

# New England Ministers' News

Volume 16, Issue 8

August 2007

The Mission  
of the Church  
of the Nazarene:

To Make  
Christlike Disciples  
in The Nations

## Inside This Issue:

NYI Report	2
SH Camp & NYI Events	2
NMI Report	3
Looking Ahead	4
Mission Strategy	4
More Photos	4
District Men's Retreat	5
Chaplaincy	5
Sunday School	6
Windsor Hills	7
Reynolds Institute Scholarships	7
District Calendar	8

## Our Calling

This month I have been led to remind us all of “our calling.” Do you remember when God called you into ministry? When He began to speak into your heart, mind, and soul that you must be set apart for work that He has for you to do! He wanted you to do something different than what “you” thought would be your life’s work! I am reminded of my calling each time, I meet with a new church board, and we discuss the calling of a new pastor coming to their special and great church. During the meeting, there is always one member of the board who will ask the question, “why would this pastor come to our church?” I love this question! As I talk with the board members, I inform them that it is “the calling” from God which informs the pastor to come to a church that might have fewer resources and the numbers might not look so good, but is God who will sustain and keep that individual and that church on the journey of faith.

I love explaining to the church board members, that it is always about “the calling” of the pastor. The inner “calling” that comes only from God. This calling comes by the anointing of the Holy Spirit and it is He that guides the pastor to the church! It should always be “our calling” that leads us to the right church, at the right time, and moment! The role of the board members is to seek and hear from God who He is calling to come the church!

It is the leading of the Holy Spirit, that unique call and response, which is only generated from the heavenly realms, that leads an individual to leave “the known for the unknown.” As God spoke to Abraham to leave the known for the unknown, God is still on His throne today, leading us to go from the known to the unknown. The unique calling of God. In my wallet, I carry this old worn piece of paper talking about the calling of God and what it means and what it does for us!

*It is “our calling” that keeps us from giving up when we are most discouraged or have the biggest need to quit. Even in time of significant disappointment, it is “our calling” that keeps us going. We are reminded of our calling by the Holy Spirit and sometimes need to remember the honor and privilege to be allowed to have “the calling.”*

Today, think about your calling and remember that He has allowed us to work in His Vineyard and it is indeed an honor and privilege! I hope and pray that you each are getting some well deserved rest in the Lord!

Blessings,  
*Jessie*





Victoria Clark  
District  
NYI President



### Water ~ Fire ~ Wind NYC '07

As you begin to read this article, you must understand I am sitting in St. Louis, MO attending Water ~ Fire ~Wind NYC '07. I am surrounded by 9,800 teens and leaders. Even before the sun rose on Monday July 9<sup>th</sup> many teens and leaders were packing up their bags for the first round of fights. There were four flights carrying 108 teens and 19 adult sponsors. The Lord granted us all traveling mercies for our safe arrival. We have been privileged to walk from our hotel to the Convention Center many, many times a day. At first, it seemed very difficult and tiresome but it is second nature to

all of us now. Before we know it, we have arrived at the Convention Center. We have all enjoyed the Worship services in the morning and after dinner. After lunch, we attend a tract for the afternoon. Some of the tracts available were, Habitat for Humanity, Feeding of the 5,000 {sorting food and learning how to distribute large amounts of food} World Leadership, Multi-Topic sessions, sports, film school, one audience {anyone with musical talent}.

Many of our teens have been seeking after the Lord in a very real and sincere way during NYC

worship. Many have wrestled all week with taking care of the barriers that hinder the Holy Spirit working in their lives, trust, being real, surrendering and being challenged to hold nothing back from the Lord. We who have been called to be their Spiritual mentors {pastor, SS teachers, discipleship leaders} have a responsibility to carry each of them first to the Lord through prayer and second, to be the best Godly example possible. May the great God we serve give us the strength and wisdom to uphold this calling for our teens.



Jeremiah Bolich, SH  
Camp Speaker

### Sr. High Camp and Upcoming Events

Over the last 10 months Kelly Miner and Nate Patnode have been planning Sr. High Camp, July 23-28, 2007. The theme for the week is Making a Mark: Living a Life Worth Remembering. Our speaker is Jeremiah Bolich. He is a traveling evangelist for the church. Jeremiah brings a passionate love to challenge and disciple each person to whom he proclaims God's Word. We will also be having a guest speaker on Tuesday morning. Mrs. Ann Van Hine will be with us to share a word of testimony

of how her husband made his mark. There will also be an Eastern Nazarene College summer ministries team leading us in worship. Michael Payne will join us on Friday Evening to help lead us in worship

as well. We are very excited about what God plans to do during this week. Pray for the transforming lives of the teens who will attend Sr. High Camp

