

Shawnee First Church  
of the Nazarene  
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# NazNews

Volume 1 Issue 2

May 1, 2006

## Ministry Team

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Johnny Stephens

### Youth Pastors

Chad and Jacy Townsley

### Music Director

Steve Davis

### Sunday School Superintendent

Ricki French

### Children's Director

Michelle Vann

### Caravan Director

Monty Anderson

### Primetime Leaders

Rev. Dick and Pat Copple

### Ladies Ministries

Jacy Townsley

### Men's Ministries

Jerry Presley

### NMI Director

Sue Taylor

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
9:00 am-2:00 pm

Phone - (405) 275-1255  
Fax - (405) 275-1250

### Email:

shawneenazarene@sbcglobal.net

### Prayer Chain

Mattie Wesley - 878-1485  
Ione Krugle - 279-2749  
Church Office - 275-1255

## From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings:

I went fishing the other day (surprise) with my father-in-law. It was a very warm, although overcast day—maybe the reason for the good fishing but poor catching. Anyway a good time was had by all!

I did manage to catch a 23-inch striper (that's a fish for you non-fishing folks). I had a tape measure and would have used it except he was exactly the same size as my cooler lid, so measuring was not necessary.

This morning as I was preparing to write my piece for our newsletter, I began to think about how we would measure up if God used a measuring tape on us. We could ask ourselves some questions that would measure our hearts and minds. For example:

How kind are we to others, espe-

cially when they are not very kind to us? How patient are we when things aren't going our way? How understanding are we when things go wrong because someone didn't know better, or maybe because they did know better but didn't want to do better? How reliable are we when someone is counting on us? How loving are we when love is needed to help another person whose life has grown difficult?

Let's become all that God wants us to become, with love as the rule of our lives. How do we measure up?

Pastor Johnny



God knows and understands  
For He looks inside to the bottom of  
your heart  
And what's in the heart defines  
the measure of a man - "Measure  
of a Man" by 4Him

## Church Elections

On May 21, 2006 at 9:30 a.m., we will hold our annual church elections. In order not to interfere with Revival, the Church Board has elected to hold the elections during the Sunday School hour. We will meet in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. to have a brief meeting and to approve the ballots. We will then proceed with the casting of votes.

In the event of a tie, run-offs will be held the following Sunday,

May 28 during the Morning Service.

The Board also elected not to have the reading of reports but to bind them together and hand them out to each individual.

The children will still have Sunday School during this time and the nursery will be open.

Let the church office know if you have any questions about this election.

## Upcoming Events



- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| May 6         | SEO Men's Golf Tournament   |
| May 6         | Women's Brunch at 11:00 a.m.  |
| May 6         | "David's Song" - Free Concert at Camp Bond, 7:00 p.m.                     |
| May 7-14      | IHN Host Week   |
| May 7         | Small Groups Begin - No Evening Service                                   |
| May 9         | Church Board Meeting  |
| May 13        | SNU Graduation  |
| May 14        | Mother's Day - No Evening Service   |
| May 17        | Greeter's Training with Pastor  |
| May 19        | Primetimer's "A Branson Evening" Potluck Supper at the church - 6:00 p.m. |
| May 21-24     | Revival with Rev. Billy Huddleston  |
| May 21        | Church Elections - 9:30 a.m.  |
| May 27        | Men and Son's Breakfast - Golden Corral at 9:00 a.m.                      |
| May 28        | Church Election Run-offs if necessary                                     |
| May 28        | Honor Graduates following Morning Worship Service                         |
| May 28        | Small Groups Meet - No Evening Service                                    |
| May 31        | Close of 55th Assembly Year   |
| May 31-June 4 | Family Camp at Camp Bond  |



## Work & Witness Team Reports That God Is Alive in Africa!



School they worked on at Africa Nazarene School of Extension.



