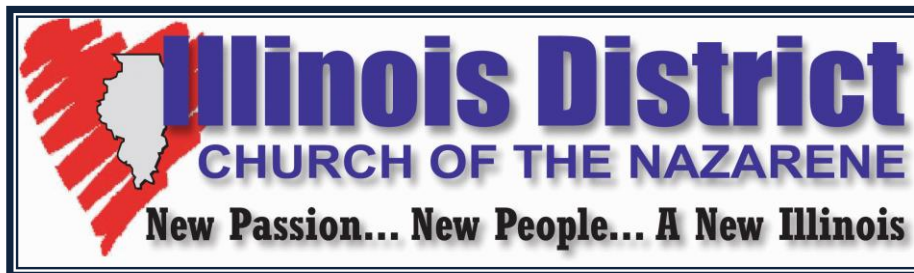


# B O O S T E R



James Spruce  
District Superintendent

VOL 64 NUMBER 2

P.O. BOX 1054 - 2916 GILBERT LN., ALTON, IL 62002 Web Site: <http://ilnazarene.org>

OCTOBER 2010

## Pastor Appreciation Month Affirms Ministry Leaders

You may not know it, but there are individuals who have spent most of their lives in preparation to serve you and others like you. When God tugged at their hearts, they responded by dedicating their lives to meeting your needs—and thanked God for the opportunity. It is for awareness of our pastors' dedication and service that October has been named "Pastor Appreciation Month." Our appreciation of our pastors should not be limited to one month out of the year, but designating that month for that purpose gives us an opportunity to ponder the special ways our pastors bring a blessed friendship into our lives. Be sure and remember your pastor this month.



The story is told of one pastor ready to leave his church: "His resignation letter typed, Pastor Keagan (a pseudonym) slipped its folds between the pages of a sermon outline and headed out the door. He walked slowly between buildings for his usual rounds to turn off lights and water, adjust the thermostat and lock doors – some of the countless, tedious, thankless jobs of a pastor. As he turned the corner of the fellowship hall, bright balloons and streamers caught his eye. He was stunned. All at once, he heard a shout from more than half his congregation. It wasn't his birthday or his anniversary, but it was a day he will never forget. The occasion was Clergy Appreciation Month. After weeks of potlucks, letters of encouragement and prayers on his behalf, Pastor Keagan shared with his deacons a torn-up resignation letter. It wasn't just his ministry that turned around, but the entire future of the 120-member congregation."

If you're not sure how to celebrate, below are some suggestions, excerpted from the planning guide:

- Host an event at which members and friends present greeting cards to each pastor's family.
- Plan a special appreciation service during your normal worship times on the second weekend of the month.
- Plan a special banquet in honor of your pastor.
- Schedule special prayer sessions for your pastors and their families.

These are just a few of the many ways you can participate in Clergy Appreciation Month. Considering all our ministers do for us every day of the year, it's time we respond as we are commanded to and "overwhelm them with appreciation and love" (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).

## Illinois District Pastor & Spouse Retreat October 17-19, 2010



Pere Marquette Lodge  
& Conference Center  
Grafton, IL

Guests  
Dr. & Mrs. J.K. Warrick  
Dr. & Mrs. Jim Spruce



## NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

Bill Brandon, District President  
18 Sandstone Ct., Troy, IL. 62294  
618-667-0828 E-mail [csifsr30@sbcglobal.net](mailto:csifsr30@sbcglobal.net)  
"That the world may know"



### WEF PLUS Occurs in November 2010

by Daniel D. Ketchum

When I was a young boy, I enjoyed hearing the story of David and Goliath and the chorus we sang that ended with these triumphant words, "...and the giant came tumbling down!" We face "giants" often. God still uses His humble, obedient, faith-filled servants to conquer giants. Every "David" is convinced that nothing is impossible with God.

#### I believe you are a "David" in a very crucial moment in the history of the Church of the Nazarene.

Because of the change in the formula for World Evangelism Fund (WEF) and the global economic recession, a very real "Goliath" confronts us. We have already initiated significant, strategic reductions at the Global Ministry Center in order to move WEF to the field. **We are currently facing the prospect of a drastic cut in our missionary force.** Let me explain.

