



February 03, 2012
Volume 1205
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NCN News

Top Stories for the week of February 03, 2012

NYI director sees strong Nazarene future after Third Wave 2012

There are distinct moments in a person's life when they experience the Kingdom of God breaking into their world — the Kingdom coming on earth as it is in Heaven.

More than 200 young Nazarene leaders from 50 countries experienced these moments while attending the Nazarene Youth International Third Wave conference, which took place January 3-8 in Bangkok, Thailand. Witnessing their experiences left Nazarene Youth International Director Gary Hartke impressed with the Church of the Nazarene's future leaders.

"Seeing young leaders from 'the Church' assembled with representation from so many countries and every region where the Church of the Nazarene ministers provides a glimpse into the future of our denomination," Hartke said. "At the close of the event I experienced a sense of confidence that another generation of leaders are ready to lead well and give their lives to Christ and His calling."

Third Wave 2012 included workshops, a tourism day, service projects, as well as fellowship and times of worship with brothers and sisters in Christ from across the world.

Previous Third Wave events were held in Quito, Ecuador, in 2004 and in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2007. This was the first general NYI event to be held on the Asia-Pacific Region in NYI's 89-year history.

On the last day of the conference participants heard about making Christlike disciples in the nations from Eugenio Duarte, the general superintendent in jurisdiction over the Asia-Pacific Region.

Third Wave participants also took part in a foot-washing service. Hartke took a bottle of Thai perfumed water that is traditionally used for blessing and washed the feet of each of his office staff. Each region then divided and formed circles in which regional leaders and young people washed one another's feet. With the closing blessing, the participants were then sent out into the world to continue in their work of making Christlike disciples in the Nations.

With the spread of social networking and new ways to keep in touch, Third Wave 2012 is only the beginning. Connections made will continue to shape and influence everyone involved.

"I believe," Hartke said, "that Third Wave 2012 will have a lifetime impact on all of us who attended."

For more information on the event, including a highlight video, see last week's NCN News story "[Young leaders get global perspective at Third Wave.](#)"

--[Nazarene Youth International](#)

MNU seeks greater global impact with European campus

Last year European Nazarene College, established in 1965 on the Swiss/German border, [closed its doors to residential students](#). Now students from MidAmerica Nazarene University have the opportunity to study at the school through a program called MNU Europe.

For many years EuNC was evolving into what was outlined in their vision statement as "one multicultural and

multinational school with one campus and administrative center and many teaching locations in various European and CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) countries.”

The college's current 17 learning centers in 15 countries serve close to 400 students who receive the same education in a more local and affordable fashion. However, unforeseen developments such as a significant drop in residential campus enrollment and decreasing financial and personnel resources caused EuNC to close its residential program and move toward a fully decentralized school.

EuNC developed a strategic plan called Moving Beyond that will lead the school in their new model.

“We are very happy about the developments of our former campus (now called European Conference Centre),” said Klaus Arnold, president of EuNC. “The facilities will continue to be used for educational purposes for the International Church of the Nazarene. ”

The former residential campus was made available to the denomination's Eurasia Region and the global church. MNU is the first entity outside the Eurasia Region to rent the facilities of EuNC.

“MNU was offered the use of the campus for our MNU Europe program, and we plan to be there for many years to come,” said Lorie Beckum, director of global studies and MNU Europe, a semester abroad program.

Mark Ford, MNU vice president for institutional effectiveness and undergraduate studies, explained how this addition will benefit the university.

“EuNC’s physical facilities would give the university a permanent location that can legitimately be called ‘MNU Europe,’” he said. “This new change has made semester abroad experiences easier than any point in [our] history. MidAmerica Nazarene University wants to be known as an institution with ‘global impact’ [and] MNU having its own campus in Europe will enable MNU to accomplish its mission.”

The program will begin in fall 2012.

MNU and EuNC have always had a strong bond of international friendship. In 1977 EuNC affiliated itself with MNU. Through MNU the college had the opportunity to offer a fully accredited Bachelor of Arts degrees. Since then, the students of the exchange program have built stronger bonds with their European counterparts.

“This [exchange program] is the best opportunity to learn and grow,” university alumnus Brady Franklin said to students at the MNU Europe meeting on January 24.

