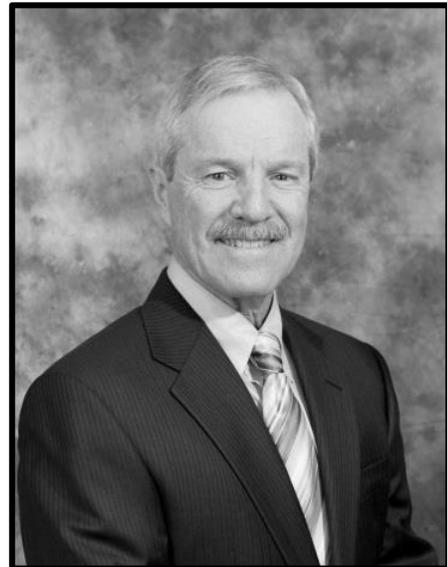


**Rocky Mountain District
91st Annual Assembly
June 22-24, 2018**

“It Is Time”



**Dr. Gustavo Crocker
General Superintendent**



**Coach Bill Carr
District Superintendent**

Pastor Reports

Rocky Mountain District Lead Pastors

Big Sky Ranch Ministry	John Spencer
Basin	Floyd Oliver
New Hope, Billings	JD Shanahan
Bitterroot Valley, Victor	John Capen
River Rock, Belgrade	Aaron Middleton
Casper First	Derek Elkins (June 10, 2018)
The Fort Ministry Casper (New Start)	Jim Shade
Cody First	Larry Dahlberg
Evanston	Timothy McDowell
Gillette	Judith England
Great Falls First	Jeff Lauver
Green River First	Rich Clark
Hi-Line, Havre (New Start)	Chad McKenzie
New Beginnings Fellowship, Havre	John Powell
Helena	Dan Thompson
Kalispell First	Ed Koteskey
Lander	Phillip Ferguson
Laramie, Connections	Tim Snowbarger
Laramie, Cop Church	Ed Davis
Laurel	CJ Williamson
Harvest Fellowship, Lewistown	Jason O'Neal
Libby	Pat Weyrauch
Valley Shepherd, Livingston	Christie American Horse
Missoula	Josh Allen
Pablo	Matthew Connally
Poplar	TBD
Harvest Community, Powell	Matthew Tygart
Riverton First	James Davis

Sheridan, Summit Nazarene	Alex Williams
Sidney First	Richard Evans
SonRise, Cheyenne	Joe Arnold
Sunnyside, Kinnear	Doug Hanner (June 3, 2018)
Torrington, Family Church	Kyle Borger
Wheatland	Larry Benjamin
Whitefish	Jason Johnston
Wind River	Bryce Roberts

Basin Church of the Nazarene

Floyd Oliver, pastor

Dr Crocker, Rev Carr, members/friends of this 2018 assembly, I report on behalf of the Basin, Mt. Church:

Recently standing at the window of the Basin Church, (the building that GOD would not let burn), I heard my heart say to THE LORD "I don't need another Token!" But instantly, (little guy that I am), I heard "But it would be nice to have one!" - spoiled by tokens and texts of Promise by GOD for Great Revival! Oh, GOD's Tokens! The next morning HE gave the greatest birthday (82) present ever received! A wondrous beholding of HIS mighty Power and Sovereignty! It can never be told nor even revealed!

- "O the depth of the riches both of the Wisdom and Knowledge of GOD! how unsearchable are HIS Judgments, and HIS Ways past finding out!" (Romans 11:33).

I was allowed to see the Might of GOD overwhelming satan's (capitalize him?) best efforts at setting aside GOD's Work in our little village! Now lucifer's camp has been invaded by Holiness Doctrinal Truth! What a token of GOD's PRESENCE in old time AWE for a village! "When you're born in the fire you can't live in the smoke" - our district's old Rev Green used to say, reminiscent of the hearts of old folk of the 1940's mid-war church. Soon we gave the flame of AWE for the smoke of plans and programs!

For over 40 years we have had abundant Tokens and sacred Promises assuring of GOD attiring Basin with the wonderment of HIS cleansing PRESENCE! Enveloped in "Shekinah Glory" AWE!

- "... **exceeding great and precious promises:** that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature ...!" (2 Peter 1:4).
- "... THE LORD, WHOM ye seek, **shall suddenly come** to HIS Temple, even the MESSENGER of The Covenant, WHOM ye delight in: **Behold, HE shall come**, saith THE LORD OF HOSTS. But who may abide the day of HIS Coming? and who shall stand when HE Appeareth? for HE is like a refiner's fire!" (Mal 3:1-2).

Years ago, at a District Pastor's Conference I was among pastors talking of the needs to their church. One mentioning "the other side of town" brought spontaneously from my mouth to our ears "My village has no other side! Can you tell me how when one or two people walk our streets in the High Worship of CHRIST my village can resist HIM?" Response? Silence! As if the HOLY GHOST asked and answered!

I have often pondered that statement. But now as I write I recall the old man that told our little Church "As I walk your streets I see Christians in every home! And the greatest haven't come yet!" High Worship?

- "... I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you!" (Acts 13:41).

An old man walked our streets in Worship! Declared every home Christians! Time to Believe! For Righteousness was not imputed to Abraham just because he believed GOD but because he believed that GOD was able to perform what HE had promised! And that was clearly written for us also "... if ..."!

- "And being fully persuaded that, what HE had promised, HE was able also to perform. And therefore, it was imputed to him for righteousness! Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on HIM that raised up JESUS our LORD from the dead!" (Rom 4:21-24).

From HIS Tokens and confirming Texts we surely must expect GOD to Work in old fashioned Outpouring! As a boy, 5 and 6, I was captured by the AWE in old grandmas and grandpas of the old church! Week after week, playing "cars" in the Las Vegas sand, that childhood AWE brought down GOD'S conscious PRESENCE! A desert ditch oft became a temple of Divine Fellowship! (1 Jn 1:3). GOD with a li'l boy!

- "... MY FATHER worketh hitherto, and I work!" (John 5:17).

"MY FATHER ... and I Work!" Expect great a Work but in patience - one day as a thousand years!

- "... the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing!" (James 1:3,4).

My clear ministerial call: "I have not called you that many shall bow at your altars. But that you take away one more excuse!" My clear Basin call: "... be thou there until I bring thee word!" My soul mandate: faithfully portray and call to "... the broken and contrite spirit ..." of those old ministers of my childhood!

The ultimate "take away excuse" must be the RESPONSE of GOD, HIMSELF! GOD gave a joyfully great revival to my own soul bringing me into the ministry - day and night in the AWE of HIS PRESENCE for over two years! HE gave a fearfully great revival of the AWE of HIS PRESENCE in both of my previous pastorates! When will HE move on Basin? The account will unfold at GoYeOutToMeetHIM.com! "THY Kingdom come THY Will be done ... as it is in Heaven! AMEN!"

Respectfully F H Oliver, pastor

Big Sky Ranch Ministry

(June 2017 - April 2018)

John Spencer, pastor

Greetings in the name of Jesus:

Had I been asked a year ago to foresee and describe what Big Sky Ranch Ministry would look like today, my description would not have accurately portrayed what has actually come to be known as Big Sky Ranch Ministry.

I will attempt to explain. The goal of BSRM at the onset was to take the Good News of Jesus onto the ranches in this district. The ranch setting was to be where the Gospel was proclaimed. The BSRM would set up an ongoing time for this circuit-type ministry to as many ranches that time would allow. As of the date of this report, BSRM has made over 21 personal contacts of ranches in the District and as of the date of this report, BSRM has set up zero (0) on-ranch-site "Gatherin's."

Instead, God has expanded the goal of BSRM which has opened many other doors for us. And while the original goal of setting up on-ranch-site Gatherin's continues in earnest, God is blessing in many other Western Heritage Culture venues.

BSRM has set up the following preaching/teaching sites:

- *A monthly Cowboy Gatherin' at the Jersey Lilly Bar and Restaurant in Ingomar, Montana.
- *A monthly Sunday morning Gatherin' Service from November thru April for the Central Wyoming Cutting Club in Thermopolis, Wyoming.
- *Sunday morning Cowboy Church Gatherin' at the High School Rodeos in Vaughn, Great Falls, Three Forks, Ennis, Deer Lodge and Darby, Montana.
- *Preach and sing at the Billings, Montana Three Day Horse Sale.
- *Preach and sing at a Cowboy Church in Billings.
- *Invocation at the Crow Agency, Montana Indian Rodeo Fair.
- *Pray for the cowboys as we worked cattle on the Poison Spider Ranch in Wyoming during the fall gather.