As you may already know, our church leadership responded to the call of our churches to simplify WEF giving. As a result, this year all churches at their district assemblies are implementing a new worldwide system. Many churches and pastors have expressed a great deal of excitement regarding this new funding plan, because it is accomplishing exactly what they requested. Not only is this new funding plan simpler, it is also designed to stimulate growth at the local church level by reducing the percentage of WEF income most churches will give.

However, this reduction in WEF percentage does create a special short-term challenge for the global church. As we transition from the old funding plan to the new one, it has been estimated that we could lose as much as \$13.5 million dollars in WEF income per year. The good news is that this loss should exist only in the short term (three to five years).

With the effect of the lower WEF contributions combined with a very proactive focus on stewardship training, we will see local church income increase by as much as 30 percent over the next five years. Therefore, five years from now the new funding plan has the potential of producing more income than the old funding plan. So, again, let me emphasize that the challenge we are facing is only for the short term. The bad news is that even though this giant's life cycle may be short, because of its sheer size, the damage to ministry will be great unless we intercede and bring this giant "tumbling down!"

Nazarenes have always been a generous people. As a result, our denomination is a powerful spiritual movement worldwide. We are experiencing tremendous growth in many nations. Opportunities beckon to us as never before. But this "Goliath" is real and stands before us!

King Saul and his army cowered in fear, but David stepped up to the challenge. He conquered in the name of the Lord. We Nazarenes face the same choices—fear or faith, retreat or advance.

I believe you are the "David" in your church. The 2010 Thanksgiving/Harvest Offering provides a key moment for us to stand together in victory. Your role is crucial and vital.

Our general superintendents are asking that the Thanksgiving/Harvest Offering this year be "above and beyond" regular WEF giving. They are asking for a **WEF PLUS** Offering—an offering in addition to the WEF contribution from your church that is based on 5.5 percent of current church income. We need you to make your regular 5.5 percent WEF contributions and to encourage your congregation to give to this extra Thanksgiving/Harvest **WEF PLUS** Offering also.

Our global **WEF PLUS** Offering features four key components:

**Prevailing Prayer.** Please begin now to challenge everyone in your church to pray for the largest Thanksgiving/Harvest Offering in the history of our denomination.

**Love Offering.** This offering is above denominational obligations and commitments. It flows from hearts filled with God's love and a passion to reach a lost world for Christ. Each local church sends this WEF PLUS Offering in addition to regular WEF giving.

**Unanimous Participation.** We need every person in every church worldwide to give. Children, teens, and adults are included.

**Strategic Sacrifice.** We are asking every Nazarene to give sacrificially. This could mean a child gives US\$10.00 in coins they collected while an adult gives one day's salary. Again, we want every Nazarene to participate. If each cannot give a day's salary, we want each to consider giving at least US\$10.00 beyond their normal Thanksgiving/Harvest Offering for WEF.

Pastor and NMI President, please talk together soon about **WEF PLUS**. Please begin now praying, planning, and preparing for this offering. We will offer many tools to assist you in promotion. A **WEF PLUS** Offering can keep our missionaries on the fields and our denomination advancing to accomplish His mission in spite of the current financial challenges.

We must reach our world for Christ. We dare not allow economic problems to detain or stop us. Together, we can conquer the "giant"! Thank you in advance for your vital role in **WEF PLUS**.

**WEF, WEF PLUS, Approved Mission Specials...I'm So Confused!** What is the relationship between regular World Evangelism Fund (WEF) giving, WEF PLUS giving, and Approved Mission Specials giving?

WEF giving beyond 5.5 percent invests in new world areas and new works in the U.S.A. and Canada. Therefore, WEF giving **beyond 5.7 percent** invests in what we formerly called "overpayment." The NMI Handbook and Constitution articulates the policy for what NMI formerly called "overpayment" giving.

