

New England Ministers' News

Volume 16, Issue 9

September 2007

Leadership Decisions

The book of 2 Samuel describes King David's reign. It is a book filled with much adventure and exciting reading! Since the Israelites first entered the Promised Land under Joshua, they had been struggling to **unite** the nation and drive out the wicked inhabitants. Now, after more than 400 years, Israel was finally at **peace**. David had accomplished what no leader before him, judge or king, had done. His administration was run on the principle of dedication to God and to the well-being of the people.

Recently, as I was doing my evening devotions, I was reflecting on the last chapter of the book, chapter twenty-four. In this chapter, it depicts a story of a **leadership decision** that King David made that not only **affected** him, but also had **profound effect** on the lives of his people. Toward the end of his reign, David ordered Joab, the commander of the army, to take a census of the people. The Lord did not want this census to be taken and gave David his choice of punishment: seven years of famine; three months of fleeing from his enemies; or three days' pestilence. David chose the epidemic, saying, "I am in great distress. Please let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for his mercies are great. (2 Sam.24:14). This story presents us with many theological and ethical problems as we seek insight into David's dilemma, such as to what really prompted David's request to take a census of the people? God's anger? Satan's ruse (see 1 Ch.21:1)? David's pride? David's insecurity? Some external threat?

My focus today on this story is on the consequences of our **leadership decisions** in the church. This story helps and gives me guidance in what **I should and should not do** when making **leadership decisions** within "the best district in the whole wide world" as a servant of the Lord! The **leadership decisions** that we make, not only **affect** us as servants of the Lord, but our decisions, have deep consequences on the lives of the people, that we have the honor and privilege to serve. In this story, I did not see David inquiring of God as he had done in the past. As we make decisions in the church, are we **daily** bringing everything before our Heavenly Father? At the end of David's reign, he had numbers, power, position, and possessions. Perhaps, David got too comfortable, and because of his **leadership decision**, 70,000 people lost their lives.

I am reminded and **checked in my spirit** that I am **always to take everything** to Him in prayer and not get so comfortable! I am reminded that the decisions that I make and the decisions that **you make** have enormous impact on the Kingdom! We must seek HIM in everything!

We must **stay united** as a Body of Believers!

We must stay in our **Word** daily!

We must **seek** the godly counsel of good friends
and not isolate ourselves!

We must **seek the direction and the Will of the Holy Spirit!**

As David did in the end, we must **seek the forgiveness** and
guidance of our **Lord & Savior!**

Blessings,

Jessie



The Mission
of the Church
of the Nazarene:

To Make
Christlike Disciples
in The Nations

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Daniel & Rebekah Milette



John Megyesi



Silas & Elizabeth Almeida



Jeffrey & Kelley Lane



Stoner Smith

Michael Prestia and
Kathy Dennis-Prestia

New Pastors and Installation Services Announced

We welcome two new pastors to the New England District:

Danvers Daniel & Rebekah Milette and their four sons, Jacob, Kyle, Adam and Aaron, come to us from Lee's Summit, MO. Their first Sunday will be October 14, 2007.

Daniel graduated from Gordon College in 1995, and became an ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene in the Kansas City District in 2004. Since 1995 he has held several different pastoral positions in Missouri, Ohio, and New York.

Lowell First John and Melanie Megyesi and their three sons, Brendan, Liam, and Riley, come to us from the Kenmore Church of the Nazarene in Akron, Ohio. Their first Sunday in Lowell will be September 16th.

John is a graduate of Mt. Vernon Nazarene College in 1996 and Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1999. Prior to serving as Senior Pastor in Akron, Ohio, John served as Associate Pastor of Children in Shawnee, Kansas.

We praise God for providing pastors for several more of our churches:

Ipswich Michael Prestia was installed in the Ipswich Church on August 12. Michael is a graduate of ENC and the New England Nazarene Bible College Extension Program. He has previously served as Associate pastor in Malden, Framingham and Beverly.

Michael and his wife Kathy Dennis-Prestia have four grown children: Michael (married to Lila), Nathan, Elizabeth Dennis, and Matthew Dennis.

Wakefield, RI Stoner Smith will become the pastor of the Wakefield, RI church on September 2, 2007. Stoner is a recent graduate of Reynolds Institute and has been very active in the Chaplaincy program.

Stoner and his wife, Lori, have three daughters: Ashley Smith, and Pamela and Valerie Banning.

West Somerville Jeffrey Lane's first Sunday in West Somerville was on August 12th. Jeff is a graduate of ENC and

Nazarene Theological Seminary. He previously served as Associate Pastor at Lowell First Church.