Southeast Oklahoma District Work & Witness team members have returned from Africa. Attending from Shawnee First were Randal Johnson, Sue and Ira Taylor and Kelsey. They helped complete the new library at the Africa Nazarene School of Extension (ANSE) in Ongata Rongai, Kenya. ANSE helps train Pastors on the East Africa Field with 1400 students studying at 57 teaching centers. Team members lived in the dormitory and prepared their own meals while painting the new library, computer training classroom and 3 additional rooms which can serve as additional dorm or class space. They also cataloged over 1000 books to be distributed throughout the training centers, put up new shelving, and moved books from the current library space to the new library. The ANSE program is an excellent model for extension education and is now staffed

by very capable and dedicated Nationals. The team gave scholarship monies to pay the tuition for the complete course of study for one pastor.

The second week of the trip, after completing the work scheduled and more, they took time to experience Africa. They visited an elephant nursery, giraffe park, missionary housing compound, shopping mall, Kazuri bead factory, Masai market, world famous Carnivore restaurant, toured the campus of Africa Nazarene University, and attended church services in Ongata Rongai and Nairobi. They enjoyed an excellent Safari on the Masai Mara where they slept in tents at night and toured the range during the day. A partial list of animals seen: lions,



leopards, cheetahs, zebras, elephants, giraffes, hippos, rhinos, baboons, ostriches, impalas, wart hogs, hyenas, foxes, topes, gazelles, eagles, vultures, crocodiles, wildebeests, water buffalos, tortoises, variety of birds and more. Fresh mango, pineapple, papaya, avocado, and banana were available most meals. Camel meat is very tough; crocodile is not very good at all, ostrich meatballs not too bad.

God is alive in Africa!!



A young lad was visiting a church for the first time, checking all the announcements and posters along the walls. When he came to a group of pictures of men in uniform, he asked a nearby usher, "Who are all those men in the pictures?" The usher replied, "Why, those are our boys who died in the service." Dumbfounded, the youngster asked, "Was that the morning service or evening service?"

## Have a time in your prime with the "Primetimers"

Through fun, food, and fellowship, we reach out to Senior Adults, age 50 and older. This would also include their spouse who does not need to be 50.

We plan trips. The next one is scheduled for July 14th. We will be going to Ponca City for the day on a big, comfortable bus.

Potluck dinners are a favorite. We will be having a "Branson Evening" on May 19th, in the fellowship hall.

Another "biggy," is going out to breakfast or dinner.

If you know someone who is 50 or older, widowed, single, divorced, or married, who is lonely and has no church to attend, we encourage you to bring your "Primetime" friends. Let's reach them for Jesus and show them there is life and a lot of fun and laughter after 50.

To you younger adults under 50... Remember, "Old Ain't Dead"! We'll get you sooner or later and that's...

"Copleology"

Rev. Dick and Pat Cople



The reason grandparents and grandchildren get along so well is that they have a common enemy.



## Birthdays in May

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Brooke Johnson     | 20 Jacy Townsley     |
| 9 Katie Townsley     | 20 Kathy Watts       |
| 10 George Dees       | 22 Isaiah Mulwa      |
| 10 Marcy Lafflin     | 23 J.D. Worthley     |
| 10 Jeanette Matthews | 27 Rhonda Dyer       |
| 10 Lula Schweizerhof | 28 Tracey Fuller     |
| 18 Elma Lambert      | 30 Brandon Davis     |
| 18 Jeremy Robison    | 30 Robert Saulsberry |
|                      | 31 Michelle Vann     |

## May Anniversaries

- 10 Billy and Susan Worthley
- 25 Scott and April Livernois
- 30 Jason and Kathy Worthley

Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other. KARL-AGE- 5



# The Quest -Psalm 63:1

# Youth Ministry



Greetings from Quest Student Ministries!

Things are going very well in our church's ministry to youth. Our youth attendance is climbing, and our teens are growing in Christ. I would just like to say thank you to all of our sponsors - especially Brett Vann, Mi-

chael Autrey, and Kathy Worthley. Your efforts are making a real difference in the Kingdom of God!

