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A Note From Our D.S.

by Rev. John Calhoun

“A Missional Church Invents New Ways to Love Others” Remember that? It is not a slogan on the dust bin of ecclesiology yet. One example to tell is that of Vallejo Korean Church of the Nazarene under the leadership of The Rev. Samuel Choi.



This pastor and congregation has invested in several computers in order to offer free classes using Windows XP in the Korean language. These classes are held at a local hotel conference room and given on a first come first served basis. After the first series of classes, they have already received and baptized 4 new members by profession of faith that came through this ministry.

Let us all remember that before we can expect unbelievers to come to church, the church must first come to them.”

Don't forget September is Alabaster Month!

Centennial Faith Projections 2009

Dr. Jerry Porter challenged all of us at our recent District Assembly in his message, “Taking Responsibility for Results.” He then asked for each church to present its Faith Projections for the year 2009 (the end of the denomination’s centennial year.)

These projections are posted on Page 2.

SSM Update

Rev. Tim King, Salinas



In June, all churches received a promotional packet with posters and information about the upcoming Sunday School 2005 Fall Emphasis emphasis. Churches can also go to the website for more ideas of how to implement this important emphasis:

Connecting a New Generation

2005 Sunday School Emphasis for the Local Church

Weekly Emphases & Activities:

- September 25 Preparation Sunday
- October 2 Bless the Babies
- October 9 Promote the Preschoolers
- October 16 Cherish the Children
- October 23 Treasure the Teens
- October 30 Focus on Families

A Note from David W. Graves, Director, Sunday School Ministries

As I’m sure you are aware, this is a critical time in history for reaching out to children and youth. Demographically, more than one-third of the world’s population is children and youth. Statistics show the prime age to win a child to Christ is the “4/14 window” - the ages between 4 and 14. However, the number of young adults who profess to be Christian is decreasing markedly. Pluralism and postmodern thought are influencing many young families today.

Growing out of a mutual concern for children and youth, Children’s Ministries, Nazarene Youth International, and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries have partnered in a Decadal Emphasis on Children and Youth - “Connecting a New Generation,” an emphasis that will run until January 2012.

Centennial Faith Projections 2009

Some are still working on this and we will add them to the chart as they come in.

Church	Members	SS Att	Sunday Worship	New Min. Initiatives	Daughter Congregations
Alameda New Beginnings					
Antioch Family					
Arcata	100	120	150	1	0
Castro Valley	200	300	300	20	2
Clearlake	100	100	200	0	1
Concord Christ Community	1000	750		40	
Crescent City	90	50	100	2	5
Cupertino New Life					
Daly City El Shaddai Spanish					
Daly City Western Korean					
East Bay Korean(Hana)					
Eureka First	800	400	600	12	2
Fortuna					
Fremont Central				1	
Gilroy Cornerstone Spanish					
Hayward Casa de Oracion	400	600	400	5	5
Hayward First	300	300	250	2	3
Hayward First Samoan					
International Christian Center	300	150	200	5	1
Livermore Discovery					
Marin Hamilton Community	200		200	1	1
McKinleyville Nazarene Family	125	75	100	5	2
Monterey Living Hope					
Napa	350	600	500	2	2
Oakland Bayview Fellowship	350	150	250	4	3
Palo Alto CrossRoads	125	100	150	10	1
Petaluma Hillside	350	400	500	40	1
Pittsburg First	85	80	140	5	1
Salinas Iglesia del Naz. Oasis	2000		2500	25	10
Salinas New Life	200	300	500	5	1
San Bruno	120	100	100	3	1
San Bruno Samoan		100-300	200	1	
San Francisco Chinese	100	90	100	1	0
San Francisco Chinese Gospel	300	100	200	5	1
San Francisco Golden Gate Com.					
San Francisco New Life	120		100		
San Francisco New Start					
San Francisco Sunset Chinese					
San Jose Cambrian Park	200	200	200	2	1
San Jose Valley	200	75	150	3	1
San Ramon Christ Community	80	100	160	2	1
Santa Clara					
Santa Cruz	450	450	200	5	1
Santa Rosa	450	300	400	3	2
Sonoma Valley	120	120	200	5	2
Sunnyvale	200	100	300	4	2
The Point	800	800	1,200	20	2
The Point Spanish Ministry	700	600	800	10	4
Ukiah Valley First	50	60	65		
Vallejo First	150	120	180	3	1
Vallejo Korean					
Vallejo New Life Filipino					
Watsonville	125	150	130	5	1
Willits	60	50	50		
Willow Creek	60	85	100	5	1

