



Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene



October, 2020

From

Pastor Steve

The Value of Fellowship

Meeting together with people of like-mindedness is not only a good idea, it is essential to the make-up of humanity.

Recently I read a report of a church attendee who was struggling and didn't know why. She told her pastor that after 6 months of no fellowship with others she felt weak and lazy, and her faith seemed non-existent. This is not an uncommon; it is happening more and more. Our shelter-in-place lifestyle is keeping us safe from COVID but is having a negative effect on human psyche.

Here's the thing: Humans were created with certain non-negotiable traits among them are connection, encouragement and the desire for reason; making sense out of the world around us.

Connection: Hebrews 10:24-25, "Do not give up on

meeting together..." Human beings have an innate desire to connect, to experience dynamic relationships with one another. The more valuable and deep the connection, the more helpful and healing it becomes.

Encouragement: Hebrews 3:13, "Let us encourage one another daily..." A true confession is that we cannot do it on our own. As strong as some may be, through connection we have the opportunity to be encouraged and, even more important, to encourage others. When we encourage others it can transform us.

Reason: (Isaiah 1:18) "Come let us reason together..." We were built to reason, to seek understanding of life and faith. When logic is denied to us it can literally drive us insane. It builds doubt, uncertainty and anxiety / worry. Where do we turn when the world is not making any sense? Where do we go when we are confused, lost and afraid?

Have you ever wondered why they call the place where we gather a

"SANCTUARY?"

Proverbs 18:10 tells us that the Lord (His name = His authority) "is a strong tower and the righteous can run in to that tower and be safe."

Your church is a safe place, a place of help and healing, a place of hope. Please use this resource. If you feel alone, a little lost, if your faith is waning and you would like to have someone help you make sense of the world around you, it's time to connect.

I would like to invite you to spend some time here at the church. Need to talk? We're here. Need to pray? The altar is available. Need to connect? There are times for that as well. Need to make sense out of the world? Come, let us reason together.

Do not neglect the value of this place, this safe place; your sanctuary in times of trial.

Connect with me and let me tell you how. There's a wonderful place waiting for you.



**CVNaz
Connection**

Church Family Updates and Prayer Concerns



Prayer Concerns

Mike Roche

Fighting the good fight.

Please pray for healing and strength through his battle with Leukemia. Also, pray for Beverly as she cares for Mike.

Jack Stephano

For peace and strength.

Wanda Laws

Friend of Jack Stephano and Zola Schantin is suffering with liver failure has been given just a few weeks to live. Pray that the Lord would draw her to him and prepare her heart for eternity.

Jim Cleveland's Brother, Wes.

Jim would like us to pray for his brother's salvation and spiritual well-being.

Ralph Hauser

Ralph is having issues with his eyes. He has been referred to an ophthalmologist for further testing.

Emotional Stress

Several of our church family have mentioned to me that this is a very emotionally stressful time. Let's be in prayer for our brothers and sisters in the Lord. This has become a serious issue worldwide. We really do need each other.

Our Country and Its Leaders

The Bible tells us that, "For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God." Romans 13:1 Please pray for our national leadership, for healing from division and that truth will be revealed.

WE CELEBRATE....

October Birthdays

- 3 Mark Banning
- 8 Becky Cook
- 11 Beverly Roche
- 13 Tootie Olsen
- 13 Gerry Hauser
- 15 Sandy Boucher
- 21 Marlene Patten
- 23 Ruthine Bodie
- 23 Kathy Pereira
- 24 Ed Bovee
- 26 Lisa Davy
- 29 Pastor Simon Lam
- 30 Judi Ragsdale

October Anniversaries

- 2 John & Stacie Kopet
- 28 Norm & Linda Peterson

Congratulations to Brandon and Tyler Cote

Brandon and Tyler are going to begin their Eagle Scout projects.

CVNaz Sunday School: Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87402510042>

CVNAZ CONNECTION

THIS SATURDAY

There will be a welcome center open from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the church facility for times of connection, fellowship and prayer. Come grab a donut and some coffee, join the support group and enjoy good conversation. We will observe all COVID protocols. Please park on Lake Chabot Road and enter through the front glass doors.

PRAYER EVENT

Last Saturday several of us came to the Sanctuary and joined Franklin Graham in a prayer event praying for our country and its leaders. Thank you to all who joined.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Ministry Bible Study

Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Center

Men's Ministry Bible Study

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Center - Book of Romans

Leadership Board Meeting:

Sunday at 7:00 p.m.—via Zoom.



Cookie Ministry Appreciation

Saturday, October 10 at 10:00 a.m. At the church.

