



Koinonia

Volume 2 Issue #4

www.eaglepointenaz.com

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The Church of the Nazarene is a global family. Each Nazarene in 151 world areas deserves to attend the celebration of our Centennial. For this reason, on October 5, 2008, the Centennial Celebration will take place across 24 time zones in every local church.

From the Hallelujah March around the Pilot Point tent in 1908 to almost 21,000 local churches today, the Church of the Nazarene has grown in ways that no single tent, sanctuary, or even coliseum could now hold the gathering of our entire church.

Yet how thrilling it will be to sense the bonds of a growing Nazarene family in this Centennial Celebration as we unite in cultural diversity around common worship content, each pastor knowing that almost 21,000 fellow pastors are standing before their congregations that day to proclaim the same message, scripture, and theme.

The Centennial Sunday allows us to celebrate our Nazarene doctrine, core values, heritage, and mission.

NEWS



Please remember to put City Fest on your Calendars this year. We will have a booth at City fest for the third time this year. It is always fun and we get the opportunity to meet new people.

We will have a root beer keg and give away cups with root beer that say

"We're rooted in Jesus" We will have free T-shirts for the first 350 people and We will have a prayer booth this year (simply asking people if we can take their prayer requests and pray with them.) as well.

This is April 26, 2008. 8:30 am. til about 5:00 p.m. Please make plans to help us in the booth.

In-reach

We continue to seek out others in need within the community Eagle Pointe's Philosophy of Ministry

Jesus summed up a life time of His teachings with two sentences.

" Love God with all of my heart, soul, body and mind and love our neighbors as ourselves."

We do this in the following

ways... "Partner in every way possible with our community and add value to it where possible."

(No strings attached service)

To seek to others in need and meet their need in a way that will add the most value to their lives and the lives of their family.

To be culturally relevant, while rooted in the Biblical message of Hope. *(Relevant and Biblical)*

To seek flexible methods amidst firm biblical truth *(Firm and flexible)*

To seek both qualitative and quantitative growth *(Quality and quantity)*

To always reproduce ourselves and the church by constantly training others and sending others out.

(Mission minded and missional)

To encourage the building of real relationships.

(Relational and Relevant)

To encourage participation while pursuing excellence

(Participation and Excellence)

Never judge others based upon past Flops, Failures, and Fumbles.

(Life is a Journey not a destination)

Seek to build bridges with people by focusing on our commonalities instead of our differences.

Dare to SOAR!

#1

Baby Day will be May 4.

Lisa will be getting with you parents to discuss ways we plan on using this day to reach the community. If you have friends whom are having babies let them know about this day.

Also lets' be intentional about asking for prayer for parents with babies for this day. On this day we will have each family with a baby or small child come forward and we will pray for them. In addition if we have any new families with babies that have become members or regular attendees in the congregation on this Sunday we will have pictures of the parents and babies and will ask people within the

church to “adopt” this family and pray for them for the rest of the year. The picture will have a note attached about the family.

Family Week- May 5-11
(Details coming soon)

Disciples in Training ---
(Coming Soon)

Ready! Set! GO!

Children's Week 2008 -June 1—8

Children’s Mission Offering Project
Sunday--- June 1 2008

Pray for children at Risk

Saturday June 7 and Sunday June 8
Viva network encourages Christians around the world (that includes Auburn) to pray for children At Risk. We are asking all of our families to Mark your calendars and take the time on this day to say a prayer for these children. Ask God to help these children learn about Jesus and accept Him as their savior. You can learn more about this at www.viva.org

Vacation Bible School

- Check your calendars we need to begin planning VBS.
- Lisa needs volunteers
- Decide do we want a day time or night time VBS
- Decide on the VBS program for this year.
- Promotion

Please Continue to be in prayer for all of our requests which you will find in Koinonia. Remember Koinonia means Christian Fellowship- a Community that lives by the Four streams of

Discipleship, Counseling, Healing and Spiritual Warfare. - A Place where you can be your authentic self without fear of judgment, rejection or retribution.

