



ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT LOCAL NMI PRESIDENT'S HANDBOOK 2023-2024

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District NMI President's Challenge 2023-2024

GO: Be SALT and LIGHT



Praise God!! He is worthy to be praised. Thank you, JoAnn for your years of leadership over District NMI. You have been an amazing example of serving Jesus wholeheartedly. The Rocky Mountain District appreciates how you communicate so well and how you plan and organize to keep our churches focusing on missions at home, on this district, this continent and across the ocean.

When JoAnn asked me if I would be interested in this NMI District leadership position, I did not see myself as someone who could fulfill this. It seemed overwhelming. As I prayed about it, God spoke to my heart saying “Dee Dee, think about Moses and how I gave him everything he needed and everyone he needed to complete every task I asked him to do and Dee Dee think about everything you have been through in your life up to this moment and how I have given you everything you needed and everyone you needed to complete each task. Dee Dee, trust me and know that I am God. I am your faithful God, your moving mountain God, your joy giving God, your healing God, your triune God - God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, your forgiving God, your creator and I love you and I will help you and be with you every step of the way in this task as well. Don't be afraid.”

JoAnn also let me know that I would need to propose a challenge for the year and present this challenge. Right away I knew God was forming this challenge within me. Dan and I have lived in Cheyenne, WY for a little over 2 years. We do not know our neighbors very well yet. I have been praying about God to open doors and help us get to know our neighbors better. Dan and I had just sold our Ford Ranger Pick-up truck to one of our neighbors and as the neighbor was paying us for the truck, out of my mouth came these words, “we'll have to have you over for a BBQ sometime soon”. Our neighbors agreed and have talked to us more since then. The door is open wide for more conversations and fellowship. Another day a few weeks ago, Dan was outside when a different neighbor was out at that same time and they stood at the fence talking for 45 minutes.

All that to say – my challenge for all of us is to **GO be salt and light** that Jesus asks us to be in Matthew chapter 5 versus 13-16 to someone right next door-or even in the same house. So many of us live such busy lives that I think we overlook or forget to be the salt and light of Jesus to those right around us. I know I get into going through the motions of life in my busyness and do not intentionally take the time to see people and spend time getting to know people outside the church family.

I am praying that God opens our eyes to see our neighbors and anyone God lays on our hearts. May God give each one of us opportunities to be His salt and light --and I know He will. It is what He has called us to do. I believe God is already working in each heart here and beginning to put people's faces and names on our hearts of who He needs us to reach out to and pray for and God is preparing hearts who are waiting for us to be the salt and light so they can meet Jesus as their personal Savior. May we be faithful in our relationship with Jesus and may we be faithful in what He has called us to be: Matthew 5:13-16, "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

To God be the Glory,

Forever Grateful,

Dee Dee Crider



We are Vision.
We are Action.
We are Impact.

*We are people united in our belief that
our involvement changes lives worldwide.*

We are a cross-cultural, cross-generational movement that mobilizes Churches of the Nazarene in missions.

The Church of the Nazarene is a Protestant Christian church in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition. Organized in 1908, the denomination is now home to about 2.6 million members worshipping in more than 30,000 local congregations in 164 world areas.

HISTORY OF NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

Nazarene Missions International (NMI) traces its origin primarily to the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America (APCA), when in April 1899, the Woman's Missionary Society (WMS) was founded.

The WMS was officially recognized as an auxiliary organization of the Church of the Nazarene in 1915 at the fourth General Assembly. It was recommended that there be an organization in each local church to increase knowledge and interest in missions by prayer, by obtaining special speakers, and by keeping in touch with the missionaries; and to cooperate with the (local) Church Board in raising their apportionments (for missions).

The name of the ministry has changed over the course of its history:

1928—Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS),

1952—Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society (reflecting the introduction of men, youth, and children into the organization),

1964—Nazarene World Missionary Society,

1980—Nazarene World Mission Society (reflecting the international aspect of the organization),

2001—Nazarene Missions International (NMI).



