

**MFCN**

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**2010 Annual  
Report**

# Fiscal

Below is a brief overview of the year's finances (Fiscal Year June 2009–May 2010). The total income and expenses are given as of April 30 for this fiscal year and last fiscal year for comparison.

The Eternal Investment Fund row reflects what our church sends to the General Church of the Nazarene. This fund includes items such as the World Evangelism Fund, Olivet Nazarene University funding and an Indian Lake Assessment, among others. Each church on the district pays (10% for District Unified Budget and 8% for World Evangelism) of total funds raised for all purposes less missions giving and capital improvements giving on a monthly basis to fund the Eternal Investment Fund. All Eternal Investment Fund payments will be complete by the first week of June for the 2009–10 fiscal year.

— Valarie K. Montgomery, Treasurer

INCOME (in dollars)	This Year (as of April 30, 2010)	Last Year (as of April 30, 2009)
Income raised for all purposes	\$830,648	\$579,094
New ROC Donations	\$92,365 (this number is included in the \$830,648)	\$93,052 (this number is included in the \$579,094)
Loan proceeds received for the ROC	\$291,004.15 (this number is included in the \$830,648)	N/A
Upward Sports	\$29,350 (this number is included in the \$830,648)	\$30,138 (this number is included in the \$579,094)
EXPENSES (in dollars)	This Year (as of April 30, 2010)	Last Year (as of April 30, 2009)
Personnel	\$267,503	\$240,593
Administration	3,771	2,384
Office	11,371	12,170
Fellowship and Supplies	2,029	3,655
Music Ministry	986	529
Training	3,261	2,681
Building and Grounds	528,115	171,126
Adult Ministries	3,088	3,317
Children	3,089	3,902
Upward Sports	25,506	26,505
Youth	3,480	2,261
Nazarene Missions International	2,607	10,042
Eternal Investment Fund	65,534	61,097
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$920,339</b>	<b>\$540,262</b>

# Stewards

In His Service, Sheryl Johnson

*I can do everything through him who gives me strength.* Philippians 4:13

Serving you as a Steward this last year has been through God's grace and strength. I can testify that He gives you exactly what you need when you need it. One way He provided was through the wonderful people I was surrounded with. A special thanks to Bob Cwierniewicz, Joe Finnerty, Linda Shattuck, JC Christman, Bunny Brooks, Lorrie McCalla, and Meredith Cowl, for doing whatever they were asked to do for the Stewards. A big thank you to my family as well, who had to share me.

Throughout the year, the Stewards have provided meals for several funerals. This is a great time for our church to show God's love to those who are hurting. Thanks to all of you who help by providing salads as desserts as well as the many hands that keep this ministry working well. October brought Pastor appreciation month as well as Trunk-or-Treat. In December, our church was able to provide Christmas baskets to 20 families and fruit bowls to 18 other individuals. What a wonderful way to show God's love! The first week in January, "Top Wednesday" was

introduced to restart our Wednesday evening meals once a month. Over 100 people were served that Wednesday night, and it has continued to be a great success. During March, 25 care packages were sent out to our college students.

As we begin our new year, please look forward to seeing a new church directory as well as some new welcome packet information to share with our guests. Get to know your Stewards this year, and ask them if there is anything you can do to help out!

# Trustees

In Christ's Service, Brad Brooks

This has been a very busy but exciting year. Dave Cowl and Thom Richey helped us install new lighting in the doughnut area as well as down both the nursery and office wings. Thanks, guys. New carpet was also installed in these areas this past year. Looks great! Don Pierce has been heading up these projects. Thanks, Don!

The Kueppers and the Nesbitts have kept our lawn looking good the last few years and are doing so again this year. Thank you for all your donated time and effort.

The usual miscellaneous repairs or replacements have been made this past year to water heaters, drinking fountains, ice makers, and refrigerators. Just the standard upkeep in maintaining God's house.

I think Morrow Roofing has succeeded in at least slowing down our roof leaks. (Knock on wood!) Also, Bill Christman, Chuck O'Berry, and company have repaired another section of steeple on the roof of the sanctuary. We appreciate your work, guys!

Debbie O'Berry, Sam Nesbitt and crew painted the fellowship hall a few weeks ago (in case you hadn't noticed). It looks swell!!

