

March 24, 2008

Dear Ministerial Colleague:

Carol and I had the rare and enjoyable privilege of worshiping with our family last Easter Sunday. We enjoyed the service along with 1,027 other folks at the **Hermitage Church of the Nazarene**. We had an inspiring service with music, scripture, videos, responsive readings and a wonderful message by **Pastor Howard Plummer** called "The Not Safe Way" (Matthew 16:24-25). We ended the service with Pastor Plummer saying "He Is Risen" and the congregation responding "He Is Risen Indeed." I am sure your Easter celebration was similarly blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our *Living Lord* moves among us in powerful ways on Easter Sunday.

I have heard of several other great days including **Waverly, Pastor Daron Brown**, where they had over 300 in worship and 23 decisions for Christ. **Memphis Calvary, Pastor Lynn Holmes**, had their Palm Sunday musical presentation with a combined attendance of over 2300. Many decisions and recommitments were made for Christ. God is moving in and through our **Tennessee Nazarene** churches and we rejoice with His work among us.

We congratulate **Pastor Daryl Blank** and the **Goodlettsville Church of the Nazarene** for the recent honor given them by the *Goodlettsville Chamber of Commerce*. Each year at the Chamber's annual banquet, they award one business with the "Roger Smith Service of Excellence Award" for outstanding service to the community. This year the award was given to the Goodlettsville Church of the Nazarene and it was the first time this award had ever been given to a church. Pastor Blank was also elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Chamber for the coming year. We are grateful for the impact the church has had on their community.

I was noticing the results of our last summer's *2007 Vacation Bible School Tumble-Read Mission Offering Project*. Perhaps you saw the report from Kansas City listing the top five churches on each district. The top five on the Tennessee District were: 1) **Portland, Pastor Rich Cook** - \$800; 2) **Dyersburg, Pastor Don Dakin** - \$500; 3) **Clarksville Park Lane, Pastor Larry Spraker** - \$460.95; 4) **Woodlawn, Pastor Tracy Hoskins** - \$390; and 5) **Waverly, Pastor Daron Brown** - \$365.93. The offering given by Portland church was the fifty-sixth highest VBS offering in the entire Church of the Nazarene. Congratulations to the churches and their children. I have seen the new VBS material for this summer presented by the Nazarene Publishing House. It is called "Custom Garage." It looks like a great opportunity of ministry with our children.

We want to thank **Ron Bailey** for his leadership for the **Tennessee District Men's Retreat**. It was held a few weeks ago at **Garner Creek Camp**, with over 100 men attending. It was a time of great spiritual blessing.

We have several needs around the district about which we are praying. **Ricky Graves, Lewisburg**, has had knee surgery. **Vickie Coss**, pastor's wife of **Nashville Center Point**, lost her mother who lived in Naples, Florida. **Monroe Ballard's** sister passed away in Jackson, Mississippi and we continue to pray for Monroe's physical healing. **Crystal Lee, Clarksville Korean**, continues to need our prayer as she battles stomach problems. **Wayne Bittle, Savannah**, is having trouble with his back again and may face more surgery. Also **Kathy Bittle** recently lost her step-mother who lived in Arkansas. Retired elder **J.T. Andrews** is in the Williamson County Medical Center. He is the father of **Ken Andrews, Gray's Chapel**.

In recent weeks we have had four very successful reviews: **Gary Henecke, Nashville First; Lang Ingram, Fulton; John Bonds, Millington**; and **Bernie Deffinger, Nashville Whites Creek**. Congratulations to these pastors and congregations for their good relationships.

We rejoice with **Memphis Look at God Restoration** and *Pastor Bryant Walker* as they dedicated their new church building. On Dedication Sunday, *McArthur Jackson*, our pastor at **Memphis Holiness Tabernacle**, was the guest preacher. It was a great day!

We also said goodbye to two retired elders recently, *Rev. John Lawwill* and *Rev. Maynard Miller*. We will miss these good men and we pray for their families during this time of adjustment.

