



December 2010 / January 2011

Places to Serve

by David Cooper

One of the most thrilling things I hear people say is, "God is asking me to serve Him in missions. I am not sure how it will happen or what I may be able to do, but God is calling me to go." This is usually the beginning of a great and very fulfilling adventure in a person's spiritual journey.

Opportunities to serve as volunteers in Nazarene missions are increasing every year, as well as the number of people who are going. We are also seeing an increase in the length of service by people who are committing to three months, six months, or a year or longer.

As we go into more countries and expand ministries around the globe, our regions are depending on both long- and short-term volunteers to fill the ever-expanding needs. As our finances become tighter and the expenses of missionaries living overseas increases, it is becoming a necessity to look for new ways to increase our missionary force. Mission Corps (self-funded volunteers) has been the avenue for the Church of the Nazarene to complement our mission work around the world.

The variety of ways in which people serve is increasing, also. At any given time, the Church of the Nazarene will have people serving as accountants, office assistants, ministry coordinators, teachers, church planters, and Work & Witness coordinators. Others will participate through campus maintenance, health care, Web design, video editing, computer networks installation, pastoral training, house-sitting, or friendship evangelism. Whatever the skill or gift that someone has to offer, there is usually a need or place where it can be used to build God's kingdom.

At this time, many of our world regions are thinking more strategically about how to place people in creative avenues of service. In Latin America, ordinary men and women from other countries are paired with believers from the host country to form a team that is trained and deployed to plant new churches in communities. In Asia, effort is being made to place teachers and other professionals in key cities to be tentmakers while helping to start a new mission or church plant. Various regions are using Nazarene Compassionate Ministries to reach new areas or answer the cry for help following a natural disaster.

God may be stirring your heart or the heart of someone in your church to serve. There is a way to get involved or to find out more information. Visit www.missioncorps.org to find out details of volunteer needs that currently need to be met or to contact someone to answer questions. God asks us to pray for more workers in the harvest. The fields are ripe and waiting for people like you and me to come.

David Cooper is the Mobilization coordinator working in the Global Ministry Center with Work & Witness, Mission Corps, and Missionary Candidates. He served as a missionary in Central America for 10 years where he worked with numerous Work & Witness teams and long-term volunteers.

CALLED To Serve



Covenant in Our Little Church

Several years ago, my family and I transitioned from leading global NYI to pastor our first church in the USA/Canada Region. On each of the first three days, while the postal worker delivered the mail, he asked me, "How is your little church?" On the third day, I responded, "This is not a little church."

He pursued, "I am not asking about your big church. I want to know how your little church is doing." When I appeared puzzled, he continued, "How is your marriage, how are your children, how is your home?" Suddenly, I realized that God was using the penetrating questions of a Christian postman to probe my heart.

Before I could respond, he interjected, "Nothing significant will happen in your big church until you experience renewal first in your little church. If you want God to pour out renewal in your big church, begin practicing renewal with your marriage and family in your little church. Begin daily in the Word and prayer."

He persisted, "Then, model and multiply personal renewal so that each family in your big church pursues the same covenant passion. Your big church and each little church can become a house of prayer for all nations, just as Jesus taught."

Then, he probed again, "Now, how is your little church?"

I answered his question with gratitude and accepted his challenge. Carol and I also galvanized models and mentoring we had already received from our grandparents, parents, and professors. We created covenants with God in our marriage and family. These persist to this day and produce fruit that remains, to the praise of God's glory.

Now, we conclude 2010 and commence 2011. As leaders of global mission and church renewal, let's pursue new possibilities by creating a covenant with God, with our little churches, and within our bigger churches. I propose one such possibility:

By God's grace and for the rest of my life, we covenant to:

1. **Live holy:** become like Jesus, walk in the Holy Spirit, be pure in heart and life
2. **Pray daily:** meet with Jesus one hour daily in worship, the Word, and prayer
3. **Fast weekly:** set my heart to fast for Jesus one day each week as a lifestyle
4. **Do justly:** personalize Christlike compassion for the marginalized and oppressed
5. **Evangelize boldly:** declare Jesus' heart for the lost, all nations, and the Church
6. **Disciple diligently:** equip next generations in fellowship, Bible study, and prayer
7. **Give extravagantly:** tithe into the Church and give offerings for global mission

Mission leader, I thank God for you and for your partnership in Christ and the Gospel. I am praying for you during this transition from 2010 to 2011. I envision the outpouring of the Holy Spirit across our church around the world soon. To the praise of God's glory!



Daniel D. Ketchum, Ph.D.
Global NMI Director

From the Global President



Fellow Mission Partners:

It's that time of the year when we celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and the significance of His coming. He is my reason for celebrating!

It is also a special time to reflect on the other blessings...like the ones that I've been given in **you all**. I thank God for your ministry and the support you have given to **NMI** over the years. You have been a wonderful blessing!

It is indeed a tremendous joy to be a part of the Church of the Nazarene and the greatest department in our church—**NMI**, with its many and varied programmes and its strong emphasis on praying, discipling, giving, and educating.

Truly God has been good to me, I can't complain. He has blessed me with a supportive husband and children. I am now looking forward to an addition to my family as my eldest son's wife gives birth to their first child in January.



The Brown family
(left to right)
Devin, Dale, Lionel, Jennifer,
Darren and his wife, Kimberly

My family and I join in wishing you at this time of the year...
Joys that delight...
Peace that remains...
And love that knows no limits.