It is difficult in an arena setting to "count noses" however; we have had the opportunity to personally minister to approximately 388 souls in 14 settings for an average of 28 people per setting. BSRM has taken in \$600 in offerings.

We have also been privileged to speak and sing at many of our Nazarene Churches on the District.

Respectfully submitted,
Preacher John Spencer--BSRM

New Hope, Billings

JD Shanahan, pastor



Dr. Crocker, Coach Carr, members and friends of the Rocky Mountain District,

My hope is in the Lord!

Having experienced all of the ups and downs of the past year, I can say without question that I cling to the hope that is ours through Jesus. We have learned new ways to depend upon the strength that comes from God's limitless well of grace and mercy and have journeyed through the valley of the shadow of death only to echo the Psalmist as we declare that He has been our comfort!

Our church family has grown as we have experienced the birth of a couple of incredible little ones and we have welcomed several families that felt compelled to leave another denomination after their leadership chose to endorse sinful activities even in contradiction to their own book of discipline. We have mourned with these folks as they have been hurt and betrayed by leaders who chose to "turn the grace of God into lewdness" (Jude 4), and we have rejoiced with them as the Holy Spirit has worked to heal their wounds and allow them to become a fruitful and encouraging addition to our family.

We are excited about the possibilities that are unfolding on the horizon. We are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to remodel our fellowship space in the church basement, we are seeking God's leading for a renewal of our children's ministry efforts, and we are experimenting with new ideas and formats for making our ministry efforts more effective.

One thing that we spent about half of the year doing is a completely new direction of our Wednesday evening Bible study. We collected verses, thoughts, topics, and questions and tried to find answers or explanations simply by turning to God's Word. Part of our goal was to help equip the church to really dig into and study the Bible

Jackie, Jared, and I would like to extend our thanks for all of your support as Jeremy battled leukemia over the last six years. Your prayers and notes of encouragement, as well as the more tangible demonstrations of your love for us will never be forgotten.

May God walk with each of us in the coming year and may we each be willing to obediently respond to His call to work through us and bring hope and light to the dark world in which we live.

Your fellow servant,
Pastor JD

Bitterroot Valley Church of the Nazarene
John Capen, pastor

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, Rejoice!"

We started the church year with a lot of uncertainty. We had lost our vision for the church. We were uncertain about staffing, uncertain about programming, and even uncertain about our location.

Through the direction of our District Superintendent and the realization of the need for a re-focus we began the hard work of self-evaluation. We started the process of developing a strategic plan under the direction of Bill Carr and have developed a new vision using the Great Commandment and Great Commission as our focus. "We are to love and lead people to a life changing connection to Christ." Further development will take place using the book, "When Your Church Feels Stuck."

We've seen changes: some **difficult**; it was hard to move our youth pastor on. It was difficult to see a board member take a different spiritual direction, it was difficult to hear that some of our folks had stopped attending for various reasons. Then, to our surprise, Sondra Etter (Wife of retired elder Emmanuel Etter) went home to be with the Lord. Her contribution to the people of this church community and this pastor will always be remembered. She was a very gifted, compassionate, and gracious, and quiet leader in our congregation. She won't soon be forgotten.

There were also **experimental** changes in the way we do things. Changing our "Sunday School" into Life Groups and changing the times, cancelling some activities and starting others, holding life-groups on Wednesday evenings with dinner and even running a "bus" to pick up children... was a major change in how we do business.

But there have been so many **exciting** things. What has been dubbed "Freaky Friday" and headed up by Barb O'Bannon has impacted the lives of kids, not only from our church but from the Victor Community as a whole. It has also been an important ministry to some of the parents and relatives of these kids as they've watched as our church has ministered to their children. What has been happening in that ministry is very exciting.

We've also observed continued growth in the ministry of the food pantry, supervised by Bill and Roxanne Gouin. Needs are met and Grace is shared as the pantry group works with community members when they are in need. Watching kindergarteners from Victor School pull gobs of turkeys from Victor School to the pantry with their little red wagons is quite a sight. One can only imagine the full impact this ministry has on these children and on the people they provide for.

Having John and Monica Spencer step up and accept God's call for them to Youth Ministry and to reconnect with the Featherstone's and work with Bill in getting this ordained minister back into service in this church are exciting works of God. We're looking forward to what the Lord has in store for all of these pastors. Then... to have 9 people commit themselves to the church through membership (plus 2 transfers from inactive to active) that's exciting.

We're looking forward to more great things in the coming year.

John E. Capen, Pastor
Bitterroot Valley Church

River Rock Church of the Nazarene

Aaron Middleton, pastor

As I look over the year of River Rock Church of the Nazarene, I can't help but recognize all that God has done. We started the year off with opening up our doors to the community. We started by doing church a little different. This was the second year that we have done this. We want to be known as the church that "loves people we do not know, so that they may come to know He who is love". In order for us to do that, we needed to find people that we do not know, so we decided that we would do our second summer of "Serve Sunday."

We continued to keep the community, and by community I mean the lost, as our focus. We were very purposeful in what we did. Whether it was VBS, Back to School Bash, our annual Easter Egg Hunt, all church Breakfast by the pond, or handing out water bottles at the community events. We want Jesus to be seen in us, in order to "Love those we do not know, so that they may come to know HE who is Love!"

Within our housing community are some condominiums across the pond from our church. Due to all of our events we have become known within these homes. One Sunday last fall a man by the name of Kent Matlock showed up with his two kids to church. It was very evident by his actions and by his words that he was uncomfortable to even step foot inside a church. But he assured us that because of his past he needed to be there. He quietly sat down and tried to stay to himself, but that was not allowed with all of our people. Kent was quickly swooped up and loved. He began to ask a lot of questions and before we knew it, Kent was asking Christ into his life. AMEN! Then two weeks later he was baptized on December 31, 2017. He told me, "I have a new life and I want to start this next year off right." To watch God continue to work in his life is an amazing thing. Why? Because God is amazing! God continues to do a work in people through River Rock Church of the Nazarene.

We are now continuing to look to the future. As we go, we go with one thing in mind, Jesus is telling us to "cast our nets on the other side". We will not give up. We will keep on pushing, and as Jesus said in Matthew 28:19, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. So, I will ask the question of you today, will you join us? Are you in?"

The Fort Ministry, Casper, Wyoming
Jim Shade, pastor

2017 - 2018 was another fun filled and exciting year here in Casper, WY. God never stops amazing us at The Fort Ministry with His overwhelming grace and favor towards us. There are a few major highlights we would like to share with you to demonstrate Gods kindness towards The Fort. We celebrated our 2nd year anniversary and were privileged to have Pastor John Spear and Coach Bill Carr share a good word of inspiration and hope for The Fort Ministry's future. This last year we had our first membership drive and throughout the year we received 65 new members to our church. We are overwhelmed with how many people have chosen to be a part of what God is doing at The Fort. We are so honored to serve and welcome them to The Fort family. In the fall of 2017 God opened up a door to

go from renting a theater room, which was only available to us on a Sunday morning, to a strip mall location we can use 24/7. Since our move our weekly average attendance has increased to 122. With this increase, a 3rd staff person joined our team. Thomas Fuhrer is now our Spiritual Formations Director. He is a great asset to the health and wellbeing of our church. We have begun many new adventures to serve those who do not yet know Jesus. The Fort Ministry has so much to be thankful for. God continues to meet us in an intimate and life changing way during our Sunday morning prayer and worship time before service.

We endeavor to creatively fulfill the vision he has given us.

If we... **Abide** - in Him

we will... **Acquire** - from Him

so we can... **Advance** - with Him

We hope and pray that God will be glorified and praised in all we do.

James Shade

Cody First Church of the Nazarene

Larry Dahlberg, pastor

I have some difficulty writing this year's report. As I review the year I find myself with mixed emotions. I recognize the ministries God is truly working in and yet I look at the Church and feel somewhat discouraged with the lack of numerical growth we hope for. Our Small Groups continue to be strong in fellowship and discipleship with 8 different groups meeting this year. Attendance is always steady but with little to no growth.

Other ministries we have begun this year include:

- We now have a Home school community group with average of 27 students plus parents that meets once a week for group projects.
- We have an after-school program meeting one day a week called 'WYLDE LIFE" for Middle school students that averages 20.

