

Shawnee First Church
of the Nazarene
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Naznews

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Ministry Team

Senior Pastor
Rev. Johnny Stephens

Youth Pastors
Rev. Ted and Lesa Wilkerson

Music Director
Steve Davis

Sunday School Superintendent
Donna Autrey

Children's Director
Michelle Vann

Primetime Leaders
Rev. Dick and Pat Capple

Ladies' Ministries
Kathy Worthley

Men's Ministries
Rev. John Hazelton

NMI Director
Sue Taylor

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From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings:

Oh come on, you knew this was coming. Your Pastor is now a grandpa and would very much like to share with you some of his experiences. Besides, Ricki gives me this space in our church newsletter, so I thought, what a perfect forum!

Debbie and I were in OKC (imagine that) the other day, so we called up the kids to see if we could come by for an "Isaac fix". They were agreeable.

Well, after hugging and greeting John and Vanessa, we settled in for the real reason that brought us by - Isaac! Debbie is the perfect grandmother, plus she shares. After what seemed like forever, I got to hold in my arms, God's precious gift that brings a smile to my face and heart every time I'm allowed this privilege.

Did you know that you can stare at a baby for a very long time?

Now, back to the newsletter and my reason for rambling on, you know... like a grandpa. I'm reflecting today, on that short time with Isaac and in doing so am reminded of just how much we are loved and blessed by our Heavenly Father.

As my eyes were fixed on Isaac - in the grip of love - it occurs to me that God's eyes and heart are fixed on us. We are His creation; we are the very ones whom He loves.

Isaac will be blessed by the love of his "MiMi" and "Poppy" and you and I are blessed by the love of God.



Pastor Johnny

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16

Covenant Celebration

Renewing the covenant between God, Church and the University

Join us Sunday, October 29, 2006, 6:00 pm at Choctaw Church of the Nazarene, sponsored by the Southeast Oklahoma District.

*Renewing the covenant between
God, Church and Southern
Nazarene University*

Previously known as Festival of Song, *Covenant Celebration* is a time of reaffirmation of the bonds between church and university. Once each semester, the SNU School of Music travels to different districts on the South Central region to present a

Covenant Celebration. The concert features all of the vocalists and instrumentalists in the SNU School of Music.

"The *Covenant Celebration* is designed to remind both the university and the church, that over a century ago, church members established a school to prepare their children to live and serve in the world. Through song and litany, we celebrate our heritage and our future," said Dr. David Alexander, Vice President for University Advancement.

Upcoming Events



- Sept. 3 H.O.M.E. Groups (Group 5 meets at the Church, Group 4 meets with the children)
- Sept. 4 Labor Day Church Picnic
- Sept. 10 Baby Dedication of John Isaac Stephens
- Sept. 11 Pastor's Fall Training at SNU
- Sept. 12 Church Board Meeting
- Sept. 15-16 NMI Work and Witness Training at SNU
- Sept. 16 Men's Breakfast at church/golf
- Sept. 16 Baby Shower for Stacey Elmore
- Sept. 17 H.O.M.E. Groups (Group 5 meets at the Church, Group 8 meets with the children)
- Sept. 24-30 IHN Host Week
- Sept. 24 Krugle's Farewell Fellowship
- Sept. 25-1 Pastor and Debbie Vacation
- Sept. 30 NMI Leader Orientation at Shawnee Church
- Oct. 1 H.O.M.E. Groups (Group 5 meets at the Church, Group 1 meets with the children)
- Oct. 7 Children's Quiz in Ada
- Oct. 8-11 Revival with Rev. John Donnerberg
- Oct. 13-14 Pastors' Skill School
- Oct. 13-14 NMI Children's Fall Festival
- Oct. 15 H.O.M.E. Groups (Group 5 meets at the Church, Group 2 meets with the children)
- Oct. 17 5th Annual Pastors' Appreciation Day at SNU
- Oct. 20-21 Men's Fishing Trip to Texoma
- Oct. 22 Children's Walk-Thru-The Bible (p.m.)
- Oct. 23 Pastor's Event at SNU with Author Leonard Sweet
- Oct. 24-26 Pastor to Kansas City for Leadership Conference
- Oct. 28-29 Faith Promise
- Oct. 29 SEO District Event at Choctaw Church of the Nazarene with SNU "Covenant Celebration"

Do You Remember When...?



Come to our Faith Promise old-fashioned picnic on Saturday, October 28, at 5:30 p.m.

Create some new memories as we recall missionary happenings of the 50's.

Revs. Ken and Barbara Jones will be our special missionary speakers, both at the picnic and at the Sunday morning service.

Pray that God will place generous pledge amounts on the hearts of his people.

Our Goal is \$21,000.

Thank you for your great support this year. We are almost at 100% of our goal, with a month to go.

Support of our missionaries is a vital part of kingdom building.

Sue Taylor, NMI President



What is Faith Promise?

