

May 7, 2007

Dear Ministerial Colleague:

In just a few days, **June 5 - 10**, we will be gathering at the **TENNESSEE DISTRICT 2007 FAMILY CAMP MEETING** at **Camp Garner Creek**. Please note that this year the Camp Meeting does not begin on Sunday – *it begins on Tuesday evening and goes through the Sunday afternoon service*. We are blessed to have wonderful workers for our Camp Meeting this year. **Rev. Robert Dadydeen** is a full-time evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene. He was the District Superintendent in Guyana and about fifteen years ago he moved to the United States. He has been actively involved in full-time evangelism since that time. **Rev. David Gallimore** is a young, full-time evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene. Both of these men are dynamic preachers and I am confident that you and your people will enjoy their ministry. The music will be led by **Sam and Pam Van Horn**. The Van Horn's have been music ministers in the Church of the Nazarene and also in the Wesleyan Church. They are graduates of Mount Vernon Nazarene University and are both talented musicians and singers. I know you will enjoy their ministry. *We also look forward to enjoying our local church choirs in the services*. Pastor, please ask your people to pray that there will be a mighty outpouring of God's Spirit on each of the services. We hope that you will be able to attend the Camp Meeting and encourage your people to do so. There are a number of pastors who come and stay the whole week – *we would invite you to come and spend as much time as you can!*

Our busy summer camping schedule, at Camp Garner Creek, will begin in just a few days: **Junior and Senior High Camp, June 11-15; Primary Camp, July 2-5; Middler Camp, July 9-13; and PreTeen Camp, July 16-20**. We have wonderful plans for your children and teenagers. We anticipate that the Lord will be doing great things all summer long at Camp Garner Creek.

I thought you would be interested to see the list of **TOP TEN IN EASTER WORSHIP ATTENDANCE** in our churches: (1) **Nashville First, Pastor Gary Henecke - 1,996**; (2) **Nashville Trevecca Community, Pastor Dwight Gunter - 1,087**; (3) **Hermitage, Pastor Howard Plummer - 1,016**; (4) **Columbia Grace, Pastor Brian Wiesinger - 994**; (5) **Clarksville Grace, Pastor Tony Miller - 866**; (6) **Clarksville First, Pastor Kim Smith - 814**; (7) **Goodlettsville, Pastor Daryl Blank - 626**; (8) **Memphis Calvary, Pastor Lynn Holmes - 616**; (9) **Brentwood Whispering Hills, Pastor Tom Todd - 595**; (10) **Gallatin, Pastor Kyle Poole - 527 & Nashville Grace, Pastor Ken Dove - 527**. You will notice that three churches had over 1,000, including one church that had almost 2,000. I am surprised that **Brian Wiesinger, Columbia Grace**, couldn't find 6 more people somewhere.

**Bryan Russell**, our pastor at **Nashville Bell Road**, has been rejoicing. Recently someone gave the church a brand-new *Baby Grand Piano*. The gift was unsolicited and was an absolute surprise! **Rev. David Denson** has been appointed as the new pastor of the **Kingston Springs Church**. We also welcome **Rev. Adam and Teri Risher** as the new pastor at **Crossroads Community Church**. They come to us from East Tennessee.

A number of our pastors went on the **Pastors' Work and Witness** trip to **Costa Rica**. It was an eventful experience! One of the highlights of the trip was when **Ralph Stephens, team leader**, and **Daryl Blank, Goodlettsville's pastor**, were climbing together on a homemade ladder when it collapsed. Both of them were hurt, but they seem to be mending. Other than this mishap, the team had a great time and are anxious to hear of another Pastors' Work and Witness trip.

We have held successful reviews for the following churches: **Waverly, Daron Brown; Lawrenceburg Grace, Joel Daniel; Nashville Radnor, Bob Wilkerson; White House New Life, Jack Oden**. These congregations love and appreciate their pastors and want them to continue their ministry.