- Also, a Holistic Health Clinic that is opened Bi-Monthly for 3 days with an average of 20 patients per day.

Our Teens started Bible Quizzing this year coached by Sharon Bradburn, who thought she was going to set back and kind of retire from Church work but God put His thumb in her back and she faithful answered is leading. We joined forces with POWELL Harvest Community and went on to represent the District in the Regionals at NNU.

Our special events grew to busting proportions. Our Fall Family Festival saw over 300 adults and children come through the church doors with the promise of more this fall, we tried to tone down our 4th of July but learned the community has come to expect us to celebrate that night. With again over 300 on the church lawn we recognize it will become a yearly ministry.

We received new members and sadly let some move away. We had no baptisms this year but anticipate making up for that this year. Our visitors remain a highlight for us throughout the summer. On one particular Sunday we had a family from Tennessee, Washington, Maine, Arizona and 25 Teens from Norway!

2 years ago, I began to use Archery as a ministry tool and the Lord has opened the door for me to minister in a number of ways both in the Community and across the nation as Lori and I have traveled to compete.

So, while the church congregation hasn't seen much growth the ministry of the Church is reaching out and we are looking forward to what the Lord will do this year.

Larry Dahlberg, pastor
Cody, Wyoming

Evanston Church of the Nazarene
Dr. Timothy L. McDowell, pastor

As in the words of John Wesley, we are "moving on to perfection" in the life of the congregation. There seems to be a common thread that is woven into the hearts of the church family and that is to exemplify what it means to be kingdom children. They have a sincere desire to reach out, not only in our communities, but also to the vast numbers of hurting, searching people around the globe.

Our morning worship appears to have become stagnant and have not received any new members to our church family in 2018.

We continue ministry called "**Quilts of Faith**." Quilts of Faith is an interfaith outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-sewn quilt. The purpose of Quilts of Faith is not to make and distribute quilts, but to promote prayer through the use of quilts. Our motto is: "**It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers.**" I have

attempted since January 2017 to have weekly **Children's Church** without adults willing to volunteer. Our **mid-week Bible study** continues strong without growth in numbers.

As we continue to work through the struggles and problems that come with the "changing of the guard" we can as people called of and by God remember the passage from Jeremiah. "**For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future**", **Jeremiah 29:11**. We know that our lives are ordered by God in whom we place our hope and faith. With the knowledge that we are where God has called us to be during this portion of our **faith journey**. I praise God for the faithfulness of our church family.

I continue to be convinced that God has given us abundant gifts of talent, creativity, faith and passion for the Gospel. In the contemporary words of the Message, we find this rendering of **Proverbs 3:5-6**, "**Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice, in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.**"

My prayer continues to be for **Evanston Church of the Nazarene** in **2018** is to be a "**Beyond Church**"

To go Beyond Tradition

...Beyond "**the way we've always done it**"

...Beyond our **comfort zone**

...Beyond our greatest **expectation**

...Beyond our **strength**

...Beyond our **capabilities**

...Beyond **social boundaries**

...Beyond the **four walls** of this church building

I want this church to embrace the words of **Jeremiah 29:11**, "**For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**" If we strive to be a "**Beyond church**" then we can make a difference in this community. I will close with a quote from my favorite author & minister, Phillips Brooks "**Do not pray for easy lives...pray to be stronger men & women. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers...pray for power equal to your task. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle...but you shall be a miracle.**"

Shalom, Timothy L. McDowell

Gillette Church of the Nazarene

Judith England, pastor

It continues to be good to serve the Lord and the people in Gillette.

We've continued our 'traditions': Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve communion. Church in the Park, Summer Holiday Barbeques. The Seder Meal. Easter Brunch. I think there is value and meaning to these times we share together.

The teens have been bringing other teens to our Wednesday night Bible Study and SupperTime which continues to be a good time together. We had teens involved in quizzing, and several kids do some children's quizzing.

I continue to show our love to our community through: chaplaincy, hymn sing and devotional time at The Legacy, Health Emergency Action Response Team at the hospital, Ministerial Association meetings and ecumenical services, etc.

God is continuing to work in and through all of us for spiritual maturity, learning, living, loving, healing, and finding the joy of the Lord that prevails no matter what is going on

around us. God is good and continues to have plans for this particular family of Christians. Thank You, Lord.

Three particular areas we continue to hold up in prayer:

1. Loving God - our worship, our spiritual growth, our prayer life; and to be in His Word.
2. Loving our church family - ministering to each other - providing spiritual training and growth activities for all ages, particularly our younger ones, quality fellowship, taking care of our facilities
3. Loving those who don't know God yet - where is God working that He is particularly asking us to join Him?

I feel the following verses describe how we are learning to live and grow in Christ:

1 John 3:18-24 (MSG)

¹⁸ My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love...

²³ Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. ²⁴ As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Judith England, pastor, Gillette 1st Church of the Nazarene

Great Falls First Church of the Nazarene

Jeff Lauver, pastor

"If". It's such a powerful word. Ten or so years ago we were faced with the question of "if our church disappeared would our community notice?" This was a challenging question and caused us to take a renewed look at how we as a church were impacting our community. As I look at that question today I am still challenged by it, but also proud to say that at least more of our community would notice.

In this last year, we reached into our community in several ways. Our Facility is being used free of charge on a weekly basis by at least five different groups. This is a huge impact to individuals and organizations who can't find adequate space or don't have funding in their budgets to pay for rentals. Just a few weeks ago Quality Life Concepts held their "prom" here. This is what they told me, "Even though our clients were begging for us to do it, due to budget cuts we did not have the funding to do it this year. Then we thought, well let's call the Nazarene Church and see if we can make it work." This is the influence we have asked God to give us. We want to be a place that our community looks for help. The simple act of allowing our building to be used has greatly expanded our influence. Our missions team organized the giving of teaching supplies to the teachers at Valley View Elementary. We provided everything from basics, to printer cartridges, to head lamps. In the end we

gave them everything on their "Christmas wish lists", as well as a glimpse of Jesus' love and support of their efforts.

Once again, our basketball camp reach well over 100 kids, and our block party was a "loud" success when we were blessed to have the band Set for the Fall perform. Many neighbors came to see and participate in what we were doing. One guy said he heard it over his lawn mower and just had to come see. 😊 Our sponsorship of a baseball game was fun for the whole family. This year we sponsored a Hockey game, and honestly, I was surprised and excited to see how many of our church family participated, what a fun night! I'm already looking forward to next year. (As well as another shot at shooting the puck through that little hole.)

In the fall, I was very proud of our participation in the Study "Messy Grace". It was a polarizing topic but I believe we discovered that we can have tough conversations and grow from them. As a church body I know we were challenged by how we should respond to those different than us. As individuals I believe some real growth happened by just listening and discussing with each other. Also, October 14 we partnered with A21 in their freedom walk to raise awareness of human trafficking around the world. I don't know that I've ever been prouder than when we made up over 50% of those walking. We followed that with a Freedom Sunday. A Sunday dedicated to how the church should respond to this issue in our own community as well as around the world. This communicated to the community that areas of justice are important to the Church of the Nazarene.

This past year we had the privilege of baptizing seven people and receiving twelve people into membership. Our Children's and Youth ministries have grown, as well as our over-all discipleship ministry numbers. As a community we are seeing lives transformed.

God has done and is doing amazing things here. It makes me wonder, if he wanted or wants to do more? Our quick answer is "of course he did and does". If is a powerful word. If he did, why didn't he? If he does, why won't he? 2 Chronicles 7:14 says,"¹⁴ if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Notice that it's, "if my people", that's us right? What I see here is "If" can mean everything or it can mean nothing, as far as what God does. "If", is a powerful word. As we move into the next year, let us assume he wants to do more and will do more, and IF we position ourselves as he has told us to, imagine the kingdom impact we might have. May our efforts always come from this humble position as we continue to "Bridge the Gap between people and God through Christ like service and love." I guess the question to ask now is, "If our Church sticks around, will our community notice?"

Green River 1st Church of the Nazarene
Richard Clark, pastor

What a year we've had in Green River! There have been challenges that we thought we would not get through. We closed the building in the winter months and met in the living room of the parsonage. Our gathering was described as cozy by visitors. The Spirit has been with us! He is making a difference in the lives and hearts of the people in Green River and Rock Springs! He is proving to us that He is not done here yet.