Nazarene pastor, spouse finalists in eHarmony contest

Ben Moore and his wife, Tami, are finalists in the eHarmony “Love of a Lifetime” contest. The Moores direct a Nazarene secular campus ministry for Idaho's Boise State University students called Crosswalks Campus Ministry.

The couple met on eHarmony's website in 2002 and were married in 2004. Tami was attending the Oregon City Church of the Nazarene while Ben was an associate pastor of New Oaks Church, in Washington, Iowa. Their courtship is only one chapter of the amazing story God has been writing in their lives. Tami submitted this story in fairytale form on eHarmony’s Facebook page. The contest runs from January 30 to February 6, and people may vote one time for their favorite story.

"We're so grateful that God gave us each other," Ben said. "And we're grateful for the role the Church of the Nazarene has held in our lives. Without either, we would never have met."

Ben attended MidAmerica Nazarene University and Nazarene Theological Seminary. Tami attended Northwest Nazarene University.

Crosswalks Campus Ministry is a partnership with area churches and the Church of the Nazarene's

Intermountain District.

To view their story on Facebook, [click here](#).

--[Crosswalks Campus Ministry](#)

NPH announces free, digital VBS program

VBS can be an expensive prospect for the local church, and is only getting more so in a tough economy.

WordAction Publishing Company, the curriculum division of Nazarene Publishing House, is excited to announce an all-new approach to Vacation Bible School that is not only budget-friendly, but also easy to use.

“January was the time in the local church when I got serious about VBS planning,” said Melissa Hammer, WordAction Children’s senior editor. “And one of my biggest concerns was the budget.”

At www.digitalVBS.com, leaders can view and download up to four popular versions of the most important materials for free. Each theme includes leader’s guides, director’s guides, student books, promotional resources, posters, forms, and more.

“As a former VBS director, I can say this is a huge help,” Hammer said. “I can download a theme and choose what items to print for use and best of all, it is not just affordable, it is free.”

For more information, visit www.digitalVBS.com to begin planning an affordable week of VBS that introduces kids to Christ.

--[WordAction Publishing Company](#)

TEACH 2012 conferences almost underway

The 2012 TEACH conferences are scheduled and set to begin.

Due to the reconfiguration of Sunday School & Discipleship Ministries International at the Church of the Nazarene's Global Ministry Center and the desire to ensure resources are matched effectively to the needs in various parts of the U.S. and Canada, TEACH 2012 conferences are now being planned and coordinated by combined district efforts instead of at the GMC.

Some districts are choosing to reschedule their original TEACH dates, some are proceeding with the dates already secured, and others are choosing to postpone the conference indefinitely, SDMI said.

The following dates are set and are being led by the area districts. Additional dates will be announced as they are established by area leaders.

February 4	Sacramento District	Vacaville Sunrise Community Fellowship	Vacaville, CA
February 11	Oklahoma District	Bethany First Church of the Nazarene	Bethany, OK
March 3	Tennessee District	Nashville Grace Church of the Nazarene	Nashville, TN
March 5-8	Intermountain District	District SDMI Tour	Multiple sites
March 24	Arizona District	Tempe Church of the Nazarene	Tempe, AZ
May 5 ON	Canada Central District	Toronto Rose Church of the Nazarene	Scarborough,

--[Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International](#)

SDMI hosts district leadership conference

On January 25-27, in Kansas City, Missouri, Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International hosted district leaders representing children, youth, and adult ministries from 46 different districts within the U.S. and Canada.

The theme for the 2012 District Leadership Conference was "Uniting the Generations through SDMI." Throughout the conference, participants were challenged to help their districts examine family and intergenerational ministries as essential mediums for discipling.

General Superintendent J. K. Warrick opened the event with a message titled "When Your Children Ask..." and Amy Hanson, an intergenerational specialist, followed by providing a practical understanding of how intergeneration ministry can flourish in the local church.

Cindy Brannon of Global Media Outreach spoke on Thursday about the growing need for a Nazarene presence in online discipleship. J. D. Sailors, who serves as the online discipleship makers coordinator for SDMI, led participants in a time of prayer for this growing ministry.

Dale Jones and Rich Houseal from the Nazarene Research Center provided district leaders with an overview of present and future ministry opportunities in North America. Their presentation, titled "Ministry in a changing world – Understanding North American and Nazarene trends," opened the eyes of many leaders to the significant changes in culture, ethnicity, and age taking place on their districts and regions.