In August of 2009, after 20 years (well it seems like that long!) of building committee meetings, battling our way through red tape, and multiple frustrations, work was begun on the Recreational Outreach Center—The

ROC. Through all the ups and downs God has shown Himself to be faithful. He has always given me the right verse from the Bible or the right song on the radio at just the right time to keep me motivated to push forward. Four years ago God convinced me that this is what He wanted for this church with this verse from Ephesians 2:10 (MSG), "He created each of us by Christ Jesus to join Him in the work He does, the good work He has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing!" A few evenings later the Lord warned me what was coming in Ephesians 6:10-13 (MSG): "And that about wraps it up. God is strong and He wants you strong. So take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials and put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the devil throws your way. This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the devil and all his angels." Do those verses give you a sense of urgency?

In the last couple of years some of our church family, for one reason or another, have moved on; some preferring not to have to stand up to the Evil One. If the ROC is going to be everything the Lord has in mind for us we have got to stick together and fight Satan as a family of God. It would have been so much easier and safer for us not to have to deal with the ROC or the 45 acres at all, but is that

why Jesus died on the cross? To play it safe? To bury our talents? Matt. 25:25-30.

Most of you don't realize the toll this is taking on your leadership and your board. We need your prayers more than ever now as Satan comes after us with both barrels. This doesn't mean we are going to quit. We are committed to God's will, and besides, as Pastor Gerhard would say, "We've read the end of the book, and we win!!"

So continue to pray for your Pastors and your board, and come join us in the trenches, where the action is. As difficult as it might get at times, there's no place I'd rather be than in the middle of God's will.

"So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith." Galatians 6:9-10 MSG.

In closing I would like to say that this is going to take a sacrifice from all of us, a sacrifice of time and a sacrifice of our money to bring this to fruition for our Lord and Savior. The Lord will be watching to see how we handle the challenge He has given us. Let's honor God by showing Him how much we love Him! Whatever it takes!! Not equal giving, but equal sacrifice!! To God be the Glory, great things He has done ... and will do!!

# Children

Amy Hinkle, Children's Minister

Thank you for allowing me to minister to your kids again this year! It is so much fun and so rewarding that it can hardly be called a "job". I hope that you have seen your children grow over the past year both spiritually and in their knowledge of the Bible.



**KIDVENTURE** (our children's church service) continues to do well.

The focus of this visitor-friendly service is to teach kids basic Bible truths and how to apply them to their daily lives. We use lively music, skits, videos, games and anything else we can think of to connect with the kids. I want to give a huge "thanks" to all of the adults and teens that make KIDVENTURE successful by serving each week. Your time and effort are appreciated more than you know! I encourage you to come to a KIDVENTURE service (Sunday at 10:40 am) sometime to experience how we worship and learn! We strive to make KIDVENTURE the best hour of the week for the kids!



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
*Make the Connection*

Sunday School continues

to provide excellent Bible teaching and caring teachers for the kids. We have dedicated teachers who plan great activities to teach the Bible and who take the time to invest in the kids' lives. We had some special events this year to boost attendance and get more kids to give Sunday School a try. These events included a Penny Carnival in the fall and a Valentine's Day Party in the winter. If your child has never attended

or hasn't come in awhile, have them join us on Sunday at 9:30 am and give it a try! Thank you so much to all of the Sunday School teachers who are here every week! You are having an incredible impact on the lives of kids and we are blessed to have you.

## Nursery Program

Thank you to everyone who serves in our nursery, you do so much more than babysit! Your ministry allows parents to worship and serve in our church in ways that they never could if the nursery were not available. Our nursery program is actually the first place that children encounter God at our church. Sunday School lessons are taught to the toddlers during the 9:30 am hour and WeeVenture takes place at 11:00 am every Sunday. Our little ones experience the love of Christ each time they enter the nursery and this will have a lasting impact on their lives.



**JOY University** continues to be a fun mid-week program.

Each week we meet from 6 to 6:45 pm as a large group time that may include a Bible lesson, games, snacks or skits. At 6:45 pm, kids go to their JOY U class. Some of the recent classes have been Knitting, Games Galore, Countertop Chemistry, Noah, Zoom, and Bible Quizzing. JOY University depends on volunteers to share their skills with the kids for short term classes. Thank you to everyone who has served over the past year!



This past year included successful Upward flag football/cheer and basketball/cheer seasons. The flag football season included 108 (-15 from 2008) football players, 12 (-2 from 2008) cheerleaders and 22 (-10 from 2008) coaches. Basketball season included 234 (+21 from 2009) players, 25 (+15 from 2009) cheerleaders and 63 coaches. Many other volunteers also participated in Upward in concessions, chair set-up, timekeeping and as referees. Thanks to everyone for making Upward a success! We continue to use Upward to introduce new families to our church and to teach kids about God's love for them through an encouraging team activity.