Camp Theme

**Making a Mark:  
Living a Life  
Worth  
Remembering**

#### Upcoming NYI Events:

- Soulfest ..... August 2-5
- Jr. High Camp..... August 6-11
- Teen Quizzing Kick-Off Weekend.....September 7-9
- College & Career Day @ Six Flags ..... September 15
- Mountain Climb .....September 21-22

## August Challenge: LINKS and Prayer

### **What does LINKS Mean to Our Missionaries?**

"I don't know what missionary life would be like without LINKS – it would be so dull and lacking something important," says Lisa Lehman, serving in Thailand. Joseph Penn, retired missionary, said, "The Church of the Nazarene cares for its missionaries. LINKS keeps us in contact with the church. We know they are still thinking about us and praying for us. We do not feel isolated, but well cared for."

Linda Phelps asked the missionaries to rate their present LINKS district and districts who got the highest rating were the ones that were assured of your prayers, letters of encouragement, and little remembrances...obviously

more than money! From Linda Phelps, General LINKS Coordinator

Again, we ask you to remind your mission team that LINKS, Christmas Fund and Furlough Fund are due September 1.

### **Prayer**

Do you ever wonder if taking the time to pray for our missionaries makes a difference?

David and Sylvia Potter, Vanuatu would say definitely!!! They were waiting for the arrival of an ocean container carrying materials to build their home in Vanuatu. When they went to the Customs Office to request an exemption on the import duty they were denied and told their fees would total \$28,000.

The Potters mobilized people to pray and when they returned to the Customs office to retrieve a letter from them stating what they would be charged. Under rate of duty was listed the word, "FREE." There was no other explanation given. They left singing, "He's a miracle-working God!"

### *Prayer Requests:*

\*Pray for Christy Sunberg and the workers and campers attending Junior High Camp.

\*Pray for our District LINKS missionaries and for our District Missionaries.

\*Regional NMI Conference October 7-9, 2007.



Gerry Perry  
District Missions  
President

## Regional Conference ... Thanks ... WEF Need

### **Eastern Regional NMI Conference: October 7-9, 2007**

It will be a time of information, inspiration, networking, idea sharing and encouragement. It will be very informative for your president to attend. Changes in NMI will be presented. PASTORS PLEASE LET US KNOW if you or your NMI President will be attending the

Regional Conference, Camp Taconic, New York. Information is on page 81 in the District 2007-2008 NMI Handbook. Please register as soon as possible.

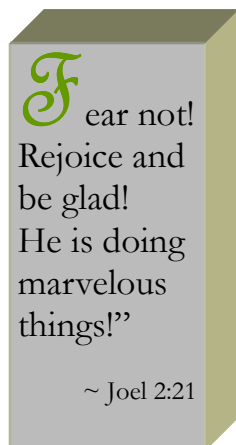
### **Thank You for Pledges!**

Special thanks to all who pledged at District NMI Convention toward the Willing Work and Witness Fund for 2007-2008. Over

\$7500. was pledged. Praise the Lord!

### **WEF Shortfall**

Our WEF Fund is short \$3500. When our 2006-2007 WEF Fund is paid 90% we will assure our Work and Witness teams that they can go.



**F**ear not!  
Rejoice and  
be glad!  
He is doing  
marvelous  
things!"

~ Joel 2:21



### Looking Ahead ... Alabaster



September is Alabaster month. Pennies, nickels and dimes make a difference. "The Alabaster Offering,

based on Jesus' anointing in Bethany in Matthew 26 is like 'perfume money' – not spent on ourselves but given to Jesus. The funds

are transformed into buildings and property sites as holiness evangelism centers around the world."



Kim Richardson  
Mission Strategy Coordinator

### Do you have a plan?

*Pastor friends in Ministry...*

We all say it don't we, "I'm tired of playing church. I want to see lives changed; real transformation?" My question these days as I travel and visit among you is, "How are you/your church planning to win/disciple your next ten (10) people to Christ? Do you have a plan? How

much time in your weekly schedule is spent with pre-Christians, with new Christians being discipled, with more established Christians who are committed to learning how to do what you are doing?

Let's not allow buildings and programming to keep us from people. Let's pray to God for the people and

then talk/listen to the people about God.

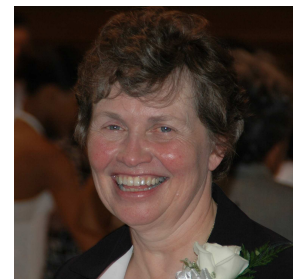
In the midst of the battle remember that God is God (we are not). Stay healthy in spirit, body and mind.

