

CANADA

NAZARENE NEWS | MARCH 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR:



Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord:

Have you ever had one of those moments when you know in your heart you should have done something and you didn't? Well, I had one of those just a few days ago. Winter didn't arrive in the Toronto area until January, but when it came, it meant business. Now I know that the rest of the "snowed in" country will never let Torontonians forget when the army was called in to clear away our snow. Ok, let's move on past that and get back to my story. We have had a lot of ice, as well as snow and such, was the case the other night. The weather folk called for a little snow followed by freezing rain, followed by plain rain. Well, of course, that can wreak havoc on a community. So, I left the house and saw this freezing rain on the driveway, but I knew rain was coming and it would be taken care of. Now lest you classify me as a deadbeat snow clearer, you are wrong!. I'm the guy who meticulously carves out space in the snowbank for the garbage and recycling bins. I'm the guy who shovels even when there is only a centimeter or two. But alas, as I backed out I said to myself..." you should warn Pat about the driveway". This is where the question in my opening sentence really takes hold. Ah, no, I said to myself...Pat's car is under the carport and its dry there, plus she will just get into her car and back out. Well....think again brother Ian! I now am at the office when my phone rings and its a neighbour who declares that "your wife has slipped on the ice and we can't get her up." That sick, sinking, guilt ridden feeling that 99.9% of husbands have at some time in their marriage overwhelmed me. I bolted for the office door and drove quickly to my home where my wife is now sitting on a chair that somebody brought for her to sit on and she is surrounded by 8, count them, 8 snarling neighbours who can't believe that this "Christian" husband could leave his home without putting salt on the driveway. Listen, salt is at a premium in Ontario, you can't get it anywhere...just listen to me now justifying my ineptitude.

Now, I will say this, when I arrived at the office, I salted the space where Pat parks her car so that when she would arrive, she would be safe. Alas, too little, too late. So, off to the emergency room we go and 6 hours later we discover that there are no broken bones, just (and don't take that word lightly) bad bruising. I learned a valuable lesson my friends...I should have acted on my instinct to go and tell her about the condition of the driveway. Even doing something extra (salting the parking spot at the office) could not make up for omitting what I should have done in the first place. I wonder, is that a commentary on spiritual matters, obedience matters when it comes to God. Not doing what we should, and then trying to compensate for that omission by doing other things that are not what we should have done in the first place...food for thought eh?

In the Name of our Risen Lord and until the next time !

Blessings
Ian Fitzpatrick.

I WOULD ALSO ASK THAT YOU BE IN CONTINUAL PRAY FOR OUR DISTRICT LEADERSHIP IN CANADA...

D.S. Reverend Mark Collins (Ruth) - Canada Atlantic
D.S. Reverend Steve Ottley (Pat) - Canada Central
D.S. Reverend Rose Brower Young - (Brad) - Canada West
D.S. Reverend Earl Wood (Vernita) - Canada Pacific
National Director & DS Reverend Ian Fitzpatrick (Pat) - Canada Quebec

PRAY ALSO FOR...

Director of Stewardship Services: Dr. Riley Coulter (Karen).
Ambrose President: Dr. Gordon Smith (Joella)
NCCM Executive Director: Reverend Elaine Bumstead (Dennis)

MY PRAYER FOR YOU...

“May you experience PEACE in the midst of trial, JOY in the midst of sadness, COURAGE when you face the “impossible”, CONFIDENCE when others would seek to strip you bare, REFLECTION in looking back, EXCITEMENT in looking forward, LONGSUFFERING when your patience is exhausted, and LOVE FOR ALL - AMEN”.

Blessings
Ian Fitzpatrick

I WOULD ASK THAT YOU BE PRAYING FOR THE FOLLOWING MINISTRY ACTIVITIES ACROSS OUR COUNTRY...



Reverend Ryan Wood:
Pastor of the Wainwright Church of the Nazarene

On Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March 2019 our National Director led a weekend of teaching and preaching at the Wainwright, Alberta Church on the topic....."Our Place In This World." Pastor Ryan Wood and his wife Richelle lead this wonderful congregation about 2 hours east of Edmonton.