NMI OBJECTIVES:

- To encourage people to pray for all efforts of world evangelization
- To inform people of the world's needs and what the church is doing to meet those needs
- To challenge children and youth to learn about and participate in the mission of the church
- To raise funds for missions outreach

NMI supports missionaries on the field.

NMI educates individuals and congregations as to the missionaries' work on the field.

NMI welcomes missionaries when they return for home assignment.

NMI helps equip missionaries to return to the field.

NMI prays for missionaries at home and abroad.

NMI helps provide for retirement needs.

We are NMI.

Find us on FaceBook: NMI Rocky Mountain District

Also check out the www.rmnaz.org webpage, and the RMD NMI page and the Global Missions page.

The Rocky Mountain District Of the Church of the Nazarene



"Creating Communities of Hope and Help through following Jesus"

1. Worshiping and loving the Triune God with our whole being: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Indwelling Holy Spirit
2. Live in complete surrender to seeking and doing the will of God in all things
3. Consistent Intercessory Prayer for people who have not yet come to a relationship of faith and obedience with Jesus
4. Being students and practitioners of His Word
5. Committed to living daily as a witness for Jesus
6. Developing intentional relationships of loving and caring discipleship
7. Living fully engaged lives as servant ministers

NAZARENE World Regions



The six world regions with the locations of the regional offices are:

- Africa Region
 - Office: Johannesburg, South Africa
- Asia-Pacific Region
 - Office: Singapore
- Eurasia Region
 - Office: Schaffhausen, Switzerland
- Mesoamerica Region
 - Office: Panama City, Panama
- South America Region
 - Office: Buenos Aires, Argentina
- USA/Canada Region
 - Office: Lenexa, Kansas, USA



Rocky Mountain District is one of 80 districts in the USA/Canada region. Our district encompasses all of Montana and Wyoming. There are 36 (organized and not-yet-organized churches in our district). Our District Superintendent is Rev. Robert Skinner. Robert and his wife Colleen were missionaries with the Church of the Nazarene assigned to the Philippines, and then Poland and Hungary, in the Northern European Field for nearly 30 years. They have three sons: Robby, Michael, and Joshua.

NAZARENE MISSIONARIES

There are two types of Nazarene Missionaries:

1

The **SPONSORED MISSIONARY** is primarily funded by his or her local community and called to serve a localized need in the field. Affirmed by the local church, district, and the Church of the Nazarene, he or she will serve a maximum of four years in the field with no previous ministry experience required.