God bless you (and your ministry),

Kim

Continue to Build the ...

# WALL OF FAITH



More Photos from NMI Convention and District Assembly

## District Men's Retreat - September 14-16

*From the desk of the NED Men's Ministry director, Pastor George Hemway...*

Greetings to all pastors and ministry leaders on our district! I'm sure everyone is busy with summer activities that we try to accomplish during our short New England summers. I hope one of the things you're planning on doing very soon is registering for the District Men's Retreat scheduled for September 14-16. Now is the time to get those registrations in.

Registration forms were distributed at district assembly. They were also distributed at the most recent pastor's brunches. I also have many extra

forms if needed or feel free to photo copy the form if you need more. All the information about the retreat is on the front and back of the form.

So pastors and ministry leaders...I'm asking for your support of our district men's retreat. Please promote it and encourage your men to register now. September is not that far off. I encourage you to mention it from the pulpit, at meetings, at fellowships, etc.

I've been told that Promise Keepers is NOT holding an event in the northeast this year so men will be looking for alternatives. This is an outstanding opportunity to bring men

into a deeper fellowship with Jesus and with one another. Please encourage your men to attend.

Thanks so much for your prayers, help, and support. It's going to be a GREAT MEN'S RETREAT because we serve a GREAT GOD!!!

Pastor George Hemway,  
North Haverhill, NH District Adult SS Director  
603-787-6177 or email me at [trinaznhnh@juno.com](mailto:trinaznhnh@juno.com)



Register for the District Men's Retreat Now!

## Chaplaincy News

Chaplains have much to look forward to. We have a wonderful opportunity to go to the Chaplains Quadrennial Conference in 2008. The dates are June 23-27, 2008, it will be held at the Glen Eyrie Conference Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I went four years ago and can't wait to go again. I look forward to a Spiritual Lift, wonderful fellowship, and beautiful surroundings. You can look forward to that too. I encourage you to attend. Early registra-

tion is important because space is limited.

Another great opportunity we are working toward is the Traumatology Training. We do not have a date set yet but it will be announced as soon as possible. This training comes to us from Nazarene Disaster Relief. It will be all day Friday and Saturday so that pastors can get back to their churches for Sunday morning. Would you know what to do in a disaster such as happened on 9/11

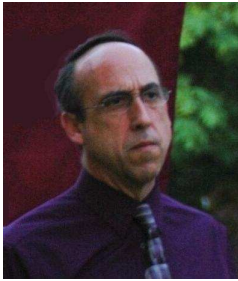
or a smaller situation like a plain crash or a hurricane? Clergy will be needed, but we need to know how to help. This training will be open to all Nazarene Chaplains, all Clergy and the Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps. A date will be set soon.

I pray that everyone is have a great summer.

Blessings,  
Rev. Sally J. Miller



Sally Miller  
District Chaplaincy  
Director



Andrew Belokur  
District Sunday  
School and  
Discipleship Ministries  
Chairman

## God Bless Our Sunday Schools!

As I drove down the street the other day, I observed that on several church signs a notice stating that during the summer there would be no Sunday School, and that even some of the worship services would be curtailed. Why? Some churches have the mistaken idea that the “Long, Hot Summer” is a time to take a vacation from Sunday School. Some churches actually close their schools during the summer.

Others seem to think, because of vacations, it is a waste of time and effort to plan and promote summer Sunday School classes and activities. Others postpone dealing with the attendance decline by saying, “It is a waste of time to do anything now. After Labor Day when vacations are over we can assess the situation, form a new committee and solve the problem.” Those ideas are myths that undercut the importance of Sunday School.

What can we do about decreased summer attendance? First, we can be sure we are putting out a quality product. Each teacher must be encouraged to carry out their ministry position as a God-given calling. We must make sure that our teachers are well-trained.

They must have access to the best teaching materials—Holiness *Word Action* materials, of course! (available at [www.nph.com](http://www.nph.com) or at 1-800-877-0700).

Now is the time to make plans to recruit and train substitute teachers to fill in for vacationing teachers. The summer is a good time to start a new, short-term, elective class. The teacher may do such a good job meeting the needs of the students that the short-term class could become a long-term class during the Fall quarter.

I remember having Sunday School picnics, Vacation Bible School, game nights, class socials, cookouts, and softball games sponsored by the Sunday School. These types of events can bring in those who may not come to church under other circumstances, and gives them an opportunity to see that Christians have fun.

