



2021 *be engaged*

Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

Engage Jesus, His Word, Worship, Prayer, Fellowship and Service

September 2021 Newsletter

Are You Ready for God to do a New Thing in Your Life?

As a pastor it is my desire to see all of you experience God in unique and wonderful ways. I desire to see His hand leading you, guiding you in to pathways of blessing. I long to see you experience His love and goodness. So what are the conditions that bring this about in our lives?

As believers, we often think that God can only use us when we get our act together. We believe we have to get our ducks in a row; cross every spiritual “t” and dot every spiritual “i.” We imagine that we have to deliberately fix our dysfunctions, right every wrong and remedy all of our failures.

All we have to do is take a look at scripture and see this is not true. God used the dysfunctions of every key character in His plan to get His plan done. In fact, I believe God saw their shortcomings as something to be used for His glory.

Here’s the truth: God doesn’t want you to get perfect before He uses you, he wants to use you just as you are! What happens is that as we come to God and enter into His plan, change naturally happens. Praise his name!

So, don’t change a thing!!! Step up into God’s plan and let Him work in you as you journey with Him to fulfill His desire in your life. Do it!!!

WILL YOU STAND WITH SOMEONE?

Has God laid someone on your heart? It's time to stand with someone to assist them in their God designed calling. Who will that be for you?



The Castro Valley Connection

Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene



1 Corinthians 1:29 Is the reason why God allows us to go through failures in our lives, because no one can boast that they were a success on their own? We have to be humble and give God all the glory because it is by His grace that we are what we are. When we come to Jesus all our failures will be converted into successes.

Need to get out and have a little light exercise?

Beginning on August 3 join us for a 13 week Tuesday morning leisurely walking group.

8:30 a.m. at the Lake Chabot Marina Café. It's a 3.3 mile, easy walk. Bring water and comfortable shoes.

Contact Suzanne Redmond for information.

We're Still Hoping to Update Our Church Family Photo Board

We would really like to get the photo board back up by getting new photos of everyone, each family or couple. Many of the photos we had were getting pretty out of date.

Is there someone who would be willing to take the pictures and print them up for us in the next month or two? If so, please see Pastor Steve about getting this started. We would greatly appreciate any help you can give.

August Giving Report for Tithes and Offerings

Monthly Income Goals:

Needed Ministry Budget for August:	\$ 18,000.00
Received for August:	\$ 20,807.11
Needed for September:	\$ 18,000.00

Thank you for being faithful *to the Lord and to His church.*

If You Would Like to Honor a Loved One during the month of October, Valerie Bloemink has offered to prepare a special flower arrangement for you in their memory. Valerie (at this time) has about 2 openings for the month of October. Please contact her if this is something you'd like to have done. And may God bless Valerie for this kind offer.



Mr. & Mrs. Troy Cote and

Boy Scout Troop 822 cordially invite you to attend the Eagle Court of Honor for

Brandon N. Cote
Tyler P. Cote



Saturday, October 16, 2021
1:00 pm

San Felipe Community Park
2058 D Street, Hayward, CA 94541
Reception Following Ceremony

RSVP to (510) 566-1355 or
LMCote78@sbcglobal.net



The Castro Valley
Connection

Visit us on
facebook

The Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

19230 Lake Chabot Road
Castro Valley, CA. 94546

510 581-8377

cvoffice@castrovalleynaz.org
www.castrovalleynaz.org



Castro Valley Church of the
Nazarene
A Welcoming, Affirming
Congregation, Dedicated to
Becoming a House of
Prayer, a Place of Worship
and a Vehicle for the
Healing of the Entire Person

Food Program at CV Naz

Every Saturday at about noon, we receive food to share with the needy. If you are in need, or know anyone who is, please come pick up some food to share. There is a variety of food items available. *Come and be a part of this blessed ministry.*



Sunday, September 26th, 6:00 p.m.

