

We don't really intend to take our many gifts for granted, but we often do. We tend to see ourselves as poor when we are really rich. We may have only a vague awareness of how good our lives really are and how much we are truly loved, and at what price our Heavenly Father has secured the relative ease and contentment with which many of us live our lives.

*Be well! Be loving! Be courageous! Be the Church!*

*In Christ,*

*Pastor Brian King*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

May 2021 be filled with all of God's blessings!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ Join us for Worship services at Nazareth every Sunday at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
- ◆ Deepest Sympathy to those who have lost loved ones, see page 2.
- ◆ Baptism Classes begin February 7, see page 3.
- ◆ ALPHA ZOOM BEGINS TODAY!! See more information on pages 3 - 5 about all Winter Discipleship U offerings.
- ◆ Stay tuned for information next week on the *Annual Celebration of Mission and Ministry* (Annual Meeting) on Sunday, January 31.

### ALPHA "ZOOM" 2021 BEGINS TODAY, JANUARY 3

Sign up today by registering directly with Mallory Jensen at [mallory.jensen26@gmail.com](mailto:mallory.jensen26@gmail.com)

- Sunday, January 3rd – Video One & Two
- Sunday, January 10th – Video Three & Four
- Sunday, January 17th – Video Five - Seven
- Sunday, January 24th – Holy Spirit Day Zoom Online Video Eight - Eleven
- Sunday, January 31st – Video Twelve & Thirteen
- Sunday, February 7th – Video Fourteen & Fifteen

### CONNECT WITH US

Address: 7401 University Avenue, Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
Phone: 319-266-7589 Email: [info@naz.org](mailto:info@naz.org)  
Website: [www.naz.org](http://www.naz.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MyNazareth](https://www.facebook.com/MyNazareth)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/mynazchurch](https://www.instagram.com/mynazchurch)

Wednesdays  
CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 4:30pm

Saturdays  
CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 5:30pm

Sundays  
CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 8:30am  
In-Person Worship at Nazareth | 9am & 10:45am  
CW (check your local listings for channel) | 10am

Worship  
with  
Naz

Online Options  
Naz.org – Recordings of Sermons Always Available  
[Vimeo.com/mynazareth](https://vimeo.com/mynazareth)  
Livestreams Broadcasted to YouTube Channel |  
Search: Naz Church Media

### YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!

*As we deeply desire to continue to do the ministry God has called us to do here at Nazareth, your continued generous support of prayers, service, and financial gifts is so important. Even while we may be apart physically, giving is still possible online at [www.naz.org/give](http://www.naz.org/give). You can also mail your donation to the church office or use the free GIVE+ Mobile App (by searching "GIVE PLUS CHURCH" in the app store). We truly cannot do this without you and are grateful for your continued partnership!*

### COMMUNION AT NAZARETH

Out of an abundance of caution for the congregation and our staff, we will not have Communion until the first week in February. There is still Drive Up Communion on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Please call the office at 319.266.7589 to reserve your spot.



**WORSHIP:** "Let Me Tell You A Story About A Father's Love"

**TEACHER:** Pastor Brian King

**TEXTS:** Ephesians 1:3-14 & John 1:1-18

**FLOWERS:**

**Altar:** The flowers at the altar are given in memory of Robert L. and Esther Peters by Dave and Cindy Peters.

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**GO BEYOND THE SERMON...**

Use the "Read It", "Watch It" and "Live It" recommendations to apply this Sunday's sermon to your everyday happenings. And/or, gather with a small group to discuss the sermon and do life together! Not connected with a Naz small group yet? Email Pastor Bob Ericson at [bob.ericson@naz.org](mailto:bob.ericson@naz.org) to learn more or join a group.

### Our Deepest Sympathy

Please join Nazareth in praying  
for those who have recently lost loved ones.

Elsa Roberts - 12.10.20

Barbara Michaelsen - 12.20.20

Darrell Salmons - 12.21.20

Pat Spake - 12.27.20

Esther Peters - 12.27.20

### DIGEST THE WORD...

Read the scripture passages from the week's Sunday's Worship Service and reflect on the sermon and on these questions to help you live out God's Word in your everyday life. Or, use these questions in your Naz Small Group to discuss and apply each week's scripture and sermon!