The Board of General Superintendents, in collaboration with other Global Ministry Center leaders, decided that the **WEF PLUS Offering for Thanksgiving/Harvest will be received as an Approved Mission Special** and, therefore, will not count toward regular WEF giving at 5.5 percent or WEF giving above 5.5 percent (former "overpayment"). While the receipt of the WEF PLUS Offering is different from WEF, monies given through WEF PLUS can and will be used in the same manner as regular WEF. This will encourage churches to give WEF beyond 5.5 percent and to give a WEF PLUS Offering.

The Handbook (pages 25-26) clarifies WEF giving at 5.5 percent and above 5.5 percent as follows:

NMI recognizes local churches and districts that reach giving goals for the WEF:

- **World Evangelism Church:** Churches that give at least 5.5 percent of their income to the WEF have met the minimum goal in their support of the global mission. These churches are the lifeblood of the Church of the Nazarene's mission to the nations.
- **World Evangelism Church of Excellence:** Churches that give at least 5.7 percent, or \$1,500, whichever is less, to WEF. (This giving parallels the former "Award of Excellence.") WEF giving beyond 5.5 percent invests in new world areas and new works in the U.S.A. and Canada.

**World Evangelism District of Excellence:** Districts that give at least 90 percent of their WEF goal (5.5 percent) have met the minimum goal in their support of the global mission as a district.

#### NO FALL TOUR!

Do to schedule conflicts and other issues, there will not be a Deputation tour for this Fall 2010. This will give us more time to plan for the Spring Tour 2011.

Please remember our former District President and General NMI Council member Rev. Carol Techau in prayer as she continues to battle cancer.

#### Missionary Birthdays:

Our own Joyce Jakobitz is celebrating her birthday on October 5th. She is retired from the Eurasia Region. Happy Birthday Joyce!



**NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL**

Jay Bush, District President  
53 Partridge, Chatham, IL 62629  
Phone: Church: 217-529-6771; Home: 217-483-2480  
E-mail: jayrbush@aol.com



**NYC 2011**

**Louisville, KY July 5-10, 2011**

Check out the website for more information: [www.nyc2011.org](http://www.nyc2011.org)  
Go to the NYI page of [www.illinoisnaz.org](http://www.illinoisnaz.org) for forms and  
directions for registration.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Radiate**

November 5-6, 2010  
More details to come



**DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL &  
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**

**TIMOTHY CRUMP**, District Chairman  
315 Cale Ct., Forsyth, IL 62535  
217-875-0616 E-mail: nazpaz1@yahoo.com



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
*Make the Connection*

*Growing Sunday Schools...*

**AUGUST STATISTICS**

Sunday School	4,327
Worship	6,155
Responsibility List	11,068
New Nazarenes	16
No Report: Monticello, Chrisman, Home Gardens, Marshall, Mattoon Real Life Community, Belleville Korean, Collinsville Good Samaritan, Springfield Trinity, Vandalia, Taylorville, Virden	

**TOP TEN SS  
INCREASE**

Shelbyville	+40
Salem Grace	+33
Tuscola	+27
Beardstown	+18
Decatur Oak Grove	+15
Decatur First	+14
Pana	+14
Anna First	+10
Carmi	+10
Sherman	+ 9

**TOP TEN WORSHIP  
INCREASE AUGUST**

Decatur First	+52
Shelbyville	+34
Beardstown Liberty	+33
Nebo	+17
Urbana Lighthouse	+17
Anna First	+15
Beardstown	+11
Jerseyville	+ 8
West Union	+ 8
Springfield First	+ 7

As your new SDMI chairperson, I want you to know that I am here to serve you. I am well aware that some of you believe the day of Sunday School has passed and is simply a ministry we prop up. I could not disagree more strongly with that sentiment. In fact, if that is where your heart is today – then read the following words and then tell me that the mission of SDMI is not needed in your local church, our district, our denomination, and our world. ***The mission of Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International (SDMI) is to carry out the Great Commission to children, youth, and adults in preparation for a lifetime of Christian holiness. Our purpose is to:***

- ***Teach the Word of God until pupils are sanctified wholly and maturing in Christian discipleship.***
- ***Help Christians mature spiritually by involving them in soul-winning ministries, reaching and teaching others to be disciples and make disciples of Jesus Christ.***
- ***Identify and visit unchurched people, inviting them to enroll in a small group and attend regularly.***

***Do you really believe you or your church does not need Sunday School and small groups?***

Do you have people in your church who are not saved or sanctified?