We are excited to see what the future holds for the people of Green River! We are currently building a leadership team from people completely new to our church. There is a great need for ministry to children and teens in our area. We also hope to reach those who are disenchanted with religion or church in general and welcome them into the Kingdom.

We are finding that despite the availability of good paying jobs in the mines and oil fields there are those who still lack for basic needs such as food or adequate housing. We are considering which avenues we can use to reach those groups of people. One of the ways that we can achieve that is through community barbeques. With summer approaching we should have no problem with attracting people from the community for a free meal. Please pray with us as we seek to reach our community for Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverend Rich Clark

Hi-Line Church of the Nazarene
Hi-Line Network Report, Chad McKenzie, Pastor

We started off the year meeting a young family that would teach us a lot over the course of the year. They had just moved to Havre. The mother is ex-Hutterite. The Father avoids reportable income because of child support issues. The daughter always greets you with a hug. I drove a long way to help remove their personal belongings from a house where the relationship with their former landlord was tense. Neither has a driver's license and it took most of the year to get documents so the father could get a state I.D. I'm not sure he has yet taken the time to get it. We have helped with resumes, applications, rides to interviews, studied driving laws, connections to community resources for food, power, housing etc. We have talked late at night through anxiety and fears. We have been to doctor's appointments. Most Sunday's and Wednesday's the mother and child would be with us for worship or Bible quizzing and dinner. Not all is resolved nor is all lost.

Over the course of last summer, I would meet with a man who used to guide for big game in the mountains and also is a graphite pencil artist. We had met at the farmer's market the previous year while I was hunting for dill. He desired to be baptized. He had allowed the actions of others to turn him away from church gatherings but still held faith. After studying weekly for several months, we set a date and baptized him in the spillway of Fresno Dam September 8th. It was chilly but not yet frozen. A few weeks later he helped me show the previously mentioned family how to butcher and package a donated Muley buck. This spring he is initiating a ministry with his wife to mentor people in gardening and processing food so that people may have food security.

Through the fires and Nazarene Compassionate ministries, we finally met the Graff family. We had heard through homeschool connections that there was a family who used to do Nazarene bible quizzing. A rancher from the Elko, Nevada COTN wanted to help with the fire relief effort by sending hay. John Graff had been an executive pastor in Grandview, Washington and still has ties to the agricultural ministries of NCM. John and the district were contacted to help facilitate the rancher's donation. Once made aware of each other's

presence we made efforts to meet. In February John agreed to use his skills as the Hi-Line ministry coordinator. We have been meeting weekly since to develop and implement a plan to minister to the entire Hi-Line.

Ministry plans led John and I to seek a meeting with the local Salvation Army Director. While meeting with her a man came in who is in one of the rehabilitation programs connected to the Drug Court. At this point he was a self-described atheist. After working with the director and others for months he came in that day facing surgery the next day. The spirit used this opportunity and gave us the word to lead him to Christ during the appointment. I now sit in a group meeting with him and others every week.

Not many weeks later I was visiting a church that my evangelist neighbor attends. After service we were visiting on the street when a young woman of 18 asked if the church would meet that night. It would not but we invited her to our home fellowship now held in the evenings. We picked her up and my neighbor came that night and shared his personal testimony. She accepted Christ at our dining room table. She was in a domestic violence shelter at the time. We have continued to mentor her spiritually and in life skills. She has recently had the opportunity to join the teen challenge program. She currently is rejecting that opportunity. Her entire life she has had little stability. The thought of staying in one place for a year is difficult for her to consent to. We will continue to offer support to her as she navigates life where having a voice in where or who she stays with is now her choice. Obviously not all can be summed up in a year of ministry. Why we haven't even spoke about going to *General Assembly* to have 3 young men compete in the World Quiz.

Rev. Chad D. McKenzie

Havre, New Beginnings Fellowship

John Powell, pastor

Dr. Gustavo Crocker, Coach Bill, friends and members of this 91st District Assembly of the Rocky Mountain District,

It is with pleasure that I bring this report. I enjoy having the privilege of pastoring New Beginnings Fellowship. I love and appreciate all the people. They are an important part of the life of the church. Also, the core group who are the backbone with prayer and support. And it is all because of our Lord, Jesus Christ who is the sustainer of all that goes on with His guidance.

This past year we have seen spiritual growth in the lives of our people and we know God is doing great things. We have also seen some growth numerically. There have been several people who have recommitted their lives to the Lord and are attending faithfully. We know God's hand is in all of this because this is His church. We want to be a lighthouse of salvation in this community with God's help.

One of our delights is in watching our granddaughters grow spiritually. They are also faithful in attending Sunday worship and helping us get things ready for church. One is on our worship team and the other runs the sound system! They are certainly the church of today and beyond.

We have had some health issues for the last three and a half years, as most of you know, however, Paula is feeling much better than she did a year ago. There are still those rough days, but overall there are more good days than bad. Paula believes that it is because last year at district assembly people gathered around her and prayed that God would intervene, and He did! Praise the Lord! And I'm doing well after my hip replacement a couple years ago.

My wife, Paula, is always beside me and is faithful as we serve the Lord together. I love and appreciate her and all she does.

I have preached both salvation and holiness sermons. I know God is at work in the lives of our people and we are looking forward to what God is going to do in the new church year. He saves and sanctifies me, and I could do nothing if it were not for the Lord. I praise His dear Name!

We believe that God has us here for a purpose and we intend to continue to serve the Lord to the best of our ability with His help and strength.

Respectfully submitted,
John Powell

Kalispell Church of the Nazarene
Ed Koteskey, pastor

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT:

I am honored to bring my fourteenth report to you from the Kalispell Church of the Nazarene. It is a privilege to serve God in such a great church on the Rocky Mountain District.

During our summer we had a weekly Wednesday night program for our children and teens, and enjoyed a great VBS in July and later our kids went to Boys and Girls Camp and teens to Super Camp. At the end of the summer we had another great Family Camp with Pastor Matthew Connally from Pablo as the speaker. He and his family were well received and loved by our people.

Our Community Fall Festival (in lieu of Halloween) was well attended with around 200 who came through our doors, and throughout the school year we had Caravan for our kids every Wednesday night.

Our church is very active and generous in foreign missions and compassionate ministries, and throughout the year our church ministers locally to the needy by participating in a community program to feed the hungry.

I thank Pastor Mike our Worship Pastor for the great job he does leading our worship. We are blessed to have him and his team minister to us so faithfully each Sunday.

I'm thankful for Andy Maendl our Youth Pastor who does a great job of ministering to our teens through the year. He took 12 kids to Rejoice. Our church raised over \$2,625.00 (the highest ever) at a dessert auction to help the kids attend this event. We are very blessed to have Pastor Andy be such a valuable member of our staff.

In February we had another successful Sportsman Banquet that raised over \$2,000.00 to help send our kids to church camp this summer.

In April we had our Easter Party for the kids in the community and had 168 for worship on Easter Sunday. Our combined Russian Service/Dinner had 246 in attendance.

In the spring we had a new canopy built in front of the church to keep our structure sound and strong and more efficient.

God has blessed our church with generous and hardworking laymen who volunteer their time, talent, and treasures to keep the church at its best. I am very thankful for my loyal staff and Secretary Sue Thompson. I would also like to thank my wonderful wife Debbie for her love and support. I wouldn't be able to make it without her.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Koteskey

Lander First Church of the Nazarene
Phil Ferguson, pastor

Dr. Crocker, Dr. Carr, and the Rocky Mountain District Church of the Nazarene;

We give thanks for what God has done in our church and our individual lives. We have had a strong year as the Lord has ministered to us in the power of His word and His holiness. I am hearing reports that our fellowship is witnessing and ministering to the needs of those in our community.

There are several ways that God has brought people across our path that we are ministering to as they are becoming a part of our fellowship. We are ministering to several; and currently there are three couples that are coming regularly to our services and growing in the Lord.

We have also had a year of sickness and accidents that has changed our focus as we ministry to our church and community.

Our church moral is strong and our people are growing with a new hunger to follow Jesus more closely.

I am having a growth spirt myself. All is well, and Jesus is to be praised.

