

WELCOME

Our Advent prayer is 'Come Lord Jesus'. In Isaiah 60:1 God declares to us, "Arise, shine for your light has come, the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." While we wait for the Lord this Advent season in our preparations for the good news of Christ's coming at Christmas and for the Lord's triumphant return on the last day, God calls us to be daily watchful and on the alert, tending the flickering flame of faith and hope in Jesus, who is our (and the worlds) light and salvation.

Be well! Be loving! Be courageous! Be the Church!
In Christ,
Pastor Denny

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Information for the December 5 Newsletter should be submitted by 3 p.m. on Monday, November 29.
- For more information and ways to get connected, please visit Naz Next Steps in Fellowship Hall!

DAILY TEXTS FOR 2022 ARE HERE!

Check out the Welcome Desk, if you ordered a copy.

FINALS STUDY NIGHT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS: FOOD NEEDED

Do you have a special treat that you like to make? Or have a "wanted to try that new appetizer"? On Thursday, December 9th from 6 p.m.- 10 p.m., BASIC (our college & young adult ministry) will be hosting a "Finals Study Night" at Nazareth for any college student who needs a place to study OR a place to hang out, have fun, and eat good food during a stressful week!

We'd love for Naz congregation members (aka: YOU) to help bless these young adults with your homemade treats or yummy goodness! If you are interested in making or bringing food for this event -- please email Kristin Sauerbrei at kristin.sauerbrei@naz.org.

A SPECIAL LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION FROM PASTOR DENNY - PAGE 5



CHRISTMAS BASIC -- COMMUNITY SERVICE! - DECEMBER 2!

All are welcome (congregation members, families, kids, grandparents, etc) to join us for our young adult-led Christmas service! Five young adults will be sharing their stories centered around words we find in the Christmas story (Love, Hope, Peace, Light, and Joy) alongside powerful musical worship! This event is put on by BASIC (our college & young adult worship community in partnership with Orchard Hill Church). www.basicworship.org

December 2nd in the Worship Center at Nazareth

6 p.m. | Free meal for all! (Pasta Bar, salad, breadsticks, fruit, and brownie ice cream sundaes!)
7 p.m | Christmas Service

HOLIDAY SERVICES

- Service of Comfort and Hope - Thursday, December 16, 6 p.m. in Larsen Chapel
- Christmas Eve Eve (contemporary service) - Thursday, December 23, 7 p.m. in Worship Center
- Christmas Eve (contemporary service) - Friday, December 24, 3 p.m. in Worship Center
- Christmas Eve (traditional service) - Friday, December 24, 5 p.m. in Worship Center
- Christmas Eve (traditional service) - Friday, December 24, 7 p.m. in Worship Center
- Christmas Eve (candlelight service) - Friday, December 24, 10 p.m. in Worship Center

CONNECT WITH US

7401 University Avenue, Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Phone: 319-266-7589

Email: info@naz.org | Website: www.naz.org

WHILE WE WAIT

SERMON | While We Wait Watch

TEACHER | Pastor Denny

TEXTS | Ephesians 5: 8-20, Matthew 24: 36-44

ALTAR | The flowers at the altar are in celebration of Ron and Sharon Lance's 59th wedding anniversary.

PULPIT | The flowers at the pulpit are in celebration of Walt and Dee Senchina's 50th anniversary.

THANKS AND UPDATES FROM FORMER NAZARETH PASTORS AND SPOUSES

Glenn & Mary Kappelmann: It was great to be back at Nazareth for the meal, the concert and the worship service. At church Mary and I have worked with our Tanzania scholarships for people getting an education in the medical field. Five of the six young people whom we supported are now serving in Tanzania.

M.L. & Karen Jacobson: Thanks for inviting us to Nazareth's 150th Anniversary celebration. The time spent there was a Spirit stirring time. We live in Spencer, Iowa in a senior independent living apartment. I give Bible studies and devotions, as well as make homemade ice cream. Karen and I serve on a Care Ministry Team through which we contact twelve people regularly.