Jeffrey and his wife Kelley have four foster children.

The following installation services have been announced:

September 2, 2007

West Somerville Church of the Nazarene
Jeffrey & Kelley Lane

September 9, 2007

Providence First Church of the Nazarene
Silas & Elizabeth Almeida

September 16, 2007

Wakefield, RI Church of the Nazarene
Stoner & Lori Smith

September 23, 2007

Lowell First Church of the Nazarene
John & Melanie Megyesi

Come and join in the celebration of these churches as they welcome their new pastors!

September Challenge: Membership, Alabaster & Prayer

Remember your LINKS, Christmas Fund and Furlough Fund are due September 1.



World Evangelism Fund Update

Our WEF Fund for the 2006-2007 church year is short \$1,500. When the WEF Fund is paid 90% we can assure our Work and Witness teams that they can go.

If you can help our district to meet its obligation we would really appreciate it. New England Nazarenes love missions and lost souls!

Prayer Requests:

- ✧ Pray for Alabaster Offering
- ✧ Pray for the Connecticut/Western MA & South Shore Jamborees on September 1
- ✧ Regional NMI Conference October 7-9, 2007.

September is Alabaster Month

Alabaster is one of the most bold "God-things" we know. As the church develops throughout the world, there are more churches and other mission buildings to construct. Every nickel, dime and quarter is valuable when it comes to actually build for God's Kingdom. Give to Alabaster. It's a gift that keeps on giving.



Coming in October ...

October is Mission Priority One Month. October marks the middle of the 2007-2008 church year. Everyone should get a check up at least once a year. This is a great time to do your church NMI check up! See page 11 in the District NMI Handbook to help you diagnose the health of NMI in your church.

Eastern Regional NMI Conference, October 7-9, 2007.

It will be a time of information, inspiration, networking, idea sharing and encouragement. *Every President will be inspired and challenged! Pastors please help your President to attend!* Pastors that serve as coordinators of their missions program are also welcome to register. Information is on page 81 in the District 2007-2008 NMI Handbook. Speakers will be Dr. Daniel Ketchum, Mary Johnson, Rev. Eunice Brubaker, and several workshop presenters. Please register as soon as possible. Email Gerry Perry at gerryper-ry2@comcast.net.



"Fear not!, Rejoice and be glad! HE is doing marvelous things!" Joel 2:21



Gerry Perry
District Missions
President

Did You Know?

The **Manual 2005-2009** is available online in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Korean at the Nazarene.org website: www.nazarene.org/ministries/gensec/2005-09Manual

The internet is full of devotional guides and Bible

study helps. Check out: www.studylight.org

By connecting to the internet through **GoodSearch.com**, GoodSearch automatically makes a donation to the charity of your choice.

You can download logos of the Church of the Nazarene from: www.nazarene.org

Care to share your favorite sites? Send them to: mbandrew@verizon.net for possible publication in the district newsletter.

www.org



Victoria Clark
District
NYI President

NYI Council 2007-08

What a privilege to serve with great leaders on the NYI Council 2007-08. God is going to do great things through this team because of the gifts they will contribute. Welcome to the Team!

- President ~ Victoria Clark, Dennis Cape Cod Church
- Vice President ~ Steve Guertler, Community Chapel Nashua, NH
- Secretary ~ Steve Raney, Uxbridge Church
- Treasurer ~ Andrew Davenport, Lowell First Church
- Missions Area Director ~ Susan Magnuson, Brockton First Church
- College & Career ~ Emily Piesco & David Johanson

- Jr. High Reps ~ Jocelyn Paul & Greg Whitney
- Sr. High Reps ~ Stef DiLoreto & Andrew Cook
- Festival of Life ~ Gerry Desrochers, Lowell First Church
- Teen Quizzing ~ Lori Jeffrey, Lowell First Church
- Mountain Climb ~ JR Pol-

- son, Living Hope Church Beverly, MA
- Jr. High Retreat Coordinator ~ Joshua Howard, Uxbridge Church
- Sr. High Retreat Coordinator ~ Jonathon Batchelder, Quincy Wollaston Church

Upcoming NYI Events:

- Teen Quizzing Kick-Off Weekend.....September 7-9
- College & Career Day @ Six Flags September 15
- YouthFest @ Windsor Hills Camp.....September 21-22
- F.O.L. Rehearsal @ Brockton First September 29
- NYI Council Meeting @ Brockton First (1:30-3:30)..... September 29

District Reminders ...



September 21 – Prayer & Fasting Time. Please continue to join in prayer for our District from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. Great things are happening as we continue to be a united team in both prayer and fasting.