In the service of the King,

Phillip E. Ferguson, Pastor

Connections Church of the Nazarene, Laramie

Tim Snowbarger, pastor

Dear Dr. Crocker, Coach Bill and Delegates of this Assembly:

I am eager to present my first report as the new re-start pastor of Connections Church here in the amazing community of Laramie, WY. My transition from Denver has been very fulfilling and exciting in this new adventure of ministry! Since arriving in January, I have discovered the area to be rich in heritage and pride as well as hungry for compassion and the grace of Jesus Christ. It is an honor to strive in new ways to meet the needs of this community. Our small Sunday gathering of 5-6 people are very faithful and curious as to what the future holds and they have received me with open arms and support. In these first few months of new leadership we have been focusing on the life and purpose of the church through sharing as much life together as our schedules and health allow. We are now at the point to truly begin seeking God's direction and heart for the city as a plan for "re-starting" the church within the greater public eye is taking shape. This is happening at a unique and rapid pace as we pursue somewhat of a non-traditional way of spreading the Gospel and sharing the vision for what will be Laramie Connections Church in 2019. With so many existing churches and campus ministries already in Laramie, the Lord has revealed a community service strategy for meeting people and serving the needs of families and various organizations.

In late February, we launched LASSO Events. This outreach is simply an attempt to promote and facilitate community service projects throughout the city and county. We have focused on getting to know the needs of various service organizations and the families they serve and partner them with the groups, individuals and organizations who have the hours of service to give back. Honestly, it is no "rocket-science", yet it is very contagious and we are seeing needs met and lives enhanced as more people, students and adults, get involved in community service. We are able to witness the interaction of groups of people that would normally not do so; as well as seeing organizations getting their missions and purposes exposed to audiences they may not usually meet. LASSO Events is becoming more and more recognized and word of mouth carries a great deal in Laramie. I believe our credibility is growing and as opportunities are presented (at nearly every turn) we are able to infuse spiritual conversations and tell the future of our church.

We have been on the receiving end of a great mission and calling and the creativity of God's

Spirit is permeating all that we do! We are eager for the organic relationships to continue to grow as we pursue service to others as the core DNA of who we are and how we share the love of Christ!

With Great Anticipation,
Rev. Tim Snowbarger

Cop Church, Laramie Wyoming

Ed Davis, Chaplin

Greetings Dr. Crocker, Superintendent Carr, Delegates, and Friends of the Rocky Mountain District:

Where does one begin? What a whirlwind year. We continue to speak the Gospel into the lives of the peace officers, their families and generally continue to build relationships with them. It is truly rewarding and an honor to do God's will in this endeavor.

We continue to hold several events in the community for our officers and Laramie in general. Cop Church is growing and is truly a blessing to see lives change and to hear the Laramie community take an almost "love" for our officers versus what is shown in the media. The officers have all told how in the past how they've been treated and tell me it is a blessing to see how they can be accepted, and love that someone outside their families love and care for them. It makes me tear up and tickles my heart to be a part of this. The biggest change is where the departments and churches are allowing the resource officer to come into their churches to help them respond to securing the buildings from possible domestic terrorists and getting to know who the "players" are when it comes to this kind of security. No one likes this on the whole, however, we all understand the responsibility to each other. This shows Laramie city that "Yes, we can work in unity with love and respect." God is working and moving. Amen!

On another note, Lois and I have been a part of bringing into Laramie, an organization that helps homeless families get back on their feet after hardships hit them. It is called "Family Promise" and it has graduated its first family from this program and is helping another. Lois and I give of our time and talents as God leads. This ministry is truly a miracle as several churches have set aside their own agendas and are working in harmony and unity. Praise God!!

Respectfully,
Rev. (Chaplain) Ed Davis

Laurel Church of the Nazarene
CJ Williamson, pastor

Greetings,

Life in Laurel over the past several weeks has been great! Our transition from California to Montana was amazing. We have settled in nicely to our new home and are enjoying the budding of a great time of ministry.

We have hit the ground running. In the short time here we have begun to lay the foundation for life and growth as the Lord has challenged us to "Love on Purpose." As we have met and prayed together at various levels and times and ministries we have each time come away with the expectation that something great is about to happen.

Plans are in the mix for several outreaches into our community the biggest being taking our BBQ from the backyard to the front. Our neighborhood, our street, our workplace is our mission field and we are determined to make inroads into them as such. The Spirit, in challenging us to "Do on Purpose" has laid out for us, "Life on Purpose, Live on Purpose, Love on Purpose, Serve on Purpose." He has prompted us to examine our lives and asks the question, "are we living a 'Grace Filled Life?'"

A life flowing from grace; Where, faith guides every decision, hope empowers every action and love floods every thought. We are seeking to be that light within our community to those who may not feel the desire to enter a church but will enter our homes. We will greet them on the front porch, invite them into our living rooms and win them where true fellowship happens, our kitchens.

We are excited.

Respectfully Submitted,

cj
pastor, Laurel Church of the Nazarene

Lewistown, Harvest Fellowship Church of the Nazarene
Jason O'Neal, pastor

It has been a challenging year in Lewistown, Montana. Sometimes in ministry, as in life, it can feel like you take one step forward only to take two steps back. This year has certainly felt that way. While we've welcomed new people into our fellowship and rejoice that they have become part of our church family, we've also lost several families who have moved out of the area. In addition to this, my wife was diagnosed with some serious medical issues

that have impacted our family particularly hard, as well as affected our ministry. Things kind of came to a halt there for a while as we invested enormous time and energy into getting her health back on track. But the Lord is with us. And, as we have continued to rebuild the church here, working to overcome years of dysfunction and improving our reputation in the community, we are basically building a church from the ground up - beauty from ashes - as we experience new challenges and face new opportunities. **"Behold, I make all things new,"** our Lord tells us - not only people, but churches too.

And so, through all of this, we've kept God's Word close to our hearts, with passages like 1 Peter 1:3-7 becoming part prayer, part proclamation. It says, **"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."**

That's what our church is all about - praising God for the new life that is made available through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! He is our Living Hope and the One in whom we find rest. That is the good news - the GOSPEL - that we proclaim each week.

Now, don't get me wrong! It's been a difficult year, but a good year too. With burdens have also come blessings. And God is the God of VICTORY, not defeat! So just a couple good things to quickly mention:

1) We had hoped to partner with a para-church organization called Young Life, and had invested in that potential partnership, but the Lord graciously moved us a different direction by opening up other areas of ministry and outreach. The first is our partnership with Awana on Wednesday nights which has opened up a big door for ministry, with 40+ children and parents attending each Wednesday. With the ground-work laid this year, specific plans for effective ministry follow-up are currently being developed and implemented. What a blessing to see so many kids worshipping God together each week!

2) In addition to Awana, our church opened its doors to the Boy Scouts, which is experiencing a bit of a revival in our area. It has been a controversial year for the Boy Scouts as they've gone through a major paradigm shift in their programming focus. BUT, we aren't interested in their controversies. We are interested in ministering to the children and parents who are part of that organization as we provide a safe and functional place for them to meet weekly, and work to develop a relationship with those families that will allow us to introduce them to Jesus. Just like Awana, plans are now underway for us to follow-up with these families in meaningful ways.

God has provided for us in amazing ways this year. He has provided opportunities. He has provided hope and healing. He has met our needs and He has opened new doors.

We are grateful for the year we've had and look forward to building on the foundation that has been established, armed with the power of God made available by His Holy Spirit as we continue to reach people with the hope that is found in Jesus Christ alone.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Jason R. O'Neal

Libby Church of the Nazarene
Pat Weyrauch, pastor

General Superintendent Crocker, District Superintendent Carr, Members and Friends of the Assembly,

I bring my fourth report for the Libby First Church of the Nazarene. I praise God for being allowed to serve Libby's wonderful congregation and community.

My praise and success story this year comes from the AA group that meets at our church 4 and sometimes 5 days a week. This group has been meeting for 3 years at our church, but this last year it has become more connected to the church. The connection was shown as a group of members helped paint rooms and the hallway downstairs. The leader of the group is a contractor and has helped us with repairs and is planning on installing windows as we replace them. They have also begun to prepare to lay carpeting in one of the large

meeting rooms downstairs. In addition, they have donated \$1,300 over the last year to the church. However, the most exciting moment was when the leader came and talked to me about the third step of their program that is about spirituality. He is interested in using me to help when members of the group reach this step. He asked if I minded using the altar when this time happened, and you can imagine my response to this request. Yes, YES! We have had a few of the attendees come to visit our services. We are waiting on the Lord to show us what great things he has planned as this group has grown large enough that they spill out into the fellowship hall at times.

I also continue to praise God for the blessings He is bringing from the Men's Friday Bible Study that has continued to flourish.