National Quiz Excitement

by Abe Powers, Napa

As a sixteen-year-old guy, I'm pretty competitive. I want to win. So in preparation for Bible Quizzing Nationals, I really had to work and pray very hard that my competitive spirit in Quizzing would not take precedence over my desire for the Lord's will to be done in everything-including competition. I continually had to remind myself that Quizzing is not primarily about competition. It's about getting into the Word of God and finding a deeper relationship with Him. I also had to stifle the desire to quiz for myself, not thinking about the team. So I determined going into nationals that I would quiz for God first, my team second, and leave everything else to fall in its place.

I was on a team of five youth who earned their way onto the national team through a grueling process at our regional competition. Since we made the team, we had the responsibility of representing the Point Loma region for nationals. In the English tournament, there was one team from each of the 8 Nazarene colleges and universities, plus a team from the Caribbean.

Nationals this year were at General Assembly in Indianapolis. As I walked into the Convention Center where quizzing was to take place, I was very excited. Four years ago, I had walked into the same Convention Center for my first national tournament. That year our team, the PLNU region, took first place for the first time in its quizzing history.

On the first day, we won seven out of our eight quizzes, losing only to the Olivet region.

The second day was much of the same. We won six of eight, losing again to Olivet and to Mount Vernon. Although we had suffered two losses that day, I had the best day of my national-quizzing career. That night, I figured up my total score and determined that I had a fifty average for the two "regular seasons." That made me pretty excited. I knew, in years past, a fifty average was usually what it took to be the number one quizzer in the nation.

We walked into the convention center on Friday, the last day of quizzing, walked up to the stat sheet. I looked to find my name, and when I found it, I saw that there weren't any names higher than mine. I walked over to my parents, who had already seen it, gave them each a hug, and thanked them. Without their dedication to helping me study, I never would have come close to this success.

As great as that accomplishment felt, I quickly turned my mind to the team. This was it, the last day of quizzing. Playoff time had come. You lose; you're out. So we as a team had to be focused. Even though our record had three losses, we still had the best record overall from the round-robin and were the first seed going into the brackets. Our team rallied around one another and won again.

Now, we were in the finals against the only team we hadn't yet beaten: Olivet Nazarene University. The first quiz was a nail-biter, neck and neck the whole way. On the last question of the quiz, we were up by one question. So I jumped. I was a little early and got it wrong. They got the bonus, we were deadlocked, and overtime would now ensue. Overtime is do-or-die. I couldn't do anything since I was now out of the quiz. However, one of my teammates, Cheri Kruse, jumped perfectly and nailed it, getting our team halfway to the national championship.

Since the finals were best two out of three, we still had to beat them one more time. Olivet simply erred themselves to death, sending Point Loma to its second national championship in five years.

I first of all want to thank God for his blessings upon me, then my family for their help in studying, and my church, Napa Nazarene, for their prayer and financial support.

If you are in a position of leadership and searching for creative ways to get your youth into the Word of God, I can think of no greater tool than Bible Quizzing. If you are a youth and want to try quizzing, please, give us a call, and we'll get you involved. My Dad, Rick Powers, is the Quiz Director for the NorCal district. Either he or I would love to talk to you about joining the program. Please feel free to call us at our home any time. Our number is: (707) 557-1833.

(For the complete story, please view the online version of The Bridge at www.norcal.org)