



# Kristi's Konnection

*Northwest Ohio District NMI Newsletter  
January/February 2012*



*Mark your calendar!!*

## Convention Guests

### Nikolaj and Lydia Sawatzky

Our guests speakers will be Nikolaj and Lydia Sawatzky. They are global missionaries for the Church of the Nazarene in Switzerland.

Nikolaj was born in Karaganda, a middle Asian city in the former Soviet Union. Nikolaj's parents became Christians and immigrated to Germany in 1978.

Nikolaj received the B.A. degree in theology from European Nazarene College in 1991. The Sawatzkys have participated in the coordination of special evangelistic and compassionate ministries projects in Russia since 1991. Together with Rev. Hermann Gschwandtner, they helped begin the registration process of the Church of the Nazarene in Russia.

The Sawatzkys serve in the Eurasia Regional Office, in Schaffhausen, Switzerland. They were given the responsibility of building and developing a communication center for the Eurasia Region to European Nazarene College in 1993. The Sawatzkys were asked to coordinate the ministry of the center and develop the Russian radio and literature ministry of the Church of the Nazarene. One of their first assignments was the translation of the Articles of Faith of the Church of the Nazarene into the Russian language. Nikolaj currently serves as a teacher of journalism courses at European Nazarene College.

## January's Emphasis is Volunteer Ministries

The Church of the Nazarene offers many opportunities for volunteering. In fact, the Church of the Nazarene is the second-largest of all the volunteer sending agencies in the United States.

Thousands of people of all ages volunteer their time and talents for missions around the world. The main avenues of volunteer ministry through the Church of the Nazarene are:

- ♥ Work & Witness
- ♥ Mission Corps
- ♥ Nazarene Medical Organization
- ♥ Youth In Mission
- ♥ YouthServe
- ♥ Local & District Opportunities
- ♥ Prayer
- ♥ Crisis Care Kits
- ♥ School Pal-Paks

Check out the website for more information on these great opportunities to get involved and volunteer.

[www.nazarenemissions.org](http://www.nazarenemissions.org)



## Deputation Schedule:

### David Mosher

April 29 am Hope Comm.

April 29 Pm Fayette

April 30 OPEN

May 1 Indian Lake

May 2 Bryan

May 3 OPEN

May 4 OPEN

May 5 OPEN

May 6 am Springfield Maplewood

May 6 Pm OPEN

**Please help!  
Save Your Labels**

Quest Community Church would like for churches on the district to help them by saving the box tops and Campbell's soup labels for them to take on their Mission trip to Sun Valley Indian School.

Sun Valley Indian School uses the labels to acquire much needed items, including refrigerators, 15-passenger van, portable wireless PA system, sports equipment, Dell computers, a 7-passenger van — and much more!



Campbell's Soup Labels



the difference  
I can make.

Mary Walker, Director of Ministries & Education  
Quest Community Church  
110 South St.  
West Liberty, OH 43311  
937-599-9910 office  
937-441-2794 cell

**Work & Witness**

The Jordan W/W Trip for July 7-22, 2012 has filled up.

\$200 deposit non-refundable after 4/1/2012

\$1700 due 4/29/2012

\$1330 due 6/26/2012

Email Mel Miller if you have questions.

[mdmiller@wcoil.com](mailto:mdmiller@wcoil.com)

<http://www.nwonaz.org/nmiw&w.html>

**March is Mission Education**

**Why Mission Education?**

Knowledge is key to involvement. With an understanding of the needs of the world and what the church is doing to meet those needs, we are more likely to commit to the support of missions through prayer, giving, communication, and going.

