dignity, comfort, and the simple message that no one is forgotten when they are walking through cancer treatments. These ministries are teaching our community how their efforts can turn everyday resources into tangible care for people facing hardship

One body, many ministries

What makes Jefferson Nazarene strong is not just that these ministries exist, but that they work together in and out of our church. Different gifts, different schedules, and different roles all serve the same kingdom purpose. Some people welcome guests, some sort supplies, some cook, some give, some pray, and some build community connections, but all of it matters. When the church functions this way, it becomes a living picture of unity in Christ.

Shared calling

The heart of Jefferson Nazarene is not competition between ministries, but cooperation for Christ's mission. Night to Shine, Amazing Grace 5K, Produce Pickup, Beds to Bags, Bags of Hope, and many other efforts all point in the same direction: loving people well and making Jesus known. That is what it means to be on the same team for the kingdom—different assignments, one Lord, one gospel mission, one church. On Mission together to help the hurting find true hope in CHRIST!



Kelloggsville

Robert M. Utley, Elder

Organized: 1944

Pastor Began: 8/28/2022

Address: 4841 Bushnell Rd., Conneaut, OH 44030

Pastor Email: rutley29@gmail.com

Phone: 440-224-1415



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	116	126	147			
Online Worship	5	0	6			
Total Worship Average	121	126	153			
Conversions	5	16	16	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	8	9	1	World Evangelism	\$13625	Yes
NDI Average	54	64	147	Pensions Benefits	\$4966	Yes
New Nazarenes	5	12	12	MVNU	\$6193	Yes
Membership	121	126	125	District	\$11519	Yes
Total Raised	\$235980	\$251988	\$262899	10% Missions Giving	5.90%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

At Kelloggsville Church of the Nazarene we strive to help people grow in holiness. One way we accomplish this is by getting people involved in the ministries of the church. We believe that serving in the church helps a person mature in their faith and grow in holiness.

Each week a team of individuals gather to pack 100 lunches through our Lunchbox Ministry. The lunches are donated to a nonprofit foundation in our community to help provide resources and food for homeless teens. Many people in our congregation have jumped on board with this ministry through donations and participation.

We also gather every Thursday for our group night to engage in God's word, learning what it means and how it applies to us. Each week we've had people from inside and outside of the church join these groups. This is a wonderful opportunity that provides encouragement and accountability to our congregants. We provide a men's group, women's group, children's group, and a group for teens and young adults. It is a wonderful opportunity for people of any age to experience growth in their walk with Christ.

Our Teen Ministry has made the nursing homes in our community their personal mission field. Each quarter, the teens plan an event at our local nursing homes to share the love of Jesus with the residents. This has been a wonderful blessing to those in the nursing home, as well as our teens. We have seen a lot of emotion, love, and tears expressed through this ministry. One of our teens has expressed an interest in making this their calling due to the experience they've had being involved in this ministry. At Kelloggsville Church of the Nazarene, we are blessed to be a part of the "Same Team" with the NCO District and the Kingdom of God. Through prayer, scripture, and serving, we have witnessed the power and work of the Holy Spirit within the lives of God's people. All glory to our Father!



Loudonville

Beth Ann Heath, Elder

Organized: 1933

Pastor Began: 6/13/2021

Address: 507 N. Union St., Loudonville, OH 44842

Pastor Email: bethbheath@gmail.com

Phone: 419-994-3690



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	43	48	42			
Online Worship	10	15	10			
Total Worship Average	53	63	52			
Conversions	5	3	3	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	1	2	World Evangelism	\$4786	Yes
NDI Average	46	33	34	Pensions Benefits	\$1687	Yes
New Nazarenes	1	4	3	MVNU	\$2107	Yes
Membership	62	67	69	District	\$3911	Yes
Total Raised	\$84117	\$88347	\$91055	10% Missions Giving	8.50%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This year has been full of God's blessing and we have seen His hand at work in the lives of those who are a part of our congregation and those in our community.

God is continuing to lead us in connecting to Him, each other, and our community. We have seen God work and move in our congregation and our community, and we are blessed to be a part of it. God is continuing to lead and guide us to be disciples who are making disciples. Our children's ministry continues to grow and deepen their relationship with Christ under the leadership of Pastor Hannah and Ben Leskey. The weekly Bible study at the local Group and Rest Home is now a Parent Affiliate Church called the Home Connections Group.

Some in our congregation or connected to our congregation have been on their journey with Christ for a long time and others have just started in their journey. Our focus for our ministries, our outreach activities, and discipleship is the connection that leads to growth in our relationship with Christ. Wherever we are in our journey, we can and should be growing in Christlikeness.

This year, Sunday School Classes, Bible Studies, Sermons, and conversations before and after church have been connection points. LEGO events, board game nights, laser tag events, water days, and playgroups have also been connection points and events at our church. We had our 5th Annual Family Fun Day and this year even more area churches joined us in putting on a fun, free, family event.

We also celebrated a dream coming true of having our parking lot paved. To celebrate that blessing, we are launching a drive thru prayer ministry for our community this summer. Also this summer, we will be focusing on a different Fruit of the Spirit each week. We know that God will continue to work in and through us as we continue to grow in Christlikeness.



Mansfield Heart City

Jacob Michael Booher, Elder

Maddie Elise Booher, Elder

Organized: 2022

Address: 675 Straub Rd., Mansfield, OH 44904

Phone: 419-520-7135

Co-Pastors Began: 6/1/2020

Pastor Email: jmbooher13@gmail.com; melathrop94@gmail.com



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	45	47	43			
Online Worship	10	19	18			
Total Worship Average	55	66	61			
Conversions	6	5	3	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	3	4	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	73	53	43	Pensions Benefits	\$0	No
New Nazarenes	0	8	1	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	34	37	39	District	\$900	No
Total Raised	\$65809	\$69902	\$83214	10% Missions Giving	0.00%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

The Lord has been faithful this church year! We have seen God work in incredible ways to bring souls back to Him. We got to celebrate as three people gave their lives to Jesus Christ! We were also encouraged by the five individuals that professed entire sanctification!! But the pastors didn't do this work alone—we were bolstered by an amazing church full of people who are daily sharing the hope of Jesus, thanks to our emphasis on being the light. As we work together to bring souls into God's Kingdom, we are reminded that we are all on the SAME TEAM. If there is a victory for God's Kingdom, that means it is a victory for our church.

We have also gotten to partner with a bunch of organizations that are doing Kingdom work. We got to partner with Unstoppable Sports and share hope and encouragement to kids with disabilities. We got to build a partnership with Rosi C Ranch and begin to support a ministry that is helping to bring healing to kids with trauma. We got to join with the juvenile court judge as he gets ready to launch his Family Stability Initiative to empower churches to be on the front lines of family preservation in our county. We got to engage in evangelism and discipleship opportunities at Mansfield Christian School thanks to the ministries of Pastor Scott and Billie Maglott. We were even on the receiving end of Kingdom generosity as we received a grant from the Oldham Little Church Foundation to help us repair our failing air conditioning systems.

When the church works together, we are capable of far more than we could ever achieve as individuals. We are honored to be a part of this district, of the Nazarene Church, and most importantly, of God's church. We can't wait to see what God has in store for his little chunk of the Kingdom here in Mansfield in the coming years. God is good!



Marion First

Stephen M. Estep, Elder

Organized: 1913

Address: 233 W. Church St., Marion, OH 43302

Phone: 740-383-6021

Pastor Began: 6/4/2017

Pastor Email: sestep@marionnaz.org



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	711	741	818			
Online Worship	27	517	305			
Total Worship Average	738	1258	1123			
Conversions	164	196	234	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	42	56	51	World Evangelism	\$64268	Yes
NDI Average	330	419	455	Pensions Benefits	\$23370	Yes
New Nazarenes	11	10	15	MVNU	\$29470	Yes
Membership	860	750	737	District	\$54336	Yes
Total Raised	\$1244727	\$1308830	\$1232837	10% Missions Giving	5.83%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

After more than a year of praying and pursuing God, in January of 2026 we introduced a new mission/vision. At MarionNaz,

We are OBSESSED with Jesus.

Being with him.

Becoming like him.

Doing as he did.

Every time we gather, we give the opportunity for people to say their first yes or next yes in pursuit of an all-encompassing obsession with Jesus. It is happening. Every week we are celebrating salvations. Every month we are celebrating baptisms. We have developed clear next steps and people are taking them. We are equipping new believers and seasoned followers of Jesus in the practices that Jesus modeled. Accountability groups are growing in number and flourishing in impact. We are praying with and for each other. People are becoming like Jesus, and it is showing up in their desire to serve God and each other. New volunteers have been added in every area of ministry. We are growing in generosity. We are praying for our neighbors. We are praying at city council and county commissioner meetings. We are praying in our schools. We are striving to love our city. We are living on mission in Marion.

Some highlights in 2025-2026 include children and teens getting immersed in the Word through quizzing. We had a great season of 21 days of prayer and fasting. Many have implemented fasting as a weekly practice. We are teaching children, teens, and adults the way of Jesus. Our recovery ministry is thriving. The alignment across every age group is stronger than it has ever been. We welcomed Worship Pastor Ben Call to the MarionNaz family and Matt Gossard became our Recovery Pastor. We hosted the 2nd annual State of the City event. We hosted nearly 500 teenagers at an ecumenical worship event. 2 of our folks who received a call to ministry at MarionNaz are being ordained this year. We are blessed to be on the same team with the churches, pastors, and people of the NCO District.



Mother's Day Prayer Teen quizzers
Children's quizzers



Marion Life Link

Organized: 2001

Address: 248 Olney Ave., Marion, OH 43302

Phone: 740-387-6822

Rhonda Reese Purtee, Elder

Pastor Began: 6/4/2017

Pastor Email: rhondapurtee@yahoo.com



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	20	18	15			
Online Worship	7	8	9			
Total Worship Average	27	26	24			
Conversions	4	2	5	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	2	0	0	World Evangelism	\$4307	Yes
NDI Average	44	43	39	Pensions Benefits	\$1567	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	1	1	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	44	44	45	District	\$3642	Yes
Total Raised	\$90882	\$96090	\$78306	10% Missions Giving	5.82%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Marion Life Link believes that growth happens best in community, so the thread of building and maintaining relationships is woven through everything we do. Whether it's being the place where everybody knows your name - rides to medical appointments - groceries delivered - in-person tech support - sharing a washer & dryer with apartment dwellers - cards of encouragement - calls to check-in - texting links for songs/scriptures that speak to a known situation – worshipping together – praying for each other – joining in communion together – studying the Word, this is a congregation of people on the same team.

With the poverty rate in Marion County over 16% and 19% of our county's kids living in a household lacking consistent access to adequate food, our Hines Market Food Pantry is an essential means for us to build relationships with our community. This year allowed us to provide over 34,000 meals to our neighbors. Especially exciting to see is when those who have been served return to serve others, choose to move into relationship with Jesus, and participate in corporate worship and spiritual practices. We currently have an individual working through the membership process, to join the team, who we met initially as a client to this ministry.