During the breakout sessions Thursday morning, district leaders were given a snapshot of 18 different ministry efforts provided through SDMI. These 7-10 minute presentations highlighted ministries that both serve and work to unite children, youth, and adults.

Jerry McConnell, director of Ministry Outreach Center for Personal Protection and Safety, also spoke on Thursday and Nazarene Publishing House President Hardy Weathers and Executive Vice President of the Nazarene Foundation Ken Roney brought greetings to the participants during the conference.

DLC participants were special guests of the Global Ministry Center on Thursday afternoon. They were greeted by Marilyn McCool, general treasurer, and provided a special tour of the facility.

On Thursday evening Robert Broadbooks, regional director for the USA/Canada Region, encouraged participants to face the reality of the changing world ministry by being Christ to their world.

SDMI Director Woodie Stevens challenged district leaders on Friday to promote the basics of the faith by being a people of prayer, engaged in the Word, and making Christlike disciples. He stated that these foundations will be what Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International build upon as the North American and global church faces a rapidly changing future. The conference was closed with special prayer for the Church of the Nazarene and its leaders.

The next DLC conference is scheduled for after the 2013 General Assembly, which will take place from June 19 to 27.

--[Sunday School and Discipleship Ministries International](#)

Canadian National Board receives annual reports

The National Board of the Church of the Nazarene Canada met in Calgary, Alberta, last week to conduct its 64th annual general meeting. The board heard reports from National Director Clair MacMillan, the Finance Committee, National Office Manager Allan McAlpin, and an auditor.

On January 24 they invited guests Elaine Bumstead, Dell Marie Wergeland, and Brian Postlewait to report on the activities of Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Canada. Regional Education Coordinator Terry Fach brought an update on clergy preparation issues and Riley Coulter, chancellor and acting president of Ambrose

University College, reported significant enrollment gains. The new Canadian regional coordinator for Nazarene Youth International, Helen Thiessen, reported on NYI plans for the coming year.

USA/Canada Regional Director Robert Broadbooks began the meeting with a devotional message and General Secretary David Wilson brought greetings on behalf of J. K. Warrick and the Board of General Superintendents.

The Church of the Nazarene has been in continuous operation in Canada since 1902. Shortly following World War II, the Government of Canada enacted legislation requiring every charitable receipt-granting organization to be supervised by a nationally incorporated board of directors resident within the country. The National Board of the Church of the Nazarene Canada was incorporated in 1946 by an act of Parliament. It was empowered by the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene to be the "lawful authority of the Church of the Nazarene in Canada in all matters relative to the acquiring, holding, selling and conveying of property within the Dominion, as outlined in the Articles of Incorporation."

--[Church of the Nazarene Canada](#)

Trevecca to name alumni center in honor of Hardy family

Trevecca Nazarene University's new alumni center, which was completed in March 2011, will be officially named the Hardy Alumni Center. Through the generous financial commitment of alumna Eleanor Hardy Burrow (class of 1939), the university will name the building in honor of Burrow and members of her family.

Four members of the Hardy family served Trevecca. Chester E. Hardy, M.D., Burrow's uncle, became president of Trevecca following the death of its founder, J. O. McClurkan, and served three different terms as president, 1915-1919, 1920-1925, and 1928-1936.

Nathan and Ozella Hardy, Burrow's parents, managed Trevecca's farm, which employed students and supplied food to the school.

Burrow, a career educator in Nashville public schools, graduated from Trevecca Demonstration School, Trevecca High School, and Trevecca Nazarene College. She has been a loyal supporter of Trevecca and of First Church of the Nazarene in Nashville.

With the naming of this building, the Hardy name will once again be part of the Trevecca campus buildings. One of the original buildings on campus was named Hardy Hall. It served as a bookstore, student residence, and maintenance shop during its years of service until it was demolished in 1971.

The university will honor Burrow at the Trevecca Society event on February 17.

--[Trevecca Nazarene University](#)

NNU professors publish new book

Thomas Jay Oord, a theologian, philosopher, and scholar of multi-disciplinary studies, and Richard Thompson, a biblical scholar, are editors of a newly published book, *The Bible Tells Me So: Reading the Bible as Scripture*. The book of 30 essays provides clarity and explanation to key biblical issues in the spirit and tradition John Wesley.

This book is the product of the annual Wesley Conference in 2011.