Praying that your Christmas is truly blessed!

Jennifer Brown
Global NMI President



Remembering Our Heroes and Moving Forward

Fellow Mission Partners:

My former pastor was a man of great vision and great faith. He and his family walked with integrity before God. He believed in me, encouraged me, and nurtured me in the faith. During my teen years, he ensured that I was exposed to and involved in the mission of the church.

My passion was ignited, and it was very difficult to put the sparks out in high school as God placed a Christian vice principal in my life who became my role model. This woman of God mentored me, and my passion for missions was further ignited. It was hard to put out the blaze as I entered adulthood.

Ten years later, my husband-pastor continued in the same vein. He became one of my spiritual heroes and mentors.

To this day, the question that continues to challenge me, even in this season of my life, is: Who am I mentoring and discipling? Am I living and leading in such a way that those with whom I live and work will be attracted to my faith and nurtured on their journey?

The Bible recalls many heroes of the faith (Hebrews 11). They were all mentioned because of their willingness to act upon their faith and to trust God for the unknown.

So often I feel totally inadequate to handle what God has called me to do. So did Moses, Esther, and a host of other heroes of our faith. The good news is that God does not call us to work **for** Him but to work **with** Him—and that guarantees success. Besides, we have the promise of His continual Presence (Matthew 28: 20).

Fellow leaders, as we rush to the end of another calendar year and look to the future, let us be reminded that we were called according to God's purpose—not ours. The task may seem formidable at times, but let us not for one moment think that God has given us something that we can fulfill easily or do on our own. If this is our thinking, it is probably not from God. His assignments are God-sized. We can't handle them alone because He calls us not according to our works, but according to His purpose (2 Timothy 1:9).

Let us press on in the new year: still believing, still praying, still working. "Making Christlike disciples in the nations!"



Jennifer Brown
Global NMI President



Nazarene Compassionate Ministries— So Many Needs? So Few Resources?

Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

Matthew 25: 44-45, KJV

Knowing that we are all asked to show compassion and that there are so many demands on our limited financial resources, there is something we can do to help that may cost some people time and most people nothing.

Organize a Variety Sale

How? Advertise: announcements, e-mails, Facebook, phone calls, text messages, posters

Where? In your garage, at a church picnic, in the community—anywhere people will be or come if they are invited

What? Items in and around the home or church that no one really has any use for but that others may want, including clothing in acceptable condition

Who? Ask anyone to donate items, even children or neighbors and family members not in church

When? Choose the season when people are most likely to clean out their homes

Why?

- People will be glad to clear unneeded clutter and, at the same time, help those in need.
- Others will be pleased to purchase needed or wanted items at greatly reduced prices.
- **The needs in our communities and in our world are great.** Some of these needs will be met while also helping those who donate and purchase.

At the sale, provide a container marked “The Less Fortunate” for those who wish to make cash donations apart from their purchases.*

This method is proven. It helped one Caribbean district provide funds to construct water wells in Haiti.

* **Editor’s Note:** Be sure to post how the money will be used; more people will be encouraged to give. If it is for the Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Fund, have an explanation of how those funds help.

Donnamie Ali
Caribbean Region
Global Council Representative



Everyone a Volunteer Minister

We live in a day in which mission calls can be answered in a variety of ways. Volunteer Ministries are knocking at every door and are so numerous that everyone can be a volunteer. How exciting to live at such a time as this!

The Pittsburgh District has appointed a domestic Work & Witness (W&W) coordinator to our leadership team. Domestic W&W teams will minister in the USA/Canada Region as the international W&W teams continue to travel to other regions. Our desire is to connect more people to missions and to disciple young future leaders.

We know that W&W changes the lives of individuals and puts a new excitement in churches. There are people who cannot make the international trips, but are willing to participate in a domestic experience. And it is much easier for teens and families to join the domestic teams, while also participating in an activity that is more affordable.

The Southwest Latin America District offers projects and a cross-cultural experience without a passport! FOCUS 2011 INDY DISTRICT offers an opportunity to encounter ministry in one of America's largest cities. Districts may register projects with the **W&W USA/Canada** office or choose to participate in a work project by calling 913-577-2839 or by going to www.workandwitness.org.

Churches, families, youth groups, and districts could team up with **One Heart—Many Hands** and serve in Columbus, Ohio, during July 31–August 5, 2011. More information is available at www.oneheartmanyhands.com or by calling 877-379-6464.

Retirees, there is a special mission for you as well. **RVs On A Mission (ROAM)** is an outreach of the Church of the Nazarene. Do you have a heart for W&W? Why not join this growing organization of RV owners who enjoy working for the Kingdom and having fun doing it! Check it out at www.rvsonamission.org.

Please don't overlook local opportunities to volunteer in your community, such as helping at soup kitchens or homeless shelters, driving the elderly to appointments, providing needed repairs for the homebound, preparing a meal for the sick—the list is endless. Put a "Help Offered" notice in your church bulletin; there is a ministry for everyone. Opportunities are knocking at your door—are you answering the call to

Volunteer Ministries?



Sandra Sisler
Eastern U.S.A. Region
Global Council Representative



Christmas Compassion

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) partners with local Nazarene congregations around the world to provide clothes, shelter, food, medical care, and education for those who suffer under from injustice, violence, poverty, hunger, and disease. NCM exists in and through the Church of the Nazarene to proclaim the Gospel to all people in word and action.