Encouraging and modeling participation in the disciplines of personal and corporate prayer, scripture reading, and living in rhythm with the liturgical calendar has been a multi-year commitment. It continues to produce ever deepening roots and a sturdy faith that withstands life's storms. In the midst of a culture deeply divided, much economic uncertainty, hard diagnoses, and challenging family situations, it is inspiring to watch team members extend forgiveness before apologies are offered, give faithfully, generously, cheerfully, and sacrificially, serve in hard and thankless areas, celebrate and encourage each other in wins and losses, and give testimony of God's transforming work in their lives. One of our regular attendees, active in our recovery ministry, was helping with custodial tasks and ran across a left-over book from our Lenten Bible Study. He commented to another volunteer on how significant those studies have been for his growth over the past 5 years. Last week he asked to begin the membership process and officially join the team. He testifies that after a number of years of ups and downs in his Christian walk, he has surrendered fully to a deeper work of grace and knows his heart is changed.



Medina

Peter J. Ryder, Elder

Organized: 1941

Pastor Began: 12/1/2002

Address: 6901 Wooster Pike, Medina, OH 44256

Pastor Email: ryder@medinanazarene.org

Phone: 330-722-7683



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	70	68	71			
Online Worship	30	30	50			
Total Worship Average	100	98	121			
Conversions	0	6	14	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	3	2	11	World Evangelism	\$10021	Yes
NDI Average	34	34	31	Pensions Benefits	\$4081	Yes
New Nazarenes	3	3	0	MVNU	\$5101	Yes
Membership	78	72	72	District	\$9487	Yes
Total Raised	\$224455	\$212562	\$215698	10% Missions Giving	6.48%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

We have seen many people come to faith in Jesus this year – **14 conversions** and **11 baptisms** – a record year in the 85-year history of the Medina Church! We are praising God as He has worked in people’s lives of all ages.

We have continued to reach our community through several **events**...

- Vacation Bible School keeps adding new people year after year.
- We assisted our local township in hosting the community Easter Egg Hunt, reaching hundreds of families.
- A ‘School’s Out Cookout’ at the end of May gave us a chance to invite folks to enjoy a family-friendly worship service and a celebration with inflatables, food, games and more.

Classes and **groups** are a great way we help people take next steps in their relationship with God. In addition to Sunday morning classes, life groups have met throughout the year for study, growth and support. Our **newly formed Men’s Prayer Breakfast** came about directly from one of our men who sensed God calling him during time in a life group to lead this new ministry.

At Medina Naz, we are seeing people deepen their faith, obey God’s direction, and trust Him with their lives! It’s our mission: ***We Live to Love People to Life!*** We’re on the **SAME TEAM!**



Mount Gilead Fresh Faith

James Robert “Bob” Hess, Elder

Organized: 2011

Pastor Began: 1/14/2024

Address: 4444 State Route 95, Mount Gilead, OH 43338

Pastor Email: pastorbobhess@gmail.com

Phone: 419-751-7065



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	81	70	71			
Online Worship	30	28	36			
Total Worship Average	111	98	107			
Conversions	4	10	10	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	7	6	World Evangelism	\$981	No
NDI Average	93	77	72	Pensions Benefits	\$357	No
New Nazarenes	2	9	6	MVNU	\$366	No
Membership	135	138	139	District	\$686	No
Total Raised	\$153857	\$154968	\$131600	10% Missions Giving	1.95%	

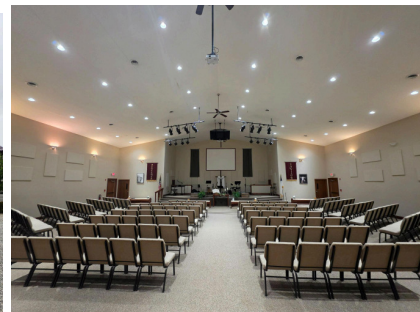
Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Fresh Faith Community Church has been leaning into this year’s theme, “Same Team,” by focusing on how we help people take their next steps in discipleship together. Over the past year, we have begun rolling out a clearer discipleship pathway built around four simple movements: Gather, Grow, Give, and Go. Our desire is not simply to add programs, but to help people understand that following Jesus is a lifelong journey of being formed into His likeness through the grace of God, the work of the Holy Spirit, and the life of the church.

One highlight from this year has been the introduction of this discipleship pathway as a simple and memorable way to help people identify their next step with Jesus. Gather reminds us that we are called into worship and community. Grow points us toward spiritual maturity, holiness, and Christlike transformation. Give encourages every person to use their gifts in service to God and others. Go reminds us that disciples are sent into everyday life to share the hope of Christ. This pathway has begun shaping our preaching, leadership conversations, ministry planning, and the way we invite people to engage more intentionally in the life and mission of the church.

A second major highlight has been the establishment of a new church work at Hidden Lakes called Campfire Community. Campfire Community was formed in partnership with another local congregation with the mission of “Seeking wholeness and community through Christ.” This new work is allowing us to reach people in a setting outside the walls of our church building, especially those who may not yet feel connected to a traditional church environment. Through worship, relationships, prayer, and intentional presence, Campfire Community is creating space for people to encounter Jesus, experience Christian community, and begin taking meaningful steps toward healing, faith, and discipleship.

We are grateful for the ways God is helping Fresh Faith Community take steps toward renewed mission and deeper discipleship. We believe the Lord is reminding us that we are truly on the same team—serving one Christ, pursuing one mission, and helping one another become holy people who know, love, and share Jesus.



Mount Vernon First

Joseph Proudfoot, Elder

Organized: 1922

Pastor Began: 10/1/2019

Address: 807 Coshocton Ave., Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Pastor Email: jproudfoot@firstnaz.net

Phone: 740-392-8466



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	473	548	637			
Online Worship	157	197	231			
Total Worship Average	630	745	868			
Conversions	115	128	94	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	21	41	43	World Evangelism	\$61902	Yes
NDI Average	324	322	372	Pensions Benefits	\$22587	Yes
New Nazarenes	17	30	15	MVNU	\$30217	Yes
Membership	640	665	680	District	\$50530	Yes
Total Raised	\$1036581	\$1020605	\$1199509	10% Missions Giving	8.06%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Over this church year, our theme has been “Same Team,” and we have witnessed God working powerfully through every ministry of our church as we unite around one mission — making Christlike disciples and helping people take their next steps toward holiness and sanctification. We remain deeply grateful for the many faithful volunteers, leaders, and staff members who continue serving together to build the Kingdom of God.

One of the clearest ways we are seeing discipleship take place is through life transformation. This Easter season alone, we celebrated 19 baptisms. Throughout this church year, we have celebrated 42 baptisms total. Nearly every month, we are seeing people surrender their lives to Christ, publicly declare their faith, and begin growing in their walk with Jesus. We are witnessing marriages restored, addictions overcome, and hurting people finding healing and hope through Christ.

A second highlight has been the growth of our children’s and youth ministries. Our children’s ministry has seen significant attendance growth, with many new families becoming connected through our Upward sports ministry. One family that first attended through Upward recently experienced a complete life transformation — both parents accepted Christ, were baptized, and dedicated their children to the Lord. In our youth ministry, dozens of teenagers have begun attending regularly, many making decisions for Christ and being baptized. Several entire families are now attending because their teenagers first connected through the youth ministry.

A third highlight has been our continued outreach to the community through the Foster Ministry Center. Through weekly hot meals and our backpack ministry partnership with local schools - Danville and East Knox schools, we are meeting practical needs while demonstrating the love of Jesus in tangible ways.

At First Church, we continue to believe that every number represents a person and every person has a story. This year our worship attendance is up, we launched more small groups, celebrated a team appreciation night, and saw a 13% increase in giving. What a great year. We know there is more to come. This coming year, we are prayerfully planning the launch of our Lexington Campus, adding a 3rd service to accommodate growth in attendance, starting a Celebrate Recovery service, and launching a daycare. We praise God for all He is doing and look forward with expectation to the year ahead.



Mount Vernon Lakeholm

Scott E. Sharpes, Elder

Organized: 1970

Pastor Began: 8/28/2011

Address: 16001 Glen Rd., Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Pastor Email: pastor@lakeholm.org

Phone: 740-397-1105



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	158	198	233			
Online Worship	87	117	129			
Total Worship Average	245	315	362			
Conversions	12	11	4	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	6	5	10	World Evangelism	\$39909	Yes
NDI Average	210	191	208	Pensions Benefits	\$13540	Yes
New Nazarenes	4	9	8	MVNU	\$16905	Yes
Membership	451	458	462	District	\$31442	Yes
Total Raised	\$618571	\$673500	\$716160	10% Missions Giving	10.66%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

At Pentecost, the disciples gathered together in prayer and expectation, waiting for the promise of the Holy Spirit. And when the Spirit came, He brought people from every background together into one body, one family, and one mission. Later, Peter declared in Acts 15:8-9 that God “made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.” That scripture reminds us the Church was never meant to be divided into separate groups or generations doing their own thing. We are on the same team, helping people find their place in the story of God.

That has really been the heart behind discipleship at Lakeholm this year.

Through our “Made for More” preaching emphasis, we have reminded people that salvation is not simply about escaping sin or just “getting by” spiritually. God has called us to holiness, deeper surrender, and becoming the people He created us to be.

Week after week, through the preaching of the Word, we have encouraged believers to pursue Christlike character and Spirit-filled living. Holiness is not reserved for a few spiritually mature Christians; it is God’s invitation to all of us as we walk together in faith.

We also see discipleship happening intentionally through our LSM youth discipleship ministry and our children’s ministries. In classrooms, camps, small groups, and everyday conversations, young people are learning that following Jesus means more than attending church. It means learning to pray, study Scripture, serve others, and faithfully live for Christ each day. None of that happens by accident. It takes pastors, teachers, parents, volunteers, and church members all working together on the same team to help guide the next generation toward Christ.

At the same time, God continues to bring new people into our church family. Through Discipleship 101, new believers are learning the foundations of the Christian faith and discovering what it means to follow Jesus day by day. One of the greatest joys this year has been seeing people baptized and watching them begin to grow as followers of Christ. Those moments remind us why discipleship matters.

Discipleship is not just another church program; it is the mission of the Church. Together, empowered by the same Holy Spirit who came at Pentecost, we continue serving on the same team here at Lakeholm and across our NCO District helping people discover God’s grace, grow in holiness, and find their place in His story.



