



Missions—Are You Educated?

Education is a key component to involvement and giving! So, how do you educate your local congregation about the mission efforts of the Church of the Nazarene around the world?

Here are some ideas that have been successfully used:

- * **Listen to Mission Leaders**—Bring in a missionary to speak at your church, or combine together with other congregations in your area—this makes missions “real.”
- * **Feed Your People**—Have an “International Dinner” that features food from each region. Enlist the help of several people in your church to prepare the food. Have recent information at each serving area about that region, including types of work (churches/hospitals/child development centers, etc.); a list of world areas in the region, number of missionaries, etc. (Be sure to include the USA/Canada Region as a world area.)
- * **Feed Your People Comparatively**—Have a dinner that features food from a particular area. To “make it real,” serve the average portion of food that a person in that area would eat at a meal.
- * **Involve Youth and Children**—Have the teens prepare a video for the Children’s Department that tells the story/gives the information about a children’s missions book.
- * **Watch and Learn**—Using video downloads from the Nazarene Missions Media Library (www.nazarenemedia.org)! Many of these are short enough to use during pre-service announcements or to embed or have a link for on your church’s Web site and/or Facebook page.
- * **Learn About an Offering**—During Vacation Bible School (VBS), receive an offering for missions. To “make it real,” use Skype (www.skype.com)—or a similar computer program—to call and talk to a missionary on the field who has children the same age as those at VBS. (Keep in mind time differences when contacting people in other world areas, and be sure to ask in advance if this is something they are equipped to do.)

These are only a few ideas to get your “creative juices” flowing. Please be sure to share YOUR ideas with US by sending them to gsawrie@nazarene.org!

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