

NAZ NEWS

NAZARETH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCH 30, 2025

WORSHIP WITH NAZ

SUNDAYS

CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 8:30 am
In-Person Worship at Nazareth | 9 & 10:45 am

WEDNESDAYS

CFU Channels 18 & 95.5
4:30 pm Wednesday

ONLINE OPTIONS

Recordings of sermons available on
[Vimeo.com/mynazareth](https://vimeo.com/mynazareth)
Livestreams Broadcast on our website
www.naz.org/onlinechurch



BASIC Jamaica Mission Trip

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Southern Asia Mission Trip

Nazareth is excited to share a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to join fellow Nazareth members on a ten-day mission trip in Southern Asia this November. Our long-time missions partners, Shannon and Lisa Sandquist are leading the journey to a beautiful and diverse country that has over 1.3 billion unreached people, and have not heard the good news of the Gospel. The Sandquists work with Oaks International and Iowa State. They are inviting a small group of Nazareth members to join their team, to reach out to the people of Southern Asia through prayer, building relationships, and homestays.

If you are interested in joining or want to learn more about this mission trip opportunity, we encourage you to attend a meeting hosted by the Sandquists on Sunday, March 30, at 10:00 am in Bethel Hall, between worship services. If you are interested in learning more but are unable to attend the meeting, please reach out and email us.worldmissions@naz.org, and the committee can send you information and get you connected. We hope you consider and pray over this incredible life-changing opportunity.

Baby Bottle Ministry Donations

Nazareth is participating in Alternatives Pregnancy Center's "Baby Bottle Campaign" during Lent. Alternatives is a first stop for people facing unplanned pregnancies, address at-risk sexual behavior, and build healthy families. They have offered quality, free, and confidential services to the Cedar Valley since 1991.

If you want to donate, please stop by the table in Fellowship Hall on March 30 or April 6 and pick up a baby bottle. Take the bottle home and fill it with loose change or bills. Please return your bottle with your donation to Nazareth by Easter Sunday. You can also scan the QR code below to make your donation online. Any donation is appreciated and can help change a life.



**SCAN HERE TO DONATE
TO ALTERNATIVES'
BABY BOTTLE DRIVE!**

CONNECT WITH NAZARETH

-  7401 University Ave.
-  319-266-7589
-  info@naz.org
-  www.naz.org
-  MyNazareth
-  [mynazchurch](https://www.instagram.com/mynazchurch)

BIBLE OVERVIEW

EXPLORING THE WORD AND WORLD OF GOD

TITLE | The Good News Goes Forth

TEACHER | Pastor Tim Boettger

TEXT | Acts 9:1-9 & Matthew 16:13-23

Synopsis

God Promised that His people would have a unique power come upon them and become His witnesses in the world once the Holy Spirit was given to them. After the day of Pentecost, the news of Jesus spread quickly throughout the world through His chosen people. We can learn a lot about God's ways in the modern church from the inspired record of this time in the Book of Acts.

SERVICE PROGRAM

As for Me and My House

We Fall Down

Confessions and Forgiveness

Announcements

Prayers of the Church and Lord's Prayer

Lesson: Acts 9:1-9

Children's Sermon

Offering: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-23

Sermon

Prayer

Here I Am, Lord

Apostle's Creed

Lord, You Give the Great Commission | red 579

Blessing and Benediction

Flowers

The chancel arrangement is dedicated to the family of God, united in faith and love.

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

MUSIC SPOTLIGHT

At Nazareth, we want vibrant singing to be an integral part of our Sunday mornings. Using Spotify, these "Music Spotlights" are designed to encourage and familiarize us with the music for the upcoming weekend so that we can wholeheartedly sing as we worship together.

This coming weekend, we will sing "Here I Am, Lord," – a hymn written by Wisconsin native Daniel Schutte (b. 1947). This hymn has Catholic origins. It was first written in 1979, rapidly gained popularity, and was published widely across several denominations by 1981. Currently serving as Composer-In-Residence at the University of San Francisco, Schutte continues to compose Catholic and contemporary Christian liturgical music. Notable Christian artists, including Amy Grant and John Michael Talbot, have recorded his compositions, and his music is credited in secular movies and television shows (e.g., *Dark Waters*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, and *Will and Grace*).