Is everyone in your church involved in soul-winning ministries?

Do you have disciples making disciples?

What action steps are you taking to connect with those who live in your community who do not have a church?

Take some time to think about the mission of SDMI and what role you should be playing in it in your church. I am here to help . . . so let me know how I can. Let's pray that God does something fresh and new in our lives and churches.

Pastor Tim Crump  
nazpaz1@yahoo.com  
217 875-0616

## SDMI REPORT FOR AUGUST 2010

Church	Enroll	SS	MW	NN	Church	Enroll	SS	MW	NN
<b>Champaign Team - Carlos Lonberger, Chairman</b>					<b>Mount Vernon Team - Tim Mondy, Chairman</b>				
Champaign 1st	131	79	121	0	Benton	66	40	53	0
Champaign New Day	120	0	48	0	Centralia	131	75	77	0
Mahomet	84	32	50	0	DuQuoin	44	17	24	0
Mansfield Community	129	25	27	0	Mount Vernon	160	32	38	0
Monticello	89	24	35	0	Salem Grace	540	197	352	0
Ogden	62	50	69	2	Sparta	32	12	18	0
Rantoul	88	36	61	0		973	373	562	0
Urbana Lighthouse	105	33	47	0					
	808	279	458	2	<b>Murphysboro Team - Bill Webb, Chairman</b>				
					Anna First	185	93	123	5
<b>Decatur Team - Greg Wooten, Chairman</b>					Carbondale New Beginnings	118	37	44	0
Clinton	162	65	83	0	Marion	74	21	34	0
Decatur 1st	675	388	663	0	Murphysboro	112	44	67	0
Decatur Oak Grove	208	30	68	0	Omaha	Closed	0	0	0
Decatur Parkway	187	77	84	0	Royalton	194	93	86	0
Decatur Trinity	110	41	49	0		683	288	354	5
Decatur West Side	152	62	80	0					
Lincoln	72	23	40	0					
Shelbyville	283	139	216	0	<b>Olivet Team - William Connell, Chairman</b>				
	1849	825	1283	0	Chrisman	124	45	77	0
<b>Illinois River Team - Leslie Moore, Chairman</b>					Georgetown	89	40	47	0
Barry	22	15	14	0	Home Gardens	23	8	15	0
Beardstown	142	96	113	0	Oakwood	80	20	7	0
Beardstown Liberty	0	0	75	0	Olivet	158	41	65	2
Bethel Community	139	34	56	0	Paris	78	34	59	0
Griggsville	76	24	44	0	Tuscola	99	49	21	2
Mount Sterling	70	12	25	0		651	237	291	
Nebo	129	29	49	0					
Pittsfield	354	162	215	0	<b>Olney Team - Bob Taylor, Chairman</b>				
Quincy Emmanuel	133	29	35	0	Carmi	78	63	44	0
	1065	401	626	0	Fairfield	48	15	18	0
<b>Mattoon Team - Penny Brown, Chairman</b>					Flora	243	113	158	0
Arcola 1st	117	27	51	0	Leclede	53	19	31	2
Arcola Spanish	60	25	46	3	Mount Carmel	54	18	31	0
Casey	589	108	149	4	Mount Erie	36	16	28	0
Marshall	105	51	48	0	Olney	131	61	77	0
Mattoon East Side	170	95	94	0		643	305	387	2
Mattoon Real Life Comm.	75	30	46	0					
West Union	65	23	31	0	<b>Springfield Team - Donald Harrison, Chairman</b>				
	1181	359	465	7	Auburn	310	60	55	0
					Carlinville	75	37	40	0
<b>Metro East Team - Russell W. Brewer, Chairman</b>					Pana	352	143	240	0
Belleville Emmanuel	128	53	51	0	Sherman	135	67	73	0
Belleville 1st	240	147	208	0	Springfield Abundant Life	Closed			
Belleville Korean	48	25	47	0	Springfield 1st	300	151	225	0
Bluffview	186	28	49	0	Springfield Trinity	100	40	56	0
Collinsville Good Samaritan	133	77	126	0	Vandalia 1st	75	15	19	0
E. St. Louis Rush Mem.	6	6	6	0	Taylorville	100	50	86	0
Edgemont Grace	65	17	29	0	Virden	65	28	39	0
Fairview Hgts Parkview	100	52	54	0		1512	591	833	0
	906	405	570	0					
<b>Mississippi Valley Team - Richard Unger Chairman</b>						Enroll	SS	MW	NN
Glenview	210	56	86	0	Grand Totals	11068	4327	6155	16
Godfrey	198	34	49	0					
Jerseyville	96	36	40	0					
Roxana	293	138	151	0					
	797	264	326	0					