Celebrations

September Anniversaries

- 1 Mark & Valerie Banning
- 4 Ed & Bonnie Bovee
- 11 Rob & Lisa Davy
- 16 Reggie & Julie Joseph
- 29 Dick & Ester Bellefeuille



September Birthdays

- 5 Mickey Stephano
- 18 Christine Cole
- 18 Michael Copp
- 18 Jose Munoz
- 22 Ester Bellefeuille
- 23 Allison Martinson
- 24 Dana Cintrone



Dear Lord,

Help me to listen to
You in prayer as much
as you listen to me.
Amen.

cross4torj

September 2021

Pastor Steve and Suzanne

Stacie, Allison, Ross, Sarah, Madison

Prayer Support from the CV Church of the Nazarene church family
Happy Birthday - Allison (Redmond) Martinson - September 23

How then shall we pray? Pray as God leads you, and here are some ideas: Pray that:

The Lord would bless them as they commit their marriage(s) to Him

The Lord would show Himself to be a faithful, strong Shield and Deliverer as they encounter challenges and hardships designed to test their faith

The Lord would be Sovereign over their health, especially during the continuing saga of the Corona virus and all its variants.

The Lord would hear their cry and provide for all their needs

The Lord would be blessed by their praise and worship of Him

The Lord would give them Rest as they "Be still and know that He is God."

Their eyes would be fixed on Jesus as they minister to the needs of their people.

The Lord would give them deep laughter, honest tears, open hearts, and joy

The Lord would give them treasures from the Word as they study and trust and obey

Their ears would discern the voice of the Shepherd as they listen for his direction and guidance in their personal, family, and ministry lives.

The Lord would continue to give them hearts that seek His truth, His wisdom, His kingdom

The Lord would be their Strength in times of weakness

The Lord would intercede for them with the Father according to His will.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

The Castro Valley Connection will be published monthly and updates sent weekly. For announcements, articles and items of interest email the church office at cvoffice@castrovalleynaz.org.

Church Directory Changes

→ We are beginning to work on updating the Church Directory. Please note whether your information is included in the current 2021 Directory, or if any information needs updating or correcting. If inclusion or changes are needed, please send that information to the Church E-mail, topic "Directory Changes." And if you don't mind, please also give us your information on a piece of paper. *Thank You !!! COMING UP SOON, time is running out to get your changes to us.*

Prayer Needs



Please keep the following items on your prayer list this week:

Beverly Roche: As you know, the Lord took Mike home to eternal rest and while we rejoice that the battle is over for Mike, let us keep Beverly in our hearts and prayers. She might not always be up to a conversation, but certainly texts and notes might help her remember she is loved and not alone.

Bob & Valerie Bloemink:

Thankfully, Bob is recovering from hip surgery and gaining strength. Valerie's August surgery has been delayed, but we might check with her as to whether she needs help with shopping or meals as her hip must surely be very painful. Please keep them both in prayer!

Barbara Cook: Please continue to pray that she will gain much more strength and that the medical efforts to improve her oxygen levels will be very successful. We're so grateful for her improvement and pray for more!

Jim Correia: Please pray for Jim as his cancer has returned and is inoperable. He is currently in Hawaii and is scheduled to return in November. May the

Lord give him peace and trust, and comfort for him and his family.

Cindy Eastman: Cindy's brother Everett passed away and her family is grieving. Please keep them in your prayers as they deal with their loss.

Kathleen Rushing asks for prayer for her son, Andrew, who is in the Middle East working with US forces in support of the Afghanistan evacuation. He is glad to be there but needs our prayers for safety, wisdom and discernment. Please also keep his family in prayer.

WELCOME JADE BELLO! *Such a beautiful blessing to her parents and to us all. May God guide her parents and little Jade throughout her life.*

Property Acquisition: We will meet after church regarding the property. We pray the Lord will guide us in every step and decision.

Unspoken Needs There are many needs not expressed but the Lord knows. Please pray for those who have not shared their needs.