Many other things take place throughout the year in children's ministry.

- o Children's Quizzing studied the books of Joshua, Judges and Ruth last year, and the kids participated in several quiz meets.
- o Trunk or Treat was a huge success again this year with somewhere around 1,000 people going through our facility.
- o Many of our kids attended Rookie Camp, Girls Camp and Boys Camp at Indian Lake last summer.
- o Vacation Bible School (Crocodile Dock) took place in July 2009 in a partnership with the Mason Community Church.

If you would like to serve God in an active ministry that will have a huge impact on your life as well as the kids you minister to, let me know! You will never regret a minute that you spend helping to secure a child's place in heaven!

# Young Adults

Todd Compton, Pastor

To Pastor Mark, Church board, Church members and friends of Mason First Church of the Nazarene:

I bring you my second report as your Pastor for Young Adults.

This past year we had activities about one a quarter. Some of the activities were held at the church. We had one activity at Pastor Ryan's place. We had as many as 18 people for an event.

In our Sunday School class we have studied the books of Mark and Romans this past year.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in this position.

Sunday School Discipleship Ministries International (SDMI) average by month:

May.....202	November.....203
June.....144	December.....185
July.....128	January.....167
August.....110	February.....167
September.....200	March.....187
October.....196	April.....196
Overall yearly average: 174	

In these days of confusion and bewilderment we need direction! God promises in Psalm 119:105 that His “word is a lamp to my feet and light for my path.”

Sunday School provides a great opportunity to study and memorize the Word of God, bringing HIS LIGHT into our world, all in a small group setting!

Bible study has many facets at Mason First Church of the Nazarene! These have included new opportunities like Faith & the Economy, Journeymen and Boundaries. Dare to Care, House of Commons, L.A.U.G.H., Men’s and Women’s Bible studies continue to meet spiritual needs through the dedicated teaching of Godly men and women. We are a blessed congregation! There are many opportunities to disciple and be disciplined through SDMI at Mason First! Join us today!

## Youth

Ryan Giffin, Pastor to Families with Youth

On May 31, 2009 I moved from Olathe, Kansas to Mason, Michigan and began my ministry as Pastor to Families with Youth here at MFCN. That Sunday a group of teenagers that I just met performed a skit in our worship service and officially “welcomed” me. Eleven months have passed, and those students are no longer acquaintances. My focus during my first year at Mason First has been on developing relationships with the students and families of our great church—relationships I hope to enjoy well into the future!

We’ve had some incredible experiences as a youth ministry this year! At our Wednesday Night Youth Services (Fall NFL and Spring NHL) we averaged 37 students in attendance and experienced awesome times of connecting with God and each other. Sunday School has become the centerpiece of youth discipleship, offering our students the opportunity to engage in more in-depth study of the Scriptures. This past summer 24 of our students attended Senior High and Early Youth camp, 31 students had a blast at Michigan’s Adventure, and our Home Invasions on Wednesday Nights were a

great time of food, folks, & fun! Several of our students hid 1 and 2 Corinthians in their hearts by participating in Bible Quizzing. In January, 38 students and adult leaders attended District *Celebrate Life* at Kuyper College in Grand Rapids, and almost all of them will be participating in Regional *Celebrate Life* at Olivet Nazarene University in May, where five juniors and seniors attended Red Carpet days earlier in September. The climax of this year’s activities happened in April when we took 56 students and adult leaders to *Acquire the Fire* at the Breslin Center in East Lansing where several of our students and leaders had life-transforming experiences with Christ.

This year was also a year of tremendous sacrificial giving on the part of our youth ministry. At our fall youth service (NFL) our students gave \$592.95 for the Michigan District NMI “Fill the Net” Fiji Boat Project, and at our spring youth service (NHL) our students have given \$219.53 for the new MFCN Recreational Outreach Center. In January, our students collected over 200 bars of soap for NMI crisis care kits. These acts of generosity may say more than anything else about the

spiritual “pulse” of our youth ministry. We should be extremely proud of our students for “putting their money where their mouth is.”