Pray for us as we face the challenges of an aging congregation and the economics of small town USA.

TRUSTING GOD WITH THE GROWTH AND THE HARVEST,

Pastor Pat Weyrauch

Livingston Valley Shepherd Church of the Nazarene

Christie American Horse, pastor

Dr. Crocker, Reverend Carr, fellow pastors and members of the Assembly:

I am new to the pastorate here in Livingston, but not new to the District, having grown up in Sheridan, WY. My life's journey has brought me back to Sheridan three times. In 2013, after many years ministering in the teaching field and working as a Certified Nursing Assistant, Social Worker with The Salvation Army, VOA Community Shelter for the homeless, Native American Ministries and with adults with Developmental DisAbilities, I received my Local Minister's License. My background is also in Urban Ministry (Los Angeles, CA), Cross-cultural Ministry (LA, Mexico, Idaho and Wyoming), and with children of all ages. While attending NNU in my early 20's I worked with Daniel Zani and Todd Wanner in planting a Spanish Church in Palisade, CO.

In 2017 I received my first District License here on the Rocky Mountain District. In January of 2017 I began as Worship Leader, receiving my District Ministerial License, and

on September 1st I was appointed Interim Pastor with Livingston Valley Shepherd Church of the Nazarene. I also became a SYMBIS Facilitator. This last year has been a year of transition for Valley Shepherd Naz. We saw the sale of our building and the transition to a home church fairly smoothly; experiencing the Holy Spirit in our different kind of meeting. We celebrated Communion with excitement this past year, trying to regularly celebrate it at least once a month. Our Supply Pastor from Billings, Steve Clark (and Connie), have lovingly served for the last couple of years. They made the trek from Billings to Livingston each month, and back to Billings for their weekly service at a local nursing home at 2:00. We as a church are so grateful and appreciative of their selfless service to our Church family!

On August 21st we held a reunion of sorts, for our last Church family service in our old building. Many visited who had attended in years past, and we had a celebration dinner afterward. Some in the church have had a hard time letting go of the building, and our attendance declined after starting the Home Church. All has not been negative, however, as we are continuing on in the Lord's grace! [1 Peter 1:3](#) reads, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Not only is our hope in this "new birth", but we have a living hope which envisions a new birth for our local Church body as well!

I taught CLT Course Evangelism in Everyday Life, beginning on July 6th with 4 students. We gained a new brother who attended, and assisted with some needs in the church, until he moved back to Wyoming recently. This young man made our creative signs for us and helped fill bags and set up for our Trunk-or-Treat fall activity on Halloween. We moved our "trunk" indoors when wind and drizzle turned into a torrent. All told, we gave out 18 bags to all ages who knocked at our door. The bags had scripture on them and an invitation to services. Inside were wrapped candies with "Jesus talk" on the wrappers, toys and bands with spiritual messages on them also. We gave out the gospel Life Books from The Gideons. There were 6 who participated at various stages and fellowship and fun were had by all!

The Church planned an outreach concert for Christmas, with toys and gifts to give away for children and teens, and Gospel Life Books as well. We had a life-sized bear to take photos with, and hot cocoa, cider and treats galore. Rev. John and Clara Spencer came, and John sang up a storm for me and my husband Newton! The Enterprise (local newspaper) ran a story on it, but the weather was uncooperative, but God's Spirit revived me that night! Some might have mentioned failure with the blizzard, snow shoveling (yes, that's one of my many pastoral responsibilities) and empty parking lot, but I was revived. Cowboy Preacher John graciously took time to answer some of my "rookie" pastor questions and gave a wonderful prayer over me and God's Church here in Livingston. We followed this up with a New Year Covenant Renewal Service which was beautiful and truly transformative. It was patterned of John Wesley's, with updates to bring it to life in Livingston.

"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord." ([Psalm 31:24](#) NIV) "I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope." ([Psalm 130:5](#)) The prophet Micah said, "But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord, I wait for God my Savior; my God

WILL hear me!" (Micah 7:7, NIV) "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1, NIV) "But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently." (Romans 8:22).

As we proceeded on with our services, a Church matriarch, Donna (Crandall) Miller, who's first husband pastored the Church of the Nazarene here for 17 years, was diagnosed with stomach cancer, and it had grown into her pancreas and was inoperable. The Church had been meeting at her house, and we did not want to expose her to outside infection. We were gifted with space in the Fireside Room for Advent by the Holbrook United Methodist Church where we also were allowed to hold our concert. We appreciated their hospitality. We then met at our former NMI President's apartment, and more recently our home.

As I come to a close on my ministerial requirements for Ordination and my master's degree, I am excited to think about this new year and what God is going to do through us! John 7:12-13 reads, "Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him [Jesus]. Some said, 'He is a good man.' Others replied, 'No, he deceives the people.' But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders." May we boldly step up and speak out about the Love and Salvation of our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, the Father, and the Holy Spirit, leading many into the Kingdom this year. We have a vision for the Church of the Nazarene here in Livingston!

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Christie American Horse

Missoula Church of the Nazarene

Josh Allen, pastor

As I write, Dale (one of our laymen) is laboring in the sun beautifying our grounds. There are many loving committed people at Missoula Church!

Every week, more than 100 people come and go from our facility for non-church events - Soccer Tots and Narcotics Anonymous. These represent many who need to know our Savior!

We have re-focused our mission from words on a page to action steps: Love God Love Others Serve the World.

We have a web presence now, an absolute necessity in our day and age. Most people will visit your website before they step foot in your church building. They want to get a sense of your culture, know what things look like, and hear the pastor speak.

My wife Robyn and I arrived at the end of January to a church that was tired with a

building in disrepair. To this point, we averaged 60+ in worship in the month of April and have seen a tremendous uptick in our giving. Several projects have been completed to make our building the tool that it can be as a first contact for many in our community. Many projects to go!

Above all, this will be a year of moving our focus from inward things to connecting with our community. Programs will not be the main method. We, as the sent ones, will be the bridge builders. If we will not allow the presence of God to invade every area of our lives and allow our lives to become a personal, living message of the saving grace of Jesus and the difference that Holy Spirit's presence makes in the life of the believer, then we will continue to be ineffective and we will fail to be salt and light to our family, friends, neighborhood and city.

It is my hope that God uses Missoula Church to reach many with transforming message of the Gospel!

Sincerely submitted,
Pastor Josh Allen

Pablo (and Mission Valley) Montana
Matthew Connally, pastor

Greetings to "Coach" Bill Carr, Dr, Gustavo Crocker, and the Rocky Mountain District Church of the Nazarene!!

I begin this report by agreeing with the poet when he declares, "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; **great is your faithfulness**" (Lamentations 3:22-23).

God has indeed been faithful to Pablo, Mt and the Mission Valley of Northwest Montana. We were challenged this year to "Love Locally." Our desire was to love our local community in such a way that the Mission Valley KNOWS that the Church of the Nazarene exists in this community. I am grateful to report that the Church of the Nazarene not only exists, but it is thriving in the Mission Valley!

Our average attendance is up from 49 last year to 52 this year. We gained three members by their profession of faith. We baptized 5 people, most of whom are from the same family. But, most importantly, through our outreaches we saw many people come to faith in Jesus Christ.

We had Vacation Bible School last summer (the first for us in a long while) with the help of a Work and Witness team from Oregon. The last night of the Vacation Bible School we showed the "Jesus Film" and 8 children prayed to accept Jesus into their lives! We hosted Master Illusionist Scott Humston in the fall with school assemblies and evangelistic services at our church. Over the course of the weekend around 400 people came to the services at the church. Of those who attended almost half of them were visitors to our church! God did amazing work that weekend!! 20 people professed a first-time commitment to Christ, while many others received an assurance of their salvation, prayed to "get things right with the Lord," and prayed for other special requests they had. That weekend was quite an investment of our time and resources, but the Kingdom of God did benefit from that investment!!

In September our church board voted to move forward with a satellite campus in Polson, Mt. A family heard about our vision and that family donated enough money to rent a conference room at the Red Lion Inn for one day a week for six months! That family doesn't even live in our area! Many doors were opened for this opportunity, from the place to meet, to relationships with hotel staff, to the music. On February 11, 2018 we had our first service at our satellite campus, known as Movement Church of the Nazarene. We have been slowly, but steadily growing in attendance at that location and are doing our best to be the Body of Christ in that area of our valley. At the same time, we have seen blessing after blessing at our campus in Pablo and its ministry to that community. We have seen new children come, new families attend, and other families return to us. God has indeed shown us that "Faithfulness Produces Fruitfulness!"