For more information about Nazarene Compassionate Ministries and how you can get involved, have an adult help you get online and look at www.ncm.org. This month we will celebrate and give thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ. Perhaps your family would like to sponsor a child or to give to the NCM Fund for Christmas.

The most important thing you can do is pray! As you open each present and sing each carol, please remember to pray for those around the world who are in need of compassion this Christmas.

Find the words hidden in this puzzle.

N L V T N F C O S T T E K W N
 D P O Z O G P H I K E D U I D
 F J V O B G Y E R B G U B T V
 V D D J S H P G I I O C K T C
 C O M P A S S I O N S A G O T
 S E S O L H B Y A H A T K O N
 E F N F F M N Z W V K I M X V
 H J W I P Y A R P S G O F A E
 T K E G C R Y R T S I N I M S
 O H Q S E I E X E L Z S X K I
 L X U N U T D E A W J H H G K
 C I E Z L S M E V V V A M J I
 D L E E D I D L M I Q R D B X
 R U H S P O N S O R G E Z R D
 L S B L U P K K K W Q V Y B Z

CHRISTMAS
 GIVE
 PRAY

CLOTHES
 JESUS
 SHARE

COMPASSION
 MEDICINE
 SHELTER

EDUCATION
 MINISTRY
 SPONSOR

FOOD
 NAZARENE

(See solution on News & Announcements page.)

Jenni Montebianco
 Children's Ministries



Try This!

Christmas Craft Night with the Youth Group

Traditional store-bought Christmas gifts are expensive. They also encourage us to focus on our identity as consumers rather than recipients of the Greatest Gift Ever—Jesus Christ!

If we made more of our gifts and gave the money we would have spent in stores to mission projects like Nazarene Compassionate Ministries' Christmas Project 2010, we would find ourselves much more in-line with the true meaning of Christmas!*

So Try This!

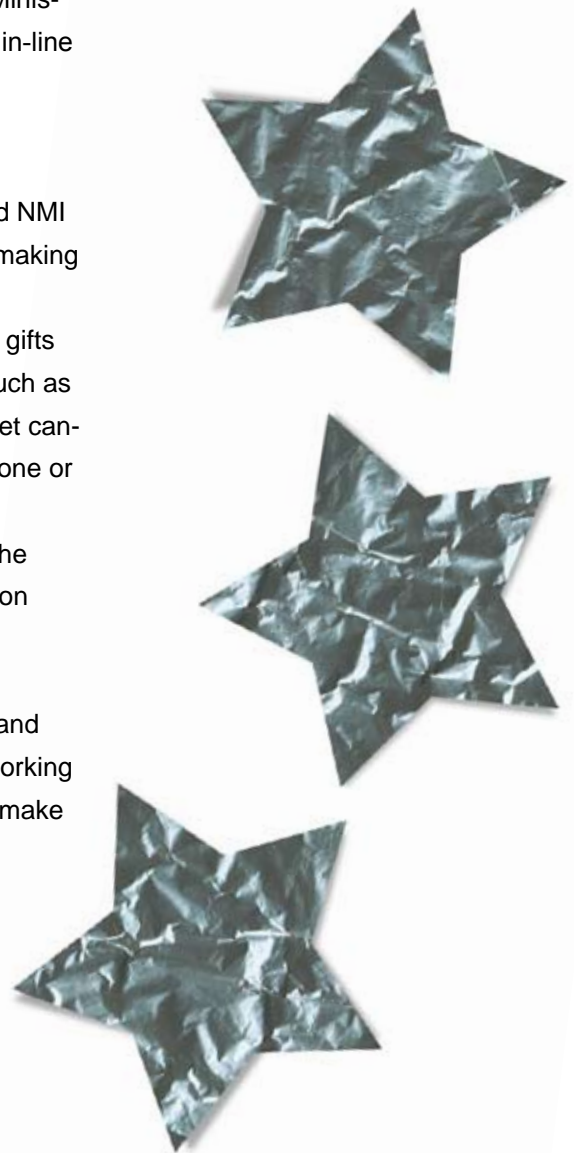
Rent, borrow, or buy a fun Christmas DVD. Invite the youth and NMI groups for an evening of popcorn, cocoa, watching the show, and making homemade Christmas gifts.

There are oh-so-many Web sites with craft-oriented Christmas gifts ideas. Select a few simple ones that anyone would love to have, such as handmade pictures frames or candle holders. If your ministry budget cannot cover the cost of the materials, ask each participant to pick up one or two items and bring them to the event.

Have a fun Christmas box or basket where participants place the money they would have spent on store-bought gifts. Select a mission project to which the group will donate.

Teenagers really connect with an event focused on fellowship and giving to others in need. Everyone will have so much fun talking, working with their hands, and watching a Christmas classic, you just might make this a holiday tradition!

- * Christmas Project 2010 is to support unsponsored children. To donate online, go to www.ncm.org.



Confessions from a Youth Pastor— The Secret of Intergenerational Ministry

Two events over the last year have caused me to see the need for intergenerational ministry involving youth. So I am letting you, local mission leader, in on a secret: Our youth ministry—and I am sure yours too—would really benefit from collaboration with the adults in your mission program.

Last year I taught a class for our eighth graders intended to bring them up to speed on major Christian doctrine and prepare them for membership in the church. During that year, the eighth graders were paired with adult mentors in the church.