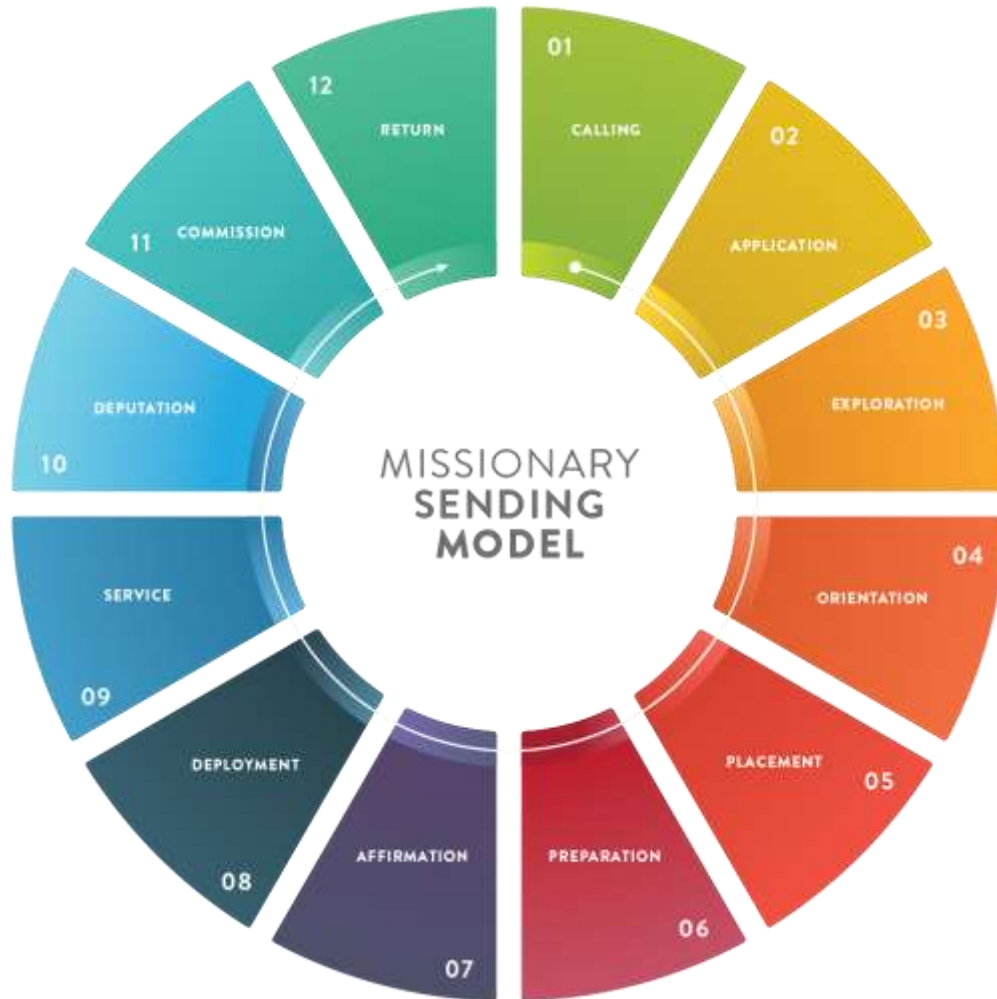
- Primarily funded by a local Church of the Nazarene*
- Serves a maximum of four years in two 2-year terms
- No prior ministry experience required
- Able to engage in field ministry

*

2

The **GLOBAL MISSIONARY** is funded by the global efforts of World Evangelism and called to serve a full career in the field. Affirmed by the Church of the Nazarene they have prior ministry experience, and will strategically serve a global assignment wherever they are needed in the world.

- Primarily World Evangelism funded
- Serves from two years to full career
- Prior ministry or specialty service experience
- Assigned by the church where needed



[ENG_SEND ME Guide.pdf \(nazarene.org\)](#)

Taking the leap to become a missionary can be overwhelming and even intimidating. Beginning with the very first step you take toward serving as a Nazarene missionary, our team (Send Me) helps you create a development plan and guides you to a cross-cultural ministry that utilizes your unique skills and calling.

Once serving, you join a team of hundreds of passionate missionaries, each of whom is supported by Nazarene churches around the world. Join the team and say "yes" to God's call to go where the church is not yet. Still have questions? Get in touch with our team by sending an email to sendme@nazarene.org

Nazarene Missions International (NMI) is the organization for mobilizing the local church in missions in the Church of the Nazarene and is the denomination's representative for missions on the district and in the local church.

- We are NMI ambassadors
- Our purpose is to encourage and excite others into action.

Sounds simple but can be very difficult determining what excites people into action. Hearing mission speakers may motivate some, while a hands-on project (such as Crisis Care Kits) may appeal to another's sense of missions.

TOP 5 NMI AREAS OF IMPACT

Nazarene Missions International focuses on five strategic areas where the local church can have maximum impact on missions in the Church of the Nazarene.

The first is prayer. NMI gathers believers together for prayer in the local church, linking us to our brothers and sisters in Christ across the globe.

The second is the World Evangelism Fund, which fuels the Church of the Nazarene's mission by combining gifts from each person and church to fund ministries everywhere.

Through the Alabaster Offering, the third emphasis, ministries around the world receive funds to purchase property and buildings.

The fourth is to engage children and youth through education and fostering calls to missions.

Care and Connection, the fifth area of emphasis, strategically connects Nazarene missionaries and Nazarene churches through prayer, personal contact, and generous giving. Links missionaries fall under this category as do missionaries sent out by your district.

