# NAZ NEWS

NAZARETH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**FEBRUARY 16, 2025** 



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Gather and Grow - Spring 2025

Join us for an incredible opportunity available for individuals to learn and grow in their capacity as small group leaders. During our first session, we will focus on Part One of Bill Search's book "Simple Small Groups: A User-Friendly Guide for Small Group Leaders." Nazareth invites and encourages anyone to attend, especially if you are:

- Interested in growing in the leadership role that you are currently in
- Interested in taking a next step in leading a group but looking to be equipped FIRST
- Excited about being on a mission and making disciples!
- · Curious what other small groups are doing
- Looking for support and fellowship from others in leadership roles

Join us at Gather and Grow on March 8 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Nazareth in Room 151/153. Meg Husted will facilitate the material and discussion. RSVP is required by emailing Meg at meg.husted@naz.org. Brunch and snacks will be provided to attendees. Our second Gather and Grow opportunity (Part 2) will be on June 7.

# Ash Wednesday and Lenten Services

Nazareth's Ash Wednesday Service is March 5 at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center. We encourage you and your family to join us early at 5:00 pm for a community soup supper served by our food ministry. Free-will donations will be accepted.

Additionally, all are invited to join Nazareth at our Thursday evening services at 6:00 pm throughout this lenten season. These services will be every Thursday from March 13 to April 10 as we anticipate and prepare for the celebration of Jesus' death and resurrection. Each Thursday services will also feature a community soup supper at 5:00 pm. We hope to worship with you throughout lent and at our upcoming services. Make sure to mark the following dates on your calendar!

- · April 17: Maundy Thursday | 6 pm
- · April 18: Good Friday | 10 am, 7 & 9 pm
- · April 20: Easter Sunday | 9 & 10:45 am

# **CONNECT WITH NAZARETH**

7401 University Ave.

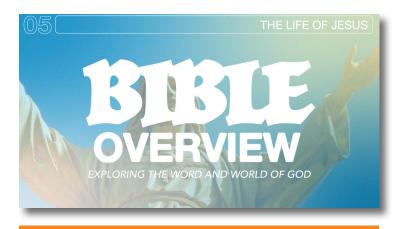
www.naz.org

319-266-7589

MyNazareth

info@naz.org

mynazchurch



TITLE | You Are, I Am, He Is!

TEACHER | Pastor Mike Brost

TEXT | Matthew 5:13-20 & Matthew 7:15-27

#### **Synopsis**

Last week, we heard Jesus' words from the Parable of the Sower in the Gospel of Mark: "He who has ears let him hear." We learned that the seed sown is the Word of God, and those who hear it will bear much fruit. This week, we continue exploring this idea by studying Jesus' words from the Sermon On The Mount. What can we learn from Jesus' sermon, and how can we examine our lives to find if we are, in fact, bearing much fruit?

#### **SERVICE PROGRAM**

Christus Victor

Jesus at the Center

Confessions and Forgiveness

Announcements

Prayers of the Church and Lord's Prayer

Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20

Children's Sermon

Gospel: Matthew 7:15-27

Sermon

Jesus, Name Above All Names | brown 112

Apostles' Creed

Offering

His Name is Wonderful | brown 101

Blessing and Benediction

#### **Flowers**

The chancel arrangement is dedicated to faith in leadership and hope for a brighter future. May God bless America and guide us always.

#### Nazareth Closed February 17

Nazareth's building will be closed Monday, February 17 for a staff holiday for President's Day. We will be back open again on Tuesday, February 18.

# **MUSIC SPOTLIGHT**

At Nazareth, we want to lift up vibrant, congregational singing as an integral part of our time together on Sunday mornings. Using Spotify, these "Music Spotlights" are designed to encourage us and help familiarize us with most or all of the music selections for the upcoming weekend so that we can wholeheartedly sing in full voice as we worship together.

