



Kentucky District

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KYNAZ NEWS

Winter 2021



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Only One Life

by Brian L. Powell

*Things here, things there, things everywhere.
Things fill our lives. By things, we do survive.
It's part of who we are.*

We need bigger houses and like nicer cars.

People love to consume things.

Things love to consume people.

It just keeps piling it up

'Til it's as high as the church steeple.

I've never considered myself a poet. Although when sentences start rhyming, it's hard to resist the temptation to see how long I can keep going. When I got to the word "steeple," I felt like that was all I needed to say about how much people love their things.

The stuff that hangs on our walls, sits on our shelves, and fills bins in our storage sheds all represent something. It's the stuff people work for all of their lives. The allure is real; possessions give people a sense of significance. That's why millions of people spend forty to forty-five years acquiring as much as humanly possible. Then they throw away the final chapter of their lives sitting in the sand.

While I could've gone the rest of my life without experiencing COVID, this season has provided some much-needed time to take inventory. I've spent hours and days sorting through things and making trips to Good Will. As I've gone through boxes, I've found myself lamenting the amount of useless stuff that I own that ultimately serves no purpose.



There's nothing inherently wrong with owning things, as long as we don't allow things to own us. I have a collection of walking sticks from different parts of the world. I am also a guitar enthusiast (in the process of getting rid of a few). I don't remember a time in my life, from childhood until now, where I lived in a house that didn't have a room filled with instruments. Music has always brought joy to my family.

The point is that it's okay to enjoy things, as long as we understand that things do not equal life. Some possessions are helpful. For example, I believe music and literature are beneficial for the soul. Thus, instruments and books add value to the human experience. One could make a case for just about anything. But when is it enough?

Sadly, regardless of how much one accumulates, eventually, it's all going to be sold at an estate sale. Have you ever been to an estate sale? It is the final landing spot for a person's belongings before they're tagged and sold to the public or auctioned off at bargain prices.

Estate sales typically happen after a divorce or a death. Walking through rooms once filled with life and rummaging through stuff that represents something that no longer exists can be a bit troubling. There is a sense of sorrow associated with it. At least, it feels that way to me.

I don't want to die a slave to the American Dream. Yet, we live in a culture that shoves it down our throat 24/7. It is a tragedy to think that the stuff we've spent our lives collecting ends up in a box in the garage or attic and ultimately sold for next to nothing. While this scenario might seem sad, maybe it's God's way of helping us see that our culture has fed us a lie, and we've taken the bait.

Numerous men and women, including many self-identifying Christians, are content with a respectable career, a faithful spouse, a good family, a lovely home, a nice car, a few friends, a decent retirement, a quick death, and no hell. Drove of people who fill churches across this country would be satisfied with this life, even if it didn't include Jesus. What a sad state of affairs.

As it relates to estate sales, Jesus might point out that a person's life does not consist in the abundance of their possessions (Luke 12:15). In other words, no sane person on their deathbed has ever found comfort through the stuff stored away in their attic.

So remember, one day sooner than you think, all the things you've spent your life collecting, all the stuff sitting in boxes in your garage, will be sold at an estate sale for pennies on the dollar. Let that sink in.

**“ONLY ONE LIFE
WILL SOON BE PAST.
ONLY WHAT'S DONE
FOR CHRIST WILL
LAST” ~C.T. STUDD**

(Sources: “Desiring God” by John Piper,
James Jordan, C.T. Studd)

Church Planting

by Sergio Monterroso

During these times of uncertainty, confusion, fear, and conflict, the work of our Lord has continued. God is faithful! The KY District has planted several churches this year, even during a global pandemic when we haven't been allowed to meet.

Christian International Church launched at Southern Hills. Pastor Muhoza Rushingana waited several weeks before officially beginning to meet. Currently, a thriving congregation of more than 100 gather every week for worship. They are excited to have a place to call home.

Fuente de Amor launched at Valley. Pastor Omar Orellana is working hard to reach the Hispanic Community in the area. Revival Christian is meeting at Calvary Church in Lexington; Pastor Kaluta Lumenge is leading a growing congregation of more than 100 people.

Mount Sinai African Church continues to meet at Louisville First and has grown to over 120. Pastor Matthew Mabamba is a visionary leader.