*Check out the Nazarene website for ideas and resources to promote mission education.*

<http://www.nazarenemissionsinternational.org/>

February Emphasis-  
Alabaster



**Alabaster Projects Summary**

**NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL**

**1949-2010**

Churches and Chapels	3983
Bible Schools and School Buildings	398
Mission & District Centers	537
Hospitals and Clinics	37
Missionary Homes	407
National Workers Homes	1083
Land	1537
Miscellaneous	627
<b>Total</b>	<b>8610</b>

**2010**

Churches and Chapels	133
Bible Schools and School Buildings	2
Mission & District Centers	27
Hospitals and Clinics	0
Missionary Homes	12
National Workers Homes	27
Land	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>

(Averaged approximately 5 projects weekly)

**OFFERINGS SUMMARY**

1949-2010	\$94,924,492
2010 offerings	\$ 2,788,904

Billie Byrd's email correction-  
billiebyrd66@yahoo.com



# Christmas Blessings

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas season is upon us. We are reminded that Jesus is indeed the Reason for the Season. As we rejoice with family and friends may we not forget the cause for which Jesus was born and for which He sacrificed His life. He came that we may have life and have it abundantly.

As we join you and all our friends around the world in celebrating the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we take time to reflect on what God has done through His church in meeting the needs of the underprivileged and disadvantaged in communities across Africa. We take joy in sharing with you some of the highlights of our family life and ministry in this year that is soon to end. Your prayers and words of encouragement inspired us to trust God in our service in His Vineyard. We rejoice in what God has done through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries in collaboration and partnership with our partners and friends around the world and throughout Africa.

We are so thankful for God's blessings to our family throughout this year. Our kids as usual have been a great support to our ministry as they participated and shared with us in the joy of service. Our daughter Nomsa is now studying at Olivet Nazarene University and is enjoying her studies and making new friends. Daniel is completing High School and setting his sight on tertiary education next year. Panashe is ready to go into fifth grade and is doing well at his new school.

The year 2011 has had many highlights. In July, United Nations declared the Horn of Africa drought a famine. Thousands of people have taken refuge in North Kenya and other parts of Ethiopia in search for food and shelter. Many children have lost their lives from hunger and disease. Nazarene Compassionate Ministries and Helping Hands Africa has mobilized the Church internationally to respond to this crisis of unprecedented proportions. We want to thank all those who have supported our call for help.

Aiden Doggett, a young boy from Hope Community in Oregon, Ohio, USA, had heard of the plight of the community in Malawi which was desperate for water. He mobilized his Church to raise money toward provision of a well and today the community of Natenje, Malawi is rejoicing in the fruit of the faith of little Aiden. This amazing story is repeated in many communities around Africa through the generous giving of our brothers and sisters around the world.

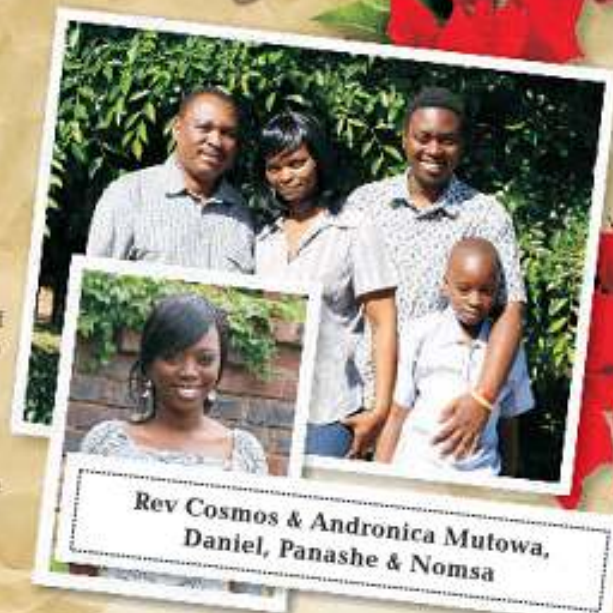
As the HIV/AIDS pandemic continues to ravage communities across Africa, the Church's voice is getting louder through awareness campaigns by the different ministries of the Church. Programs such as the AIDS Taskforce in Swaziland and the Orphan and Vulnerable Children's programs in Kisumu, Kenya are helping to alleviate the pain and suffering of those affected and infected by AIDS. We thank God for Nazarene Compassionate Ministries and Helping Hands Africa for facilitating programs that help create awareness of the devastating effect of this pandemic.