This coming weekend, we will sing "Jesus, Name Above All Names" – a song with a humble beginning that started in a family "washhouse" in Palmerston North, New Zealand. Born in 1931, the songwriter, Naida Hearn, grew up attending a Methodist Sunday school and became fascinated by the different Biblical names given to Jesus. She listed these names - and their meanings - on paper and carried it with her. One day, in the early 1970s, as she made her way to the family washhouse to do laundry, she carried the paper with her and placed it in a window in order to see it while she worked.

She shared, "While I was doing the family washing, the Lord gave me the first line of a song. I began singing, 'Jesus, name above all names.' I continued and sang the whole song just as you hear it today." Eventually, she left the washhouse and notated the music. Soon thereafter, the song was presented in her church. It was so well-received that a missionary asked her to sing it over the phone; the missionary recorded her singing and it quickly spread around the world.

Listen to "Jesus, Name Above All Names" along with the music for Sunday on Spotify:

open.spotify.com/playlist/2JyRxc1fyDvcfWTpRgYMlv



SCAN HERE TO LISTEN TO THE SPOTIFY PLAYLIST!

#### **Food Outreach Ministry Coordinator**

Nazareth is looking to hire a part-time Food Outreach Ministry Coordinator. They will be responsible for Naz's Food Pantry and helping with outreach food ministry opportunities. To explore the job description, please visit naz.org/careers.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED...



#### **Parents Night Out**

Are you looking for time to yourself as a parent, time with another adult, or a chance to meet other parents? If so, Nazareth's Parents' Night Out is perfect for you! Join us on Friday nights: February 28, March 7, 21, 28, and April 11 – for an enjoyable night while Nazareth staff and volunteers spend time with the kids! We ask for a few dollars per child to help cover dinner.

If you are interested in joining any of our Parents' Night Out dates, please register online at our website – naz.org/programs. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jennifer Brost at jbrost4@gmail.com. We are so excited to offer this opportunity to you and your children!



#### **February Donation Requests**

Nazareth is participating in Love Inc's Make-a-Difference Monthly donation campaign, who is accepting <u>Baby Essential Items</u> such as wash clothes, lotion, wipes, bottles, cups, and bibs.

Nazareth's food pantry is accepting donations of <u>Canned Fruit and Hot Chocolate</u>. To learn more, schedule an appointment, or find a complete list of acceptable donations, visit <u>naz.org/foodpantry</u> or email <u>peg.merfeld@naz.org</u>. All donations can be dropped off at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings or at the Receptionist's desk during the week's office hours.

### Nazareth Lutheran Church Prayer Chain

Our Prayer Chain is a way for Nazareth members to lift up one another in prayer and stay connected throughout the week. Over 100 congregation members are subscribed, offering prayers of praise and petitions for God's guidance. Our Administrative Assistant, Jordan Keating-Venghaus, writes and shares these prayers via email. Whether it's for celebrating blessings or supporting one another in times of need, the Prayer Chain helps us strengthen our faith community. If you'd like to receive these emails, please email Jordan at jordan.kv@naz.org. Thank you for your involvement in our community!

#### Meals For New Moms

Do you know a family that is expecting a baby or just had a baby? We would love to bless them with a meal, prayer, and parenting resource! Let's face it, parenting is hard and God did not create us to navigate it alone. To make a referral for yourself or someone else please email Meg Husted at meg.husted@naz.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

# Subscribe to the NALS Magazine

"Word & Sacrament" is published biannually by the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS). You can subscribe to the digital magazine at www.thenals.org for the latest articles, resources,



and news from the NALS, and submit topic suggestions. Subscribe to "Word & Sacrament" now to be a part of the community of faithful learners and leaders.

#### **Visitation Updates**

If you or a loved one have been hospitalized or are unable to attend church, please email and update Andy Walser, Nazareth's Care and Missional Pastor, via <code>andy.walser@naz.org</code>, to schedule a hospital visit or home communion. We understand the importance of this and want to visit and share time with you, whatever situation you are in.

#### Share in the Newsletter

Do you have a story to share, event to promote, or an announcement for the Nazareth congregation? Please share any proposed entries with Nazareth's Communications Director, Sam Madson via email at sam.madson@naz.org