the HARVEST
Kansas Nazarene Newsletter
November 2015

Pastor Jim Bond
District Superintendent

Greetings in the Name of the Lord,

I trust God is blessing your ministry and your family as we continue to pray for you. We serve a big God who promises to supply all of our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus. The Bible also tells us that we have not, because we ask not. We need to continue to be men and women of prayer.

I wanted to catch you up on district events coming up and let you know about a few things that have happened this past month.

As I continue to think about our call as followers of Jesus to be fishers of men and women, I have been drawn to the thought that most of our churches are involved in attractional ministry versus incarnational ministry. Both are necessary, but I have felt for a while that we have had the "Field of Dreams" idea of ministry. You may remember the movie, "Field of Dreams", where Kevin Costner was drawn to build a baseball field in his cornfield. He said, "build it and they will come". We need to continue to establish an attractional type of ministry. That is to say, we need good worship services and Sunday school classes. We need youth groups and children's ministries on the campus that draw people to the campus for ministry. But if all we do is wait for people to come to us, we are not fulfilling God's great commission to go to them. Jesus was incarnational in his ministry. He left the comfort of Heaven and came to the earth to walk among us, pointing to the Father and ultimately giving his life for us on the cross. He went to where people were. He struck up conversations. He taught among them and performed great miracles as he prayed for people and brought healing in His name.

I am reminded of the apostle Paul and how he went to many towns preaching the Gospel and ministering in Jesus' name. In Acts 24, we read about Paul's visit with Felix and his wife Drusilla. In verse 24, we read that they listened as he, Paul, told them about faith in Christ Jesus. He reasoned with them about righteousness and self-control and the judgment to come. He was intentional about talking to them about their souls and the judgment to come. We need to look for opportunities as well, to show the love of Christ in the marketplace in tangible ways and to talk with them about "righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come."

One of the great ways to do incarnational ministry is to start a new work somewhere in the community. Coffee shops, living rooms, barns and nursing homes could become a venue for a new church. We will be providing DCPI training for church planters and those who would like to assess the health of the church. This is for pastors, laymen and church leaders. You can read more about church planting at http://usacanadanazarene.org/church-planting.

You can read more about the two track options for the training next week in Hutchinson Kansas by accessing the web at http://usacanadaregion.org/events/church-planting-training-hosted-kansas-district-cpencd.

Finally, I leave you with some thoughts my father, Dr. Jim Bond, sent me recently:

DID YOU KNOW…

- that nationally, the *unreached* American population is now nearly 190 million persons?
- that according to researcher George Barna, between seventy and eighty percent of church growth in America can be attributed to the movement of Christians from one church to another?
- that according to a study by the *American Society of Church Growth*, one-half of the churches in America last year did not add one new church member through "conversion" growth (i.e., profession of faith)?
- that in a local church ten years old or older, it takes 85 people to lead one person to Christ, but in a church three years or younger, it takes only three people to do that? In churches four to seven years old, it takes seven people to win one person to Christ.

CHURCH PLANTING is the most effective method of evangelism there is!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jim

Pastor Mike Burns at Dodge City Church of the Nazarene

Passing of Thomas Ticum

Please continue to keep the Ticum family in your prayers. Tomas, pastor of Todas las Naciones in Wichita, slipped away unexpectedly on October 21st. His wife, Orquidea, his two sons, Tompson and Joshua and his young daughter, Linda, survived him. A few of you were there for the funeral as we celebrated this Godly man who came from a humble beginning to become a great pastor and preacher of the Word. Please keep the family and the church in your prayers. Also, some have asked how they can help. I would encourage you, if you haven't and would like to help, to take a love offering to help the family during this transition.

Salina Belmont Church

We have a new pastor at the Salina Belmont church! Josh and Andrea Kilsch have been supplying at Salina Belmont for around eight months and the church made it official this past Sunday that he should be their pastor with a unanimous vote! They are doing a great job of pastoring and shepherding this flock.

The Kilsch Family (Josh, Andrea, Leah, Jordan and Noah) with Pastor Jim and Donna Bond

Christmas Dinner

It will be good to be together for our annual Pastors and Spouses' Christmas Luncheon, Saturday, December 5th, beginning at 11 a.m. The cost is $15 per person for the meal. We will be meeting in Wichita at the downtown Drury Plaza Hotel Broadview. We have a rate of $104 for those who would like to spend the night here and do a little shopping. Please RSVP by November 18th.