



## Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene



*F*or too many people, Christmas has become a long to-do list that leaves them weary and wishing for Dec. 26. We want you to remember the reason you celebrate Christmas and why it should change not just the way you celebrate the holidays but the rest of your life as well.

To sanctify means to set apart. Here's how you can sanctify Christmas:

### Look at everything through the prism of Jesus' birth.

The coming of Jesus changed everything: He **transformed** our past, He **energized** our present and He has **inspired** our hope of the future.

Jesus, the Savior, came to transform **the past**, to save us from our sin. It's time to celebrate!!! We are

forgiven; the past no longer a factor, forgiven by His grace and accepted by His love we move ahead.

Jesus, the Savior, came to **energize our present**. He is Emmanuel, God with us, right now, right here, right where He is needed, empowering our living with His presence, dwelling in us through His Holy Spirit! It's time to live in confidence—He is here.

Jesus, the Savior, came to inspire **our hope of the future**. Because He was born, because He lived, because He died and because He lives we can face tomorrow and heaven has opened up for us to enter into eternal life!

Sanctify Christmas by putting everything in this context:

- The lights
- The trees
- The giving
- The music
- The gatherings
- Yes, even the shopping

All of these can be sanctified if we place them all in the context of Jesus' coming. Give it a try! His coming changes everything.

*Rejoice!*



Watch all services on Facebook Live, and **NOW** find the Services replay on the front page of our Website.

[www.castrovalleynaz.org](http://www.castrovalleynaz.org)



## A Message from Pastor Steve

Christmas is amazing! I smile when I'm walking through the store and I hear the sacred music of our Savior being played or sung. In the Macy's Day parade the great hymns of faith proclaimed, "Joy to the World the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!" Even the Little Drummer Boy offering a musical gift to the Newborn King plays quietly in the background of those ordering paint at Home Depot. My prayer is for a miracle to happen: that the words to these songs sink in to their hearts even if they aren't aware of what they are hearing. What the world really needs is to understand who Jesus is and why He came. They need a loving Savior, they need something to believe in that will really make a difference in their lives. They need something to give them hope and bring peace. Well, if they'd listen they would hear the answer....

*Joy to the world the Lord is come, let earth receive her King!"*

The prayer in these lyrics is stunning: Let earth receive! Amen.

We all know the true importance of Christmas; the celebration of the Savior, Jesus. It's not just a legend, but a life changing reality. He comes even today into the hearts and lives of those who need Him. Wow! What a message!

This has been a challenging year for everyone. Yet my family and I are so grateful to share this experience with you. We are so blessed to be here serving you.

May this powerful message of this season serve as a reminder of how important you are to God, and to us. You are loved!

*With best wishes and God's blessings during this wonderful Christmas Season!*

# Merry Christmas!

*Pastor Steve, Suzanne, Stacie, Allie & Ross, Sarah and Maddie.*




### SUNDAY IS CELEBRATION SUNDAY

The church will be open for special prayer and communion from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. per family unit. Online communion at 10:45 a.m. Prepare your elements in advance.



2021  
DIRECTORY  
UPDATE

Make sure we have the latest update and contact information.  
New directories will be available in January.



For Such A  
Time As This

Seeing God's Purposeful Work In My Life

Starting January 2021



# Church Family Updates and Prayer Concerns



### Mike Roche

Mike continues to fight leukemia but is feeling good

and forever grateful for the prayer and support. Pray for Mike and Beverly for continued healing and strength.

### Kathy Musil

Upcoming surgery on her wrist has been postponed due to the flu.

### Bonnie Bovee

Bonnie will be having eye surgery on the 8th of December. Please keep her in prayer for success and a speedy recovery.

### Ruthine Boddie

For peace in her current situation at Jones' Convalescent Home.

### Unspoken Needs

There are those who are having unspoken physical concerns. As well, those struggling with grief find the holidays especially difficult. The Lord knows their situation and can answer simply by our prayers of concern. Let's carry one another's burdens and in this, "fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

## EVENTS

### Women's Ministry Bible Study

First and Third Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Center

### Men's Ministry Bible Study

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

## WE CELEBRATE....

### December Birthdays

- 2 Robert Davy
- 2 Kristen Basmajian
- 3 Pastor Rick Eastman
- 5 Jeff Machetta
- 8 Ashley Eastman
- 17 Analise Eastman
- 17 Pastor Steve Redmond
- 19 Cindy Eastman
- 20 Darrell Shinnette
- 21 Kayla Anguiano
- 22 Ashleigh Colburn
- 26 Nichole Lucero
- 29 Linda Peterson

### December Anniversaries

- 10 Rich & Penny Oregon
- 11 Troy & Lisa Cote
- 31 Rudy & Anita Brugman

If we missed your special day, let us know so that we can update our records.