I spent hours preparing lessons and activities, organizing field trips and service projects. But the most meaningful aspect of that whole year for many of the participants was the relationships they built with their mentors. The class only lasted a year, but those relationships will last a lifetime!

On the heels of that class, I had a conversation with a youth pastor friend of mine who had just returned from a mission trip with his youth. When I asked him about the trip, I learned that it was not only for youth, but for the whole church.

He told me that at first the Work & Witness veterans in the church were concerned that teenagers would slow down their projects and get in the way. Likewise, some of the youth sponsors were concerned the youth experience wouldn't be as fun and exciting if the trip was filled with so many adults.

Both groups were astounded by the actual outcome of the trip. Work & Witness veterans serving alongside teenagers proved to be delightful for everyone involved. The teenagers were treated as equal partners in ministry and felt both affirmed and challenged by this new role. The older adults enjoyed laughing with the teens and sharing life experiences with them.

The youth pastor told me he will never do another “youth only” mission trip. Every trip he takes from now on will be intergenerational.

It is so appropriate that intergenerational ministry take place in mission. As we reach out to the lost, hurting, and broken, we find ourselves being formed into the likeness of Christ and are challenged to draw others along that same journey, especially those who are younger and eager to learn and grow.

These events caused me to ponder my own ministry to youth and how I can intentionalize intergeneration experiences with them. How does God's mission for our youth group involve people of all ages?

In your ministry in NMI, how can you organize, strategize, and intentionalize ways to include youth and children to come alongside you, experience your passion for mission, and learn from your life surrendered to the Lord? You will be surprised how much you also have to learn from these young, enthusiastic lives, ready and willing to take the gospel of Christ to the world, if someone will just show them how.

Shawna Songer Gaines
Chicago, Illinois



**Work & Witness
veterans
serving
alongside
teenagers
proved to be
delightful for
everyone
involved.**



There Shall Be Showers of Blessing

After a long dry season, the rain is coming now almost daily, and students are working in their gardens again. The rains are a blessing to all of us. But you who gave so that we could distribute rice and *kaukau* (sweet potato) and other foods to students are also a blessing. We are continuing to help those in need because you are giving.

For those who live in the United States, we want to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving. May God continue to bless you as you have blessed us in Papua New Guinea through your Thanksgiving and World Evangelism Fund (WEF) offerings. Your giving makes a difference.

Thank you also for giving to Nazarene Compassionate Ministries. It is not just money donated to an organization or a church or even a community. It is food given to a small child, a mother, a father—individuals like Edward, Amos, Sereh, Hency, Roselyn, Isaac, and many others—real people with real needs. Thank you for sending showers of blessings to Melanesia Nazarene Bible College.

Now that the rain has come, we are trying to dig a well to be better prepared before the next drought. Thank you, David Harris, NCM coordinator in Asia-Pacific, for your guidance and helping others to see our needs.

Geneva Silvernail
Missionary, Papua New Guinea

From One Weather Extreme to the Other

We are all doing good here. We have been busy with the aftermath of Hurricane Richard. You would be glad to know that Belizean Nazarenes were the first in many areas to begin to distribute Crisis Care Kits (CCKs) and offer assistance. We distributed more than 1,200 CCKs to affected families. None of the churches suffered much damage, and only a very few Nazarenes have been affected. One of our schools experienced some water damage, but nothing major. Most things have been cleaned up and/or repaired. Thanks for your prayers and concern.

Darin Pound
Belize City, Belize



Host Parents' Night Out for NCM

This idea has worked well in one church on our district. It is called "Parents' Night Out." The church opens the children's department for an evening of baby-sitting so parents can have a "date night," go shopping without the little ones, or just have dinner out with friends.

Volunteers staff the nursery for little ones and a game room for the older children (up to 11 years of age). At some point during the evening, the children have a short lesson or game related to missions. The hours are usually 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

There is a donation box, and parents can donate as much or as little as they can afford. The money collected then goes for the missions emphasis of the month or is put away for a special missions project at the end of the year.

Karen Benlien
Garden Grove, California



Volunteer Institute of Missions International

Note: For the most effective presentation, you will need the presenter to be an energetic person who will present this like a stereotypical infomercial host. To add to the excitement, have a sound effect of a watch ticking playing softly in the background and have the sound person increase the volume just a bit after the last line.

Are you at a point in your life where you are looking for something new and exciting in your life? When you were a young child, did you often say, “When I grow up I want to be a doctor, a nurse, a mathematician, a banker, or a scientist?” Have you often wanted to go back to school for further education and just don’t have the time? Are you lacking something in your life and just can’t quite put your finger on what it is?

Well, I have the perfect answer for you and the New Year that lies before you. Why not enroll in the Volunteer Institute of Missions International? It is a local community college that can brighten your day, fulfill your expectations for life, give you something new and exciting to look forward to, lift your spirits, and most of all encourage and help others.

You might be saying to yourself, “Well, I would love to enroll in the Volunteer Institute, but I don’t have any extra funds in my budget for this year.”

I say to you, “No problem! This institute of education is absolutely, positively, totally FREE! Yes, you heard me right—FREE, F-R-E-E! There is none other like it anywhere in (*your location*) and this deal is only good for today!”

Anyone who wants to enroll in the Volunteer Institute of Missions International can do so...here...today! Applications are forthcoming. Diplomas and crowns are offered on the other side—the other side in heaven that is. Why not start with your giving today?