- ⇒ How did this passage/sermon challenge or encourage you?
- ⇒ What questions do you have about this topic?
- ⇒ What does this passage teach you about who God is?
- ⇒ What are the personal implications (for you)?
- ⇒ What does this mean for the Church as a whole?

**READ IT:** Read Pastor Timothy Keller's book, *The Prodigal God*. In this book, New York pastor Timothy Keller uses the story of the prodigal son to shine a light on the central, beautiful message of Jesus: the gospel of grace, hope and salvation. Keller argues that the parable of the prodigal son, while Jesus' best-known parable, is also his least understood.

**WATCH IT:** *The Pursuit of Happiness* (2006) Life is a struggle for single father Chris Gardner (Will Smith). Evicted from their apartment, he and his young son (Jaden Christopher Syre Smith) find themselves alone with no place to go. Even though Chris eventually lands a job as an intern at a prestigious brokerage firm, the position pays no money. The pair must live in shelters and endure many hardships, but Chris refuses to give in to despair as he struggles to create a better life for himself and his son.

**LIVE IT:** If you are a parent, take time to reach out to your child(ren) in some special way this week. If they are still at home, consider sharing a special breakfast or lunch with them "just because you love them!" If they are no longer living at home, take time to write your child(ren) a handwritten note/letter or email that expresses how much you love them, what you admire about them and how thankful you are for them. If you are a child and your parents are still alive reverse the above suggestions and clearly express your love for them. If such a gesture toward your parent is not possible, consider taking this same step with a mentor you admire and appreciate.

**Nazareth would like to update the list of those serving in the Military.**

Please contact Lori Fegley at [lori.fegley@naz.org](mailto:lori.fegley@naz.org) or call her 319.266.7589, ext. 101 to share that information.

**Thank You!**



*Baptism Class*

THESE CLASSES ARE OFFERED TO ALL FAMILIES SEEKING AN INFANT BAPTISM AT NAZ. IT IS OUR DESIRE THAT THIS IS ATTENDED PRIOR TO THE BAPTISM BUT WE KNOW THAT CIRCUMSTANCES CAN DISRUPT THIS AND WE WILL WORK TO ACCOMMODATE THESE SITUATIONS.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE UPCOMING CLASS! CLASS WILL BE HELD AT NOON ON SUNDAY VIA ZOOM. PLEASE EMAIL [LORI.FEGLEY@NAZ.ORG](mailto:LORI.FEGLEY@NAZ.ORG) TO SIGN UP

FEBRUARY 7, 2021  
MAY 2, 2021



## Small Group Opportunity

### LENT 2021

**Congregational Study:** *The Good and Beautiful LIFE: Putting on the Character of Christ*

Our 2021 Lenten series will offer opportunities to participate in spiritual formation small groups for 6 weeks. These groups will complete the study of *The Good and Beautiful Life* by James Bryan Smith based on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount that was begun last Fall. This study compares false worldly narratives about where abundant life is found with Jesus' narratives that deliver on his promise, "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). The sermons each Sunday will be based on the same words of Jesus which each chapter examines. Opportunities to sign up for a small group will be available online **starting on Monday, January 18** or by calling Terri Packard, Receptionist at 319-266-7589 (Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Books will be available at the Welcome Desk (Sundays) and the Receptionist's Desk (Weekdays). **Books may be ordered at TJ's Bookstore.** It would be wonderful if, in addition to reading the book, many of our congregation members would participate in a small group discussion, either in person or via zoom. You may either join a group that met in the Fall or form a new group of your own.

### SUNDAYS

Title: **MidKids – Gideon**

Dates: Sundays, ongoing (starting January 3)

Time: 10:10 to 11:10 a.m.

Description: *A study of Gideon, an Old Testament hero with great strengths and many flaws with application for our lives. This Bible study and Fellowship group has met on an ongoing basis for thirty years, and they continue to welcome new members.*

Facilitator: David Duncan

Location: Bethel Hall

Title: **Bible Study - David: Warrior, Writer and Witness**

Dates: Sundays, ongoing (starting January 3)

Time: 10:00 to 11:10 a.m.

