

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

NE DISTRICT NMI

MESSENGER

From My Heart

By Dr. Nina Gunter

How does a person pack decades of promoting missions through Nazarene Missions International (NMI) into a few short paragraphs? What a thrill it has been to serve on local, district, and general NMI councils, and to carry out the tasks of general NMI director for almost 20 years (March 1986—July 2005)!

So many people have mentored me over the years and, thus, contributed to making NMI what it is today. One that stands foremost was Dr. Louise Robinson Chapman. From her, I learned that by keeping my expectations of districts, churches, and leaders high, they would rise to the challenge. I tapped into her wisdom on many occasions.

I am thankful for the people on the district and local levels. It has been hard work like yours that has kept missions in front of churches for 90 years! You make all the difference in the world. Leaders, you have promoted the emphases and special projects of NMI. While the General NMI Office provided resources for you, it was your creativity, determination, and passion that accomplished so much. In reviewing statistics in the time I have served as your director, annual missions giving increased from \$30 million to \$62 million! And this, during a

time of economic challenges when many mission agencies are having to bring missionaries home or at least curb the number of missionaries going out. Many new prayer initiatives, projects, and events propelled us in the mission.



The world population increases at a rate of approximately 75 million people a year. To put this into more manageable numbers, 3 babies are born each second. Of the approximately 6.4 billion people in the world, approximately 1 billion are between the ages of 15 and 24.* We have a responsibility to these billion of people, both those nearby and those on the other side of the globe. We must continue to:

- Pray for the salvation, for the world's needs, for the persecuted church, and for God's servants around the world. Only as we bend our knees will we be strengthened for the task.
- Learn so we are more aware of those who need Christ in the world, desiring to make a difference in their lives. We can't affect the world if we do not understand the world's hurts and needs.
- Involve children and youth in missions in your

church. Let them learn early in their lives how important their roles are as global Christians.

- Give to missions. NMI has never apologized for receiving an offering, because we are striving for the "big picture," the salvation of souls.
- Challenge others. If you model the NMI objectives to your churches and expect them to join you in the effort—not out of duty, but out of passion inspired from their love of the Lord—then they will stand side-by-side with you.

I am entering a new chapter in my life—one that will require constant strength, unending wisdom, and God's power. Your prayerful support will be greatly appreciated and vital to this new area of ministry.

While I will no longer serve as general NMI director, this organization and World Mission will continue to be dear to my heart. I will watch with anticipation what NMI people around the world accomplish in the future. I will cheer all of you on to continue praying, learning, mentoring the next generation, giving, and going.

*Statistics from www.wikipedia.org

—Heartline

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September Events

- *Alabaster*
- *September 17th—North Country Jamboree*
- *September 24th—South Shore Jamboree*

Upcoming Events

- *October—Clergy Appreciation Month*
- *November 5th—Workshop Day*

September Challenge—Alabaster



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.

Give to Alabaster – a gift that keeps on giving.

For alabaster offering promotion, we encourage you to use the new Alabaster DVD you received in the July/August/September *Mission Connection* mailing.

—Heartline

Alabaster Ideas



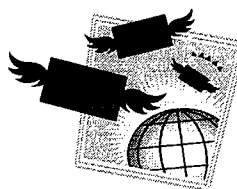
We would love to hear how you promoted and collected this participation offering. Please write it out and send your ideas to gerryperry@adelphia.net.

Share your ideas with us – Email: gerryperry@adelphia.net

Where to Send Funds

Check out the bright orange District NMI Handbook on page 106. Please note the election of our new treasurer.

Congratulations to Richard Smith on being elected New England District NMI Treasurer. Please be patient as we make this transition.



New district NMI treasurer's name and address:

Rev. Richard Smith
P.O. Box 246
East Charleston, VT 05833
(802) 723-4824
Rcssteeler@kingcon.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries of LINKS & District Missionaries

September

13 Anniversary—Dr. & Mrs. Andy Bennett
24 Birthday—Sam Bennett (1989)

October

1 Birthday—Mrs. Margaret Wood
17 Birthday—Mrs. Alva May Reed



LINKS Address Change

Stan and Sherri Hall

Casilla 17-11-04964

Quito

ECUADOR

Phone: 011-54-2322-480-306

E-mail: stanhall@kcnet.com

Harvest Partners—*JESUS* Film Ministry (as of August 30, 2005)

JESUS Film Ministry Teams have reported the following:

34,341,674 viewers of the *JESUS* Film
4,979,221 (14.5% of viewers) decisions for Christ
1,916,951 (38.5% of decisions) initial discipleship contacts
6,927 new mission churches started
12,665 new pastors are in training.