How does NMI mobilize the church in missions?

- Praying
- Giving
- Educating
- Engaging children and youth

Praying

Pray for:

- Missionaries around the world as they often face troubled times. They seek to be peacemakers and agents of transformation and require our prayers of intercession.
- Our district-send missionaries and our missionaries assigned to us by Global NMI under Care and Connection. See page 16
- Children awaiting sponsorship through Nazarene Child Sponsorship
- The Board of General Superintendents
- Our district superintendent and district leadership
- The finances of the church, locally, district side, and globally

NMI Central (formerly Prayer Mobilization Line – PML) is a weekly email focusing on the prayer needs and praise reports for the global ministries of the Church of the Nazarene and our missionaries. Subscribe at [NMI Central | Church of the Nazarene](#).



Pray for your Pastor every Monday at noon. Set an alarm reminder on your cell phone and stop at noon to pray... Let our prayers unite in one accord.

Giving

- World Evangelism Fund (required allocation of 5.5%)
- Alabaster (no minimum amount required)
- NMI Partnerships: World Mission Broadcast, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Child Sponsorships, Jesus Film Partners
- Faith Promise Giving

- **World Evangelism Fund**

The World Evangelism Fund fuels the Church of the Nazarene's mission by combining each person's and church's gift together to fund ministries everywhere. Every church is asked to give a portion of their yearly funds for the purpose of making Christlike disciples in the nations or 5.5%.

Some churches choose to raise funds through the Easter Offering and Thank Offering for the World Evangelism Fund. These two offerings happen every year, and Stewardship Ministries provides promotional and informational resources to help churches communicate the offerings to their congregations. Churches also use Faith Promise pledges to raise funds throughout the year. We encourage churches to actively engage their congregations in understanding and giving toward mission work through the World Evangelism Fund. Many churches choose to invest more than the required 5.5% goal toward ministry, and those gifts make a huge difference.

A church that gives 5.7% or more in the convention year gains **Church of Excellence** status.

See more ways to give under NMI Partnerships page 19

- **Alabaster**

The Alabaster Offering provides funds for property and buildings around the world. While we understand the church consists of the people of God and not a building, buildings erected for the purpose of ministry help provide a sense of permanence, functionally enhance ministry efforts, and convey an attitude that the Church of the Nazarene intends to "put down roots." Alabaster funds help provide land for many Work & Witness projects, and the entire Alabaster Offering goes toward the purchase of land and construction of churches, schools, medical facilities, and homes for missionaries and national workers.

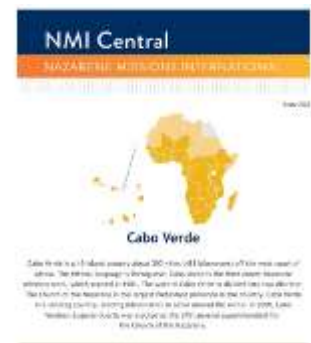
The Alabaster Offering gets to the mission field via several avenues. The most widely used is the Alabaster Box. Individuals are challenged to regularly contribute the cost of items they desire but do not need. The boxes also serve as reminders to pray for those people who will benefit from Alabaster buildings.

Traditionally in September and February, the money is collected, however churches may receive Alabaster at any time in the year. Be sure send your offering to General Treasurer and marked as Alabaster so that proper credit can be given for your offering.

2023 marks the 75th anniversary of Alabaster Offering.

Educating

NMI Central (formerly Prayer Mobilization Line) is a wonderful resource which highlights one country every week, giving information about the work of the Church of the Nazarene in that country, prayer requests, and praises.



Facebook pages - NMI Rocky Mountain District page and Church of the Nazarene (Official) page

District Newsletter (Mission Moments) Published on the first of each month and emailed to all churches (Pastors, local NMI Presidents, and interested parties) If you want to be added to the email list, please send a message to nmi@rmnaz.org. The newsletter is also uploaded to the Rocky Mountain District webpage and the district NMI facebook page.