**BUDGET REPORT AUGUST 31, 2010**

<b>Church Name</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Olivet</b>	<b>NMI</b>	<b>SDMI</b>	<b>NYI</b>	<b>WEF</b>	<b>P &amp; B</b>
	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Paid</b>	<b>Paid</b>
Anna First	\$3,301.79	\$1,877.55	\$213.84	\$144.22	\$186.15	\$3,310.00	\$885.00
Arcola First	\$917.72	\$876.00	\$59.44	\$40.09	\$51.75	\$2,885.00	\$0.00
Arcola Spanish	\$158.81	\$224.00	\$10.29	\$6.95	\$8.95	\$281.00	\$102.00
Auburn	\$312.73	\$179.83	\$20.25	\$13.66	\$17.63	\$395.62	\$143.87
Barry	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Beardstown	\$1,760.93	\$1,115.20	\$114.05	\$76.91	\$99.28	\$2,931.50	\$851.73
Beardstown Liberty Hispanic	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Belleville Emmanuel	\$574.71	\$118.39	\$37.22	\$25.10	\$32.40	\$619.96	\$233.20
Belleville First	\$1,707.55	\$0.00	\$110.59	\$74.59	\$96.27	\$0.00	\$7,070.00
Belleville Korean	\$1,472.32	\$0.00	\$95.35	\$64.33	\$83.00	\$822.00	\$262.00
Benton	\$1,186.88	\$871.41	\$76.86	\$51.84	\$66.90	\$1,291.62	\$495.51
Bethel	\$504.45	\$536.65	\$32.67	\$22.03	\$28.44	\$612.87	\$210.60
Bluff View Christian Center	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Carbondale New Beginnings	\$200.03	\$0.00	\$12.95	\$8.74	\$11.28	\$0.00	\$0.00
Carlinville First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$365.00	\$200.00
Carmi	\$1,548.73	\$0.00	\$100.31	\$67.65	\$87.31	\$0.00	\$0.00
Casey	\$4,089.76	\$2,856.63	\$264.86	\$178.63	\$230.58	\$7,814.00	\$1,653.99
Centralia	\$967.52	\$681.00	\$62.66	\$42.27	\$54.55	\$1,093.00	\$404.50
Champaign First	\$1,974.69	\$1,382.36	\$127.89	\$86.25	\$111.32	\$2,267.18	\$824.43
Champaign New Day	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Chrisman	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clinton First	\$2,111.91	\$1,200.00	\$136.77	\$92.25	\$119.07	\$2,610.00	\$960.00
Collinsville Good Samaritan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crossroads Community	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Decatur First	\$8,324.85	\$7,448.48	\$539.15	\$363.64	\$469.33	\$13,893.00	\$3,158.79
Decatur Oak Grove	\$573.47	\$427.00	\$37.13	\$25.06	\$32.34	\$763.00	\$281.00
Decatur Parkway	\$2,751.92	\$1,682.17	\$178.22	\$120.21	\$155.16	\$2,982.45	\$1,102.26
Decatur Trinity	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Decatur West Side	\$1,644.92	\$1,295.93	\$106.53	\$71.85	\$92.73	\$2,103.78	\$765.01
Du Quoin	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
East St. Louis Rush Mem.	\$136.50	\$139.00	\$8.84	\$5.96	\$7.70	\$0.00	\$0.00
Edgemont Grace	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fairfield Fountain of Life	\$267.00	\$0.00	\$17.29	\$11.66	\$15.05	\$1,675.00	\$60.40
Fairview Heights Parkview	\$1,380.39	\$1,271.02	\$89.39	\$60.30	\$77.85	\$1,985.00	\$658.03
Flora	\$2,099.57	\$1,727.31	\$135.98	\$91.71	\$118.38	\$2,979.74	\$821.91
Georgetown	\$449.86	\$234.00	\$29.13	\$19.65	\$25.36	\$0.00	\$400.00
Glenview	\$1,545.29	\$1,009.75	\$100.08	\$67.50	\$87.12	\$2,614.00	\$727.36
Godfrey	\$1,675.67	\$894.94	\$108.54	\$73.20	\$94.47	\$1,910.15	\$699.61
Griggsville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00