Overflow Community Church is registered, and we are excited about the vision God has given Pastor Bob McCabe. We are currently working on two other potential church plants.

In the meantime, we are working with the District Superintendent to officially organize Life Bridge International, Comunidad de Gracia, and Al Estilo de la Cruz.

I am also preparing materials for the course of study this year. We celebrate the Hispanic and African pastors that are working toward ordination. To God be the glory!



Compassionate Ministries

by Bob McCabe

We have all had to deal with COVID with our respective ministries. Looking back, I am thankful that our family obeyed the Lord and moved to Louisville during Christmas last year before the pandemic hit. As a family, we were able to get settled in for what would become a challenging yet rewarding journey. For me, 2020 consisted of two things: waiting and preparation.

Completed To Date

(1) **501c3 Paperwork** – It was finalized in February, two weeks before COVID shut down everything. Usually, the response time by IRS is six months. In October of 2020, the IRS sent the paperwork back and asked us to resubmit it digitally because most of their employees were working from home. We did this the very next day. We hope to hear back from them soon.

(2) **Online Presence** – We have created two Facebook pages: (1) Kentucky District Nazarene Compassionate Ministries; (2) Overflow Community Center. We also launched a website for OverflowCC. The website is averaging 60 views a week.

(3) **Location** – In September, Dr. Brian Powell spoke with Pastor David Roscoe. That conversation led to Calvary Church giving us the approval to start running programs at the church.

(4) **Bank Account** – Pastor Kevin Murphy is serving as treasurer. The donations received to date total \$3,800. We are using Two Mites for online giving.

(5) **Interacting with Churches** – I have met with leaders at Grace Community (Lou.), Louisville First, Laker Point Ministries, Farmdale, Creelsboro, Columbia, and Summersville. As churches get back to normal, I hope to meet with as many leaders as possible about getting involved.

(6) **Connecting to the Community** – I've been reaching out to people in preparation for opening the food pantry. I recently connected with Michael Simms, the family resource director for Bates and Tully Elementary Schools. Total students for the schools are over 1,000. He indicates that 15% lack nutrition, food, clothing, finances, etc. Michael has already notified 80 families about the pantry.

(7) **Grand Opening** – On Monday, January 4, we launched the Kingdom Pantry. We are open the first Monday of every month and also plan to help people in emergency situations. Some churches have done food drives. Pastor Rob Beckett is assisting with the food pantry until April. At that time, Dare to Care will partner with us in this vital ministry.

In Process

Fundraising – This will be ongoing. We will offer training to better equip our leaders and churches in raising funds for compassionate ministries.

Recruiting Volunteers – As of now, we have eight committed to helping in some way. These volunteers don't include the board of directors. We continue to work to recruit more help.

Compassionate Ministry Center – We are submitting the paperwork this week to register as a CMC. This will open the door for funds and more training and visibility.

Communication with District – We continue to connect regularly with pastors about how the non-profit can benefit local churches

Training – All training ceased due to COVID. In 2021, we hope to be able to reengage training events.

Our Vision: “Shaping A New Journey in The Heart of Louisville” (and beyond). We hope to accomplish this by embracing and partnering with the community to raise vibrant children, thriving families, and energetic neighborhoods through a Christ-centered approach that overflows in every aspect of our neighbor's lives.

Our Mission: Enable all local compassionate ministries on the Kentucky District to expand their involvement in their respective communities by having a network of resources to use to make a lasting difference.

My prayer is that Overflow Community Center will be a source of hope for the community. I desire to bring glory and honor to Jesus Christ in all we do. John 7:38 says, “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

Bresee Bible College

by Dr. Doug Hopkins

Bresee Bible College continues to be the premier learning pathway for fulfilling the educational requirements towards ordination. Bresee combines quality academic learning with practical boots-on-the-ground experience.

Our cost per class is lower than anywhere else you will find, matching even that of Nazarene Bible College, who keeps their cost low thanks to a scholarship given to every ministry student. You will not find a better education for the price. The experience of learning alongside your fellow brothers and sisters on the Kentucky District is priceless.

Ministry education is instructive, formative, and applicable. While studying for ministry can be a challenging process, it is also rewarding. Like most things worth accomplishing in this life, nothing worthy of pursuit comes easy.