All Cookie Ministry Teams Members come and enjoy some coffee and a Treat

Our cookie ministry, led by Bonnie Bovee has been ministering for 20 years with 16 bakers. They have supported fire fighters, the Sherriff's Office, Cancer Centers and Alzheimer Homes. Well done and congratulations!

Ephesians 6:6

Tanner Eastman

After 17 straight days on the fire lines Tanner was able to come home for some rest. Thank you for your prayers.

Something New at Church?

Drive by and see for yourself. Praise God for His provision.

MISSIONS NEWS

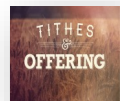
Missions Connections

Welcome to Becky Cook, our new Mission's Connection Director

Want to know what's going on around the world in Nazarene Missions?

Find out at: www.nazarene.org/news

FAITHFUL IN GIVING TO THE LORD AND HIS CHURCH



If you can and will, if God has blessed you and you wish to share those blessings with others, please continue to be faithful to your local church and its mission. We want to continue to be a part of great things happening in our community and around the world through your faithful support.

Venmo: @CVNazGive



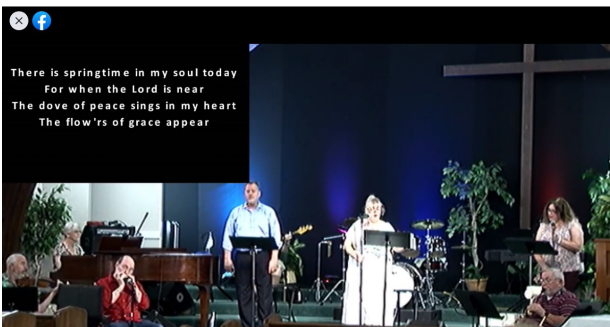
ALABASTER OFFERING

September is Alabaster Offering month, supporting the building of churches, hospitals and mission centers around the world. Be sure to bring your collected coins and offerings to support the work of missions. You can also Venmo your offering at: @CVNazGive

CVNaz Hymn Sing-along

Thank you to all who participated in our monthly Hymn Sing along.

Mike Roche, Wiley Davis, Lynn Connelly, Suzanne Redmond, Pat Pekknon, Fred Pekknon, Becky Cook, Greg Copp, Chris Kosciusko, Marty Murphy and Jacque Hauser.



If you missed it you will be able to watch it on YouTube shortly.

CVNaz Food Distribution Program

We are supporting more than 35 families regularly through the CVNaz Food Distribution Program on Saturdays. We begin at the church at 12:00 then the remainder of the food is distributed at 2 other Mobile Home Parks.

We would like all of the CVNaz Family to take advantage of this opportunity. Come down and put together a box for someone in need. It is a real blessing.



Celebration Sunday



October 4 from 9:00 a.m.—
10:30 a.m.
Drop-in Family Communion in
the Sanctuary

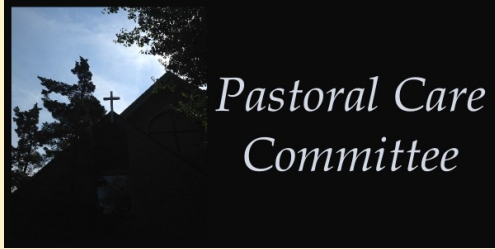
9:00—10:30 a.m.

Online Communion (prepare your own elements)
10:45 a.m.

CVNaz Service begins at 11:00 a.m.

Facebook Live and YouTube

Would you like to attend in person? We are allowed to have a few in-person attendees. If you would like to be one, please let us know.



October 2020

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

With just barely a moment's notice, our church and our pastor joined thousands of church families across our nation and our world, stopped in our tracks with unforeseen restrictions and confusing instructions related to the Wuhan Corona Virus and our responses to it.

We thought in March this would be a momentary affliction and life as we were living it would return in a couple of weeks or so. We are now at the end of September, beginning of October.

Questions still abound. Answers are all over the board. Truth needs to be revealed. And God is faithful. You may or may not have noticed, but the work of ministry, outreach, and Worship has continued, continually. New technology has been needed - the Lord has supplied. Creative outreach has been needed - the Lord has opened doors. Connection times have been offered and received. On top of the virus has come layer upon layer of conflict with, realistically, no room to resolve anything before the next conflict hits. And yet, God is faithful.

We say all of the above to remind us that God, in his faithfulness, mercy and grace, has used his servants, our Pastor Steve and Suzanne, to keep us steady, focused and centered on Jesus, our desperate need for Him, and His strong availability and love to enter our confusion, our conflict, our illness, our grieving, our cry for hope and truth.