Mount Vernon New Life

Troy C. McNichols, Elder

Organized: 1985

Address: 665 Harcourt Rd., Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Phone: 740-393-0880

Pastor Began: 5/15/2001

Pastor Email: troy@newlifenz.net



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	613	623	674			
Online Worship	18	14	23			
Total Worship Average	631	637	697			
Conversions	15	51	43	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	35	17	24	World Evangelism	\$77188	Yes
NDI Average	183	220	271	Pensions Benefits	\$28070	Yes
New Nazarenes	15	5	10	MVNU	\$35087	Yes
Membership	251	255	258	District	\$65259	Yes
Total Raised	\$1232627	\$1280842	\$1449928	10% Missions Giving	6.57%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2

Corinthians 7:1)

Below are just A FEW of the many great things that God is doing through the ministry of New Life Church. Every week 130+ kids are part of Kid Life ministries between Sundays and Wednesdays. 45 kids accepted Jesus as Savior in 2025! Also, multiple families shared with us that they haven't been able to attend church before because their child has significant needs. Our Buddies team stepped in and each of those families now regularly attend celebration services. Kids are growing in their faith, digging into God's word and finding hope in Jesus. Every single week! Life Groups, families, and other groups of people have chosen to say yes to committing to serve our bus riders dinner on Wednesday nights. Oh, and we have 20-30 bus kids with little to no church connection who attend Kid Life every Wednesday.

Middle School students have regularly sought to be like Jesus through our monthly nights of serving...they have cared for the elderly, homeless, widows, teachers, their peers and community. We started a Middle School program on Sunday mornings (JAM: Jesus And Me) for students to build a foundation for growing in Christ, while still gathering and celebrating with the larger church family.

HS Life has experienced great God moments this year. Summer camps, Winter Wave, Glow Nights, Prayer nights, Tuesday Hangouts, McDonalds runs, etc. Our leadership team has more than doubled in the last year. Our HS attendance has grown over 50% from this time last year. Also, we took 77 MS/HS students and leaders on our winter retreat for a powerful weekend of seeking Jesus.

God is blessing the All Out Sports ministry we lead in the community. Over the course of this past volleyball season alone, 37 girls made the decision to follow Jesus. A record 70 players completed the P3 devotional program, meaning the Gospel was going home with families every single week. Spring Soccer is now underway with 285 registered players, the highest number ever.



A parenting group wrapped up this spring with roughly 35 parents participating, exploring what it looks like to be the most important influence in their child's life. This is "Hope for Generations" happening in real time.

Senior Life (empty nesters and up) is off to a great start. Their first event brought together 41 people. It is wonderful to see this community growing and feeling valued.

And yes, folks continue to be saved, baptized, fully surrendered and discipled throughout the year. All glory goes to God!



Mount Vernon SOUL

Kassandra Lynne Spurell, District Licensed Minister

Organized: New Start

Pastor Began: 7/12/2025

Address: (mail: 9520 Laymon Rd., Gambier, OH 43022)

Pastor Email: soulnazchurch@gmail.com

Phone: 740-390-0172

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

SOUL (Signs of Unconditional Love) Church launched September 7th, 2025. This ministry aims to provide accessibility to the Gospel for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals and their families. This last year we saw the addition of an interpreter, Rachel Quinn, to the ministry. She has been an invaluable asset. Rachel and her husband recently bought a home in Michigan and are moving. We will miss them dearly, but know that God will provide for them and for our ministry, too. In the months ahead we will be seeking out additional sign support in the ministry.



We have had engagement online from Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, and Pastor Kassandra has continued to make contacts both on the district and field levels to develop and encourage accessibility across ministries and platforms on the East Central Field. The reach has been beyond Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals.

Several months ago, a woman began attending because she wanted language immersion and modeling as she is learning ASL for a co-worker. She heard we had interpreted services from a member of our church. She began coming for language exposure but is now hearing the Gospel preached and engaging more in our worship time.

Currently, Kassandra is working on a video project for discipleship materials to be launched as an online and in-person Sunday School class in the fall. We are looking forward to beginning quarterly gatherings with our Deaf individuals across the district in the months ahead, starting with district assembly. It is a privilege to serve the Lord and His people. Though this particular ministry presents challenges to in-person outreach, we believe the Lord has equipped and called for such a time as this. As we continue to get off the ground, we need and appreciate faithful prayers from God's people. This community is largely unreached for the Gospel due to accessibility barriers in communication. The need is great, but the grace is greater as we look ahead.



Mount Vernon The Shepherd's House

Carrie Faith Taylor, Elder

Organized: 2011

Address: 102 W. Ohio Ave., Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Phone: 740-263-6096

Pastor Began: 3/1/2025

Pastor Email: cfaithtaylor@gmail.com



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	45	19	27			
Online Worship	4	2	2			
Total Worship Average	49	21	29			
Conversions	0	0	0	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	2	0	0	World Evangelism	\$2093	Yes
NDI Average	49	19	27	Pensions Benefits	\$761	Yes
New Nazarenes	1	0	0	MVNU	\$951	Yes
Membership	25	28	26	District	\$1770	Yes
Total Raised	\$44143	\$47063	\$41666	10% Missions Giving	11.39%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This year was one of great surprises and growth at The Shepherd's House!

In June, our lead pastor got a call for a surprise adoptive placement. This was the beginning of a bit of a baby boom for us as we are celebrating three new children in our church!

In the spring, we wanted to focus on serving one of our local elementary schools. We provided each teacher with a bag of treats and an Amazon gift card during Teacher Appreciation Week.

We also found ways to show that we are on the "same team" with other local churches. We did a combined Palm Sunday with the other Nazarene churches in town, plus we've been having lots of combined activities with Faith Lutheran Church, another small church in our community with which we've built a strong relationship.

N. Royalton State Road Community

Philip A. Hurlbert, Elder

Organized: 1961

Address: 8600 State Rd., North Royalton, OH 44133

Phone: 440-237-2344

Pastor Began: 2/5/2007

Pastor Email: philhurlbert@sbcglobal.net



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	48	38	37			
Online Worship	31	61	73			
Total Worship Average	79	99	110			
Conversions	4	3	7	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	5	4	3	World Evangelism	\$485	No
NDI Average	38	50	56	Pensions Benefits	\$208	No
New Nazarenes	2	2	13	MVNU	\$350	No
Membership	154	155	163	District	\$461	No
Total Raised	\$80989	\$77475	\$108923	10% Missions Giving	0.45%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This past year has been full—and not just busy, but meaningful.



From June 2025 to June 2026, we've seen God move in ways that are both visible and deeply personal. There has been a clear sense of unity around who we are and what we're called to do. We've leaned into the idea that we are on the same team—and that has changed how we show up for one another and for our community.

When SNAP benefits were suspended, our church didn't hesitate. We stepped in and began providing weekly community meals. What could have been a gap became an opportunity for presence, care, and consistency. We didn't just meet a need—we built relationships.

We also leaned into mental health in a meaningful way. We hosted several conferences, including Blue Wednesday. These moments created space for honest conversations, healing, and connection—meeting people right where they are.

This year, we received 13 new members by profession of faith—the largest number in our church's history. That's not just a number. That's 13 lives changed. 13 stories of surrender. 13 reminders that God is still drawing people to Himself. Our outreach continued to expand as we collected and distributed more Thanksgiving boxes than ever before. Once again, our church showed that generosity is not just something we talk about—it's who we are.



We also made meaningful improvements to our space. Through volunteer effort and generosity, much of the interior of the church was painted, the landscaping had vast upgrades, and the basement was remodeled—creating a more welcoming, functional environment for ministry and connection.

Inside our walls, worship has been marked by authenticity and hunger. People are taking real steps—serving, giving, growing, and leading. There is momentum, not because everything has been easy, but because we've chosen to move forward together. Through it all—meals served, tears shed, prayers prayed, and lives changed—one thing has remained clear:

We are on the same team and God is not finished with us yet.

Orrville Now

Terry Wayne Passmore, Elder

Organized: 2026

Pastor Began: 2/1/2026

Address: 1235 Back Massillon Rd., Orrville, OH 44667

Pastor Email: pastorpassmore12@gmail.com

Phone: 330-683-3391



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	278	265	208			
Online Worship	800	1225	375			
Total Worship Average	1078	1490	583			
Conversions	122	45	28	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	33	23	6	World Evangelism	\$2235	No
NDI Average	468	361	271	Pensions Benefits	\$1001	No
New Nazarenes	27	5	4	MVNU	\$416	No
Membership	175	177	183	District	\$833	No
Total Raised	\$253326	\$243923	\$240718	10% Missions Giving	1.36%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Over the past church year, God has been abundantly faithful to Orrville Now Church of the Nazarene. His faithfulness has sustained our staff and congregation through significant challenges and seasons of difficulty, which included several serious health difficulties. While there were moments when discouragement could have led us down difficult paths, God continued to guide and strengthen us. Through it all, we have gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be a passionate community in Christ, sharing the good news that God desires to be known, worshiped, and loved, just as He loves us.

One of the highlights of this ministry year was our Friends Day event on May 31. We experienced a record number of classic cars in our car show, a record number of guests on our property, and a record amount of funds raised for our student ministries mission trip campaign. Most importantly, many people heard the gospel message that was shared throughout our church campus and parking lot. As a result, several individuals made first-time commitments to Jesus Christ, and others began asking questions about baptism and next steps in their faith journey. We are humbled and grateful to witness God at work in such powerful ways.

Our church also continues to grow in living out Christ's command to love God and love our neighbors. Through food distribution and delivery programs, as well as partnerships with local civic and community organizations, we have been able to provide practical assistance and support to many families in our area.

Another significant ministry highlight has been our decision to offer an annual sports camp alternative to traditional Vacation Bible School. Recognizing that several churches in our community already provide excellent VBS programs, we sought a unique approach that aligns with our mission of making Christlike disciples. The success of this initiative has encouraged us to continue it annually, with plans already in place for this coming July.

As we reflect on the past year, we are reminded that everything we do and say is intended to help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. To God be all the glory for what He has done and continues to do among us.

Orwell Resurrection Life

Lester A. Bolen, Elder

Organized: 1953

Address: 371 E. Main St., Orwell, OH 44076

Phone: 440 437-2004

Pastor Began: 1/1/2018

Pastor Email: lad3bolen@yahoo.com



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	68	88	88			
Online Worship	15	20	16			
Total Worship Average	83	108	104			
Conversions	3	5	5	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	4	8	4	World Evangelism	\$9683	Yes
NDI Average	22	75	32	Pensions Benefits	\$3522	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	6	5	MVNU	\$4401	Yes
Membership	24	32	38	District	\$8186	Yes
Total Raised	\$109357	\$122615	\$185614	10% Missions Giving	5.72%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

At Resurrection Life we are trying to help people grow by offering Bible studies, men's and women's events and expanding our children's ministry. We are building relationships within the church and are trying to be a witness in our schools, workplaces, and town. We are striving to be disciples of Jesus. We do our best to be there for each other in times of rejoicing as well as sorrow. We are doing our best to be on the same team as we seek to spread the message of Jesus in our community.