WEF 2006-2007 - Please review your WEF 2006-2007 amounts and ensure that payments have been properly sent and recorded. We are currently at 89.2%. In order for us to send out district Work & Witness teams, we must send in approximately \$3,700 more dollars. Please seek God's counsel and direction in this matter.



Second Annual District Men's Retreat - September 14-16. Contact Pastor George Hemway for more information (603-787-6177 or trinaznhnh@juno.com).

First Fall Clergy Retreat October 2-3, 2007

Annual District Women's Retreat October 5-7, 2007

Area Branches - October 9 & 16th, 2007

Pastor/Spouses Renewal October 26-28, "Teachable & Memorable Moments." Note the change - the renewal runs Friday *through* Sunday. Plan now to have

someone in your church preach. If you need assistance in finding someone to preach on Sunday for you, please let the district office know NOW!

Back by popular demand:
Second Annual Talent Show

Come Prepared!

New England District Fall Ladies' Retreat - October 5-7

Pastors, please encourage the women in your church to attend the New England District Fall Ladies' Retreat.

It will be another year of fun, fellowship and learning more about God's love. The guest speaker will be Lorenda Dunham (see bio below). The ladies will be making cards to send to the missionaries from our District once again this year. They should especially remember to bring a journal this year.

Cost:

\$115 Inn

\$95 All Other Accommodations

Registrations after 9/12, add \$10.

Please contact Faye Arey with ALL Questions regarding registration or accommodations:

Faye Arey
8 N. Main Street #3
Leominster, MA 01453
(508)-981-7337
f_arey@juno.com

Lorenda Dunham Bio:

Lorenda grew up as a PK (preacher's kid) and one of four sisters. While attending Eastern Nazarene College, she earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She and her husband, Mike and four children reside in Johnson – in the beautiful Green Mt. state of Vermont. Lorenda loves the Lord and has ministered to His church in various ways. She heard the Lord's calling for a deeper commitment to His work and answered by attending Reynolds Institute to become an Ordained Elder in the Church of the Nazarene. She currently is on staff at Lamoille Valley Church of the Nazarene as an Associ-

ate Pastor and Children's Pastor. Her love for the Lords work also includes reaching out through Ladies and Small Group Bible studies, serving on the District Ministerial Credentials and Studies Board and Sunday School Ministries Board. Her passion is teaching children about Jesus through Sunday Children's church and any other means she can touch their little lives with including many fun activities through out the year. Her hobbies (as time allows) include knitting, scrap booking, shopping, and being a friend to all she meets. Lorenda has a deep desire to serve and bring honor to her Lord in all that she does. Her prayer is that He will use her as His vessel to do His work however He chooses.



Lorenda Dunham, Guest Speaker

Register for the District Women's Retreat Now!

Download the Registration Form from the district website:
www.nednaz.org

Chaplaincy News

I hope that you are planning to attend the District Equipping Day on November 10th. There will be workshops from all departments of ministry. The Chaplaincy workshop will be run by our former District Chaplaincy Director Rev. Ann C. Rearick. If anyone in your church is interested in Chaplaincy

please bring them along so that they can attend this very exciting workshop. Chaplaincy is reaching people for Christ beyond the Church walls. Chaplains see people who would never walk into your church. Chaplains meet people during the most difficult times of their lives and bring Hope.

Chaplains are following the "Great Commission" in a very tangible way. I can't tell you how blessed I am to see God work in peoples lives every day

Blessings,

Rev. Sally J. Miller
District Chaplaincy Director.



Sally Miller
District Chaplaincy Director



Kim Richardson
Mission
Strategy
Coordinator

Questions - Questions - Questions ...

Are you healthy - physically - spiritually - emotionally - intellectually?

Is "your" church healthy?

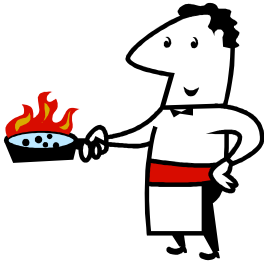
Do you have a plan to win and disciple "your" next ten people to Christ?

On a scale of 1 to 10, what is your passion level?

Is it time to ask for help?
God bless you in ministry.

~ Kim

Rev. Rick Smith Joins Staff of Windsor Hills



Windsor Hills Camp is pleased to announce the addition of Rev. Rick Smith to the staff. Rev. Smith is moving from the pastorate of the East Charleston, Vermont Church of the Nazarene, and will be living at 33 Beech Drive, Windsor, NH 03244 with his family. The house was formerly inhabited by Rev. Jack and Susan Hanyak. Rick's wife's name is Sandy and together they have two sons, Joshua and Caleb.