STEWARDS

In biblical times, stewards were important and trust servants. They were responsible for their owner's property and affairs. Think of Joseph's stewardship in the time of the famine in Canaan & Egypt - he was the person the brothers had to relate to as overseer of the resources entrusted to him. God sees us as stewards, He is the owner of all creation; He expects us to use the resources we have been blessed with to fulfill His will. Quite a challenge.

Riley Coulter
Director of Stewardship Services
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Wainright Church



The Wainright Worship team.



GENERAL BOARD

Canadian General Board members Dr. David Falk and Reverend Dale Thistle with National Director Dr. Ian Fitzpatrick attending the Commissioning Service for 37 Global Missionaries. This is the largest class in over 40 years. Praise the Lord !



The Celebration of the Lord's Supper.



CANADA ATLANTIC DISTRICT

Canada Atlantic is surviving another wonderful winter!

As we attempt to stay warm and shovelled out, there are great plans being made across the District!



In February D.S. Rev Mark Collins and Rev. Andrew Barker attended M19.

Rev. Dave and Nadine Filsinger took a trip to Israel and Rev. Jodi Getson and Ashley Caulier (District NMI president and co-president) attended NMI leadership meetings in Kansas City.

Please pray for the following activities...

On March 9th -19th a team of 25 adults and teens from across the district will be heading to Cuba on a mission trip led by Rev. Mark and Ruth Collins.



March 24-26 District NYI will be hosting a winter rally in Trenton NS.

March 29-30 the District SDMI council is hosting a GROW Conference in Moncton NB.

CANADA PACIFIC DISTRICT NEWS

ARTICLE FROM CPD: Nazarene Connect— March 5, 2019

Today is a special day for all of us at the Church of the Nazarene as our very own, Ernest Chua is on his way to join Special Olympics Team Canada in Toronto before he and the team leave for the 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates!

Special Olympics Yukon reports: "Ernest is making Special Olympics Yukon history as he is the first Yukon athlete to participate in both a Winter and a Summer World Games. After capturing Cross Country Skiing Gold and Silver Medals in 2017 (Austria), Ernest is heading to Abu Dhabi, setting his sights in the sport of Swimming."

After enjoying "send-off" festivities in Toronto, SO Team Canada will depart on Thursday March 7th for Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Please join us in praying for Ernest and wishing him the best.

Norman Hajian



CANADA CENTRAL DISTRICT NEWS



Stonehaven Retirement residence is probably a brisk 7-minute walk from the Church, I pass it at least twice a day on my way to and from work. One of our congregants who could no longer live alone moved in there about the same time as I started at Bridlewood. She was having a hard time adjusting to this move (adversity) – when she started to get to know the people a little, she realised that there was a need for a communion service of some sort because the Catholic priest visited once a month but could not offer the sacraments to non-Catholic church goers. Opportunity #1 – she promptly offered my services as the new Pastor to help out. We now have a monthly Communion service every

2nd Wednesday - She plays the piano and I do a short devotional and serve communion we never have less than 20 people in attendance.

A devastating bus crash happened in Ottawa on January 14, bus #269 services the people in Bridlewood and the route comes right passed the church. 3 people lost their lives and 23 others injured, some very badly. Our local Community Centre decided to hold a vigil to honour the victims and they asked me to speak at it. When I got there, I was amazed to find that although the mayor of Ottawa and several of our councillors were also present the only person giving a message was the president of the association and myself. God opened the door and a message of hope was shared using Psalm 23.

I had injured my shoulder a while ago and have been getting treatments from the Dynamic Physio and Chiropractic across the road from the Church and while chatting with my Chiro Dr. Cohen we decided that in the wake of the crash and the injured people it would be an awesome opportunity for us to offer some information talks on how to manage pain and fall prevention and even some strengthening exercise classes. We have now started monthly information that is open to the community. We have the space they have the expertise.