Painesville

Brian M. Forney, Elder

Organized: 1937

Pastor Began: 11/26/2017

Address: 6235 Chestnut St., Painesville, OH 44077

Pastor Email: bforney34@gmail.com

Phone: 440-352-3703



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	120	121	80			
Online Worship	22	23	23			
Total Worship Average	142	144	103			
Conversions	4	6	6	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	1	4	0	World Evangelism	\$13581	Yes
NDI Average	120	179	122	Pensions Benefits	\$5018	Yes
New Nazarenes	1	6	0	MVNU	\$6271	Yes
Membership	234	241	240	District	\$11665	Yes
Total Raised	\$296189	\$251501	\$266909	10% Missions Giving	7.47%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Over the past year, we've continued to look for practical ways to help people grow in their relationship with Christ and take the next step in their faith journey. We've been encouraged to see people growing through Bible study, prayer, service, and fellowship opportunities.

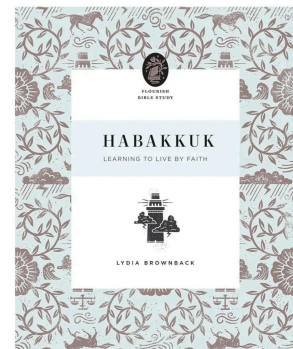
One highlight has been our discipleship and Bible study opportunities. Throughout the year, several classes and groups spent time studying Luke, Hebrews, Acts, Genesis, and Habakkuk. These studies gave people the chance to dig deeper into Scripture, ask questions, learn from one another, and share the specific places where they've seen God at work in their lives.

Another highlight has been our weekly prayer meeting. While not everyone is able to attend, those gatherings have become an important part of our church life. People come together to pray for one another, our church, our community, and the needs around us. These times of prayer and study of scripture have helped strengthen relationships and remind us of our dependence on God as we seek His direction and guidance.

A third highlight has been the many opportunities we've engaged in to build relationships and share the love of Christ in simple, practical ways by serving our community together. In addition to serving in our weekly food pantry, some of our folks faithfully served through our overnight homeless warming shelter ministry, caring for guests during the cold winter months. Others participated in several hot dog outreach opportunities at the park, served through our children's clothing ministry, or helped out with our Say Yes to the Prom Dress event, which provided free dresses and accessories to girls for Prom.

One especially encouraging outcome, has been seeing a number of people who were first introduced to our church through outreach ministries begin attending worship services and becoming involved in the life of the congregation.

We are grateful for the ways God has been at work this past year. As we move forward, we hope to continue creating opportunities for people to grow deeper in their faith, build meaningful relationships, serve others, and become more fully devoted followers of Jesus.



Richmond Heights Hope United

Stephen M. Banks, Elder

Organized: 1956

Pastor Began: 8/21/2005

Address: 499 Trebisky Rd., Richmond Heights, OH 44143

Pastor Email: pastorstephenbanks@gmail.com

Phone: 216-486-6674



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	124	125	152			
Online Worship	30	60	63			
Total Worship Average	154	185	215			
Conversions	20	55	10	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	5	12	2	World Evangelism	\$6286	Yes
NDI Average	170	65	225	Pensions Benefits	\$2412	Yes
New Nazarenes	12	7	5	MVNU	\$3014	Yes
Membership	182	190	196	District	\$5426	Yes
Total Raised	\$126000	\$132000	\$120572	10% Missions Giving	5.50%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Over the past twelve months, God has done remarkable things in the life of Hope United Church. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve and lead during a season marked by growth, unity, and renewed vision. One of the defining moments of this year was the exciting merger with Westlake Parkside, bringing together two church families with a shared mission to help people know and follow Jesus. What could have felt uncertain instead became a testimony of God's faithfulness as He brought people together in unity, strengthened relationships, and expanded our capacity for ministry. We celebrate the overwhelming spirit of cooperation, generosity, and hope that has marked this new chapter.

This year also brought many reasons to rejoice as we witnessed meaningful spiritual growth throughout our church family. From a powerful Easter season filled with worship and celebration to welcoming new faces into our church community, we have seen God moving in tangible ways. Most importantly, we celebrate lives changed through faith in Jesus Christ and the growing momentum of ministry as Hope United continues to become a place of belonging, discipleship, and hope for people of all ages. As we look ahead, we do so with gratitude for what God has done and excitement for what He is still preparing for Hope United.

Sandusky Community

Keith Allen Martinez, Elder

Organized: 1932

Pastor Began: 11/26/2026

Address: 1617 Milan Rd., Sandusky, OH 44870

Pastor Email: kamartinez81@gmail.com

Phone: 419-625-0804



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	221	204	188			
Online Worship	49	83	106			
Total Worship Average	270	287	294			
Conversions	15	3	12	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	11	4	World Evangelism	\$25293	Yes
NDI Average	296	146	182	Pensions Benefits	\$9198	Yes
New Nazarenes	14	7	6	MVNU	\$11497	Yes
Membership	347	347	352	District	\$21384	Yes
Total Raised	\$519822	\$459727	\$489447	10% Missions Giving	6.87%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Over the past year, our ministry has sought to strengthen discipleship, clarify mission, and create meaningful pathways for spiritual growth while continuing to move forward together as members of the **Same Team**.

One significant area of focus was discipleship development. We introduced a three-part class pathway designed to help people engage faith at every stage of their journey. The first class provides an accessible environment for individuals taking their first steps of faith. The second helps believers grow deeper through learning and understanding our Articles of Faith. The third invites participants into a richer understanding of the call to holiness and sanctification. Alongside these additions, we re-worked our overall class offerings to better meet the current needs, schedules, and spiritual questions of our Faith Family. Our preaching ministry also emphasized foundational themes that shape who we are and how we live. Through sermon series focused on **Mission** and **Stewardship**, our church family was challenged to consider both our calling as followers of Christ and our responsibility to faithfully manage the resources, opportunities, and influence God has entrusted to us.

Two ministry highlights particularly stand out from this past year. First, thirteen members of our congregation participated in a short-term mission trip to ARO—Southern Ohio. While the trip itself was impactful, its influence reached beyond the mission field. It sparked a renewed passion for local outreach and inspired an important question within our church family: *“What would it look like for SCCN to be in your corner and love you well?”* That question will shape our mission in the new church year as we seek practical, relational ways to engage and serve our community.

Second, we launched a fundraising campaign to facilitate much-needed building updates. This effort was not simply about facilities, but about stewarding our space in a way that better supports ministry, hospitality, and future opportunities for outreach and discipleship.

As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for God’s faithfulness and for the willingness of our church family to grow, serve, and invest together.

Through discipleship, mission, stewardship, outreach, and vision for the future, we continue moving forward as the **Same Team**, united in purpose and committed to helping people know Christ and grow in Him.



Shelby

Lester R. Champer, Elder

Organized: 1929

Pastor Began: 11/13/1995

Address: 111 E. Whitney Ave., Shelby, OH 44875

Pastor Email: lesterchamper@gmail.com

Phone: 419-342-3496



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	53	51	50			
Online Worship	1005	728	686			
Total Worship Average	1058	779	736			
Conversions	5	10	5	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	4	0	1	World Evangelism	\$7135	Yes
NDI Average	100	35	70	Pensions Benefits	\$2595	Yes
New Nazarenes	6	0	0	MVNU	\$3243	Yes
Membership	108	106	105	District	\$6032	Yes
Total Raised	\$157218	\$156208	\$138956	10% Missions Giving	7.44%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Life had not been easy for Jen. Circumstances that caused continual pain had led her to question God, in fact even if there was one. A failing marriage was at the top of the list of hard circumstances at the time she was asked if she would like to attend a lady's event at our church. The response to the invitation was not a "yes" or "no" but a question to Connie, the lady from our church doing the inviting. The question was, "Do you think I should? Do you think it would help me?" And the response was "yes".

So, Jen came and during the message heard God speaking to her heart that He was who she needed in her life to guide her with all of life's decisions.

The evening's event was life changing for Jen and from that time on she has been in church every time the doors have been open soaking in all that God desires to reveal to her.

The Wednesday night small group Bible study has been extremely helpful in her walk, as for weeks we have been looking at the experience and journey of the sanctified life. I will never forget her words at the point she understood what it meant to say a complete "Yes" to every area of her life. They were "I get it now! That's what I have never done. I need to say a complete "yes" to the throne room of my life to the will of God." It was a beautiful moment for all in attendance that night as everyone got to witness Jen's transformation of a "same team" experience.

The continued journey for Jen has been amazing as people in her life are a public witness to what God has done. They are sharing with her how at peace she now seems and the way she is allowing God to work in her life.

Allowing God to be in control of our lives will always lead to good things!



Strongsville New Hope

Juan Joseph Loreda, Elder

Organized: New Start

Pastor Began: 6/17/2025

Address: (mail: 22529 Trillium Ct., Columbia Station, OH 44028)

Pastor Email: pasnaz24.7@gmail.com

Phone: 260-433-2824

Statistics:	2026			
In person Worship	18			
Online Worship	0			
Total Worship Average	18			
Conversions	2	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	15	Pensions Benefits	\$0	No
New Nazarenes	2	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	5	District	\$0	No
Total Raised	\$3500	10% Missions Giving	0.00%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Strongsville New Hope Church of the Nazarene is pleased to report that since its recent launch as a new church plant, God has faithfully provided the resources necessary to establish and sustain the ministry. Through His provision, God opened the doors of The Avenues Nursing, Rehabilitation, and Memory Care Center, which has graciously provided meeting space for the church on a bi-weekly basis at no cost which eliminates expenses such as rent, utilities, and other overhead costs.

In addition to these blessings, God has been steadily bringing people into the fellowship of this newly planted church. Under the leadership of Pastor Juan Loreda, significant efforts are being made to engage the community with the Good News of God's love and saving grace. Pastor Loreda has been actively visiting neighborhoods, knocking on doors, and building relationships within the community. He has also met with the Lieutenant and Chief of Police in Strongsville to offer his services to the Police Department as a chaplain and pastor.

Furthermore, outreach efforts have extended to young adults at Baldwin Wallace University; as well as to local musicians who may desire to use their gifts and talents in worship ministry. These initiatives reflect the church's commitment to connecting with people of all ages and backgrounds.

As Strongsville New Hope Church continues its mission of serving the community and making its presence known throughout Strongsville, the congregation remains committed to trusting the Lord for His continued guidance and provision. The church looks forward to the opportunities God will provide, including the possibility of securing a permanent facility to call its own.

Sullivan

Howard Russell, Ministry Leader

Organized: 2022

Pastor Began: 11/1/2021

Address: 495 US Highway 224, Sullivan, OH 44880

Pastor Email: howardrussell71@gmail.com

Phone: 419-736-2551



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	31	32	46			
Online Worship	0	0	0			
Total Worship Average	31	32	46			
Conversions	8	8	2	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	3	2	World Evangelism	\$0	No
NDI Average	39	37	53	Pensions Benefits	\$1797	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	2	2	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	42	42	51	District	\$4192	Yes
Total Raised	\$57777	\$56316	\$91066	10% Missions Giving	1.40%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2

Corinthians 7:1)

God meets us at the Sullivan, Ohio Church of the Nazarene.

The spiritual health of Sullivan Church of the Nazarene is a beautiful thing. The culture of our congregation reflects a group of saints that are following, seeking and growing in their relationship with God and with one another.