A number of other highlights are worth briefly mentioning. We attended several concerts (Everyday Sunday, David Crowder Band, Winter Jam), enjoyed an awesome Christmas party at the Dysart home, and had lots of fun at our Friday Night Lights events. Several of our students served at VBS, Upward Sports, Angel Food, and out at the ROC. Speaking of the Recreational Outreach Center, perhaps the biggest news of the year is the construction of this world-class youth ministry facility! I’m pumped about what God has waiting for us in this building.

I expect 2010 to be a landmark year for youth ministry at Mason First! By God’s grace we will have a new facility, a new 50-passenger bus, and lots of new students becoming Christ-like disciples. Our best days are yet to come. May we continue to dream God-sized dreams for students in the Mason area ... making young Christ-like disciples.

# Associate Pastor

Pastor Gerhard Weigelt

*Pray diligently. Stay alert, with your eyes wide open in gratitude. Don't forget to pray for us, that God will open doors for telling the mystery of Christ, even while I'm locked up in this jail. Pray that every time I open my mouth I'll be able to make Christ plain as day to them. — Colossians 4:2-4*

I love the encouragement that Paul brings to us in his letter to the Colossians to pray with eyes wide open, anticipating that God is opening doors all around us, doors of opportunity for the advancement of his kingdom! Then to realize that this challenge comes from one who is currently imprisoned. Apparently, Paul didn't see imprisonment as something that could hinder God opening doors! I am excited about the doors of opportunity that God is opening around us every day!

It is a very humbling privilege to be one of your pastors here at Mason First, God is so good! It is a privilege to share life together with each of you as together we explore this journey that God has called us to. I am thankful for God's clear hand in many aspects of this church and its ministry to the community over the past year. It has taken incredible teamwork to make this happen, God empowered teamwork! I celebrate the amazing progress that has been made on the ROC. I can picture faces of people

whose lives will be impacted because of this great tool! I also think of Angel Food Ministries, Upward Basketball, Flag Football, Cheerleading; House of Commons; Dare to Care; Trunk or Treat, and many others. The word sacrifice comes to mind; personal sacrifices of time and money by many people that is brought together to make something beautiful to the honor and glory of God!

While we can celebrate what God has done, I have no doubt that God wants to do even greater things among us in the days ahead. Our call to make disciples is never done, and since we take that call very seriously we must move forward very intentionally, with our eyes wide open! I am enthusiastic about the refocusing process that your staff and church board are working through exploring how we can simplify and energize the process of disciple making here at MFCN. I am more and more convinced of the significance that Jesus placed on relationships. When asked what the greatest commandment was, Jesus replied, "Love God and love people" (Gerhard paraphrase). Since Jesus is saying that relationships should be our priorities, I am convinced that our Care Circle ministry will play even a great role in our disciple-making process as we move forward. I want to say thank you to the many leaders of our current

Care Circles for their sacrifice of love and time, investing in relationships. I also want to say thanks to the many others who will over the next year respond in obedience to God's call for them to facilitate or participate in this critical area of ministry. Jesus calls us to increase the priority that we place on God honoring relationships!

I am so thankful for the varied avenues of ministry that my position allows me. Whether that be counseling, preaching, teaching, administrating, eating (one of my spiritual gifts), or just sharing life together, it truly is a privilege to serve alongside each of you in ministry!

I couldn't be more excited about the ministry team that God has assembled here in Mason. The Olympic Basketball Dream Team has nothing on us! As we corporately continue to say our premeditated yes to God in whatever He asks, there is no limit to what God can do! My prayer for us in the coming year is that we pray every time we open our mouths, we will be able to make Christ plain as day to everyone we meet! Let's keep our eyes wide open to the doors that God is opening all around us, and give Him the glory and honor that is due His Name!

# Board Secretary

Gary Nesbitt, Church Board Secretary

Our church has gone through another busy year with activities going on seven days a week.

We are involved in:

- Upward football, cheerleading, and basketball
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth mission trips and activities
- Adult softball, tennis, volleyball, basketball
- Trunk or Treat
- Monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Men's Bible Study and Prayer Groups

- Special Women's Bible Study
- Friday Women's Bible Study
- Dare to Care Groups on Tuesday afternoons and evenings
- Angel Food Ministries
- Meals on Wheels
- Many other activities I don't know about but happen just the same

There have been numerous improvements around our church including new carpet in many common areas and a complete repainting of the fellowship hall, making it look better than it ever has.

One of the major activities this year has been the start of construction on the new ROC student center on our 45 acres. As of this time, the building is completely constructed and "roughed in" thanks to several hard-working guys. Pastor Ryan is making plans for the use and activities for this facility.