Secondly, while we employ the spiritual tools of prayer, fasting, meditation, and so on, we must also utilize the physical tools available to us, specifically, books. As you engage courses offered through Bresee Bible College, you will be adding volumes to your ministerial tool kit that will continue to be of use long after the class has ended.

Lastly, Jesus was clear to include “the mind” when He commanded us to Love God. In the words of Leonardo Da Vinci: “As iron rusts when not used, and water gets foul from standing or turns to ice when exposed to cold, so the intellect degenerates without exercise.”



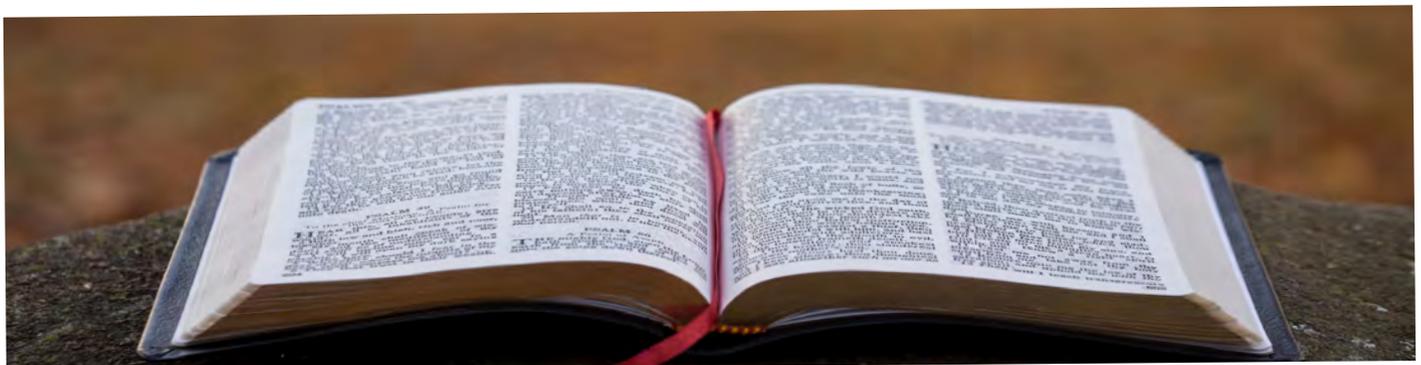
Whether you find yourself pursuing Ordination or wish to exercise your intellect for the glory of God, Bresee Bible College is an option for you.

- Cost per class for ordination \$140
- Cost per class for audit \$70
- Cost per class for ordination & college credit through NBC \$140 (with a heavier work-load)

2021 Spring Quarter Courses (begins mid-March)

- Interpreting Scripture (Dr. Doug Hopkins)
- Christian Preaching II (Dr. Brian Powell)
- Developing a Missional Church (Rev. Daniel Bradshaw)
- Pastoral Care & Counseling (Rev. Mike Justice)

Sign-up today at breseebiblecollege.com and fan the flames for learning and spiritual growth!



Discipleship/SDMI Ministries

by Mike Justice

Mid-Winter Retreat (Session 1) “Navigating the New Normal”

It seems like everything this last year has been unprecedented. We have had to learn how to adapt to a “new normal,” so why not one more thing?! This year, our SDMI is doing something new and unprecedented.

Instead of having our usual Friday-Saturday Mid-Winter Retreat, we are having TWO 1-day SDMI Mid-Winter Retreats. At each of these 1-day events you will experience great worship, challenging messages, and informative training.

On February 20, we will gather at Bowling Green First Church. Dr. Ron Blake, Indianapolis District Superintendent, will be our guest speaker. On February 27, we will gather at Georgetown Church. Rev. Wendell Brown, North Central Ohio District Superintendent, will be our guest speaker.

Choose the location and date that works best for you. And the best part is it's only going to cost \$15 PER PERSON FOR ADULTS AND \$5 FOR KIDS 6-11 YEARS OLD!

Schedule (Both Events):

10:00AM – Worship & Plenary Session
12:00PM – Lunch (provided for you!)
1:30PM – Workshops
3:00PM – Worship & Plenary

Workshops include: Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Sunday School, Men's Ministry, Women's Ministry, Missions, Discipleship, and Changes in the New Normal.