Thank you to **Clarksville Grace Church** and **Pastor Tony Miller** for sending a work team to **Memphis Faith Church** to finish the siding on the church. This gift of love meant a lot to the **Memphis Faith** people and **Pastor Dale Stephens**. We want to thank **Clarksville First Church, Pastor Kim Smith**, for sending a work team to Camp

Garner Creek to rehab the District Superintendent's cabin. This generous gift is greatly appreciated! Please continue to pray for **Pastor Mike Dodrill** of our **Fairview Church**. He recently underwent triple bypass surgery and is recovering well. We also want to pray for **Michele Queen**, pastor's wife at **Elmore**. Her father, Bill Crossman, tragically died in a tractor accident last week. **Steve Queen** officiated at the funeral service and Michele needs our prayers in these days. Also, please pray for Monroe Ballard, Sr. who recently spent several days in the hospital.

**Trevecca Community Church**, under the direction of **Dr. Dwight Gunter**, recently held a *groundbreaking* and has begun construction on their new addition. We congratulate the church on this development!

Here is an interesting idea for you, or for persons that you may know who are looking for an independent living facility. **Mark Anglin** has recently constructed a beautiful new facility called **Rose Ella Village** in Dover. Carol and I have toured the facility and they are looking for persons to take up residence. Everything is brand new and it is within blocks of Lake Barkley, Cumberland River and Kentucky Lake. The Anglins have been long-time members of the **Dover Church** and you, or someone you know, may be looking for a facility just like this. It is beautiful!

Our **Memphis Ladies Conference** was held recently, with approximately 150 ladies in attendance. It was a wonderful Friday night and Saturday hosted by **Dr. JoeAnn Ballard** and the **Neighborhood Christian Center**. The speakers were **Michele Canley**, Associate Pastor at **Memphis Word Alive**, and **Pastor Karen Dean Fry**, **Nashville Blakemore**.

We want to congratulate **President Dr. Dan Boone** and **Trevecca Nazarene University** for their recent Baccalaureate and Commencement activities. Over 800 persons were awarded degrees. **Drs. William Greathouse, Homer Adams** and **Millard Reed** were named President Emeriti. There was great excitement and enthusiasm on the campus as approximately 5,000 people gathered.

We thank **Sharron Shands** for her dynamic leadership of the **Prime Time Retreat**, held recently at Camp Garner Creek. The retreat was attended by 125 senior adults. It was a blessed time. They enjoyed the ministry of **Ann Downing**. Recently, approximately 100 retired ministers and their mates gathered at **Nashville First Church** for the **Retired Ministers' Luncheon**. This wonderful event was under the leadership of **Dr. Bob Spear**. **Dr. Gary Henecke** and the people of **Nashville First** rolled out the red carpet for our retired ministers. *The food was provided by an anonymous benefactor who loves Nazarene preachers.*

The men at **Fulton Church**, **Pastor Lang Ingram**, and **Dr. Bill Wiesman** recently added an addition to the parsonage. We rejoice in this new development. **Rev. Kyle and Julie Poole** are off to a good start as pastor at **Gallatin**. We rejoice with this congregation. The excitement is high.

Carol and I recently attended the Passion Play at **Memphis Calvary Church**, **Pastor Lynn Holmes**. It was a wonderful presentation of the story of Christ and hundreds of persons enjoyed the multiple presentations. It was powerful! **Rev. Ricky Gillard** and people of the **Memphis Refreshing Springs Church** recently held their dedication of their new building. It is a beautiful sanctuary and God is working in this church. Please pray for Ricky Gillard as he is battling cancer. **Rev. Bryant Walker** and his congregation have been introduced to the Church of the Nazarene. Carol and I had the privilege of worshiping with them a few weeks ago. They meet in a portion of our **Memphis Holiness Tabernacle Church (Pastor MacArthur Jackson)**. Bryant and his wife Jackie attended the M7 Conference, fell in love with the Church of the Nazarene, went through the Church Planters' Assessment Program, and has a lot of enthusiasm for bringing his congregation into the Church of the Nazarene. We are pursuing that possibility. **Memphis New Life Holiness Church, Pastor Frederick Smith**, is rejoicing. Next to their church used to be a forest in which a gang of ruffians often gathered. Unfortunately, they were quite active in vandalizing the church. The church went to prayer. Now the trees have all been cut down and \$200,000 homes are being built next door to the church. The Lord answers prayer in interesting ways. The addition of these homes also raises the value of the property at New Life Holiness Church and the gang of boys has moved on somewhere else.

