



LINKS

Location, Location, Location!

What is the primary rule of real estate? Location, location, location!

What is the destination of Alabaster funds? Location, location, location!

Choose a prime location in your church to promote Alabaster—highly visible with lots of traffic. Use a real estate theme, and post signs (such as “For Sale,” “For Rent,” “Open House,” “Future Home of the Church of the Nazarene”) around a display of Alabaster boxes (or other containers marked for Alabaster).

Use real estate newspaper ads to cover a bulletin board and bright lettering to announce “FOR SALE” and invite everyone to the “Open House.”

On the designated date, host an “Open House” at the display and distribute Alabaster boxes and handouts explaining the purpose of Alabaster offerings. (The Alabaster projects flyer is a great way for people to see how Alabaster giving through the years has resulted in many buildings and plots of land.) Be sure to include teens and children when distributing the boxes and information; having them help might also spur their interest.

When explaining Alabaster, include suggestions for placing personal Alabaster boxes in prime locations—in the bedroom where pockets are emptied nightly, in the kitchen where everyone has access and stray coins can be easily placed, near laundry facilities (all money found in pockets goes in Alabaster); in each child/teen’s room; and in the car—instead of dropping change in your purse or tray, place it in your Alabaster box.

Claim “prime property” for Alabaster!



*Martha Bean
Central U.S.A. Regional
Global Council Representative*

Missionary Care: LINKS Update

LINKS reflects the mission statement of Nazarene Missions International (NMI): To mobilize the church in mission through praying, discipling, giving, and educating. By linking specific missionaries to local churches, Nazarenes can care for and support the global missionary family and know some of that family personally.

The new LINKS cycle for 2012-2014 includes changes for many, changes to facilitate more communication between the districts and the missionaries on the field, new faces, new friendships, and new fields to explore.

We are also changing one aspect in LINKS giving to comply with current IRS requirements. To add Long-term Mission Corps to LINKS has been a great move. More and more, God calls families and individuals to leave their comfort zones and minister in new areas as volunteers. These missionaries are so important to the work of the Kingdom, and their partnership is something we in the Global NMI Office value highly.

Because Long-term Mission Corps volunteers are fully self-funded, LINKS giving is a blessing that helps keep the missionary on the field longer and is a great encouragement as he or she follows God’s call. To be in compliance with IRS requirements, any gifts received through LINKS for Long-term Mission Corps volunteers must be sent to that volunteer’s Mission Corps support account. We can no longer facilitate personal LINKS gifts for Mission Corp volunteers.

Effective immediately, LINKS funds sent to the Global Ministry Center for Mission Corps missionaries will be placed in their ministry account.

Financial support is only one aspect of LINKS. Prayer coverage is essential, especially as our missionaries face a hostile world. The encouragement and discipleship between a local congregation and a missionary on the field has led repeatedly to lasting friendships and helped to develop a passion for missions in the hearts of our youth and young leaders through the years.

As missionaries share their stories, their struggles, and God’s triumphs we learn how He is moving and how we can be a part of His work. This education is vital to our growth as Christians and especially as a mission-minded church.

Through the four objectives of NMI—praying, discipling, giving, and educating—we support and encourage our missionaries. Then, we receive blessing in return.

Liz Hollenberg
Global LINKS Coordinator