Mission Speakers – Missionaries on Home Assignment offer firsthand information and experiences about the work of the Church of the Nazarene in their specific area or region.

Engaging Children and Youth in Missions

- Mission speakers – include the children and youth
- Kids Kaleidoscope pages – found on the NMI Central email on the first Wednesday of the month.
- Mission projects (can participate in gathering items for CCKs or other project)
- Vacation Bible School (have a special mission project offering)

Local churches can engage children and youth in missions through education, by their participation in mission services, and reading missionary books, or using the Kids Kaleidoscope and also by assisting, encouraging, supporting, fostering, and praying for

youth who feel the call to the mission field. If you have someone in your church sensing a call to the mission field, please send their name to your district NMI president nmi@rmnaz.org or District Mission Call Coordinator, Rev. Matthew Connally pastormatthewconnally@gmail.com

Care & Connection (formerly Links)

Global NMI has restructured the Links program under the new Care & Connections impact area umbrella.

- Globally assigned missionaries terms are for 1 year (January to December).
- All missionaries sent from our district will be under our Care & Connections umbrella while they are serving as missionaries.



The global deployed missionaries, Brian and Erin Ketchum and their four children, Grace, Elliott, Nora and Luca serve in France, and district sponsored/sent missionaries, Tim and Margarette Stearns and daughter Natalie serve in Paraguay.

Rocky Mountain District, we still have the rest of this year to bless and support our assigned missionaries and their families.

Please continue to lift them up in prayer, encourage and shower them with love and support by staying in touch with them.

Brian and Erin Ketchum (France):

Brian's email: bketchum@eurasiaregion.org

WhatsApp: + 33 6 21 69 05 56

Erin's email: eketchum@eurasiaregion.org

Mailing address:

18 Rue Grande

77130 Ville-Saint-Jacques,

France.



Birthdates:

Brian July 6

Erin May 18

Grace June 24

Elliott Oct. 5

Nora May 3

Luca Nov. 5

Brian and Erin's anniversary – July 26th

Timothy and Margarett Stearns (Paraguay):

Tim's email:

tstearns@samnaz.org

WhatsApp: 1-406-370-4812

Margarette's email:

mstearns@samnaz.org

WhatsApp: 1-406-370-4813

Mailing address:

16795 Lightning Drive

Frenchtown, MT 59834-9557.



Unfortunately, there is not really a postal service in Paraguay. In fact, the Stearns don't really even have an address. Down here, you send someone your coordinates on WhatsApp; that is how they find you.

For anything like FedEx, DHL, etc., you have to pick it up at the depot in Asuncion or Encarnacion if you don't live in those cities. The Stearns live in San Ignacio, which is about halfway between these two cities.

Birthdates:

Timothy April 16

Margarette March 20

Natalie November 8

Timothy and Margarette's anniversary is January 2nd.

Role of the Local NMI President

- The role of the Local NMI President is:
 - to **promote** NMI in the local church in cooperation with the pastor and the church board
 - to lead the local NMI council

Promoting NMI in your local church can take place in a variety of ways:

- scheduling regular mission services: monthly, quarterly (on a Sunday morning or evening or another night, whatever suits your congregation's needs)
- Bulletin inserts and flyers
- Videos in a Sunday morning service
- A mission moment during the worship service
- Prayers for missionaries around the globe and the needs of the church.

For more information on duties and structure of local NMI council, see the NMI Constitution, on the rmnaz.org / missions page.

Structure of Church of the Nazarene regarding NMI



For more information on go to [Global Missions | Church of the Nazarene](#)

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION:

WORLD EVANGELISM CHURCH (WEC) A church that pays its WEF goal at 5.5% or more, but has not qualified as a Mission Priority One church is considered a World Evangelism Church.

MISSIONS PRIORITY ONE (MPO)

Mission Priority One recognition goes to churches which have embraced the Five Areas of Impact of NMI: Prayed for the lost and for global missionaries, gave to World Evangelism Fund (payment of 5.5% or higher), Alabaster offering remitted, Engaged Children and Youth, and Links support (by prayer and/or financially).

