

The Messenger

N. Ft. Myers Church of the Nazarene

A loving, caring, serving community of believers in Jesus

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Giving the Sweetest You You've Got

You may have heard the story that is told something like this: There was once a mother who walked into the kitchen and found her little girl standing there, holding two apples. The mom knelt in front of her daughter and asked if she could have one of the apples. The little girl proceeded to take a bite of first one apple, then the other. Her mother was so shocked by her daughter's actions that she was struck dumb. She did not know what to say in the face of what looked like an extreme act of selfishness. The child then held out one of the apples and said, "Here, Mommy. This one is the sweetest."

We read in Philippians 2:3, "*Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;*" Sometimes it feels as though, believers are so often reminded of the need to be ever vigilant to represent Christ and to show such deep love for others, we can actually get weary or simply overwhelmed from the constant admonitions.

What if, instead of simply giving the admonitions taken directly from scripture, when we offered biblical advice, we also offered some simple examples of how to live the Bible practically? Simple actions that live out a simple heart of love. When you have two of something, make the decision that you will give the better one away. When you are in line and someone approaches the line, who appears to need a smile in their day, move aside and allow them to go ahead of you. If you are driving through the parking lot and have legs that are not struggling to walk, assume all the closer spaces are needed by someone with less energy or less ability to walk than you. Whenever the opportunity arises to make a difference in someone else's life – just do it. Wherever you are strong and capable, stay aware that someone else doesn't share your strength or capability in that area – and only you can share you, and breathe the breath of Jesus into the world.

Being Jesus should not be complicated. Just assume that it is what is expected every day, all day long – sharing with the world whatever you have, wherever you are, whenever you are.



Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.
Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.
Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.
Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.
Frances R. Havergal, 1874



Important COVID-19 Updates

The COVID-19 global pandemic has disrupted everyday life for millions of people around the world. Yet, Samaritan's Purse continues to share the eternal hope of the Gospel and to serve in Jesus' Name.



We want boys and girls around the world to know that God loves them and has not forgotten them during this time of fear and uncertainty. Children need great joy now more than ever. Most of all, they need the hope found only in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Will you partner with us to share that glorious hope with boys and girls around the world—many of whom have never heard the Name of Jesus?

We're looking forward to a great Operation Christmas Child season as we prayerfully consider ways to modify our collection and processing in light of COVID-19. We are already monitoring local, state, and national guidelines and making adjustments to help protect the health of those involved in preparing shoebox gifts.

We are grateful you plan to join us this year in packing traditional boxes, building a shoebox online, or both. Check out creative ideas from Operation Christmas Child Project Leaders across the U.S. who are making modifications to shoebox packing in order to ensure that children around the world are still blessed with great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ. National Collection Week is Nov. 16–23, 2020.

If you would like to build a shoebox online, go to: https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/?utm_source=buildonline&utm_medium=direct&ver=1.2

We will have wrapped shoeboxes in the foyer. Simply pick up a box and a packing slip which shows the gender and age of the child for whom you will be filling the box, and turn the filled box and slip into the church before Nov. 15. For some creative ways to pack the boxes, go to: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/article/five-creative-ways-to-pack-shoeboxes-during-covid-19/>



Each Crisis Care Kit MUST Contain:

- 1 medium size bottle of shampoo (12 to 18oz.)
- 2 bars of soap (bath-size or larger)
- 1 medium toothpaste (4.0 to 6.4 oz.)
- 3 toothbrushes (in original packaging)
- 1 box of Band-Aids (30 or more)
- 1 fingernail clipper
- 1 sturdy hair comb
- 2 hand towels
- 4 pocket-size packages of tissues
- 1 Beanie Baby-size stuffed toy



With several recent natural disasters, the Church of the Nazarene is in desperate need of Crisis Care Kits. The Southern FL District is asking that each church contribute 60 kits to be distributed in areas hard hit by these and future disasters. You can pick up a Ziploc bag with instructions for filling them in the foyer of the church.

