

Shepherd to Shepherd

"Stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord" Micah 5:4

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Pastors' Newsletter

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Eddie Estep

District Superintendent

- *Christlike Disciples*
- *Holiness Pastors*
- *Missional Churches*



From My Heart to Yours

NEEDED: MISSIONARY-PASTORS

While it is not as evident here in the Bible Belt, the USA is becoming increasingly more secular and significantly less Christian. There is a growing resistance to Christianity, and in some places a mounting opposition to followers of Jesus.

The playing field is changing for the church, and for pastors. No longer does the church have home-field advantage in this culture.

What does this mean for pastors? It means we need to begin thinking less like chaplains and more like missionaries. Chaplain-pastors focus primarily on those inside the walls of the church—keeping them happy, making sure their needs are met, etc. A missionary-pastor has a mission: to make Christlike disciples in the nations. The missionary-pastor's focus is primarily on the lost—how to reach them and how to disciple them.

One of the first things a missionary does is learn the language of the culture she/he is trying to reach. The church has become so busy trying to protect its own culture it has tended to ignore the culture it is supposed to be reaching for Christ. Let's re-engage with our mission field.

Missionary-pastors recognize that their main task is "to equip the saints for works of service." Rather than doing all the ministry themselves, missionary-pastors equip the church to do ministry—ministry designed to engage and transform their mission field.

Missionary-pastors are willing to change the methods to achieve the mission. The message remains the same. The ways of communicating that message will change to meet the ever-changing culture of the mission field.

*Eddie Estep
District Pastor*

PALCON

May 11-13, 2010, at Trevecca Nazarene University
www.PALCON2010.com to register

Please Register Today

Bits-N-Pieces

"Dates to Remember"

March

- 25 "Teaching Church"
Seminar at Greenville
First
- 27 Cooper River Bridge Run
(Pastors' Activity)

April

- 5-7 Camp Work Days #1
- 24 District Leaders'
Information Tour
(Greenville, Columbia,
Charleston)

May

- 3-5 Camp Work Days #2
- 8 TNU Palmetto Nazarene
Golf Tournament
(Changed from 5/15)
- 11-13 PALCON at TNU
(Register at
www.PALCON2010.com)

June

- 20-27 District Camp Meeting

July

- 25-28 District Conventions
and Assembly

Nov.

- 8-11 District Awakening Tour
with Dan Bohi

UPDATES

PRAYER REQUESTS: Pastor John Powell (Batesburg) undergoing cancer treatment; Rev. Hubert Richardson (retired pastor) recently hospitalized; Scott Adams (son of Great Falls Pastor Henry and Gale Adams) diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and undergoing chemotherapy treatments; Pastor Bill Watts (Pelion) recovering from heart surgery; Ron Howard (Camp Board) recovering from surgery; the people of Haiti, and the 116,000 Nazarenes in 500 churches there; Pastor Karen Lawson (Florence Family Life) recovering from a severely broken ankle; Wesley Sharpe (Sumter Calvary PK) recovering from kidney surgery.

Myrtle Beach "The Connection" Church (Pastor Brent Walker) will celebrate the "Grand Opening" of their new church located at 817 62nd Avenue North (just 100 yards east of the bypass on the south side of the street) on Sunday, March 21, 2010.

Cherrydale Hispanic NewStart (Pastor Jonathan Saenz) will be officially organized as our newest church on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010.

The 2010 IMPACT Team Reunion at camp meeting will take place Sunday afternoon, June 27. Chonda Pierce, former SC District IMPACT Team member, will be the featured guest.

Rev. Roland Evans has accepted the call to pastor Columbia Grace Church, effective February 7, 2010. We welcome Roland, Pam, Ryan, Rhett, and Paige to our South Carolina District Ministry Team!

Interim Pastors: Barney Baggott is serving at Winnsboro; Midland Valley pastoral staff is providing leadership in the interim.

Congratulations to Pastor Gary L. Rupert and Walterboro First church board for their excellent two-year review.

As of February 1, South Carolina Nazarenes had given \$35,000 in offerings for Haiti.

A District "Funding the Mission" Information Tour for pastors, church treasurers, local NMI presidents, and finance committee chairs will take place Saturday, April 24, at Greenville First (10:00 a.m.-noon), Columbia First (2:00-4:00 p.m.), and Summerville (6:00-8:00 p.m.). Information for WEF reporting, District Fair Share, and the newly revised Pastor's Annual Report will be shared at each meeting.

District Awakening Tour: Danny Bohi, a lay evangelist, will be touring our district November 8-11, 2010. The locations for the evening services have not yet been set, but we are already praying for a tremendous outpouring of God's Spirit. The district will be called to 30 days of prayer prior to these services.

THINKING AHEAD

- Annual Meeting: *Manual* paragraph 113.7 states, "An annual church meeting shall be held within 90 days prior to the meeting of the district assembly." Since the assembly begins July 27, our local churches may conduct their annual meetings following April 29.
- Plan a Membership Sunday (with preceding classes) and Baptism Sunday before the end of the church year (May 31).
- M11 (The Quadrennial Nazarene Mission/Evangelism Conference) is coming to Louisville, Kentucky, February 21-23, 2011.