Dennis & Karen Dickman: It was a joyful and touching reunion. We enjoyed being with so many to celebrate Nazareth's 150th anniversary. I (Dennis) recently had heart valve surgery. My main job now is to help Karen with the Cherub choir that resumed this fall at St. Paul's Lutheran in Waverly.

Ben & Margit Coltvet: Margit and I live in White Bear Lake, Minnesota in a townhouse that provides us much flexibility and joy as we 'come and go' with much ease. We are members of St. Andrews Lutheran in Mahtomedi, Minnesota where Margit sings in the choir and leads a weekly Bible Study. I work part-time at a funeral home as well as do supply preaching.

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 group yet? Email mallory.jensen@naz.org to learn more or join a group.

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 | Pick up the free Advent devotional "While We Wait" and begin using the daily scripture, testimonials from Nazareth members and prayers to focus on what Jesus' coming means for you, me and the world.

WATCH IT | Go to You-tube and search for: Bible project birth of Jesus: Luke 1-2. Explore anew the amazing events surrounding the birth of Jesus.

LIVE IT | Look for opportunities to give witness this holy season to the hope that is within you on account of your living faith in Jesus. Suggestions are writing a personal note in Christmas cards, setting aside time at home in family gatherings to read the Christmas story aloud, or watching for a chance to bring the light of hope into the darkness of someone's despair, grief or suffering.

LUNCH & LEARN

Our final Lunch & Learn for fall 2021 will be on December 2nd. We will have special music to celebrate the Christmas season. Spots are filling up fast, so please reserve your spot by signing up at naz.org. We will have a winter 2022 Lunch & Learn series starting on Thursday, January 6th.

Our Winter Series will include the following speakers:

January 6th - House of Hope

January 13th - Dave Welter

January 20th - Christian Crusaders

January 27th - One City United

February 3rd - Knox Blocks

February 10th - Love Inc.

February 17th - Northeast Iowa Food Bank

February 24th - Cedar Falls Historical Society

LOOKING FOR A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR A CHILD?

It's OK to Be Me! and The Square Wreath are children's books by Christian author, Sherry Kubalsky. The books help children understand that each person is unique and that there is value in our diversity. The books are appropriate for children ages 2-11. All profits the author receives from the books are donated to Globe Serve Ministries, a nonprofit that provides wells in Ghana, where children are developing worms or even dying from drinking contaminated water. The author is a member of Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines, and her daughter, Stephanie Rottinghouse is a member of Naz. The books are available at TJ's Christian Bookstore in Cedar Falls, or online from Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Target, or WalMart.

WORSHIP WITH NAZ

SUNDAYS

CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 8:30 a.m.

In-Person Worship at Nazareth | 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

KWWL (Channel 7) | 5:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS | SATURDAYS

CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 4:30 p.m. Wed. | 5:30 p.m. Sat.

ONLINE OPTIONS

Visit naz.org to watch live and past sermons!

2022 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2022 Flower Calendar is ready! If you would like to donate flowers for the worship center, please contact Lori Fegley (lori.fegley@naz.org) to schedule a Sunday!

JOIN US FOR TWO CHRISTMAS EVENTS DECEMBER 5!

Julefest - December 5 - 4 to 7 p.m.

"Julefest", the "Danish Festival of Christmas", will be next Sunday, Dec. 5th from 4:00-7:00. We're continuing to celebrate Nazareth's 150th anniversary by gathering together for a fun afternoon/evening. Those who have previously registered will make a craft. If not making a craft please join the festivities of eating a delicious meal together, decorating the tree, singing Christmas carols, dancing around the Christmas tree, and great fellowship. Everyone is invited! Please sign up for the meal on the Naz website or call the church by Friday, Dec. 3. (Those making a craft are signed up for the meal.)