Please pray for these new starts and the pastors in training!
152 *JESUS* Film language translations used. 98 countries where the *JESUS* Film is used.

Leadership Tip

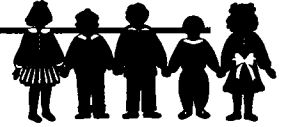
"We count as service what we do in the way of Christian work; Jesus Christ calls service what we are to Him, not what we do for Him."

Oswald Chambers

My Utmost for His Highest

KIDS

CHILDRENS NEWS—for children & their leaders



The North Country Jamboree will be held September 17, 2005, at Johnson Lamoille Valley Church of the Nazarene and Ron & Laura Sylvester, Mexico, will be the missionaries. Contact Miriam Ainsworth for more information.

The South Shore Missions

Jamboree will be held September 24, 2005, at the South Shore Christian Academy, Weymouth. Contact Connie Corriera if you are willing to help. Ron and Laura Sylvester, Mexico, will be the missionaries.

Cost is \$4. per child and adult. Bring a sack lunch and an offering for the missionary. Also, individu-

ally wrapped food items for the Marketplace are needed. (Suggestions: crackers, goldfish, raisons, apples, brownies etc.)

Please note: the title AMBASSADORS (name for children's missions) is being eliminated from all NMI publications.

Ron & Laura Sylvester

Ron and Laura Sylvester are global missionaries to the Mexico/Central America Region where they are serving as Work and Witness Coordinators in Mexico.

Prior to this assignment they served as NIVS in



Mexico from 1995-1996. From 1996-1997 they served in San Antonio as directors of *One Heart Many Hands*. They then served as Work and Witness Coordinators for two years in Argentina on the

South America Region from 1997-1999.

Their call to missions has been a walk with the Lord. He has directed each "change" and it has always been a very natural transition. From their first Work and Witness Trip to Mexico in 1986, He has drawn them closer to Himself through their service of Work and Witness in the Church of the Nazarene.

School Pal-Paks Introduced (see enclosed flier)

Families in many third world countries have to supply their own school supplies. Because many families are very poor they cannot afford to supplies these basic needs. Thus the School

Pal-Paks program has been introduced. The school year begins in January in many countries. We encourage groups to put together a box by November, take them to Uxbridge and they will be

transported down to Fawn Grove, PA for distribution.

- ▶ Crisis Care Kits and clothing are also needed!



Workshop Day—Nov. 5th

WOLLASTON CHURCH

Registration 9:30 a.m.

Sessions from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Workshops will be held November 5, in which the General NMI Convention delegates that you have elected will bring you information they gleaned from these workshops. It will be a combined SS, NYI and NMI workshop day.

DVDs Available for Loan

Some of the great inspirational and informational messages include

- Dr. Gunter's Quadrennial Report
- Dr. Gunter's theme presentation message
- Several testimonies during the Regional Directors' reports
- General Superintendents Inspirational Messages

Jim Cymbala's message at the Prayer Brunch is available on CD.

Contact Gerry Perry at gerryperry@adelphia.net.



July/August/September 2005

NAZARENE SCENE

2005 General NMI Convention—The 20th General NMI Convention was held June 21-25 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Highlights included the theme presentation service, and General NMI Director Nina Gunter's challenge to participants regarding the new quadrennial theme—"The Cross: Seize it! Share it!"

NMI Web Site Redesigned—The totally redesigned NMI Web site was unveiled in June 2005. The new site offers a wealth of valuable resources for church leaders. Check out the all-new NMI Web site at <www.nazarenemissions.org>.