"The 2011 Wesley Center Conference was important for bringing together scholars, pastors, and laity to discuss how Wesleyans should approach the Bible," said Oord, who serves as conference chair. "This book reports on that discussion, deepens it, expands it, and invites those not able to attend the conference to ponder these important biblical issues."

More than 30 leading scholars offered essays in *The Bible Tells Me So*. Essays address a host of topics including biblical interpretation, inerrancy, Dead Sea Scrolls, inspiration, Wesley's approach to Scripture,

spiritual formation, and postmodernism. In the latter half of the book, writers of the *New Beacon Hill Bible Commentary* series offer essays on key themes for preaching and teaching.

"What makes this collection unique is that it both stimulates new thought about Scripture in the life of the Church and takes us thoughtfully and prayerfully to places in Scripture that often get ignored," Thompson said. "The book is a gift to those in the Church who seek to listen to Scripture."

Northwest Nazarene University's alumni, current and former faculty who contributed to the book include Wendell Bowes, Randy Bynum, C. S. Cowles, George Lyons, Kara Lyons-Pardue, Michael Lodahl, Mark Maddix, Randy Maddox, Thomas Jay Oord, Carol Rotz, and Richard Thompson.

The nearly 500-page book offers a wealth of resources for pastors, laity, professors, students, and Christian leaders of various ministries. *The Bible Tells Me So: Reading the Bible as Scripture* is available for purchase on [Amazon](#) in print and electronic form.

--[Northwest Nazarene University](#)

PLNU hosts professional athletes for day of sports and faith

It was more than just a bat and a ball. It was a chance to change lives.

On Saturday, January 28, hundreds of children from all around San Diego came to Point Loma Nazarene University to hear the gospel message and play sports with PLNU and professional athletes at Superfest 2012.

Among those who appeared alongside PLNU athletes were Major League Baseball All-Stars Heath Bell and Adrian Gonzalez, Olympic gold-medal sprinter Allyson Felix, two-time boxing heavyweight world champion Chris Byrd and Vincent Brown, and Nick Novak of the San Diego Chargers.

Also at the event were San Diego Padres catcher Nick Hundley, pro surfer Bryan Jennings (a PLNU alumnus), Mixed Martial Arts fighters Richard Power and Frank Lester, and Chargers safety Darrell Stuckey.

The day also included former pros such as Olympic volleyball player and current San Diego State head coach Deitre Collins, soccer star Jacques Ladouceur, and National Football League kicker Michael Husted.

But the day was about more than just meeting the stars.

"Our main motto is 'Play and live like a champion,'" said Brown, a wide receiver who previously played at San Diego State. "That's what we're trying to instill in all the kids today. We want [the kids] to all know how to play to the best of their abilities with everything that God has blessed them with and to use that to glorify Him."

PLNU partnered with The Rock Church to sponsor the event, which took place under a clear blue sky around PLNU's athletic facilities. Assistant Athletic Director for Athletic Ministries Art Wilmore, along with The Rock personnel, planned the event.

The guests were greeted by a welcome crew of PLNU athletes who led them to Golden Gym.

After a short introduction to the pros in attendance, the kids were let loose around the facilities to play a wide range of sports including football, soccer, golf, tennis, basketball, volleyball, baseball, and even ultimate Frisbee. Additionally, guests were treated to a mixed martial arts display and a speed-training clinic.

During this time, PLNU athletes from every sport worked with the kids to improve their skills, providing instruction and encouragement every step of the way.

"Whatever [the kids] wanted to do, we just tried to assist them and let them have as much fun as possible,"

said PLNU baseball player JJ Reading. "It's awesome being able to take a moment away from our lives and be a part of someone else's life. [This] is something far greater than [us]."

Saturday was not the first opportunity for the PLNU athletes to get involved with this type of outreach. Each of the past two years, the school has hosted a similar event called "Rockin' at the Point."

This year however, the PLNU athletes and kids were able to learn from professional athletes as well — an added bonus of working with The Rock.

"Having the professional athletes with us was amazing," said Reading, a senior. "These people are at the highest level of our sports, and seeing them live for Christ inspires us."

After a short break for a group picture on the baseball field, the group ventured up to the Greek Amphitheater for some games and a discussion panel with Gonzalez, Hundley, Byrd, and Felix.