Prayer Needs:

Phoebe Barr
 Doug Keuther
 June Carsey
 Libby & Craig Smith
 Laurel Chapman
 Ernie Rybold
 Amy Logsdon
 Lynn Kent
 Mark & Kim Barr
 Kenny & Gail Goodman
 Children & Teen Depts.
 A Youth Pastor

Ben Bergman
 Patrick Lindsey
 Rich Harris
 Elis Lodge
 Judi Predko's family
 Paul Jones
 Ray & Janelle Owens
 Marlene Ryan
 Louis Perez
 Dominic Tannoia
 Eileen Jennings
 Unsaved Loved Ones

Ronnie Kiser
 Betty Coolie
 Amanda Blackburn
 Pastor Tim Taylor
 Eileen Massett
 Betty Predko
 Dorothy Chapman
 Joseph Groves
 The Monroe Family
 Regina Williams
 Kitty Baxter
 Those affected negatively by the Corona Virus

John Davis
 Helen Thom
 Anna Marie Anderson
 Pastor Jim Spear
 Mark & Lisa Koch
 Tom Blakeman
 Paul & Grace Boling
 Lorraine Jungles
 Dave Peck
 Allice Daugherty
 Our District Family

Ladies Craft Night

Thursday, Oct. 8, 6:30 P.M.

**Gather your materials and
 come ready to craft
 together.**



Join us for our Wednesday night devotional at 6:00 P.M. on Facebook live-streaming.

Arnold Burris will continue to offer a Bible study at 6 P.M. Tuesdays and Pastor Becky will continue to bring a Bible study at 7 P.M. on Thursdays on their personal FB pages.

If you cannot tune in at those times, you may watch the recorded Bible studies later.

Facebook Page: North Fort Myers Church of the Nazarene **Website:** nfmnazarene.com

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

6 – Darla Barber	22 – Ray & Walli Holman
10 – Ardyth Eldridge	24 – Richard & Brenda Loubier
Becky Garner	Martha Pickett
Lynn & Janice Kent	25 – Anna Marie Anderson
14 – Linda Young	28 – Mitchell & Nancy Irvin
Lee & Jean Monroe	
16 – Dorothy Chapman	
20 – Dave & Sherry Chapman	

September Calendar

7 – Labor Day
 8 – Ladies Craft Night
 15 – Board Meeting – 6:00 P.M.

October 3 – Pumpkins Arrive

Inscribed

Isaiah 41:8-10

‘But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, Descendant of Abraham My friend, you whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called from its remotest parts and said to you, ‘You are My servant, I have chosen you and not rejected you. Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

South African, Freddie Blom, turned 114 in 2018, widely recognized as the oldest living man. Born in 1904, the year the Wright Brothers built their Flyer II, he lived through both World Wars, apartheid, and the Great Depression. When asked for the secret for his longevity, Blom only shrugs. Like many of us, he has not always chosen the foods and practices that promote wellness. However, Blom does offer one reason for his remarkable health: “There’s only one thing, it’s God. He’s got all the power ... He holds me.”

Blom echoes words similar to what God spoke to Israel, as the nation wilted under the oppression of fierce enemies. “I will strengthen you and help you,” God promised. “I will uphold you with my righteous right hand” ([Isaiah 41:10](#)). No matter how desperate their situation, how impossible the odds that they would ever find relief, God assured His people that they were held in His tender care. “Do not fear, for I am with you,” He insisted. “Do not be dismayed, for I am your God” (v. 10).

No matter how many years we are given, life’s hardships will come knocking at our door. A troubled marriage. A child abandoning the family. Terrifying news from the doctor. Even persecution. However, our God reaches out to us and holds us firmly. He gathers us and holds us in His strong, tender hand.

Winn Collier Our Daily Bread

I believe that the God of the universe holds my life in the palm of His hand. I have not faced a hardship that my God has not taken care of. Maybe not how I thought it was going to be taken care of, but it was handled, and I am a living testament of God’s grace and mercy for over 60 years. Praise GOD!

Isaiah 49:16

“Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.

Luke 12:6-8

Are not five sparrows sold for two cents? Yet not one of them is forgotten before God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows. And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man will confess him also before the angels of God;

Take comfort in knowing you are more important to God than anything He has created.
Blessing and Prayers, Pastor Van

SEPTEMBER



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