This upcoming year we are challenged to "Connect the Community." This year, God has challenged us to be more intentional with our follow up and our ability to connect with each other and to connect with our world.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Connally

Powell Harvest Community

Matthew Tygart, pastor

This year has been another year for the books. It was a year in which I personally have learned what it means to be a bi-vocational pastor. I always told God that it wasn't beyond me to wait on tables if it helped His church or my family. This Year God said. "Prove it." So I learned how to split time between serving coffee to College students and ministry within the church setting. It was a great experience as it forced me to learn how to be Jesus to someone in 20 words or less and a great many contacts came from this as well as a relationship won to the lord who is still an active part of the church. God is good.

For HCC it was another year of growth both spiritually and numerically. First of all spiritually. Our people are taking leaps of faith in servitude, worship, and giving (Yet Giving is still youthfully minded hence why the bi-vocation). They are producing fruit that are consistent with a group of people that are taking relationships deeper with the Lord. The next step is seeking membership with these hearts.

Numerically speaking this year we've added a guitarist, a drummer, and soon a bass player. Children's church continues to be a highlight of HCC as the 20 to 25 children we see every Sunday continue to outnumber the adults upstairs. We like it this way and when there are no more chairs to sit in we are happy with the chaos. I'm looking forward to what God will do as we take a year to refocus our direction to be even more evangelistically minded outside of our building to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

HCC had souls saved, baptisms, and sanctifications. Abortion supporting atheists have come to the Lord. Men that hadn't set foot in the church in decades due to a hatred of God are a part of the flock loving God, as well as their children. We are a young growing

church with some present growing pains and typical church struggles but God is good and 2018-19 is going to be another banner year for the Lord.

Pastor Matt Tygart
Harvest Community Powell

Sheridan First Church of the Nazarene
Summit Nazarene
Alex Williams, pastor

Dear Rocky Mountain District Family,

My family and I have only been in Sheridan for a few months but we have been blessed to see a movement of God's transforming power in that time. As a Church we decided to surrender our preferences for God's priority and we made some big changes, to put it lightly. In an effort to be more relevant to our younger community, we voted to sell our pews and invest in chairs for our sanctuary. God blessed our surrendered hearts and provided us a buyer at just the right time. We changed our music, painted the walls, and remodeled the foyer all to see new life come into God's kingdom. We also voted as a church to change our name to 'Summit Nazarene', with the purpose of being relevant to our community. Our mission statement at Summit Nazarene is: Moving lives upward: As we Elevate Jesus in our corporate and 24-7 worship, Engage the world through service and mission, and to enlarge our faith through community and small groups. We have started Koinonia life groups for all ages and a new children's ministry in conjunction with our "Young Families" Koinonia group. We have been averaging 55 total people who are participating in life groups and Sunday School.

It has been a great honor to serve as the Pastor of Summit Nazarene. On multiple Sundays our altars have been lined with people bringing their requests and brokenness to God. Our church has had three individuals confirm that they experienced salvation during our worship services. Many others have recommitted their lives or deepened their commitments to Christ. Autumn, a middle school student, has been coming with one of our students. Her parents are uninterested in church but allow her to go as long as they don't have to take her. One Sunday she raised her hand when I gave an altar call and later that day a Children's church worker gave her a Bible and told her that she should write

important dates on the cover page. Autumn quickly wrote down the date in which she gave her life to Christ. Autumn is at church whenever we have the doors open.

Donnie Horsely also gave his life to Jesus in one of our services. Through family Donnie has had a connection with our church for many years. For many years he ignored God's tug on his heart but a few weeks ago he stopped wrestling with God and decided to surrender to him. Donnie has been recently diagnosed with terminal cancer. He said that he believes his diagnosis was God's act of mercy on his life, offering him a final chance to accept Jesus as Lord and savior of his life. He now lives with an Eternal Kingdom perspective and is sharing his faith with his family and friends. Our church has been profoundly blessed by the new life God has allowed us to be a part of. Some families who went away for a while have also returned and are excited about God's new vision for Summit Nazarene Church. Seven people recently became members of our church. Over the last four months God has blessed us with spiritual growth but he has also blessed us with growth in numbers. We have experienced a 27% increase in attendance and we went from an average of 54 to 74. Our April average was 83 people.

I am certain that as we continue to be faithful to God's call on us as a church to bring his kingdom to Sheridan, He will be faithful to meet our needs, exceed our expectations, and allow us to continue to see lives changed.

Sidney First Church of the Nazarene

Richard Evans, pastor

Sidney Church has been blessed since the beginning of our ministry here, with the mission of being a 'sending' church. Since we have arrived, nearly all the people we have introduced to Jesus have moved to other cities or states. Nevertheless, we know that we have been instrumental in sending witnesses to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ everywhere these folks have gone.

This year has seen us sending yet again, but this time in far greater numbers than we have in the past. In fact, we have said good-bye to 9 families who have moved out of state, and one that has moved out of town. We have two more families planning similar moves as well as a single young gentleman. As you can imagine, this have been bittersweet. We rejoice always in the grace of God, and in the gift of being allowed to send these missionaries to these other cities, where ever they are, but we also miss our loved ones terribly.

This exodus has also impacted our church in the following areas:

- **Finances:** Many of the families that have moved were actively supporting our church. That said, we are still over budget for our WEF giving, which we consider a barometer of the spiritual vitality of our congregation.
- **Children's ministries:** As the number of our kids has shrunk, other families with kids have sought churches in the area better able to serve their children.
- **Our Youth Group** currently runs two, and our **Girls Club** ministry also averages between 3 - 4 kids.

Our overall attendance has dropped in a matter of months from 65 on average to 21. The good news is that there are plenty of good seats to be had. We are working to attract unchurched persons in the community, and are meeting with some success, though it is a slower going process than we would like.

We continue to have a core group of believers who committed to the mission and message of the Church of the Nazarene and are willing to work their guts out to promote it! I couldn't be prouder as a pastor of our people!

We are convinced that God has a bright future in store for our church's mission to Richland County, and we are excited to participate with Him in the building of His holy Kingdom!

Loving people in Jesus' name,

Richard S Evans
Pastor
Sidney First Church of the Nazarene

SonRise Church of the Nazarene, Cheyenne
Joe Arnold, pastor

Dr. Croker, Rev Carr, Friends of the Rocky Mountain District:

When the two Nazarene Churches in Cheyenne, WY merged in 2009, they had a dream of utilizing the funds from the sale of the 1st church property to help create a new building that would house the SonRise Church. After several years of researching, discussing with people, and looking for a place for this new building. We have settled on remaining in the Grace Church building due to many factors.

However, this year God has blessed us with a clear vision and plan for remodeling this building so that it will continue to be useful in the years ahead. We have spent most of the money from the sale of other properties and remodeled the Education & Fellowship area of our Church building. This area was badly in need of remodel and we now have an area that is more user friendly, brightly lit, ADA Standards, and much more modern in look and ability for usage.

We look forward to how God will use this new space to help us to continue to share his love within our Church family, to new people, and for our community! We are grateful that it is debt-free! We still have a vision for more areas of our building & parking lot but this is a great start and was the most needed area of our building that needed fixed up. We continue to have a vision for updating our building & grounds so that it is seen as a welcoming place instead of an eye-sore in the neighborhood.

We are developing in the new church year a vision board, who will work together to continue to create a vision for SonRise Church moving forward. This vision board will continue to look at what we are currently doing and make suggestions for adjustments as we move forward. The vision board will also begin to develop future goals and help us be on track to accomplish them. In the past, we have tried to do this with our Church Board but haven't been as effective as we'd like to be so hopefully this new vision board will give us more of a focus.

Meanwhile, we have continued to try to find ways to serve our community. Each month we purchase a set amount of Grocery Cards and Gas Cards. As people come to the church with a need in either of these areas, we are able to provide some short-time relief. Once this set number of cards is given out, we can't give any more until the next month when we purchase more.

