
NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL



Leora Legacy, NMI President

August 2019

Missions Globally and Locally

Lots going on in missions during late summer and early fall. **In Global Missions:** Books are out. Read one the old fashioned way or access an e-book or audio book. Get a card on the missions table with more details plus online addresses. Florida District LINKS missionaries will get a monetary gift from us this month. More details about them are in the July newsletter and on the lobby table. Pick-up a LINKS photo magnet and pray for them. On September 22 is the Fall Alabaster Offering. Watch for details! **In Local Outreach:** Christian Heritage begins classes August 8. Check out the blue school binder on the lobby table for details about this ministry UBNC began 44 years ago! Pray, attend events, and promote this ministry. Fall Festival is October 25. Put this outreach event on your calendar. Attend and volunteer. Sunday Night Basketball continues. Give snacks and be part of the Snack Squad once a month.

2019-2022 Florida District LINKS Missionaries

Erika Contreras Medina – (Argentina)

Joe & Cheryl Young & family – (East Timor)

Mary Meighan – Retired/Bradenton, FL

Beverly Schmelzenbach – Retired/formerly in Florida but relocated to Tennessee

Praise

Communities Unite to Reopen Churches – Give thanks to God that after several months of volunteer work, district support, and Alabaster funds, 17 Nazarene churches in Rwanda reopened. The churches closed in 2018 when new governmental building guidelines required remodeling. Pastors and church members worked together to provide the remodels. Nine buildings remain closed. Pray for leaders as they continue working toward reopening the remaining buildings.

Food Initiatives Add to Food Availability – A number of Nazarene agricultural initiatives add to food availability and security on the Africa Region. Pray for the work of the Church of the Nazarene as they seek to provide those in the region with both physical and spiritual sustenance.

Cross-generational Outreach – Praise God for cross-generational efforts to reach post moderns with the gospel around the world. Pray much fruit would result from churches endeavoring to reach post-modern people in post-Christian settings

Prayer

David and Sylvia Potter, serving in Vanuatu – The Potters ask for God to help them be faithful and effective in training pastors, teachers, and graduates. Pray, also, for the South Pacific Nazarene Theological College pastor-graduates, as they teach Bible College courses while also leading their churches and district. Another request is for all to join them in prayer for God to call men and women into leadership positions in the church in Vanuatu, and for those called to say “yes.” Finally, pray for the completion of the interior of the new district center.

David and Shelley Webb in Mesoamerica Region – The Webbs will be at UBNC on Tuesday, December 10 for a “Supper and Seminar” with us from 6-8 p.m. in the Children’s Worship Center. They will tell us about their current mission work and explain about the outreach of English as a Second Language. (ESL) Put this special evening event on your calendar NOW and plan to bring a potluck dish and enjoy fellowship and mission information. Pray for the Webbs’ and for our time with them.

NMI Top Five Areas of Impact

Fascinating Facts

Nazarene Missions International (NMI) then and now

- Since its beginning, NMI membership has risen to over 1 million worldwide.
- Members worldwide in the Church of the Nazarene: 1915 – 31,000; 2017-2.47 million.
- Churches: 1915-830; 2017-more than 30,000.
- More than 300 people come to Christ daily in the Church of the Nazarene.

Connecting the Dots

A common phrase heard when talking with Golbal NMI Director Lola Brickey and those who serve in leadership capacities in NMI, is “connecting the dots.” What does this mean? Lola explains, “The church and NMI need leaders who are focused on our impact. We are encouraging every church to be focused on five core items that we are calling the NMI Top 5 Areas of Impact. These are clear, easily understood, and adaptable to every culture, language, and church regardless of their size or location. They also reflect the early priorities of NMI as envisioned by our first leaders and still hold true today.”

NMI Top Five Areas of Impact

1. Prayer. Prayer is the life force in all we do; it is foundational. From NMI’s inception, prayer has been at its center. NMI reminds local churches to focus prayer for those who have not heard and do not know the Savior.

2. World Evangelism Fund (WEF). The World Evangelism Fund is key to the fulfillment of the mission of the Church of the Nazarene. NMI is committed to share the story of transformed lives – the result of faithful contributions – and to encourage 100 percent participation through continued contributions.

3. Alabaster. Alabaster is a tangible example of sacrifice and a life in love with our Savior. Alabaster is known wherever Nazarenes are in the world. It is actually an NMI brand. Churches of the Nazarene everywhere are encouraged to participate by giving something to Alabaster each year.



Joe, Rebekah, Jonathan, Cheryl & Hannah Young (East Timor) /and Erika Contreras Medina (Argentina)

Beverly Schmelzenbach & Mary Meighan (retired)

4. Engaging Children and Youth. NMI continues to encourage churches to involve children and youth in all missions endeavors and to nurture them as they seek to respond to God’s call. We encourage collaborating with experts (NYI, SDMI), using already planned activities, and engaging the entire family. We believe nurturing and leadership development is best done in local churches and individualized to the needs of each person.

5. Links. Links connects every church with a Nazarene missionary. By focusing on relationship-building between churches, districts, and missionaries, Links helps everyone achieve more for Him.

When we are united in our vision of being passionate about people knowing the Lord, when we take action and empower local NMI presidents to lead in their churches, and when we participate in *these five areas of impact*, lives are changed, people are transformed. We then are a cross-cultural, cross-generational dynamic volunteer movement that mobilizes the church in missions.

Connection Through Missions

Every local church has the opportunity to connect with missionaries around the world who serve in places we may never go and among people that we may never meet. The ongoing story of missions is those who are called and sent are extensions of faithful congregations. The congregations nurtured that calling, funded the missionaries’ preparation and deployment, and continually support each missionary’s life and ministry in prayer and giving.

However, we often do not see that the connection is also true in reverse. We are an extension in our local churches of the missions enterprise of each of those missionaries. NMI helps to maintain the connections that run both ways in missions. Links is a great way to make those connections and keep them alive.

2019-2022 District LINKS Missionaries

Pray for our LINKS missionaries and connect with them via email or Facebook. (photos in column 1) In August, UBNC will send a support check from Faith Promise to each missionary. Look at the LINKS display on the lobby table with a brochure about becoming a Nazarene missionary.

LINKS photo magnets will be distributed August 4. (one per family) Put on your frig and pray for these people.