The Rock Pastor Miles McPherson led the panel and asked the athletes about their lives as Christians in the unpredictable world of professional sports and the challenges they face.

"I think it's important for kids to realize that, even though you're a professional athlete and you're successful, you've still got to deal with problems in your life," McPherson said. "I think it's important for kids to realize that these athletes have to trust in God just like everyone else."

McPherson then invited those in attendance to come forward and accept Jesus for the first time.

The day's happenings impacted not only the children, but also the pro athletes who attended.

"What I really like about [Superfest] is not just playing the sports," said Bell, a former Padre who recently signed with the Miami Marlins. "Kids actually ask you about your faith, and you ask them. During baseball season, fans don't always want to hear about that. They want to hear about how you're going to win and not about what really matters in life — your faith and your family and your life."

--[Point Loma Nazarene University](#)

SNU announces Campaign for the Sciences, Mabee Challenge Grant

Southern Nazarene University recently announced the public phase of the \$8.7 million dollar, multiyear, multiphase Campaign for the Sciences.

Phase I of the Campaign for the Sciences includes construction of a new science laboratory that will house teaching and research labs, classrooms, and support space. The project is being completely funded by private donations, including a lead gift of \$1.5 million from benefactors J. D. and Mary West of Rogers, Arkansas, and the acceptance of an \$800,000 Challenge Grant from the J. E. and L. E. Mabee Foundation, Inc. The university expects to break ground on the new 25,891 square feet facility in 2012.

The construction of the new laboratory is the latest step in the university's plan to strengthen its legacy of academic excellence in science and its commitment to long-term investment in the infrastructure of its campus facilities in its Bethany and Tulsa, Oklahoma, campuses.

University president Loren Gresham expressed his support of the campaign.

"SNU is poised to provide the next generation of scientists with the skills, vision, and moral responsibility to provide care and education to the underserved, steward and preserve our natural resources, and positively impact the quality of life for untold persons near and far, for generations to come," he said.

A future phase of the Campaign for the Sciences calls for an elevator tower with common areas that will connect the new and existing facilities. Another improvement includes a renovation of the structure which now houses the university's nationally recognized pre-professional programs in biology, chemistry, and nursing in

addition to undergraduate programs in physics, science education, network engineering, and environmental science, among others.

"We are working vigorously to secure the remainder of the funding needed from our supporters to meet the Mabee Foundation Challenge Grant and begin construction as soon as possible," Gresham said, "and we are deeply grateful to the Mabee Foundation, the West family, and our many alumni and friends who believe in the mission and vision of SNU."

For more information on the Campaign for the Sciences, a virtual tour of the J. D. & Mary West Science Laboratory, and Southern Nazarene University's legacy of excellence in science education, visit www.snu.edu.
--[Southern Nazarene University](http://www.snu.edu)

In Memoriam

The following is a weekly listing of Nazarene ministers and leaders who have recently gone home to be with the Lord. Notices were received January 30 - February 3, 2012.

Paul G. Cone, 70, of Yorba Linda, California, passed away on January 21. He was a retired ministers, serving in California and Washington. He is survived by his wife, Linda Cone.

Ray R. Glenn, 86, of Tacoma, Washington, passed away on January 30. He was a retired minister, serving in Wyoming, Minnesota, North Dakota, Idaho, Utah, and Arizona. He is survived by his wife, Jo Ann Glenn.

Ruth Ann MacNeil, 78, of New Brighton, Pennsylvania, passed away on January 25. She was the wife of Donald W. MacNeil, pastor of the New Brighton Church of the Nazarene. Donald MacNeil previously served in Ohio. He has been the pastor at New Brighton since 1980.

Matilda C. (Manchester) McDonald, 75, of Decatur, Alabama, passed away on January 30. She was the widow of minister and evangelist G. Ray McDonald, who served in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas. He passed away in 2001.

James N. Story, 99, of Pittsburg, Kansas, passed away on January 31. He was a lifelong member of Pittsburg First Church of the Nazarene, where he served on the church board, as a trustee, and taught Sunday School for many years.

For previous editions of *In Memoriam*, see the "Passings" section on ncnnews.com by [clicking here](#).

Note: Please join with us in prayer for the families who have lost loved ones. Click on names for full stories, funeral information, local online obituaries, and/or guest books (if available). To submit an entry of a minister or church leader, send to submitnews@ncnnews.com.

--Compiled by NCN News