These are 3 of many stories that I can share about how God has been opening doors of opportunity for us to minister in our community. God has blessed Bridlewood with an amazing facility and He is showing us in so many ways how to use it to not only as a source of income but also a way to bless the community that we live in. I am looking forward to seeing how God is going to continue to use the Bridlewood family and facility for His Glory.



Blessed in His Service,
Pastor Charmaine

Canada Central Clergy Day

The Pastors of Canada Central District gathered for Clergy Day to focus on the theme: Harnessing the Wisdom and Experience in the Church to raise up the next Spirit filled Leaders.

Speakers included: Dr. Jeren Rowell, President of NTS; Dr. Scott Rainey, Global SDMI Director; Dr. Ian Fitzpatrick, National Director, Church of the Nazarene Canada.

Others from the Canada Central District were presenters, including: Doug Davis, Plan to Protect Coordinator; Rev. Frank Chouinard, District Secretary; Rev. Tamara Hudson, Board of Ministry Member.



Rev. Steve Ottley
District Superintendent



Dr. Ian Fitzpatrick
National Director



Pastor Tammy Hudson
speaking on mentoring



Pastors learning together at Clergy Day

NAZARENE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL (N.Y.I.) CANADA NEWS

Nearly 250 leaders from 61 world areas met 8-13 January in Hyderabad, India, for the global Third Wave conference hosted by NYI. Field registration is limited, and this year, Canada NYI sent three theology major students from Ambrose to participate. Read Mark, Mo and Jake's experience below.

Third Wave is a global NYI conference focusing on emerging Nazarene Youth International leaders in a global context. Held every 3 to 5 years, it is a highlight in the NYI calendar.



MO HICKMAN (CANADA ATLANTIC) is in her 4th year at Ambrose and is currently completing her internship in Canada Central district. Mo was invited to be part of the global worship team for Third Wave.

“There are few things I love more than travelling and connecting with other Nazarenes. So when I was presented with the opportunity to attend Third Wave 2019, how could I say no? I attended Third Wave so that I could learn from and meet other young Nazarene leaders, and see more of the beautiful world that God has created. The fact that Third Wave brings together leaders from around the world made it an extra special event that I could not miss!

There is so much that I am bringing back with me from Third Wave. Perhaps the biggest personal takeaway is a re-ignited passion for ministry. Before Third Wave, I was spiritually exhausted and beginning to doubt my call to ministry.

But God used Third Wave to help me find my desire to serve again! God is doing amazing things around the world through the work of the Church of the Nazarene, and I want to be a part of it. Third Wave impacted my views on ministry by reminding me of the power of the Holy Spirit. I was able to hear many different stories of people who are passionate and joyful about their ministry despite serving in very challenging contexts. I saw that it is not about having the most money or resources that make a ministry succeed, but a dependence on the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit moves within us, then we will see ministries succeed, disciples made, and the Church grow.”

JAKE ASHTON (CANADA WEST) is in his second year at Ambrose University. Jake, although quite sick at the beginning, served as a translator for our French speaking participants.

“I was given the opportunity to go to third wave with the open-ended question of “is this something you would want to do” and I was told to pray about it. I rarely hear God in an audible or physical, often it’s through other people or opportunities opening up. So, I waited on answering and prayed about it by myself, and with my friends and family.

As I prayed about it and talked to people about it, I felt as if Third wave was just a dream or impossible chance that I never would get and that continued until we landed on the first day. As I prayed about it, I felt at peace with the idea of going and said why not, I might as well try, continue praying about it and see where God leads me. If I am honest, I didn’t know why I was going specifically but I felt at peace with going.



But at the end of the whole event, I realized why I was really meant to be there. For a while, I had felt a bit more hopeless or worried about Christianity in the sense of is it dying in the west or does the church have a place in the modern world. And so, my biggest question going into the event was; “How do you keep your faith in Jesus strong, in places where you could die for it. When in North America something small goes wrong and sometimes we are ready to give up?”