For our Country and World: May God's hand guide and the Spirit lead us into all truth and may revival begin in the Church of Jesus. Without Him, there could be frightening times. Praise the Lord, we are in His hands.

For Afganistahn, her people, our people; and for Haiti and it's people.

Thoughts on How to Improve Your Quiet Time with God

1. Write a prayer that expresses **your** heartfelt desire to follow **God in** this season of **your** life. If you keep it somewhere close, then you have a starting point for **your** daily time with **God**. ...
2. Commit yourself to a regular time, in a place that is quiet and private.
3. Begin with (even a short) prayer.
4. Read a bit of the Word every day, for at least a few minutes.
5. The Gospels should be reviewed consistently. These tell us exactly who Jesus is.

May the Lord bless in your endeavors.



*Thy Word
is a Lamp unto my feet
And
A Light unto my Path*

Announcements

TODAY

We will have an All-Church Meeting directly following morning service. There will be a vote afterward.

Sunday, September 26th

All-Church Luau September 26 and Hymn Sing-along. We're praying for "Covid Cooperation" - that all will be safe and there will be no new restrictions. The Luau will begin at 4:30 and the Sing-Along at 6:00 p.m. Bring a friend!

Fellowship Groups:

We would like to start a few more fellowship groups among our congregation. "Fellowship Groups" are vital for the continuous encouragement and growth in faith. They also deepen our sense of family and friendship among participants. It's a huge blessing. If you are interested hosting a fellowship group or leading one, let Pastor Steve know.

Prayer Ministry

For critical items of prayer contact Pastor Steve or Bonnie Bovee to activate the prayer team. **If there are other prayer concerns, please let the office know. Prayer updates are sent out via email and phone notification.**

Thing to know ...

You have probably noticed the floor in the Fellowship Hall and kitchen are in "transition." Decisions have been made, the new floor actually already being installed. There will also be new floor coverings in the Hallway and Foyer at some point soon.

We thank God for His provision!

PLEASE STAY AFTER CHURCH TODAY FOR A QUICK MEETING & VOTING.

COVID Guidelines: As you are likely well aware, there has been a resurgence of new cases. Masks are now required inside. For us, please wear your masks into the church building. Let us be aware, be cautious and considerate of others. God bless you all.

***Stay home if you don't feel well** or have been in contact with a sick person.

***If vaccinated and in good health, come to church with confidence but do keep a social distance and refrain from direct contact**

Men's Bible Study

Fellowship

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room, and on Zoom.

Women's Fellowship Bible Study

The second and fourth Thursdays of each month. See Dana Cintrone or Judy Pierce for information.

Adult Sunday School

Sundays
Fireside Room in person (or available on Zoom)
9:00—10:00 A.M.

Saturday Fellowship and Hymn Singing

Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. many have joined together for an hour of fellowship, coffee and singing. Join us!

Looking Ahead

It's SEPTEMBER and life is *still* confusing. News reports conflict with one another, and Covid News changes. But while caution is in the air, we are Free in Him, we have Hope in Him, His promises are reliable, HE is our Strength and He has plans for our future.

Therefore, we look forward to His plans for us. Meanwhile, our Luau (pre-sing-along) is on the schedule for this month!

We Love You All

Next Hymn-Sing Along Night

Sunday, September 26th

As we've been hinting, we plan to have a Luau along with our next Music Night, on Sept. 26th. COVID conditions allowing, we plan to have a Luau supper together in the Fellowship Room beginning at 4:30, followed by our Hymn-Sing-Along evening from 6:00 p.m. until about 7:10.

We'll have a "bring something" sign-up sheet out soon so we can plan.

It's more fun when we bring friends!

Sunday School via Zoom (Join Us)

We're continuing as we have been doing during Covid days, by meeting on Zoom for Sunday School. But we can also be together, now, too (for now... We'll see what comes up.)

Join Pastor Steve and others in the Fireside Room at 9:00 a.m. if you can come in person.

For Zoom(ers), Pastor Steve sends out invitations to join on Zoom from the comfort of your home, *via his updates on Email*. Keep a lookout!