Highland	\$82.88	\$0.00	\$5.36	\$3.62	\$4.67	\$323.00	\$40.00
Jerseyville	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Laclede	\$265.49	\$141.78	\$17.20	\$11.60	\$14.96	\$193.38	\$70.32
Lincoln	\$975.40	\$609.03	\$63.17	\$42.59	\$54.98	\$1,103.86	\$407.22
Mahomet	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mansfield Community	\$739.17	\$386.00	\$47.87	\$32.29	\$41.67	\$750.00	\$309.00
Marion First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marshall	\$858.50	\$0.00	\$55.60	\$37.50	\$48.40	\$0.00	\$500.00
Mattoon East Side	\$508.54	\$831.88	\$32.93	\$22.21	\$28.67	\$3,428.14	\$665.51
Mattoon Real Life Community	\$751.07	\$899.22	\$48.64	\$32.81	\$42.34	\$1,446.18	\$525.88
Monticello	\$632.71	\$450.00	\$40.98	\$27.64	\$35.67	\$752.00	\$281.00
Mount Carmel	\$437.83	\$0.00	\$28.36	\$20.05	\$24.68	\$0.00	\$200.00
Mount Erie	\$453.79	\$328.12	\$29.39	\$19.83	\$25.59	\$502.25	\$185.68
Mount Sterling	\$425.40	\$74.26	\$27.58	\$17.66	\$23.98	\$0.00	\$92.82
Mount Vernon	\$651.27	\$356.00	\$42.18	\$28.45	\$36.71	\$776.00	\$287.00
Murphysboro	\$1,699.52	\$0.00	\$110.07	\$74.23	\$95.81	\$0.00	\$660.85
Nebo	\$1,135.61	\$604.20	\$73.55	\$49.60	\$64.02	\$1,303.82	\$483.36
Oakwood	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oasis Community	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ogden	\$925.92	\$552.84	\$59.97	\$40.44	\$52.21	\$1,216.24	\$449.75
Olivet	\$0.00	\$184.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$188.00
Olney	\$1,265.22	\$717.87	\$81.93	\$55.27	\$71.33	\$775.58	\$441.66
Omaha	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pana First	\$1,357.84	\$722.84	\$87.94	\$59.32	\$76.55	\$1,381.91	\$743.97
Paris First	\$679.69	\$471.34	\$44.02	\$29.69	\$38.32	\$829.96	\$283.78
Pittsfield	\$4,421.12	\$8,965.35	\$286.32	\$193.12	\$249.25	\$7,314.50	\$1,823.89
Quincy Emmanuel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$776.75	\$0.00
Rantoul	\$741.94	\$587.20	\$48.05	\$32.41	\$41.83	\$1,186.84	\$309.76
Roxana	\$4,265.02	\$2,229.31	\$276.22	\$186.30	\$240.45	\$6,498.83	\$2,401.13
Royalton First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salem Grace	\$6,342.35	\$3,784.70	\$410.75	\$277.05	\$357.57	\$7,807.77	\$2,849.63
Shelbyville	\$3,935.33	\$2,053.03	\$254.87	\$171.91	\$221.86	\$4,398.53	\$1,620.69
Sherman	\$2,281.62	\$1,145.12	\$147.77	\$99.67	\$128.63	\$356.05	\$161.23
Sparta	\$59.41	\$0.00	\$3.85	\$2.60	\$3.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
Springfield First	\$2,575.50	\$0.00	\$166.80	\$112.50	\$145.20	\$0.00	\$0.00
Springfield Trinity	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
Taylorville First	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuscola	\$858.50	\$1,000.00	\$55.60	\$37.50	\$48.40	\$2,760.00	\$1,000.00
Urbana Lighthouse	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vandalia	\$76.02	\$8.18	\$4.92	\$3.32	\$4.28	\$87.28	\$31.73
Virden	\$830.59	\$264.72	\$53.81	\$36.29	\$46.82	\$1,323.35	\$305.58
West Union	\$474.75	\$0.00	\$30.74	\$20.74	\$26.77	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>\$84,347.97</b>	<b>\$55,415.61</b>	<b>\$5,462.72</b>	<b>\$3,684.46</b>	<b>\$4,755.34</b>	<b>\$106,897.09</b>	<b>\$40,490.64</b>