"Books for Pastors" Update—As of April 30, \$1.3 million have been given toward the NMI 90th Anniversary Project: "Books for Pastors—Tools for Ministry." Phil Hamner, senior pastor of Overland Park Church of the Nazarene in Kansas, sensed God calling him to respond to the need for Wesleyan-Holiness resource materials for pastors in world mission regions. As a personal commitment, Pastor Hamner announced to his local congregation that he and his wife would match the amount they give toward "Books for Pastors."

Number 62

First Church Organized in São Tomé—The first Church of the Nazarene was recently dedicated in the coastal community of Ribeira Peixe in the Church of the Nazarene pioneer area of São Tomé.
Out of Africa

WMB Launches New Program in PNG—A new World Mission Broadcast (WMB) radio program launched in Papua New Guinea (PNG) in May. The program, called *Cry of the Women*, deals with issues relevant to women in PNG, while sharing the hope of Jesus Christ. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will use this new program in a powerful way to lead women to Christ.
World Mission Broadcast

Compassionate Ministries Center Receives Grant—Community of Hope (COH), a Compassionate Ministries Center in Washington D.C., was recently awarded a federal grant. The COH Health Clinic is the only clinic operating at a D.C. elementary school and is also the only health-care facility operating in any D.C. school that is open to the public. In 2003, a total of 5,300 visits were made to the Community of Hope clinic.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM)

"Firsts" for the CIS Field—The Common-wealth of Independent States (CIS) Field recently experienced several "firsts." Jhanbollat Mamishev was ordained at the Central Asia District assembly, becoming the first member of the Church of the Nazarene in Kazakhstan to be ordained. At the Ukraine District assembly, the first Ukrainian and Armenian pastors were ordained—Volodymyr Massyuk (Ukraine) and Karen Khachatryan (Armenia).
Eurasia Region

New College Presidents Elected—The presidents of three Nazarene educational institutions will retire in 2005, which prompted the election of three new presidents: Mid-America Nazarene University—Dr. Ed Robinson; Trevecca Nazarene University—Dr. Dan Boone; Eastern Nazarene College—Dr. Corlis McGee. McGee will be the first female president of any of the eight Nazarene colleges in the United States.
NCN News

Tsunami Aid—A team of Thailand District youth and pastors, along with Nazarene missionaries Tomo and Ceny Hirahara, ministered in the That village of BangNiang, Thailand, that was affected by the December 2004 tsunami disaster. Local residents greeted the team with great enthusiasm. Ceny Hirahara reported that one tsunami victim joyfully exclaimed, "You fulfilled your promise! You came back!" as she hugged her, referring to a previous disaster aid and ministry trip they made in February.
NCM

WORLD SCENE

Unreached People Groups Increasing—According to the World Christian Database, the estimated number of unreached people groups has increased from 10,000 in 1995 to 13,000 in 2005.

Churches Using the Web—According to a recent survey, 90 percent of churches in

the United States use e-mail, and a large percentage of those have a presence on the World Wide Web. Researchers claim that many people will try to locate a church via the Internet—if they can't find it or don't like what they see, they will most likely never visit the church.
The Barna Group

Bangladesh—In Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, the Salvation Army has a year-long program dedicated to rescue women from the sex industry. Rescued women are given counseling and encouragement and receive skills training in handicrafts to help them find employment.
Church Around the World

Tsunami Survivors—About 1.5 million children—dubbed the "Tsunami Generation" by UNICEF—were orphaned, or lost one parent, or were otherwise adversely affected by the December 2004 tsunami that slammed into more than 10 countries bordering the Indian Ocean. According to WebMD, half the children exposed to the catastrophe may suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, a rate about 20 percent higher than in adults.
UNICEF

Finding God in Jordan—Samaritan's Purse helped one of Jordan's leading evangelical churches buy a former school and convert it into a community center that includes a medical clinic for refugees, classrooms to teach English, and a coffee shop. All the facilities are staffed by church members who are allowed to share the gospel on the premises. The activities draw hundreds of people who would never attend a church.
Samaritan's Purse

Catch a Glimpse of This—

• About 24,000 people die every day from hunger or hunger-related causes. Three quarters of the death toll are children under the age of five.

Church Around the World
Global Glimpses is a publication of Nazarene Missions International and can also be found at <www.nazarenemissions.org>.