Description: *This class will trace the life of David through Biblical historical records, his writings in Psalms and his witness of God's favor and to other historical figures including Jesus. New members are welcome at any time!*

Facilitator: Larry Leutzinger, Adrian Talbot

Location: Room 155

Title: **The Good and Beautiful Community**

Dates: Sundays, ongoing (starting January 10)

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Description: *"The Good and Beautiful Community: Following the Spirit, Extending Grace, Demonstrating Love" is the third book by James Bryan Smith in the Apprenticeship Series. New members are welcome at any time! This study is led by Bill (319-830-7178, [billyz6342@gmail.com](mailto:billyz6342@gmail.com)) and Susie (319-830-9142, [susie9229@gmail.com](mailto:susie9229@gmail.com)) Zimmerman. Contact them for the Webex link to the sessions.*

Facilitators: Bill and Susie Zimmerman

Location: Webex meeting

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## SUNDAYS

Title: **Alpha**

Dates: Sundays, January 3 to February 7

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Description: *Over a series of interactive sessions, Alpha helps participants explore the meaning of life, revealing that Christianity can be every bit as relevant to life today as it was 2000 years ago. Alpha makes it easy to invite friends, enjoy food and fellowship (if in-person becomes possible), hear short teaching talks, and have opportunities to discuss and explore life's biggest questions in a safe and respectful environment.*

Facilitator: Mallory Jensen

Location: Zoom meetings

## MONDAYS

Title: **Men's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)**

Dates: Mondays, beginning January 4

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Description: *Bible Study Fellowship invites you to join in studying the book of Genesis. The first book of the Bible reveals our shared story as a single race created in God's image. We look forward to exploring the book of "Beginnings" together, where we witness the wonder of God creating the universe, the tragedy of humanity's fall into sin and God's gracious redemption. BSF this winter will be on Zoom in discussion groups. Please go to [bsfinternational.org](http://bsfinternational.org) to learn more and register for a class this winter. You may also contact Travis at the email address above.*

Facilitator: Travis Toliver

Contact: [cedarvalleybsf@gmail.com](mailto:cedarvalleybsf@gmail.com)

Location: Zoom meeting

Title: **Young Adults**

Dates: Mondays, ongoing (beginning January 4)

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Description: *Are you a young adult interested in getting connected to others here at Nazareth? Join the "Young Adults at Naz" Facebook Group to get updates about activities and/or meeting times. Contact [tolson@gmail.com](mailto:tolson@gmail.com) for more information.*

Facilitator: Troy Olson

Location: Room 156

## TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS

Title: **Centering Prayer**

Dates: Every Tuesday and Thursday, ongoing

Time: 8:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Description: *Craving a time of peace in your hectic life? Seeking silence as you intentionally listen to God during prayer? This class gives you the opportunity to "be still" and to experience the Lord in intentional moments of silence and reflection. All are welcome.*

Facilitator: Lorene Wellnitz

Location: Zoom meeting

## WEDNESDAYS

Title: **Men's Prayer Breakfast**

Dates: Wednesdays, ongoing

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.

Description: *The Nazareth pastors facilitate a time of (singing), prayer and Bible study from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Weekly, we have 20-30 men gather for fellowship and study, and there is room for more.*

Facilitators: Prs. Brian King, Denny Hanson

Location: Bethel Hall

Title: **Women's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)**

Dates: Wednesdays or Thursdays

Time: (W) 9:30-10:15 a.m., (Th) 9:30-10:15 a.m., 7:00-7:45 p.m.

Description: *Bible Study Fellowship invites you to join in studying the book of Genesis. The first book of the Bible reveals our shared story as a single race created in God's image. We look forward to exploring the book of "Beginnings" together, where we witness the wonder of God creating the universe, the tragedy of humanity's fall into sin and God's gracious redemption. BSF this winter will be on Zoom in discussion groups. Our preschool children's program will also provide each child with a video Bible story each week so that your child can learn the same thing you are learning but at their educational level. New participants are welcome! Please go to [bsfinternational.org](http://bsfinternational.org) to learn more about this unique way of studying God's word and to register for this winter.*

Facilitators: Diane Curtis & More

Contact: [diane.curtis@uni.edu](mailto:diane.curtis@uni.edu)

Location: Zoom meeting

Continued...

