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# NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL



*Leora Legacy, NMI President*

*May 2019*

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## **Nazarene Missions: Top Five Areas of Impact**

During the **2019 Florida District Advance** (details p.2), the **NMI Top Five Areas of Impact** were presented by District NMI President Rev. Eric Skelton. They are Prayer, World Evangelism Fund, Alabaster, Engaging Children and Youth and LINKS. The Global Mission efforts at UBNC will emphasize all of these in the next year.

In addition, **UBNC will be involved in Local Outreach** through UCOM, Sunday Night Basketball, Upward, the City Rescue Mission and Christian Heritage. Simply put, **“At UBNC we connect with the world through global missions as well as engage with and minister to our local community.”** See the lobby table for what Nazarenes around the world and those of us in Jacksonville are doing for Christ and the Kingdom. Be a support and get involved through praying, giving and serving. Dr. David Graves, presiding General Superintendent for the Florida District encourages all to, **“Be involved in Kingdom work here and around the world.”**

### **NEW 2019-2022 Florida District LINKS Missionaries** (photos coming soon!)

**Erika Contreras Medina** – (Argentina)

**Joe & Cheryl Young** – (East Timor)

**Beverly Schmelzenbach** – Retired/Floral City, FL

**Mary Meighan** – Retired/Bradenton, FL

### **Praise**

**Africa Region** - Church of the Nazarene membership increased by more than 51,000 between 2017 and 2018, a 7.3 percentage of increase. Between 2008 and 2018, the membership on the Africa Region increased by more than 344,000, an 83.9 percent increase. Give thanks to God! These numbers represent souls that have found a spiritual home in the Church of the Nazarene. Pray that, as the region’s passion for winning souls continues to spread, Nazarenes there will reach out with the love of Christ to their neighbors.

**2019 Florida District Advance** – Your Pastor and delegates to this District convention were inspired by sermons and reports that focused on “God Always Has a Plan.” (see p.2) A new District Superintendent was elected and his name will be announced once his own congregation and staff have been advised. Thank God for the unity during the selection, nomination and voting process.

### **Prayer**

#### **May Missionary Prayer Focus**

**Join the global Nazarene family in prayer for the following missionaries during the month of May:**

Ana Crocker Diaz, Guatemala

Charity Shonamon, Singapore

John and Sandy Cunningham, JESUS Film Harvest Partners

Jonas and Thais Siteo, Angola

Klaus and Martina Arnold, Germany

Clara and Luis Meza, Colombia

Marco and Myrza Velasco, Costa Rica

Esther and Mark Crouch, Papua New Guinea

Agnes and Milly Ibanda, Madagascar

Ruth Cordova, Guatemala

Bill and Marsha McCoy, Papua New Guinea

Remember to pray for missionaries in creative access areas and the people with whom they serve. Given the restrictions with which they must work, they need the Holy Spirit’s inspiration and encouragement.

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# “God Always Has a Plan – Theme for 2019 Florida District Advance”

“God Always Has a Plan” was the theme of the 2019 Florida District Advance held May 3-4, 2019 at the Highland Park Church of the Nazarene in Lakeland, Florida. This theme was emphasized in sermons by General Superintendent Dr. David Graves, reports by District Superintendent Dr. Larry Dennis and others, presentations by Revs. Scott and Emily Armstrong, missionaries to the Mesoamerica region, and music from Trevecca Nazarene University’s group, “Redeemed” and Highland Park musicians.



This assembly was the last for Dr. Dennis who retires at the end of May after serving 19 years as first the Central Florida District and then the Florida District. He said, “God always has a plan in our personal lives, in our churches, for the Florida District, and as our missionaries show us, throughout the world.”

UBNC Pastor Walker and Shari were introduced as one of the new pastoral families on the District. They along with UBNC delegates Jim & Martha Stephens, Phil & B.J. Maggert, Jim and Leora Legacy, Luther & Debbie Delp, Doug & Doris Green, Jennifer Mangaoang, Beverly Strickland, Lynn Barwell, Lisa Barwell, Eugene Sinclair, and Roger & Wanda Craig were part of over 500 delegates voting during the election of the new District Superintendent.

The general announcement of the name of the new Florida DS is being held until May 11 so he can first tell his congregation and staff. There was unity, excitement and praise during the selection process.

Added praise and appreciation were given to Dr. Dennis. He and his wife, Debbie, received special gifts from the District and a reception was held Friday evening in their honor.

Energetic reports were given by District NMI President Rev. Eric Skelton and missionaries Revs. Scott and Emily Armstrong.



Each time Rev. Skelton got on stage, he was wearing a different t-shirt with an NMI Area of Impact on it. (Prayer, World Evangelism Fund, Alabaster, Engaging Children and Youth and LINKS) He then spoke about that particular area and encouraged all attending to be involved in missions globally and locally in these ways

The Armstrongs live in Panama City, Panama, but their mission work encompasses the Mesoamerica Region. (Mexico and all the countries down to Panama as well as Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Puerto Rico, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Guyana, Suriname, French Guyana and all the Caribbean Islands.)

They work with the “Genesis” project which is encouraging and training young people interested in mission outreach to serve outside their home country and then take that missionary spirit back to their own land to build the Kingdom. They told an inspiring story of a Haiti young man who did not seem to have the gifts to serve Christ in a mission capacity. However, God had plans for Him and is developing him into a dynamic force in Haiti and beyond.

There was lots of praising, praying, sharing, connecting, and fellowshiping at District Advance. For more details, Go to [Floridanaz.com](http://Floridanaz.com) or the Florida District Facebook page to see photos about the event and read about all that happened. Full details about the new Florida DS will also be given there.

## Coming Soon in UBNC Missions!

- **New mission books** – watch for them in June
- **2019-2020 Missions Calendar** – to be published in June newsletter
- **LINKS** – photos of new LINKS missionaries
- **Outreach opportunities** – globally and locally. Watch announcements on lobby table, in the newsletter and online
- **World Mission Broadcast** – June emphasis

*Get ready for missions in 2019-2020!!*