Registration:

Adults: \$15 per person

Children 6-11: \$5

Children 5 and under: Free

NOTE: Due to COVID restrictions childcare will NOT be available this year

Make checks payable to KY District SDMI. Send check and registration form postmarked by Feb. 12, 2020 to:

Georgetown Church of the Nazarene

ATTN: Pastor Mike Justice

726 Lemons Mill Rd.

Georgetown, KY 40324



**MID
WINTER
RETREAT**



Mid-Winter Retreat

Registration Form

Church: _____

Senior Pastor: _____

Pastor's Email: _____

SDMI President: _____

SDMI Email: _____

Location: (Check one):

_____ February 20 @ Bowling Green Naz

_____ February 27 @ Georgetown Naz

Participants: (over 12 yrs. old): _____ x \$15.00 = _____

Children (ages 6-11): _____ x \$5.00 = _____

Children (ages 0-5): _____ x \$0.00 = FREE

Total: _____ \$ _____

***CHILDCARE:** Due to COVID restrictions, childcare will NOT be available this year.

***LATE REGISTRATION:** Registrations postmarked after February 12th.

*Adults: \$20.00, Children (6-11): \$10, Children (0-5): \$5. (Call Pastor Mike Justice to confirm any late registrations at 502.542.0354.)

***DUE TO SPACE AND FOOD ACCOMODATIONS, THERE ARE NO "AT THE DOOR" REGISTRATIONS.**

*All registrations are transferable, but they are not refundable.

Make checks payable to: **KY District SDMI.**

Send your check & registration form **postmarked by Feb. 12, 2021** to:

Georgetown Church of the Nazarene

ATTN: Pastor Mike Justice

726 Lemons Mill Rd.

Georgetown, KY 40324.

SCHEDULE FOR BOTH EVENTS:

(LOCAL TIME)

10:00AM – Worship & Plenary Session

12:00PM – Lunch (provided for you!)

1:30PM – Workshops

3:00PM – Worship & Plenary

Nazarene Missions International

by LaVononne Mullins



Staying on mission is our call. Yet how to do that seems to continue evolving. The top five priorities remain (1) Prayer; (2) World Evangelism Fund; (3) Staying linked with our missionaries; (4) Alabaster; and (5) Involving our children and youth in missions.

The Prayer Mobilization Line has become even more important to us this past year! We are so thankful for the weekly updates. You can still sign up for the email at <http://nazarene.org/who-we-are/organization/ministries/nazarene-missions-international/nmi-prayer>

Michelle Jones, our links coordinator, is staying in touch and sends the following: “Links missionaries would love to continue to hear from us. Tim and Michelle Eby feel the impacts of this pandemic as South Africa is going back to stricter lock-downs. There is a new strain of the coronavirus circulating, and the tightened travel restrictions are discouraging for them. The Solis family thanks us for our prayers and ongoing support.”

Thank you for continuing to make WEF a significant part of your church giving!

Don't forget to submit the funds you have received. We have also used our kids and teens to minister locally: porch drops, old-school cards and letters, and new-school Zoom. How many backpacks have you filled with food for a week? How many lives have we impacted because we intentionally chose to minister to those in need? Please keep records of those things, as they call for celebration.

Don't forget Alabaster! Tammy Borders is doing a great job providing Alabaster resources for our district. She does weekly mission updates on her Facebook page. Pastor Andy Newman then shares the link on Eastland Park Church's page. In February, we will be highlighting these updates on Kentucky's NMI page.

Karen Meadows remains in touch with governmental and travel agencies as she works to reschedule our Work & Witness trip to Tanzania. You are doing a great job of continuing to contribute to this effort. It is incredible to see the project continuing and impacting the community—even when we're not there yet. We still need about \$43,000. Please continue to contribute!

Rev. Virginia Glasper would like to remind you to pray and support your sponsored children. Gethsemane Church has been assigned a new sponsor child. They are now sponsoring the new assigned child and praying for BOTH of their adopted children!

Kimberly Monterroso is working on translating all the videos your council created. Can you imagine the work of creating voice-overs for all the videos! We hope our churches will continue to benefit from the videos being made to keep mission work before your congregations this year! To receive a link to the videos contact me at christinelmullins@gmail.com

Let's keep missions at the forefront of our congregations. We are willing to meet with you any time (in person, via phone, or on Zoom) to help you stay on MISSION!