Recently Carol and I attended the dedication of the new steeple and bell at the **Fly Church of the Nazarene**. *Rev. James and Michelle Lunsford* have pastored at **Fly** and **Hilltown** for 15 years. The sanctuary at Fly was filled that Sunday afternoon as we rang the bell and celebrated this new addition to the property.

I have had the privilege of installing four new pastors recently: *Ryan Brown* at **Hendersonville**, *Eduardo Lelli* at **Madison Hispanic**, *Tracy Hoskins* at **Woodlawn**, and *Steve Estep* at **Clarksville Grace**.

Our recent **Discipleship Summit** at **Nashville Grace Church of the Nazarene** was held but was severely hampered by the snow. Of the 300 registered participants, only 100 were able to get there. *Erin, Pastor Ernie Arnold*, struggled with over a foot of snow. Our thanks are extended to *Pastor Ken Dove* and the hospitable and gracious people of **Nashville Grace**. If you missed the Discipleship Summit, the information will be presented on the web November 1. You will be hearing more about this, but this worldwide web cast will present the same information plus much more. The **Centennial Training** was taped and if you were unable to be there, you will receive your box of materials and a CD of the presentation given that day. So, consequently, we pray that you will not miss any of this important information given out.

We rejoice with **Griffin's Chapel Church of the Nazarene** as their congregation recently voted to construct a new Family Life Center on their property. We congratulate *Pastor Doug Terry* and the fine people of Griffin's Chapel.

If you have never had the opportunity to attend a **Jesus Film** dinner, you do now. This dinner will be held at **Trevecca Nazarene University** on April 25. Our hosts are *Wendell Poole* and *John Stark*. We are hoping to have approximately 500 people attend. There will be great music, wonderful fellowship, and good food. You will receive inspirational information concerning the impact of the Jesus Film through the work of the Church of the Nazarene around the world, and you will have opportunity in an unpressured way to contribute to this important ministry. If you would like to attend, please contact me or Wendell Poole. I know you and your people would find this evening inspirational.

We are rejoicing with *Pastor Marcus Wilson* at the **Pleasant Point Church of the Nazarene**. His company in Huntsville, Alabama, for which he has worked for for many years, is relocating to Detroit. Fortunately they extended to Marcus early retirement. He jumped at the chance because he prefers the winters in southern Tennessee than to the ones in Michigan. The Lord always provides a way.

Carol and I recently worshiped at **Memphis Friendship** with *Pastor Ron and Debra Webb*. The fellowship and worship was wonderful. In just a few days our black congregations gather for the **Fifth Sunday Fellowship** at **Memphis Word Alive**, hosted by *Pastor Allen Canley* and the congregation. Of course, it is not necessary for you to be black to enjoy this service. Anyone can feel free to participate. The service is Sunday, March 30, at 3:30 pm.

The **Memphis Women's Conference** will soon be upon us. It is April 18-19 at the **Memphis Grace Church of the Nazarene**. We thank *Pastor Mark Lancaster* and the congregation there for opening up their doors. *Bessie Gillard*, pastor's wife at **Memphis Refreshing Springs**, is the chairman and has been leading the committee of ladies well in preparation for this Friday night and Saturday morning event. Special speakers are *Tish*

Washington (Ashland City Faith Community) and **Rondy Smith (Hermitage)**. Of course all of the ladies in Tennessee are invited and especially those from the western part of our district.

We rejoice with **Nashville Trevecca Community** and **Pastor Dwight Gunter** as the new building is taking shape. It is huge and will be a functional and helpful addition to the *Trevecca Hill*.

Carol and I continue to enjoy our work among the churches on the Tennessee District. One recent Sunday was typical of our days. We worshiped with a Korean congregation at 11:00 am, a Hispanic congregation at 1:30 pm and an English congregation at 6:00 pm. We enjoyed Korean food, Mexican food and American food. The day was a study in contrast and also a foretaste of what heaven is going to be like. You and I have many wonderful privileges awaiting us in heaven and I look forward to enjoying eternity with you.

Thank you for all you do in ministry. May the Lord give you grace and strength and blessing along the way!

Pleased with the Prospects,
Bob Broadbooks