We had a great time at SNU Extravaganza earlier this month, and we now turn our attention to Teen Camp in June. Actually, Camp Bond will host two camps for our teens this summer - a camp for Jr. High Students and a camp for Sr. High students. Each camp will have worship styles, speakers, and activities that are geared for each specific age group. We are already praying that God will be working in the hearts of our students - preparing them for a life-changing encounter with Him at Camp Bond. Of course, we want all of our students to be able to attend camp,

so we are working on raising the necessary funds - your support is greatly appreciated.

-Chad  
Rev. Chad Townsley  
Youth Pastor



A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5 and Ryan, 3.

The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

"If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, Let my brother have the first pancake. I can wait."

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said,

"Ryan, you be Jesus!"

## Children's Connections

### May Happenings... In the Children's Department

Letter from Michelle:

We need workers in the Children's Department. We want the best for our children. We let nothing stand in our way of getting our kids what they need. What could be standing in the way of giving them the best spiritual formation? I am in church because people took

time away from their services to serve me. Ask God if He wants you to work with our kids. We need the best, and you are it! Please pray about this!!! They are precious in His sight!

**Caravans** will be ending on May 17. We will be having the Awards Banquet soon so be looking for that information.

**Children's Camp** applications are due by May 21. Kris and Melissa Haney are the

speakers and are doing the music. Camp will be June 19-22. The cost is \$90 but will be reduced by the Children's Camp Scholarship Fund. See Michelle for the applications and to find out the cost.



## Table Talk

How many times on the way home from church, have you asked your child "How was Sunday School today? What did you learn? How many times has the response been "It was fine, and I don't remember."

It is important that we are involved with what are children are learning and that we reinforce their Christian education at home.

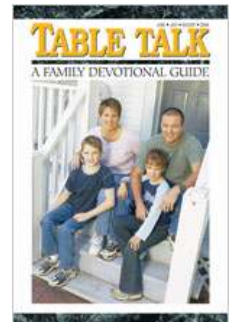
Our Sunday School offers several resources to help parents know what their child learned on Sunday and to

encourage development throughout the week.

Table Talk is a unique family devotional guide, containing devotions for every day of the week. Each Sunday it summarizes what elementary children learned, and suggests a family activity to continue the learning process within the home. It also points parents of young children to the Bible Story in Celebrate, the Preschool/Kindergarten take-home paper.

Ask your child to see their papers that also include weekly parent newsletters that summarize the Bible lesson children have just experienced, provide ideas for lesson-related family activities, and give other parenting tips.

If you would like a "Table Talk" devotional book, call Ricki French and she will get you one. Let's work together on our children's Christian education.



"Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds;...teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up..." Deut. 11:18-21

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**If you would like to receive this  
via e-mail, call the church with  
your e-mail address.**

## **Second Greatest, But Important**

Through participation in Inter-faith Hospitality Network (IHN), Shawnee First Church of the Nazarene joins with nine other churches to meet some of the most basic needs in our community. A clean, quiet, and safe place to sleep, healthy meals, and an encouraging word, given in Christ's name, can make all the difference to a displaced family trying to find its footing. IHN provides a practical structure for church members to plug in to God's redemptive work in this world. Participation may also



demonstrate obedience to the second-most important command identified by Jesus, "Love your neighbor as yourself," Mark 12:31.

**SIHN**  
Volunteer of the Month  
March 2006  
**Chad Townsley**  
Shawnee First Church of the  
Nazarene

Rebekah and Brian Smith serve as our IHN coordinators. Every tenth week, Shawnee Nazarene hosts an IHN family from Sunday through Saturday. Rebecca estimates that in the past year "over 30 volunteers have provided and shared meals, stayed overnight, tutored, and mentored. Our goal is to provide

the foundation for these families to succeed." Success can be measured by families who have found homes and jobs, and many have through our IHN ministry, according to the Smiths. But only heaven knows the greater measure of success of a seed planted and nurtured in God's love. "IHN has been good for our church. We've been blessed."

To find out how you can participate in the IHN blessing, see Rebekah or Brian, or inquire in the church office. After all, since when did the second greatest command become second rate or optional?

In Appreciation to all volunteers:  
Volunteer Appreciation Banquet at  
St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
May 4 at 6:00 p.m.