



Southwest
Church of the Nazarene

CHURCH NEWSLETTER | MARCH 17, 2021 – VOLUME 52

THE PROMISE KEEPER

Being a teenager in the 90s was awesome! We had the best fashion, the best music, and definitely the best TV shows. I always watched The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (I wasn't your typical teen!). One of my favorite bits was called "Jaywalking." Leno would walk around the streets of Los Angeles and ask seemingly simple questions to people who wanted their fifteen minutes of fame. The answers were always funny to me; I mean... how could people get the answers to these easy questions so wrong? With that being said, I want to ask you a question; what does the Easter season mean for you?

We can all agree that as Christ-followers, we have a basic understanding of what Easter represents. The new life we find in Jesus' resurrection (2 Cor. 5:17), the establishing of a new covenant (Luke 22:20), and the saving grace Jesus offers us (Romans 6:14) are all products of what was accomplished on the cross. One thing that I had never really thought about was how much Easter emphasizes the importance of God's promises. One of the earliest illustrations of this is found in Genesis – with Abraham leading the Israelites to the Promised Land.

This last week we started a new series in our youth group that really focuses on God's promise

of a savior. It was a promise that was finally fulfilled with Christ. We talked about how there are two sides to a promise: hope and despair. When a promise is made, we find hope in that. If the promise, however, is not fulfilled or does not come as soon as we wanted, we can find ourselves in despair. It's in the middle of hope and despair that we find God's blessings pouring out into our lives without us even noticing it sometimes.

It was a year ago that our lives were flipped upside down. Promises and guarantees were made and then changed; This led to more promises and guarantees that were also changed. In this last year of unfulfilled promises, it is important for us to find comfort in the promises that God gives us. I want to challenge all of us in this Resurrection season to keep the hope of His promises, even in our times of despair. Find comfort in the comforter, peace in the peacemaker, and rest in the arms of Jesus.

"Then Jesus said, 'Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.'" Matthew 11:28

In His Service,
Dave Metcalf

Praises:

- ❖ Praise the Lord that we raised \$426 on Sunday for the Greene family to take care of their family dinner following the funeral. They are planning 40-50 people, so this will help in covering that cost.
- ❖ Praise the Lord that the Swahili Ministry had its first service last Sunday! It went well, and they had around 30 people. It was a beautiful service of worship and preaching. May the Lord bless this ministry with many who speak the Swahili language.

Prayer Needs:

Personal prayer requests, can be found in the mailed and emailed versions of the church newsletter.

- ❖ Please pray for Swahili Ministry and for the Lord to guide, protect, bless, and supply every need.
- ❖ Please pray for those who are mourning, dealing with isolation or loneliness, needing a physical touch, or praying for unsaved loved ones. May the Lord touch each and everyone one needing His comfort and love this week.

“Battle Belongs”

When all I see is the battle
You see my victory
When all I see is a mountain
You see a mountain moved
And as I walk through the shadow
Your love surrounds me
There's nothing to fear now
For I am safe with You

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

And if You are for me
Who can be against me
For Jesus there's nothing
Impossible for You
When all I see are the ashes
You see the beauty
When all I see is a cross
God You see the empty tomb

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You

(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God
You shine in the shadows
You win every battle
Nothing can stand against
The power of our God

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees
With my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet
I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You
O God the battle belongs to You

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ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS:

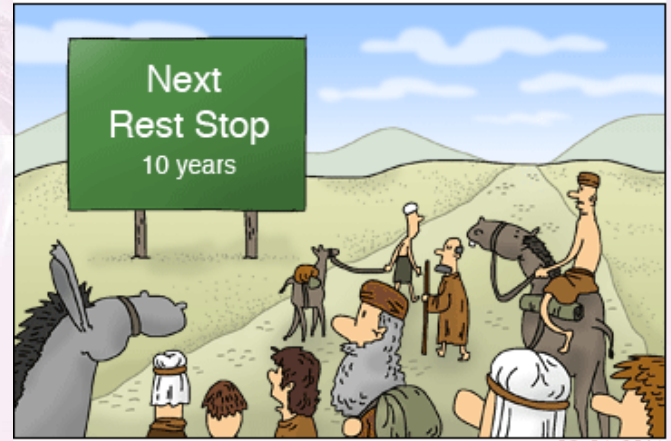
Alabaster Offering continues this Sunday, March 21st. Bring in your donation to help build churches, hospitals, schools, and other projects around the globe!

- March 21st, Sunday – 10:30am Worship Service: Olivet Preaching & Music Ambassadors
- March 22nd, April 5th, & April 19th Mondays – 6:30pm to 8:00pm MOPS Meeting
- March 28th, Sunday – 10:40am Worship Service – Palm Sunday and Special Day for Swahili Church. We will take a few moments to share their vision, pray for this ministry, and also receive a love offering for their beginning days! Some of their needs include a new computer and a keyboard. If you would like to donate to either of these, please mark it in your giving. Also, we are still looking for Prayer Partners and Helpers with sound, Power Point, and greeters until they can train others for these areas. The services will be Sundays from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.
- April 3rd, Saturday – 1:00pm Treasure Hunt
- April 4th, Sunday – 10:40am Easter Sunday Worship Service
- April 17th, Saturday – 10:00am SDMI/NYI Convention (Virtual)
- April 24th, Saturday – NMI Convention (virtual)
- May 2nd, Sunday – 5:00pm to 8:00pm District Assembly

Church Board Election Results:

Jim Beavers was elected to the church board on 3/7/21.

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Wrapped Candy Needed:

As we prepare for this Easter season and the Children's Treasure Hunt, we are looking for wrapped candy or financial donations. These items will be placed in the eggs hidden for the children on that fun day! Our preference is that the candy donated *be non-chocolate and also peanut and nut free*. There will be a container in the foyer at church for these donations. You can also give financial donations by placing them in an envelope labeled *for Treasure Hunt* and dropped in the offering box at the back of the church. **Donations needed by March 28th**. Thank you for your generosity!

Some Peanut/Tree Nut Free Candy Suggestions:

Laffy Taffy
Twizzlers
Dots
Skittles
Smarties
Swedish Fish
Nerds
Starburst
Runts
Sour Patch Kids
Mike & Ikes
Airheads

Treasure Hunt – Saturday, April 3rd at 1:00pm For children Ages 0 through 5th grade

Check in at the registration table outside at 1:00pm. The Treasure Hunt will begin promptly at 1:15pm. We'll hold the event outside, and we will do our best to social distance!



If it rains, we unfortunately will have to cancel the event, but special treats will be given to children on Sunday after the morning service. Please be sure to check the church's Facebook page (at Indy Southwest Naz) for updates! See you there!