It’s official! I am enrolling each of you in this free class through the Volunteer Institute of Missions International right now, and your learning begins...**now!**

Samarinating

Let’s get started with tonight’s first lesson. A new word I would like you to add in your “thinking dictionaries” is “Samarinating.” **Samarinating**—“*thinking about what it means to be a Good Samaritan.*” Let’s think of a few great reasons you should samarinate:

1. Human need is incredibly great and growing. The economic strain on people is at its highest in years, and people need the Lord more than ever before.
2. People’s lives can be changed and transformed by gestures of kindness and caring.

Samarinating
“thinking about what it means to be a Good Samaritan.”

3. The message generosity conveys is consistent with our Church's heritage.
4. Money is not the centerpiece; it is one resource of many that we can offer. Sometimes your time means more than a wealth of money.
5. Gifts (money and otherwise) are handled with integrity.
6. Sharing with others in greater need than yourself is at the core of the Gospel.
7. Caring for others is a gesture of fairness; redistribution is biblical.
8. Volunteering opens new opportunities for public witness and testimony.
9. Giving is a central gesture of Christian obedience.
10. The mechanisms of giving are easy: we make a living by what we do; we make a life by what we give and the compassion we show.
11. You have not lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you. Jesus came to die for our sins, something for which we can never repay Him. He did it because He loves us and paid the ultimate sacrifice in doing so.

If we search out our own hearts and seek God's will for our lives, each of us can make a difference in a small way through volunteering and can find ways to help that will make our efforts worth the time and trouble we invest in them.

Benefits

- Volunteering makes you feel needed.
- Volunteering can help you learn new skills.
- Volunteering may help you face personal problems.
- Volunteering introduces you to new people and breaks down barriers of misunderstanding, mistrust, and fear.
- Volunteering can create new contacts which may help your business or career.

Volunteering Through Missions

You may be asking how you can volunteer through missions at your stage in life. Following are opportunities for any person in the congregation:

- **Youth in Mission**—an eight-week summer ministry for college/university students to engage to serve God and others through a mission experience. For more information, visit www.youthinmission.org.
- **Youthserve**—short-term mission experiences for high-school students. Youth will receive training, nurturing, and equipping before they embark on a mission trip and follow-up after the trip. For more information, visit www.nazareneyouthserve.org.
- **Work & Witness**—short-term mission experiences of three weeks or less for a variety of church groups and people of all ages. Teams are connected with needs. To learn more, go to www.workandwitness.org.
- **Mission Corps**—designed for people who want to serve cross-culturally for three months or longer. Volunteers fulfill specific assignments that match their skills and gifts. See www.missioncorps.org for more information.



If we search out our own hearts and seek God's will for our lives, each of us can make a difference in a small way through volunteering...

- **Tentmakers**—People’s secular vocations sometime lead them to different cultures. As tentmakers, their jobs support them while they help the Church of the Nazarene. To learn more about tentmaker possibilities, go to www.missioncorps.org.
- **JESUS Film Ministry Trips**—participants purchase and deliver JESUS Film equipment to a Nazarene team in a priority location. Visit www.JFHP.org/getinvolved/trips.cfm for information on JESUS Films trips.
- **Medical Trips**—Nazarene Medical Organization links Nazarene medical professionals to each other and to medical ministries around the world. Interested medical professionals may visit www.ncm.org/learn/healthcare/nmo to learn more.
- **Extreme Nazarene Missions**—Extreme Nazarene finds unmet, complex, global needs and matches the needs with the talents and resources available throughout the worldwide church. For more information, click on www.extremenazarene.org.
- **Local or District Opportunities**—opportunities that may be filled by local or district teams on the local or district level are usually available. Contact your pastor, district NMI president, district superintendent, or district office to learn where you can serve.
- **Praying**—participants in the previously mentioned ministries always need prayer support. You may not be able to go, but you can pray.

You are now a graduate of the Volunteer Institute of Missions International.

So what are you waiting for? The church and God’s kingdom needs you like never before. There is no better time to serve the Lord than now.

Try it out; we will guarantee you 100 percent satisfaction or your money back! Get on board and get involved today! Time’s a tickin’...

Delilah Johnson (adapted)
Seymour, Missouri





Alabaster Quarter Wars

One of our Alabaster offerings during the church year has to be “Quarter Wars.” Both teens and adults love the challenge and are disappointed when we do not do it.

Divide the group into two teams—one for the adults and the other for the teens. We have a smaller church (we average in the 40s for Sunday morning worship).* The teen group usually has about 10, plus their pick of 3 adults; and the remaining adults comprise the other team. The teens wanted to make it a competition between them and the adults, and the truth is that they usually win. (They are very good at picking adults who will help their cause!)

Purchase two buckets, identical except for the color, and allow the teams to determine which color they want.

Each Sunday during the Alabaster month we take an offering. Each team puts their quarters in the opposing team’s bucket. The quarters are then subtracted from each teams total amount. So you really don’t want to have quarters in your bucket if you can help it. Each team’s money is totaled, and the amount of quarters is subtracted from that amount. The monies are kept separate until they are counted. Following is an example of how I keep track of the offerings:

WEEK #1

Adults		Teens	
Currency	\$2.00	Currency	\$2.00
Quarters	\$3.00	Quarters	\$4.50
Dimes	\$6.50	Dimes	\$.30
Nickels	\$2.50	Nickels	\$.30
Pennies	<u>\$1.11</u>	Pennies	<u>\$.07</u>
Subtotal	\$15.11	Subtotal	\$7.17
Minus Quarters**	<u>-\$3.00</u>	Minus Quarters**	<u>-\$4.50</u>
TOTAL	\$12.11	TOTAL	\$2.67



GRAND TOTAL **for Giving** for Week #1
(add the subtotals **before** subtracting the quarters)—\$22.28

The Competition uses the **Totals** for each team.

