

## A WORD FROM TERRY & BECKY .....

Christmas is a season of gift giving. To some this brings great joy and excitement. To others it seems to bring a sense of frustration and/or obligation. Receiving them seems to be more to our liking, although that can be awkward. I enjoy giving gifts. Sometimes I know just what I would like to give someone and it can be an easy adventure to get and give. Other times I have to look and think and look and look and then get excited when I find what I believe is just the right gift. Oh the challenge when I want to give something and just cannot find the "right" gift or cannot afford what I would like to give.



God has a gift that is perfect for all. It is the "right" gift for everyone and it is ongoing. It is a personal relationship with him. He paid the price for it long ago with his blood. All we have to do is receive it.

Thank you for your gifts to us. We appreciate you all so much.

Thinking about gifts we would enjoy hearing how you are expressing your love to your pastor and spouse during this season of giving.

..... Grace & Peace  
Your District Servants  
Terry & Becky

\*\*\*\*\*

Because of General Assembly, we have had to change dates of two major district events. Please take note and make the changes in your calendars.

District Assembly & Conventions have been moved to July 20-22, 2023 at Decatur First. The NYI Convention will be Thursday night. NDI Convention, morning of the 21st. NMI Convention, afternoon of the 21st. Assembly will begin Friday evening with our ordination service and the majority of the reports and elections on Saturday, the 22nd.

Kid's Camp will be July 10-14, 2023 at Passion Community Church near Decatur.



**NAZARENE  
MISSIONS  
INTERNATIONAL**

Seasons Greetings and Sincere thanks to our dedicated Missions (NMI) leaders across the Illinois District, including our local, zone, and district council workers. Blessings to all. I hope to see you at District Team Building Days next month.



Make plans now for the Spring Missions rally March 16-30. Our missionary speaker is Shahade Twal. Shahade is originally from Jordan. Currently he serves as project manager for different building projects and co-work and witness coordinator in the Eurasia region.

## NCM Magazine

Click [here](#) to read the latest issue of Nazarene Compassionate Ministries magazine, volume 2022, Issue 2.

Remember your LINKS and other missionaries you may know in your prayers and notes of encouragement throughout this holiday season. Also, please remember the current LINKS assignments are the same until the end of 2023.

◆ Dan Reinhart, NMI President

\*\*\*\*\*

God is going to use the faithfulness and the creativity juices of pastors and lay leaders to bring RESTORATION to Southern Illinois. Thank You for being a willing participant!

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
NAZARENE DISCIPLESHIP INTERNATIONAL

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**TEAM DAY NORTH** - January 7 @ Decatur First  
Keynote Speaker - Tera Beth Leach

**TEAM DAY SOUTH** - January 28 @ Salem Grace  
Keynote Speaker - Steve Greene

**SEE POSTER on PAGE 4**

**WOMEN, SAVE THE DATE**

March 25, District Women's Day @ Pana First  
More details to come

Check out Facebook: [IL DIST NAZ WWLJ](#)

**DISTRICT KIDS QUIZ FINALS**

April 15 @ Springfield First

**MEN, SAVE THE DATE**

April 22, Spring Men of Purpose Conference  
@ Salem Grace with Speaker Kevin Donoho

**BE WATCHING FOR DETAILS**

- Randy Wright, NDI President

\*\*\*\*\*



**The District NYI Council is working on some great plans in 2023**

Teen Quizzes - January 14 @ Decatur First, February 11 at Marion and March 17-18 @ Champaign First

District Celebrate Life - March 10-11 @ Roxana

Field Celebrate Life - May 11-13 @ ONU

Youth Camp @ Camp Table Rock - June 26-30

NYI Convention, Thursday, July 20,  
7:00 pm @ Decatur First

- Ben Alexander, District NYI President

**NEWS ACROSS THE DISTRICT**



Congratulations to Rev. Rita & Gary Briggs as they retire from full-time ministry. Rita has been serving the Monticello Church since January 2018 and then added Decatur Oak Grove to her assignment in July 2020. She began her ministerial career in July 2000 at Decatur Parkway as an Associate. She then pastored Decatur Oak Grove for 7 years, served as pastor at Grace Place for 6 years before starting at Monticello. We love and appreciate Pastor Rita and the roles she has served in district leadership as well. Well done good and faithful servant.

Rev. Deb Braunig has been appointed the transitional pastor for our Monticello Church. She has started working with the Church Board and the congregation as they determine the next step forward.



The Olivet Church of the Nazarene honored Rev. Jim & Chris Blue for 30 years of ministry at the Olivet church. Pastor Jim & Chris are well loved by their congregation and the citizens of the Olivet/Georgetown communities and all of Vermillion County. Pastor Jim & Chris will be retiring from full-time vocational ministry. He will still be very active ministering to 100's as he is the 'go to' preacher for funerals in the area. Jim began his pastoral ministry in 1965. He pastored Royalton, Fairmont, Mansfield, La Harpe, Mt. Carmel, Pana First, Murphysboro and Olivet. Bro. Jim is loved and appreciated on the Illinois District. Congratulations and enjoy your retirement.

