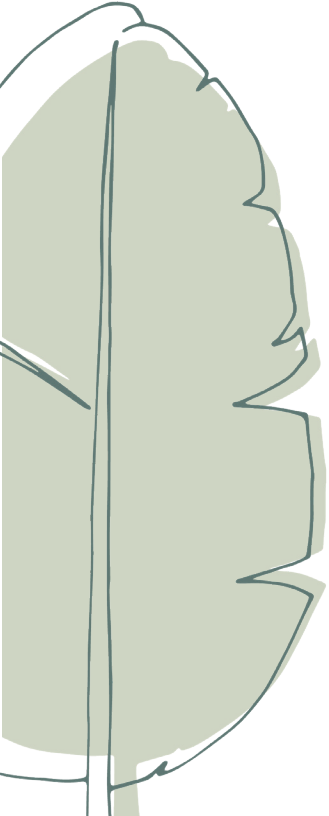




TWENTY-FIFTH
GLOBAL WEEK
OF PRAYER

28 February - 6 March 2021



From the beginning, Nazarene Missions International (NMI) has been praying for the work of the global church. As a global denomination that ministers in 163 world areas, we strive to be connected and lift each other up in prayer. This desire is not unique to the Church of the Nazarene. A heart for missions and the work of God's kingdom here on earth has always been the heartbeat of the church. Beginning in 1887, there was a call to prayer for missions that has bloomed into the World Day of Prayer. This movement is global and stretches across denominations. The World Day of Prayer falls on the first Friday of March every year.

In 1996, Nazarene Missions International joined this movement by observing a week of prayer focused on joining together as Nazarenes all around the world to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer. We are also joining with our brothers and sisters outside of the Church of the Nazarene by observing our week of prayer the same week as the World Day of Prayer.

This year is the 25th anniversary of the Global Week of Prayer for Nazarene Missions International. And in honor of this special anniversary, we worked to expand our connection as a church. Each day of requests and praises are written by our global church leadership. We are also making this resource available in more languages than ever before.

Thank you for joining us for the 25th Global Week of Prayer—28 February-6 March 2021.

Romans 10:11-15

As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Being in right standing with God is not something that we attain by our own work or status; it is available to us as a result of God’s work. It comes to us by faith in Jesus Christ. Believing in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior is the path that must be followed.

The critical invitation for all people is to have faith in Jesus the Messiah. To trust that in Jesus, the forgiveness of sins and deliverance from the dominion of sin is available here and now; to trust that Jesus has the power to transform and sustain lives for holy living regardless of the circumstances of life which one may encounter along the journey. The same path for all, to believe in the Messiah.

Those who are saved live a life of sustained trust in God, obedience to the Lord, and are committed to God’s redemptive mission in the world. All believers are sent near and far to confess Jesus the Messiah.

Prayer:

Lord, send us near and far to participate in your redemptive mission. May we be known as a people who have and continue to call on the name of the Lord and experience deliverance from all forms of idolatry and praxis of the world, which are inconsistent with the Kingdom of God. May the world see in us, the church, an example of God's transformational power displayed as we commit to seeking sinners' conversion, the reclamation of backsliders, and continuing to perfect holiness in our lives with the impulse to grow in grace as Christlike disciple.

-- Dr. Filimão Chambo, Board of General Superintendents

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

This passage is a powerful reminder that we have hope in Jesus. Regardless of what we are going through, we can place our trust in God, in Jesus we will never be disappointed. By placing our faith in God we are able to surrender all our worry and fear at the feet of Jesus. This an open invitation to everyone without discrimination based on race, gender or nationality: everyone is welcomed at this table. We see the heart of God in how much God loves us, that Jesus died on the cross so that we may all be reconciled with our Father. This is the best news and we have this mandate to tell everyone of this great love.

REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Requests

- Prayer for Africa Region priorities: Urban Ministry, Diaspora and Sahel initiative
- Prayer for all field and regional leaders on the Africa Region, some are newly serving in these roles
- Prayer for our educational institutions for recruitment, funding, and continuous pioneering work in forming students

Praises

- For our local pastors and churches in these changing times who continue to be faithful in their calling
- The growth of our Nazarene family on the Africa Region
- In February 2020, work began in the Central African Republic. Some of the new church members are currently preparing to receive local and district licenses under supervision of the Congo-Brazzaville district

STORY OF PRAISE

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), churches have been working together to fight against COVID-19. A taskforce has been in place for disaster awareness, and it is now focusing its efforts on this global pandemic.