We have found that it is easier to take the coins to the bank and have them run through the coin machine, which breaks it down to keep track of the different coin amounts. This is also a great way to make contacts with the local bank tellers; and if you try to get the same teller, they often want to know how the contest is going.

I let the teams know what the totals are for each team weekly and then give the grand total. As time goes by, I inform them of the running totals as well. It sounds like a lot of work, but it isn't really. Like I said the people love the competition and it involves everyone!

Kathy Caldwell
Crescent City, Illinois

- * A larger church may want to have more teams and divide the numbers accordingly.
- ** The quarter total represents the quarters from the opposing teams and are thus subtracted at the end.



Look at Your Hands

God created them; He knew what He was doing. He knew how we would need them in our daily lives. He knew each and every bone needed to create this amazing body part that we hold near and dear.

The amazing work of our hands! Have you ever looked at your hands? I mean, **really** looked at your hands? Slowly open your hands and stare down at them. Now, turn them over, palms up and then palms down. Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout all of your years. These hands are the mark of where you've been and the ruggedness of life.

More importantly, it was the outstretched hands of Christ that were nailed to a cross. From that scene, we know how important His hands were in salvation for each of us.

As important as our hands are, one pair of hands cannot touch the entire world...unless you have the **amazing World Evangelism Fund**.

How much would you give to support outreach ministry in 156 world areas? Don't answer, because the salaries of Nazarene missionaries and the support of their children are also included, as well as monthly pensions for more than 300 retired missionaries. Now how much would you give?

There is more. You can help support more than 50 institutions of higher education, approximately 60 hospitals and clinics, an average of 5.5 projects per week through Global Nazarene Publication.

In addition, you'll also help to facilitate Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Alabaster, World Mission Broadcast, plus ministries and services to churches and church-type missions globally.

You may be asking, "How can I get in on this unbelievable opportunity of a lifetime?" **By giving to World Evangelism Fund**, of course!

This is a limited time offer; people die daily, never having heard of Christ's salvation. So get involved. Begin praying now about what you will give during the annual Easter Offering for World Evangelism!

By giving to World Evangelism Fund, you can go to sleep tonight knowing you have helped people experience eternal peace through the **incredibly simple act of participating**. Your hands could not be put to better use!



Please search your heart between now and (*date of Easter Offering*). Think of Christ's hands spanning the cross, and look at your own hands. Then ask God what He would have you to give for the Easter Offering for World Evangelism.

It doesn't have to be a strain on anyone if we all search out what the Lord would have us give to help reach others for Christ.

Look at your hands. Are they open, releasing what God would have you give in the Easter Offering? If so, they are also open to touch the lost around the world with the help of others and the World Evangelism Fund.

Delilah Johnson (adapted)
Seymour, Missouri

LINKS and Easter Offering

In preparation for your church's Easter Offering, write your LINKS missionaries now and ask them to send your church a message about how World Evangelism Fund helps them serve. Such correspondence will make your church's missions giving more personal for both the church and the missionary.

Gail L. Sawrie
NMI Editor



It doesn't have to be a strain on anyone if we all search out what the Lord would have us give to help reach others for Christ.



Tips on Corresponding with Missionaries

- Please do not send correspondence to a missionary through the Global NMI Office. If you do not have an address for your LINKS missionary, ask the following people for help (in this order): your district LINKS coordinator, your district NMI president, or Global LINKS Coordinator Linda Phelps.
- All packages mailed to missionaries should be sent to them directly, unless otherwise specified. Then be sure to use the address provided by the missionary.
- Always check with the missionary before sending a package. Ask if they can receive what you are mailing and verify that the mailing instructions you have are the most up-to-date.
- Every gift sent to a missionary should have an e-mail address attached, so the missionary can acknowledge receipt easily.
- All monies sent to the Global Ministries Center should be mailed to the following address: Global Treasury Services, PO Box 843116, Kansas City MO 64184-3116.
- Do you need to write your LINKS missionary in a language other than your own? For simple greetings and messages (not for detailed letters), try translating it through Google. Go to http://www.google.com/language_tools. Choose the "From" language and the "To" language, and you can communicate.

Linda Phelps, LINKS Coordinator

NMI Web Site Now Available in Other Languages

The Web site for Nazarene Missions International (www.nazarenemissions.org) now has a link to Google Translate so our constituents who speak languages other than English may read it. The link is on the right-hand section of the home page in the "Language Resources" box. For now, the available languages are English, French, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish, with more languages planned for in the future. Select the language you wish, and the text on the Web pages will be translated.

Requesting Addresses

We know you and your congregations want to offer encouragement to Nazarenes in sensitive areas of the world. People often call us and other ministries at the Global Ministry Center asking for addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses in order to do so. That is thoughtful, but potentially dangerous to the recipient, so we cannot provide the requested information.