## WEDNESDAYS

Title: **Men's Wednesday Promise Keepers Bible Study**

Dates: Wednesdays, (will meet when COVID restrictions are lifted)

Time: Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Description: *Men gather to discuss the scriptures upon which the upcoming Sunday sermon/teaching is based. Bring your own lunch and join us in prayer and discussion.*

Facilitators: Prs. Brian King, Denny Hanson

Location: Room 160

Title: **POW – The Life-giving Parent: Giving Your Child a Life Worth Living for Christ** by Clay/Sally Clarkson

Dates: Wednesdays, January 27 to April 21 (not meeting Ash Wed. and the 2 weeks of Spring Break)

Time: 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Description: *This book and study guide explores 8 key principles--heartbeats of lifegiving parenting--to shed light on what it means to create a home where your children will experience the living God alive in your family. Filled with biblical insights and classic Clarkson stories, The Lifegiving Parent will equip you with the tools and wisdom you need to give your children much more than just a good Christian life. You'll give them the life of Christ. Kid's programming/childcare (up to 6th grade) is provided for families participating in the small group. Registration is required. Please email Meg at [meg.husted@naz.org](mailto:meg.husted@naz.org)*

Facilitator: Meg Husted

Location: Room 301

Title: **Winter Gather Bible Study 2021 – “Journeys with Angels”**

Dates/Times: Wednesdays, 9:15 a.m.; Thursdays, 1:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Description: *The Winter Bible study series will be about: "Journeys with Angels" in which we will shake those biblical branches, watch for angels and listen for God's call to action.*

- January - Wednesday (13th) and Thursday (14th) - New beginnings, awe-full, awe-some angels
- February - Wednesday (10th) and Thursday (11th) - Repentance and route-changing angels
- March - Wednesday (10th) and Thursday (11th) - Loneliness, abandonment and holy comfort
- April - Wednesday (14th) and Thursday (15th) - Feasting angels

Please note: *The above is the schedule for in-person meetings and are subject to change if changes in COVID restrictions.*

Facilitators: Various Leaders

Location: Bethel Hall

## THURSDAYS

Title: **Search Thursday Fellowship Bible Study**

Dates: Thursdays, ongoing (will meet when COVID restrictions are lifted)

Time: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Description: *Men and women gather for an hour to (sing), pray and study the Biblical texts and themes for the upcoming Sunday sermon/teaching. After the study, participants are invited to join in on the Senior Fellowship Luncheon (will be available when COVID restrictions are modified to allow luncheon to resume).*

Facilitators: Pastors Brian King, Denny Hanson

Location: Room 151/153

## CLASSES NOT MEETING THIS WINTER - - - UPDATES WILL BE COMING

Title: **BELONG - New Member Class**

Dates: Sundays, April 11, 18, 25 and May 2\*

Time: 5:30 to 7 p.m. each week

*This is a 4-week class; each class will be approximately 90 minutes. \*New members will be received on May 2nd during worship service.*

Description: *This class is a great opportunity to explore the Lutheran faith, learn about the history of Nazareth and begin to build community with others who are interested in membership. With questions, contact Lori Fegley at [lori.fegley@naz.org](mailto:lori.fegley@naz.org) or 319-266-7589, ext. 101.*

Facilitators: Various Naz Leaders

Location: Nazareth or Zoom meeting - TBD

Title: **Financial Peace University**

Time: TBD – Watch for announcement

Description: *With Dave Ramsey's class Financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future. Watch the Financial Peace University Videos from home and then gather together for discussion. With questions, email [danijoqlaspie@cfu.net](mailto:danijoqlaspie@cfu.net).*

Facilitators: TBD

Location: TBD

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON “DISCIPLESHIP U”, PLEASE EMAIL PASTOR BOB ERICSON AT [bob.ericson@naz.org](mailto:bob.ericson@naz.org)