# CHURCH NEWS

## (NMI Continued)

October Emphasis is Mission Priority One:

### Why Mission Priority One?

God's desire to draw all people to Himself is our mission. When we lovingly, intentionally live out that mission, we are obedient to Christ.

Sometimes we need ideas on how to live a mission-centered life. We need clear, realistic direction to help carry out God's mission. That's the reason for Mission Priority One (MPO).

While there are countless ways to share Christ's message of hope, MPO has goals that help churches accomplish two things:

1. Increase church members' passion for God's mission.
2. Assist churches in taking the message of Christ to the world.

### What is Mission Priority One?

NMI has four objectives in which every local church can participate:

**Praying**—Interceding for leaders and churches and for the Holy Spirit to draw all people to Christ.

**Discipling**—Involving and mentoring future missions leaders, especially youth and children, to make Christlike disciples for God's mission in the nations.

**Giving**—Devoting ourselves and our resources, especially the World Evangelism Fund, to extend Christ's kingdom.

**Educating**—Informing people of the World's needs and enabling our church to meet those needs in Christ.

We offer mission activities based on these objectives to ensure a church's involvement in God's global mission.

By making mission a priority, a congregation demonstrates God's passion for all people. Churches involved in mission attract people who want to be part of something bigger than themselves.

### What are the MPO Requirements?

Local Mission Priority One requirements are:

1. 90% of churches prayed for missions.
2. 90% of churches used missions resources and participated in all five global awareness categories.
3. 90% of churches involved children and youth in missions.
4. 90% of World Evangelism Fund for the district paid.

Through MPO, a congregation extends Christ's message around the world. Pastors are educated, and mission workers are supported. New believers come to Christ through prayer. Children, youth and adults hear God's call to cross-cultural ministry.

**Thank You - I want to thank you for the lovely corsage given to me during the Illinois District Assembly. I sincerely appreciate attending the district Assembly and I want to thank you for your kindness to me. I am grateful for the love and appreciation given to my son, Jim and Karen on the Illinois District. Sincerely, Irene Spruce**

**Pastoral Supply -- Are you looking for someone to supply? Consider using Rev. Tim Young, Jr. Pastor Young is pastoring our re-start church at Granite City. His contact information is below:**

**(618) 876-5020  
timyoung84@gmail.com  
3245 Princeton Dr.  
Granite City, IL 62040**

## IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK

By  
Eva Pinkston

If these walls could talk what would they say?

Would they speak of humble beginnings, who came, who left, who stayed?

Speak walls of Rush Memorial; tell how you got your start,

From an old "Way out Mission" to the Compassionate Ministry that continues to beat with a God filled heart.

If these walls could talk, would they tell of Saturday School, family's struggles & strains?

Would they tell how eager the children were as they ran and played,

How the word of the Lord was planted in their hearts to remain?

If these walls could talk, here is what they would say:

O speak walls of Rush Memorial, for you have a story to tell.