Sunday School needs to be advertised. So many people think that Sunday School is only for children and teens. Pastors, please remember to push your Sunday School program from your pulpit. Adults need to see that Sunday School can help them to take a practical look into the real meaning of the

Holy Scriptures, and in fact their lives. I have heard many stories about people who were not Christians sitting in a class and hearing a member of that class talk about their problems and what they were facing. Through that testimony, the unbeliever can come to see that all people have issues and concerns and are able to hear that Jesus is the answers for their needs.

Promote Sunday Schools through pulpit announcements, bulletins, newsletters, posters or by taking a few moments to introduce the Sunday School teachers and explain the purpose of each class. How will prospective students learn about the value of Sunday School if we do not advertise?

Sunday School is Bible study. If we truly want to raise people up in the knowledge of the Lord, we will make sure that our Sunday School program is of top priority. May God bless our Sunday Schools this summer.





## Outstanding Family Camp with Bud Reedy and Mary Paul!

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Family Camp at Windsor Hills wrapped up on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Attendances were high throughout the week, with large groups in the children and teen departments as well. From the very beginning, the presence of the Holy Spirit was obvious in the testimonies of the people as they told about their experiences of sanctification. God used Mary Paul to strengthen the spiritual foundation of many in her “Spiritual Formation” Bible study. Bud Reedy took us on a cross walk. The specific sermons can be referenced at [www.stillnaz.org](http://www.stillnaz.org) (the Stillmeadow Church of the Nazarene website). Many found spiritual help, clinging to the cross. The camp was able to meet the goal of raising \$5,000 to cover the program for the week, and an additional \$10,000 was pledged to the ongoing improvement and

maintenance of the facility. For all of this, we give God praise!

The Children, under the leadership of Holly and Donny Woodbridge, presented an excellent musical on the final Sunday of the camp. Logistically, we were uncertain how the water supply would work because of a loss of one of our wells, but everything worked out well, and a wonderful week of fun and spiritual growth was enjoyed by many.

In addition to the well, one other item has been added to the camp just this week.

Brother Eugene Rischer of the Uxbridge Church built beautiful new altars for the sanctuary. The oak altars are stunning and fit the sanctuary perfectly.

They will not need to be dedicated, because they have arrived just at the beginning of children’s camp . . . and we know

that EVERY year, children come to know Jesus as their Savior at children’s camp. What more could we do to dedicate these beautiful pieces than to allow children to find their way to the Master at them? I can’t wait to see them get good – holy – use!



Dan Whitney  
Windsor Hills Camp  
Director



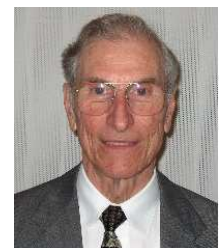
## Reynolds Institute Scholarship Applications Due September 1

It’s time for interested students to apply for a scholarship from Reynolds Institute. An application form is available on the Reynolds website. The form eliminates the need for student and church board to write letters requesting a scholarship. Students should go to

[www.reynoldsinstitute.org](http://www.reynoldsinstitute.org). Then click “Finance & Support” (on the left). Then click “Scholarship Application.” Print out the form . . . both students and pastors have sections that need to be completed. Please note that both student and pastor need to read the “Financial Policy”

also available on the “Finance & Support” page.

Completed forms should be mailed to Melissa Andrew, 57 Maplewood Drive, Townsend, MA 01469. *Applications must be postmarked by September 1 to be considered.*



Larry Ogden  
Reynolds Institute  
Executive Director

New England  
Ministers' News

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## New England District Calendar - August & September 2007

### August - Emphasis: LINKS & Prayer

6-11 Junior High Camp at WHC

### September - NMI Emphasis: Membership, Alabaster & Prayer

- 1 NMI Links Christmas Fund & Furlough Fund due
- 7-9 NYI Quiz Kick Off
- 7-8 Regional Work and Witness Conference, Maryland
- 11 Mission Directors AM - Nashua, NH
- 13 District Advisory Board - Quincy
- 15 NYI College & Career @ Six Flags
- 14-16 District Men's Retreat - WHC
- 20 District Dept. Heads - Quincy
- 21-22 NYI Mountain Climb
- 21-23 Reynolds Institute Assessment Weekend - WHC
- 22 NMI CT/Western MA - Children's Jamboree
- 22 SSM Board
- 24-26 ENC Board of Trustees Meeting
- 29 NMI AMBASSADOR'S JAMBOREE - Weymouth, MA (South Shore Christian School)
- 29 NYI Council Meeting