Hi friends,
After a brief hiatus the sermons are back on line. If you missed a Sunday, or just have some extra time you can do here and download the mp3 or listen on line. We should never underestimate who or what God will use to communicate his word. He even used a Donkey to speak to Balaam (Numbers 22:37,38) So he he can even speak through me. (ha-ha)

Just follow the link below to access them on the EP website.

<http://www.eaglepointenaz.com/multimedia/index.html>

You can also read the April issue of Koinonia just follow the link below.

http://www.eaglepointenaz.com/publications/EP_Newsletter_04_15_2008.pdf

OF INTEREST

“Psalm 23 as only a child can tell it.

This video can be viewed at:

http://www.godtube.com/view_video.php?viewkey=9e7c4b40cf5a13ce66ca

If you wish to share your experiences in Koinonia please email article to wdhjh1952@gmail.com



PRAYER NEEDS:

Josie Smallwood Lisa’s (Sister in Law) Brain surgery

- Lindy Tradewell--Sickness
- Byron Lee--A Friend of mine from child hood
- Lisa Skinner--Resumes and job
- Women’s Bible Study-- Keep Satan out, things are going well there
- EaglePointe
- Shelly Berry
- Alabama south District churches and Pastors
- Jimmy Cochran’s Sister and children (Husband died unexpectedly)
- VBS this summer
- Hayden’s court case and situation--(New Trial in May)
- CityFest April 26
- The Brown Family-- (Hayden’s biological brothers and sisters)
- Blaine’s Adoption and continued integration into the family
- Lisa and I
- Auburn Opelika Community
- The Berry’s--Our new D. S.
- Kayla McMahon-- (Teen on district) Stepmother-- illness
- Wesley Dearman-- (Teen on district) Recent Back Surgery

Looking for a friend?

Are you tired of the rat race of life?

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” Matthew 11:28-29

We Seek opportunities for Authentic Relationships!

Blaine's Dedication

We will dedicate Blaine

Sunday morning April 13th.

Anyone is Welcome to attend, but you are not expected to.

It is short notice. It is a

Sunday morning. And you have

your own church. But I

wanted to be sure you all

knew you were invited.



Sacrifice: A Testimony from the MAC Region

A few days ago I had the privilege to experience firsthand what obedience and sacrifice look like. Even as a missionary who has experienced the hand of God in many miraculous situations, I was awed at how he works in the life of his followers.

My wife, Emily, and I welcomed nearly 200 teenagers and adults to Guatemala City, Guatemala for a week-long Maxima Mission event. Maxima Mission seeks to reach communities for Christ using evangelism, compassionate ministries, work projects, and children's ministries.

During this event, the

participants were able to hear many wonderful speakers who challenged them to follow the call of God on their lives, surrender everything to him in abandon, and serve as Jesus' ambassadors in their communities and around the world.

On one occasion, Vanessa Cruz, a volunteer missionary from Nicaragua sent to plant churches in Spain, shared her testimony of how God had called her and prepared her as a child and young adult for his missionary service. She humbly admitted that, although her church and many churches around the region had been faithful in giving beyond their means so that she could be sent to Spain, she had still not been able to raise the total amount for her trip and her ministry in Europe.

One day after the Maxima Mission event ended, I received a call. Danilo*, a 15 year-old who had participated in the event, began to explain to me how God had changed his heart during the previous week.

The phone connection was poor and I struggled to grasp what this young man was telling me, but I gathered that he also wanted to donate his computer so that Vanessa Cruz would be able to use the funds earned from the sale of the computer for her ministry in Spain. I was astonished at this, but told him that I would come by his house to chat with him and his mom the next day, and to pick up the computer.