Of people named Mary, Hattie, Berdis, Tim, Walter, Muriel.

We remember them all very well.

They were the pioneers of how these walls came to be,

They started with cracks, holes and leaks, with mice, men and women and prayers for peace.

O speak walls of Rush Memorial; tell how you feel today!

The Church Triumphant has gone but its legacy is here to stay.

The number is small, but the call is great,

Building a Compassionate Ministry from a vision of God, in an area of a city, located right at hells gate.

Your vision will rise, because God, He, has blessed and we know it will prevail,

Because God's word is true and it will never fail.

If these walls could talk, this too is what they'd say;

His word lives and we live in Him,

Until the end of our day.

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**Missional Strategy**  
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## The Problem of Wineskins

*“... no one puts new wine into old wineskins. The new wine would burst the old skins, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine must be put into new wineskins. But no one who drinks the old wine seems to want the fresh and the new. 'The old is better,' they say.” – Luke 5:37-39*

In this small parable, Jesus distinguishes between something essential and primary (the wine) and something secondary but also necessary and useful (the wineskins). Wineskins are important, but only if you have the wine to fill them. Without the wine, the wineskins become unnecessary. The ministry of Jesus was (and is) potent and vital like new wine. The old containers of the Pharisees could not hold it. Soon they got the message that he did not come to simply fill their old wineskins with the same old vintage, Jesus came to fill new wineskins with new wine.

Today, in the life of the church, there is still that which is new and potent, and essential – the gospel of Jesus Christ. The wine of the gospel, because it is borne of the Spirit, is never changing, but ever new and potent. Yet there remains that which is secondary, supplementary, and man-made. These include the traditions, structures, and ways of doing things that have grown up around the gospel. The problem comes when we, like those in Jesus' first audience, consider the preservation of wineskins to be more important than the reception of new wine.

Wine, when it is new, is undergoing a chemical process called fermentation which is what changes it from mere grape juice to wine. It is a potent process full of life, yeast and sugars interacting and producing alcohol and carbon dioxide. The newer the wine, the more active this process which will eventually mellow as it ages. New wine therefore could not be put into an old wineskin, grown brittle and rigid with use. Old wineskins could not expand and would thus burst with the expansion.

For example, champagne – which is made by intentionally inducing a second fermentation process after bottling – was not discovered until bottles and corks were developed which could contain the process. Early attempts often proved disastrous. In the early 1700's, cellar workers would have to wear heavy iron masks to prevent injury from spontaneously bursting bottles. Such explosions, when they occurred would often set off chain reactions of bursting bottles, wasting gallons of wine. Jesus says that new wine will do that to old wineskins every time.

Like his first miracle in Cana, Jesus still makes the best wine. The “wine” of the gospel is always new, and religious structures were not meant to contain it but for a season. The problem, Jesus says, is that folks get stuck on the old. *“No one who drinks the old wine seems to want the fresh and the new. 'The old is better,' they say.”* Without constant renewal, people tend to become “old winos” -- addicted to the taste of old wine. For all its virtues, “old time religion” may have been good enough for past generations, but it may not be good enough to contain the new wine Jesus wants to pour out on a new generation of disciples.

We should not be surprised that many who are religious do not embrace the change that Jesus represents. The problem is that the Gospel is all about transformation – change. The Christian life is not an invitation to walk down an aisle; and then pick a pew. It's the invitation to a lifetime journey of following Jesus, and to be constantly renewed in his presence. If we are to follow Jesus, then, change is inevitable. Any life that stays the same cannot remain Christian. Faithful discipleship will require that we develop a taste for new wine. Holiness does not describe an experience and commitment to days gone by, but a constant commitment to remaining filled with his Holy Spirit. *“Do not be drunk with wine...but be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5:8)*

What are we going to do about the problem of wineskins in the church? Do we want to be known as the First Church of the Eternal Wineskin? Or do we want to be known as the church where the “new wine” of the Spirit can always be found? To do so means that we must always be ready for God to change our structures in order fulfill their true purpose – to carry the gospel to others.

Blessings,

Mark Copley  
District Missionary