Drawing on Isaiah 6:8, "*Here I Am, Lord*" remains Schutte's most well-known sacred composition. Each verse of the hymn reflects a paradox. That is, the powerful God, creator of "sea and sky," "snow and rain," and "wind and flame," is also the God who hears the "people cry," bears the "people's pain," and "tend the poor and lame." Also, it's a hymn of transformation. That is, God transforms the darkness into light in verse one, melts "hearts of stone" with love in verse two, and nourishes the "poor and lame" with the "finest bread" – a clear Eucharistic reference – in verse three. Finally, an unusual attribute of this hymn is the change in point of view that the singer makes between the verses and the refrain. The verses speak from the perspective of God in the first person singular, while the refrain, though remaining in first person, is from the perspective of the singers of the hymn offering their lives to God.

Listen to "*Here I Am, Lord*" along with the music for Sunday on Spotify:

open.spotify.com/user/ovcn1ug98cq5vgzdb0668tcep



**SCAN HERE TO
LISTEN TO THE
SPOTIFY PLAYLIST!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED...

Thursday Evening Lenten Services

Please join Nazareth for our Thursday evening services throughout the Lenten season. These services will be every Thursday at 6:00 pm, through April 10. Worship with us as we anticipate and prepare for Jesus' death and resurrection. Each service will feature a community soup supper at 5:00 pm. This Thursday, April 3, we will serve Cheeseburger and Ham & Bean soup. We look forward to worshipping with you!



God of Covenant - Women's Study Group

Join us for a deep dive into Genesis with "God of Covenant" by Jen Wilkin, facilitated by Tammy Bakken on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 pm. Beginning with Genesis 12, walk alongside the fathers of our faith—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph—to discern Jesus in the stories of his people. In over 10 sessions, discover how God orchestrates everything for his glory and the good of His people, and see how the God of creation and covenant is the same yesterday, today, and forever. This is an intergenerational women's group with a laid-back/casual approach to discussion. This group is OPEN to new members and will begin April 8 through August 2025. Sign up at naz.org/nextsteps.

Relational Trauma Survivors Group

We warmly invite you to our Relational Trauma Survivors Group's next meeting on April 14 at 6:00 pm, facilitated by Sarah Wherry and Alex Luecking. This group is for anyone looking to improve their relationships with themselves, God, and others after experiencing trauma and/or hardship in their personal relationships. Join us as we discover how God redeems our hurts as we relearn to trust God. Navigating relational trauma can feel isolating, but here, you'll find a compassionate space filled with understanding and shared experiences. We look forward to meeting you and offering and receiving support together. Registration is available today at naz.org/nextsteps.

Acts Sermon Series and Study Book

Looking ahead, Pastor Tim and Pastor Mike will lead us through a sermon series covering the Book of Acts called "Unstoppable" beginning April 27. The Book of Acts gives us a beautiful narrative of how God's church was formed, the believers he inspired to lead, and what he still calls us to do TODAY! A Bible study guide created by The Bible Recap will be used for small groups and individuals. It is an accessible way to study scripture. The pastors will dedicate two Sundays to cover each weekly lesson in the study book. For those looking to take the next step:

1. Sign up to order a copy of the study book by emailing Meg at meg.husted@naz.org (\$15) or sign up at the Next Steps desk after the service for personal/individual study by April 16
2. Order a copy of the book AND sign up for a small group that will meet (almost bi-weekly) through the summer. You can find these listings AND sign up at naz.org/nextsteps.

March Donation Requests

This is the last week we are accepting March donations. Nazareth is participating in Love Inc's Make-a-Difference Monthly donation campaign, who is accepting Cleaning Products such as brooms, mops, sponges, and buckets.

Nazareth's food pantry is accepting donations of personal hygiene products such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc. To learn more, schedule an appointment, or find a complete list of acceptable donations, visit naz.org/foodpantry or email peg.merfeld@naz.org. 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. Thank you for your generosity, your donations make a difference!

Prayer Shawls Available Palm Sunday

Nazareth's faithful and dedicated Prayer Shawl Ministry will have a wide selection of prayer shawls available in Fellowship Hall after each service on Palm Sunday, April 13. Prayer Shawls make the perfect gift for a loved one to let them know you're thinking of them. The Prayer Shawl Ministry invites and encourages anyone to stop by the Fellowship Hall table and take a comfortable hand-made prayer shawl home.