The more the merrier for Sunday School! It is a *great* time of learning and fellowship.

You Can Be A Helper!

- - If you could help, with flower arrangements— please see Valerie Bloemink, she does it all alone every week!! Valerie's August surgery was postponed. She certainly will need a substitute whenever the surgery does take place so please consider whether this is something you might be able to do. Thank you!!
- - This month we will (or we expect to) see new flooring put into the Fellowship Room. We are so grateful for the faithfulness of our members in tithing, and in the blessings of God during this past year. What a joy to be able to spruce up our church home!
- - Please remember to keep our church family members in prayer as many have gone through and are going through loss and sickness. The Lord looks to us to lift one another up and encourage. Sharing our love and His love is or testimony and service to God and others.
- - Interested in helping the homeless? We send food and supplies to 3 encampments every week! Would you like to be a part of the team? We serve Saturday afternoons. Here's your chance. Please see Marilyn.

Saturday Morning Meet & Greet

With the new Covid resurgence, things might change. But hopefully the following can continue..... As many of us meet at the church Saturday mornings between 10-12 a.m., to check out the Food Distribution and to see our church family in a casual atmosphere, music often springs forth from several talented members who get the piano humming and others with instruments join in... and we have a great singing time, often from 11 till noon. Bring your voice or and instrument and join the fun! You'll be glad you did. See you there!

But also, please be aware of any new mask and health mandates from the government. We trust God but are obedient citizens as well.

Well, NORMAL seems to be postponed, ...again...

Let us be strong in the Lord, and patient with circumstances and one another.

If you are vaccinated or have already had Covid, you are probably safe. HOWEVER, it appears that breakthrough cases happen *even to vaccinated folks*. And, there are those who are unvaccinated or might be fearful. Please consider the feelings and comfort of others in church. Let's wear masks if we are asked to, and keep the distances suggested.

This is hard... but we need to put off the hugs we had begun to enjoy, and even hand shaking. And, let's use the disinfectant wipes!

Missions Report

What is Alabaster?

The [Alabaster](#) Offering provides funds for property and buildings around the world. While we understand the church consists of the people of God and not a building, buildings erected for the purpose of ministry help provide a sense of permanence, functionally enhance ministry efforts, and convey an attitude that the Church of the Nazarene intends to "put down roots."

Use of Alabaster funds

Alabaster funds are to be used for new churches to:

- Purchase a property or [church](#) building
- Purchase or build a church parsonage
- Build a church building
- Conversion of a property into a church gathering space
- Meet initial costs for renting a church meeting space for a limited period

Alabaster funds may also be used to:

- Purchase or build missionary homes
- Purchase or build regional or field missions facilities
- Build or repurpose buildings on Bible college campuses

How are Alabaster offerings received?

The Alabaster Offering gets to the [mission](#) field via several avenues. The most widely used is the Alabaster Box. Individuals are challenged to regularly contribute the cost of items they desire but do not need. The boxes also serve as reminders to pray for those people who will benefit from Alabaster buildings.

In September and February, the [money](#) is collected. Many churches receive regular offerings throughout the year that are designated as Alabaster funds. (This is often a part of the Faith Promise plan for missions giving.) However, the semi-annual offerings in September and February are tradition in the Church of the [Nazarene](#).

WORLD REGIONS

AFRICA

ASIA-PACIFIC

EURASIA

MESOAMERICA

SOUTH AMERICA

USA/CANADA

Our local church, Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene, will set up an Alabaster collection box on Sunday, September 19 and September 26, 2021. Please memo line your checks: *Alabaster offering*.

Alabaster offering is giving above and beyond your regular tithe offering. Every penny goes to the work of missions.

The wooden tithe box for your regular giving will also be in place on those two Sundays.

Please pray for our Nazarene outreach on the mission field throughout the world as you consider what you will give to this worthy offering.

May the Lord bless you as you trust and obey.