Although the numbers for both attendance and giving have been declining for several years, the church is still financially stable and we are looking forward to better times.

# Teacher in Residence

Dr. Morris Weigelt

In Romans 5:17 Paul writes of the abundance of grace that has been lavished upon us through Jesus. He can hardly find enough superlatives to describe the wonder of this grace. He uses grace in every greeting and grace in every benediction. Grace is stacked upon grace. Grace is multi-faceted and variegated in style and color and gifting.

This last year has been one of super-added grace in a wide variety of ways. I am so grateful and often pray that God may enable me to turn my gratitude into action.

Grace has come through the many opportunities to minister in His name. I have enjoyed preaching in a variety of settings including here in Mason, in my home church in North Dakota, and in Lansing Woodview. I even had the opportunity to preach in the Plymouth Congregational Church in Lansing—and the message was received with applause! I especially enjoyed presenting materials on the Lord's Prayer at Grand Haven and

during the Wednesday evening session here at Mason First.

Grace has come through the privileges of interacting with people—in the counseling setting, on the street while riding my tricumbent, at the front door of the church as I have greeted people, while working on the ROC, through participating in Dare to Care, and through participation in small groups. What neat range of grace additives.

Grace has come through my family and the opportunities to do things together—at Christmas together, on an Alaskan cruise, at the wedding of a nephew, time spent with my brothers and their wives and with Eula-Adine's sister-in-law and family, and especially interaction with grandchildren.

Grace has come through a wide variety of venues—the 50th anniversary of my Seminary graduation, General Assembly in Orlando, District Assembly at Indian Lake, Pastors' and Spouses' Retreat in Indiana, the Holiness Summit at Olivet

Nazarene University, the Michigan Holiness Summit at Saginaw. God is at work distributing grace in a wide variety of contexts.

Grace has come through reading. God has given me a renewed discipline in reading and I have been stimulated and motivated by a wide variety of materials in this past year.

Grace has come through the interactions with the staff at our weekly meetings. It has been a special privilege to lead the devotional and discussion sections of those meetings. God's grace through these special staff meetings is one of the special joys of this segment of my life as I begin the 4th quarter—knowing that the game is often decided in the fourth quarter.

Thanks again for letting Eula-Adine and me be a part of this congregation where grace functions so freely and is redistributed in such a variety of ways. Let grace be multiplied!

# Senior Pastor

Pastor Mark D. Rigg

Greetings in the Name of the Lord! I am pleased to give to you my 16<sup>th</sup> report as Senior Pastor of MFCN. Back in September of '94 God planted the seed of a dream in my heart for this community. The dream is now becoming a reality; the seed is taking root and sprouting up from the soil on our 45 acres! It's called The ROC! How exciting it is to see this take shape—and the whole community is watching it happen! Thank you MFCN family for owning His dream and participating in our on-going mission to "love, serve, and share Jesus Christ with our world..."

We have taken in eight new members (seven by profession of faith) and our average attendance currently sits at around 266. Financially, the church's income has continued a small, yet steady decline (3-5% each year for the last several years). I'm sure that you would agree with me that we would like to see these downward trends going the other direction—and soon!

The arrival of Pastor Ryan last May 31<sup>st</sup>

has been a delight—a welcome addition to our ministry team at MFCN. Rev. Giffin has made an immediate positive impact on the body life of our church family. I believe that God has some incredible plans for the future of our young people here within our congregation and in the community as well. Join me as we hold our children and teens up in prayer before God as they face a daunting and challenging world today. Thanks to everyone who help make our children and youth ministries a success.

I believe that we are going to see some changes in the landscape of ministry in this next fiscal year. If we are to successfully make disciples of those in and around the Mason area, we must establish a process to do so. A simple process that is clear and moves people toward spiritual maturity. A process that is fully integrated into the life of our church. Hans Hofmann said: "The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak." I believe that is true for MFCN.

In the days ahead we will hear a lot about four words: *clarity*; *movement*; *alignment*, and *focus*. Together we will take a closer look at our design of discipleship and church ministry. It is about restructuring the mission of our church in order that people can be transformed by God's grace. Rainer and Geiger, in their book *Simple Church*, put it succinctly: "The goal is to partner with God to move people through the stages of spiritual growth. Changed lives are the bottom line, the intended end result. Christ formed in people is the goal" (p. 62).