Young people are at the front line of this project. NCM has an existing agricultural project growing different kinds of foods. In this disaster time, this food is being offered to the most vulnerable in the community. The team has also worked to design a hand washing machine that provides a more hygienic option using foot pedals to control the water and soap. The team has been able to purchase two machines already, and is preparing to purchase three more. We are thankful for the church in the DRC for being Christ to those around them.



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Communities are formed when we acknowledge the inherent value of others, this is good and according to the heart of God. However, there are also ungodly communities. Communities formed not by finding commonalities, but by highlighting or even making up differences with others. These communities of exclusion do not come from love but from fear and pride. That is why it is so important for us to recognize that “there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him.” (Romans 10:12 ESV) This is the foundation of God’s community of faith.

REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Requests

- Pray for more countries in the AP region to become missionary-sending nations and for theological institutions who are equipping people to do so
- Pray for the safety of Nazarenes who are bringing the church to new places and for political unrests and restrictions to be alleviated across the region
- Pray for Nazarenes in the region to fully recover from the impact of COVID-19 and for resilience to continue
- Pray for Vision 2025 of the South East Asia Field and Chapman International College to achieve goals like having 500 churches, 80 extension centers, and 15,000 full members by 2025

Praises

- Praise for the areas where new preaching points and churches have been started even in the midst of the pandemic
- Praise for all those across the region who are being called to missionary and pastoral service and have begun to prepare



STORY OF PRAISE

In 2017 there was no nationally-led Nazarene Church in Mongolia. Shortly thereafter a team was assembled to start new Churches and develop a district through multiplication by discipleship; the church began to grow. In the summer of 2018, the first Holiness Gathering took place with 12 new churches. Last year, because of COVID-19, the government restricted movement and assembling in the cities. Mongolian pastors turned their attention to towns and villages. Mission teams were sent throughout the nation teaching others how to make disciples. As a result, in a place where the Nazarene was unknown, there are now 47 communities of faith in relationship with him.

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

God is committed to people. Those He calls and those He sends. His Heart of grace reaches to the lost with the truth that salvation is available to everyone who calls on Jesus' name. No restrictions, no qualifications, for He is no respecter of persons, background or culture. He loves everyone equally.

Likewise His call to mission, to go in His name is for all His disciples. Unless we go the deaf will never hear, blind never see or the lost be found. So let us with those beautiful feet of good news go and share the hope we have to a broken world.

REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Requests

- Pray for all military conflicts in the region to end and that peace treaties will be signed. During the recent conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Nazarenes were conscripted to serve and the church served these families
- Pray that in all countries there will be successful church registration with the government
- Pray for safety and wisdom of our workers and teams who are visiting new areas and countries to find places to plant churches
- Pray for the reconstruction of a church building in Kazakhstan that will be used to hold seminars and camps as well as construction in another city of a Kids Learning Center
- Pray for spiritual growth of believers in every local church

Praises

- Thankful that God protected our members during the pandemic
- Grateful that throughout the new challenges the pandemic has brought, there are new opportunities and new ways to serve including using technology

STORY OF PRAISE

During the pandemic, the Nazarene church in Jordan has been distributing food and clothes to Iraqi refugees arriving there. They also invite them to services to hear the good news of the Gospel and many have responded in giving their lives to Christ. They continued to offer this love and support through the Christmas period as the church remained open to all who were in need. They ask for prayers of protection for the church volunteers, and that people will be blessed in the offering they give, in what they see as a “year of the harvest”.



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

The Word of God teaches us that the gospel is universal. It says that there is no difference between Jew and Greek because the same one who is Lord of all is rich towards all who believe in him. Everyone who believes in him will be saved. Romans 10:11-13

Furthermore, it demands that the gospel must be spread to the ends of the earth. But for this, it is necessary that there be messengers. Someone must be sent to preach so that people will hear God's voice and believe.