Child Development Programs continue to grow across Africa as local Churches take up leading roles in identifying disadvantaged children, particularly orphans, and provide care through these centers. The support we continue to receive through Child Sponsorship has enabled these centers to serve the needs of these children effectively. We salute all those who have committed to support the different NCM programs and it is through their generous giving that has made transformational development through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries possible.

We are so grateful for the commitment of our field staff who spent countless hours in the ministry to the needy in their communities. I also feel so privileged to serve with a dedicated team here at Regional Office without which we would not be able to impact the lives the way we have done this year.

We pray for partners to join us in our ministry to the disadvantaged and needy across Africa. Your support and partnership is greatly appreciated.

As we celebrate Christmas this season, let us spare a moment to pray for the many orphans across Africa who desperately need help and the thousands of refugees fleeing hunger in the Horn of Africa.



Rev Cosmos & Andronica Mutowa,  
Daniel, Panashe & Nomsa



Pray for us that God may continue to give us wisdom and strength as we mobilize resources to help meet some of the challenges besetting communities in Africa such as famine, hunger, disease, violence, unrest and the need for clean water as well as access to education for thousands of children across Africa.

Our goals for the coming year include:

- Need for more sponsorship for our Child Development Centres around Africa
- Support and care for those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS
- Funding for water wells for many communities across Africa
- Creation of partnerships for effective project implementation
- Capacity building for all our field partners
- Funding for orphan and vulnerable children (OVC) care programs.
- Raising funds for the Horn of Africa famine

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to partnering with you again this coming year.

My family and I would like to wish you all a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with His blessings and mercies.

With warm wishes this Christmas Season,

*Cosmos Mutowa*

Rev. Cosmos Mutowa

NCM Africa - Regional Coordinator

Helping Hands Africa - Executive Director

For more information go to: [www.ncm-africa.org](http://www.ncm-africa.org) and [www.helpinghandsafrica.org](http://www.helpinghandsafrica.org)



## A Child that Inspired ...

What can happen when one little boy dreams big with God?  
What can happen when he put others before himself?

Aiden Doggett just turned 10 years old. He's an ordinary boy from Oregon, Ohio, United States of America. For his 10th birthday, he decided that other children in Malawi having clean water was more important than gifts for himself. He began to ask his family members to not give him gifts, but to instead give money towards a clean-water well.

After his entire Church of Hope Community Church of the Nazarene in Oregon, Ohio read "The Hole in the Gospel", Aiden had learned that millions of African people are still deprived of the privilege of having access to water in their immediate environment. This lack forces millions of people, mostly women and children, to undertake a daily journey of several miles, sometimes twice a day to the next river or ground water hole, only to find the water in many cases to be dirty, bearing the potential of disease, parasites and malaria, not to mention to make the two hour journey back home with a weight of 40 pounds on their heads and often exposing them to danger and abuse.

Aiden learned that water is essential to living, to hygiene, to food security and to health. "A water well in a village is a blessing like dew in the morning, like rain in the desert, like a cool refreshment for a thirsty tongue. It provides essential nourishment and hygiene, prevents sickness, and is the basis for successful farming and food security, even in times of short rains. A well in a village will stop women and children having to walk these long distances and carry these heavy weights every day. Everyone's health will be improved and children will be free to attend school on a regular basis."

Aiden's well project was enthusiastically endorsed by the congregation at Hope Community Church of the Nazarene. But the word spread and Aiden's project was supported by his school and his community. Several newspaper articles were written and donations came flowing in. The Northwest Ohio Nazarene District made his project their NMI Children's Ministry Project for 2011. All the Nazarene Churches in the district are actively participating in collecting money for digging wells not only in Malawi but in Africa.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries has designated several African countries for special projects to dig wells. Aiden prayed and selected Malawi and via contact with Rev. Cosmos Mutowa, NCM Regional Coordinator for Africa, a site outside Lilongwe, Malawi was selected for the well. The well has been dug and is now in full operation. All glory to God for inspiring this young man.