The answer I got was one of my biggest takeaways from the whole event. In a place where God and His word is not wanted is so difficult to live in. And when you are in the middle of the whole thing surrounded by pain or hate, you only have God. It isn't a question of should I follow God today, rather it's a cry to Jesus of I NEED you today, please help me to get through today and to love as you do.

This answer really shaped how I was looking at the church and my ministry. I was treating God like an option in my day and I wasn't being present with God. I wasn't listening to him. And this is still shaping me. I am finding that I want to talk to others about God with a sense of urgency and a here and now feeling. Instead of how I felt before where I didn't want to offend or be said no to.”



MARK HERBERT (CANADA WEST) is in his fourth year at Ambrose University and just completed his internship at Glenview Church of the Nazarene in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

“If I am being honest, I signed up to go to Third Wave because I thought it sounded like a cool experience. It was that superficial. I had no idea what I was in for!

On my way to Third Wave, I began reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book, “Life Together”. I did not make it too far before I fell asleep on the flight, but the few pages that I took in created a seedbed for reflections of my Third Wave experience to grow in. Bonhoeffer talked about the blessing of the Christian community and how those who are regularly exposed to this blessing can often take it for granted. However, those who rarely have the opportunity for Christian fellowship will treasure something as simple as a letter written by a fellow believer. It was these thoughts that were swirling through my head as I stepped into my Third Wave experience, and they shaped it profoundly.

We had the great honor to meet brothers and sisters from creative access nations at Third Wave this year. As I talked to them and heard their stories, I was reminded of Bonhoeffer's words on Christian community and fellowship. Many of these dear brothers and sisters work in areas of the world where there are few Christians other than themselves.

There was one fantastic pair of Christians who came from a small country in Asia, where they and their one convert were the only Christians in this nation of a few million. For them, I can imagine that the experience of meeting with two hundred and thirty-some fellow Christians was an experience and a blessing nearly beyond fathom. Christian fellowship is a blessing that we must not make light of or take for granted.

I had the honor of worshiping God not many weeks ago with seven fellow believers on a snowy Sunday morning. While I would often be discouraged and disheartened by low attendance numbers, God drew my mind back to my Third Wave experience and the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. I was challenged to treasure this simple time of Christian community.

A gathering of eight people on a Sunday morning might seem small to a North American mind, but to many believers down through time and all over the world, such a gathering would be a great blessing to be treasured. I have lost any keen ability to cherish Christian fellowship that I had if I ever had any to begin with. Perhaps this is because this fellowship has been readily available to me all my life. My Third Wave experience has challenged me to view Christian fellowship as my brothers and sisters in creative access nations, and Bonhoeffer sees it: as a great gift from God to be treasured no matter the form it takes.

Whether it is two thousand people at the local megachurch, or a congregation of one hundred and fifty people, or seven other beautiful souls who have gathered together to praise the name of Jesus and encourage and strengthen one another, wherever it is found, Christian fellowship is a gift.

I hope and pray that these thoughts and challenges continue to shape my faith journey and ministry. Through Third Wave, God has begun to teach me to value the Christian community in a heightened way. I am challenged to view every Sunday morning gathering of believers as a great gift, irrespective of the number of people present.”

You can read a full recap of Third Wave at http://www.nazarene.org/article/third-wave-conference-highlights-youth-leadership-creative-access-ministries-outreach?fbclid=IwAR1iYOnLfWLJSy_jbrBuMuRp1CJfPxt-cVWk72IyVq4YloUEGc_8UAIMO9E

Contact Helen Thiessen,

Canada Field Youth Coordinator, at hthiessen@ambrose.edu

NAZARENE COMPASSIONATE MINISTRIES CANADA
(N.C.M.C.) UPDATES

Anti-Human Trafficking - You can help!

There are an estimated 20.9 million people trapped in some sort of slavery today. It's sometimes called "modern slavery" and sometimes called "human trafficking" but it is slavery at its core.