Instead, when a church member expresses a desire to contact someone in such an area, please ask them to pray for the people in those areas, asking God to send someone to them to provide the needed encouragement at just the right time. This keeps people safe and allows your people to feel they have a role in that encouragement.

Engage Your People!

Would you like people in your church to engage with Nazarene missions beyond your weekly, monthly, or quarterly presentations? Tell them about *Engage* magazine! It's available free online 24/7, with fresh and stirring mission narratives published every week.

Visit NMI Web site > NMI Resources > Engage Magazine to download our series of graphic advertisements for *Engage*. Publish the graphic in your church newsletter. The *Engage* advertisements can be used in a variety of ways:

- Print the *Engage* ad in Sunday worship bulletins, inviting attendees to visit www.engagemagazine.com and sign up for the e-mail newsletter.
- Include an *Engage* ad in the PowerPoint slides displayed before or between church services.
- Place an ad on your church Web site, and link it to www.engagemagazine.com.
- Use the ads to decorate your missions bulletin board.
- Nazarenes everywhere want to engage with God's mission to the world all week, not just on Sunday. Tell them how.

Selected Giving Receipts for October 2010

The Selected Receipts Report for October 2010 is available for your information at the end of this issue of *Mission Connection*. Thank you for your faithful and generous giving.

Encouraging People to Subscribe to *Engage* and *Mission Connection*

"I was in a meeting with a few leaders (including the district superintendent, my husband) this morning, and I actually brought [subscribing to *Engage* and *Mission Connection*] up, especially that of *Engage* magazine. I asked each member to take down the Web sites and to access same. I know that Donnamie Ali, the Caribbean [Global NMI Council] rep, has from time to time encouraged leaders across the region to do the same.

"Another of my practices is each time I receive a new issue of *Mission Connection*, I forward it to several leaders and ask them to subscribe. Consequently, I have had several leaders from NYI and SDMI also subscribing to our magazines on my district and other districts in the region.

"Recruiting new members to subscribe to the publications we have online has always been at the top of my agenda in my recent travels, in my capacity. At this juncture, I can only promise to relentlessly continue my efforts, at home and abroad, and hope that we will begin to see the multiplication of subscribers."

Jennifer Brown

Global NMI President

Editor's Note: We know that more people try new things (products, activities, etc.) when they are suggested by word of mouth than by any other method. See this site (<www.bazaarvoice.com/resources/stats>) for statistics from a variety of sources.

WEF PLUS Response

"Praise God for the remarkable WEF Plus Offering yesterday in our small church! Seventy-five people (many of whom have lost jobs recently) gave nearly \$3,000, and some are having to wait and give next week when they finish 'gathering their funds.' I know this is not a lot of money compared to the need, but it represents tremendous sacrifice for this congregation, made up largely of young adults who are struggling to make it. Giving for world evangelism is new to many of them, and they are so excited about it! How precious it was to watch a sweet single mother, who is working full-time while going to college, triumphantly hand in her first Thanksgiving Offering as a new Christian. This little church gave 140 percent of their WEF last year. Thank you for the great DVD clips and other promotional materials. I can't wait to see how God has worked on the district and in the general church!"

Teresa Hodge

East Tennessee District NMI President

Due to the holidays, this issue of *Mission Connection* is a combined one (December 2010 and January 2011).

Look for your next issue by February 1, 2011.

May you have a Christ-filled Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Averi's WEF PLUS Quarter Story

When we received the first message from Carrie Adkins about her daughter, Averi, we were so inspired that we asked for an update. As Averi asked more and more people for quarters, we were thrilled and looked forward to final report...especially after Thanksgiving weekend.

Averi's grandfather is John Borgal, Gifts-in-Kind Warehouse manager for Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Inc., where many Nazarenes send Crisis Care Kits, School Pal-Paks, clothing, toys, etc., to be distributed globally.

We thought this was a great illustration of what can happen when someone gets enthused about why they give to the World Evangelism Fund.

November 21, 2010

I wanted to share a story about the WEF PLUS Offering from my family. About three weeks ago, our local NMI president handed out folders for kids to put \$10 worth of quarters in. I took one to my three-year-old daughter, Averi, and asked her if she wanted to collect quarters so that other people could hear about Jesus. She loved the idea and began asking everyone in the family for quarters.

Almost daily, Averi asks her grandfather if he has any quarters, and he often does. Her daddy puts all his change in her piggy bank, and she asked him to get all the quarters out of her piggy bank. He found 100 quarters there, and she decided to give

all of them. We went on vacation with one of her aunts and uncles, and she asked them for all their quarters.

Averi has now completely filled four folders with quarters and is working on her fifth one! Just tonight, she said that she wants to write a letter and ask two of her aunts who live in another state to see if they will send her some quarters!

To see my child so excited to gather quarters to help others hear about Jesus is inspiring to me. See if they will send her some quarters!



November 22, 2010

It has been so fun to watch Averi be so excited about collecting quarters for this offering! If it can inspire others, that is awesome!

Averi had me contact two aunts who live out of state and at least one of them is sending quarters with Averi's grandparents who are coming to visit for Thanksgiving. Also, at Averi's great-great-aunt's 87th birthday party this past Saturday, Averi asked all the relatives there for quarters as soon as we arrived. They are planning on bringing her some on Thanksgiving Day....Right now, she is on her sixth card. And our church doesn't have any more cards for her to fill.

