

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT



Church of the Nazarene

April 2016

## A Note From Coach Bill. . .

Christ is Risen!! He is Risen Indeed!! This has become the Easter or Resurrection affirmation of the church since the early beginning of those who would be known as "Followers of Jesus" or "People of the Way" and now Christians or "Little Christ". We recite this early creedal statement of faith yet do we pause to consider its significance? What does it mean—Christ is Risen? What does it matter that Christ is Risen?

It is now approximately 2000 years since these words were spoken to those early visitors to Jesus' tomb. There still resides chaos, confusion, fear, hate and violence in our world. There is still the struggle with sin's consequences that grip our lives: whether it be unbelief, or doubt, or addictions that control and destroy us, or greed that consumes us and pride that still causes us to insist on life by our terms and no one else, not even God.

Yet the reality is Jesus, crucified to death, was buried in a sealed tomb for three days, is now Risen, Alive but more than just one back from the dead. He is the Resurrected One, a new body—living a new eternal life and He is bringing God's new order into being and it will ultimately culminate in a new and recreated world where God's will is fully done on earth as it is in heaven.

He is Risen means we can, in Him and through His Holy Spirit, begin to live not as victims of sin's consequence but now as victor's through Jesus' triumph. He is Risen means a New Day has come to all and we can even in our "not yet" world live in the joy, power and peace of the world yet to come because Christ is Risen Indeed. This world yet to come is available to all who believe in Him...because He is Risen Indeed!

*Coach Bill Carr*



Chair Randy Craker and the NNU Board of Trustees have announced the board elections of Joel K. Pearsall, J.D. as president of NNU, and Joel's acceptance. This follows Joel's interim service as president since June 2015. Joel's deep commitment to NNU and the Church of the Nazarene, along with his knowledge and skill set, gives us confidence in his leadership as NNU continuous to strive toward the fulfillment of our mission: to seek to transform the lives of students, and to enable each student to become God's creative and redemptive agent in the world.

(taken from letter from Chair Randy Craker to alumni and friends)

**Dr. Joel Pearsall accepts four-year appointment as president of NNU**

## Gillette Nazarene

We are very proud of the new door...it and the window beside it improve the appearance both outside and in. Several have commented on how they make the foyer look more open and even larger.



The parking lot repair was completed in November 2015, and has also helped with the drainage on the sidewalk...we don't have the huge puddle that was dangerous when frozen, anymore.

Three guys from the VOA half-way house helped with the preliminary and finishing work on the door and also some other tasks around the church as part of their community service. One of them had been an occasional attender before he was arrested and spent some time in prison. He has been in church every Sunday since he got to the half-way house and helped organize the help. Because of their help we were able to get the door professionally installed for a much lower price.

*Rev. Judith England, pastor*

## Rocky Mountain District Easter Highlights

**New Hope (Billings):** *Following our annual Tenebrae on Good Friday, we enjoyed a beautiful and clear Sunrise Service with the Laurel Church of the Nazarene and Heights Baptist church. We are delighted to report that we had 101 in our worship service. After the service, our kids enjoyed an Easter Egg hunt that included 37 dozen eggs.*

**Kalispell First:** *We had a very successful Community Easter Egg Hunt on March 26 and an Easter brunch on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Our Easter Morning Worship attendance was 193 that included a baptismal service where 3 people were baptized.*

**Sidney First:** *We saw three people receive Christ as their Savior for the first time yesterday!*

**Harvest Community:** *We had a great service here at HCC in Powell for Easter. I'd like to highlight some of our evangelistic efforts paying off with 3 new families attending service on Easter allowing our highest attendance thus far of 44 people. Their excitement for the service was encouraging. But even better than the attendance we had 2 lives recommit themselves to the power of Easter in them.*

**Pablo:** *We had an amazing Resurrection Weekend in Pablo. It began a week early, on March 16, with our Children's Easter program. 88 people were in attendance and a few people pledged to live a life to follow Jesus. On Maundy Thursday we had a foot washing/hand washing service. We had a SonRise service on Resurrection Sunday and in our regular worship service we celebrated communion and a 5 year old boy was baptized.*

**Gillette:** *Thursday evening's Sedar meal was enjoyed and appreciated by all. Several had not attended before and were interested in the background of the Passover and the Last Supper. We had a good turnout for our Easter brunch with several visitors and some who hadn't been to church for awhile. The Easter worship service was well attended with some bringing out-of-town family as well as guests. Jesus is risen and we are so very glad.*

**Casper First:** *Casper First had an impromptu Good Friday Worship and Testimony service, it was attended by 2/3 of the church and was an amazingly emotional time. We kicked off our Saturday night service with 25 in attendance. Easter Sunday we had 170 people in attendance, 15 people responded to our alter call and dedicated or rededicated their lives to the Lord. We also had 2 children give their lives to the Lord over the course of the weekend.*

## District Assembly 2016

(Friday, June 24 — Sunday, June 26 )  
Dr. JK and Patty Warrick, General Superintendent in Jurisdiction

Thursday, June 23, 5:30pm  
Ministry Team Appreciation Dinner  
(reservations only)

Friday, June 24, 7:00pm  
Celebration Worship  
Coach Bill's report/challenge

Saturday, June 25  
Business Session, 8:30am:  
Songs of Praise, The Fort Ministry  
Devotional, Dr. JK Warrick  
Pastor Reports  
Report, NNU President Joel Pearsall

Workshop, 2:00-4:00pm  
Dr. Alan Hirsch

Ordination Service, 7:00pm  
Reception following in recognition of  
Retired Elder and Ordinands

Sunday, June 26, 10:00am  
Communion Service  
Songs of Praise, New Hope  
Speaker, Dr. JK Warrick

(Service Live-Streamed)

**Opportunities**  
during District Assembly for  
Nursery (DeeDee Crider),  
Children (Andrea Bender) and  
Youth Activities (Mike Holien)

NMI and SDMI Conventions  
Friday, June 24, 9:00am—4:00pm  
Billings Hotel and Convention

## April Connections

April 1-3: REJOICE

April 1: Board of Ministry Interviews

April 2: District Finance Committee, 8:30am

April 5: New Day Cohort Team #1 & #2

April 7: Prayer, Rev. John Powell hip replacement

April 8: New Day Cohort Team #3

April 10: Bay and Peg Forrest speaking @ Cody Nazarene

April 11-12: Washington Pacific District Assembly

April 29-30: DAB End of Year Meeting @ The Carr's in Billings

April 13-16: Northwest District Assembly

April 15-16: Lavender Spa Retreat, New Hope Nazarene

April 15-17: The Gathering @ NNU, Info: Luke Finch

April 15-16: Course of Study Class, Exploring John Wesley's  
Theology, Great Falls Nazarene

April 18-22: Tour with Dr. Lyle Pointer

April 22: Earth Day

April 28-29: Intermountain District Assembly