**Nashville First Church**, under the leadership of *Dr. Gary Henecke*, has opened their doors to a Haitian church. For two months the church has been worshipping at First Church and we are in the process of talking about this church becoming a part of the Church of the Nazarene. We thank First Church for their generous hospitality and the possible future of this congregation becoming a Nazarene church.

*Rev. Doug Lepter* recently entered the sanctuary of **Nashville Inglewood** and discovered that the ceiling of the sanctuary had collapsed during the night. They rejoice that the ceiling didn't collapse during a service, when many persons would have been injured. They discovered that there were actually three ceilings that had collapsed. We were concerned that the insurance company might not pay for replacing the ceiling. After some deliberation, the insurance company said they would pay to replace one ceiling, but not all three. Dr. Lepter thought that was a good deal since only one ceiling could be seen at one time. So, we rejoice in this answer to prayer. A huge fire recently destroyed a large apartment building near **Nashville Trinity Church of the Nazarene**. *Rev. Greg Lawrence* and the congregation took full advantage of this, as the Red Cross set up a shelter in the Trinity Church. The Church received a great deal of very positive publicity in this event and many lives were helped by the generosity of the Church.

We rejoice in the arrival of a brand-new grandson, Cade Andrew, to *Wayne and Kathy Bittle*, our pastors at **Savannah**. *Mike and Becky Hancock*, **Nashville Bethel**, have just returned from Scotland where they went to see their new grandson, Andrew Scott. Congratulations to all of these grandparents!

In just a few days, we will be gathering at the **Memphis Calvary Church** for **DISTRICT ASSEMBLY AND CONVENTIONS**. Our church year will be ending soon and another church year will be history. I am praying that you will be able to reach all of your goals for the year. As the year winds down, please do your best to finish paying all of your budget allocations. There are many people around the world who are depending on our faithfulness – our college, Trevecca Nazarene University; the work of our district; missionaries in 151 world areas; and our retired ministers and missionaries are all dependent upon our budget payments. It is wonderful to realize that we are a part of a family that reaches around the world. There are 1.6 million people in the world that call themselves Nazarenes. We are a wonderful family and family members continue to watch out after their own, and also continue to reach new ones to be a part of their loving family. You are an important part of that and today Carol and I just want to say thank you for your faithfulness! More detailed information on the **District Assembly and Conventions** will be forthcoming, but here is the general information. The **Sunday School Convention** will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday July 25<sup>th</sup>. *Dr. Woodie Stevens*, our new **General Sunday School Director**, will speak ... the **NMI (Nazarene Missions International) Convention** begins Wednesday night, with *Missionary Monty Cyr and family*, and will continue during the day on the 26<sup>th</sup> ... our **Ordination Service** will be Thursday night, July 26<sup>th</sup> ... **District Assembly** will continue throughout Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup>, under the leadership of *General Superintendent Dr. Jim Diehl*. Beginning on Friday night at the **Memphis Grace Church**, the **NYI (Nazarene Youth International) Convention** will have a fun time and their Convention will be at the **Grace Church** on Saturday morning. This will be a busy week and we hope and pray that you and your delegates will be able to participate in all of these activities.

May God bless you in all of your labors!

Pleased with the Prospects,

Bob Broadbooks