I know this family fairly well; in fact Danilo's mom, Maria, is the pastor of one of the 10 new church plants that were launched during the Maxima Mission event. This family has very little. Danilo's mom and dad separated 11 years ago, and making ends meet has consistently been a struggle for them. I assumed that the computer that Danilo was going to donate

was at least 15 years old and in fairly poor condition.

Imagine my surprise when I entered their living room the next day and saw a beautiful new computer with all the bells and whistles! I looked around.

Dilapidated furniture, aging concrete floors, and walls that had not been painted in years surrounded us. And here on a rickety table used for sewing, sat a new computer with speakers, printer, etc.! Did this teenager understand what he was doing? This computer represented nearly all that this family owned.

Danilo began to tell me that his father had given him this new computer as a gift for his birthday a year earlier. It was a great sacrifice for his Dad to give him the computer and Danilo and his brothers had used it to write papers for school, listen to music, etc. He showed me the receipt from one year earlier and my eyes grew large as I read the amount—US\$1,350.00. Maria was crying throughout this entire conversation and kept reiterating that she was so proud of her boy, even though she knew what this would cost their family. I looked Danilo in the eyes and asked him if he understood what he was doing. He looked me straight in the eyes and told me, “I know God is telling me to give you this computer. I want you to sell it and give all the money to the missionary from Nicaragua. I have talked with both my mom and my dad and they are in agreement with me doing this. I know what I am doing and I am very glad that I can help someone who is in need.”

What can this 15 year-old teach our region about sacrifice and obedience? Vanessa is one of 7 youth from our region voluntarily

giving 2 years of their lives to minister in Spain and the Middle East through Projects Isaiah and Caleb. Many countries in Mexico and Central America have received missionaries in the past century and now—especially in the past decade—we are seeing missionaries being sent from this region to other countries! But sending our own missionaries requires sacrifice in prayer, time, and yes—in finances. If a 15 year-old can give almost all he has, what can we give? What does God want me to do for the kingdom?

**Because of this family's desire to remain anonymous in their donation, their names have been changed in this story.*



He's Been There by Max Lucado
"... shall not perish but have eternal life . . ."

On a trip to China, I rode past Tienanmen Square in a bus full of Westerners. We tried to recollect the causes and consequences of the revolt. Our knowledge of history was embarrassing. One gave one date; another gave a different one. One person remembered a certain death toll; someone else disagreed. All this time our translator remained silent.

Finally one of us asked her,

"Do you remember anything about the Tienanmen Square revolt?" Her answer was solemn. "Yes, I was a part of it."

We quickly grew quiet as she gave firsthand recollections of the

bloodshed and oppression. We listened, because she'd been there.

We who follow Christ do so for the same reason. He's been there . . .

He's been to Bethlehem, wearing barn rags and hearing sheep crunch. Suckling milk and shivering against the cold. All of divinity content to cocoon itself in an eight-pound body and to sleep on a cow's supper.

Millions who face the chill of empty pockets or the fears of sudden change turn to Christ. Why?

Because He's been there.

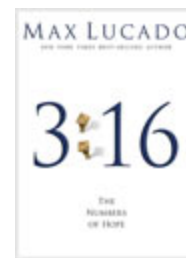
He's been to Nazareth, where he

made deadlines and paid bills; to Galilee, where he recruited direct reports and separated fighters; to Jerusalem, where he stared down critics and stood up against cynics.

We have our Nazareths as well—demands and due dates. Jesus wasn't the last to build a team; accusers didn't disappear with Jerusalem's temple. Why seek Jesus's help with your challenges? Because he's been there. To Nazareth, to Galilee, to Jerusalem.

But most of all, he's been to the grave. Not as a visitor, but as a corpse. Buried amidst the cadavers. Numbered among the dead. Heart silent and lungs vacant. Body wrapped and grave sealed. The cemetery. He's been buried there.

You haven't yet. But you will be. And since you will, don't you need someone who knows the way out?



From [3:16, The Numbers of Hope](#)
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 Max Lucado