We gather at each meeting with a spirit that brings strength, harmony and expectation to a world that is facing many unanswered questions.

In our everyday life we encounter friends, family and new acquaintances that observe the fulfilled life lived by our church family. When their friends and family encounter difficulties, they recall the peace and fulfillment observed in the lives of our church family. They hunger for that experience. They come to seek that fulfilled life.

This year we had Carl, the husband of a longtime member, who never came to church. His sister is a Christian and she would often tell him that he needed to get saved. His response was always the same; "No, I don't like the way God treated my mother".

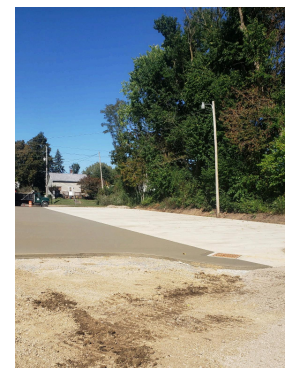
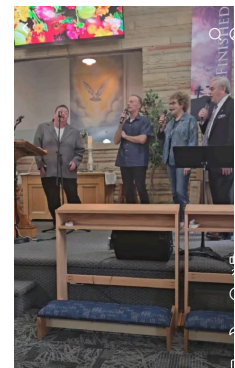
He got seriously sick and was admitted to the hospital. I talked to him and asked if he wanted to go to Heaven. He was too weak to say anything but yes. I prayed with him and addressed his salvation directly. He prayed and responded to me. I asked him if he prayed to get saved. He weakly responded yes. Within 10 hours he died. He went to Heaven.

We also had Treva, a 97-year-old mother of a new attendee. She had become blind in the past 3 years. She had a bitter relationship with her son. Now, he had to come live with her to provide required care. We began praying for Treva. At a visit with her, she prayed. When I asked her if she had received Jesus as Savior she replied yes. Twenty minutes after my last visit and prayer she slipped into Heaven.

We are snatching souls from the gates of hell.

The personal walks of our people are growing deeper and more solid. You can see the level of joy increasing in their lives. God is moving at Sullivan.

The great evangelist Charles Finney came to our area in 1833. Our congregation started in 1838. I suspect that we are a result of the Finney revivals in that era. God's work does not return void.



Sunbury Freedom

Zachary T. Carpenter, Elder

Organized: 1944

Pastor Began: 3/10/2024

Address: 790 N. State Route 61, Sunbury, OH 43074

Pastor Email: pastorzach@freedomnaz.church

Phone: 740-965-2760



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	52	57	70			
Online Worship	15	8	7			
Total Worship Average	67	65	77			
Conversions	0	6	10	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	10	World Evangelism	\$9788	Yes
NDI Average	59	57	56	Pensions Benefits	\$3560	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	0	0	MVNU	\$4440	Yes
Membership	175	175	175	District	\$8890	Yes
Total Raised	\$168743	\$182910	\$185670	10% Missions Giving	8.02%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

This year at Freedom Church, on top of our “WHO’S YOUR ONE” theme with the district, our local church focus has been “Go For It”—stepping out in faith to pursue what God is putting in front of us and not allowing overthinking or hesitation to keep us from obedience. As we move forward together on the “Same Team,” we are seeing people take intentional next steps in discipleship, growing toward lives marked by holiness and full surrender to Jesus.

One of the clearest examples of this has been the launch of PODS (People Observing Discipleship Studies). While still in the early stages, these groups are already bearing meaningful fruit. In my own group with several young men, the level of openness, honesty, and vulnerability has been incredible. As we walk through accountability questions together, there is a strong and growing desire to live fully surrendered lives of integrity and purity. It’s been encouraging to see men challenge and support one another and pursue Jesus more seriously. The Freedom Fuel graphic is a fun way to talk about the mid-week “warm up” when meeting in these smaller groups.

Another highlight was our first Freedom Church Women’s Brunch, where 47 women gathered for a morning of connection, laughter, and encouragement. Our guest speaker was the one and only Kirsten Umphryes from our Cardington Church, and she absolutely crushed it! She shared a powerful message about finding hope in Jesus even when life doesn’t go as planned. As she spoke about navigating Chris’ health battle, while raising a toddler and co-pastoring, there wasn’t a dry eye in the room. Many women who do not attend our church were present—seeds were planted—and those who came left feeling deeply encouraged, valued, and reminded that Jesus never leaves their side.

Finally, we have continued to “go for it” in clearly presenting the Gospel in nearly every service, operating with the mindset: “don’t assume everyone knows Jesus.” We invite people to accept Christ, to return to Him, or fully surrender their lives to Him and to live on mission. On Easter Sunday, after this invitation where many hands were raised, we challenged those who responded to take a bold step forward—and six people came forward publicly. It was a powerful and humbling moment that reflected hearts ready to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

We are so grateful to be part of what God is doing and excited to continue stepping out in faith as we help people take their next steps toward fully following Jesus.



Tiffin

Douglas Lillo, Ministry Leader

Organized: 1931

Pastor Began: 1/21/2024

Address: 777 E. Township Rd. 201, Tiffin, OH 44883

Pastor Email: douglillo@gmail.com

Phone: 419-447-0363



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	40	20	22			
Online Worship	4	3	12			
Total Worship Average	44	23	34			
Conversions	2	8	0	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$3716	Yes
NDI Average	20	31	31	Pensions Benefits	\$1724	Yes
New Nazarenes	2	0	0	MVNU	\$1476	Yes
Membership	38	35	33	District	\$3310	Yes
Total Raised	\$65036	\$39863	\$60368	10% Missions Giving	7.83%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

During this reporting period, Pastor Doug continued to provide faithful leadership through preaching, teaching, discipleship, outreach, and pastoral care. He regularly led Wednesday evening services, prayer meetings, and Bible studies, while presenting a sermon series entitled Who Are You? This series explored Christian identity in Christ and addressed topics such as personal worth, relationships, vocation, stewardship, talents, and spiritual growth. The Gospel message was consistently presented throughout these teachings.

The church remained active in outreach and community engagement. A significant highlight was the Good News Club ministry at Wynford Elementary School, where six children professed faith in Jesus Christ during the school year. The ministry was supported by church volunteers and community partners, demonstrating a strong commitment to reaching the next generation.

Pastor Doug continued to provide pastoral care through visitation, encouragement, and fellowship with church members and families. He also participated in leadership meetings, completed required district reports, and maintained involvement with district and ministry partners.

The congregation hosted and participated in a variety of special events, including guest speakers, evangelistic ministries, musical programs, community fellowship gatherings, and seasonal celebrations. Notable guests included evangelist and author Dr. Daniel Shayesteh and representatives from Child Evangelism Fellowship, who shared ministry opportunities and testimonies of transformed lives.

The church demonstrated a strong spirit of hospitality and service through fellowship events, outreach meals, support for community organizations, and care for grieving families. Members attended special worship experiences together, including a Passion Play presentation, and enjoyed opportunities for fellowship throughout the year.

Pastor Doug also served beyond the local church through Child Evangelism Fellowship's Christian Youth in Action training, where he ministered as a mission pastor and chapel speaker, helping equip young people for evangelistic ministry.

Additional blessings during the year included the complete retirement of the church's district debt through a generous anonymous donation and continued partnerships with ministry organizations that support evangelism and discipleship.

Overall, the reporting period was marked by faithful biblical teaching, effective outreach, meaningful pastoral ministry, spiritual growth, and ongoing opportunities to share the Gospel within the church and the broader community.

Vermilion

David R. Johnson, Elder

Organized: 1960

Pastor Began: 1/6/1986

Address: 14907 Kneisel Rd., Vermilion, OH 44089

Pastor Email: djohnson34068@roadrunner.com

Phone: 440-320-8567



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	21	25	25			
Online Worship	30	35	35			
Total Worship Average	51	60	60			
Conversions	10	3	6	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	2	0	4	World Evangelism	\$1500	No
NDI Average	14	16	15	Pensions Benefits	\$1315	No
New Nazarenes	0	0	0	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	70	68	68	District	\$0	No
Total Raised	\$65829	\$61556	\$69663	10% Missions Giving	2.98%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Greetings from the Vermilion Church of the Nazarene! We are so excited to be working with all of you on the same team!!! We have had a wonderful year watching our Children's Ministry grow, especially in Children's Quizzing. What a great year! They have done a wonderful job and we are hoping they will continue to grow in their knowledge of the Bible. This little group of kids will someday be the future of our church and we want to encourage them every step of the way. I so enjoy having them in the services and singing at the top of their lungs on Sunday mornings. What a blessing they are to our church.

I also wanted to share with you how this past September we had a Baptism service in our Sanctuary! We had 3 adults and one of our kids who were baptized and what a beautiful service it was. The three young adults, the future of our church!!!

God is putting together for us a future ministry just north of the church across the creek that goes behind our property. There are 180 family apartments being built and we are working with the Township on how we can put a bridge across the creek so the families can walk to church from their apartments. We are working on how we can build that walking bridge and open up our church to reach new families for the Kingdom of God!! We will keep you posted on what happens as we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit!

We can't wait to see what God is going to do as we open our hearts and our church to minister to those who come through our doors!! "Loving God, loving people, and discipling others to follow and serve Jesus!"



Wadsworth

Robert L. McCabe, Elder

Organized: 1926

Pastor Began: 3/10/2025

Address: 743 High St., Wadsworth, OH 44281-1956

Pastor Email: bmccabe@ncmi.org

Phone: 330-336-4258



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	100	70	82			
Online Worship	10	65	100			
Total Worship Average	110	135	182			
Conversions	4	1	1	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	4	0	13	World Evangelism	\$12764	Yes
NDI Average	160	77	56	Pensions Benefits	\$4776	Yes
New Nazarenes	5	0	1	MVNU	\$5801	Yes
Membership	71	70	70	District	\$10525	Yes
Total Raised	\$243161	\$245417	\$245422	10% Missions Giving	6.46%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

This past year at Wadsworth Nazarene has been a year of celebration, growth, and seeing Jesus move in powerful ways. As the church has celebrated 100 years of ministry, the focus was not just on remembering the past, but also on recognizing what God is doing right now. This year reminded us that Wadsworth Nazarene is not finished. Jesus is still changing lives, bringing families, and preparing the church for a fresh work.

One of the biggest steps this year was launching Drive-Thru Prayer. From May through October, the church prayed with 84 people, and six families visited because of that ministry. T.O.W.N. events also helped the church connect with the community in a new way. What started with around 50 people grew to 200 people at the final event. That is something worth celebrating. The church also saw new ministries and discipleship opportunities begin. J21 Young Adults gave young adults a place to gather and grow. "The Walk" brought men and women together for discipleship through the summer. Children and youth were poured into through VBS, quizzing, and faithful leaders who gave their time and love. VBS averaged around 30 kids each night, and in August, 13 people were baptized. That is not just activity — that is life change.

This year also brought new ways to reach people. The church website was built and now connects the church's online presence, averaging around 300 views a month to the website. Wadsworth Nazarene joined the Chamber of Commerce, and through a simple podcast interview, a family began attending the church. The church also launched Pastor Unpacked, a podcast designed to help people get a glimpse of the heart and mission of Wadsworth Nazarene.