The questions we will address this coming year are: "Is our church pushing the movement of the gospel forward?" "Are we putting dents in the kingdom of darkness?" "Are we knocking down hell's gates?" Jesus said, "I will build my church and the gates of hell will not overcome it" (Matt. 16:18). Let's roll our sleeves up MFCN family! Together, we can start making an effective difference. Let's put some dents in the kingdom of darkness! Shoulder-to-shoulder, let's tear down hell's gates!



This is my second report as your NMI President. It has been a great honor to serve in this capacity.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve in this important work for the Church of the Nazarene. I would also like to thank the members of the NMI Council: Marilyn Fiedler, Audrey Nevins, Deanna Woodcock, and Sandy Frechette. They have continued to provide much service, terrific advice and guidance and enthusiasm in serving the Lord. I would also especially like to thank Amy Hinkle, our Children's Ministry Director, and Ryan Giffin, our Youth Pastor, for the enthusiasm and support to help meet our goal together to increase the involvement of our children and youth in missions. Additional thanks to Melinda Couling and Audrey Nevins for providing a missions elective during Joy University this year.

Sandy Frechette, Audrey Nevins, Dr. and Mrs. Weigelt, and I attended the district NMI convention July 10 and 11, 2009. The featured speakers were amazing! Harmon Schmelzenbach, a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Nazarene missionary, and Dr. Daniel Ketchum, the International Director of NMI, blessed, challenged and inspired us.

It's been exciting to share missions with our congregation! We appreciate the continuing opportunity to join the Layman's Minute rotation on Sunday mornings to provide "Mission Moments". This has been an important way to keep the entire congregation updated about important mission related topics and

events throughout the year.

Several mission programs were presented during the year. These included learning about missionary volunteer opportunities for all age groups and a health clinic built in Africa. In February, the Courter family provided an excellent program about their mission work in Haiti, the aftermath of the earthquake and the great needs. On April 14, we hosted a creative access missionary who amazed us with his testimony, his description of the severe persecution of Christians and humbled us with our casualness about our faith and our Bibles.

Another way we have shared about missions this year is through the mission books. The congregation has been encouraged throughout the year to read and learn about the history of mission work provided by the Church of the Nazarene. So far, we have read approximately 174 books, which again is an improvement from last year.

The congregation has been encouraged to increase their involvement in missions. We provided information about LINKS and our missionary family, The Rimarachins. We have encouraged the congregation to explore the NMI website and sign up to receive prayer requests with special focuses on Haiti, Chile, China and the Global Day of Prayer. We also involved the congregation in collecting items for Crisis Care kits. We broke records and sent 96 with extra help from the children and teens. Special thanks to Audrey Nevins, Linda

Clark, Amy Hinkle, Lisa O'Berry and Margaret Brady for transported the kits to Team Day and helped us save hundreds of dollars in postage. We also participated in Mission Mania on 9/19/10 and heard from inspiring missionaries in South Africa. A missions' elective was included in Joy University for the children during the winter term.

Another way the congregation has been involved is through special offerings throughout the year. We collected Alabaster offerings in September and February, which exceeded the offerings received last year. We also participated in Thanksgiving and Easter Hope offerings. A World Mission Broadcast offering was collected in June, 2009. We also participated in a special offering collected for the Haitian earthquake victims.

The district's NMI fundraising project this year was to raise money for the boat ministry in Fiji. Adults focused on raising money for the boat, children for the motor and teens for the NYI director who would use the boat. Our teens collected 25% of what was needed for the entire district's goal! They are AMAZING!

One missionary at District Convention challenged us with the statement that missions is the unifying ministry for the Nazarene global church. We all can participate in missions in some way, in our neighborhood, our church, our community, our district or across the globe. Keep your eyes and ears open for Spirit-led opportunities! We are looking forward to the coming year!



Mason First Church of the  
**NAZARENE**

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## MFCN Pastoral Staff

Mark D. Rigg, *Senior Pastor*  
Gerhard Weigelt, *Associate Pastor*  
Dr. Morris Weigelt, *Teacher-in-Residence*  
Amy Hinkle, *Children's Ministry Director*  
Ryan Giffin, *Pastor to Families with Youth*  
John Maurer, *Minister of Music*  
Todd Compton, *Young Adult Pastor*

## Church Board Members

Brad Brooks, Bill Christman, Bob Cwierniewicz, Belinda Cook,  
Shari Helmker, Gary Nesbitt, Don Pierce, Linda Shattuck  
As you leave the Board of Stewards, thank you,  
Joe Finnerty and Sheryl Johnson, for your faithful service.