But how can these messengers preach if they are not sent? The support of each congregation is necessary, developing and sending those who are experiencing the call of God to go and preach the gospel making Christlike disciples in the nations.

Concluding this portion with Romans 10:15: How beautiful are the feet of those who announce peace, of those who announce good news! In other words, the gospel is given, not only to be known and believed, but to be obeyed.

REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Requests

- May God continue to raise up workers who are creatively equipped for His mission
- May God call young people for ministry and use their gifts and talents
- May God work in the restoration of our nations affected by natural disasters and political crisis
- May God continue to provide employment for His people so they may continue to provide for the needs of His mission

Praises

- In the midst of economic recession, the region reported 82.53% of what was sent the year before to the World Evangelism Fund and other special mission offerings
- Youth have been agents of transformation joining all ministries to carry the powerful message of Jesus Christ

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

What a joy to come to verse 13 and discover a momentous truth: the universal character of salvation. “Whoever” tells us that both Jew and Gentile need Jesus Christ for their salvation. Although there are differences between the two, the common point is that they are far from God and need Jesus. The only requirement is to believe, and this breaks down all the barriers between Jew and Gentile, American and European, African and Asian. Every person on earth has access to salvation if they call on the name of Jesus.

REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Requests

- Pray for the establishment of new churches in areas that do not have organized churches, especially in the cities of Cochabamba, La Paz, Chaco, Barranquilla, Ciudad Ojeda, Puerto Ordaz, La Merced (Chanchamayo) and Huancavelica
- We ask for prayer for the churches in the Awajún communities, in the Peruvian jungle, whose geographic location made it difficult to send aid during the pandemic
- We ask for the leaders and pastors in Chile who maintain personal contact with the members of their churches to assist them, even with the churches closed
- Pray to God that the leadership of the church in Brazil is filled with the Holy Spirit and can be creative and effective in these days of the new normal
- We ask for prayer for the national leadership and the pastors in Paraguay, for the new churches and for the new missionary families that will arrive

Praises

- We thank God that the churches have shown compassion and have been evangelizing agents in the midst of the pandemic

- We praise God for the sustained growth of the church in Uruguay. We ask for action of the new generation responding to the call of God

STORY OF PRAISE

In the city of Cuenca, Ecuador, in the midst of the crisis resulting from the pandemic, Pastor Mario Chuiza devised a plan to share the resources he had accumulated to sustain himself during the quarantine. They started with five food baskets including a Bible, and soon other believers joined in. As the days went by, public figures joined, and what God started with less than \$100 multiplied it to \$7,000, managing to bless 2,000 families.



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

If asked to describe someone, we might say they have a Christ-like spirit. Or that they have a beautiful smile or a wonderful sense of humor. We might even describe their hands that they use to build churches or make delicious food to share with others. Most of us would probably not describe their feet. Scripture tells us that the feet of those who bring Good News are beautiful. Look at your feet, if they are bringing God's Good News, they are beautiful. Thank you Lord for my beautiful feet, may they be used to bring your Good News to others.

REQUESTS AND PRAISES

Requests

- That every Nazarene in North America will be passionate for the lost in their communities and around the world
- That laity, pastors, and district superintendents will be innovative, encouraged, and inspired as they led and serve their congregations and districts
- That jobs lost because of the pandemic will be restored
- That churches will be planted that will reach those who are not a part of any church fellowship
- That every church will be engaged in making Christlike disciples

Praises

- That congregations have had wisdom using technology creating new opportunities for ministry
- That churches are nurturing those discerning a call to serve cross-culturally
- That Nazarenes in North America have remained people of daily prayer

STORY OF PRAISE

What a blessing it is to have individuals sent from your district as missionaries. What a frightening challenge of raising the necessary funds when church schedules are interrupted because of the pandemic. This was reality for the East Tennessee district and Joshua and Katie Haun, global missionaries to Bulgaria.

The full in-person deputation schedule seemed an impossibility. Which churches would invite them to come? Would anyone attend? Would they become ill while sharing their story?

Services were scheduled and people came to hear the story of their call to serve as missionaries. There even was a virtual deputation service. And God provided! The necessary funds were raised and as soon as travel is permitted, Joshua, Katie, Jude, and Kaitlyn will be serving Christ and the Church of the Nazarene in Bulgaria.