The Church of the Nazarene acknowledges that Faith Promise giving is a biblical method used by many local churches for raising financial support for world evangelization. For our denomination, it is dedicated specifically to the mission support of the Church of the Nazarene through various offerings promoted by Nazarene Missions International (NMI).

"No one has the right to hear the gospel twice, while there remains someone who has not heard it once." -- Oswald J. Smith

Corny Pastor Jokes

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank and drew out a little prophet.

Fall Revival with Rev. John Donnerberg

We are privileged to have Rev. John Donnerberg as our evangelist for the Fall Revival.

His passion is to bring hope and encouragement to the body of Christ through the proclamation of God's Word. Through a fresh encounter with the Word, the new work Christ desires to birth in His church will be discovered and em-

braced. John's message is Christ-centered and relevant for today. His communication style is simple, yet strong.

Come and bring your friends and family. You will be glad you did.

October 8-11



Most of our troubles come from too much time on our hands and not enough on our knees.



Daylight Savings time Ends

Oct. 29 (Don't forget)



The Quest -Psalm 63:1

Youth Ministry



Greetings from Quest Student Ministries!

Greetings in Christ,

This morning after taking my children to day care; I had the privilege of experiencing one of the most beautiful sun rises.

Why was it beautiful? It was in Oklahoma for one! It is wonderful to be home. Thank you, church family for all of your hospitality, it has blessed our family immensely.

I recently read a question presented by Max Lucado. It caused a great deal of pondering to take place on my part. It is this: "How far do you want God to go in getting your attention?" Everyone's experience is different, but we all have one. Currently the teens and I are learning one another's experiences. As we do it is my hope that we "rejoice in the hope and

glory of God." Romans 5:2

Pray with and for us as we experience God's greatness together.

In His Service,

Ted



A teen-age girl does her homework in the same length of time it takes her mother to do the dishes.

If Alexander Graham Bell had had a daughter, he would have never had a chance to test the telephone.

Any mother can tell you that a teenagers "hang-ups" do not include their clothes

Children's Connections

September Children

School has started and with that we have started two new worship programs in the children's department.



The new Children's church program featuring Rover the dog and the Green family is now in full swing. Complete with puppets, commer-

cials and live action object lessons, this action-packed hour is something you don't want to miss. Children's church is open to grades Kindergarten through 5th.

Wee church is also beginning September 3rd during the morning worship. This is a fun-filled learning time for the three and four year olds. They sing songs, play games, and have snacks all revolving around their bible story. Little ones really enjoy this time.

Please keep the children's department in your prayers. We are blessed to have all of our "full time" positions filled and now are seeking people who are willing to "sub" as needed. Thank you for your support of our children.

Michelle Vann
Children's Director

COMING IN OCTOBER...
"WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE"!!!

Nazarene 101 - A New Sunday School Class

Nazarene 101 prepares people to be an active part of our Church by providing an understanding of doctrine and spiritual gifts that can be cultivated into a ministry. For the first month, Nazarene doctrine will be explained, so it would be beneficial to a new member to the Church or even older members who would like a refresher course. The second month, spiritual gifts will be

examined to allow people to find their spiritual gifts allowing them to explore ways to utilize these gifts for Christ's kingdom. The third month features a mentoring program; for example, a person with the gift of teaching would have the chance to be mentored by a Sunday School teacher.

This class will begin on Sunday, September 17, at

9:30 a.m. Revs. Ken and Barbara Jones will be the co-teachers. They are seasoned Nazarenes serving as missionaries, pastors, teachers and in many other capacities. They are looking forward to helping their students learn about the Church of the Nazarene, discover their spiritual gifts and find ways to use them for God's Kingdom. Sign up today. 275-1255



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

NazNewsworthy Tidbits

*Bob Hutchcraft took 3rd place in the Oklahoma City Metro Games for Golf in the Senior Division.

*Kelsey Pinelo-Taylor and Dillon Johnson got braces.

*The Davis' and the Maxwell's took cruises to Alaska. The McKimmey's went to Hawaii.

*The Vandegrifts have been working hard on the church nursery and Jev is the designer of our new web site.

*Kasa Hollingshead was selected to be an R.A. at SNU this year.

*Avarilla Anfuso went to Nikaho, Japan.

*Pastor and Debbie became Grandparents (in case you haven't heard)

H.O.M.E Groups

In May, we began meeting in homes on Sunday evenings as a way to build friendships and share each other's burdens.

We spend time in prayer and then share a meal together. The response has been wonderful. This was evident at the "Fifth Sunday" Event when we all joined together for a meal and a time of testimony. Many

shared how God has answered prayer and how they have come to rely on and love the people in their group. These are covenant groups so there is a freedom to share and

have the confidence that what you share will remain in the group.

We are looking for a new group leader and hostess, and there is still room in some of the groups if you are interested in joining. Contact the church office if you would like to get involved in a H.O.M.E Group. There is room for everybody!!!