Global NMI realizes that not all churches have children and youth, so on the annual Local NMI President's report, it states that a church can answer yes to this question if they had no children or youth, but would have engaged them in missions if they did.

CHURCH OF EXCELLENCE AWARD (COE)

If a church's giving surpasses 5.7% and higher, that church qualifies for a Church of Excellence award. The church does not have to qualify as a MPO to receive this award.

NMI PARTNERSHIPS



There are several types of projects with Nazarene Missions Teams, which provide something to fit each team.

- a. Sports Projects
- b. Construction Projects
- c. Evangelistic Projects
- d. Compassionate Ministries Projects
- e. Jesus Film Projects
- f. Medical Mission Projects
- g. Technology Projects
- h. Emergency Response Projects
- i. Education Projects
- j. Or any combination of the above

For more information go to [Missions Teams | Church of the Nazarene](#)



NAZARENE COMPASSIONATE MINISTRIES

NCM walks alongside local churches in their efforts to meet the needs of children, families, and communities. Through your partnership, local congregations are changing the world.

Areas that fall under NCM are: Child Sponsorship, Emergency Relief (Crisis Care Kits), Refugee Crisis, Hunger, Clean Water, Health Care, HIV & AIDS, Women and Children Support (School Paks), Holistic Child Development, Anti-Human Trafficking

CRISIS CARE KITS: Need help? If your church has completed a case of Crisis Care Kits (6 bags to a banana box) and send them to:

Hands of Hope Northwest
1201 S Powerline Road
Nampa ID 83686

Churches may also contact our DS, Robert Skinner. He is willing to collect the completed kits when he is touring your area and transport them to Nampa when he goes there for District business.

His email address is rwskinner@rmnaz.org
and his cell number is 406-606-0266.

Finally, send a check—made payable to Global Treasury Services, Church of the Nazarene—in the amount of \$12.00 per banana box (for storage and shipping costs during the distribution process). Include the name and address of your church with the check. Ten Percent Credit will be allowed for the \$12.00 shipping donation only.

Do not put the money in the CCKs or banana boxes, or send money to the warehouse in Nampa ID.

CRISIS CARE KITS

Shopping List

- 1 Shampoo (12 to 18 oz.)
- 2 Bars of Soap (Bath size or larger)
- 1 Toothpaste (4.0 to 6.4 oz.)
- 3 Toothbrushes (in original packaging)
- 1 Box of Band-aids (30 or more)
- 1 Fingernail clipper
- 1 Sturdy hair comb
- 2 Hand towels
- 4 Pocket-sized pkgs. Kleenex
- 1 Beanie Baby-sized stuffed toy

Each Crisis Care Kit (CCK) should contain only the items/quantities listed.

Place all items into a 2-gallon zip-lock bag.

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Jesus Film Harvest Partners



When people encounter **Jesus**, everything changes. You can be part of the movement that brings the greatest story of all time to everyone, everywhere, in every language. Join the **Jesus Film Project's** email newsletter to see how the story of **Jesus** changes everything. Encourage your congregation to

support the Jesus Film project. www.jesustfilm.org

LARAMIE CONNECTIONS

Phone [\(307\)206-0607](tel:3072060607)

Email info@laramieconnections.com

Address 920 E. Sheridan Street

Laramie, WY 82070

PO Box 1779, Laramie, WY 82073



Better Together

We are here for you! We want to serve you and everyone around us, finding needs in the community and filling in that gap making connections, and with compassion like Jesus. We are a faith-based non-profit where everything we offer for you is at no cost. We partner with community organizations in Laramie to offer complimenting gap services and volunteer resourcing in order to help champion their causes together in our community.

Enjoy a free hot meal on Sunday evenings at Laramie Connections Center, followed by life conversations around the tables. Need a ride to get groceries or to a doctor's appointment, we are here for you. Check out all of our events on our calendar for opportunities for us to serve one another...together.

Laramie Connections Center is the official compassionate ministries center

for the Rocky Mountain District of the Church of the Nazarene.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Child Sponsorship

Sponsor a child for just \$30 a month.