Last year, the average Sunday morning attendance was 70. This year, the average grew to 82, with at least 20 new people becoming part of the church family. We have 110 people coming through the doors. People are coming because the church is expecting Jesus to move. People are inviting because they believe Jesus is doing something.

This past year was a foundation year. It was a celebration year. And now, Wadsworth Nazarene is being called to raise the standard and believe Jesus for even more.



Warsaw

Kenneth T. Eash & Lorraine Eash, Deacons

Organized: 1932

Address: PO Box 235, Warsaw, OH 43844

Phone: 607-2337-8230

Pastor Began: Interim

Pastor Email: ken@eashfamily.com

Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	12	15	18			
Online Worship	0	0	0			
Total Worship Average	12	15	18			
Conversions	0	0	0	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	0	0	3	World Evangelism	\$2320	Yes
NDI Average	0	0	4	Pensions Benefits	\$844	Yes
New Nazarenes	3	2	1	MVNU	\$1160	Yes
Membership	30	33	15	District	\$2150	Yes
Total Raised	\$25785	\$31708	\$46678	10% Missions Giving	9.58%	

Report to the Assembly: How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)

Our theme this year on the NCO District is **"WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM" THE JESUS TEAM!** Our goal is to see folks come to Jesus, and then become LIKE Jesus.

This has been an exciting year in our Warsaw Church of the Nazarene. We've seen a **numerical growth** in attendance.

One couple **bought a vehicle** from their neighbor, they invited him to come to church with them, and he's been coming to church ever since.

We are known as "the small church with a big heart." When we decided to **help a family fund a service dog** for their daughter, we increased by seven people!

Once every couple months we **fellowship together** at the local diner. We got to know one waitress quite well. When she had her baby, we got to **shower her** with baby items, being the hands and feet of Jesus to her. God has been blessing us in many other ways. Our tithes and offerings have increased also. We were able to redo our **white columns** in front of the church. We had also remodeled the **bathroom**. This summer we'll be using **our pavilion** for several outdoor events, concerts and church services. This way we let the community know God is working in Warsaw Church of the Nazarene!

We've been able to contribute to **several local ministries**: Embrace Grace, LifeWise, and Mission Aviation Fellowship in Coshocton.

We have also started a **new prayer group** praying for our children and grandchildren. I recently heard it said, **"IF OUR CHILDREN MISS HEAVEN, NONE OF THIS OTHER STUFF MATTERS" AMEN**

We are receiving five **new members** coming in by faith this summer!! Last year we would have about 8 cars parked out front of the church, now there are usually at least 12!! We've also been having fun handing out the "little Jesuses" to those we meet in the community.

We can't wait for District Assembly to hear and see what else God is doing in North Central Ohio through the CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE.



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE--PAVILION
117 Bridge Street, WARSAW, OHIO
SUMMER OUTDOOR GOSPEL MUSIC SERIES
6:00 pm (bring your lawn chair)

Sunday, May 17
Larry Wilson God & Country

Sunday, June 14
Persuaded

Sunday, July 19
Hamilton Road

Sunday, August 16
Helmsmen Quartet of Ohio

Sunday, September 13
Tribute To Harmony

GOSPEL HILL CONCERTS
Saturdays at 7:00 pm

June 13--Calvary's Love
June 27--Hallmark Quartet
July 11--Sojourner Quartet
July 25--Gospel Hill Singers
August 8--Gospel Harmony Boys
August 22--Victory Trio
September 5--New Promise

*Concerts will be held--rain (in church) or shine (in pavilion)
*A generous love offering will be accepted at each service for the visiting group.
FMI: Ken Eash 607.237.8230



West Lafayette Living Faith

James A. Lillo, Elder

Organized: 1927

Pastor Began: 2/12/1999

Address: 21066 State Route 751, West Lafayette, OH 43845

Pastor Email: pjlillo@yahoo.com

Phone: 740-545-6407



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	58	62	75			
Online Worship	0	0	0			
Total Worship Average	58	62	75			
Conversions	6	5	10	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	13	9	10	World Evangelism	\$7260	No
NDI Average	71	87	117	Pensions Benefits	\$2680	Yes
New Nazarenes	3	4	0	MVNU	\$0	No
Membership	96	100	100	District	\$6230	Yes
Total Raised	\$123502	\$121955	\$139373	10% Missions Giving	5.77%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Last year we experienced over \$ 20,000.00 dollars worth of vandalism at the church - all the doors and windows were broken into, exposing the church to the fall weather. The congregation showed up in full force. By the end of the first day, it was temporarily dried out and usable for service. Within 4 months it was restored back to normal. The unity we saw was amazing, and oh how the Lord used it to draw us closer together and to make us stronger. We are reminded that He who called is faithful and will also do it.

Westlake Parkside

Stephen M. Banks, Elder

Organized: 1932

Pastor Began: 4/1/2026

Address: 23600 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, OH 44145

Pastor Email: pastorstephenbanks@gmail.com

Phone: 440-333-3998



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	32	24	70			
Online Worship	5	9	10			
Total Worship Average	37	33	80			
Conversions	2	1	0	<u>Funding the Mission</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	World Evangelism	\$6184	Yes
NDI Average	83	53	42	Pensions Benefits	\$2289	Yes
New Nazarenes	0	0	3	MVNU	\$2849	Yes
Membership	101	99	100	District	\$5280	Yes
Total Raised	\$113412	\$119610	\$113924	10% Missions Giving	8.19%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

After the sudden loss of Pastor Don Lain, the church began praying for guidance. After 5 months of praying, the church began a slow process of merging with Hope United which became official in May. Over this year we have seen new people come to church and the joy of worship has returned. We are so thankful of what our God can do and are excited about our future.

Willard

James Damon Pomerich, Elder

Organized: 1941

Address: 4414 Townline Rd. 12, Willard, OH 44890

Phone: 419-935-4851

Pastor Began: 12/1/2020

Pastor Email: pomerich@gmail.com



Statistics:	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>			
In person Worship	110	119	138			
Online Worship	12	28	40			
Total Worship Average	122	137	178			
Conversions	13	18	11	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	24	13	19	World Evangelism	\$12437	Yes
NDI Average	104	106	74	Pensions Benefits	\$4558	Yes
New Nazarenes	6	16	18	MVNU	\$5520	Yes
Membership	134	152	173	District	\$11221	Yes
Total Raised	\$200563	\$215219	\$218125	10% Missions Giving	7.14%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Holiness often starts with prayer. Prayer is where we come into His presence and align ourselves to His will. It starts with worship and throwing our crowns down before Him. In this process, He sets us apart and calls us to join Him in building His Kingdom and seeing mankind reconciled to Himself. To that end, we make sure prayer is the first and most prominent part of everything we do. This year we added two additional times of corporate prayer.

In addition to prayer, we have tried to increase our discipleship opportunities by starting small groups in addition to our normal Bible studies. We had a good initial start to small groups. We saw new people step up and take on roles in these groups. I think we are learning what works and does not work and how important accountability is in these groups. We hope to improve on small groups in the coming year.

With growth comes opportunities to testify. At times, we have made room in our worship services to allow people to share what God is doing. 19 people were baptized and gave people a visible image of being raised from death to life in Christ. We also took a month of Wednesday nights to testify of times that God was faithful during tough seasons of life.

We also preach on holiness and call people to it. This year we are taking a journey preaching through the Bible and seeing God's call to holiness throughout time. With holiness comes a heart bent towards mission. We call people to officially join this body of Christ and the work that it is called to do. This year 22 people said they wanted to be on the same team and join in this great mission. To God be all glory!



Wooster

Nathan P. Ward, Elder

Organized: 1927

Pastor Began: 5/1/1995

Address: 3100 Oak Hill Rd., Wooster, OH 44691

Pastor Email: taylor@woosterchurch.org

Phone: 330-262-1471



Statistics:	2024	2025	2026			
In person Worship	1159	1214	1294			
Online Worship	386	391	426			
Total Worship Average	1545	1605	1720			
Conversions	26	40	42	Funding the Mission	Paid	Goal
Baptisms	43	60	109	World Evangelism	\$143782	Yes
NDI Average	2503	1929	1907	Pensions Benefits	\$52285	Yes
New Nazarenes	51	34	59	MVNU	\$65355	Yes
Membership	1235	1257	1310	District	\$121561	Yes
Total Raised	\$2414527	\$2574018	\$2749379	10% Missions Giving	5.82%	

Report to the Assembly: *How is your church helping individuals take their next steps toward holiness? (2 Corinthians 7:1)*

Some time ago, we developed a "Vision Frame" that consists of four sides: mission, values, strategy, and measures. Our mission statement is "Loving God, Loving People, and Living Transformed." "Living Transformed" is the daily reality of a fully surrendered and holy life. On our spiritual growth journey, there's always ... "more to come!" We never arrive until we draw our first breath in heaven!

At Wooster Naz, we believe and teach that a fully surrendered holy life is evidenced when we choose to genuinely pray, declare, and live out these heart-piercing and convicting words of Jesus: "Father, bring glory to your name!" [John 12:28a] This is a free-will sacrifice that always honors Him!

We are to live out this life-calling in community, not in isolation, "Team Wooster." Loving God and loving people becomes a private and public daily reality of belonging, believing, and becoming. We call this "palms up living" ... a permanent posture of receiving and giving.

A holy life is an exclusive and inclusive invitation to all followers of Jesus. We keep this in mind in all we do. In our regular worship gatherings, the theme of completely surrendering hearts and lives to Jesus is regularly included and emphasized in worship, testimonies, exhortation, preaching, and in altar invitations. Holiness is also emphasized regularly in our children, youth, and young adult ministries.

We recently finished a series on The Apostles' Creed: "I Believe," and 1,2,3 John: "Living Well." Living holy lives empowered by the Holy Spirit was a heavy emphasis in both of these. We say "Yes!" and surrender in a moment ... and for a lifetime.

Our Vision Frame Measures are: Gathering, Growing, Giving, Going, and Genuine. We consider these to be markers of fully surrendered lives. This is what "Living Transformed" looks like!

A key to living a holy life marked by spiritual growth is to get God's Word "in you!" It's powerful, life-changing, and life-giving. We often say ... "Get God's Word in you "for good" ... as in positive ... and "for good" as in permanent."

Our GrowTRACK next steps at Wooster Naz include classes and events like: My Start, BASICS, baptism celebrations, Bible studies and gatherings for men and women, NazGROUPS, Pray Now Groups, ALPHA, and Celebrate Recovery. All of these serve to move people more deeply towards and into ... "Loving God," "Loving people," and "Living Transformed."