Julefest, Dec. 5th. Schedule of Events

4 - 4:45 p.m. Session I Adult Craft in Bethel Hall (registration necessary) 4:45-5:30 p.m. Session II Adult Craft in Bethel Hall (registration necessary)

4:45 - 5:30 p.m. - Join Dick & Helene Bond in "Strolling Naz Halls with Christmas Carols" (meet in Larsen Chapel)

5:30 - 6:15 p.m. - Meal in Fellowship Hall (with Christmas Extravaganza families eating first)

6 - 6:15 p.m. - Decorate the Christmas tree in Bethel Hall

6:15 - 6:30 p.m. - Dance around the Christmas tree singing carols

6:30-7 p.m. - Christmas Extravaganza families will return to the gym for their final activities

6:30 - 7 p.m. - Optional Activities: Adults observe or help Children's Ministry or Sing Christmas Carols in Bethel Hall with Dick & Helene Bond

Christmas Extravaganza - December 5 - 4 to 7 p.m.

All families are welcome to join us for: games, family photo booth, nativity skit, craft, dancing around the Christmas tree (Danish tradition) and of course DINNER!

This night is sure to be a fun-filled family evening with lots of laughs while we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Cost is \$10/family

Sign up at naz.org/christmas!

STAFF DECORATES NAZ FOR CHRISTMAS!

This week we enter Advent, and our theme at Nazareth this year is "While We Wait." Our staff has been getting into the spirit of Advent by decorating for Christmas while we wait for the birth of Jesus Christ. Below are some photo recaps of our staff decorating day on Tuesday, November 23rd. This day provided us a time for team bonding, laughter, and fun, while making the church a beautiful place for the true reason for the season. We hope that while you wait for Christmas, that you take part in the many activities leading up to Christmas at Nazareth.



VOLUNTEER AT NEW ALDAYA

This Christian Mission involves helping NewAldaya residents who are physically challenged to get to Sunday Chapel Services. We need 2 to 3 volunteers. They need to arrive at NewAldaya by 10 a.m. Sunday morning and enter through the Main Street entrance. A receptionist will meet them and check them in. At this time they will be asked the Covid screening questions and have their temperature checked. They will also need to show their vaccination card, a new mandate for organizations that receive Medicare payments. They will also need to wear a mask and shield. Those will be provided by NewAldaya if needed. After check-in they will be directed to the Chapel. At the Chapel, Chaplin Linda Marlett will greet them and give them further directions. Their task will be to enter the nursing facility residential area and meet identified residents who need assistance. Mainly wheelchair-bound but some bedridden. They may need to check with some residents whether they want help to attend Chapel. The Chapel Service begins at 10:30 a.m. After the Chapel Service which will last about 60 minutes or less, they will then help the residents back to their rooms. During the Service, they may stay or go back to the Main Street area and relax until Chapel is over. The overall time commitment is from 10 a.m. - noon. Contact Andy Walser to sign-up.

A SPECIAL LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION FROM PASTOR DENNY

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. Amen.

I have come to the prayerful decision to retire. My last day as Nazareth's called Associate Pastor will be on December 31, 2021.

Dorothea and I have lived among you for over ten years. We cherish Nazareth and I have been richly blessed by the opportunity to serve alongside Senior Pastor Brian King and be your Associate Pastor. We are staying in Cedar Falls and will remain members of Nazareth. We pray you see this as an affirmation of our love for you and the vision for engaging mission and ministry at Nazareth in the name of Jesus. What will this change mean for you and me?

Beginning January 1, 2022, I will be beginning the new call from the Lord to be retired and will not be your pastor. My new season will allow for me to be more available as husband, son, dad and grandfather to my wife, father, children and grandchildren in ways I could not do as your full-time called pastor. When I accepted the call to serve as Associate Pastor at Nazareth, I assumed the duties and responsibilities to regularly preach the gospel, serve on committees, officiate at weddings, funerals, and preside in the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. This calling, including all these duties and responsibilities, will conclude on December 31. Just as you have over the past ten years prayerfully supported me as your pastor, it is my hope you will now prayerfully respect my decision to retire by continuing to pray, encourage and support me.

Dorothea and I thank God for you as we together, in new ways, will continue the journey of serving with joy, our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Pastor Denny and Dorothea Hanson

A reception will be held on Sunday, December 12 after the 10:45 a.m. service to honor Pastor Denny and his wife, Dorothea. The reception will be held in Bethel Hall. We hope everyone can join us for this special celebration! Please register at naz.org