We also continue to support local compassionate ministry efforts by helping the

Salvation Army, The Comea Shelter (homeless shelter), and Family Promise (Family Homeless program), Cancer Comfort Baskets, Cheyenne Day of Giving, and more. In addition to these, we continue to support and provide information for other Global NMI programs: alabaster, Crisis Care kits, School Pal Paks, Special Offerings, NMI Books, and more.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Joe Arnold

Family Church, Torrington
Kyle Borger, pastor

This year we took another step in our endeavor to be a church that loves our neighbors. We provided assistance to a number of individuals and to a local food Pantry. We have recognized that working with the poor provides us the most receptive audience although this audience has the greatest needs. Thus, our structure has been adapted to ensure that most of our income is designated toward assisting the poor.

Jamie and her family have started attending and we finally have children in our church again, which is a significant praise. It has already begun to open doors for other families as they have been inviting friends and neighbors. We had assisted Jamie with rent, utilities, food and more. This allowed me the opportunity to gradually build a connection with her and gain her trust.

We are now working with another family that has substantial health issues including a child with development issues. Our format is proving more flexible and accommodating for those with health issues. With this family we are working to gain their trust that we will love their child and that the child will be safe.

I am building connections and partnerships with people throughout the community and many now refer people needing assistance to me. I have created a non-profit that will administer a federal grant and The Salvation Army. We are in the process of developing our office and our programs to provide assistance. I believe that God is directing us to not just grow our church but to help all of our churches grow and become healthy.

I believe that this will finally be the year that we see numerical growth.

Pastor Kyle Borger

Wheatland First Church of the Nazarene

Larry Benjamin, pastor

Dr. Crocker, Rev. Carr, Members of the Assembly,

Greetings from the First Church Of The Nazarene in Wheatland, Wyoming!

There comes a time in the life of a church when the storms of change and testing roll in, often without warning. This past year has been such a season of testing for us as a small congregation. We ask the Lord what have we done wrong and how can we change it. We summarize and review a series of events that have shaped the character of weeks and months in our lives in this building. We have seen a few move on to other congregations. There have been some parents pass on to the Lords Kingdom. One family was in an auto accident but all survived. A men's bible college singing group stopped here for a night of singing in June. That was a real blessing. VBS went well. Pastor Larry was the main teacher, it was a small group but still a good time of bible teaching for the children. We had a couple guest speakers while pastor was gone a couple times over the summer and fall. They were more than willing to help out. That was a relief. The later part of August the solar eclipse passed through Wyoming. It was the talk of the town for many days before and after. We prepared ourselves as a church for the anticipated crowds that we were praying for. The town filled up with tourists and the highway hummed for a while. One family stayed overnight at our church. We were glad to help them. We have been planning and praying about replacing the roofs on the parsonage and garage but the building inspector has been throwing up some road blocks in our path. We decided to give the matter a rest and pray. All or regularly scheduled events continue to show consistent support. As small as we are as a congregation, I see us like little lights that shine brighter and brighter in a world that is turning darker and darker as the day of the Lord draws nearer and nearer. We encourage one another to remain faithful and true in all the seasons of or fragile lives that the merciful and gracious Father gives us.

In the service of the King,

Larry Benjamin

Whitefish Church of the Nazarene

Jason Johnston, pastor



Our Mission: Whitefish Nazarene is a church advancing Christ's kingdom by; loving God, journeying together, and engaging the world.

It has been in the heart of our leadership team to explore the possibility of a partnership with a church, district, or Nazarene organization in an international location. Historically, Whitefish Nazarene has been a strong supporter of world missions. The church has supported missions; financially, through W&W trips, and inviting missionaries to come speak. But in recent years it has been in our heart to take it to another level. While mission's is something we have always supported, we would also say that the mission field is not personal. Most of the people in our church do not have a personal connection to the mission field. Therefore, it has been in our heart to reach beyond ourselves and join in an extended 3-5 year partnership somewhere in the world. We made a couple of attempts that didn't work out, but then all of that changed because of an impromptu lunch a little over a year ago with Brian Tibbs.

Brian Tibbs is the CEO and founder of Extreme Nazarene. Our Pastor and NMI president were invited to meet Brian for lunch, and it was there they heard about Extreme Nazarene. Brian shared about their church planting model, and the use of partnerships to accomplish their mission. Our ears perked, and hearts raced as we listened to him talk. This was exactly what we have been hoping and praying for. That lunch at Mackenzie River Pizza started the ball rolling. Our mission team began to meet and pray about the possibility and to pray for God's leading. As we explored all the options and ideas, all things seemed to point to Ecuador.

Extreme was planning to launch a new church in 2018, and this seemed like the right move to make. We sent 4 individuals to Ecuador that fall to participate in a vision tour so that we could get a full picture of Extreme and their model for ministry in South America. That team came home pumped with excitement for the possibilities that lay ahead.

After more planning and preparation our church, on March 11, officially launched our church plant partnership in Quito, Ecuador. We are planning our first trip to Quito this coming fall. The congregation has already raised a little for \$16,000 toward the church plant. We believe that God is going to do something big and unique through this partnership. We believe that not only will God do something incredible in Quito through a new church being planted, but we believe God has something in store for us in Whitefish. We firmly believe that God has a work that He wants to do in the life of this church, and we are excited to be a part of it. There are great days ahead in Whitefish, Montana.

Wind River Church of the Nazarene

Bryce Roberts, pastor

Greetings Rocky Mountain District,

We had many various people attend over the course of this past year. Some we have known for many years, but they had never attended our church before. This past spring we had a young new mother with a newborn that didn't have a place to live stay in one of rooms in the church for about a month. Bryce II and Autumn were able to help her in many various ways. This past year we also received two members by transfer and had one conversion of someone that we have known for 25 years. They are faithful in coming to service.

This is our 2nd year for serving lunch every week after service. Thank you to farmer John for the donation of a half a cow to help provide meat for the lunches.

This past year we had Adventures in Missions and another group from Minn. come reach out to the community by doing a VBS, and several different projects for the elderly adults, and disabled here on the reservation. We have hosted Adventures in Missions for many years.

This was our second year for Children's quizzing lead by Autumn Roberts. Autumn and Bryce II also do a great job with the children's church. Easter, I had the privilege of dedicating 2 of my grandsons to the Lord.

We appreciate your prayers for us, and the reservation.

In His Service,

Pastor Bryce Roberts

Riverton First Church of the Nazarene

James E. Davis, pastor

This is my 2nd year to have the pleasure of partnering in ministry with the Rocky Mountain District. I am thankful to Coach Bill Carr and the Riverton First Church to have this opportunity to fulfill God's will. Our services and sermon series have been focused on stewardship, striving daily to be the very best for God both personally and corporately, prayer, salvation, revival, sanctification, and local outreach. God is doing great things in Riverton!

Over the last few months we have heard several people in the church say that it has been dead for decades. While we know this is an umbrella statement we also find excitement in the open eyes that we are realizing there is an issue. We realized that we were facing broken relationships, sickness, depression, ministry paralysis, and blindness to the truth. Recognizing these massive issues was a huge step toward having a vibrant and healthy church.

It was in these darkest of days that I "randomly" read a news article about a man who had contracted leprosy from an armadillo. Leprosy is an infection caused by slow-growing bacteria. It was once feared as a highly contagious and devastating disease, but now we know it doesn't spread easily and treatment is very effective. However, if left untreated, the nerve damage can result in crippling of hands and feet, numbness, paralysis, and blindness. With early diagnosis and treatment, the disease can be cured. Did you hear that? Now put that in context of the church... Spiritual Leprosy: the damage can result in crippling of hands and feet, numbness, paralysis, blindness, and ultimately death. People have massive injuries because they can't feel...they are blind... they can't move because of paralysis and can't even work because crippled hands and feet. Thankfully, there are modern medicines that can treat and cure leprosy. In the same way spiritual leprosy can be treated and cured with a good dose of the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit coming in our Riverton people we are seeing revival begin. There is a feeling that a cloud and a weight has been lifted. God is doing great things in Riverton!

All of our department heads have been vital to the healing and new beginning that has been needed for some time. The effort and time that they have put in to each of their departments has increased ten-fold. We are striving in each area of ministry to not be numb to the world around us. Each ministry has been challenged to look at they have done, see what is effective and not, and then make the necessary changes where God can be glorified. God is doing great things in Riverton!

The amazing story that we are seeing is that those multiple marriages that were "over" are actively healing or healed. The hands and feet that were tied are now free to do His will. The finances that we were concerned wouldn't come in came in. The spiritual blind eyes are now open. God continues to heal both physically and spiritually as we seek the Holy Spirit daily. God is doing great things in Riverton! Pray for us as we seek continued and deeper revival in our hearts, services, and community.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. James E. Davis