Attached is a (borrowed) calendar of how to pray for our pastor and his family throughout the entire month of October. In addition to praying, I encourage you to reach out to Pastor Steve and Suzanne with notes of encouragement, love and thankfulness for their willing obedience to represent Jesus to us in this strange time.

Thank you, and Blessings!!!

Marilyn Cole

Pastoral and Staff Care Committee

Pray for your pastor

Print it out *by the Spirit*
Post it up
Pray each day

<p>1. Walk with God. May he have a close walk with God and love the Lord with all his heart, soul, and mind. (Matt. 22:37, Prov 3:5-6)</p>	<p>2. Passion for Scripture. May he delight in Your Word and meditate on it day and night. (Ps 119:15-16)</p>	<p>3. Prayer Life. May he be a man of prayer, devoting himself to prayer and communion with You. (Col 4:2)</p>	<p>4. Character and Integrity. May he be a godly man, having integrity of heart and being a faithful doer of the Word. (Ps 78:72, James 1:22)</p>	<p>5. Humility. May he be kept from pride and self-interest, remain teachable and humble to your instruction. (Gal 6:14-15)</p>	<p>6. Obedience. May he obey your commands and faithfully follow Your leading in his life. (John 14:15, Rom 6:16)</p>	<p>7. Health. Give him good health and help him to care for his physical body, for it is your temple of the Spirit. (1 Cor 6:19-20, 3 John 1:2)</p>
<p>8. Thought Life. May he hold every thought captive for Christ and be continuously transformed by the renewing of his mind (2 Co 10:5, Rom 12:2)</p>	<p>9. Peace and Joy. Grant him peace, joy, hope, and a deep trust in You. Help him to not be anxious, but to be thankful and prayerful in all things. (Rom 15:13, Phil 4:6)</p>	<p>10. Temptation. May his heart be kept guarded and pure. Keep him from falling into temptation of body or mind. (Prov 4:23, Ps 119:9, Matt 26:41)</p>	<p>11. Rest and Refreshment. Help him find the rest he needs, and may he find refreshment in your presence. (Ex 33:14, Matt 11:28-30, Mark 6:31)</p>	<p>12. Protection. Protect him and his family. Bless the work of his hands, delivering him from the schemes of the enemy. (Job 1:10, Ps 34:7, Ps 91)</p>	<p>13. Marriage. Establish his marriage and protect it. May they put each other's needs above their own. (Eph 5:22-33, 1 Peter 3:7)</p>	<p>14. Wife. May she love and respect him. May she walk with You and find support and encouragement to thrive in her unique position. (Eph 5:22-33)</p>
<p>15. Children. Help him to keep the way of the Lord in his household and train up his children to love and follow you. (Prov 20:7, Gen 18:19, Prov 22:6)</p>	<p>16. Finances. Provide for his needs and keep him from a love of money. May he be generous and a good steward. (Prov 3:9-10, 1 Tim 6:10-11, Heb 13:5)</p>	<p>17. Priorities/Time. May he seek your kingdom above all else. Guide him in setting priorities and managing his time. (Matt 6:33, Eph 5:15-17, Ps 90:12)</p>	<p>18. Love for Others. May he love others with the love of Christ. Help him to humbly put his love into action. (John 13:34, Phil 2:3-4, James 2:14-17)</p>	<p>19. Shepherd's Heart. May he have a heart for those you have placed in his care and an appropriate sense of responsibility. (Acts 20:28-29)</p>	<p>20. Heart for the Lost. May he proclaim the gospel with compassion and truth. Help him to have Your heart for the lost. (Mark 16:15, Matt 28:19)</p>	<p>21. Conflicts. Help him to handle conflict biblically and with love. Give him discernment in difficult situations. (Matt 18:15-17, Prov 15:1, 1 Cor 13)</p>
<p>22. Elders/Leadership. May they be godly, unified in purpose, good examples to others, and serving You joyfully. (Heb 13:17, 1 Cor 1:10, 1 Peter 5:1-4)</p>	<p>23. Godward Focus. Help him to keep his eyes fixed on you in every effort and in the face of any challenge. (Prov 4:25-27)</p>	<p>24. Wise Counsel. May the scripture be his first counsel. Support him through godly counselors who strengthen and guide him with wisdom. (Prov 24:5-6, 19:20-21)</p>	<p>25. Encouragement. May his hope be found in You. Bring encouragers into his life to build up and support him. (1 Thes 5:11, Is 41:10, 1 Tim 5:17)</p>	<p>26. Discernment. May he listen to your voice as you direct his path. Grant him godly wisdom and understanding. (Isa 30:21, Prov 3:13-18)</p>	<p>27. Biblical Faithfulness. May he understand and hold firm to the truth, teaching it and rebuking those who contradict it. (Titus 1:9)</p>	<p>28. Sermon Preparation. Grant him the time and focus to prepare his message, and give him the ideas and words to present it clearly. (Col 4:5)</p>
<p>29. Teaching. May Jesus be exalted in every message. May he rightly divide the word of truth and may the hearts of your people be open to it. (2 Tim 2:15)</p>	<p>30. Vision. May he lead the congregation by the Spirit. Impart to him your vision for the church (Jer 3:15)</p>	<p>31. Blessing. May the he be blessed by the Lord and by the congregation. May it be received humbly and for your glory. (1 Tim 5:17, 1 Thes 5:12-13, Num 6:24-26)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">~ Jeremiah 3:15</p>			



