

# Southwest *Church of the Nazarene*

CHURCH NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 27, 2021 – VOLUME 45



## FOUNDATION ISSUES

Basements: Some love them, others despise them. They can be finished and beautiful or have leaks and become an expensive hazard. We know by experience.

We found out through professionals that our basement wall leaks around the foundation. This is a problem, but it is not the only problem. We also found out that our block wall is deflecting, pushing inward toward the room – so much so that we can see a separation in the mortar joints of the blocks. Bummer! The Pros told us this will never get better on its own, only worse. Eventually the wall will fall in... Yikes! Thankfully, the Pros are handling our problem and soon all will be repaired... for a cost, of course.

Sin, like water, can cause immense damage if not dealt with. It too, will never get better on its own, and sometimes the damage can be lifelong. But instead of dealing with the foundational issue, humanity tries to mask it. We figure if the outside is pretty, then that is enough. Yet, we know the inside needs desperate repairs.

To deal with our foundational problem of sin, there are eight steps we can take:

### **First step: *Acknowledge the problem.***

*1 John 1:8*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. NKJV

### **The second step: *Confession.***

*1 John 1:9*

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive

us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. NKJV

### **The third step: *Repentance. (Turn away)***

*Acts 3:19*

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out... NKJV

### **The fourth step: *Receive.***

*Rom 10:9-11*

...confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. NKJV

### **Step five: *Walk with the Lord.***

*1 John 1:7*

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. NKJV

### **Step six: *What if we fail?***

*1 John 2:1*

My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. NLT

### **Step seven: *Yield to the Spirit***

*Acts 15:8-9*

So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us, and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. NKJV.

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### Step eight: *Produce Good Fruit*

*Galatians 5:22-23*

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. NKJV

Compare this with the life without God.

*Galatians 5:19-21*

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

My recommendation: get the foundation fixed first, and then the rest will take care of itself.

Pastor Scott and Cindy

## *How Firm a Foundation*

**G. Keith & R. Keene, 1787**

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed,  
for I am your God, and will still give you aid.  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,  
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to you the deepest distress.

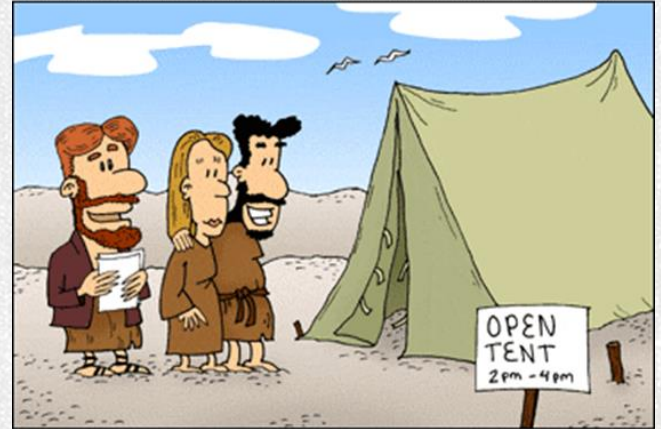
“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you. I only design  
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

“The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes.  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake!”

### Proverbs 10:25

*“When the whirlwind passes by, the wicked is no more, But the righteous has an everlasting foundation.”*  
NKJV

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Thanks to Diana Oppedal Russell

09-27-2005

THIS CHARMING STARTER BOASTS ONE FULL  
BEDROOM AND A SPACIOUS BATH OUT BACK

**Baptisms & Memberships:** If you have received Christ in your life and have not been baptized or if you are a believer and want to go through our membership class, please see Pastor Scott.

- **Baptism** is a symbol of our leaving the old life and rising to new life in Christ. It is our testimony to the world that we are a Christ follower and desire to belong to the family of God.
- **Membership** is when a believer makes a commitment to their local church, to support it with their attendance, tithes and offerings, and to use their talents and gifts to help accomplish Christ's Great Commission. It is agreeing with the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene as they have outlined from the Scriptures guidelines for the church. With membership you have the right to be a part of the Annual Elections, voting, and even being a candidate for a position.
- **If the Lord is leading you to either of these areas, please contact Pastor Scott, and we will set up a class time for you.**



# Praises:

This week let's take time to give God praise through David's Song of Thanksgiving.

*1 Chronicles 16:8-14*

8 .... give thanks to the Lord!

Call upon His name;

Make known His deeds among the peoples!

9 Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him;

Talk of all His wondrous works!

10 Glory in His holy name;

Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord!

11 Seek the Lord and His strength;

Seek His face evermore!

12 Remember His marvelous works which He has done,

His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth,

13 O seed of Israel His servant,

You children of Jacob, His chosen ones!

14 He is the Lord our God;

His judgments are in all the earth. NKJV

# Prayer Needs:

**Prayer Needs may be found in the mailed and emailed versions of the church newsletter.**

# Upcoming Events:

- January 31st, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service
- February 7th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service: Special service – Swahili Church Ministry.
- February 8th, Monday – 6:30pm to 8:00pm MOPS Meeting
- February 9th, Tuesday – 6:30pm Nominating Committee Meeting
- February 14th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service
- February 21st, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service: New Members, Baptisms.
- February 22nd, Monday – 6:30pm to 8:00pm MOPS Meeting
- February 28th, Sunday - 10:40am Worship Service: District Superintendent Dr. Ron Blake will be speaking.
- February 28th, End of Church Year
- March 4th, Thursday - End of Church Year: Reports Due (SDMI, NMI, NYI, Treasurers, Etc.)
- March 7th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service: Annual Church Elections
- March 8th, Monday – 6:30pm to 8:00pm MOPS Meeting
- March 14th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service
- March 21st, Sunday – 10:30am Worship Service: Olivet Music & Preaching Ambassadors
- March 22nd, Monday – 6:30pm to 8:00pm MOPS Meeting
- March 28th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service

**Exciting News!** We have been working for a few months on our new Swahili church ministry, and things are starting to come together. We hope to have plans finished for this soon and have it approved by the District Superintendent and our church board. Their ministry, under Pastor Acrame Charles, will be focusing on the African refugees in our area who speak the Swahili language. **One of the ways we can help:** we would like to have 5 people who would commit to pray for this ministry in its beginning stages. There are many needs, and we want God's protection and blessing upon everything. If you would like to be a part of this team, please let Pastor Scott know. Also, we will be asking for volunteer help soon for other areas. It is exciting to see how God is going to use this new ministry for His glory!