Rick will serve as both Operations Manager and Head Cook for the facility. He will join Dan Whitney, Executive Director and Tim Mather, Facilities Manager. Rick is a member of the District Sunday School Ministries Board, where he serves as treasurer, and is currently the District Children's Camp Director.

As the retreat ministry of the camp continues to expand, it has become necessary to have a cook con-

tinually available to cover that aspect of the ministry. Rev. Smith brings a strong business background as well as commercial cooking experience with him. He will also contribute to the effort to explore church planting opportunities in the area. Rick began his duties on August 5, 2007. The Camp Board and the New England District are very excited to welcome the Smith family to Windsor, New Hampshire!

Fall 2007 Sunday School Emphasis



"The goal of the "Make the Connection With Others" Sunday School emphasis is to encourage Sunday School members to solidify relationships with people within the church and build new relationships with those outside the walls of the church.

"This emphasis moves the influence of Sunday

School beyond Sunday into every day, challenging participants to bring the Good News of Christ into everyday life situations, relating to people where they are, and building relationships with them.

"Establishing trust and building upon that foundation lets others know that the church is genuinely

concerned about them – that they're not just a faceless number to get into the Sunday School. Making a connection with others is hard work, but it's Kingdom work." (from the Nazarene SSM website)

For more information, go to:
www.nazarene.org/ministries/ssm/spiritualgrowth/fall2007

News from Windsor Hills Camp

The summer camping season will be finished when you read this (Written with one day to go at Junior High camp!) What an exceptional summer we have had!

Even before Family Camp began, the adventures commenced. A new well needed to be drilled to replace a well that dried up. That was still not completed by the time children's camp started. (I've written about our excellent Family Camp previously, so I will omit that here.)

Children's Camp enrolled 143 kids and a large staff of workers and counselors. Director Rick Smith did an outstanding job of keeping the kids focused with a variety of fun activities. Spiritually, the chapels and devotional times were blessed by God. And all of this in spite of a severe storm that blew through the camp the day before it opened. On opening day, we still had no electricity in the Dining Hall and there was no power in the cabins until after lunch. The electric company did an excellent job of helping us get rolling again, and by bedtime on night one, all the electricity to the camp, except for a few small cabins which we evacuated, was restored. Tim Mather cut

up fallen trees and restored electrical lines to complete the job. By Thursday, most of the evidence that there had even been a destructive storm was gone!

Senior High Camp, directed by Nate Patnode and Kelly Miner, was busy, busy, busy! Teens responded enthusiastically to the aggressive scheduling filled with fun and games and activities. No one was sickened by the food of substitute cook Dan Whitney. Response to the speaker was what we hoped for – students giving their lives to God, giving their futures to God. Friday night closed with a late night Coffee House that the teens really enjoyed. It was an exceptional week.

Junior High Camp has been fabulous. A small, but dedicated, staff of counselors is coordinating the activities of 119 junior high teens. Slip and Slide (or Slip and Splat—depending on your skill level) is a popular activity this week, once again. Speaker Steve Martin and Missionary Krista Sunberg are doing a spectacular job. One veteran teen said to me, "Best camp speaker I have ever heard!" We are anticipating big things for chapel this evening. One of the activities of the Junior High Group was

the creation of stained glass windows for the entry of the Inn. (See attached picture) Designed by Pastor David Shaw, these beautiful windows have been installed and are already brightening the lobby of the Inn at Windsor. Directors Mat Thomas and Brian Bollinger are getting very little sleep, and you would know that to look at them.

New Cook/Facilities Manager has arrived and is already at the stove in the kitchen. He is doing an outstanding job of cleaning up the disorganization left behind by the temporary cook of the previous week. Special thanks to the pastors and laypersons that have come to camp this summer to serve as counselors and program directors. We couldn't do it without you! You have made an incredible investment in our children, and we thank you from our heart!

All of us are looking forward to the big retreats coming this fall:

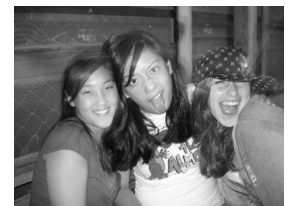
Men's Retreat - September 14-16, 2007

Ladies Retreat - October 5-7

Hope to see you there!



Dan Whitney
Windsor Hills Camp
Director



New England
Ministers' News

New England District
Church of the Nazarene

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Vincent Crouse
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New England District Calendar - September 2007

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