DISTRICT CALENDAR



For the latest information, visit www.ncodistrict.org/events

Sat Aug 8, 2026
Thu Aug 13, 2026
Sun Aug 23, 2026

Advisory Board
NDI Council (Zoom)
Back to School Bash @ Wooster

Sat Sep 12, 2026
Sat Sep 12, 2026
Fri Sep 18, 2026 & Sat Sep 19, 2026
Sat Sep 19, 2026
Sat Sep 26, 2026 & Sun Sep 27, 2026
Tue Sep 29, 2026

Children's Min Phone Workshop
NYI Quiz @ Bucyrus
Children's Min Training Churches to Disciple Children
Children's Min Council
Children's Quiz Invitational #1
New Works Team

Thu Oct 8, 2026
Thu Oct 15, 2026
Sat Oct 17, 2026
Thu Oct 22, 2026 - Sat Oct 24, 2026

Advisory Board
NDI Council (Zoom)
NYI Quiz @ Marion First
Pastors and Spouses' Retreat

Mon Nov 2, 2026 - Wed Nov 4, 2026
Tue Nov 3, 2026
Mon Nov 9, 2026
Sat Nov 14, 2026 & Sun Nov 15, 2026
Fri Nov 20, 2026 - Sat Nov 21, 2026
Sun Nov 29, 2026 - Sat Dec 5, 2026

Tragedy Into Triumph
MVNU Pastor's Leadership Day
Children's Min Council
Children's Quiz Invitational #2
NYI Tri-State Quiz @ MVNU
NCO Prayer Watch

Thu Dec 3, 2026
Fri Dec 4, 2026 - Sun Dec 6, 2026
Thu Dec 10, 2026
Sat Dec 12, 2026

Ministers' Christmas Dinner
NYI Top 10 Quiz @ St. Louis
NDI Council (Zoom)
NYI Fun Quiz @ MV Lakeholm

Sat Jan 9, 2027
Sat Jan 9, 2027
Sun Jan 10, 2027
Mon Jan 11, 2027
Tue Jan 12, 2027
Fri Jan 15, 2027 - Mon Jan 18, 2027
Sat Jan 16, 2027

Children's Quiz Invitational #3
NYI Quiz @ MV Lakeholm
Children's Quiz Invitational #3
New Works Team
Advisory Board
Preteen Retreat
NYI Quiz @ MV Lakeholm

Thu Feb 11, 2027
Sat Feb 13, 2027 - Mon Feb 15, 2027
Fri Feb 19, 2027 & Sat Feb 20, 2027
Sat Feb 20, 2027
Sat Feb 20, 2027 & Sun Feb 21, 2027

NDI Council (Zoom)
MVNU Clergy Kids' Retreat
Ministry Assessment
NYI Quiz w/ EO @ Arlington
Children's Quiz District Qualifier

IMPORTANT DATES FOR PASTORS

- FALL RETREAT:
OCT 22-24
- CHRISTMAS DINNER
DEC 3
- NDI DISCIPLESHIP EVENT
FEB 27
- FAMILY CAMP/ASSEMBLY
JUL 7-10

Sat Feb 27, 2027	NDI Discipleship Training Day
Tue Mar 2, 2027	Children's Min Council
Fri Mar 5, 2027 - Sat Mar 6, 2027	Children's Min Thrive Event
Sat Mar 6, 2027	NYI District Qualifier Quiz @ Bedford
Thu Apr 1, 2027	Advisory Board
Sat Apr 3, 2027	Children's District Quiz
Sat Apr 3, 2027	NYI Local Team Qualifier Quiz @ MV New Life
Tue Apr 6, 2027	MVNU Pastor's Leadership Day
Thu Apr 15, 2027	NDI Council (Zoom)
Fri Apr 16, 2027 - Sat Apr 17, 2027	MVNU Women's Auxiliary
Fri Apr 23, 2027 - Sat Apr 24, 2027	Credentials/Studies Board
Sat May 8, 2027	MVNU Commencement
Tue May 11, 2027	New Works Team
Thu May 13, 2027 - Sat May 15, 2027	NYI Field Quiz @ MVNU
Mon May 17, 2027	Children's Min Council
Tue May 25, 2027	Advisory Board
Wed Jun 2, 2027 - Sat Jun 5, 2027	MVNU Field BLAST
Thu Jun 10, 2027	NDI Council (Zoom)
Mon Jun 14, 2027 - Fri Jun 18, 2027	Teen Camp
Thu Jun 24, 2027 - Sat Jun 26, 2027	NYI National Quiz
Fri Jun 25, 2027 - Mon Jun 28, 2027	General NDI, NMI, NYI Conventions
Fri Jun 25, 2027 - Fri Jul 2, 2027	General Assembly
Sat Jun 26, 2027	Children's World Quiz
Wed Jul 7, 2027 - Fri Jul 9, 2027	Family Camp
Fri Jul 9, 2027	NMI Convention & NDI Convention
Sat Jul 10, 2027	District Assembly
Sat Jul 24, 2027 - Mon Jul 26, 2027	Primary Camp
Tue Jul 27, 2027 - Sat Jul 31, 2027	Preteen Camp

MATERIALS FOR PASTORS



nco district pastors' RETREAT

Join us to explore
all Cleveland has to offer!



october
22-24, 2026

FULL SCHEUDLE AND COST COMING SOON
RESERVATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 3
WWW.NCODISTRICT.ORG/FALLRETREAT



Special Guest Speaker:
Dr. Bob Mahaffey,
Southwestern Ohio
District Superintendent



Worship Services, Meals and
Fellowship at Bedford Church

UPCOMING EVENTS



2025-2026 CLERGY EXCELLENCE

15 SEP SECURING THE CHURCH BRIAN HESS ELITE PREPAREDNESS

In person
6-8 PM Practical ways to ensure safety and security regardless of church size.

13 OCT THE IMPORTANCE OF PURITY ED SCHUTTE BEFORE IT BEGINS

In person
2-4 PM OR 6-8 PM Protecting Pastoral Purity/Communicating purity to our people. Two identical sessions to make it easy to attend.

17 NOV LEADING WITH PURPOSE STUART WASHINGTON ENTREPRENEUR/AUTHOR

In person
10 AM - 3 PM Principles/Systems to take your leadership to the next level. **BRANDON ESTEP**
EXECUTIVE PASTOR MARION

9 JAN DISCIPLESHIP THAT WORKS DARYL CRIPE AMPLIO GROUP

In person
9 AM TO 1 PM For Pastors and your Church Boards/Leadership

13 APR TOP 3 ISSUES PASTORS FACE MATT WILLIAMS MORIAH COUNSELING

In person
6-8 PM Find out the three issues pastors face and principles to overcome them.

Register www.ncodistrict.org/clergyexcellence



North Central Ohio District Church of the Nazarene

Pastors Safety Network

There are times in life and ministry when we feel overwhelmed and unable to cope with the pressures that exist. I have an open door policy and want to serve as your pastor. I promise to do my best to encourage you and will always pray with you and for you in any situation.

Realizing that there are times and situations where you may need and desire help beyond what friends, church, family and even the district can offer, we have developed a list of professional counselors around Ohio who are available for your personal use. In an effort to support your family, the district will provide senior pastors, pastoral staff and/or your spouse and dependent children with an initial assessment visit and follow-up visits in accordance with our contracts after insurance. Our typical benefit is \$500 per person per church year. If you would like to continue counseling services beyond the contract stipulations and are unable to afford them, please simply contact me so that we can extend our agreement with the counselor. All counseling services are provided anonymously. The district simply receives an invoice for Jane or John Doe. This map shows the various locations. Contact information is included on the reverse side.

We serve a great God and I'm thankful for His call in your life. Our paths are often filled with bumps and potholes that even our most intense times of personal prayer and reflection are not enough. It is my desire and that of the Advisory Board that this additional resource will help to heal and equip your spirit, your marriage and your family.

*With deep concern,
Wendell Brown, District Pastor*

Arbor Counseling

www.arborcounseling.org
2690 Billingsley Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43235
info@arborcounseling.org; 614-766-0161

New Source Counseling

www.newsourcounseling.com
Diana Yost
Bedford and Westlake
diana@newsourcounseling.com

Martha Flemming
Eastern Cuyahoga and Summit Counties
nscounsel@sbcglobal.net

Carrie Dennis
Reynoldsburg and Newark
carriedennis@insight.rr.com

Daniel Ward Counseling

Marion, OH 43302
dtwgolf@yahoo.com; 740-387-2027

Cornerstone Counseling

www.ashlandcornerstone.com
Ashland, OH
419-289-1876

Pathways Christian Counseling

www.pathwayschristiancounseling.com
Findlay, OH 45840
pathwayscc@sbcglobal.net; 419-423-7812

Life Changing Counseling Center

Jaree Ward
Galion, OH
Jareeward2000@yahoo.com; 419-989-8260

Meraki Counseling, LLC

www.galionmeraki.com
Ashley Hickman, MA, LPC
Galion, OH
ashley.hughes1993@gmail.com; 419-777-1210

North Coast Family Foundation

www.northcoastfamily.com
Parma Hts. Office
Parma Heights, OH
440-842-6867

Akron Office
Akron, OH
330-929-1800

Sojourners Counseling Services, LLC.

www.sojournerscounseling.com
Mount Vernon, OH
740-393-6001 Ex. 201;
office@sojournerscounseling.com

Dynami Counseling

Jaime Hampton
Ashtabula, OH
jhampton@dynamitherapy.com; 440-381-8107

Additional Counselors

Ron Seigman
Ashtabula, OH
ronjubari@rocketmail.com; 440-275-3520
(cannot accept insurance; will bill district)

Angela J. Stanley, MA, LPCC
Mount Vernon, OH
740-358-0593

For the most up-to-date list, please visit
www.ncodistrict.org/pastors

If you would like to recommend an agency/counselor, please contact the district office.



Spiritual Health

Leadership

- Lives Out Mission
- Encourages Congregants to do the same
- Leads in Faith

Discipleship Plan

- Evangelistic Training
- Holiness Teaching (Heart, Head, Hand)

Outward Focused

A Spiritually Healthy Church Will...

- Have New Converts, New Members, & New Baptisms Annually*
- Will have congregants that engage the world, make disciples, and pursue holiness*

Physical Health

Financial

- Proper Records/Accountability
- Congregants are encouraged to give/tithe
- Working Toward Cash Reserves
- Mission Support (Local/District/Global)

Building

- Neat/Orderly
- Security Plan In Place

Community Connection

A Physically Healthy Church Will...

- Have A Good Reputation in their local community and larger faith community*
- Have congregants embrace their responsibility to financially support the mission of the church*

Emotional Health

Fellowship

- Unity of Believers
- Relevant & Vibrant Worship
- Small Groups/Gatherings
- Regular Prayer Ministry
- Hospitable/Intentional with new comers

Leadership

- Sense of Teamwork Amongst Leaders (Pastor/Laity)
- Bilateral Love (Pastor to Congregation-Congregation to Pastor)

Agreed Purpose For Church Existence (Mission Statement)

An Emotionally Healthy Church Will...