### CONGRATULATIONS TO NICK AND KAYLA ANGUIANO

They are expecting a new arrival.

### MOVING MEMBERS

- Pastor Salvador Zavala has moved to Manteca.
- Jack Stephano is moving to Dublin.



For address information contact the Church Office.

# MEET and GREET

## CVNAZ CONNECTION

There is a time set aside every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the church facility for times of connection, fellowship and prayer. Drive by or stop in and encourage each other in the faith. We will observe all COVID protocols.



### *CVNaz Family* *Christmas Party*

**Sunday, December 20**

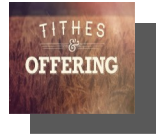
**4:00-6:00 p.m.**

**A Drive-thru-only party is being planned with Christmas Carols, a Christmas Greeting and a special treat for everyone.**

## FAITHFUL IN GIVING TO THE LORD AND HIS CHURCH

If you can and are able, 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



## WHAT CAN WE DO TO BLESS OTHERS?

### CVNaz Food Distribution Program

Join the CVNaz Food Distribution Program on Saturdays around

12:00 p.m.

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.



In your year end financial planning for the year 2020, consider a special gift to the Church and its ministries, or support a special fund like the *Legacy Project*. Your

investment means more opportunity to reach our community for Jesus. You may also benefit from tax savings as well.



*December 2020*

*Pastor Steve and Suzanne, Stacie, Allison, Ross, Sarah, Madison*

*Prayer Support from the Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene church family*

*In light of our life's and world's events, how then shall we pray for our pastor and family?*

*Pray for Pastor Steve and Suzanne and their family:*

*That they would:*

*Draw near to the Father while embracing the Son*

*Be Anointed with Joy when presented with treasures of darkness*

*Surrender themselves to the goodness of God and his Sovereign plans over their lives*

*Be protected from blind-sided assaults of the enemy through physical illness, doubts, fears, hardships*

*Rejoice in the truth of Emmanuel, God with us*

*Live fully here and now while preparing their hearts for the Kingdom to come*

*Experience a new closeness with and a deeper love from Jesus*

*Be renewed in their minds by the Word of God*

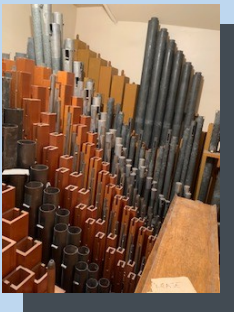
*With thankfulness, experience the presence of the Redeemer as they cry out for Help! - In big things, and in little things*

*Continue to strengthen their love for each other*

*Minister in the power of the Holy Spirit in and to our church family and beyond, into our community and our world*

*Happy Birthday— December 17 – Pastor Steve*

## Coming Soon: The Legacy Project.



We will be asking the members (current and former), family and friends of the (Edenvale) Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene to help us by prayerfully pledging a love gift towards the **Legacy Project; the restoration of our pipe organ**. This faith project will begin in January of 2021, Please consider what you might do in supporting this cause above regular tithes and offerings,

# MISSIONS NEWS

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

Find out at: [www.nazarene.org/news](http://www.nazarene.org/news)

Hello everyone! I am so thankful for all of you and your heart for missions. A heart for missions means a heart for Jesus.

## Missions Abroad

Last month we met our very own missionaries, Esdras and Scarlet Jimenez. I am excited for the chance to pray for them, their family and ministry. Unfortunately, we will be unable to send a care package to them; but there are several ways we can give:



1. We will be sending a Christmas offering. You can give by sending a check to the church with the memo "LINKS missionary offering" or through Venmo @CVNazGive and mark it for LINKS missionaries.
2. Send a Christmas note to them via email to [becky\\_cook@comcast.net](mailto:becky_cook@comcast.net). I would love to be able to send them notes from our congregation

Thank you to those who signed up to pray for our missionaries during the week. Praise God we have every day covered! Scarlet has requested we pray specifically for their children (10-year-old Joshua and 6-year-old Sara), their ministries, and their relatives. I will hopefully have more details to share with you next month. In the meantime, you can focus on the following:

1. Spiritual walk
2. Children
3. Marriage
4. Ministry
5. Finances
6. Safety
7. Encouragement
8. Physical health
9. Friendships
10. Extended family

## Missions Locally

We were able to host another Red Cross blood drive on Wednesday the 25 th ! Overall, it was a great success! We will be hosting more drives in the coming months with the next one being on December 30 th . Red Cross is very thankful for our flexibility and willingness to host the blood drives. Please be in prayer that every person who walks through our church's doors will meet Jesus in some way.

Let's pray for ways to share Christ with those around us!

Becky, CV Naz Missions Connections

**Have Dimes**

**for Africa?** Bring them in your "Dime Socks" or fill up a plastic bag.

**Help us fight hunger!!!**