Change a life.

Go to <https://www.ncm.org>



The Distinguished Service Award (DSA) is a tribute to church people who are living and for their service to the church. Although the DSA is given through NMI, it need not be given in the area of missions. A church may wish to honor anyone in the church for their efforts. The DSA may only be given by a church or a group within the church. Individuals may not give this award. A DSA may be awarded to a couple as long as only one tribute message is submitted.

The cost of the DSA is USD\$125. Duplicates of the award are \$25 each. Churches are encouraged to frame the DSA. The certificate fits into a standard 8"x10" frame.

Please read the [DSA Guidelines](#) for further details.

To order a DSA:

1. [Order Online](#) with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express.
- Please allow 5-10 business days for delivery.

2. Order by Mail
- Print the [DSA order form](#)
- Fill out the order form.

Note: When designating the "tribute," please stay within the space allotted--4 lines, 60 characters per line (including punctuation and spaces).

- Fill out a church [remittance form](#)
- Send the order form, remittance form, and a check for \$125 to your regional office.
- Please allow 3-5 weeks for delivery.

Need assistance? Contact us at nmi@nazarene.org.

The Memorial Roll, established in 1919, is a way to honor deceased friends and loved ones. A certificate is issued in the name of the person memorialized and is often presented to a family member or displayed in the church. Churches or individuals may place as many names on the Memorial Roll as they desire, and those memorialized need not be members of the church.

The cost of placing someone on the Memorial Roll is USD\$75. You will receive a certificate that fits into a standard 8"x10" frame. Duplicates of the certificate are \$25 each.

[A Children's version is available, too.](#)

To order a Memorial Roll:

1. **Order Online**

- Use Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express.
- Please allow 5-10 business days for delivery.

2. **Order by Mail**

- Print the [Memorial Roll order form](#)
- Fill out the order form.
- Fill out a church [remittance form](#)
- Send the order form, remittance form, and a check for \$75 to your regional office.
- Please allow 3-5 weeks for delivery.

Need assistance? Contact us at nmi@nazarene.org.

Suggested NMI Calendar of Emphases

There are many facets to our mission as we fulfill the purpose of NMI. The NMI Calendar of Emphases may serve as a framework around which to build the plans for the year's activities. Of course, the calendar is flexible and not mandatory to follow, so you may adjust it to suit your church's needs.

Emphasis Each Month (Ongoing): Prayer and Fasting

January: Volunteer Ministries

February: Alabaster www.nazarene.org/albaster

March: Easter Offering (World Evangelism Fund, Faith Promise)
Special Emphasis: Nazarene World Week of Prayer

April: Mission Education

May: Missionary Health Care

June: World Mission Broadcast www.nazarene.org/wmb

July: International Ministry, Bible Schools & Seminaries

August: Care and Connections

September: Alabaster

October: Mission Priority One

November: Thank Offering (World Evangelism Fund, Faith Promise)

(formerly Thanksgiving Offering.. however many other countries do not celebrate a Thanksgiving Day as we do in the USA, so the name was shortened to be Thank Offering)

Special Prayer Emphasis: International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church is Sunday, November 5, 2023. We will join thousands of churches across the United States and the world in prayer for our persecuted brothers and sisters.

December: Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

Here is a partial list of valuable online resources:

- Engage Magazine (Global Mission) [Engage Magazine: Home Page](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions [NMI FAQs | Church of the Nazarene](#)
- Media Library [media \(nazarene.org\)](#)
- Nazarene Compassionate Ministries [NCM](#)
- Nazarene Missions International [nazarene.org/nmi](#)
- ROAM RVs On A Mission [rvsonamission.org](#)
- World Evangelism Fund [nazarene.org/wef](#)
- World Mission Broadcast [nazarene.org/wmb](#)

Credits:

A Mind for Missions – 10 Ways to Build Your World Vision, Paul Borthwick, 1987

SNU / Missions – Howard Culbertson, <https://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/nazmiss.htm>