Hello church family!

I am excited about the upcoming opportunities to be involved in missions both in our community and abroad!

November 24th and December 30th, we will be hosting blood drives at our church. To sign up, simply go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter the sponsor code CVNAZARENE. You can also call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Let's travel to Lebanon! Well, not really...but we can travel there in our prayers.

Facts about Lebanon:

- The first Nazarene church was started in 1950. There are 4 churches there now!
- Islam and Christianity are the two main religions.
- Many refugees from Syria and Iraq have sought shelter in Lebanon in recent years, which greatly broadened the ministry of the churches there.
- The explosion in Beirut not only caused incredible devastation in the lives of 200 people killed and over 6500 injured, but also caused the economy of the country to collapse.
- The Nazarene churches have been busy helping people to rebuild their lives (medical clinic, food, rebuilt homes, repaired churches and schools, etc.)

Prayer requests:

- For the churches as they minister to the increased number of refugees and a people still devastated.
- For peace for the country as it starts to heal from civil wars, COVID-19, and the explosion.
- Safety and wisdom for our missionaries in Lebanon

As most of you know, I had the incredible opportunity to travel to Kenya on a medical missions trip last year. I love this country and so you can imagine my excitement when I read the beautiful story of Dorcus Chepkwony, a Kenyan woman who fulfilled her dream and calling by spearheading a Nazarene church plant in Marakwet East, one of the poorest areas of Kenya. The church had its first service in November, 2019 and now has 26 adults, 10 youth, and almost 30 children. As of right now, they meet in an open field as there is not a building big enough to hold the congregation...which leads me to my next point...

It is that time of year again! The Alabaster Offering! We may not be able to bring our Alabaster boxes to church, but we can still give to help with funding property and buildings around the world. Just think...we could possibly help with building a church for the young congregation starting in Kenya! You can send a check or give through Venmo (@CVNazGive)...just be sure to mark it for the Alabaster offering.

We are also excited about the possibility of having Russell and Carla Frazier come to one of our services next year! They are long-time missionaries now serving in Kenya. Stay tuned for more information!

Let's be faithful in sharing the love of Jesus during these troubled times.

Becky

CV Naz Missions



A Historic Jewel

CVNaz Pipe Organ

James Jameson, an organ enthusiast sold organs for Estes Company in the early 1920's. He desired to build a home in San Francisco to demonstrate organs in 1924. The house was built for the organ; a very beautiful, small English-style cottage which still stands today. Our organ was designed and finished on September 13, 1925 to demonstrate the latest in organ technology, the new "modern" voicing and in an English Cathedral Style. Believe it or not this was a player-organ with scrolls that played the organ without human hands. Because of this organ many organs were built all over the United States. After several years the company put the organ up for sale for \$6,500 (\$111,000.00 today) and that was a deal! The owner said, "I could sell it for a lot more." It didn't sell and remained available for 12 years. Around August of 1943, one of the members of our church offered \$1,800 for the organ and Estey agreed. (We have a copy of the original agreement) In effect, our church was the first and only owner of the organ. James Jameson would later become one of the most notorious organ aficionados and world renowned organists and our organ was his dream.

The organ was moved to East Oakland, moved again to another location and then upon our congregation's move to Castro Valley found its home where it is today.

Today the organ sits quiet. The electronics, which are very intricate, have failed and the quote for fixing the organ sits at around \$75,000. So many have said they would love to hear the organ play again. And so, we are praying that the Lord would work a miracle to bring the organ back to life! Would you pray with us?

A miracle is the only way it would happen. It is not an essential part of worship but it is a blessed part. We follow a Mighty God. Please pray with us.