The United Nations defines human trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by improper means (such as force, abduction, fraud, or coercion) for an improper purpose including forced labor or sexual exploitation. It takes on many forms today. (Source: endslavery.org)



79% of Human Trafficking is sexual exploitation. 20% of all trafficking victims are children. However, in some parts of the world, children are the majority. (UNODC Report on Human Trafficking)

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries is supporting several Anti-Human Trafficking projects globally. One of the most recent is in the Philippines where human trafficking is rampant. NCM Canada is providing financial support for this project which provides a safe shelter and care for newly rescued children - survivors of cybersex trafficking.

House parents live with the children in the home. A doctor, a social worker, a psychologist, counsellors, and nurses, provide assessment and critical medical and psychological care. Then trauma counselling, individualized treatment and spiritual care is provided for a period of 3 months enabling the victim to be reunited with caring relatives or reintegrated through another avenue such as foster care, adoption, or independent living.

This project is a partnership between Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, the International Justice Mission, and the Philippines Children's Ministries Network.

YOU CAN HELP!

Pray. Please pray for the victims. Their recovery is very difficult.

Give. Send donations payable to "the Church of the Nazarene Canada" at 3657 Ponytrail Drive, Mississauga, ON L4X 1W5 or donate online at www.ncmcanada.ca or Call 1-888-808-7490 Specify: ACM1333 "Shechem Centre"

Container Shipment for Cuba East Nazarenes

Compassionate Resource Warehouse (CRW) had just a week to collect items needed for Cuba East District and pack them into a shipping container. The container has just been shipped to Iglesia Evangelica de Cuba who are sharing the container with Cuba East District.

Volunteers at CRW worked hard to assemble and pack tools, hardware, Gleaners soup mix, educational supplies, household goods and linens and some bikes. Also included was some medical equipment to assist with a local clinic. Some volunteers unloaded vehicles, others sorted while some packed boxes, and others provided food for all.



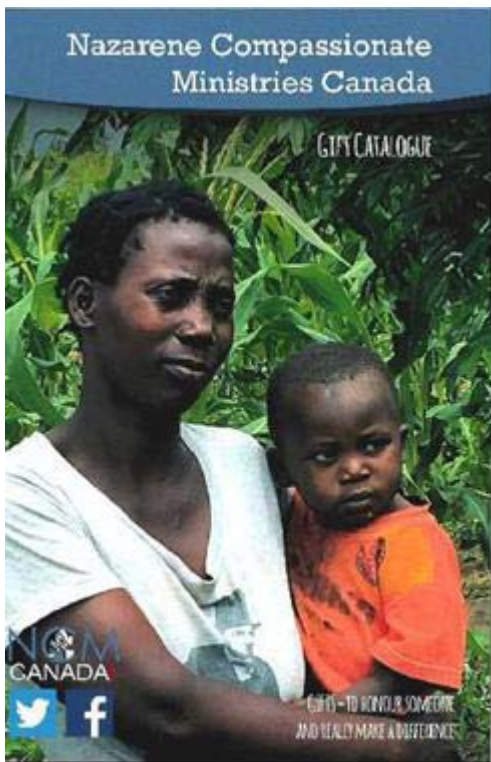
Cuba tools and gleaners food



Back of load

Dell Marie Wergeland thanked her committed volunteers for their diligent work in making this container shipment happen!





Our new gift catalogue is filled with examples of what your donations can provide for children & families who are in desperate need of our help.

Whether you have a little or a lot to share, you will find tangible items & services here that can change lives.

What is better than giving gifts to those you love?

Letting them know that their gift is actually a gift of life.

Let us do what we can to share with those who are praying for our help. Together we can make a world of difference in the lives of those we help.

Thank you for supporting NCM Canada's work!

**Save
the
Date**



SEEDS OF LIFE FARM DAY!!!

It will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2019 from 10 AM to 12 PM at the farm,

2383 Wilson Street West , Ancaster.

More detailed information about the event to come later on in the spring.



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