November 28, 2010

The final total of quarters was 285 quarters—Averi completely filled 7 quarter folders and had 5 additional quarters. Here are all the people Averi got quarters from:

1. Me—I have a little container where I put all my coins; and when Averi asked me for quarters, I cleaned all the quarters out of that.
2. Grandma—Whenever Grandma got change from buying something, Averi would ask for the quarters.
3. Granddad—She asked him every day when he came home if he had quarters, and he usually did (from buying a newspaper).
4. Daddy—He puts all his leftover change in Averi's piggy bank, and she asked him to look for quarters in her piggy bank. He found 100 quarters, and Averi decided to give them all.
5. Aunt Stephanie and Uncle Ethan with whom we recently went on vacation.

6. Aunt Trish and Aunt Sandra who live in Ohio—Averi asked me to text/e-mail them and ask them if they would send her some quarters. And they both did.
7. Four relatives at her Great-Great-Aunt Sue's 87th's birthday party—Averi greeted all of the relatives at the party by asking if they had any quarters. Two people gave them to her that day, and two others brought them on Thanksgiving Day.
8. Grammy and Grandpa from Ohio—They brought Aunt Trish's quarters, as well as some of their own.
9. Mr. Bud, our neighbor—Each night he brings a newspaper over for Granddad to read, and one night Averi asked him for quarters and he gave her some.
10. Marilyn, my physical therapist—At my appointment last week, I was telling her the story of Averi collecting quarters and all the people she was asking for quarters. As I was leaving, Marilyn said, "Wait, I want to give you some quarters to give to Averi."

Carrie Adkins
Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania



Mission Evangelism Conference 2011

Date:
February 21-23, 2011

Location:
Louisville, Kentucky

Cost:
\$25 per person

- ◆ Anointed speakers, Spirit-led worship, and Word-centered music
- ◆ Workshop tracks geared to helping you live out the mission
- ◆ Special emphases for college and university students
- ◆ Exhibits, resources, and networking opportunities
- ◆ Service project partnering with One Heart Many Hands



www.MI1conference.org

REMINDER

Due to the holidays, this issue of Mission Connection is a combined one (December 2010 and January 2011).

Look for your next issue by February 1, 2011.

Christmas Compassion Puzzle Solution

(from Children's Page)

N	L	V	T	N	F	C	O	S	T	T	E	K	W	N
D	P	O	Z	O	G	P	H	I	K	E	D	U	I	D
F	J	V	O	B	G	Y	E	R	B	G	U	B	T	V
V	D	D	J	S	H	P	G	I	I	O	C	K	T	C
G	O	M	P	A	S	S	I	O	N	S	A	G	O	T
S	E	S	O	L	H	B	Y	A	H	A	T	K	O	N
E	F	N	F	F	M	N	Z	W	V	K	I	M	X	V
H	J	W	I	P	Y	A	R	P	S	G	O	F	A	E
T	K	E	G	C	R	Y	R	T	S	I	N	I	M	S
O	H	Q	S	E	L	E	X	E	L	Z	S	X	K	I
L	X	U	N	U	T	D	E	A	W	J	H	H	G	K
C	I	E	Z	L	S	M	E	V	V	V	A	M	J	I
D	L	E	E	D	I	D	L	M	I	Q	R	D	B	X
R	U	H	S	P	O	N	S	O	R	G	E	Z	R	D
L	S	B	L	U	P	K	K	K	W	Q	V	Y	B	Z

Mission Connection • December 2010/January 2011

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Member Evangelical Press Association.

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Our Mission

To mobilize the church in mission through praying, discipling, giving, and educating.

Funding the Mission October 31, 2010

Period 2011/001

	Current YTD	Previous YTD	Variance YTD	% Var YTD	Previous Fiscal Year Annual		Current YTD Goal	YTD Dollar Variance	% Variance
World Evangelism Fund	2,407,682	3,340,319	(932,636)	-27.92%	44,123,911		3,140,291	(732,609)	-23.33%
Mission Specials	1,915,164	1,923,285	(8,121)	-0.42%	25,105,002				
Sub-Total	4,322,846	5,263,603	(940,757)	-17.87%	69,228,913				
<u>Mission Special Detail</u>									
Alabaster	492,494	537,231	(44,737)	-8.33%	2,781,658				
Compassionate Min - USA/Canada	50,415	30,270	20,144	66.55%	491,254				
Compassionate Ministries - GM	197,517	237,593	(40,076)	-16.87%	7,144,672				
Child Sponsorship	254,383	232,483	21,900	9.42%	3,048,810				
Deputation	195,407	184,865	10,542	5.70%	1,816,655				
Jesus Film	215,528	236,641	(21,113)	-8.92%	2,369,327				
LINKS	22,641	31,306	(8,665)	-27.68%	231,335				
Missionary Christmas Fund	10,651	11,670	(1,019)	-8.73%	61,015				
Missionary Health Care - Offerings	6,703	6,284	418	6.66%	204,573				
Missionary Health Care-Memorial Roll	8,188	8,656	(468)	-5.41%	211,838				
Missionary Health Care - DSA	6,705	8,634	(1,929)	-22.34%	90,352				
Work & Witness	159,962	103,284	56,678	54.88%	1,722,868				
World Mission Broadcast	24,678	26,503	(1,825)	-6.89%	437,233				
Vacation Bible School	25,394	34,439	(9,045)	-26.26%	331,826				
Other (i.e. Field,Partnerships, etc.)	244,498	233,423	11,075	4.74%	4,161,586				