The Glen Carbon Glenview Church honored their Pastor, Bob Flint as he celebrated his birthday at the close of the service. You might just see him 'sitting on the dock' at the church pond doing some fishing with all the new lures the congregation presented to him. Hope you enjoyed your birthday.



Congratulations to Rev. Keith & Wanda Anderson. They have a new grandson, born December 13 at 10:37 pm. He weighed 7 lbs, 1 oz and was 19 1/2 inches long. Mother and baby are doing good! Enjoy time with the grandbaby, Pastor Keith & Wanda.

\*\*\*\*\*

9 of our churches reported 6 conversions and 11 baptisms during the month of November. How exciting! We rejoice with the hope and promise of new life.

Keep sharing the Good News!

Please note: Our district treasurer is Laura Mondy. Her email address is [dist.tres@illinoisnaz.org](mailto:dist.tres@illinoisnaz.org). If you mail your check, send to:  
Laura Mondy, District Treasurer  
1206 W. 4th St.  
Centralia, IL 62801.

## Illinois District Calendar of Events

**2023**

- January 7 - Team Day North @ Decatur First  
January 14 - District Teen Quiz @ Decatur First  
January 28 - Team Day South @ Salem Grace  
February 4 - BOM Interviews @ Roxana First  
February 11 - District Teen Quiz @ Marion First  
March 9 - District Assembly Prep Session @ Champaign First, 6 pm  
March 10-11 - District NYI Celebrate Life  
March 11 - District Assembly Prep Session @ Roxana, 10 am  
March 14-16 - Pastor's Spring Training @ Pinecrest, Fredericktown, MO with Jay Height  
March 16 - District Assembly Prep Session @ Pinecrest Camp  
March 17-18 - True North Retreat @ Salem Grace  
March 17-18 - District Teen Quiz Finals @ Champaign First  
March 19 - April 1 - Spring Zone Mission Tour with Shahade Twal, Missionary to Eurasia Region  
March 21 - District Assembly Prep Session - OnLine  
March 25 - District Women's Day @ Pana First  
April 15 - District Children's Quiz @ Springfield First  
April 22 - District Men of Purpose Conference - South @ Salem Grace, with Kevin Donoho  
April 29 - BOM Interviews @ Mattoon East Side  
May 11-13 - Field Celebrate Life  
**May 16 - ANNUAL PASTOR'S REPORTS DUE**  
June 9-16 - General Conventions & General Assembly in Indianapolis  
June 26-30 - Teen Camp @ Camp Table Rock - Speaker: Atonio "Tone" Marshall, ONU Chaplain  
July 3-9 - Nazarene Youth Conference in Tampa Bay, Florida  
July 10-14 - Kid's Camp @ Passion Church Campus (Please note the change of date)  
July 20-22 - District Gathering Celebration, Conventions & Assembly  
Thursday, 7:00 pm - NYI Convention  
Friday, 8:30 am - NDI Convention  
Friday, 1:00 pm - NMI Convention  
Friday, 7:00 pm - District Assembly & Ordination Service  
Saturday, 8:30 am District Assembly  
  
September 15 - 17 - Lay Retreat @ Pinecrest Camp & Conference Center, Fredericktown, MO  
September 22 - 24 - m&m Retreat, St. Charles (Please note the change of date)  
December 2 - District Pastor's & Family's Christmas Gathering, Effingham



**January 7 - Decatur First**

**January 28 - Salem Grace**

Opening Session Starts at 9:00 am

To Register: Scan the QR code or copy and paste the link and the bottom of the page into your browser:

Or go to Facebook to the Illinois District Church of the Nazarene and follow the link on the TEAM BUILDING DAY post.



- Praise & Worship
- Table Discussions
- Lunch
- Q & A
- Key Note Speakers



**Tera Beth Leach**  
Decatur First



**Steve Greene**  
Salem Grace

TRAINING & INSPIRATION FOR OUR PASTORS! ENCOURAGE THEM TO ATTEND!

# *Discipling at*

# *3mph*

## MO/IL District Pastors' Advance



mph

**Where:** Pinecrest Camp & Conference  
Center

1252 State Hwy. C  
Fredericktown, MO 63052

**When:** March 14-16, 2023

Tuesday 5:30pm - Thursday 12:00pm

**Cost:** \$50 - Includes 2 nights lodging  
and 5 meals

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Jay Height  
Executive Director of Shepherd Community,  
Indianapolis, IN

An ordained minister with a journalism and philanthropy background, Jay has served at Shepherd since 1998. His longstanding connections with the community and vision for a revitalized city inspire Shepherd's staff and neighbors as well as our civic, institutional, and corporate partners.



RESERVE YOUR SPOT with this QR Code or call the District Office for  
assistance