Finally, please pray we can meet for NMI Convention this summer! Don't hesitate to contact me if you need anything: christinelmullins@gmail.com or (859) 333-6990.



Pray for Missions

MARY AND FRIDAY
GANDA



TIMOTHY AND MICHELLE
EBY



**NMI Ministry
Center in Tanzania**



Nazarene Youth International

by Brad Luke

This past year, we have faced many unexpected decisions as a youth council. As a result of COVID-19, we have been forced to think about our youth and workers' health and safety. However, we have still been able to continue working towards reaching more youth and creating community throughout Kentucky District NYI.

In July, we were able to come together at Camp Garner Creek for our annual Youth Camp. In the months leading up to camp, we had multiple planning sessions where we developed a plan that focused on making sure that we had a safe and successful camp. The way we came together as the Body of Christ for this event indeed demonstrated success. God blessed us with His presence throughout the week. I would have to say that every person— young and old—experienced a move of God in the services and through the small groups. Not only was the presence of the Lord experienced in the services, but also through the activities happening around the campground.

Next, we focused our efforts on the district Lock-In and Breakaway. These events continued due to the planning and diligence of the council and event leaders. These are examples of how God continues to build the foundation for future generations by reaching out and opening our hearts to the presence of the Lord every time we come together. None of these events would have been possible without the countless hours put in by our council members, along with the joint efforts of the volunteers we have in our local churches.

I am thankful for our leaders' unity as we continue to organize events in such crucial times. I am also grateful for our church volunteers, their servant's heart, and their dedication to Kingdom work.

Throughout this season of life, God has opened my eyes to the deep need for discipleship in every local church. During a council meeting in October, I focused on district workers' growth in discipleship, leadership, finance, events, and medical. Committees are currently being formed to address these critical areas in youth ministry. These initiatives will help grow members and volunteers who desire to unify the district NYI by becoming more effective workers and disciples of Christ. In turn, it will build us up into a community of leaders who are growing and discipling others more effectively.

Following the October council meeting, NYI Vice President Ben Johnson prayerfully took the lead. He began meeting once a week with a group of leaders who want to see community and growth. My prayer is to see others take courage and step into these leadership roles as we continue to make disciples.

We invite you to pray about engaging NYI opportunities in the coming year. Jesus laid down His life as a sacrifice for all. May we do the same. While here, our Lord set an example for all of us. I desire to be a reflection of Jesus in my daily walk. My prayer is for us to impact the Kentucky District's youth and build up a generation that is overflowing with God's amazing love.



Calendar of Events

January

23rd – TNT | Farmdale Church | Louisville, KY
25th – REC Session | Green River Missional Area

February

8th – REC Session | Asbury Missional Area
20th – Mid-Winter Retreat (Session 1) | BG First
27th – Mid Winter Retreat (Session 2) | Georgetown

March

13th – Children’s Quiz Meet | Columbia
14th – Daylight Savings Time begins
20th – Teen Quiz Meet | Location TBD
26-27th – Board of Ministry | District Office
28th – Palm Sunday

April

4th – Easter Sunday
8-10th – TNT@TNU | Nashville, TN
30th – End of the Church Year

May

7th – Pastor’s Reports Due Online
7-8th – TNU Commencement
9th – Mother’s Day

June

13-15th – District Assembly & Conventions

July

19-23rd – Children’s Camp | Dixon, TN
19-23rd – Teen Camp | Dixon, TN

September/October

30-Oct 2nd – Pastors & Spouse Retreat | Underwood, IN

November

7th – Daylight Savings Time ends
5-7th – District Layman’s Retreat

Remember to Pray for the Kentucky District Leadership Team



Dr. Brian Powell
District Superintendent



Sergio Monterroso
New Start Coordinator



Debby Sherrill
Office Administrator



Bob McCabe
Compassionate
Ministries Director



Kiza Mukandama
African Church
Coordinator



Doug Hopkins
President, School of
Ministry



Michael Justice
SDMI President
(Discipleship)



LaVonne Mullins
NMI President
(Missions)



Brad Luke
NYI President (Youth)



**Jera LaDonne
Tidball**
Women's Ministries
Director



Andy Newman
District Secretary



Bill McDaniel
District Treasurer



Rob Beckett
Rural Revitalization
Director