- Have an attitude of worship when gathered (minors stay minor)*
- Have congregants who know their purpose*

NCO Policies, Procedures and Forms

POLICIES FOR PASTORS:

Standards for Ministers (updated as of 8/24/2021)

Creating a Culture of Confession (as of 9/9/2020)

Restoration Plan (updated as of 5/8/2025)

Lead Pastor Designation of Beneficiary (as of 11/19/2020)

Vacation/Pay (per Assembly Finance Committee Report)

Maternity/Paternity Leave (per Assembly Finance Committee)

Counseling Policy/Pastors' Safety Network (as of 10/25/2023)

Counseling Policy: Counseling services will be provided for North Central Ohio District Church of the Nazarene clergy, spouses, and dependent children.

The District will reimburse up to \$500 per person per year for counseling fees after insurance directly to the contracted agencies or to the individual if receipts are submitted. (District Advisory Board 5/20/2021)

NCO Sabbatical Information (as of 10/10/18)

Transferring Credentials - if you are coming to the NCO district, please contact your former district (give them your new assignment, home address, phone number and local church membership) and ask them to transfer your credential. If you are leaving the NCO district, please contact the district office (ncodistrict@mvnu.edu) and simply provide your new assignment, home address, phone number, district and local church membership.

Lifelong Learning Hours - per Manual 521.6 A minimum expectation is 20 hours of lifelong learning each year or the equivalent. All assigned and unassigned licensed and ordained ministers shall report on their progress in a program of lifelong learning as part of their report to the district assembly.

State of Ohio Minister License/Officiating a Marriage in Ohio - click here for information from the Ohio Secretary of State's office

Annual Staff Approval Request Form (Manual paragraph 169.1, 169.2, and 211.13)

POLICIES FOR CHURCHES:

Allocations/Amounts (per Assembly Finance Committee)

Rare Circumstance Form for Capital Campaign Funds

Loans to Churches/Churches Helping Churches

NCO District Loaning Funds to Church Policy: As a general rule, the NCO district does not loan money to churches. It is the intent that each local church should find ways to fund ministry locally and be good stewards of the resources that God has supplied to them. (Refer to district finance report for further financial information.) (District Advisory Board 5/20/2021)

Criteria for Consideration of Church Closure (as of 10/8/2019)

Maternity/Paternity Leave (per Assembly Finance Committee)

Sabbatical Leave (per Assembly Finance Committee)

Sabbatical Guidelines (as of 5/8/25)

Church Health Quarterly Report

Church Health Explanation

Church Health Survey

State of Ohio Articles of Corporation - check your status, download forms to renew or change agent

501c3 Tax Status Verification - Please complete this form to request a 501c3 letter from the General Church.

<https://forms.nazarene.org/published/general-secretary/501c3.php>

POLICIES FOR DISTRICT:

1099 required for payments over \$600

Churches/District should issue an IRS Form 1099 for any payment of \$600 or more in a year as a gift, stipend for volunteer services, honorarium, etc. to an individual (not a corporation). If an IRS Form W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification is not already on file, the taxpayer will need to complete the form before a check is issued to the taxpayer.

Group Travel Guidelines

Any district sponsored group travel shall be coordinated through the approved travel agency on file at the district office. No individual arrangements are to be made. (District Advisory Board 8/25/2018) Group Travel should be used for all group trips for all ministry departments on our district both domestic and international. They can be reached at: grouptravelservices.com/, 407.331.3237, 1.800.499.7516, ext. 5, or travelwithgts@aol.com

Qualifications for Serving on District Advisory Board/Department Leader

When a local church has not paid budgets in full for two (2) consecutive years or has not had at least one (1) conversion by profession of faith, no member of that church's congregation may be entered into nomination for district advisory board or ministry department chair. (District Advisory Board 8/2018)

Best Financial Practices for District Ministry Departments/Reimbursement/Check Requests/Budget/Large Purchases

District Ministry Department Budgets

If a district ministry department (Children's, NMI, NDI or NYI) should for any reason over spend it's budget in one district year, that same amount will be reduced from the next budget cycle. (District Advisory Board 3/2018)

Mandatory Financial Review for Church in Transition

When there is a pastoral change at a district church, the District Finance Committee will appoint a representative to conduct a review of the church's financial records, policies and procedures and present a report to the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board prior to the calling of a new pastor. (District Advisory Board 11/2019)

Property Transfer Agreement

As a district we uphold the idea that we are "Better Together". As such, when a larger church assumes the ministerial work at a smaller congregation's location; whether that work will be conducted through a merger or closing of the smaller congregation; the larger church would inherit the asset of the smaller churches property at a rate of 20% per year for 5 years. At the end of 5 years, the property will be considered 100% the asset of the church and would be free to be used in a manner that blesses the congregation, even if that includes liquidating the property for the betterment of their financial picture. (District Finance Committee 7/31/2019)

Advisory/Properties Board forms

(necessary for permission to sell church property, build/remodel, purchase property, borrow money, change church name, establish a line of credit)

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE MISSION AREAS

Metro

Bedford
Cleveland Arabic
Cleveland Aviva—Registered
Cleveland Heaventrain—NCM
Cleveland Nueva Luz
Cleveland Nueva Luz Grafton La Cosecha—Registered
Cleveland Nueva Luz URC—NCM
Cleveland Victory
Garfield Heights
N. Royalton State Road Community
Richmond Heights Hope United
Richmond Heights Hope United Cares
Westlake Parkside

Mid Central

Ashland
Brunswick
Loudonville
Loudonville Home Connections - Registered
Medina
Orrville Now
Rittman Now—Registered-inactive
Strongsville New Hope —Registered
Sullivan
Wadsworth
Wooster

Midwest

Bucyrus First
Bucyrus First-Carey—Campus
Bucyrus First-Upper Sandusky—Campus
Crestline
Fostoria First
Galion Real Life
Shelby
Tiffin
Willard

Northeast

Andover Cherry Valley
Ashtabula Edgewood
Ashtabula The Ridge
Ashtabula The Ridge-Geneva—Campus
Burton North East Community
Eastlake Willo-Lake
Geneva Koinonia—Registered
Jefferson
Kelloggsville
Orwell Resurrection Life—Registered
Painesville

Northwest

Amherst The River
Clyde
Elyria Center
Fremont
Grafton Living Word Fellowship—Registered
N. Ridgeville Starting Point Worship Center—inactive
Port Clinton—inactive
Sandusky Community
Vermilion

Southeast

Cooperdale
Coshocton
Mount Vernon First
Mount Vernon First Dios Es Suficiente — Registered
Mount Vernon First – Lexington Campus
Mount Vernon Lakeholm
Mount Vernon New Life
Mount Vernon SOUL—Registered
Mount Vernon The Shepherd's House
Warsaw
West Lafayette Living Faith

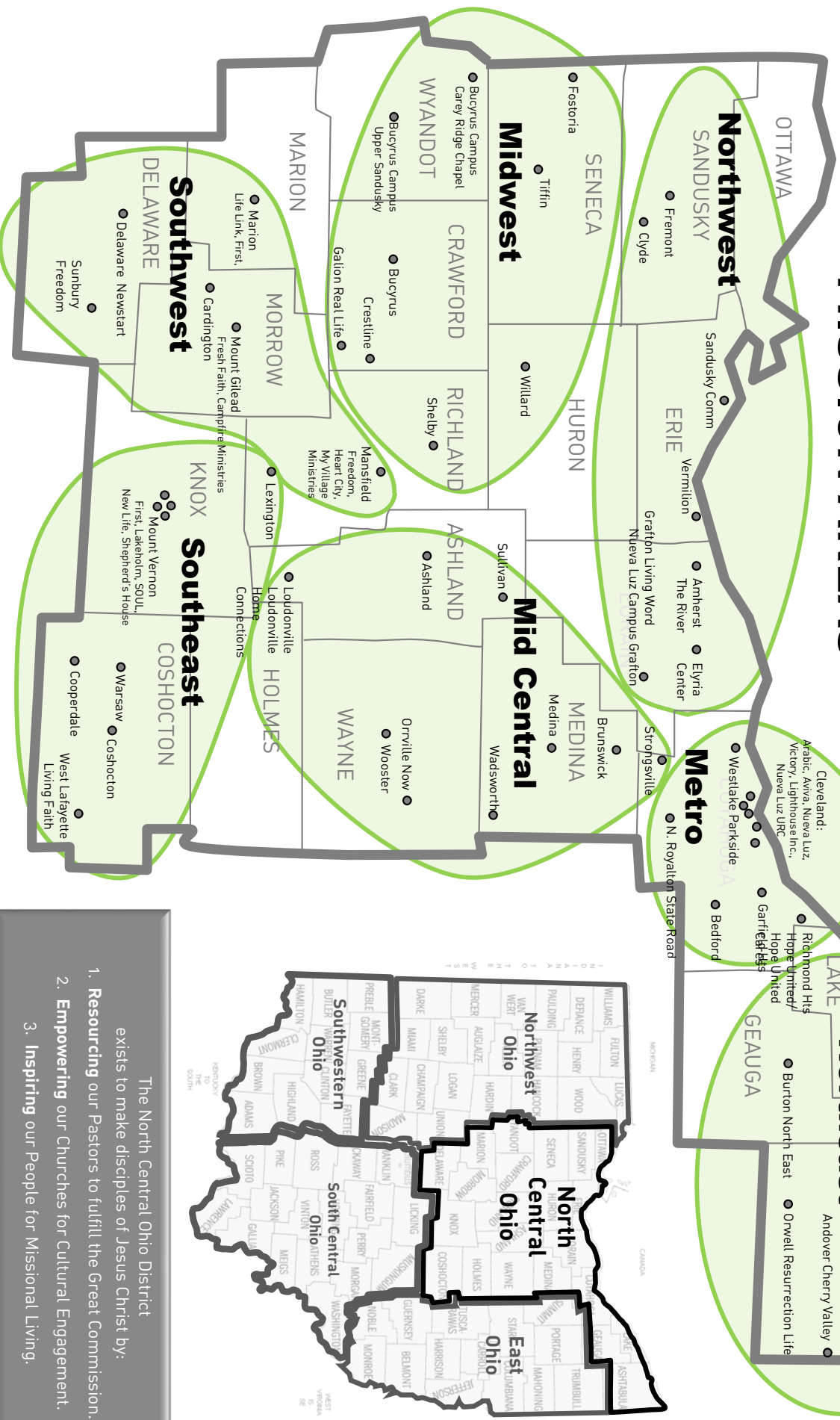
Southwest

Cardington
Delaware Newstart
Mansfield Freedom – Not Yet Registered
Mansfield Heart City
Mansfield Heart City My Village Ministries – NCM inactive
Marion First
Marion Life Link
Mount Gilead Campfire Ministries—NCM
Mount Gilead Fresh Faith
Sunbury Freedom
Sunbury Open Air Ministries – Registered - inactive

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

MISSION AREAS



The North Central Ohio District exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ by:

1. **Resourcing** our Pastors to fulfill the Great Commission.
2. **Empowering** our Churches for Cultural Engagement.
3. **Inspiring** our People for Missional Living.